

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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HIGHER EDUCATION

Sometimes we are told there is an undue proportion of failures at Prince of Wales College matriculation and subsequent examinations, but if figures prove anything P. W. C. candidates fare no worse than those of any other higher educational institution for which competitive examinations are set.

The following figures taken from the latest edition of the University of London calendar, gives one an idea of how matters stand there, and no doubt the figures of other universities were they obtainable would show much the same:

1924, 1,888 candidates, of them 713 passed.

1920, 2,210 candidates, of them 1,103 passed.

In round figures it may be said half of the candidates fail to gain admission to the university, and that in London where the standard of education is admittedly high. Statistics also show that the percentage of graduates is about seventy-five, which would compare favorably with local figures.

There is a feeling among some University teachers (which may not be justified) that the standard of matriculation, especially by way of the general schools examination, is not as high as it was. This may merely be the feelings of a laudator temporis acti, but matriculation has undoubtedly suffered from the enormous numbers who take it simply to prove the competence of their general knowledge and not with any intention of going on to the University. Mr. Mander, of the National Union of Teachers, is right in saying that there should be two examinations, and that matriculation should be restricted to its proper place as the entry to a University career.

WHAT IT MEANS

With 200 news-hungry journalists prowling about the corridors of Parliament Building and the Chateau Laurier at Ottawa where the committees of the Imperial Economic Conference are meeting, it is not surprising that already, with the conference scarcely more than a week under way, such detailed and varied reports have appeared as to make it difficult for the average reader to gather what it is all about. Official bulletins of the committee meetings are issued twice daily to the press; but it is the newspaper man's job to elaborate on these reports from whatever special information he has been able to pick up. If his information happens to be wrong, his whole viewpoint may be distorted. Or he may be right in his information and wrong in the interpretation which he places on the facts. In any case, it is practically impossible for two observers to see the same facts in precisely the same way. Hence the confusion which arises when one endeavors to get the conference, as it progresses from day to day, into proper focus.

There are, however, a few facts which stand out clearly and which should help in forming an understanding of what is actually going on. They are summarized by a correspondent for a western newspaper whose analysis up to the present can scarcely be bettered. These facts are:

First: The Conference is a success. Canada has proposed, seconded by the other dominions, principles of trade and tariff relationship which Great Britain has accepted.

Second: The principles having been accepted, the broad lines of actual trade co-operation have been arranged. Weeks will be devoted to shaping them up in detail.

Third: Not merely the outlines but actual tariff agreements in detail—similar in nature to the present trade treaties between Australia and New Zealand on the one hand, and Canada on the other—will be signed at this conference. They will be long-term agreements, subject to extension in detail from time to time, but binding on the Dominion

as the United Kingdom and not subject to the vicissitudes of politics.

Fourth: All governments have come prepared to sign such treaties before their departure.

Naturally, the working out in detail of the facts above enumerated will involve difficulties and disagreements, some of them perhaps of a serious nature. But the conference having already progressed so far, it is inconceivable that it should fall ultimately in its objectives.

A CONTRAST

In general conversation following the dinner given by the Dominion Government to the press representatives attending the Imperial Economic Conference, an American journalist discussed with some of his Canadian conferees the spectacle of the "bonus army" then encamped at Washington and asked why it was that Ottawa seemed to be immune from such hectic demonstrations. The Canadian newspaper men suggested two explanations. In the first place, they pointed out that Canada had treated her war veterans with more consideration than had the United States, pensions relief being apportioned in this country on grounds of individual merit, first by a pensions tribunal then through specially constituted appeal boards, and finally, if necessary, through the Privy Council.

And while the machinery of such courts was slow in some cases, there was a general feeling among veterans that a sincere effort was being made to cope with the situation. In the second place, it would be difficult, under any circumstances, to imagine an organization like the Canadian Legion sponsoring anything in the way of mob demonstrations, such action being alien to all their ideas of British democratic government. Canadians—and especially, the newspaper men believed, those Canadians who participated in the War—retain a very profound regard for constituted law and order. They have no use whatever for revolutionary tactics, and agitators who would suggest such methods as a means of intimidating the authorities to gain recognition at Ottawa or elsewhere would find themselves in a decidedly unpopular minority.

