

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20th, 1934

"AGNES" AND "DADDY"

The name of General A. E. Ross, Conservative member of Parliament for Kingston, Ontario, is associated in press reports with that of Miss Agnes MacPhail, O.C.P. member for Southeast Grey, in criticising the system of penitentiary discipline at Kingston. This is being taken in Opposition quarters as a refutation of recent reports by the Social Service Council and other authoritative organizations which have investigated penitentiary conditions and found them to be much more satisfactory than was alleged in statements published in such newspapers as the Toronto Globe.

No doubt both Miss MacPhail and General Ross are sincere in their comments, but it is apparent that their arguments are based on sentiment rather than logic or experience. Miss MacPhail's lack of knowledge was revealed when she quoted, as her authority for certain alleged grievances, a convict who, she maintained, was a man "with a fine social outlook and very much better than a great many people I know who are not in the penitentiary." This man was shown by Hon. Mr. Guthrie, Minister of Justice, to have had a long prison record, covering convictions for numerous offences, including theft and forgery, but mostly for bestial misconduct or indecent assault. The record of his major misdemeanours occupies half a column of Mr. Guthrie's recorded speech in Hansard.

Like Miss Agnes MacPhail, General Ross is notoriously sentimental and soft-hearted. During the first part of the War he was in command of a Field Ambulance unit in which a number of Prince Edward Island soldiers served, and in which he acquired the nick-name of "Daddy." Colonel Ross's paternal interest in his men was indeed as proverbial as his disinclination to maintain strict discipline, his good nature making him an "easy mark" for sentimental appeals of all kinds. On one occasion he was accused by an old offender who had been consigned to good and sufficient reasons—to the "dink," and who succeeded, as he afterwards boasted, in "louching Daddy for a franc" under the disapproving eye of the non-commissioned officer on guard. The money, allegedly wanted for a shave and haircut, was spent on beer. On another occasion, a staff Captain complained to Colonel Ross that the Colonel's men had passed him on the road unceremoniously. "Do they never salute an officer?" he demanded. "Well," replied "Daddy" genially, "I don't know. They never salute me!"

With the General Ross of today, as with the Colonel Ross of early War days, everyone in Parliament and at Kingston knows that his heart outweighs his judgment in dealing with delinquents. The same may be said for Miss MacPhail. Her sympathies are unfortunately too often misplaced, and their concern for the "under dog" sometimes leads them into doing injustice to those whose unpleasant duty it is to enforce strict disciplinary measures in the public interest.

ONTARIO PENNY BANKS

A message recently addressed to the teachers of Ontario by Mr. J. R. Littleproud, Ontario Penny Bank Inspector, emphasizes the value of thrift as a road to economic recovery. Here are some of Mr. Littleproud's observations: "In times when so many strange and perplexing things are happening as are happening these days, people are often tempted to discard traditional methods and adopt radical ones in their place. If the traditional methods have not solved our problems, might not fewer methods be more successful, we reason. Individuals, corporations and nations are all experimenting with new and unproven methods. While these experiments are a matter of interest and concern to all, and while hopes centre in one and another of these schemes, it is significant to note that the masses are reacting to the old and proved method of personal savings as a constructive recovery program. Approximately 180,000 children in the schools of Ontario have school savings accounts. With the co-operation and encouragement of the teachers, many of these children make regular deposits thus acquiring very desirable habits of thrift, as well as building balances for future use."

In connection with this message it is of interest to know that all the public schools of Toronto are contributors to the Penny Bank and that for Toronto and immediately adjacent communities the Penny Bank at the end of December last had on deposit \$430,290.83. In all there are 126 cities co-operating in the Penny Bank system of the Province of Ontario.

