

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1924

POLITICAL PROPAGANDA

The humiliating thing about the interminable glorification of the Liberal-Progressive tariff is not so much its nauseating boastfulness as the evidently prevailing opinion among Liberal propagandists that the people are ignorant enough to believe it. Everyone in Canada who is capable of reading or even of thinking knows that the budget as presented to parliament by Acting Finance Minister Robb, was conceived and brought forth under the threat and dictation of Western Progressives and that the changes made are a reversal of the fiscal policy of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and of both the policy and the promise of Finance Minister Fielding.

SPRING CLEANING

Within the great majority of our houses have been given their regular spring cleaning. Without the process has necessarily been delayed owing to weather conditions yet the time is at hand when the work must be taken up. Charlottetown has the advantage of being most picturesquely situated; at its front door one of the most beautiful rivers and bays on the continent; around it on three sides stretches a scene of rural beauty and agricultural wealth unsurpassed anywhere in Canada. These surroundings only emphasize whatever defects our city possesses. The city generally is beautiful. It could be made more so by the application of a little paint and a little general brushing up. This is a good time to prepare for the outside housecleaning and to get ready for summer and summer visitors.

HUMAN JUDGMENT

How inadequate our human measurements are to size up human virtues and human vices is indicated by a news item in our columns telling of a recent incident in La Grange, Illinois. Twelve ragged hoboes, vagrants, down and outs, probably criminals, were being conducted by a police guard to work on the streets to which they had been sentenced as vagrants by the City Court. Passing by a sanitarium they saw flames bursting from the building and knowing that human lives within it were in danger they rushed in, worked heroically with the attendants and brought the patients out in safety. This was human heroism, heroism in rags, in the hang dog, shamed faces of supposed criminals! Some one has said that there is so much bad in the best of us and so much good in the worst of us that the best of us cannot afford to throw stones at the worst of us. There is a God-like streak in the whole human family, deep buried it may be, obscured, it may be, by over-emphasized virtue or by virtue exercised to a point where it becomes vice. When civilization becomes capable of discovering and developing this streak there shall be less of criminality and of suffering than there is today. Our civilization at present is more concerned with the development of the yellow streak, the streak that can make money honest and more people prosperous.

NOTES BY THE WAY

At the banquet given by his supporters to Hon. John E. Sinclair on Thursday night last, it was interesting to note that several of the speakers balanced the budget and reduced the national debt by thirty millions. Some of them did it several times. The more adroit manipulators have become quite expert at it. The trick is really quite easy and can be learned by a schoolboy in five minutes. It is simply employing the Bell Government plan as already explained in the Guardian many times. Solomon in his proverb said "a false balance is an abomination," and that is the sort of balance that was passed up on the people of this Province and which is now attempted at Ottawa to deceive the people of Canada.

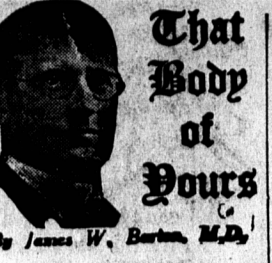
That the better organs of the Liberal party do not believe in "the balanced Budget" is apparent from the gingerly manner in which they speak of it and avoid endorsing it except with ifs and ands. The Toronto Globe, speaking of the railway debt, says in a head-line, "The Railway Shouldered it." The Monetary Times, which like the Globe approves the Budget, says: "There will be a great deal of contention over whether the Budget has been really balanced or not. And of course much depends on the standpoint from which the subject is discussed. It should however be said that we are yet some distance from balancing our Budget in the sense that Great Britain and the United States have balanced theirs. As yet we have made no provision for the retirement of the war debt, which is an important feature of the Budgets of both these countries."

That is the truth about the so-called balanced Budget. Great Britain and the United States have honestly balanced theirs. Canada has not. Most honestly balanced hers and the party pretence that this has been done is nothing better than an abomination. Solomon was right. A Budget honestly balanced is never in doubt; it proves itself true. It does not need apology as a fictitious balance does. Mr. Fielding's balances stood the test. The Bell Government's balances and surpluses would not stand the test of an honest audit. The Robb surplus and debt reduction are in the same category. To make them appear to be honest Mr. Fielding has to be discredited. That was why a prominent speaker at the Liberal banquet said, "This was the first real Liberal Budget since 1911." This could only mean that Mr. Fielding's Budgets of 1922 and 1923 were not Liberal Budgets.

Thus the Little Man in Grey, the Right Honorable Finance Minister as he still is, once idolized by his party, is today flouted and discredited by a former supporter. Mr. Fielding did not deal in false balance. He is now ill and absent, but we doubt not that he believes as strongly in "a just balance" and a stable tariff as he did when he made his Budget speech in 1923. His party cheered him to a man then. Today they dishonor him and cheer with heart and voice over a fictitious surplus and a debt reduction that is a pure fabrication. Other times, other manners!

