THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1935.

A GAELIC MOD IN B. C.

From a report of the proceedings of a Gaelic Mod held recently in Vancouver, it would appear that British Columbia has a flourishing Gaelic Society with a membership which includes many prominent people.

The Mod, which was on the lines of the annual Scottish Mod, continued for three days and comprised a long list of competitions, including recitations, readings in prose and verse, "sgeulachd," speeches, a great variety of vocal numbers, violin, piano and pipe playing, and literary competitions in the form of essays. The proceedings wound up with a grand concert on a Saturday evening.

Among the patrons were the Marchioness of Londonderry, Sir Ian Macpherson, Judge Calder, T. B. Macaulay, Angus MacInnes, M.P., Sir Ian Colquhoun, Bart., Sir Alexander MacEwen, and Ian MacKenzie, M.P. The Vancouver Gaelic Society, as may be gathered, has distinguished connections in the Old Country.

It is remarkable (the report states,) that 142 years after the intrepid explorer, Sir Alexander MacKenzie, a native of Lewis, crossed the Dominion of Canada on foot and arrived in British Columbia, that a Gaelic Mod could be organized by the Highlanders of the city of Vancouver. It was appropriate that the chairman of the executive organizing the Mod, Mr. A. N. MacRitchie, should also be a native of Lewis.

The B.C. Gaelic Mod proved more successful than the most optimistic supporter hoped for, educationally, socially, and financially. "Representing the descendants of the early settlers who landed in the Maritime Provinces, the Mod was opened by Judge F. Calder, (a native of Cape Breton) with an eloquent address. Afterwards the competitions were carried out in such an orderly and precise manner as to invoke complimentary plaudits from the large audience attending the sessions."

MOUNT EVEREST AGAIN

It is announced from England that the consent of Thibet having been obtained, another British expedition will endeavor to conquer Mount Everest this year. The party will be under the direction of Mr. Hugh Ruttledge, who was in charge of the 1933 expedition. Efforts to reach the summit of this peak, the highest in the world, have been made at intervals for over a decade, but none has succeeded. The first party was under the direction of Colonel Howard Bury. This was in 1921. Its preliminary work was valuable to the 1922 expedition led by Brigadier-General C. G. Bruce. The third party was formed in 1924. Colonel E. F. Norton was in charge. In its final attempt to reach the summit it will be recalled Mr. A. C. Irvine and Mr. G. A. H. Leigh-Mallory perished. Bad weather forced abandonment of the effort led by Mr. Hugh Ruttledge in 1933. This expedition, however, was able to reach the highest point yet attained. The same year Air Commodore P. F. M. Fellows, with the Houston Mount Everest expedition, flew over the mountain in the early Spring. The photographs they obtained will be of valuable assistance to the expedition just organized, and in whose progress keenest interest will be taken.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Congratulations are in order for Col. Andrew on the success of the Light Horse under his command. To take third place for efficiency in the whole of Canada is an enviable achievement.

"Returning to sanity" may be the apt description of Soviet Russia's determination to resume recognition of "the existence of the family." In course of time Stalin and his dupes will come round to the "recognition" of an All Wise God and His Son, the Saviour of the World.

The Jubilee worked wonders when it induced the Montreal Gazette to depart from its invariable rule of excluding illustrations from its front page. On Monday it carried pictures of Their Majesties, occupying approximately four columns eight inches of its valuable news space.

Premier Bennett, unlike Hon. H. H. Stevens, does not believe in satisfying the natural curiosity of the Press with regard to what transpires behind closed doors. He told the London newspapermen, after the Dominions Conference with the British Government, that "any statement I have to make will be made in Parliament." He sails for home today.

Stories are beginning to reach London of privations now being undergone by thousands of Italian troops quartered in Italian Somaliland and Eritrea in readiness for a possible campaign against Ethiopia. Drought, malaria and blistering heat are said to be inflicting intense suffering upon Premier Mussolini's young fighting men, who sailed from Italy with so much enthusiasm only a few months ago.

