

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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OTTAWA'S PROSPECTS

The success of Lausanne predicts the triumph of Ottawa. Nations of diverse characteristics can come together and reach a common understanding, and adopt a policy of mutual benefit, it goes without saying that a conference of nations practically all of one blood and common ancestry, will find no insurmountable difficulties in adjusting terms to suit present day conditions.

It is a family affair, merely the latest of a long series of similar conclaves (all but one of which have marked a step forward in Imperial relations), and it has come into being not to meet a single, sudden crisis but because circumstances over a lengthy period of years have been preparing the way for it.

The success of the Lausanne Conference will prove an incentive to Imperial statesmen to effect a further and, from our point of view, a greater success at Ottawa. Should the decision establish that scheme of Imperial economic unity which is the ultimate aim of the Conference, it is very likely that the world will accept the triumph as an example and proceed to attempt to emulate it in other phases of international affairs.

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BRITAIN BOOMING

In view of the success of Lausanne it may be as well to emphasize the fact that British trade is not only on the up-grade but better than that of any country in the world. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, took occasion to point this out on the eve of the Conference which he attended with Premier Ramsay MacDonald.

Of course, part of that great fall in values is due to a difference in prices, and although we have not got complete figures showing the volume of trade, yet if we compare the first three months of this year, with the first three months of last year, we find

that in volume the percentage fall in imports in the United Kingdom was nothing, whereas in the United States it was 4 per cent., and in Germany 12 per cent., and that the fall in exports in Germany was 21 per cent., in the United States 16 per cent., and in Great Britain it was less than 1 per cent.

British exports were practically the same, and if it had not been for coal they would have shown an increase. British exports of manufactured goods in the first quarter of 1932 were higher than in the same quarter of last year. The Board of Trade index number of industrial production for the first quarter of this year is 6 per cent. greater than in the first quarter of last year, and if the Easter holidays had not come in March this year the rate of production would probably have been 3 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Taking manufacturing industries alone, including coal and other kinds of mining, the United States showed a decrease as compared with a year ago of 20.5 per cent., whereas the British index showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. These figures show that the Mother Country has no reason to wish to exchange her lot with that of any other country in the world.

GOOD ADVICE

Through the Ontario Minister of Highways, some excellent advice has been given to school youngsters to make their vacation safe. It is advice which adults as well as children may well take to heart in this Province as well as in Ontario!

Obeys the traffic officer at all times. He is there to make the street safe for you. If a crossing has no traffic officer, "be your own semaphore." If cars are coming, say to yourself, "Stop." If the way is clear, say to yourself, "Go." Remember that people are apt to follow blindly where another leads.

If you get caught in the traffic, stand perfectly still in the centre of the road and let the cars go until you have a chance to go across. Do not dodge back and forth; drivers will not know where to steer if you do not stand still.

Crossing the street diagonally or in the middle of the block causes a large number of accidents because drivers expect people to cross at the crossing and look for them there rather than in the middle of the block. Cross at the crosswalks at the crossing only.

Running into the street after a ball or hat that has blown off may cost an arm or leg. Wait until the traffic holds up before going after them.

Stepping into the street from behind a parked car or moving vehicle is one of the most frequent causes of automobile accidents, because when you do this you cannot see what is coming nor can a driver see you. Cross at the crossing when the way is clear.

Children on bicycles, as well as drivers of vehicles should signal when they want to stop or turn a corner, just as every automobile driver does.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Many tales have been told regarding the depression, and some have appeared rather fanciful. Few have, however, taken rank with the loan story that comes from Michigan. It is related that in 1929, before the crash, a man had a \$280,000 loan at a bank for which he had deposited stock valued then at \$400,000. When the stock market executed a tall spin the bank sold him out, realizing \$330,000. The man's indebtedness was thus wiped out, and he had a \$50,000 bank credit. A little later the bank failed. It was, however, reorganized. In the shrinkage involved, the man's credit was reduced to \$36,000. He is said to have drawn out \$30,000 and bought back all the securities he originally held. Consequently, he is now holder of the same stock he held in 1929, has wiped out a \$280,000 loan, and has \$6,000 in cash. Whether he is a gainer or a loser through the depression is the conundrum.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The trade of Canada and other parts of the Empire which has hitherto been monopolized to a large extent by countries showing a hostile spirit rather than a desire to reciprocate may, as a result of the Imperial Conference at Ottawa, be diverted to Empire countries and thus show the world that it is the better policy not to raise tariff walls against our products.