THE DIFFERENCE

At a recent meeting of the Windsor Board of Education on the question of "secret" meetings was under discussion. A veteran member, a newspaperman, stoutly advocated open meetings, or at least having the press present; while a new member, a physician, contended some meetings should be held in camera.

The discussion waxed very warm and nearly every member took part, some being critical of what they called mistakes made by the press. The newspaperman admitted reporters were human and did at times make mistakes but, he added, "we can't cover up our mistakes like some other people can. They stare us in the face as soon as they are printed."

"Our mistakes are very well covered," the doctor rejoined.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Premier Bennett," says the Canadian Labor Press in a special Imperial Economic number, "has the serious duty of leading the Imperial Economic Conference to a successful conclusion. He is assured of the co-operation and support of all right thinking Canadians." Unfortunately, partisan criticism is still being leveled at the Canadian Prime Minister, but those who know the burden of responsibility he is bearing at this time will pay as little attention to it as does Mr. Bennett himself.

Senator Hance Logan has not succeeded in convincing Chief Justice Harvey that his actions in war reparations,

NOTES BY THE WAY

Discussing intra-Empire trade the Canadian Textile Journal makes this interesting statement: "British and Empire trade with Canada in textiles can be materially increased by shutting down certain minor branches of the Canadian manufacturing industry, which have proven uneconomic, without changing the basic tariffs on imports from the United Kingdom, or undermining the Canadian textile situation in any way." What are the minor branches whose existence has not been justified? Canadian consumers have been paying high duties to keep them alive. Such plants are not confined to the textile industry. There is tin, for example, with high protection for one insignificant plant. Our fishermen know about that one. Let us hope the Imperial Conference will cause some of these protected excrescences to disappear.

A commonly assigned reason for criminally among educated young people is lack of specific moral training. The difficulty of making this a part of the curriculum is due largely to sectarian differences, to disagreement as to what it is right to teach. But indirectly every good teacher is a teacher of morals. He or she cannot praise or rebuke a pupil without raising a moral issue and enforcing a moral lesson. It is needless to say that there is some defect in any kind of teaching which neglects morals and turns out youths who are smart but not wise.

The idea that the Imperial Conference is moving along lines suggested by the Dunning Budget is a good joke although not so intended. It is evidently intended to persuade the people of Canada that the Mackenzie King policy had something to recommend it. Those who remember the reception which greeted the Dunning Budget will have little trouble in recalling its disastrous effects upon the Liberal party.

There is always a certain amount of satisfaction in placing the blame somewhere. The eclipse of the sun which is due on August 31st is supposed by some to be the cause of the cold and wet weather to which we were subjected during the month of June and the greater part of July. Every unfavorable change in the weather is attributed to some phase of the moon. These changes are, to use the words of a Scottish verdict, not proven. There are other causes than the moon for meteorological changes and they are far from being known.

Speaking recently at a university function, Sir Austen Chamberlain asserted that the age of oratory was gone. Not only gone, but gone beyond recall. Never again he opined, would the halls of Westminster resound to such speeches as made famous the days of Burke, Gladstone, Disraeli, Cobden and Bright. All this is rather disturbing. But Sir Austen may have inferred too much from present political conditions which are forcing parliamentary discussions along lines of economic questions which call for dryer professional utterances for their enunciation.

Why all this bother about "offensive" and "defensive" naval weapons at Geneva? Is the submarine offensive? Are battleships, mine layers and bombing planes defensive? There is one simple rule by which every case can be decided: the other fellow's weapon is extremely offensive, your own is purely defensive.