The sudden passing of Mr. W. T. Huggan must have come as a shock to his innumerable friends and acquaintances. He was out visiting as recently as the evening previous to his death, and gave the writer of this note a cheery "good evening" on his way home. He was an exemplary citizen who "kept his own door-step clean" both actually and metaphorically. He had a well-trained, disciplined, sensitive conscience which was his rule of life. His loss is both a community and provincial one.

Soviet Russia which repudiated its national debts, and reduced its people to a sort of paternal form of slavery, has plenty money to spend on preparations for war—no-peace-at-any-price policy for her. The first official indication of the strength of the Soviet's air force is that there are more than 3,000 military planes in different parts of the country. The figures likewise disclose a formidable concentration of planes in the Far East, where more than 800 ships are stationed. It was officially announced 800 bombers, fighting planes and pursuit ships flew above Red Square in Moscow quite recently. In addition to these and 800 planes in the Far East official press reports said 350 ships took part in the Leningrad demonstration; 350 were at Minsk, near the Polish border; 300 at Kiev; 170 at Kharkov; and 100 at Rostov-on-Don, in the north Caucasian area. At many other points squadrons of planes were reported.

It is announced that Judge Daly, of the Carleton County Court, Ottawa, has been appointed a commissioner under Part One of the Inquiries Act to investigate charges made against Inspector J. D. Dawson by Miss Agnes Macphail, M.P. According to the honorable member for South-east Grey, a convict at Portsmouth stated that he had heard the Inspector say that "Aggie Macphail made a fool of herself in the Commons" in the debate on prison conditions. The official has denied the assertion and most people will be inclined to give his word preference over a convict's. Nevertheless there is to be a commission at considerable cost, following the precedent set in the case of Mr. Veniot. It is to be trusted that other members of Parliament will not demand investigations every time a voter says something about their parliamentary attitude or that the Government may deem it necessary to appoint one when a member's political pre-election enthusiasm exceeds his discretion.

The production of raw fur in the twelve months ending June 30, 1934, had a total value of $12,122,000 compared with $10,305,000 in the preceding season and $10,189,000 in 1931-32. hese totals comprised the values of pelts of animals taken by trappers as well as pelts from fur farms, the value of the latter amounting to approximately 31 per cent of the whole. Silver fox, as for many years, was of first importance with a total value of $3,711,000. Muskrat came second with $1,863,000, followed closely by mink at $1,823,000. Other principal kinds were white, patch and red fox, beaver and ermine. Average prices showed little change from the preceding season. Silver fox, fisher, ermine and muskrat were higher but mink, patch fox, red fox, white fox and marten were lower. The highest average price per belt was recorded by fisher at $53.89 and silver fox second with $35.83. The total number of pelts of all kinds was 6,063,391 compared with 4,503,553 in 1932-33 and 4,449,289 in 1931-32. The number of squirrel skins increased from 316,635 in 1932-33 to 1,472,920 in 1933-34. Most of the squirrel skins were from Alberta and the average price about 12 cents.

Notes By The Way

From the British point of view the wise course is to do nothing to antagonise Germany, but rather to try to bring her back to the League of Nations, and eventually to the disarmament conference. This is not the French idea. France is still demanding security, not in some indefinite future, but immediately; security assured by hard and fast defensive alliances. To these alliances Great Britain has no objection, provided she can keep out of them. Her policy does not look toward the "splendid isolation" demanded by Lord Beaverbrook, nor the role of a mediatory power, as some advocate, but rather to strengthening the authority of the League, with Germany again a member thereof. This conflict between the British and French view puts Mussolini in a strategic position.—Detroit News.

Japan's exports rose 22 per cent. in the first quarter of 1935, compared with the same period last year, but her imports increased at a still greater rate. The import surplus for the last quarter was $46,000,000. Lancashire cotton exporters are alarmed by Japanese competition, but Japan has become the greatest consumer of India raw cotton and Australian raw wool. Last year her raw cotton imports increased 21 per cent. and her sheep's wool imports 13 1-2 per cent.

Sir Henry Strakosch, in The Economist says: Exchange regulations, import restrictions, quotas and a host of other measures of a similar character have been imposed over a vast area of the globe. Their effect on international trade has been catastrophic, and their removal is indispensable for its restoration. Their origin may be traced to the mistaken, but at one time almost universally held, belief that the disturbances of the balance of trade, from which most countries were suffering, could be corrected by impending imports without affecting exports. The developments of the last two years should have dispelled, by now, any illusions on this score.

