

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Politics And Potatoes

"A Liberal government at Ottawa would restore Prince Edward Island's lost markets for agricultural products, Premier HEBURN of Ontario assured a Charlottetown audience today."

These statements have an ironic significance today. Last week Mr. JOSEPH SEDGEWICK, K. C., appeared in Moncton in opposition to the Maritime freight rates case and announced that he was present on behalf of the Ontario Government's agricultural department.

In the meantime the King Government has signed a treaty enabling the United States to export potatoes of all kinds into Canada free of duty.

Here we have a striking example of Liberal co-operation—the King Government wiping out our tariff protection, and the Heppburn Government fighting to wipe out our hard-won concessions under the Maritime Freight Rates Act.

With 100 per cent Liberal representation in the Legislature and at Ottawa, what does Prince Edward Island propose to do about it? Perhaps Premier Lea will call another special session to draft a vigorous protest, reminding Messrs. KING and HEBURN of the hospitality they received here, and the fine promises they made to our farm producers.

An Interpreter Wanted

Has Prime Minister KING been at some of his old tricks? President ROOSEVELT told the newspapermen that neither he, Secretary of State HULL, Secretary of Agriculture WALLACE nor Under-Secretary of State PHILLIPS could understand an explanatory note in the official summary of the new Treaty. The President recommended that news men read it if they wanted exercise in mental gymnastics.

English In Italy

The rupture of the historic friendship between England and Italy is noted by the New York Times as one of the pitiful things brought about by the Ethiopian war. "To English poets and scholars and artists and public men, Italy was long a land of light and joy. What they did for her in spreading her renown and revealing her charm is almost incalculable."

Editorial Notes

Busy scene at Railway Wharf these days. Regret is general at the unfortunate relapse suffered by Premier LEA. KING did not realize our hope of signing BENNETT's treaty—the signed ROOSEVELT'S.

time Transportation Commission. He is "the daddy" of them all.

Endorsation of our claims for better train service and harbor improvement has been given by the Maritime Board of Trade. Will they follow this up by action?

Those unfortunate farmers who pledged their potato crops to fertilizer dealers at 15c per bushel are now kicking like steers, and who can blame them?

There is said to be some difficulty in knowing where BENNETT left off and KING began in the reciprocity treaty. Our idea is that KING begins where it starts to get bad.

The Radio Branch of the Department of Marine is, according to an advertisement in this issue, on the war path, threatening to institute prosecution should fans fail to pay their licenses.

One of the immediate results of the new trade treaty is that every motor car in Canada is worth less than before. It is as if they had all been in a collision over the week-end, none of them escaping injury.

Congratulations to Dr. J. A. CLARK, Experimental Station, on his election to the Presidency of the Maritime Board of Trade. Being a civil servant he will be in a position to handle the Government very effectively for its neglect of Maritime interests.

The Government speaks of the new trade treaty with the United States as having been made in the interests of the consumer. But the average man cannot be a consumer unless he is also a producer and, therefore, in receipt of an income.

His Majesty the King in consequence of the recent death of Lord LYONBY, Treasurer of Wales, 1920-29, and in 1931 was secretary to Lord BESSBOROUGH, Governor-General of Canada.

Government officials have had a reprieve and expectant appointees a disappointment by Premier LEA's indisposition. A meeting of the Government was to have been held last Friday to decide definitely whether there was to be a clean sweep or not.

Our local contemporary says that the free entry of United States potatoes under the Reciprocity Pact will be stopped by raising the intermediate tariff at the next session of Parliament. What then becomes of Liberal tariff reduction pledges, and what will Uncle Sam say to Mr. KING jacking up the duties in order to undo his own work at Washington?

The "higher-ups" in the Ottawa Civil Service are allowing no grass to grow under their feet in demanding increased salaries from the new Government. Immediate implementing of the Beatty report of 1929, which recommended higher salaries for technical and professional employees of the public service, will be sought by the professional Institute of the Civil Service of Canada.

With regard to Japan's aggression in the East this is what Col. EDWARD M. HOUSE, President WOODROW WILSON's war-time adviser, has to say: "If Japan should undertake to lead a revolt of the colored races, violent spasms would convulse India and every territory under white domination. If China should undertake to assert the power which is hers by right of numbers and intelligence, India may do likewise. Then the cleavage between the dark and white races will become such that it can no longer be bridged by peaceful compromise."

