THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.
Associate Editor Frank Walker

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1938

A Slight Change

It is amusing to note the shrieks of protest in Liberal newspapers against the Conservative expression of loyalty to Great Britain in her present hour of need. "Flag-wagging Imperialism" is a crime, it would seem, when manifested at a political convention.

It does not take a long memory (says the Hamilton Spectator) to recall that six years ago Right Hon. R. B. Bennett was condemned for straining the Empire link by driving a "hard bargain" with Britain in the Ottawa trade pacts.

His most vociferous critics were Mr. Mackenzie King and members of the Liberal party. The agreements, ran the cry, has caused "tension", and endangered a noble relationship. All manner of injury was alleged to have been done to the feelings of the Mother Country. The Union Jack had been sullied; co-operation had been damaged. "Canada First" Mr. Bennett was the culprit; "flag-wagging" Mr. King the hero in shining armour.

Time marches on.

A Barren Record

When the history of these times comes to be written, says the Ottawa Journal, the session of Parliament which closed last week will, we fear greatly, get precious little space in it. Beginning with great promise, and with more than the usual promises, it trailed through five months to a minimum of accomplishment. The Speech from the Throne forecast national unemployment insurance, a new reciprocal trade agreement with the United States, legislation regarding wheat marketing, a number of other things. They are still in the Speech from the Throne.

National unemployment insurance, headlined into vast prominence six months ago, has not materialized.

A new trade treaty with the United States, headlined into even vaster prominence, is still in some pigeon-hole in Washington.

No action was taken on the costly Turgeon Royal Commission report on wheat marketing.

No action came from the equally costly Turgeon Royal Commission report on the textiles industry.

Eleventh-hour, half-hearted legislation on the costly Royal Commission report on penitentiaries was thrown out—and rightly—by the Senate.

A measure proposing to control election expenditures, introduced with a great fanfare of trumpets in the middle of the session, was dropped toward the end.

The budget, brought down two and a half months after the close of the fiscal year, altered no tariff, changed no tax (except certain exemptions from the Sales Tax), produced nothing but a deficit, though fortunately one reduced.

Actually, the entire five months of the session were spent in voting more than $500,000,000 of public monies (most of it voted in the final few weeks); in providing for certain left-handed "pump priming"; in devising loans to municipalities for self-liquidating works; in voting more money for housing. True, a transport bill was passed and certain amendments to the Criminal Code; but the transport bill was a hang-over from last session, while the Criminal Code amendments were thrown at the Senate two days before prorogation.

Farmers' Co-Operatives

Yesterday's annual meeting of the Livestock Marketing Board is a reminder of the steady progress made by farmers' co-operative business organizations in recent years. The current issue of the Economic Annalist, a publication of the Federal Department of Agriculture, gives some interesting figures in this connection, based on returns received during the year 1937. For livestock shipping and marketing associations alone, the records showed a combined membership of 46,719, the business accommodated being in the vicinity of sixteen million dollars.

Altogether, returns were received from 1,024 farmers' co-operative organizations, representing 2,963 branches which combined made a total of 3,987 places of business engaged in the marketing of farm products and the purchase of supplies for farmers. Shareholders and members financially interested numbered 396,918 and patrons were estimated to number 451,231. The equity of the members in these organizations amounted to over $51,000,000, representing a considerable increase over the preceding year. Total assets after deducting provision for bad debts and depreciation amounted to $87,938,453. Sales of farm products through the co-operatives totalled $157,031,405.

Within the marketing group the grain and seed co-operatives which include the wheat pools of Western Canada have, of course, the largest membership and investment, and exceed all other commodity groups in volume of business. But the figures for other farm organizations are impressive. For example:

One hundred and forty-six dairy co-operatives with 428 depots in Canada reported a membership of 49,796 with assets valued at $5,077,441.

A large part of the fruit and vegetable crop is marketed through 129 co-operative agencies with a combined membership of 12,170 fruit growers. Assets for all companies totalled $3,904,030.

Poultry producers have organized in each of the provinces to sell their products co-operatively. There were 57 associations with 280 places of business which reported a membership of 34,868 members. Sales for the year amounted to $3,282,693.