There are men who have devoted all their lives to the exploration of unvisited and unknown shores and lands, but who forever remain a mystery to themselves! The personality of Napoleon was vastly more interesting than anything that he ever gained through conquests of war. Pepys wrote a diary that has attained world-wide fame, yet had it been published in his lifetime, people would have termed it as a display of vanity and conceit. But Pepys wrote that diary to please himself, as an outlet for the personality which he owned, never intending that it should come to the light of other eyes. Therein lies its value and interest.

The tragedy of the lack of employment for boys of school-leaving age is reflected in the eagerness with which technical education is sought, and in the inability of the existing schools to meet the demands made upon them. Boys and parents recognize that in the competition for work the trained boy is the only one who has a chance of recognition among the multitude of applicants. On the reopening of the schools after the Christmas holidays it was found impossible to meet all the demands for enrolment. —Ex.

Truth has often pointed out that, whatever Hitler may profess, there will be no peace in Europe so long as there are Nazis in Germany and German-speaking populations outside it. A new proof of this has come to light which, coinciding with the treason trial at Memel, is indicative of the highly dangerous state of contemporary Europe. It was reported to the Belgian police that Nazi emissaries had crossed the frontier and were secretly stirring up trouble in the German-speaking cantons of Eupen and Malmedy, which were given to Belgium as the result of the last war and a decidedly unconvincing spec ies of plebiscite.—Truth (London.)

Cablegrams from the British Isles today indicate that Great Britain is absolutely in earnest in her determination to meet the armed threat of Germany, by making her aerial armament capable of meeting any attack. The construction of one thousand planes in a time as short as possible has set the British factories for the construction of aircraft humming. Statements made concerning strength of British air forces now are stated to have included all forces within the Empire. Great Britain has been outnumbered two to one as far as her strength at the heart of the Empire has been concerned. Germany has one thousand planes ready for service. France is reported to have three thousand.

Well, Canadians aren't likely to worry greatly over this new American air base. In the first place, and since the coming of the airplane, the boast about our "undefended border" hasn't meant much, and in the second place, if our neighbors ever decide to attack us, it won't matter much whether they have an air base near the Great Lakes, or a lot farther south of them. Airplanes have a pretty large radius. —Ottawa Journal.

In the 11-months period ending March 31, the number of persons killed in motor car accidents in Ontario was 522, compared with 362 in the previous 11 months, an increase of 44.1 per cent. This startling record calls for redoubled efforts in the safety campaign. Every driver should keep those shocking figures in mind to deepen his own sense of responsibility—and every pedestrian too.

Germany has or soon will have submarines. Soon she will be on a par with her status of 1914 and as potentially dangerous. Soon will come a demand for restoration of her former colonies, but there is no indication that any country holding a mandate on such territory is willing to give it back.—Niagara Falls Review.

The Post fights communism by fighting for liberal reforms for the greatest good of the greatest number; for improvement of the conditions of labor; for social progress that means a more secure life and that leaves no ground in which communist seed can sprout. Mr. Hearst's muddled plan to save Americanism by destroying the American right of free speech springs from the muddled belief that a disease can be cured by wiping out its symptoms.—New York Post.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

CORRECT LIVING METHODS FOR MIDDLE AGE

I believe that any scientific food expert—one who has worked out his ideas on animals and human beings — will tell you that the "active" child or adult needs a goodly supply of animal proteins—meat, poultry, fish, eggs, milk.

He will also tell you that as you grow older and do less work or take less exercise you should continue to take plenty of protein foods but that the vegetable proteins — nuts, peas, beans, cocoa, oatmeal, wheat, crackers and bread—should be used in larger amounts, and the animals proteins reduced.

Perhaps in a general way it might be recommended that in childhood, youth, and (if active) up to the age of 40, the animal proteins should be two-thirds and the vegetable proteins one-third of the total proteins. After forty (or earlier if inactive) the animal proteins should be one-third and the vegetable proteins two-thirds.

