

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Monday, November 17, 1930

A Shocking Scandal

The circumstances related in a Forum letter in Saturday's Guardian of the disappearance, in May, 1928, in woods in the vicinity of East Point of an escaped inmate of Falconwood Hospital, and the recent discovery and subsequent disposal of a human skeleton in the same locality, are so astonishing as to be almost incredible. According to our correspondent, the parties who discovered the remains on October 20th last immediately notified the proper authorities, who treated the matter with seeming indifference. A coroner came out but held no inquest; the bones were hastily interred without proper identification or even Christian burial, and weeks were allowed to pass without any further action being taken. The charges made by our correspondent were of such a serious nature that The Guardian immediately got in touch with the officials chiefly concerned. Their story, while varying from our correspondent's in some details, substantiates the main facts without explaining them. It is evident that a patient did escape from Falconwood in May, 1928, that he was known to have been in the vicinity of East Point, that whatever search was made for him was ineffective, that he was believed to have perished in the woods in that locality through exposure or starvation, and that the affair was then discreetly hushed up. There appears to have been no inquiry made to fix the responsibility for the escape or to give it publicity through the press or in the subsequent annual reports of the activities at Falconwood submitted to the Legislature. Even the Grand Jury seems to have been kept in complete ignorance of the matter. In their report at the Trinity Term in June, 1928, the grand jurors state that conditions at Falconwood had been found "satisfactory". For two and a half years the affair seems to have been kept a guarded secret. Then, on Oct. 20, the authorities at Falconwood and the coroner were notified of the discovery of a skeleton believed to be that of the escaped inmate. Yet, according to the Attorney General, no information of this discovery was received by him until November 12th—twenty-three days afterwards—and then only in an indirect way, from a letter of the coroner, dated Oct. 31st, enclosing a bill for his services. Why so long a period should have elapsed before the discovery of the remains—why, after the discovery, the authorities should have acted with such negligence, it is difficult to understand. Not least among the astonishing features of the affair is the apparent complete ignorance of the head of the department of justice as to matters of such grave importance which were presumably under his direction and control.

One might well inquire how long this condition of affairs has been going on. How many other unfortunate inmates have escaped and disappeared from Falconwood Hospital without the knowledge of the public? How many other unsolved mysteries have been dealt with in this fashion, with the Government apparently asleep at the switch? There is an appalling significance in the fact that in a Christian community such as Prince Edward Island a human being should have been permitted to go to his death in this manner. Why was not the whole Province aroused and the search prosecuted, day and night throughout the whole of King's County if necessary, until the unfortunate person was found? Why, after the discovery of the remains, were there such gross neglect in carrying out inquest proceedings? And why was this neglect allowed to pass as a matter of course?

The police authorities have now been placed in charge of an investigation into the facts and circumstances of the case. It is to be hoped that their inquiry will be searching and complete so far as the identity and cause of death of the unfortunate

victim is concerned. But there is another inquiry—an inquiry fraught with even graver significance, which public sentiment demands. That is the fixing of the responsibility for the escape and failure to recapture the victim, and for the utter disregard of essential duties which seems to have characterized the actions of officials whose responsibility it was to take charge of proceedings following the discovery of the remains on October 20th last. This investigation should be undertaken by the Government at once. It should be placed in the hands of an impartial and competent tribunal. And let the facts be revealed!

The Canadian Silk Industry

Premier Bennett's emergency tariff, which has stimulated an important range of Canadian industries, has been particularly effective in the impulse it has given to the production of silk goods, and especially of silk stockings in Canadian mills. Recently the New York Sun sent a special staff writer to Canada to investigate and report upon the effects of the new tariff on American export trade to this Dominion. With respect to the silk industry he has made a very definite report to his paper. He writes: "A mill owner of New England came to Montreal a few days ago with a grievance and a tale of woe. He was the head of a concern manufacturing artificial silk, and he had specialized in women's stockings. During the last two years the entire output of one of his mills had been exported to Canada with a reasonable profit to himself and his partners. By efficiency of management and mass production he had been able to quote a lower price for his product than could the Canadian manufacturer. He almost controlled the supply of cheap grade stockings which retailed in department stores at about 60 cents a pair. These he supplied to the stores at \$2 a dozen, absorbing the old duty of 35 per cent and underbidding the home producer. His exports last year amounted to nearly 150,000 pairs, and he had made plans to increase this amount to at least 250,000 pairs."

This trade has been stopped owing to the operation of the revised tariff. The Granby silk mill, located at Granby, Quebec, has announced that it has begun to enlarge its plant by 42 looms, that it has further expansion in prospect and that it contemplates the establishment of a new industry at Drummondville for the manufacture of artificial silk socks and stockings. Nearly 20 inquiries are reported to date from Ohio, and 8 from New England, asking for information with respect to the establishment of branches of United States factories in Canada for the production of silk goods.

