

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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PROROGATION

The business of the Legislature this year was conducted on clock-work schedule. The House met on March 2, and adjourned on April 2. The budget debate, participated in by most of the members, concluded in sufficient time to allow the estimates to be passed at exactly 12 o'clock midnight on Thursday, providing just the requisite time to dispose of outstanding legislation on Friday and on Saturday morning.

At 12:40 a. m. Saturday the legislative business was concluded, leaving twenty minutes to be filled in before the arrival of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor. Led by Mr. Lea, the Opposition members sang lustily: "It's a Long, Long Trail A-winding to the Land of My Dreams." Mr. J. A. Campbell then rendered acceptably the chorus of a Gaelic song, and was followed shortly afterwards by Mr. Aeneas Gallant, who led the singing members of the House in the rousing chorus of Allouette, Gentil Allouette. Dixie Land and O Canada were also sung before the arrival of His Honour, who assented to the bills passed during the session and formally announced the prorogation.

The session was outstanding by reason of the high average quality of the speeches delivered in debate. This remark applies to both sides of the House. The fact that the Opposition was largely represented undoubtedly contributed to the interest of the session. Mr. W. M. Lea, the Opposition leader, fulfilled his duties capably, and the same applies to his lieutenants, particularly Mr. Thane A. Campbell, who, as the only lawyer on the Opposition side, took a leading part in the proceedings.

The position taken by the Government on the financial situation, its reasons for economy and the manner in which it proposed to effect a saving by cutting down on unnecessary road expenditures and other public works, went practically unchallenged by the Opposition. The Government viewpoint was admirably set before the House by Premier Stewart, Hon. G. Shelton Sharp, Hon. Dr. MacMillan, Hon. H. F. MacPhee and others; and it is highly significant that the Opposition speakers' time was taken up less with attacking the government than with defending the policies of the late Liberal administration. An impartial observer could note, under all the rhetorical flourishes of the debaters, a sincere conviction that the financial affairs of the Province were in a serious condition, and that it was the part of good citizenship to refrain from partisan bickering and to co-operate with the administration in effecting economy and good government.

IMPERIAL "TALKIES"

One of the matters that will, or should, come before the Imperial Economic Conference is the distribution of Imperial Talking Pictures. A remarkable letter in the London Times sets out, with equal force and wisdom, a danger which not many yet have taken seriously, and which some have too readily believed to be passing away. Dr. Wood dates his letter from Singapore, and he reports what was said to him by an Australian at Derby in West Australia; and he is concerned with faraway places, some British, some foreign, where the British film is all but unknown. And that field is not being neglected by others, who sow in it lavishly and pertinaciously the seeds of another culture and another influence.

"The British film and the British talkie will mean more to the British Empire than the British Navy"—it seems an extravagant claim. Yet, only last month The Times quoted an article from the Vancouver Sun, which said that the United States film industry had done more to Americanize the world than ever Julius Caesar and his legions did to Romanize it. It is nearly two

centuries now since it was said: "If a man were permitted to make all the ballads he need not care who should make the laws of a nation." The talking pictures are a greater power than ever the songs of a people used to be. And it is a power which Britain has scarcely yet begun to use—not, as all agree, for want of ability, but for want of conviction and of forethought. There is nothing pharisaical in the belief that the moral and intellectual average of British films is a little higher than the level of American films. But even deeper than the question of the taste and morality of the films lies the question of their idiom. The British Empire should know itself; and the world should know the British Empire. The movement has begun. In January the formation of the British United Film Producers Company, which proposes to distribute British films throughout all the Dominions, Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, was announced. But there is no limit to the work that can be done to win for the British film a world-wide influence. The Times correspondent urges the layman, the picture-goer, to make it his business. Beyond question there is nothing like a strong and healthy public opinion to make a strong and healthy art, and the experiment of educating the children to demand the best in films has begun at the right end. Yet it might not be amiss also—even now, when times are very bad and the film industries are being pluckily carried on against heavy odds—to ask whether those who make and those who exhibit films are always ready enough to put faith in the minds and feelings of the public. Artful admixture of the still-better with the good-enough, an occasional touch of the middle-brow amid the popular, might add a new public to the picture and give the British film a still richer source of strength. The I. O. D. E. here in Charlottetown with the management of the Prince Edward Theatre intend soon exhibiting an all British film.