As you know although starches and fats supply the heat or energy for the body it is the protein foods that repair the worn parts or build up new tissues broken down by use. This means then that no matter how we are, "some" protein food must be used. And your common sense tells you that as you work or exercise less as you grow older the protein foods should therefore be used less and less so that just as you started life with milk, then cereals, and then eggs, so also should you gradually go back to these simple foods as you approach old age.

However it is the middle period of life, 40 to 60 years of age, that requires the most thought from the food, exercise, and sleep standpoint. "Nervous collapse, high blood pressure, hardening of the arteries, apoplexy, heart failure and kidney disease are some of the ailments apt to set in at this time."

Dr. Jean Bogert, Kansas State Agricultural College, an outstanding food expert, makes the following suggestions for lightening the strain of living at middle age.

(1) Cut down on the amount of food enough to prevent increase in weight. (2) Eat small amounts of meats, salts, condiments; take plenty of water. (3) Get plenty of fresh air, but take light exercise only. (4) Take more recreation and rest. (5) Cultivate mental hygiene (courage, poise, self control); avoid nervous strain (worry, irritation, excessive excitement or exhausting emotions.)

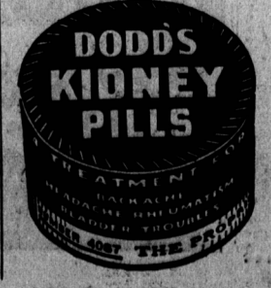
Blaming The Printer

(Winnipeg Free Press)

The first volume in a new series, "Oxford Books on Bibliography," has just been published at a very stiff price, and naturalyy so, for the series will be costly to produce. They will involve long and patient research by a type of dusty scholar and will serve ordinary readers everywhere, who are interested, in the greater public libraries. The initial volume, "Proof-Reading in the Sixteenth, Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries," is by Mr. Percy Simpson.

Bibliography say a leader in the "Times Literary Supplement," is a very new science. And, according to the article, a singularly belated one. It is surprising that the editors of the Cambridge Shakespeare (1863) should write: "It does not appear that there were any proof sheets in those days sent either to author or editor. . . . After the MS. had been sent to press, it was seen only by the printers" and correctors employed by publishers. Mr. Simpson quotes ample evidence that the Elizabethan authors did see proofs. The feud between author and publisher, it seems, was not greatly lessened when in Henry the Eighth's time writeds began to read their proof-sheets. The sweet enemies, to use a phrase of Sir Philip Sidney's, were necessarily partners, and throughout the centuries they have been good friends in many instances. Bryon and John Murray were freinds as they well might be, yet the saying "Now Barabbas was a publisher" was credited to him, applying to Murray at that. The truth is that both parites have suffered. A certain Dean of Christ Church once cursed in Latin and in Greek "the stupidity, ignorance and carelessness" of printers and proof-readers alike. Of course the publishers have had in early times no such privilege of cursing the authors in English, though their paid correctors might privately call them "meddlesome fools, boobies raw blunderers" and so on. No doubt the authors have been far and away the worst sufferes, nothing annoying them like tampering ignorantly with their copy. Some have been fussy like Campbell, the Scottish poet, who once walked six miles to his published's and back again merely to replace a comma! It ought to be admitted that before the day of the typewriter, authors' MS. might be unbearably untidy, also the spelling and punctuation very faulty: "The author's job was to send in good, clean copy and refrain from messing about with proofs." One thing is certain: all proof-readers ought to be well-educated and with a background of knowledge concerning the subject he thinks that he is correcting. On the other hand, publishers have prevented many a howler.

We may be certain that those great writers of the English classics read their own proofs, else how had they left to us such treasures? In the sixteenth century, we are told, the relations between printer and author were close, the author being on the spot, reading the sheets and watching the corrections as they were made on the metal. "He would often note errors in the middle of an impression, and their correction —impracticable under modern conditions—which would account for variants between one copy and another." As a matter of history, Erasmus and others actually lodged and boarded with their printers or publishers, while overseeing their works. In the seventeenth century, Herrick begged his readers to blame "the Printer not Me" for the errors.