Why this labored effort to convince a party of fifty Liberals that the Robb surplus and debt reduction were real and not fictitious? Obviously because the majority of those present did not believe it! No such meetings were called or arguments used to convince old-time Liberals that Mr. Fielding's budget statements about debt, surplus or deficit were true. They were accepted as true without doubt or misgiving. Now it has become necessary to discredit Mr. Fielding in order to make good old Liberals believe in a Robb surplus. As for the several speakers we will not venture to say what they really believe. They are strong party men and they were playing the party game for all they are worth. We let it go at that. But that they convinced all, or half their hearers that black is white and that an obviously false balance is a true one is more than we can believe.

We would like to believe that the majority of our Liberal fellow citizens are men of intelligence and common sense and such we doubt not they are. Such men can distinguish between honest statements and more party claptrap. It



By James W. Berlin, M.D.

THAT SPRING FEELING

Some years ago I met a lady who said she had not varied a pound in weight in twenty years. This was an absolute fact, but certainly a rare condition. Most people will put on from three to seven pounds during the cold weather, and gradually lose it during the warm days of summer. Now this putting on of extra weight during the winter is a good sign. It shows that your tissues recognize the need of a little extra flesh, and so absorb the extra nourishment. Your appetite is a bit keener also, due to the snap in the air, and the ordinary natural call for more fuel to keep your body warm in the cool weather. All this is very familiar to you, but I am writing it with just one purpose in mind. During the winter you needed the extra food. If you have been wise or thoughtful you have exercised judgment and feel all the stronger therefore. If you have eaten the extra quantity of food, and have taken no exercise, when the days of Spring arrive what happens? You have put on an excess of weight, and not having taken the exercise your digestive apparatus, liver and intestines are sluggish. You feel heavy, wooden, depressed. You feel that you have that lazy Spring fever that is so common. The mother as you know, gives strong purgatives to her children in the Spring. Now there are just two things for you to do. First, Remember that in Spring there is not the need for so much food as in the winter, so immediately you cut down on your food intake. Second, There is bound to be a little more fat on you than you need, a little more waste in and about the body. You must get it off. Good brisk walks in the outdoors will help to burn up the waste for you. As you walk you breathe more deeply and rapidly, and call for more and more oxygen which when it enters the body, actually burns up the excess tissue you are carrying. So when the Springs days come don't sit around and let yourself get the Spring fever. Get busy with yourself.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

CONSOLATION know that somewhere under the sun There are quiet women Between white walls, going about their peaceful tasks In a blue twilight; Folding things, And putting things away, With quaint restful minds dreaming back into the past, Content. And men coming home tired after their labor, Into cool rooms plunging out of the glare and heat of the day Looking in the eyes of the women they love And knowing that life at least cannot rob them Of so much as they have had. And happy so. And lovers creeping closer in the dusk, Pleading their pitiful vows under the moon. And little children falling asleep in their mothers' arms, And men and women gathering in wide open spaces With exultation in their hearts At some great news. Somewhere under the sun These things must be— Then why, in heaven's name, do I sit brooding here In the pit of mine own thoughts, Dark and unhappy. When if for a moment, I reach out to them, even in vision, I know consolation Deeper than thought? O foolish me! O blessed human-kind! —George Villiers. party men who will uphold their party, be it right or wrong. And too many have been willing to accept a lower standard in public men than they would tolerate in business or in private life. This ought not so to be. The false balance has only a very ill repute in city or country throughout our fair Province. Surely it cannot meet with approval if found in the public accounting of the nation. Any where and everywhere it is an abomination and no amount of sophistry or rhetoric can make it anything else.

HALIFAX, April 25.—The schooner Abacena, with six hundred gallons of rum sailing from Bermuda for St. Pierre which arrived in port yesterday, was the first vessel to feel the new port regulation which debars liquor-laden vessels from docking in Halifax without a special permit from the collector of customs. Accordingly the vessel is remaining in stream until ready

That Says We Should Boost Not "Knock" The Province

Spirited Address By Mr. J. Howard McDonald During the Budget Debate in the Legislature.

Speaking during the budget debate in the Provincial Legislature recently Mr. J. Howard McDonald, Fifth Districts of Kings, said he was much impressed with the clear cut Budget speech of the Premier, who laid the cards fairly on the table so that all could see exactly what he intended to do. There was no subterfuge or holding back of information. He has shown that the promises made by the Conservative party during the election, and that the people elected on his platform are not merely individuals, but a united party, pledged to their word. (Applause) There may be occasions when the Government, zealous as it is, and just, may make errors in judgment or in the administration of the laws, but these if they occur will be accidental rather than intentional mistakes, inseparable from erring human nature.

