

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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CHILD WELFARE

A certain sage was asked at what age a child's training should begin and the reply was "it should begin with the child's grandparents."

It is possible, no doubt, to bring up a child in the way he should go without, or in spite of, the assistance of the parents but in the great majority of cases the teaching and the example, good or bad of the parents will prevail, all other influences to the contrary notwithstanding.

In these days of ours much is being done on behalf of the young. Organizations are formed and being formed with elaborate machinery intended to ensure the physical, mental and moral well-being of the young, and such are sadly needed but all the machinery must not be applied to the young, some of it will be needed for the parents.

One of the great needs of the present day is the revival of home life. It is generally conceded that in the modern rush, social, industrial, commercial, home life is passing away and in too many cases has passed. This is one of the misfortunes of modernism and we are contributing to it.

Child welfare in the last analysis is inseparable from the home and if the children of the present generation are to be rescued from the modern drift, rescued with sound minds and sound bodies, a large proportion of the salvage must be effected in the homes.

NO CAUSE FOR NERVOUSNESS

The Patriot is worried over a question asked at the recent farmer's meeting in Bedeque by Mr. J.J. Frizzle who asked: "Is there any way of getting rid of the present government (and their enormous taxes) other than driving them from the house of parliament with rifles?"

By the way the Patriot is anxious to know how much tax Mr. Frizzle pays. Why not go and find out "through the courtesy of Mr. Lea" as the Patriot did in the case of the farmers of Stanche? Having started on an unlawful course why not follow it up?

SOME DAIRY RESULTS

In a bulletin recently issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture the result is given of a survey carried out on 25 dairy farms in each of six different counties in the province of Quebec. The bulletin is intended to show the loss sustained by farmers in not using pure bred cattle.

It will be seen that although the differences between the various classes are striking, the general average is low, even for the pure-bred cows.

In a recent issue we published a report of the returns received by a Prince Edward Island farmer from a herd of mixed grades and scrubs which averaged \$127 per cow in cash besides each cow rearing her own calf, cows and calves being fed exclusively from the products of the farm to which they belonged.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Even the tax collector is beginning to kick. One of these officials who had, somewhat against his grain, called on his neighbors for their contribution to the revenue in income and property taxes, was recently supplied with the necessary documents to collect the poll taxes.

CURRENT COMMENT

Is the province on the eve of a change in the premiership? There are rumors afloat that a change is in prospect, and there are many circumstances to give color to the rumors. To the external eye everything is not in evidence, the inside squabbles and disagreements, the internal jealousies, the protests of some members, who like the electorate at large, have been deceived by their leaders, and the actual withdrawal of one if not more to join the farmers party.

Personally we can understand why he should wish to escape from a position almost every feature of which is the embodiment of discomfort. In a measure, he might say "I am in political shipwreck; in perils from the Tories; beaten with rods by my own people; in perils in the city; in perils of my own countrymen; in perils in the wilderness of politics; in perils in the sea amongst the wrecks of the party ship, and worse, far worse than all this, IN PERILS FROM FALSE BROTHERS."

This is an era of surprises, and they are coming upon us thick and fast. The Patriot has received a letter, a most important letter. It gives, so our evening humorist tells us, "the political editor of the Guardian, the well known writer of the Current Comment a dose of his own DISTASTEFUL medicine."

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Leuson.

IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

A little girl wrote an Editor of a newspaper asking if there was a Santa Claus. Here's the reply: Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist and you know that they exist and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see.

Bell Government a full curative dose of the deceptive treachery, and upon each of its members and supporters a full measure of the TAXATION it has imposed upon the unfortunate people of the province? The richest feature of the joke is in that sad state of affairs when a DECENT newspaper would have to wallow in the filth of the gutter of slander and misrepresentation AND BITTER PERSONAL ATTACKS in order to meet certain political opponents.

wise in embarking upon the premiership journey, that at his period in life a quiet home happiness was preferable to the turmoil before him, and no one will wonder, when he asks for relief. Everything is not smooth within. A scapegoat must be had to carry the unpardonable sins of the party when they are compelled to face the people, and he has no ambition to become that goat. Nor can it be a happy life, carrying the title of Premier yet playing in reality as second fiddler to his subordinates.

