

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1935.

A STRANGE CASE

An amusing reaction to the economic reform campaign which Premier Bennett has inaugurated is the "verdict" of Liberals at Ottawa—quoted gravely by our local contemporary—that Mr. Bennett conscripted Mr. Mackenzie King's ideas as enunciated sixteen years ago in his book, "Industry and Humanity."

On the other hand, it is passing strange that Mr. King, during his nine years of power, did not see fit to put his own reform ideas into practice. Especially since it was largely under his regime that the abuses developed which are now being probed by the Mass Buying Commission.

"That was the part answer I have already made to your question. Now I will complete it. When some of you ask me, as you may: "Why all this haste?" I say that, as a matter of fact, there is no haste at all, either in thought or action.

SHAKESPEARE'S ART

It is not unusual in the Old Country for a statesman to be a literary critic, and to profess his fondness for great literature in public. In this country we have been drifting away from the association of ideas which connects art with politics.

One enthusiastic commentator on the Senator's address quotes him as saying of Shakespeare that "he expressed the inner and infinite harmony of the universe itself," and remarks that "a more just and searching commentary on Shakespeare could not be expressed in fewer words."

The value of Senator Meighen's address was not in any attempted definition of Shakespeare's art or genius, but in the gusto with which it was delivered, and in the appeal to read Shakespeare for enjoyment rather than as a dry classroom study.

A PLAIN ANSWER

Opinions to suit every taste will be found in yesterday's Liberal organ. Mr. Bennett's economic reform policies. Editorially our contemporary professes to regard them as "radical," which means ultra modern, but apparently Miss McPhail, M.P., thinks otherwise for she is quoted as complaining that they come five years too late.

This confusion is due to the prejudices in the minds of Mr. Bennett's critics, and not to any ambiguity in his own statements, which were clear enough. The reason for his policies, and for their introduc-

Notes By The Way

Let us be fair to both Hitler and Stalin. When Hitler pumped off a crowd of his enemies a great fuss was made in England about it. The prompt dispatch of 86 enemies of the Soviet this year, however, has caused no excitement here. The fact is that most people were surprised to find murder used as a political weapon in Germany that they forgot Russia was just as bad.

Interest will be invited by the announcement that the Dominion Government is releasing an exhibition throughout the country under the sponsorship of the Canadian Legion, thousands of feet of motion picture film related to Canadian participation in the World War.

Many important experiments await execution in the field of town planning. The most important, perhaps, concerns the question of whether to encourage the growth of large cities, of satellite towns round existing cities, or of wholly new independent towns.

Just about forty years ago a little book written by a French pastor, Charles Wagner, won the enthusiastic commendation of Theodore Roosevelt, who made it "The Simple Life," a popular slogan.

Where is the ear-muff of yesterday? This question, put editorially by the dignified New York Times, is worth considering. The theory that Winters are milder, has been statistically exploded. The only logical conclusion, therefore, for the absence of ear muffs is that our ears have become harder.

The Prince of Wales offers his own solution of that old war time story that Russian troops were being taken to the western front via England. Indeed, he may well be correct. Speaking to the London Scouts he said: "Gaelic is a great language. During the war there was a squadron of Lovat's Scouts taking Gaelic in the train. At once the story spread that the Russians were coming through England."

A highly significant step in the big renewed swing to the Right in National Socialist policy, which is taking the form of a new purge of the party, it is reported, has been declared that Herr Gottfried Feder, one of its founders and the author of much of its Socialism, had been relieved of his State posts and placed on pension. No reason is given. Herr Gottfried Feder was

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WAR AND PACIFISM

WAR AND PACIFISM. Sir,—In reply to the letter written by "H. K. W." there are a few comments which I wish to make and in making them I will be as brief as possible.

My friend states "that no war is justified." Then what interpretation can he give to Joshua 6, which reads as follows—"And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho and the king thereof and the mighty men of valour, and ye shall compass the city all ye men of war," etc. Again verse 21, "And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city both men and women young and old and ox and sheep and ass with the edge of the sword." And after this war of devastation we have in the same chapter and last verse, "So the Lord was with Joshua and his fame was noised throughout all the country."

Was this war justified, if not, then why did God help Joshua to enter the city and take it by force? Again my friend says that justice can only be dealt out by a third and impartial party. Quite true but sometimes justice must be backed up by force—war as in the case I have already mentioned.

Mr. "H. K. W." says that murder. Any schoolboy can tell him that there is a big difference in the meaning of the two words. In the chapter to which I have already referred God speaks of Joshua's men as mighty men of valour, men of war. He does not call them murderers, and if war is murder then those who take part in it are murderers.