So much has been covered already in the discussion on that there remains little to be said. The Leader of the Opposition says there has been too much boasting. That is a human failing, and possibly we are all inclined toward more or less and the members of the Conservative side of the House feel naturally very proud of the honor accorded them in belonging to such a party. But the leader of the Opposition himself assumed what was scarcely a human failing when he had the presumption to attempt to turn the deficit of the late administration, as shown by the report of the external auditor, into a surplus. Mr. McDonald wished to point out the very fair manner in which the Government has dealt with the matter of the external audit. For years past external audits have been made by both parties and there always has been a great deal of doubt and discussion as to whether or not these have been really independent audits. The Government, under the Bell Government, was made by a gentleman who a short time afterwards accepted the nomination for the County of Kings. The speaker intended no reflections upon the gentleman, but simply to point out the danger in taking local people to do this kind of work. Probably nowhere could we find more capable men than within the Province, but we have also a great deal of politics, and our political feelings are very strong. In some cases, in order to overcome this present Government has taken the matter out of the hands of local interests entirely and has thereby set a precedent which it is to be hoped will be followed in some cases. It is to be hoped that the Government will be able to come into power in the future.

The leader of the Opposition appears very anxious for reforms along various lines. He is full of suggestions as to what should be done. Possibly he is right in some of these; indeed, he is quite right in some, for the very reason that this Government is already carrying out. It seems strange, however, that these innovations were never mentioned during the four years of Liberal power during which some of the money was in the hands of the House. It would look now as though he was simply trying to make some political capital. He does not seem sincere but to be speaking merely for the purpose of getting his name in the papers as a reformer. The measure as this Government is intending to carry out. (Applause) The member for the First District (Mr. Blanchard) has laid considerable stress on the fact that land was to be taxed at its value. In making the land tax a duty on the land, Mr. McDonald felt confident, coming from the district he represented, that so far as his electorate is concerned it will not work any hardship at all, because they are today paying taxes to the value of the land. He felt that such a hon. member's statement accounts for some of the strange things that happened during the last election campaign. There were very few districts that made the mistake of sending to this House a representative who expressed his views on the Liberal party. The hon. gentleman from the First District, who was a member of the late administration, evidently saw to it very well, as he told the House the other day, that the people of his district were only taxed one-half of the value of their property. Would not this discrimination be in itself sufficient reason for this Government passing an act to clear up the tax question, and give assurance to the taxpayers that all land will be taxed equitably and at its proper value? This is one of the best arguments that could be put forth in favor of the equitable working of the new Act.

There was some reason in Mr. Blanchard's argument in regard to the teachers for grades other than No. 1. No doubt many of our teachers go to the country schools without proper experience. Personally, however, Mr. McDonald had known splendid teachers who had great difficulty in getting a teacher's license; one especially who was twice successful in getting a license. There were some more brilliant students who come from a college or university with a B. A. degree, and who cannot enter into the difficulties of young pupils who perhaps have not such bright natural gifts. For that reason Mr. McDonald could not support Mr. Blanchard's suggestion of making it an arbitrary rule that none but third year students should be eligible for the grade of

ence, who has got a first class certificate and some experience and has proven himself a good teacher, is as well qualified to teach in the graded schools as the young men out of Prince of Wales College. Mr. McDonald would hesitate to put his less mature opinion against that of the member for the First District, but for the fact that he had heard him to the length of three or four years ago, and that at the end of the House was not any more convinced than when he started. No doubt the hon. member is a good politician: when he goes back to his District they will tell him how well he got along, and he will tell them that himself, probably.

It is an extraordinary stand that the leader of the Opposition has taken in suggesting that the Government break the law by not collecting the Bell Government poll tax. By what reasoning does he come to the conclusion that this Government, should take upon itself to break a law placed on the statute books of the Province before it had attained existence? It would seem a little presumptuous to do that, and at the same time there does not seem any way by which it could be done. The stand taken by the Conservatives with regard to this poll tax is that it was unfair; that it was not properly administered by the late Government. For that reason it was promised that this tax would be abolished, and this has been done during the present session. But there are a great many people who have already paid this tax. If the tax arrears are not collected from all, then there will be unfair discrimination in favor of those who have not paid it. It is not now that there are people who have not paid the poll tax for four years. The people who have paid under the Bell Government would like to know why these people should not be asked to pay. In fact, this is one of the reasons why the Conservatives condemned the poll tax—it was not that the people wished to avoid paying towards the public expenditure of the country, but they saw the injustice of it themselves, and they knew that if their taxes were not collected, they had no right to be called upon to pay. The fault lay with the late Government; had they administered the law as it was on the statute books, there is no doubt that the feeling against it would have been different.