Those papers which were at first inclined to give an unstinted welcome to the Reciprocity Treaty are beginning to realize they had halloed before they were out of the wood. The Montreal Gazette, for instance, which on Monday hailed the Treaty as signal victory for Mr. KING's diplomacy, now recalls the painful experience of Canada many years ago, when a U. S. A. trade agreement was terminated almost overnight. The same may happen again on thirty days' notice. The Gazette says it is "the well-known tendency of the U. S. Senate as representing special interests to upset the calculations and frustrate the purpose of America's presidents."

Montreal Catholic School Commission has re-endorsed its rule prohibiting teachers from political activities. "It is forbidden for teachers: 1.—To meddle openly in political or municipal affairs; they must restrict themselves to the casting of their vote for their chosen candidate. 2.—To take part in, or to belong to, societies of definite political proclivities." In a letter to all teachers under its jurisdiction the Commission says: "The teacher performs more than a task; he exercises a lay apostleship. He is an exemplar a model to be followed. The strict obedience which a teacher must exact from his pupil must be directly in accord with the obedience he, the teacher, gives to his superiors. Our commission has its by-laws of disciplinary order; he is supposed to know them; he cannot violate them without making himself liable to the penalty incurred by such infringement."

In a class in abnormal psychology in Atlanta, Ga.'s Emory University, Professor W. G. Workman, trying vainly to hypnotize a student for demonstration purposes by monotonous talk and having him stare at a chalk line, suddenly noticed that a watching member of the class had gone into a rigid trance. It was Charles Hudson, lonely nervous junior, a star pupil in abnormal psychology. Professor Workman could not bring Charles Hudson out of the trance, prescribed exercise and normal activity. For three days following students walked the blanketed by around the campus, rode him on street cars, took him to a cinema. Suddenly, on the third day, Charles Hudson blinked, asked what had happened.—Time.

Notes By The Way

Port Arthur is getting a lot of publicity over the fact that it has not only been able to reduce its tax rate and debt, but pay relief charges out of current revenue. No one will deny that the publicity is well deserved. Miracles will always be live news.—Hamilton Spectator.

The familiar metal grilles and bars so common in most banks originated back in the gay nineties, according to an article appearing in the journal of the Canadian Bankers' Association. And therein lies a story. It seems that it was Christmas eve, and that even in those days bank clerks had to work overtime. A thief managed to get inside the premises and hurled a brick at the glass partition behind which were stacked bags of sovereigns. Showing what would normally have been very good judgment he scooped up the largest bag and made his getaway in one of London's "peasopors." Unfortunately for the enterprising young man, one of the clerks had appropriated that particular bag with which to carry home his Christmas dinner. It was one instance where the thief literally obtained the goose but lost the golden egg. However, the incident impressed officials of the bank with the need for more adequate protection. Result—cages and bars.—Brookville Recorder.

The United States, as was to be expected, has made it clear that if sanctions are imposed, America will not attempt to block their operation. That would indeed have been the last touch of irony in the history of American dealing with President Wilson's creation. Citizens of the United States are told that if they choose to send supplies to either belligerent, their Government will not ensure their right to do so. This removes the gravest apprehension—however remote—which England had to face in taking the course which English public opinion has demanded.—Stephen Gwynn in The Fortnightly (London).

More power to twenty-year-old Esther Strohm who is upstate New York's only woman bus driver. Miss Strohm covers a fifteen-mile trip four times daily, but sees nothing unusual about her job. She accepted it because she could find no other employment, and is quite happy. Certain men may claim she is invading their territory, but others will give her credit for not being too proud to earn her living in a role not usually occupied by women. She at least possesses the proper qualities of industry and sincerity.—Windsor Star.

We have moved on and we are not going to move back. The League of Nations has passed from shadow into substance, from theory into practice, from rhetoric into reality. We see a structure always majestic, but hitherto shadowy, which is now being clothed with life and power, and endowed with coherent thought and concerted action. We begin to feel the beatings of a pulse which may, we hope, and we pray, some day—and the sooner for our efforts—resound a greater measure of health and strength to the whole world.—Winston Churchill, quoted in Public Opinion (London).