Westminster Abbey

(Montreal Gazette)

Befitting every way it was that the services in connection with the King's Jubilee should be held within the two shrines which may be deemed an epitome of English history. Well has it been observed that the "great city towered and steepled, is doubly peopled." Where once the Thames flowed through a marsh over which the wild fowl screeched now stand these venerable piles, "haunted by the ghosts of the remembered past." Where now stands the cross of St. Paul's and the Abbey which gave Westminster its name, upon a mud flat known as Thorney Isle, some time about the middle of the eighth century arose the church monastery of St. Peter, destined to become resting place and monument of the heroes of England—warriors and poets, prophets and priests, statesmen and kings, men of renown whose names illume the urns in which lies their dust. Could aught tell the valorous story of England better than this magnificent edifice uprising from an ancient, desolate parcel of waste ground?

By whom this structure was first founded is not really known. Tradition has it that the Saxon King Sebert gave command for its erection, which at first assumed the shape of a modest building far less imposing than the storied monument which has withstood the ravages of time and today is the treasure house of national memorials and one of the most magnificent fabrics in Christendom. Its construction to the full dimension covers a period of nearly eight centuries. But what stirring scenes nave been enacted within the walls of this fane wherein "kings have received their crowns of gold!" Here in January, 1066, Edward the Confessor, who had restored the Abbey, was buried before the high altar of the new structure. A few months afterwards, Harold, last of the Saxons who fell upon the field of Senlac, was here laid to rest. When on Christmas Day of the same year, his conqueror, William of Normandy, was crowned in the Abbey, the shouts of acclamation inside the building startled the foreign troops assembled outside. They thought some seditious movement was afoot and set fire to the nearest houses to the Abbey. The alarm thus raised outside caused a panic within the Abbey so that most of the warriors present at the coronation rushed pell-mell into the streets and William of Normandy was crowned by the few officials left in the Abbey amid a scene of the utmost hurry and confusion. It stands to his credit that, in spite of the panic, William insited that the ceremonial be completed, and to the oath of fealty to the Constitution the Conquereor himself added the solemn pledge that he would treat the English people as well as the best of their kings had done.

When in 1303 Edward the First, who owned four crowns and an amasng heap of gems, plate and jewels, took departure for Scotland this glittering mass of valuables was deposited in the treasure house of the Abbey. Thieves broke into this chamber and robbed the royal chest. It is said they actually sowed the Abbey cemetery with hempseed four months ahead to afford a hiding place for the loot. The abbot, sacristan and forty-eight monks were arrested and committed to London Tower on suspicion of having a hand in this raid. Their fate is unknown. In 1387 the right of sanctuary belonging to the Abbey was violated by the murder of an esquire of the Black Prince, one Frank de Haule, who took refuge in the building, having captured a Spanish or, some say, French count. Refusing to give up his prize, Haule was pursued by the Constable of the Tower, accompanied by a posse of fifty armed men, who broke into the Abbey what time the mass was being said and killed him. He was buried withing its walls, the first to be laid in the south transept, and at the spot where a few years later Geoffrey Chaucer was laid to rest. The Abbey was closed for four months.

Was it to placate the English people that, when Henry VIII., into whose hands the control of the Abbey passed, caused Anne Boleyn to be crowned at Westminster with gorgeous processional? The Tower a few years later, by contrast, told a most pathetic story. The coronation of Charles II. might be expected to be a dazzling affair when my lord the Duke of Buckingham could, in dancing, scatter diamonds from his shoe-buckles. Charles, nothing behind any of his courtiers, was arrayed in royal robes of crimson velvet furred with ermine. The like pomposity marked the coronation of George III., who asked of the Archbishop whether, during the receiving of the sacrament, he should lay aside his crown. And he did so. In July, 1821, George IV. was crowned with equal splendor. The procession to Westminster Hall was headed by "king's herbwoman with her six maids," scattering flowers along the carpeted platform. A decade afterwards took place the coronation of William IV and Queen Adelaide, it being reported that the Queen insisted that the crown should be composed of her own jewels and made up at her own expense. The cost of the whole affair is stated to have been only £37,000, whereas for loan of the jewels at the previous coronation £16,000 was the interest on their value. At the coronation of Queen Victoria on June 28, 1838, when she knelt to receive the crown a dull day broke into a streak of sunlight which lit up the diamonds, making a kind of halo around Her Majesty's head.