Practically all the wool marketed co-operatively in Canada is handled by the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Limited. The Company operates in each province through the medium of 18 sheep-breeders' and wool-growers' associations. The co-operative stores grade and market the wool received from its 8,000 patrons. They handled 4,000,000 pounds during the year.

Reference is also made in the report to the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders' Association, and to smaller farm co-operatives functioning in individual provinces.

In the purchasing of farm supplies 515 co-operatives participated. These consumer associations, of which nearly one-half are established in Saskatchewan, have a combined membership of 38,167. In five of the provinces co-operative buying societies purchase goods for their shareholder associations.

Detailed figures by provinces are given. Prince Edward Island is credited with ten farmers' business organizations, with 61 places of business, representing 8,760 shareholders, 9,245 patrons, and total assets of $71,688. Total business for the year 1936-37 amounted to $1,490,000.

Doubtless the statistics for 1937-38, when available, will show a still further increase in co-operative enterprise, which now embraces practically all lines of agriculture.

Editorial Notes

Henry Hallan born this date, 1777.

* * * *

Tomorrow is the 4th Sunday after Trinity, besides being the anniversary of the birth of Calvin in 1509.

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With Quebec lining up with the rest of Canada as demanding retention within the Empire, Prime Minister Mackenzie King must be sorry he made so much of his rebel grandfather.

* * * *

Anent the demonstration of loyalty at the Conservative Convention our local contemporary says, quoting Johnson: "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." Our contemporary, we note, still calls itself "The Patriot"!

* * * *

Hon. Dr. Thane Campbell is beginning to think of facing the electors and loosening the purse strings still farther for the benefit of "deserving democrats". But the expenditure is strictly confined to road contractors, who have the hiring and firing of the faithful.

* * * *

No opposition party in Canadian history has had such a wealth of talent at its head as has the National Conservatives today. Men like Bennett, Meighen, White in the capacity of elder Statesmen, and a plethora of active statesmen with Manion at their head, besides a host of rising hopes, bodes well for the future of Conservatives in the Federal field.

* * * *

The Coliseum Ottawa, where the Conservative convention took place, is about three miles from the Parliament Buildings, and restaurant, rest rooms, a telegraph office and a press room with a battery of telephones for the convenience of the sixty members of the Dominion press who covered the proceedings, were arranged for. The Exhibition Grounds for the time being were in reality a miniature town, complete with all modern conveniences. The seats for delegates radiated out from the central speakers' platform, which was equipped with loud speakers and smothered in flags. The name of each province was painted on a big sign hanging from an iron truss and the nine provincial delegations were seated beneath their own particular vine and fig tree. In addition, there were 4,500 extra seats for visitors and sight-seers. To ensure perfect audition, the whole floor of the huge building had been covered with tan-bark and overlaid with canvas. Even the press tables, right in front of the speakers stand, had a thick mat to deaden any sound. There was even a special post office in the building for the convenience of press and delegates.

* * * *

Price cutting in the grocery field has been going on now for several months and there doesn't seem to be any abatement, states Canadian Grocer in its current issue and now it has hit drug lines. It adds that in the food field there are not many price-maintained lines, but that it is different with drugs. Within the last couple of weeks, retail druggists in Toronto have thrown the gate wide open and price cutting is rampant even in many of these maintained lines. Who started it all nobody knows, but it is stated that one large retail chain heard of premiums being given away by retailers, made enquiries and found that they applied to fixed-price lines as well as others. This seemed to light the spark that set off the conflagration and now, as far as Toronto at any rate is concerned, competition is keener than it has been for a number of years. In the grocery field in Ontario there is not much of a let-up. It seems that when manufacturers get their lines straightened out as far as cutting is concerned, retailers break out in a price-cutting rash elsewhere. Bread, for instance, has been made a price football in recent weeks. There is a rumor that the activities on the part of one large chain in this regard have been outlined to Premier Hepburn of Ontario and that he expressed himself in fairly strong language against it. In many proprietory lines we continue to see prices that are pretty close to cost. There are some that provide the large retail distributor with only about 2% gross margain which is, of course, away below operating costs. From Vancouver comes the news that a large department store there is fighting the loss-leader legislation recently put through in British Columbia. The price-cutting orgy starting in Toronto among the drug stores may spread as there are chain companies there with units in other parts of the provinces. If it does, retailers in many smaller centres will be affected. We may therefore see both grocers and druggists in strong competition for the consumer's dollar the latter half of the year.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Emperor of Japan has bestowed the Order of the Chrysanthemum upon Mussolini. When autocratic rulers commence saying things with flowers the true symbolism of such gifts become badly warped.—Brantford Expositor.