Mount Ararat is in the news again. It is a long time since Noah's ark grounded safely on the mountain following its voyage during the flood of Biblical history. Now the mountain is before the public because wild wheat has been found growing on the foothills of that region in Armenia. As Ararat served mankind in time of flood so many centuries ago, so Ararat is to serve mankind again. Only this time it is for drought and not for flood. The area has been set aside as a scientific preserve so that the wild wheat may be studied by scientists of the Armenian Soviet. They are planning experiments by which the wild grain may be blended with domestic wheat to produce a variety that will resist drought and frost better than any of the known brands of wheat. If the scientists of Mount Ararat can produce a wheat that will withstand frost and grow in spite of drought, the famous old mountain will be right back on the front pages of the newspapers.—Windsor Star.

Great Falls, Montana, believes it pays to advertise. This season merchants of that city will spend \$6,500 in a street decoration scheme to be ready one month before Christmas. It is the most pretentious effort made yet to attract shoppers to the city by lighting and other decorating effects. This year several intersections will be equipped with brilliantly-lighted Christmas trees, and the whole lighting scheme is to be extended. Lethbridge started a couple of years ago to hang out the "welcome" sign to Christmas shoppers. It may be that, by giving the undertaking a little thought we might make the city still more attractive during December. Let's not hide our light under a bushel.—Lethbridge Herald.

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Andrew Carnegie And The Library Movement

"I choose free libraries as the best agencies for improving the masses of the people, because they give nothing for nothing. They only help those who help themselves. I prefer the free public library to most if not any other agencies for the happiness and improvement of a community."

November 25th, 1935, marks the hundredth anniversary of the birth of Andrew Carnegie, the godfather of the free library as we know it today. At the age of eleven Andrew Carnegie left Scotland for America, a poor boy. Within forty years he made and distributed to world-wide charities millions of dollars. His introduction to libraries is interesting. As a messenger boy in Pittsburgh he was permitted to use the library of a Colonel Anderson. It was a library of some four hundred books and Carnegie tells of his elation as he used to carry these books away under his arm. He says, "I would not have exchanged the pleasures I then found for all the millions amassed by man." Later when he amassed his own millions he made available to many others that free access to books which had meant so much to himself.

At first it was buildings to which the Carnegie funds were given. Beginning with a library in Carnegie's native town of Dunfermline in 1881, approximately 659,000,000 were spent in building and equipping libraries. Many towns in the United States and Canada started their libraries in this way. Now, however, the Carnegie Corporation has turned its attention and resources from buildings to other fields. Today the great need is for books among country people and the Corporation has for the last ten years been financing undertakings to demonstrate how this can be met. It is a far cry from the libraries of 100 years ago to those of today. Librarians in those days were in-

deed keepers of books. Shelves were often screened with wire netting to prevent the patrons from handling the books. Lending them was preposterous. In such libraries children were not countenanced nor was there anything there for them to read. The library of Prince Edward Island, the latest gift of the Carnegie Corporation, presents a pleasant contrast to the libraries of 1835. Its twenty-one branches from Tignish to Souris have now 35,000 volumes at their disposal. Over 1,000 are housed in every branch; exchanges are made annually and books are sent on request. Every week over 150 books move around the Island: books on "Trotters and Pacers" going from Alberton to Borden; a book on blacksmithing to Souris; requests from everywhere for some information on the "Aberhart Social Credit scheme," for books on "Abyssinia: innumerable requests for information much advertised "Seven Pillars of Wisdom."

And the children are having their day. The most attractive books in the library are theirs. As for the picture books for little children, they are the most popular books in the library. Sometimes we suspect that the grown-ups are reading them! And we couldn't blame them if they do. Outside the branches there should be books for the children in every rural school, if the teacher takes the opportunity offered. Of the more isolated Women's Institutes thirty-seven have asked for boxes of books this month. Over twenty study groups have also been supplied.

"I do not want to be known for what I give," Carnegie said, "but for what I induce others to give." He believed in helping communities to help themselves and insisted that his gift would only be of value if it led to public interest and support. The community he expected would maintain what the Carnegie fund had established.