Commerce of the Nation says that among the major considerations at the Imperial Economic Conference will be the stabilizing of Empire currency. If the yardstick in Canada today is thirty-six inches, in Australia thirty inches and tomorrow forty-two inches, it would be next to impossible to do business. It is the same with currency. With fluctuating exchange rates between Empire countries, there exists a deterrent to trade. A stabilized relationship between dollars and pounds would be invaluable to business and it is believed that it would not be long before certain other countries would come to us cap in hand to join with us in such stability of currency.

We have all to consider our own interests first, says the London Morning Post; British agriculture, for example, is the first concern to the British Government; but when that interest is secured there remains the great market, notably in cereals, which British agriculture cannot supply and in which the Dominions might be given preference. In return we seek a more open market for British goods. Such are the elements of an arrangement which is within our grasp now if the statesmanship of Ottawa is equal to the occasion, and which, if statesmanship fails, may never be attainable again.

The Northern Miner says that while Canada has only one two-hundredths of the population of the world, yet it is: Second in gold production. Second in platinum. Second in aluminum. First in asbestos. Third in copper. Third in lead. Third in zinc. Third in silver. First in nickel—and has high ranking in many other metals. Per capita, Canadians are by far the heaviest producers of metals in the world.

In view of the seriousness of the present dispute between the Irish Free State and the British government it is interesting to note that Britain imports from the Free State something like 800,000 head of cattle annually, equal to her imports from Canada, the Argentine and Denmark combined. Britain is practically the only market for Free State cattle. The imposition by the British government of a Customs duty on Free State Imports will be a serious matter for the Irish farmers.

Generally speaking, says the London Times, it is not credit but confidence—that is, the opportunity to use credit profitably to the borrower—which is lacking; and it may be added that in this country one of the main reasons for this lack of confidence is the present high level of taxation. The conclusion of the whole matter is that the cure for owing too much is neither to owe more nor to repudiate part of the debt by the involved method of currency depreciation. The real cure is for Governments to spend less and to spend productively what they must, and thus to leave the taxpayer with a better hope of being able to make a living.

Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt's promise to call a world conference on tariffs and trade, if elected President, is not only proof of returning political sanity in the United States. It is also proof that the impending Empire Trade Conference at Ottawa, has already taught some of the political leaders of the United States a real lesson. One great driving force behind the movement for concerted action to increase all-British trade has undoubtedly been the hostile tariff actions of the United States. That fact is now recognized in the latter country.—The Globe, Toronto.

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By James W. Barton, M.D.

MILLIONS FOR TREATMENT NOT ONE CENT FOR PREVENTION

"There are two ways of handling diseased tonsils. First, by having them out where there is a reason to believe they may be causing trouble, and then forgetting them; second, leaving them in until they have damaged the heart, infected the ears, injured the kidneys, and then never being able to forget the damage they have done.

Cancer of every sort is small before it is large; it is always in one little spot in the body before it gets into a number of places; it can usually be operated on before it gets too late.

If a tooth needs repair it is well to remember that cavities never get smaller or less tender.

There is hardly a severe medical or surgical treatment, but that might have been readily cared for, if it had been taken in time.

I have quoted the above from the Bulletin of the Indiana State Board, in which Dr. T. E. Rice aptly says "the time to take the bull by horns is while he is a calf, before he has horns."

Some years ago I quoted a part of a poem regarding a dangerous cliff:

"Some said 'Put a fence around the edge of the cliff
Some, 'An ambulance down in the valley.'"

Practically the entire program of all health boards is one of urging the public to sneak up on its troubles when they—the troubles—are asleep.

The point of course is that health boards know, doctors know, and many thinking people know that prevention is the common sense way to handle the ills of life. Malaria, small pox, typhoid fever, pernicious anaemia, yellow fever, diabetes, diphtheria, scarlet fever, tuberculosis are now prevented, thousands of lives saved, and millions of people kept happy, all due to going out and preventing trouble instead of waiting to treat or cure it when it comes. It has been said "Millions for treatment and not one cent for prevention" seems to be the idea of most people.

The thought of course is that your health, your life, the health and life of your loved ones are worth more than any sum of money, worth more than the home, or the motor car. You give thought to your money by investing it carefully, to your home by insuring it, and to your car by having it overhauled from time to time.

That body of yours—your health and life—can get insurance by regular visits to your doctor and dentist. Any cough, indigestion, shortness of breath, lump, sore, infected teeth will thus be detected before it is too late.

Rights Of Pedestrians

(Mall and Empire)

We are told that the smallest worm will turn, being trodden on, and that doves will peck to safeguard their brood. And so it is not surprising to learn that pedestrians are organizing to protect their rights on roads and highways. An Ottawa despatch states that application has been made for letters of incorporation for the "Pedestrians' Rights Association" for the purpose of protecting pedestrians from traffic dangers, instructing the general public and improving and enforcing the laws. The down-trodden in Quebec have already taken steps to assert their rights. The Pedestrian's Rights Association of the Province of Quebec, Inc., has been formed. It is stated that this association has the support of the traffic police and the Montreal Motorists' League.

