

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, MARCH 9, 1925

FARMERS, NOT PARTIZANS

It is a hopeful sign of the times that a mixed gathering of farmers and a gathering made up of both points of view and representing the most intelligent element in our agricultural life, had the courage to ignore the possible political consequences of their act and to unanimously adopt a resolution in terms of which appealed to their common sense. We refer to the resolution of two of them in fact passed by the Prince Edward Island Egg and Poultry Association at their recent annual convention in Charlottetown. These two resolutions expressed the unanimous opinion that the government of Canada should impose a duty on United States products imported into Canada equal to the duty imposed by the United States government on Canadian products going into that country. Until the imposition by the United States of the Dingley tariff there was at least an approximate balance between the duties imposed by the respective governments. The Dingley tariff wiped out all possibility of any equitable exchange of products. It practically prohibited the exportation to the United States of Canadian products while Canada made no change in her tariff on United States goods. Naturally this made Canada a dumping ground for United States products, while the United States market was virtually closed to Canadians. Naturally also the Canadian farmer suffered. Eggs, meat and other products were dumped into Canada and usually inferior and more cheaply produced, seriously cut into Canadian prices. The resolution above referred to demanded the same duty on United States eggs as that country is levying against Canadian eggs, namely eight cents a dozen instead of three cents which they are now paying. And no one can avoid seeing the fairness of the demand. The Canadian government, at the dictation of the Progressives and to secure their support, has recently reduced the tariff on certain American goods and, at the same dictation, and for the same reason, have threatened to make further reductions. The effect has been disastrous to Canada and brought about an exodus and a slump in Canadian industry that are without a parallel in our history. Partizan newspapers have defended the government's policy. They claimed that the cheap importation of American eggs was a benefit to Canadians as those eggs were imported at a time when the Canadian hen was out of business! Every farmer knows better. The American eggs are bought by American speculators at the time of the cheapest production, placed in cold storage and dumped into Canada when the opportunity occurs to undersell Canadian eggs. They also claimed that the reduction of duty on American agricultural implements would reduce the cost of these implements to our farmers. The claim has not been fulfilled, on the contrary agricultural implements cost more today than they did before the duty was reduced and widespread unemployment has been added. Our farmers are awakening to the actual conditions existing. They are paying the price for this concessions to American Progressives in Western Canada and are acting accordingly. The resolution above referred to is one good example and the more we have of such resolutions the better it will be for Canada.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Beware the idea of March, or locally known as the St. Patrick's Stoid! Four.

Notes By The Way

Supplementary Estimates have begun to appear in Parliament. The first batch of these is for \$7,341,412. This is for the current year, ending March 31st, 1925 and of the total \$7,500,000 is to cover the remainder of the National Railway deficit for this year. That these are only the first of a series of supplementary estimates is made clear by the fact that they do not include anything for recouping the Home Bank deposits, or for standardizing the P. E. Island Railway and such like expenditures which must come into the supplementary estimates for the year, 1925-26.

The big ones are yet to come. The nearly Eight Millions now asked to be voted go to pay for a dead horse, so to speak and are quite outside of the Main Estimates for the coming year which amount to over Four Hundred Millions and are yet to be swelled by further millions yet to be estimated for promised expenditures not yet provided for. The signal has evidently been set for Full Speed Ahead in all the spending Departments.

The Peterson contract has struck a snag in the withdrawal of the British Government guarantee. The present outlook is that this will kill it. If the opinion of its critics in the Ottawa Parliament is of any value it will be well to have it killed. Hon. H. H. Stevens of Vancouver, who was Minister of Trade and Commerce in the Meighen Government, declared that it was a case of "heads I win, tails you lose" with Peterson. No plan is attached to the contract and Peterson could abandon it at any time. The agreement would cost Canada \$17,000,000 with interest in ten years and it would be much better to spend this money in debt reduction.

The contract looked like "a gold brick" to other members, but was defended by some ardent supporters of the Government. Both Premier King and his satellite Preston are snarly at the turn of events. The Canadian Council of Agriculture in its annual session at Toronto pronounced squarely against the granting of shipping subsidies as "undesirable in principle and justifiable only in cases of proven national necessity." From this it would appear that the farmers of Ontario are as much opposed to the Peterson contract as are the merchants, business men and manufacturers of the Montreal Board of Trade.

The representations of the Maritime delegation to Ottawa "fell most lamentably flat" is the sage conclusion of the esteemed Patriot; also that "the members thereof departed homeward with the somewhat uncomfortable conviction that they had wasted both time and money in coming all the way to Ottawa to present claims which their Liberal representatives have not ceased to press since the present Parliament was convened and which the present Government has been taking action to meet ever since it came to power!"

This is really rich! Twenty-five Liberal Members have not ceased to press our claims for four years on a Liberal Government at Ottawa, with so little result that the people sent a delegation of four or five hundred leading citizens to find out what was the matter. At Ottawa they also stated their case to the Government but got so little satisfaction that they felt that they had wasted time, and money in going. After that what further proof is needed that the greatest present need of the Maritimes is a change both of Government and of representatives?