LIVING COSTS

The official statistics of the cost of living in Canadian cities over a period of years afford some interesting comparisons. Taking a family of five persons, the weekly budget in 60 cities, including staple foods, fuel, lighting and rent, works out as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Cost. 1920 (yearly average) \$24.15, 1925 (yearly average) 21.69, 1930 (January) 22.17, 1931 (January) 20.21, 1932 (January) 17.59, 1933 (January) 15.89

The average for the whole year 1933 was \$18.70. The greatest decrease has been in foodstuffs, which cost \$15.30 in 1920 and \$7.03 in 1933. These family budget figures are based upon the following 20 food items: 2 lbs. beef, sirloin; 2 lbs. beef, shoulder; 1 lb. veal, shoulder; 1 lb. mutton, roast; 1 lb. pork, leg; 2 lbs. pork, salt; 1 lb. breakfast bacon; 2 lbs. pure lard; 1 doz. fresh eggs; 1 doz. storage eggs; 6 qts. milk; 2 lbs. dairy butter; 1 lb. creamery butter; 1 lb. old cheese; 1 lb. new cheese; 15 lbs. bread; 10 lbs. flour, family; 5 lbs. rolled oats; 3 lbs. rice; 2 lbs. beans, hand-picked; 1 lb. evaporated apples; 1 lb. prunes medium; 4 lbs. granulated sugar; 2 lbs. yellow sugar; 1-4 lb. black tea; 1-4 lb. green tea; 1-4 lb. coffee; 1-3 bag potatoes; 1-16 qt. vinegar. The cost of these is put at \$7.03 and the remaining \$8.67 is divided as follows: Starch, laundry, 1-3 lb.; coal, anthracite, 1-16 ton; coal, bituminous, 1-16 ton; wood, hard, 1-16 cord; wood, soft, 116 cord; coal-oil, 1 gal.; rent (average \$5.76 weekly).

These and other statistics are carefully worked out by the Dominion Department of Labor and are issued every month. Taking 100 as the average in 1913, the cost of food reached the lowest point in February and March, 1933, when it was 91, but the costs of other things in those months as compared with 1913 averaged 146 for fuel and light; 141 for rent; 112 for clothing; and 160 for sundries. There was a rise to 100 in the cost of foods for December, 1933, due largely to seasonal increases in the prices of butter and eggs, while fuel and light fell to 142 and rent to 129. Clothing stood at 113 in December last and sundries at 157. The costs of living are higher than in 1913—except in food—lower than at any time since.

SCOTTISH REUNION

In the summer of 1932 thousands of Glaswegians gathered from the four corners of the earth to attend the City of Glasgow Reunion. Encouraged by the success of this venture in bringing together ubiquitous Scots from all parts of the world, to which they had wandered in search of an honest shilling, Scotland itself is behind a bigger project, the Overseas Scottish Reunion, which is to be held next summer. This is announced as the great effort of a nation to gather back to itself for a time as many of its far-scattered sons and daughters as can be secured within the fold, and great welcoming rallies, headed by Lord Provosts, Provosts and Corporations, will be staged in honor of the homecoming visitors at such centres as Glasgow, Aberdeen, Rothesay, Inverness, Edinburgh and Ayr.

The Canadian party is due to gather in Montreal and sail in the Canadian Pacific liner Montclair on July 4. In Scotland parties will be made up for many tours of the old land from John O'Groats and the Hebrides to the Border country, as well as for excursions to London and other parts of England. So many are expected for the cross-country trip to John O'Groats that a special train will leave Glasgow with the overseas visitors for the far northern point on August 3; and on August 18 another special train will leave for London. Reunion dates in Scotland are: Glasgow, July 15; Aberdeen, July 23; Rothesay, July 25; Inverness, July 27; Edinburgh, July 30, and Ayr, August 7.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"One of our most disagreeable immigrants of modern times has been the muskrat," writes an Edinburgh newspaper correspondent. "Introduced in 1897 for fur production, five out of six pairs escaped from captivity in Perthshire, and since then they have spread over a large area of Central Scotland, especially on the Elvers, Forth, Tullis, Barn and Allan, though specimens have been found as far south as Glasgow and as

Notes By The Way

The girl around the corner has the unemployment problem completely solved. She mentioned machinery that would do the work of fifty men has been installed, throwing forty-nine men out of work, and so on. "Why not," she asks, a machine that will do the work of one man, but which takes fifty men to operate? That way the problem could be cleared up overnight, she says.

George B. Henry, Ontario's Premier and Minister of Education, puts into all the school libraries a book that tells truly the horrors of war and the influence of armament and munition makers and militarists in promoting war. Ontario has a true peace movement. The hope of abolishing war is not in treaties and agreements and conferences, but in a tremendous will for peace in the great masses of the people. And this can be secured only through correct education of the coming generation.