After Premier Bell what then; will it be the deluge? Who will be the goat to face the country, the wheelman in charge when the ship founders. There are hands willing to take the helm, nay even anxious, for withal there is a \$2500 salary behind. But amongst the heterogeneous mass can a sufficient majority of the whole be found to centre upon any one of the aspirants? The right thinking end of the party would naturally look for the more conscientious and less crafty of their number and as their choice might desire Mr. A. C. Saunders or Mr. E. T. Higgs, another faction would surely be after Attorney General Johnston, but his fatal connection with the taxation acts would likely prove his undoing.

Another discovery which the Patriot has made, although invisible to all others, is that the Bell Government did after all, do something. The list as outlined in its Wednesday's issue, if there is a single correct item in the catalogue, is quite lengthy. It is the biggest claim of something out of nothing which the evening romance has yet published. For the first time since its set-back that memorable occasion last February it mentions, "The report of the Commission on the Asylum." But there it stops, no doubt with a shudder and a chill down its back in recollection of the result of its first venture on this subject. "It has extensively repaired Falconwood." This will be indeed news to the occupants and so those who have visited the institution. And "The appointment of the Hon. Walter Lea, to the Board of Trustees, has given the institution a thoroughly experienced farmer who is giving largely of his time and attention to the oversight of the farm." Yes and those grave and serious cattle questions are still unanswered. And it speaks of repairs to roads and bridges, but unfortunately too invisible to the naked eye. It is after all our old time friend the Patriot in its customary role of dreaming and romance.

When the Hon. Mr. Johnston announced in the House that "everything tangible and intangible" would be taxed, and followed this up with his multiple tax measures, he no doubt rested in the belief that nothing had been overlooked. But he had not studied the history of the dark ages. In the sixteenth century, in France, an enormous tax was laid upon salt. To ensure a big tax yield the price of salt was fixed at a ruinously high price and every one in the nation over eight years of age was compelled by law to buy a certain quantity, whether it was wanted or not. To prevent fraud against the Government no one was permitted, under severe penalty, to sell or even give of his surplus to a needy neighbor. To even exchange it for a loaf of bread a starving man would be punished. If the father of

THE PUBLIC FORUM

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

MR. J. A. DEWAR AND THE TAXES

Sir.—The following is from a Press report of the United Farmers Meeting at Bedeque:—Mr. Dewar's address was principally along the lines of co-operation, but he touched on the political side as well. He ably replied to the criticism of Mr. Kelly, Grams Road regarding his attitude towards certain bills passed in the last session of the Legislature, etc.

Mr. Dewar would have been well advised if he had limited his remarks to the subject of co-operation. When he undertook to criticize the Highway bill and the increase of taxes and sessional indemnity, he was only condemning himself.

What is there on the record of the proceedings of the House to show Mr. Dewar's attitude on these various questions? On the budget debate, Mr. Dewar had an opportunity to express his criticism of the highway bill, and of the Fox Bill. The fact is that when the time came, when it was expected Mr. Dewar would reply to Hon. Mr. Lea, he left the House and did not return until the debate was over and his then attitude on these questions will ever remain an unsolved mystery.

A resolution to the taxation bill, was moved by the Leader of the Opposition, which embodied the principles which Mr. Dewar now adopts as his own, favoring an increase of taxation for the sole purpose of increasing the salaries of the teachers. Where was Mr. Dewar when this came to a vote?

Taxation should ever reach the premiership here is a hint which should surely immortalize his record as a taxer.

The latest political revolutionist is the Hon. Chas. Murphy, a former member of the Laurier Government. He has issued his dictum that at the next federal election Free Trade or Protection shall not be the issue and that the records of the Meighen and Borden Government would be the one subject for discussion. He says, "The only people talking free trade as a public issue now were advocates of high protection." Who is he referring to? Is it possible that he is hitting his former colleagues below the belt; those gentlemen formerly associated with him in government who sailed into power in a free trade ship, and when they got there made the protective tariff higher than ever before in the history of Canada? Or is he after his Leader Mr. MacKenzie King who in tariff matters is all things to all men, advocating free trade as a stepping stone to power but a protectionist at heart? Or has he an idea that his party and the Farmers party with them, are so convinced of the uselessness of putting up a fight against the Meighen Government fiscal policy that it is their purpose to throw up the sponge on tariff questions and depend on their old time ally, scandal and misrepresentation of those in power?