MR. KING'S TROUBLE

The trouble with the Rt. Hon. W. L. MacKenzie King is that he forgets he is no longer Prime Minister of Canada. So asserted the Hon. C. H. Cahan, who replied to the hon. gentleman in the closing debate on the Unemployment and Farm Relief Bill, which was carried under closure in the House of Commons on Friday night Mr. King, as has already been shown here, was the belligerent leader in opposition to the bill, charging the Government with usurping the power and right of Parliament. The ministry, he said, under this measure would be clothed with unlimited power to spend money, amend, repeal and initiate laws by order-in-council. This, coming from the head of a previous Government which had administered the affairs of Canada for years practically under orders-in-council, had little effect on the House of Commons, the members readily realizing that the leader of the Opposition was playing to the gallery. Mr. Cahan clearly showed this when he declared: "For every order-in-council which this Government has passed which partakes of the nature of legislation I will show him (Mr. King) one hundred similar orders which his own Government passed legislation upon the most important and intimate matters of our political, social and commercial life." It has been clearly demonstrated again and again that the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett has consulted the House and his colleagues more frequently and more definitely than ever Mr. King attempted to do. Mr. King's chosen confidants were men of the type of millionaires like Senators MacDougald, Haydon and Raymond. These were the people with whom in the background.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Those queer things in male clothing, crooners, are so often attacked as an acute pain that it seems too little attention is being paid to the female pests who co-operate in making radio listening an excruciating agony. They are the ones who sing—if it be singing—in an unearthly voice, which shakes and shivers and groans and howls like nothing else on this earth so much as a cow with the colic. Surely there is trouble enough in this world without encouraging these pests, both male and female, who nightly commit mayhem on music.

Why in the name of a good, sturdy humanity do you want to make it seem that the Chinese are Confucian? Why impress upon this fine, passionate, lively race the pale, cold rule of a man long dead? Why, for instance, be ashamed of the fact that the people are healthy full of sex, that the women bear children at an incredible rate and take pride in it? They should take pride in it. To this more than any other single cause does China owe the continuance of her existence to this day. By her numbers alone she has remained invincible. Whatever China does, she may do it, despite attacks from the outside, because no nation in the world dare tackle the job of permanently subjugating four hundred million people breeding at an incredible rate. Whatever the quality of the people, their number alone still makes them invincible and is their protection.

When it comes says the Spectator to giving a preference to Danubian grain, which is the most effective way of helping countries like Hungary and Jugoslavia, our own relations with the Dominions, and the coming discussions at Ottawa, are a fatal obstacle to any immediate decision, even if an arrangement along these lines is possible for us at all.

Our whole structure of banking and monetary legislation should be overhauled says C. A. Curtis. Perhaps there is room for a Canadian "MacMillan Report." Certainly a central bank of some kind is the only permanent solution. In saying this I am well aware of the limitations of central banks even under most favourable conditions and of the difficulties in the way of a Canadian institution. Such an institution would not mean a monetary millennium, but it would at least place the responsibility for credit control with an institution developed for such purposes. Canada will have no monetary stability until such an institution is developed. And it seems reasonable to argue that, when the Finance Act was passed, the first momentous step was taken towards such an end.

There are many lines of manufactures which the Dominions attempt—or may attempt—to make for themselves but which, for want of a large enough market or of associated industries, they can only produce very expensively, whereas in other lines, which they are perfectly competent to manufacture, they are hampered by the cutthroat competition of British and foreign producers. If the Conference can place this wasteful division of effort by specialization, standardization and concentration of production, it will do much to enhance the industrial efficiency of every member of the Commonwealth. Even were the only result to be a precaution against unnecessary overlapping in future development that would be a step forward from the chaos of the present.