At a moment when the country is witnessing the disgraceful spectacle of relief funds being freely used for narrowly partisan purposes the news from the Mormons are making a new campaign to keep their own people off the government relief rolls comes as a welcome breath of clear mountain air. —New York Herald Tribune.

The racial and political implications of the fight last week were apparently too much for a lot of people in Harlem. Coming down from the Stadium, riding along Lenox avenue we saw one young colored girl sternly bearing a sign which said, "Hitler, keep your hands off Ethiopia!"—The New Yorker.

J. C. Ponsford, St. Thomas, was warden of Kingston penitentiary for 19 years and never had a riot. But he used the strap on incorrigibles and was strict and severe. He submits that when a warden starts to toady to prisoners he is lost, a thought which was not contained in the recent Royal Commission report. —St. Catharines Standard.

Nearly $450,000 is to be spent in Palestine in constructing a barbed-wire wall along the frontier where Lebanon, Syria and Trans-Jordan impinge upon Palestine in the hope that Tegart's wall, named after Sir Charles Tegart, its prime advocate, may be effective in keeping smugglers, agitators, gun runners, terrorists and fugitives from justice from using the border zone as a base of operations. Ae despatch to the London Times from Jerusalem says that specifications of the plan call for fifty miles of barbed-wire fence, varying in construction according to local conditions. The standard barrier apparently will consist of two parallel fences six feet high and five feet apart. Each of the fences will have meshed wire at the bottom and barbed-wire above, and the space between the two fences will be criss-crossed with barbed-wire and filled with loose masses of wire. Where local conditions call for an even more formidable barrier than this there will be three parallel fences. —New York Sun.

One of the finest lessons in real Americanism that we've heard about lately was taught by Eugene W. Casey, 32-year-old Negro cab driver. Recently he was sick and in the hospital, and his family received $49.10 in city relief. The other day Eugene Casey wrote this letter to the City Treasurer: "Dear Sir—Just to let you know me and my wife have no further need for the relief as I am putting my cab on the street, and would like to be cut off on our own will. Please, sir, tell me how I can repay back. Thanks you ever so much sincerely.— Eugene W. Casey, Cora L. Casey." A man who wants to "repay back" his relief money is unusual enough, so that the newspapers sent reporters to ask Eugene Casey why. He told them: "It's just the way I was raised up, back in South Carolina. It's the way I'm raisin' my kid."—New York World-Telegram.

In an effort to alleviate the existing shortage of domestic help in New Zealand, girls from Sweden and Denmark may be brought to the Dominion. Miss E. M. Parkins, of Napier, has left for England and the Continent, and may endeavour, if sufficient English girls are not available, to bring Scandinavians to the Dominion. Miss Darkins said she could place 500 girls in domestic employment in Hawke's Bay alone and would bring several hundred girls out to New Zealand if possible. Speaking to a deputation the Prime Minister, the Right Hon. M. J. Savage, indicated that some action would be taken to meet the present difficulties with respect to the training and status of domestic servants. He hoped there would be legislation soon to deal with the whole situation. If further facilities were needed for training domestics they would have to be provided, Mr. Savage added. He would see that the conditions in the home were made as attractive as in other occupations. — New Zealane Letter

We drove forty miles one morning to see if there were any trout in a certain creek in the north. Sitting at the front door of a log shack, across the road from the creek, was a sleepy-looking settler. We asked him if there were any fish in the creek and he said, "I have lived here nigh on to forty years and I never fished that crick yet." We took a young man fishing for a couple of days and it was in the fly season when the deer come to the water to get a bit of relief. In two days we saw ten deer, often at distances of but a few feet, but when we returned home the young man when asked how he liked his trip said, "Oh, we saw a few deer, but nothing interesting."— Trenton Courier-Advocate.