The number of silk factories already operating in Canada is sixteen, and the capital investment in this industry is approximately \$26,000,000. The number of employees is slightly under 4,000, including men, women and girls. Their output last year was valued at \$6,258,556, including 80,000 dozen pairs of silk stockings. For the same year, the importations of silk stockings amounted to 504,103 pairs, of which 381,608 pairs came from the United States, the balance coming from Britain, Germany and Italy. It is therefore evident that there is considerable room for expansion on the basis of the home market demand, for the productive capacity of the Canadian silk industry. It is also obvious that such expansion is already well under way. The enactment of the emergency tariff was a good day's work for Canada.

Editorial Notes

With both houses of Congress divided on a fifty-fifty basis between Republicans and Democrats, no radical legislation is likely to be enacted at Washington from March 1931 to March 1933. The prospects of a two years' party tie are not promising in the way of an early return of business prosperity in the United States. The election could hardly have had a worse result for the country at large.

Notes By The Way

It will be in keeping with its general policy of national protection. The Bennett Government places some restrictions upon the excessive circulation of United States publications in this country. Some of these publications are of such a character that they should not be admitted at all. Others exercise a prejudicial denationalizing influence upon Canadians. Still others are nothing more than so-called magazines for the advertising of the national products of the United States. These magazines are peddled about the streets of Canadian cities and sold at a price that will not begin to pay for the white paper, to say nothing of expressage or postage and cost of selling. By actual count the advertising matter in some of these magazines made up of a hundred pages or more occupies three times as much space as the reading matter. This reading matter is not objectionable in all cases, but the most of it cannot be said to have any very great literary merit. It would seem that such publications should be taxed as advertising matter, which it really is.

The Right Hon. Arthur Henderson, British Foreign Minister, recently found it necessary to "hide" the Soviet Ambassador in London for not living up to the agreement under which diplomatic relations were renewed, that there would be no spreading of Bolshevik propaganda. Did he really expect that the Soviet would honor any agreement which suited them better to break?

Most of us today are always talking about what we are going to do, about what other people ought to do, about what the government ought to do, instead of getting on with our jobs. If we concentrated on doing our jobs instead of denouncing the politicians or the trade unions, we should be doing far more for ourselves and for the state. If the trade unions concentrated less upon battling for their imaginary rights and more upon stimulating production, they would be carrying out far more effectively their duty of protecting and helping the working classes. If the politicians made less use for party purposes of the state of trade and concentrated upon removing the barriers to business and carrying on the government of the country, they would be far more efficiently and honestly carrying out their "mandate" from the country. The crisis of today calls on British men and women to get on with their daily jobs, to cease debating and start doing—to concentrate upon the ideal of mere business, less politics.

The London Observer, discussing the gravity of the political situation in England and the insecurity of the Labor Government's tenure of office, submits that Lloyd George "might be a great power yet," but "he does not want to be Prime Minister." Many people are inclined to dismiss Lloyd George as a "has been"; others, like the Observer, look upon him as a promising "might be"; but it is something new to read of him as a "don't-want-to-be."

Mr. Ralph H. Webb, mayor of Winnipeg has started out on a nation-wide campaign against the Communists. He wants them cleared out, and he will ask the federal Government to undertake the task. It is said that the leaders of the Reds that he is sharpening his knife. He is not so much against the men in the ranks, who "do not know what it is all about," but he is determined that the country shall rid itself of the leaders who continually inflame them. He will ask that all these leaders be deported from the country, after having their finger-prints and photographs registered, so that they can never return. Mr. Webb has, of course, in mind that hot summer when the Communists of Winnipeg took over the city and ran it for some weeks. He is also stirred by the recent trouble in Fort William, where the Reds were held in check only with the aid of a detachment of Royal Northwest Mounted Police, assisted by a number of armed citizens. There can be no doubt that Mr. Webb has grasped the kernel of the situation. The real Communists are a small minority in Canada, but the few leaders diligently travel from place to place, sowing the seeds of rebellion among unemployed men. The country would be healthier without these agents of the Soviet Republic.

There are more than half a million British women on the dole, says the Toronto Daily Express. All over the country can be heard the wail of the housewife seeking servants and finding them not. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Labor sanctions the importation of foreign girls, at the rate of four thousand a year, to do the cooking and the household work that our girls refuse to do.

Education does not begin until one is 25 and continues until 85, if it ends at all, says a British novelist. Tell to its fancied superiority.

The 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.