From Mr. Murphy's remarks at the Montreal Reform Club luncheon it would appear as if this was their final resort. He has already commenced with a re-hash of the old time exploded election scandals, created by that well known Grit-adventurer Preston, and which after a thorough parliamentary sifting was found to be as empty as the political character of its originator. On one occasion we find this political charlatan harranguing the country and demanding an election on the grounds that the Meighen Government is a new Ministry, accepting office without the approval and without a mandate from the people, and here we find one of the giants of the Liberal party declaring it their intention to try this party before the country UPON THE RECORD OF THE BORDEN GOVERNMENT. It is a striking yet familiar illustration of the general good judgment of the people, added to the fact of the splendid record of both governments, is not of a character to do any harm. Mr. Murphy has not thought of the possibility of enquiry into the records of his own party to all appearances. Before starting upon his slander campaign it might be wise for him to adopt Mark Twain's procedure and have a look over the skeletons in the Liberal cupboard.

He was at home on his farm attending not to the public business for which purpose he was elected, —but to his own affairs. Again, where was Mr. Dewar when his friend, Mr. Brodie was putting himself on record against the increase of salaries to the Premier, to the Attorney-General, the Commissioners of Agriculture and of Public Works and the increase of sessional indemnity? He was in company with Mr. A. E. McLean, and Mr. Irving, again attending to his own affairs at New Perth. These men now offer as an excuse for not being on duty that they were required at home and could not afford to be in attendance at the House.

When a man undertakes the duties of a representative, he does not attach any conditions to his service to the public. He undertakes to represent his constituents even at the sacrifice of his individual interest. These gentlemen, with the exception of Mr. Irving, who was sitting in the House for the first time, were experienced in the business of Legislature. They well knew that some of the most important measures are frequently dealt with in the last days of the Session. In this case they knew exactly what measures were before the House and knew, for it was common talk, that the Government intended bringing in the matter of increased salaries, and yet these gentlemen were absent.

And now they want their constituents and the public generally, to believe that they were opposed to these measures and they pose as the champions of an outraged electorate.

No amount of talk, no subterfuge will convince the people of these representatives' good faith. It is so easy, when there is a duty to be performed, to shirk the performance by a convenient absence from the House. The people of the third district and of Prince County have judged Mr. McLean's milk and water attitude in the House. The people of Cardigan and King's County will judge Mr. Dewar by the same standard.

I am, sir, etc.

ONE OF THE UNDECEIVED.

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY

Sir.—The Patriot in its defence, of the government is now adding insult to injury. That the members of the present combination tried and succeeded in making the electors believe that they could conduct the business of the country on the then revenue, cannot be denied by anyone; and now, after more than doubling the peoples' taxes, the Commissioner of Agriculture comes forward with the contemptible statement that two laying hens will pay the tax of any farmer. The Hon. Commissioner was very guarded against making such statements during his election campaign, but it is "farmers lie." I am above talking trifles, now. You will also notice that the same Hon. gentleman on several occasions while apologizing for some of the stupid legislation of the last session, said that "you cannot legislate in advance of public opinion." In fact you must educate the farmers before they can appreciate the acts of the present government and the superior ability of Mr. Bell. And his followers, or rather his leaders, must be restrained until such time as those who elected them can be enlightened a little. This can surely be done before the next election, if there is any conspicuous evidence of stupidity on the part of the electors of this country it is that they ever took those at their word and elected such a bunch as at present try to handle the finances of this country. It is not the amount of taxation that the people are now so indignant about, but the uneven assessment, and the manner in which it is so lavishly squandered. There was nothing which the Liberal candidates made more noise about than the expense of such a legion of roadmasters, but now from where I am writing, I can see the home of a roadmaster, a supervisor, an assessor and a tax collector, four officials doing the work which one did under the late government. The next public accounts may show what they are paid, but I would venture the statement that every one of these receives more than a roadmaster did formerly.

To show that the present government failed and bungled in all their undertakings would be easy, but it would require a little more time and space; one bungle will suffice for the present. The pompous boast that they were going to tax everything "tangible and intangible" and to place the value of farm lands at their actual selling price if put on the market, got a cold bath when the first indignation meetings were held and a back down as far as possible resulted. The Patriot informed the public that all the assessors were called in and met the government which gave them their instructions. A little later those assessors got word to be careful and go slow, so that each group acted on their own

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