Mr. McDonald took objection to the Opposition cry about the "poor farmers." The farming people of this Province are not poor, and they do not thank their members for representing them as such. We have the great heritage of the British Empire, a fine country, a healthy climate, and a morally clean people, living together comfortably like one family. If they have to work hard, that may be all the better. The poorest people in this province are well off. The British Empire is the envy of every big city. We have many of our young people have gone, decaying by stories of quick fortunes and lively times. Our people here may not have millions, but they have what is better—full of the passing stranger. Actually times as existing in larger centres we know nothing about. Let us all put our shoulder to the wheel.

"I would like to see this House resolve itself into a committee to boost British goods," concluded Mr. McDonald amid applause. "Some people say it is no good, but let us try it once anyway. We have heard people in this House criticize the Speech from the Throne for thanking the Lord for the harvest we had so we must not do anything by what some people say. Let us all try working together and boosting our province."

Trade and Commerce

A WEEKLY LETTER FROM LONDON (From a Special Correspondent) LONDON, April 4.—The fallacy is being gradually but surely exposed that "trading with Europe" is impossible, or at least highly unsafe. Business interests in many quarters are, as a matter of fact, as yet unaware of the very real degree of trade and financial stability which has already been re-established in the European markets. There are signs, however, of a better realization of the true state of matters at hand. Such British and American interests as have re-entered the European markets after a prolonged absence have been surprised at the results, and are spreading the impression that conditions are by no means so bad as has been imagined. They have discovered that "chaotic exchange conditions" do not mean that enterprise on their part is rewarded merely by bad debts, but that "prompt payment in gold" is forthcoming from Europe in spite of all that has been said concerning the impossibility of doing business there. Perfectly reliable business connections may be established in any European country at the present time by the exercise of ordinary care. Those who enter the field first will have the pick of the opportunities. Subsidies for Shipping. The American plan to allow preferential railway rates for merchandise shipped in American vessels is exercising the minds of both merchants and shipping associations here. From the point of view

FIRST AND PARAMOUNT, ABSOLUTE SECURITY TO POLICYHOLDERS



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HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO P. A. FARQUHARSON, Branch Manager, Riley Building, Charlottetown



welcome visitors from all over the globe. In addition we are to have the British Industrial Fair in London, between April 28 and May 9. This is the tenth British Trade Fair, and it will be in every respect the greatest and most important event of its kind ever held and is attracting the keenest buyers from all parts of the world. The Great War, followed by the financial-collapse of the European Continent, forced Great Britain to look to the Empire for an expansion of trade. Now Great Britain is finding that its overseas possessions are beginning more and more to create their own industries and the problem is becoming more involved. Before the war Australia exported all her wool in its raw state; now she is developing her weaving mills and making more and more of her own cloth. In the same way, South Africa is making things herself instead of importing them. India is engaged in creating her own cotton textile industries, and is less dependent upon Lancashire; while Canada is making her own transport machinery and becoming an export factor in the world's trade. For those reasons England has, somehow or other, to discover or create new markets to take our goods, either by private enterprise or by other means. This question is being studied by the great trade organizations which are so well-organized and so sapably conducted here. It is looked upon as a point of vital importance. Not only the Empire but the whole world is Britain's Trade sphere. Free trade means world trade.

Your Birthday

APRIL 28.—You are sympathetic, kind and loving, and generous to a fault. You are not contented, and will struggle alone with trouble or worry rather than take those you love into your confidence. When you make up your mind to do a thing, you do it. Never listen to gossip, and cultivate hope and courage. Learn to make the best of what you have. Your birth-stone is a diamond, which means innocence. Your flower is a daisy. Your lucky colors are red and yellow.

"TO HELP OTHERS"

"TO Help Others" is the whole basis of Salvation Army activity. All its work is bound up in these three words. If it were not so, it would not be necessary to ask you, once a year, to support the Self-Denial Appeal. There is hardly a phase of life that the Army does not touch in one way or another. The rich and poor, the sick, the feeble—those who have measured years by their sorrows—all seek the Army's helping hand. We believe you are eager that we continue our work among the unfortunate ones. Give us your financial and prayerful co-operation and we will keep on "helping others". The Money You Give will be made to yield full value for every dollar. It will be spent where it will do the greatest good. Will You Give Something To-day? THE SALVATION ARMY CHARLES SOWTON, Commissioner. If you have not been called on, please forward your donation to COMDT. JOSEPH HIGDON, Salvation Army, Charlottetown