It was slightly amusing to learn, via recent cable dispatches from Moscow, that several hundred Americans who went to Russia during the past summer and fall looking for jobs have been asked to return to the United States. Russia has no jobs for them and can't be bothered looking after them. Jobs may be scarce on this side of the sea, and the land where the worker is king may look very glittering and attractive; but the millennium, evidently, has not yet dawned. The American job hunter who decides to pull up stakes and throw his lot in with the Communists on their native heath takes a step much like that of the individual who leaps out of the frying pan only to land right in the middle of a noie, hot fire.

Mr. King consulted and these were the people whose views were reflected in orders-in-council and other administrative acts. The fight which Mr. King put up over the Unemployment and Farm Relief bill was merely a "shadow fight", intended mainly to distract attention while matters of greater importance are going on in the background.

That Body of Hours



By James W. Barton, M.D.

ABNORMAL BEHAVIOR

Some months ago I spoke about the wonderful work now being done in mental hospitals whereby, of every ten that enter for treatment six come out cured. And the cure in a large number of cases is due to the correction of some physical defect such as infected teeth, tonsils, ear, appendix, chronic constipation.

By having dentists and general practitioners on the staff of these mental hospitals, besides the mental specialists, and using team work as it is called, these brilliant results have been obtained.

In former days, as I remember them, I lived opposite one of the largest mental institutions in the country, the inmates were all considered 'crazy' and all but a very few were kept locked up in small wards or individual cells.

Now, however, mental ailments, even what is known as insanity are simply looked upon as 'behavior' conditions, the individuals simply failing to behave in a normal or proper manner.

Accordingly this behavior is investigated and a search made for any one or a number of conditions that may be responsible for the abnormal behavior of the patient.

If there are no physical defects such as mentioned above, or if these physical defects are corrected and the behavior remains unchanged months afterward, a further search must be made.

Another cause for abnormal behavior had been found in one of the other of the ductless glands of the body—thyroid, in neck, adrenal above kidneys, pituitary at base of skull, and so forth. Where these glands are not doing their work properly there frequently happens unnatural or abnormal actions on the part of the individual such as extreme irritability, great depression, carelessness of manner or in dress, fears of various kinds, or other conditions of behavior that render the individual unsuited to his usual business or family relations.

Dr. A. R. Timme states that not only may a change in these endocrine glands produce an emotional state, but emotional strain over a prolonged period may definitely affect the structure and working of the glands.

You can thus see that if all cases of mental disability are studied from these various standpoints and are treated accordingly a great many 'peculiar' individuals are bound to be restored to a condition where they will become normal members of the community again.

The Poet's Corner

FROM MEMORIAL OF WORDSWORTH

He laid us as we lay at birth On the cool flowery lap of earth; Smiles broke from us, and we had ease; The hills were round us, and the breeze Went o'er the sunlit fields again; Our forehead felt the wind and rain. Time may restore us in his course Goethe's sage mind and Byron's force; But where will Europe's latter hour Again find Wordsworth's healing power? Keep fresh the grass upon his grave, O Rotha, with thy living wave! Sing him thy best! for few or none Hears thy voice right, now he is gone.

—Matthew Arnold.

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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.

EAST LAKE SANCTUARY

Sir,—If we are not to bear the stigma of leaving to future generations a gameless land, a land where neither the coming of spring nor the approach of winter is heralded by the voices of migrating feathered guests, no time should be lost to establish game preserves. The boys of today have listened with interest and astonishment to their fathers and grandfathers as they told of the abundance of game in their days. Geese and ducks abounded and flew low. Few had guns in those days. There was an occasional flintlock musket. Anyone who had one, did not have to hunt. He could get them at his home as they flew from one water to another. The modern breech loading gun and rifle, together with pot-hunting and night-shooting has left us now with nothing to shoot. North Lake, once a great resort for both geese and ducks, is now entirely deserted. Last fall, I did not see a goose or duck, though I spent several weeks in the vicinity.

The only hope for the preservation of game lies in stringent laws, close seasons, bag limits, and game sanctuaries.