IS PROHIBITION CHRISTIAN? Sir,—The cause has been betrayed! It is invariably the answer prohibitionists make to the charge that the law cannot be enforced. That the cause is an intrinsic cause for the failure of Prohibition never enters their minds. In forming unbiased judgments of persons and things we receive invaluable assistance from the opinions of men who are internationally known for their unimpeachable integrity, their pure altruism and their accuracy of thought. Nobody can deny that the aforesaid notes of credibility are found in the opinion of Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler. And Dr. Butler was perhaps the most irreconcilable foe of Prohibition ever had in the U.S.A. "For many years," says a leading American Weekly Review, "Dr. Butler has employed his unique influence in opposing the gigantic evil of prohibition; not with mere rhetoric, but with a steady, persistent, powerful exposition of his thesis that the Eighteenth Amendment is a perversion of the true principles of the Constitution, and that it must be out out of the body of fundamental law as a cancer must be removed from a human body, before its malignant effect has wrought the destruction of the organism."

I shall cite another indictment of Prohibition which cannot be rejected as emanating from a lawless source, since it is the opinion of a man of merited eminence in a position devoted to justice—Mr. Charles A. Boston, formerly president of the American Bar Association. Appearing before a Senate committee, he made no secret of his opposition to the Eighteenth Amendment. "Surely," asked a shocked Senator from West Virginia, "you would not go so far as to favor repeal?" "Certainly, I would, and on every principle on which I stand," rejoined Mr. Boston.

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MR. TEA POTT SAYS To Get That Fine Fresh Tea Flavor Use BRAHMIN Orange PEKOE TEA

"That Amendment has filled the land with spies, created contempt for the law, jeopardized the stability of the Constitution, educated the young in intemperance, and has been enforced with a degree of hate such as has marked the enforcement of no other law since the fugitive slave-act." An eminent American churchman says: "Unfortunately, Prohibition has not performed the miracles that were expected. According to experts, such as judges, public officials, social service workers, and others, there is more drunkenness and intemperance today than before the passage of the Volstead Act. "When in the past did we see young men and women of respectable families carrying a flask of liquor when going to social events? When did we see young girls, not yet of age, drinking in public places the strongest kind of intoxicating liquors and perhaps being overcome by them. That, today is not an uncommon sight." How nicely this paragraph applies to Prince Edward Island! That is Prohibition there and here and everywhere and always. The differences between Prohibition here and elsewhere are merely accidental. It is futile to blame this or that administration for its failure. Prohibition bears within itself the germ of its own destruction. The United States tried it for a period of twelve year. It has been shown that the American Government spent over \$700,000,000 on Prohibition Enforcement. During that period it lost about \$1,000,000,000 in internal revenue, that immense sum going into the pockets of bootleggers, hijackers, perjurers and other criminals. Despite that colossal effort on the part of a powerful nation to enforce it, Prohibition failed. Why did it fail? It failed because it is a law that tramples under foot human liberty; that puts a veto on a normal habit of the majority of citizens, that substitute state-ownership for self-ownership, and as such it is bound to break down under the pressure of its own stark insanity. In 1922 an outstanding English writer and lecturer opened his first address to a New York audience with the following facetious, but significant remark: "I am happy to become personally acquainted with the great nation that started off with the Declaration of Independence and wound up with Prohibition." His master-mind just could not understand the mentality of a people that had fought so heroically for national autonomy and then deliberately placed itself under the thralldom of the most ruthless of all domestic tyrants. What Prohibition did in the United States it has done and is still doing in Prince Edward Island. "Every tree is known by its own fruit." In Charlottetown, instead of three or four liquor stores we would have under Government Control, we have approximately 500 bootleggers. That is the condition that prohibitionists would consolidate and perpetuate. And, believe it or not, they are promoters of temperance! To them "Prohibition" in P.E.I. is a magnificent monument to a great Christian victory." The terms Prohibition and Christian are mutually exclusive. In fact the odor of Prohibition is offensive to the nostrils of Christianity. The only form of prohibition that Christianity recognizes is the one that depends for its enforcement on the free will of properly educated citizens, not on police power. I am Sir, etc. CITIZEN

DODDS KIDNEY PILLS. This column is open for the discussion of questions of interest. The Charlotetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

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