The trade struggle between Great Britain and France has moved forward from warnings to acts. It may be noted that Great Britain did not, as is suggested by some, force her view at a time when France was internally disturbed in order to drive a better bargain. The deadline when the surtaxes should have gone into effect was a week ago. Great Britain actually held the application thereof, and presumably this was a gentlemanly concession to the French. France, however, has demonstrated her complete obduracy in the matter, and so the struggle is on.

The world must rely largely on guesses concerning what is going on in Germany but there seems no reason to doubt that the religious controversy has reached a stage where Hitler may modify his policy or face a very difficult situation to his authority. It is said that what is called the Pastors' Emergency Organization now has 7,000 members who are pledged to resist the policy of Bishop Mueller, who would regiment the church in accordance with his decrees. It is also said that there have been defections from the ranks of the so-called "German Christians" who would make Teutonism a national religion.

It is difficult, says a Toronto exchange, to imagine scenes of the kind of political action in which Communists believe, and those who encourage Communist activity and who oppose the law which rigidly restrains those who plan political change by violent means pave the way for the introduction of such methods here. The good sense of the Canadian people is fortunately proof against propaganda of that sort.

Too many business men are still thinking in terms of the period when individualism was almost vital, when pioneering conditions made it almost necessary to have enterprise and initiative and "every man for himself" system of ruling things. The time for that thinking is past. It went out with the day which saw horse-power replace man-power, which saw machinery take consumption more than over-industry become part of the world-wide network, influenced and often bedevilled by world things. To talk up unchecked competition and "rugged individualism" under this new order, is to talk folly.

Public opinion in recent years has hardened against certain business practices which are condoned or ignored when times are prosperous. The crowding out of small enterprises by the illegitimate use of greater financial reserves, the buying of small industries for the sole purpose of closing them down, the unloading of watered stock on the innocent investor, are developments which have adversely affected the growth of the West, and today there is a demand for a new deal which will guarantee equal terms all round, wide spread between the prices paid to primary producers and those who ultimately consumers also call for inquiry—Calgary Herald.

The depression is responsible for many practical object lessons. It has shown the defects of over-centralization, of too intense development of urban, at the expense of rural life. The cities, huge as they are, have become overcrowded and from them, by movement is away from them. But the process will not doubt begin all over again, as the farm, the trek from the farm to the city, back to the farm again. Under present conditions the fields certainly look invitingly green to those who have found a disillusionment between city walls. The divine injunction to till the soil and earn one's living "in the sweat of one's face" still holds good. There is no other recipe for economic stability, notwithstanding all the progress of the social and industrial sciences.

A survey of eighty-six large cities in the United States shows there was an increase of six percent in the number of deaths from motor accidents last year and it is believed the percentage would hold true of the whole country. In 1933 there was a drop of over six percent, and last year's record is therefore the subject of much comment. One prominent road official declares that public safety demands a speed limit of forty-five miles per hour, and that limit is constantly exceeded. Far south as Thornhill, Dumfries, during the last three years 860 have been killed, and a substantial decline last year encourages the belief that the menace is being overcome. The danger of river-side farms being flooded owing to the banks being perforated by the burrowing of the red-wasps strikes

That Body of Yours

By James W. Burton, M.D.

TRUE AND FALSE ANGINA PECTORIS
"An attack consists of a sudden agonising pain over the heart or breast bone, accompanied by a "tight" feeling and in severe cases by a sense of impending death. The pain goes into the back, the shoulders and the arms, particularly the left. The patient is pale and often bathed in a cold perspiration. "Suddenly, after exertion, excitement, or a heavy meal, the patient feels a severe burning or tearing pain in the heart or under the breast bone, accompanied by a tight feeling as if the heart were in a vise."

I am giving the symptoms which describe the usual attack of angina pectoris or breast pain, which is now becoming so widely known owing to the great number of deaths among men fifty years of age or over.

The reason that there are so many cases is not only because more men now live to the age of fifty than ever before, but because they do not "ease up" in their work or play at middle age.