The earthquake situation in Quebec is proving to be serious beyond all recent precedents. In the past Canada has only had an occasional seismic shock which whose duration was limited to a few seconds or minutes at most and was quite forgotten for years before another like disturbance occurred. This time there the shocks have continued in a series for a full week and have become more and more violent. There is wide spread alarm. Residents in the disturbed area are reported as living in constant dread and awful suspense and many have been unable to sleep for days. Profound sympathy must be felt for these sufferers but human skill and effort are alike powerless in such emergencies.

TO CLEAN BOOKS

Leather book bindings can be cleaned and freshened by the application of equal parts of milk and white of egg beaten together. Rub on with a piece of soft flannel and polish with an old silk handkerchief.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Ours

FOOD FOR GROWTH

You have watched the growing boy or girl at the table and have wondered just what really became of the food they consume. They want a second helping of everything as a rule. You are glad to see them eat, because there is usually not much wrong with a youngster who has a good appetite. And yet as you see that their body is not as large as yours, you just try to figure out that the food can't be of any real use to them. Now what about this? Well, when you take food into you there are certain definite jobs that it does. First and foremost it supplies your body with the animal heat, without which none of the processes of the body could be carried on. The muscles must be warm, the blood and every organ needs heat in order to function properly. This is of such importance that nearly eighty per cent. of all the food you take in is used for maintaining this heat and energy. The foods that are used to maintain this heat and energy are the vegetables, bread, oils, fat and milk. Then when you do heavy work and wear out parts of the body the tissues that are worn must be replaced. This is done by meat and eggs, cereals, peas and beans. But there is something else that must be taken care of. Nature is like a frugal housewife. She likes to have something ahead, something on the shelves and so in different parts of the body she stores up a sort of reserve stock that may be used in emergencies. Nature always keeps just a little ahead of her needs. Now the growing youngster has to have food for all the above purposes and besides this has one other big need for food that the adult does not have. That is the food necessary for growth. You see an adult gets a sort of balance established between the amount of food he takes in and the amount of waste that is cast out of his body. He is practically the same weight all the time. But a youngster must grow. And Nature has so arranged things that there will be growth even if the food supply is insufficient. Thus you see children growing upwards but with pale sickly faces and weak bodies. So don't worry about your youngster's appetite. The thing to worry about is when the appetite fails and there is too much "pickling" at food instead of the normal healthy appetite.

Sophie Back Hailed As 'Confidence Queen'

IT is rather a tribute to the innate honesty or lack of criminal ingenuity of women that one of them can rise to the rank of "confidence queen" as a result of two or three swindles. That was the title fastened upon Sophie Beck, who died the other day in most conventional circumstances, with her husband and son weeping at her bedside. Time was when Sophie Beck was ranked with Mme. Humbert and Casale Chadwick as one of the most dastardly successful swindlers the world has ever seen. But as we read over what is known of her record, she does not appear as anything very thrilling. Certainly she never was in the same class as Miss De Bar. She was no doubt a competent little swindler and a woman without moral scruples, but we suspect that she owed most of her notoriety rather to the newspaper writers than to the magnitude and deftness of her own crimes. It is true that there are significant gaps in her record. She may have been doing something particularly devilish in those periods of which there is no published history.

The Village Belle

Sophie Beck is known to the world for her connection with the Story cotton swindle which arrested many investors in the United States some twenty years ago. It was said then, and the story was revived at the time of the woman's death, that the swindlers had cleaned up about \$300,000,000 and that Sophie had carried fully a third of this sum to England with her. It seems likely that the swindlers secured not more than \$2,000,000 at the outside, of which Sophie and her confederates carried away \$1,250,000 when they fled to Europe. She was born fifty-one years ago in an Illinois hamlet, where she grew into the handsomest woman in the whole neighborhood. She disappeared from the town and later on the news drifted back that she was battling bravely and successfully in Chicago. The report was not quite accurate. She appeared in Chicago as the companion of a man named Frank C. Marrin, at that time a fugitive from justice. He had been a promising Brooklyn lawyer, but had defrauded a woman client of a large sum of money and had fled to escape indictment. A Society Queen. They made a dubious living in

Chicago and eventually had to move out hastily for San Francisco and later to New Orleans, where they were arrested but escaped punishment. Whatever swindles they had engaged in must have been profitable, for it was not long afterward when the Beck woman turned up in a fashionable Philadelphia suburb and established a palatial home within a stone's throw of the highly respectable residence of John Wanamaker. About the same time Philadelphia newspapers began to carry sensational advertisements from two new companies, the Storey Cotton Company and the Provident Investment Bureau. One of the leading spirits in both the enterprises was "Judge Franklin Stone," a horseman and financier from Kentucky, who when the crash came, was revealed as none other than our old friend Frank C. Marrin. Miss Beck supposed to be a wealthy business woman, had offices in the same building as the Storey Cotton Company, and was believed to be deriving a considerable part of her wealth from investments with the firm, a report that did much to establish its reputation locally.