To prevent an acid condition of the body enough of the alkaline foods should be eaten daily. These foods keep up the "alkaline reserve" and so help to some extent to ward off infection. Most of us have to eat some acid foods daily—eggs, meat, bread, cereals—to maintain and repair the body structure.

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An inquest discloses the return to Britain of an animal believed to be extinct—the old English black rat. In the seventeenth century the grey rat from Sumatra, brought over in trading ships, drove the black rats out of Britain. Lately it is reported that the grey rat has been found in the United States. Behind their walls the black rat revived, safe from its enemy. A curious difference between the two varieties is that the grey rat avoids human company while the black rat seeks it.—London Sunday Express.

Already we are in that New Year of opportunity, 1935. There is something in a good beginning. The year is so young that it is hardly likely that we have spoiled anything in it by any foolish or untoward act or thought, but the question is still to be asked, have we taken the New Year as a really worth-while opportunity in our lives and made intelligent and thoroughgoing preparation to use it after a really significant fashion.

Cynical minds may enjoy themselves in making sport of New Year resolutions, but there is much wisdom after all in thinking of and appreciating them as helps along that difficult way of living honorably and well. Who of us who has taken the New Year as a really worth-while opportunity in our lives and made intelligent and thoroughgoing preparation to use it after a really significant fashion.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

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BACK TO THE EARTH

BACK TO THE EARTH. If you should tire, then I shall understand, Being attuned to Nature and her ways: I have felt ovals wither in my hand

And grasped the toll of frost in August days. Trees, in their strength and splendor, have been cast Back to the earth by harbingers of Spring. And I have seen the hawk but this day past. Rob life and joy of white throats that could sing. Though I am not resigned to pain and loss

Of beauty, I cannot be unaware Of recompense in star-shaped, shining moss. That hides remains of loveliness once there.

This I have learned, and I have made my choice: Better stark ruin than a winter voice. —Helen B. Otis, in "The Spinners"

murdered in drunken brawls, the perpetrators of crime boldly stated that there was no one to prevent them, a state of utter lawlessness prevailed. Col. Robertson-Ross stated in his report that the government should establish a chain of military posts from Manitoba to the Rocky Mountains, and a small military force to patrol the country to enforce law.

In May of the following year, Sir John Macdonald brought down to the house, a bill "respecting the administration of justice," and established a police force in the North West Territories. Though a civil force they were to be drilled in simple cavalry movements, each man to be active and able-bodied, able to ride, read and write, good character, ages between 18 and 40. Recruiting for the new force began in autumn of 1873. Thus was the original organization of the North West Mounted Police.

On June 6, 1874, the "Great March" left Toronto for the West. 16 officers, 201 men and 244 horses, and thus the great march of the North West Mounted Police struck the first blow for law and order in the lawless west.

History relates the task undertaken by no means easy. It required men of courage, endurance, tact, will-power and strength of character. Privation and hardship attended their every task. The work of the Mounted Police in Western Canada soon brought the desired effect and across the prairie from farm to lonely farm, the Mounted rode, his scarlet coat seen afar, a warning to the guilty, a guarantee to the honest.

In 1904, the King, in acknowledgment of the magnificent thirty years work of the force, conferred upon it the title of "Royal." At this announcement, every honest citizen of Canada congratulated the R. C. M. P.

Since then, the Mounted Police have been operating in practically every province of Canada and today are known as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

At times, we see much criticism hurled at our Island detachment, charging them with neglect of duty. I cannot see matters that way, and in saying so I do not foster any party views, but base my conclusions on data at hand, as well as through the light of common sense. A mounted policeman, or any policeman, cannot be possessed with the quality of omnipotence, he cannot be everywhere at once. Now it might be well for us to consider our obligation to law enforcement, and assist the police both Mounties and civies by giving reliable information to aid the tracking down of law-breakers. The slogan of the R. C. M. P. is "We Get Our Man."

Well, are we not responsible to help, if we are earnest law-abiding citizens, instead of withholding necessary information which may be in our possession?

I feel sure that the Mounted Police detachment on Prince Edward Island, under Inspector Friggs, is ever ready and willing to assist quickly in rounding up law breakers. They have done much good work in the enforcement of prohibition and in other lines of law enforcement. Their methods are effective, systematic, tactful and impartial.

In closing, I would state that law enforcement will never be 100% efficient, no matter how competent our police are, unless there is an earnest, sincere co-operation on the part of all people, and a strict sense of responsibility for the important part we play in role of law-abiding citizens.

I am, Sir, etc., FAIR-MINDED.

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