However all attacks resembling the above may not be due to angina pectoris, but to very simple causes, and while true angina pectoris is a serious condition and requires careful treatment to prolong life, what is known as false angina pectoris or pseudo-angina is not uncommon. Pseudo-angina requires careful treatment so that the "fear" of true angina may be removed.

In pseudo-angina, usually occurring in younger people, there is a pain in the region of the heart or stomach, a feeling of tightness, distress and difficulty in breathing. The pain is sharp, and may extend to left arm. The patient usually suffers with attacks of indigestion and pressure from formation of gas in stomach and intestine.

The test as between true and false or pseudo-angina is by exercise. In true angina, any exercise above ordinary walking may give a certain amount of tightness of the chest, whereas in pseudo-angina between attacks the patient can take considerable exercise without having any pain in the chest.

Thus while the treatment of true angina pectoris requires the immediate use of nitro-glycerin or nitrite of amyl, the continuous use of "supporting" drugs, graded exercises, baths and massage, the treatment of pseudo-angina is a proper diet, alkalies, outdoor exercise, and like less tea, coffee and tobacco.

The Poet's Corner

FROM "DOVER BEACH"

Listen! You hear the grating roar
Of pebbles which the waves draw
back, and fling,
At their return, up the high strand,
Begin, and cease, and then again
begin, to bring
The eternal note of sadness in.
Sophocles long ago
Heard it on the Aegean, and it
brought into his mind the turbid ebb and
flow
Of human misery. . . .

Ah, love, let us be true
To one another as the world,
To lie before us like a land
of dreams,
So various, so beautiful, so new,
Hath really neither joy, nor love,
Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help
for pain;
And we are here as on a darkling plain,
Swept with confused alarms
of struggle and flight,
Where ignorant armies clash
by night!

—Matthew Arnold.

No Chance In Canada

(Mail and Empire)
There was a despatch from Montreal the other day which said that if the Stavisky bubble had not burst in France it was planned to introduce his municipal pawnshop idea in this country, the promoter hoping to make a lot of money on the reputation of the Frenchman. It is difficult for us to believe that he ever could have had a good reputation here, and apparently it was only in France that such an acknowledged scoundrel would be permitted to remain at large. His gaudy financial swindle has been compared with those grandiose schemes of Hensel and Krueger, but as a matter of fact the cases were fundamentally different. At least Hensel and Krueger were not criminals. They were men of unblemished financial and personal reputations at the time they were building up and expanding their financial empire, and it is quite possible that but for the depression they might be flourishing today. We say this with more reserve in the case of Krueger who seems to have made fraudulent statements and kept crooked books for years.

But Stavisky was not only a known criminal, but an escaped prisoner at the time he floated his scheme. He was a Pole who in 1926 had engineered a financing operation which cost French investors ten million francs. He was arrested but dragged his guards and slugged others who tried to stop him. He vanished, not unaccompanied with a good deal of his loot. Two or three years later he returned to Paris and passed under the name

Parties In Austria

(Winnipeg Free Press)

With the spectacular outbreak of hostilities in Austria occupying first place in world news today, the plight of that country is once more of prime importance to European politics. Austria has been playing an impossible game for the past year. Events have now reached a crisis, and movement has definitely started in one direction or the other. Whether she is now to be absorbed like a drop of quicksilver into German Fascism, or whether she can manage to maintain her own entity under the fiery and indomitable little Dr. Dollfus is a question which a short time may answer.

For several years Europe has been looking on with anxious eyes at the struggle which Austria has put up to maintain her independence. The peace treaties began that unequal struggle by severing Austria from Hungary and depriving her of her former markets in the world, leaving her in an isolated position economically and politically that invited and welcomed trouble. Within the last year that trouble has taken a most sinister and concrete form, with the interference of the Nazis in the affairs of Austria.

The annexation of Austria has been planned for years by the larger country, witness for example the fierce unpopularity in Germany of the foreign veto of the customs union in 1931. Just as soon, therefore, as Hitler was in a position to do so he laid plans for winning Austria by the spread of Nazi propaganda in a soil which was well prepared by desperation and a crippled economic system. Finding the above may not be due to angina pectoris, but to very simple causes, and while true angina pectoris is a serious condition and requires careful treatment to prolong life, what is known as false angina pectoris or pseudo-angina is not uncommon. Pseudo-angina requires careful treatment so that the "fear" of true angina may be removed.