Twelve years or so ago, Bermuda, like Jamaica, was very chary about entering into reciprocal trade agreement with the Dominion Government. But Canada, out of a spirit of generosity, held out the olive branch to these colonies, by admitting some of their products into her market under preferential rates even when she got nothing in return from Bermuda and Jamaica. The outlook of these colonies, in conjunction with every other unit in the British Caribbean zone, has changed since that period. Their vision is Canada-wards in the marketing of a fair proportion of their crop.

connection with the Gypsy Queen, falsely alleged to have been torpedoed during the War, were above suspicion. The findings of the commission headed by Chief Justice Harvey will go before the Cabinet council. In the meantime, public opinion based on the published evidence taken at the inquiry, will be pretty unanimously behind the commissioner's refusal to condone the actions of the principals in this apparent attempt to defraud the Dominion Government of \$71,000.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Beaton, M.D. DON'T REDUCE FROM NORMAL WEIGHT

If you are of normal weight yet have a longing to get a 'slim' figure, it might be well to think for a moment about what the normal amount of fat on and in your body means to your health.

Fat tissue is found scattered throughout the entire body. Immediately beneath the skin it forms a layer of varying thickness, not only rounding out the figure but acting as a protector to hold in the heat of the body and not allowing it to get out of the body too readily. Heat is life to the body and the body must therefore be kept warm, even hot inside if all the processes are to do their work well. If the body heat is lost too readily the white corpuscles—the disease fighters of the body—do not do their work as well; the circulation of the blood becomes slower; everything in fact slows down. Thus this layer of fat is of great service to all the body processes.

Then a considerable amount of fat is necessary to support the abdominal organs all of which are attached to the back bone and hang out in the abdomen. Supporting hard tissue lined with fat holds these organs up in their proper places in the abdomen.

The individual who has reduced his weight too rapidly frequently has a great deal of abdominal distress—pain in back and in abdomen.

Due to this loss of fat the abdominal organs—kidneys, stomach and intestines—actually "drop" a number of inches from their normal positions. Fat is found practically everywhere filling in chinks in the body—in between the muscles, about tendons, joints and so forth.

In other words then every one of us needs a certain amount of fat covering the surface of the body, and in and about the various organs and tissues; so that if you are of normal weight, don't take chances on your health by trying to reduce your weight.

An overweight individual can reduce safely because his fat on the surface is too thick; it is holding heat in the body too well, and the fat elsewhere in the body may be interfering with the proper working of organs and tissues.

Be thankful then that you are of normal weight, that you can enjoy all kinds of food; do not have to cut down in amount or on particular foods; do not have to take strenuous exercise or Turkish baths.

Don't try to attain a 'slim' figure. It is not safe.

Poor Old England

(Canada-West Indies Magazine) There's a situation developing in international circles which, to put the subject in diplomatic phraseology "Gives rise to grave concern." England, poor old England, that nation of stupid shopkeepers, that antiquated quintessence of a by-gone age, has done the World in the spherical eye again—and what's more has done it with neatness and dispatch. This sort of playful financial sparring, so dear to the heart of Threadneedle Street, has almost become a tradition. Through long practice, the Englishman has developed style in this particular pastime and it is a style which many a competitor has tried to emulate, but, like Angelo's competitors has "strived to do, agonized to do and failed in doing."

England owes war debts to the United States. The United States is rich. The United States, while maintaining high tariff walls, has dumped goods in every market of the World so that legitimate trade becomes very difficult. What can England, poor old England do?

England goes off the gold standard. The English pound suffers a serious relapse. But, and here the Yankee guesses wrong, the present market is a buyer's instead of a seller's market. England buys as much United States raw materials with her depreciated pound as she did when it stood at par. She manufactures goods at reduced labor costs and ships them out to sell at a reduced pound rate.