ISLAND ROADS

Sir:—Doubtless you are aware, that since paving has been started on route 1 just west of Saint Dunstons University, all traffic going into Charlottetown from points in the western part of the Province, must pass over the North River road, which leads into Brighton. As a result this road has been subject to a large increase in wear and tear, during the last month or so. Nevertheless no scrap-iron or road machine has been put on that section of road above mentioned, until today it is worth the price of the average car to drive on it. The travelling public are at a loss to understand such neglect on the part of the proper authorities, especially this time of year when the roads are damp enough, that scraping could be done to good advantage.

An explanation if possible from you, or someone that could give it, as to why this work has not been done, and who is responsible, would be greatly appreciated, by those travelling in cars to Charlottetown from the western end of the Province. I am Sir, etc.

AUTOIST

Commersteride

The Moral Of It

(Vancouver Province) Macaulay's famous New Zealander, after he has gazed upon the ruins of St. Paul's from London Bridge, will very likely cross the Atlantic. Perhaps he will sit in the decayed portico of the White House, noting how the golden afternoon sunlight falls softly upon the broken pillars of the Capitol, and reflecting sadly that Democracy, on both sides of the Atlantic, was a great thing while it lasted. If his mind goes back to the congressional election of 1930, for instance, what will he be likely to make of it?

Even with the advantage of hindsight, it would not be surprising if Macaulay's New Zealander could make little more of the 1930 election than the men who were in it are making. Apparently it is never the present election which matters in the United States nowadays, but only the next one. Already, before the returns of Tuesday's polling are all counted, the political pundits of the great Republic are weighing its probable consequences in the election of 1932. For that matter, they had made up their minds about November, 1930, and had appraised and discounted, in advance of the event, the event was foreseen; it came off strictly according to the predictions. The amazing thing about it is that the pundits always seem to know pretty well what is going to happen down there on election day, to do over what to make of it, or what to do about it, after it has happened.

We shall not pursue the familiar comparison between the British and American political systems afforded by Tuesday's election, although nothing could better illustrate it. The people of the United States, no matter how the vast machine of their politics creaks at times, show no disposition to scrap it. From our British point of view, it is neither logical nor desirable that a regime should remain in office after it had suffered a vote of no-confidence from the people—but then, Lord only knows, and not to be too complacent about it, we Britishers are not very strong on logical politics ourselves. Let us leave the amazement to Macaulay's New Zealander, if that faculty is not atrophied in him.

The people of the United States have voted no-confidence in the administration of President Hoover, but that regime has got to carry on for another two years, will carry on, and will turn the situation to its own partisan advantage if it can. That is not to say that the Republican party is not a good patriot, but only that it will do what is inevitable under the political system which the genius of the American people has developed out of all the traditions of which they are the heirs. There is going to be as near a party deadlock in both Houses of Congress as makes no matter of difference. There is going to be a resulting party window dressing in Congress, with no other object than its effect upon the election of 1932. There is going to be two years of partisan tactics, with neither side able to do very much without the consent of the other, and with each hopeful—since blame is likely to be more plentiful than praise for commission and omission both—that it

can shift the onus to the other rascals. This is not exactly the picture of a great civilization at its political best, but it is nothing to despair about. Let us leave the moral of it, once more, to Macaulay's New Zealander, content ourselves to affirm that Democracy, for all the creaking of its machinery, still seems to be the most promising experiment in human government.

The Poets' Corner

AD ASTRA

(On the wreck of R-101)

Swift was our ship; but man's unslayable soul Is swifter. Had we lived, we might have seen Egypt tonight; but we have reached our goal.

There is no swiftness of your earth or air But seems a frozen sleep compared with ours; Nor does man move in voyaging elsewhere;

For his true voyage is of another kind, Far beyond India's glittering dome and towers; And often, when the body's clocked machine Throbs upon earth, his eagle-pinioned mind, Careless of this world's winter and its rage, Unconcerned into a time region springs.

We, also, have escaped the broken cage. We have reached our goal, on those invisible wings.

—Alfred Noyes, in the London Daily Telegraph.



Dr. James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Yours

FOOD AFTER AN ILLNESS

I have spoken before about a patient who came to me with the request that I try and increase his weight. Although of average height he weighed about 90 pounds.

I advised him to continue the food he was already eating, but to add two eggs and one quart of milk daily, that is one pint of milk and one raw egg at 11 a. m. and at 4 p. m. At the end of a month he had gained two pounds, and I thought that was a fair gain considering that he hadn't gained anything in two years.

However he was not satisfied and told me he was going to a distant city to eat a certain type of bread. Returning three months later he called on me and I was certainly surprised and pleased at his appearance as he had gained over thirty pounds.