The Amazing Marriage

In reality Miss Beck had a closer connection with the firm than was supposed. She was indeed drawing \$500 a week from it, and was the chief adviser of Marrin as she had been for years. It was she who skillfully worded the advertisements that drew in the credulous investors by the shoals. It was she who wrote the charming, plausible letters that explained the failure

of dividends to arrive on the promised date. The Storey company was a vulgar swindle. The money that came in was not invested in cotton. It went into the pockets of the swindlers, except that part which was used to pay dividends to the early investors. In addition to Marrin and Sophie, the firm was composed of F. Ewart Storey, an Englishman, and Stanley Francis, an American. When the swindle was at its height, and Miss Beck one of the reigning society queens in the fashionable suburb, she met a young man named Richard Graham, driver of a wagon for his brother, who was in the flour and feed business. Richard was a completely unimpeachable habit and something about him fascinated Sophie. At any rate, in a few days she proposed marriage to him and the dazed young teardrop consented.

Swindlers Escape

She lavished money upon him, set him up in a profitable business of his own, and at the same time carried on as Marrin's chief aide, a fact of which her husband was ignorant. Instant or secret information warned her that the American postal inspectors were about to act, and she and the others turned their securities into cash, and all but Francis fled. Francis remained to face the wrathful postal inspectors and he rewarded with a prison had been for years. It was she who skillfully worded the advertisements that drew in the credulous investors by the shoals. It was she who wrote the charming, plausible letters that explained the failure

of her husband remained abroad traveling. Their baby was born in Egypt, and in the Autumn of 1909 they were found conducting a garage in Atlantic City. She was placed on trial, but to the general astonishment, she escaped with a fine of only \$500. The judge took the view, not concurred in by the newspaper writers that she was the dupe of designing men. Since then she has lived quietly, a model of domesticity, and perhaps no more an enigma to her husband than a more commonplace wife would have been.

IS MOSTLY UNACCEPTABLE

LONDON, March 7. — After the British cabinet had spent two and a half hours in discussing the Geneva protocol and reviewing the report of the committee for imperial defense, it was unofficially stated that they had decided nine out of the protocol's sixteen clauses were absolutely unacceptable. It added that the cabinet believed many other clauses required modification before the British could agree to accept them.

THE PRINCE'S SHIP

PORTSMOUTH, Eng., March 7. — The British cruiser R. pulse, on which the Prince of Wales will make his voyage to South Africa and South America beginning March 25th, arrived here this morning, having been detached from the Mediterranean fleet. The work of preparing the warship for the trip will be undertaken immediately.

ALWAYS OFFERING

Magistrate: "The officer says you offered resistance when he arrested you." Prisoner: "That's me all over, your Honour. Always offering something, whether it's a resistance, a toast or my seat in a street car."

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Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

March 9, 1925

PROCLAMATION OF PEACE.—God be to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke 2:14) PRAYER.—Our loving Father, we thank Thee for "Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown? Jesus we know, and He is on the throne."

THE DISTANT HILLS

The azure grey of the distant hills Beyond the city spires, With beckoning fingers are calling me To the land of my heart's desires. Oh, would I could fly to those distant hills And rest on their virgin sod, I'd bathe my soul in the fires of dawn And kneel at the feet of God. I'd grasp the clouds, in their upward flight, With these fragile hands of mine, I'd probe the farthest golden star For knowledge of things divine. Could I but climb my hills of dream That stretch to that golden street, I'd touch one star in the Milky Way Ere my vision would be complete. For back and beyond that farthest star Methinks is where God and His angels are And it may be that beautiful golden street Is but the imprint of His angels' feet. Some day I'll climb those distant hills And rest on their virgin sod, I'll bathe my soul in the fires of dawn And kneel at the feet of God. —Laura Bedell

NEW SWISS LOAN

BERNE Switzerland, March 7. — The treasury has succeeded in acquiring \$20,000,000 at favorable rates for repayment of the United States loan for that amount maturing August 1, 1926. Simultaneously Switzerland has floated a new loan of 50,000,000 francs at five per cent. in Holland for electrification of the Swiss National Railway.

What the Brain Can Save the Feet! IT is entirely possible for a total stranger to see everything worth seeing in a great city like Montreal or London, even without a guide. True, it would take days and days. It would cost extravagantly, in money, vexations and wasted time. But it can be done. It is possible, to-morrow morning, say, to start the round of every store in this Province, until you have reviewed everything specially worth buying. But who would? Who would?—when the advertising columns now spread under your eyes offer you the safe, sure guide to every worth-while buy. Advertisements virtually bring the contents of all the stores to your immediate inspection. Thus your time is saved; your energy spared for needed effort; and your money given the chance of wisest use. Reading advertisements is an economy.