Good taste is not instinctive but acquired. All native tastes are bad. The taste of the young in music is abominable, in literature execrable. Good taste grows slowly through the effort to understand what is beyond us, the endeavor to appreciate what we cannot yet understand. It depends on our willingness to be bored with what is good in order that we may become bored with what is bad and so demand something better. In short, it is born of faith, the faith that the kingdom of beauty can neither be purchased by dollars nor taken by storm, but must be approached by a process of trial and error, a willingness to learn and the humility which is prepared to accept on faith and the judgement of others what it cannot yet dare to repeat on its own. —C. E. M. Joad, in Scribner's

The appointment of Lord Munster as the new Paymaster General will perhaps provide that mythical creature of criticism the intelligent foreigner with another opportunity to shake his head over the persistent illogicalities of the mad English. For the office of Paymaster General has no place on any department's pay-roll; there is no salary attached to the job. To be responsible for the pay of others and yet draw no pay yourself sounds like the quintessence of altruism—or else of the English capacity for puzzling outsiders. But there it is; the Assistant Paymaster General draws £1,300, while the actual Paymaster General's post is among those that are certified as "unpaid."—Manchester Guardian.

The Japanese—the noncombatant ones, at least—remain a great little people. This was borne in on us recently when we read the instruction sheet that came with an inexpensive made-in-Tokio outfit for developing and printing film. The opening sentence would have done credit to a Faulkner or a Wolfe. It said, "Take the developer to the glommiest place possible." —New Yorker.

Lord Tweedsmuir says the best answer to the folly of dictatorship is laughter. As long as you remember to laugh before you get your dictator. —Vancouver Province.

HOW BRITISH IS CANADA ?

(Globe and Mail)

Periodical evidence that politicians with their ears to the ground fear to voice unmistakable British sentiments is a shame to our generation. What has Britain done to make us cool and suspicious? Is it the Britain which nourished young Canada to maturity and today stands ready to defend our trade routes and coasts, which gives preference to our products in the worlds greatest market, provided our laws, governing institutions and independence, and the blood of half of our population. Yet politicians are on tenderhooks when a matter of participating in a common defense of British democracy arises. They back away from responsibility prefer to be noncommittal, temporize and sidestep.

Not all of them; the speech of Right Hon. Arthur Meighen on Tuesday will ring down the years as a brilliant exception. In theme and force ulness it emphasized the contrast of honest statesmanship with average politics. The attitude of average politics on the subject is the disgrace.

The Prime Minister's explanation that the Government will not oppose establishment of Royal Air Force training schools in Canada, provided they are under control of the Dominion Minister of Defense, does not alter the fact that the concession is made grudgingly. There still is lacking cordial acknowledgment of the remarkable contest the United Kingdom is waging on all fronts for peace and democracy. History can be cited for precedents, but the elementary truth is that the Federal Government is taking the same position within the Commonwealth of Nations that some Provinces are assuming within confederation: the right to assert autonomy, regardless of a common purpose.

FOUR MILLION WORDS

(Ottawa Journal)

The House of Commons Hansard for the recent session runs almost 5,000 pages, the Senate Hansard about 700. They will average close to 800 words a page. Thus the official report of the Commons makes a prodigious volume of some 4,000,000 words, and the Senate report a work of something more than half a million words.

The wordage of this one session of Parliament, if printed and bound as the average popular novel is printed and bound, would make a shelf of 35 to 40 volumes.

Nobody, when a session is over, would undertake the formidable task of reading through this enormous work. There are limits to human strength and endurance. But read from day to day as a serial Hansard is an absorbing work and it would be good for Parliament, good for the country, if it had a wider circulation.

A city editor could go through these pages with his traditional blue pencil and cut out great masses of wordage as irrelevant, inconsequential, facetious, words that add nothing to the intelligent study of national problems. He would find endless cases of ten words solemnly doing the work of one. He would discover much that is petty, much of what is pure theory, much evidence of the narrowest partisanship. But he would come upon also, and not infrequently, wise and eloquent words, glimpses of high statesmanship, pictures of devotion to the nation and to democracy.

Reducing Hansard to its essentials, making important the test of survival, would greatly reduce its bulk—and even more greatly reduce its interest. Because the fascination of it—as has been shown by bits reproduced on this page during the session—consists in its trivialities, the repartee, the soft answers that stir up wrath and the angry answers that cause scenes, the play of passions and ambitions and ideals on this national forum.