The United States takes a back seat. The United States' profits drop. The United States' revenue drops. And soon the United States' money will become restricted and indications are that she will have to inflate her currency. When seven U. S. dollars are required to purchase one English pound, England will turn around

The Poet's Corner

OTTAWA July-August, 1932

Yet once again—as in the Old Queen's day When our Imperial singer (now so silent) sang

The glory and the promise of our heritage, Thrilling our hearts with pride of race—are met

The chosen spokesmen of the realms o'er seas, Who from afar have come to greet us here,

All loyal chiefs and kindred. Thrice welcome, all! May ye be staunch of purpose not to part

Until the bonds that late have seemed to slacken Grow closer still. This day from ports the farthest

And most distant homesteads of our Commonwealth, One prayer ascends which all our valiant dead

Would echo: "Seek, O seek ye out a way To join our British hearts and fortunes, ere too late;

To clamp our common legheship, ere too late; To help our mutual vantage, ere too late;

Though fronting all the world in friendliness, To forge a loyal compact 'twixt British men

Worthy our sires who made us great and free!"

Could ye but in these troubled times call back—

Once more, as in the Old Queen's day, that zeal, That passion and resolve for unity we felt

Ere came the tempest to o'ersweep the earth, When millions for a symbol died! Revive in us

That ancient pride of race, for with that pride

What fear of being faithless to our past?

—Beckles Willson, in the Montreal Gazette.

Ottawa Good And Bad

(Bellman in Edmonton Journal) With all the high-grade publicity that is being brought to the Canadian capital by reason of the Conference, and with all the good things that are being said about it and will doubtless continue to be said about it, the fact remains, as a matter of history, that it was not always so. Ottawa was once notorious as a bad city, and uncomplimentary things were said about it with quite as much positiveness as now are being said things complimentary.

Back in the days when it was still Bytown it was considered unsafe or at least venturesome to visit it, because of the crooks, robbers, and political desperadoes who made it their headquarters. When men in other places went there on business their families were uneasy until they were back home again, and that an Ottawa conference could be an occasion of such distinction, importance, and eminent respectability as that now in session could not possibly have entered the mind of anybody in those earlier days. But the present visitors from across the seas will not hear of the former badness of their host-city and will know only of its goodness and hospitality. It is safe at this distance, however, to bring up an unsavory past as a further instance of the changes time hath wrought in this fair Canada.

Exit The Gipsy

(Calgary Albertan) A current news story indicates that even the Gypsies are going modern. At their Detroit conference they have elected as their King a commoner, Steve Stanley, over the heir-apparent, Joseph Marks, son of the late King Steve.

This is all right. There is nothing particularly new about a commoner attaining royal status. What is more disconcerting, however, is the coronation announcement of the new King Steve. He stated that he would encourage education in trades and professions, to take the place

Man!

Look up at this sky-scraper, the size of the good twist you swap a few cents for when you ask for

HICKEY NICHOLSON BLACK TWIST CHEWING

THE 2 MAGS 149 Great George Street

Advertisement for MARATHON "BLUE" featuring an image of a Native American holding a medal. Text includes: "here is the GOLD STANDARD of GAS value...", "MARATHON 'BLUE' quality never depreciates, never falls below par. More value for your money is not obtainable. Fill up at the nearest Red Indian pump and judge for yourself.", "MADE IN CANADA", "McCOLL-FRONTENAC OIL CO. LIMITED"

of fortune-telling, horse trading and copper-smithing. So now even the Gypsies have acquired an organizing genius for a head! And the dusky race of romantic wanderers—for whom every person with an ounce of spirit has an abiding affection—will pass out and the traces of Gypsy blood will fade as the sole survivors become more inextricably intermingled with the bourgeoisie.

This is probably an excellent thing for the Gypsies. Their descendants will doubtless know more comforts than they, in their rude encampments, ever dreamed of. But for those of us who like to picture this lingering nomadic race in all the color with which tradition has invested it, the prospect of a Gypsy chartered accountant is singularly depressing.

Dickens' Son Retires (Border Cities Star) Lovers of Dickens will be interested to know his son is retiring from the Bench at Old Bailey, London. Sir Henry Dickens is 83 and is the only surviving son of Charles Dickens, the famous novelist. For fifteen years he has been a judge in the criminal court at Old Bailey.

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