The case of the Nazis has been helped not only by the unhappy condition of the country but also by the complicated political divisions within it. Chancellor Dollfus, who appeared upon the political scene in May of 1932, accepted the chancellorship at the earnest request of Austria, who realized that he was the only man who could pretend to control the situation.

Fully sensing the danger of the Nazi menace, he has shown courage and resource in dealing with it. His party of Christian Socialists, which really stands for Socialism, Fascism, and the Marxian Socialists of Austria, are united only in their opposition to Nazism, but they have not proved able to co-operate in any way to save Austria from their common enemy.

Austria, it must also be remembered, is an overwhelmingly Catholic country, and if there was any uniting of the Catholic element within it, the Socialists might again might provide a hopeful outlook. But no. The result is the Dollfus, the Catholic chancellor, has tried to fight off Nazi invasion by proposing a new constitution which would give the Nazis a completely alienated political party. This has tended to obscure the distinction between his own "Christian Fascism" and the Fascism and the Fascism of the German Reich. Under the present circumstances it is difficult to see how he can see it himself. He has tried to do so, but he has failed.

This has left the political line-up in Austria curiously aligned. First there is the Christian Socialist party, headed by the chancellor with the Fascist program. Next is the Dollfus, the Catholic chancellor, who has tried to fight off Nazi invasion by proposing a new constitution which would give the Nazis a completely alienated political party. This has tended to obscure the distinction between his own "Christian Fascism" and the Fascism and the Fascism of the German Reich. Under the present circumstances it is difficult to see how he can see it himself. He has tried to do so, but he has failed.

Next is the young Prince von Starbomberg, who has been brought together in a common effort to suppress serious Socialist disturbances, will be a matter of first importance in European politics.

The facts and figures of Austria have been in the throes of a civil war. Japan and Russia are piling up arms and forces and are challenging each other in view of further possible aggressive tactics which might carry the present point. This danger exists. It has found its reproduction in the United States also fearful of an attack upon American interests in the Far East. Within European territory, France and Germany are no nearer

of Serge Alexandre. According to the New Republic, every third person in the country from the Minister of Justice down knew that the escaped criminal Stavisky and the new promoter Alexandre were one and the same person. It is impossible to believe that the police and high political personages did not use their influence to save Stavisky from prosecution. That is the meaning of the French riots which followed his suicide.

Stavisky had to have political connivance to buy the municipal pawnshop in Bayonne, and this he proceeded to expand. He began to sell pawnshop bonds and those who had not the cash to buy them were graciously permitted to pawn something instead. Since the bonds never earned enough money to permit these holders to redeem their pledges it was a simple matter for Stavisky to make away with the securities. How any such scheme, headed by a man like Stavisky, could have got under way in Canada is hard to understand.

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Arms Parley Prospects
(Montreal Gazette)
It must be in the spirit of invincible courage, or maybe in sheer desperation, hoping against hope, that the European statesmen still continue their endeavours to prepare the way for another world conference on disarmament. Great Britain has addressed a memorandum to the European powers, couched in courteous terms and suggesting a long-term reduction of arms, such a compromise as might be made under prevailing conditions. And Sir Anthony Eden is making a tour of the European capitals with a view of ascertaining how matters really stand as regards this British note. The responses were not encouraging and might be described as a perfunctory repetition of peaceful intentions with some oblique reference to existing treaties. In Germany the note was deemed defective as falling short of actual disarmament requirements. In France, whatsoever portions of the manifesto were positive for arms reduction were rejected as falling in the matter of security guarantee. In Italy there was no disposition to minimize the proffered mediation of Great Britain, yet the note was regarded as an adjunct to the four-power pact, and in no servicable degree improving upon its provisions. In the meantime, the actual situation in Europe and the Far East is pitched to the harsh and discordant key of warlike threats and hostile tension.
The facts and figures of Austria have been in the throes of a civil war. Japan and Russia are piling up arms and forces and are challenging each other in view of further possible aggressive tactics which might carry the present point. This danger exists. It has found its reproduction in the United States also fearful of an attack upon American interests in the Far East. Within European territory, France and Germany are no nearer

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