I told him that it must be a wonderful bread that could not only put on such an amount of weight, but give him such a good appearance. "As a matter of fact" he said "I only ate the bread twice in three months, but I drank 6 to 8 quarts of milk and ate 18 to 20 raw eggs every day."

Now why did eggs and milk make such a difference in this man's body? Why shouldn't he have eaten the fattening foods—vegetables and bread?

Because his body was broken down and needed repairing. And only one class of food can do a real job in building up solid muscles and tissue. And that food is protein. Protein is what you find in meat and eggs; it also occupies one third of the solid part of milk.

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33 Shopping Days To Christmas

In other words there are 33 days before that "Day of Giving"—the wise shoppers will start making the rounds of THE METROPOLITAN STORE NOW, in order to escape the customary crush of that busy season. Then, take into consideration another advantage, at this season. The Metropolitan Store has a stock on hand which has not been gone over by eager throngs, and that which is best, purchased by gift seekers.

START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING NOW AT THE Metropolitan Store 148 St. George St.



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE OTTAWA, CANADA

November 15th, 1930.

To Government Departments, Municipal Councils, Public Utility Commissions, School Boards, etc., Everywhere in Canada.

Keep Tax Collections Circulating at Home!

A certain Canadian municipality that shall be nameless is now spending large sums of money on improvements of one kind or another, for the express purpose of providing work for its unemployed. Only a year ago that same municipality refused to sanction the use of Canadian stone for an important building it was putting up on the ground that imported stone was cheaper.

The incident is typical of that peculiar situation that all public bodies are occasionally confronted with, where duty calls in two different directions at the same time. In this case there was the urge to specify Canadian artisans; on the other hand there was the urge to remain faithful to a trust, and to buy for the tax-payers in the cheapest market. And the die was cast in favour of the tax-payers!

But was it a worth-while victory for the tax-payers? If that same municipality were to be confronted with the same problem to-day, would it decide it in the same way? I venture to think not! For every dollar it saved itself last year by refusing to give Canadian labour first call, it is spending hundreds of dollars this year to create jobs for Canada's unemployed!

One cannot help wondering whether most of the emergency construction programme, now in full swing across Canada, could not have been obviated if those responsible for the letting of public contracts in the past few years had shown less concern about saving the tax-payers a few dollars on the purchase of materials, and more concern about keeping the collections from those tax-payers circulating in Canada. In the calendar year 1929 alone, the construction expenditures in Canada for hospitals, schools, public buildings, bridges, dams, wharves, sewers, water mains, road building and street paving aggregated \$145,000,000. How much of that was spent outside of Canada, for imported materials, it is hard to say. But even if it were only 10 per cent, it would have meant a sum equal to almost three-quarters of the appropriation which the Dominion Government voted two months ago for emergency undertakings to relieve unemployment!

With the lessons of the past fresh in our minds, and with to-day's grim reminder of what our neglect of an important responsibility is costing us, surely the time is opportune to suggest that you pass a resolution calling for the insertion, in all future contracts, of a clause stipulating that nothing but Canadian materials shall be used, provided that permission to use imported materials may be granted where sufficient cause is shown.

Many municipalities have long made a practice of stipulating that for such labour as may have to be employed directly on the job, local labour shall be given first call. That is only as it should be. But if it is desirable to employ local labour directly on the job itself, isn't it equally desirable to give as much indirect employment to local labour as possible by using materials that have been produced locally? And if the necessary materials are not procurable in the locality, isn't it then desirable, from the standpoint of developing the home market, to procure them from the nearest point in Canada where they are to be had in the quality, in the quantity, and within the time desired?

I am not suggesting that you should deprive yourselves of the advantage of foreign competition in the purchase of materials. Foreign competition must be allowed to play its part, if only to protect you in the enjoyment of fair prices. But I do suggest that other things being equal, or nearly equal, you see to it that Canadian materials always receive the preference.

And if you are in any doubt as to whether your ratepayers would approve such action, just spend an hour some day ringing up those whose opinions you would value!

Very sincerely yours,

A. H. Stevens Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Now as some of us are so badly run, speaking about the use of foods that illness says: "During the period when the patient is recovering from an illness, no matter what the illness was, This is worth remembering.

For the Man Who Cannot Smoke At Work

CHEW:-



JUST WHAT YOU WANT IN PIPES

Something new in Pipes—the latest styles of the best quality. A cool pleasure giving smoke guaranteed.

THESE PIPES SELL FOR 98c—A real up-to-date Pipe reduced in our introductory sale.

THE BOWLS OF THESE PIPES ARE GUARANTEED, with fair usage, not to burn out within one year—if so we replace the Pipe.

Look over our higher priced Pipes we have a full line, moderately priced.

The Two Macs

148 St. George St.