Such are a very few glints of the lustrous memorials that cluster about the venerable Abbey "whose ancient pillars rear their marble heads to bear aloft its arched and ponderous roof." Its stately form still shines with tranquil poise through the mists of antiquity and through the changes of the ages, keeping steadfast and beautiful those heroic and inspiring traditions which have made the name of England and the far-flung influence of the British Empire a pharos to all nations.

The Poets' Corner

OLD PASTURES

No more now does the night dew fall upon
The drowsy flanks, the clover-fragrant breath
Of cattle moving slowly toward the brink
Of the windy pool and bending their heads to drink
The drowned and shivering stars.
The cool, deep notes
Of shaken bells have dwindled and have gone
To farther pastures, and this land remains
Companioned alone by weeds and shaggy manes,
And a broken fence that staggers into dawn.

—Frances Frost.

Generals Poor Politicians

(Ottawa Journal)

One of the troubles with Generals is that they are such desperately bad politicians. Admirable fellows, and all that, they become immersed in their work, can think or talk of scarcely anything except in terms of war. Often the talk does harm.

A case in point is what has just happened in Washington. Appearing before the military committee of the House of Representatives, two American Generals talked as though they were Mussolini and Hitler rolled into one. Not content with explaining the ordinary whys and wherefores of contemplated air bases, they undertook to tell how the United States, in an "emergency," must be prepared to seize British and French islands near American shores, told how an air base in the Great Lakes area was to deal with possible attack from Canada.

Now this sort of talk, from such a source, doesn't mean a thing. Actually, it is just an old military custom; the sort of talk Generals with waxed moustaches indulge in over their whisky and soda in their favorite clubs. In this particular case, unfortunately, the talk was included in a report by the House of Representatives' military committee, got cabled all over the world. Doubtless a lot of faultless young men in various world chancelleries filed it away next day.

Which explains why Mr. Roosevelt has had to spank his Generals. Writing not merely as President but as Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army, he has read them a lecture in common sense they are not likely to forget. Incidentally, he has put himself and his country on record with respect to their attitude toward Canada and other countries in a wholly admirable way.

A certain famous English historian once said of an equally famous English Admiral that he was an excellent person, but should be "kept on his quarter-deck." Mr. Roosevelt seems to have the same idea—and rightly—regarding the functions of his Generals.

TO SELL SMART THINGS ONE MUST DRESS ACCORDINGLY

NEW YORK, May 9.—England has become a nation of fashionably dressed people because the sales managers of the larger department stores and chain stores dealing in clothing have learned to dress with smartness, in the opinion of a group of twenty-two young women and twenty men arriving yesterday aboard the Cunard White Star liner Scythia. All are department heads of Lewis, Ltd., one of the largest chain stores in England. They are here to study department stores in New York, during their stay of five days.

Although the men sales managers represent departments ranging from draperies to furniture, the young women are concerned solely with women's wear. They were the smartest dressed women on the liner, bearing out their creed that to sell smart things one must dress accordingly.

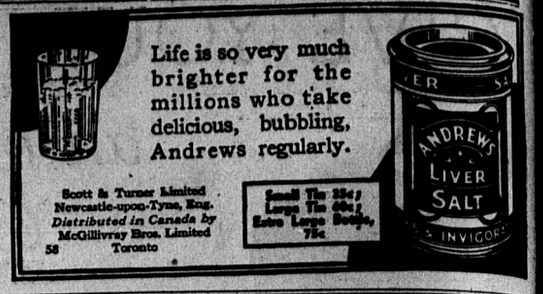
As to their doings here, one tall, blond sales manager said the party would take in a few night clubs ("well, rather,"), pass up the Statue of Liberty ("definitely, no"), visit Harlem ("most assuredly") and "literally camp" on Fifth avenue to see whether it is as fine a shopping street as they've been told.

PINK GAS MASKS

PARIS, May 9.—Pink gas masks of silk and rubber, held in place by gold head bands, were offered today to women of fashion by the dressmaker Dilkusa.

Some gas masks, for seaside wear, have straw curls or bangs. Flesh colored bathing suits are a feature of summer offerings.

Use Minard's for Bites



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