Pedestrians will admit that the majority of motorists are careful drivers who give due consideration to the rights of others. It is the reckless and incompetent driving of a few which causes all the trouble. Since motor leagues and safety associations seem unable to restrain the bad actors, pedestrians are compelled to take up arms in self-defence. Hitherto pedestrians have been obliged to act individually, and few of them have been willing to spend the time and money necessary to obtain results. As a collective body pedestrians will be in a better position. The courts are not unmindful of their rights. What is wanted is a clear pronouncement on all points likely to come up. A clear definition of the rights of motorists and pedestrians will be advantageous to both classes. This, in course of time, the new associations will be able to secure.

Leaders At Ottawa Parley

HON. J. G. COATES, NEW ZEALAND.

(By The Canadian Press) Hon. J. G. Coates, New Zealand, Minister of Transportation and Employment, leads the deputation to Ottawa from the Antipodean Dominion Statesman, lawyer and soldier, Mr. Coates is a former Prime Minister of New Zealand and has served his country with great distinction.

At 33 years of age, he entered the House of Representatives in 1911. Eight years later his ability was recognized by elevation to the Cabinet. Mr. Coates was Minister of Justice 1919-20; Postmaster General and Minister of Telegraphs 1920-26; Prime Minister 1925-28; Minister of Railways 1928-28. Added to this extended list of Cabinet posts, he was Minister of Native Affairs 1921-28 and of External Affairs in 1928.

From 1917 until demobilization, the New Zealand statesman served with the forces of his country in the Great War. He was awarded the Military Cross and bar and at the cessation of hostilities held the rank of Major.

HON. DOWNIE W. STEWART, NEW ZEALAND

Hon. Downie W. Stewart is Minister of Finance, Customs, State Advances and Attorney General for New Zealand. Acting for his country, Mr. Stewart last December conducted negotiations with Canada which terminated in the present one-year trade pact between the sister Dominions.

Coming from a family with a good political background, he first entered the House of Representatives in 1914. Early in 1916 found him serving in the European War as a 2nd Lieutenant; and after service in Egypt and France was invalided home.

Mr. Stewart is noted as an able administrator. From 1921-28 he was Minister of Customs; 1921-24 Minister of Internal Affairs; 1923-26 Minister of Industries and Commerce; 1926 Attorney-General; 1926-28 Minister of Finance; 1928 Acting Prime Minister.

SEAN T. O'KELLY, IRISH FREE STATE

Sean T. O'Kelly, Vice-President of the Executive Council and long active in republican politics, heads the Irish Free State delegation to Ottawa. Sitting in the Dail for Dublin North, Mr. O'Kelly has been Republican representative in Paris, Rome and the United States. One of the founders of the Sinn Fein movement and a journalist by profession, he collaborated with Arthur Griffith on the staff of "Sinn Fein", "Eire", "Nationality", and other papers. Mr. O'Kelly a few years ago was secretary of the Gaelic League.

He was a staff Captain in the Rising and has served a term of imprisonment for his activities. In 1918, he was returned for College Green, Dublin. A year later Mr. O'Kelly was appointed Speaker of the Dail.

Teachers of England are carrying their fight against salary cuts to Parliament.

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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.

K. C. DENIAL Sir,—It has been brought to my attention that Dr. T. V. Grant, of Montague is circulating throughout King's County that I offered to organize the County in his behalf and that he refused my offer. I wish to emphatically deny this rumor as it is absolutely incorrect. I am surprised, moreover, that any person seeking the nomination of candidate for the Liberal party in King's or any other County, would resort to such small tactics. I am, Sir, etc., W. L. MACKINNON, St. Peter's, R.R.

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The Poet's Corner RESPITE How red the sun that sank into a sea The sun himself had stained a fiery red— As if his mighty heart had burst and bled From one day's effort to scorch valiantly Man's bended back and force him to his knees: To shrivel up the river in its bed; To burn the grass and scorch each ripening head Of grain, and sear the leaves of every tree! But night is come at last and fitfully A sigh goes up from the parched earth, a prayer Of thankfulness for dusk. Intrepidly Man lifts his head to breathe a freer air, As flower-cups lift to catch the tiny pool Of dew that must come with the evening cool. —Anne Zuker in New York Times.

The Shadow Of Africa (United Empire, June) Witchcraft, "the shadow over Africa," has been the subject of many interesting letters in The Times following an account by Mr. Frank Melland of the stoning and

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