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That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

IRRITABLE BOWEL, MUCOUS COLITIS —CAUSE AND TREATMENT

"The most important symptom is pain in the abdomen which may be just a sensation of floating and pressure from gas, or a severe cramplike pain relieved by bowel movement. Nausea is a common symptom (particularly morning nausea in both men and women), and vomiting is not unusual. Belching, distension of the abdomen and an excessive amount of gas, are common. The patients complain of more general symptoms such as headache, tiredness, weakness, nervousness, sleeplessness and dizziness."

I am describing the symptoms of what is variously called "functional bowel," "irritable bowel," "mucous colitis," "spastic colitis," and other names, as outlined by Dr. Walter Lincoln Palmer, University of Chicago, in Medical Clinics of North America.

As the cause of the above group of symptoms is believed to be nervousness or emotional conflict, the biggest factor in the treatment is the removal of these mental conflicts and establishing a calm and peaceful mind in the patient. "Probably the one most important method of treatment is physical and mental rest. It is well to suggest definite and longer hours of sleep. An afternoon rest is very helpful. In many cases a few days, in some even a few weeks, of absolute rest in bed is desirable in order that the patient may become thoroughly rested. Heat to the abdomen —hot water bottle or an electric warming pad—often gives great relief. Cathartics should be avoided, regular bowel movement should be accomplished by diet."

Dr. Palmer suggests the following "basic" diet, to which, as the patient improves, oatmeal and potato are added, then cooked vegetables, later stewed fruits, still later raw vegetables, and finally raw fruits.

The basic or ground work diet is:

1. Lean meat of all kinds, cooked eggs, milk and cream, cream of wheat, farina, rice, white bread, butter, crackers, cheese, noodles and spaghetti (without tomato, peppers or such seasoning), custard, jello, cornstarch and tapioca (no bran flakes.)

2. Oatmeal, whole wheat bread, baked or mashed potatoes.

The treatment, then of what we call irritable bowel or mucous colitis is mental and physical rest, and a diet of non-irritating foods.

The Poets' Corner

PLOWMAN AT THE PLOW

He, behind the straight plow, stands
Stalwart; firm shafts in firm hands.

Naught he cares for wars and naught
For the fierce disease of thought.

Only for the winds, the sheer
Naked impulse of the year.

Only for the soil which stares
Clean into God's face, he cares.

In the stark might of his deed
There is more than art or creed;

In his wrist more strength is hid
Than the monstrous Pyramid;

Stauncher than stern Everest
Be the muscles of his breast;

Not the Atlantic sweeps a flood
Potent as the plowman's blood.

He, his horse, his plowshare, these
Are the only verities.

Dawn to dusk, with God he stands,
The Earth poised on his broad hands.

—Louis Golding.

He who exhibits no faults is a fool or a hypocrite whom we should distrust.—Joubert.

No person is either so happy or so unhappy as he imagines.—Rochefoucauld

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Evan's Stomach Mixture is a prescription of Dr. L. B. Evans, noted English Physician of which we have the sole rights to and since selling it have received numerous testimonials from satisfied purchasers.

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* * * *

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Beach Bags in Blue, Tan or Rose — — — — — — $1.00

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Henderson & Cudmore

MEN'S WEAR

Words Transmitted

Making two blades of grass grow where one grew before has nothing on the telegraph engineers these days who now make one pair of wires do the work of twenty-four. This is accomplished by the use of the carrier current system, stated engineers of the Canadian National Telegraphs when interviewed with regard to this latest development in the art of communication. We wonder what J. Fenimore Cooper, author of the famous Leather-stocking Tales, would say were he to witness the great strides that have been made these days. One hundred years ago he wrote to Samuel B. Morse seven days after the latter's first public demonstration of the telegraph "My dear friend: I wish you all success with the telegraph which might be made very useful for long distances. Your difficulty will be in communicating between more than two stations, for a half dozen sparks, travelling on the same wire, will play the devel with the registers, (receiving instruments)". Modern inventive genius has made it possible to transmit 196 messages at one time over one pair of wires, or around 10,780 words a minute. Telegraph communication now girdles the earth and the winged words are transmitted with the speed of light.

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