It is my opinion that there is in this part of the island, an ideal place for a game sanctuary. East Lake has always been considered the breeding place of most of the ducks that frequented the other ponds in these eastern parts. When alarmed they always made for East Lake. East Lake is not a harbor for fishing boats as it is connected with the sea by a small stream. There is a large tract of marsh and it is still fairly well shaded. By making a game preserve here and allowing no shooting or trapping within a reasonable area, the birds would have a chance to breed. When fairly plentiful, they would frequent other ponds as in old time. With a sanctuary for breeding, birds would no doubt become reasonably plentiful. Of course the land-owners would have to be indemnified. What do our sportsmen think of the matter. I am Sir, etc.

A NATIVE

Manchurian Facts

(Toronto Globe)

Sooner or later a peace conference must take place to settle the present difficulties between China and Japan. In this peace conference the status of Manchuria will be the real issue. A clear understanding of the historical background of the present trouble is essential in considering a just settlement there.

As every one knows, Manchuria is an area about the size of Ontario; much similar in climate and fertility. Forty years ago it was peopled by a mere handful of inhabitants. Now it is the home of 30,000,000 people—mostly Chinese.

Manchuria is not and never has been a part of China proper. For fourteen hundred years the Great Wall stood as the towering visible boundary between the two countries. Occasionally invaders from Manchuria swarmed over the wall—and gradually became absorbed in the Chinese race. Never until this century was there any considerable movement in the other direction.

Manchuria leaped into world importance in the nineteenth century. Russia was pushing her railways eastward to the Pacific. From the sixteenth century onward she had bitten off huge chunks of the territory lying north of Manchuria. But the shortest route to the Pacific lay through Manchuria. In 1896, when Japan had just defeated China in war, Russia and China made an agreement aimed at Japan. Under this treaty Russia got the right to build the Chinese Eastern Railway, which shortened Russia's route to the sea by 568 miles.

When the Boxer Rebellion broke out in China, Russia, with other Powers, sent troops to Peking. But when the trouble was over Russia simply withdrew her armies to Manchuria. There was no doubt (even before the secret treaty with China became known) that Russia intended to annex Manchuria in order to have access to an all-year-round ocean port on the Pacific.

Japan completed the alliance with Britain. Shortly afterward (in 1904-05) she fought and defeated Russia—driving the latter completely out of the southerly half of Manchuria.

It is worth remembering that China would now have no rights or claims whatever in Manchuria had not Japan expelled the Russian in-

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Where A "Better Ole?"

(Ottawa Journal)

Canada, goodness knows, has her trials and tribulations; railway troubles, and taxes, and unemployment, and other things. But, after all, there is no reason to exaggerate them, or to start denouncing the country, and its Government, and all things concerned with it. This cyclone is cutting a pretty wide swath, and some of our grouches might stop and ask themselves where there's a "better ole?"

The United States is a rich country, powerful. Yet here are a few facts, culled from the current newspapers, about conditions across the line:

The U. S. Federal Government faces a deficit of over two billion dollars; New York State is cancelling a \$13,000,000 road building program; New Jersey has cut nine millions off its budget; Alabama has such a big deficit that it is not allowed to float any more bonds; Louisiana and Georgia are almost in the same position and bankers and brokers find it almost impossible to sell state bonds of any kind. Monetary conditions in many of the greatest American cities are in an incredible mess. New York has suspended its entire improvement program totaling \$110,000,000; Chicago is bankrupt; Detroit in order to raise a \$13,000,000 loan must slash its expenditure by closing its schools a month earlier and laying off one-third of its police and fire-fighting forces; Philadelphia is in equally bad shape and municipal bonds are looked upon as gilt-edged investments are about as liquid as stock in blue-sky mining ventures.

Smaller cities in the States have also suffered. In the south several cities have been refused further loans until municipal costs are lowered; five Massachusetts cities have had to suspend payrolls because of lack of funds and in the west bankruptcy faces numerous once prosperous municipalities. Added to this more than 3,000 banks have failed in the United States.

Mystery Man May Be New Brunswicker

(Canadian Press)

SAULT STE. MARIE, Ont., April 2.—Clues to the identity of a "mystery" man whom police are holding here on a charge of vagrancy are being slowly unravelled. Taken into custody recently, he refused to give his name. A New Brunswick chauffeur's license, found on him, gives the name of Ralph Huss Delmar. He will appear in court April 8.

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