THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1934.

CAR INDUSTRY BOOMS

The substantial increase in the number of cars in the city and Province this summer is a matter of general note. Registration at the Provincial Secretary's office to date shows 5,725 car licenses, 672 truck licenses, and 20 motor cycle licenses taken out, representing a considerable advance over previous years. Car dealers also report increasing business, which is in line with the latest report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This report states that retail sales of new passenger cars, trucks and buses for May show an increase of 79.8 per cent in numbers and 89.9 per cent in sales, as compared with May 1933. The figures are compiled from reports of nineteen companies whose sales comprise over 90 per cent of total Canadian sales. They show a truly surprising pickup in the automobile business over last year. While sales by provinces are not given, there is every reason to suppose that this Province has shared in the general pickup. In fact, the number of cars seen daily on the streets of Charlottetown this summer, most of them of Island registration, prove that we are keeping well abreast of the times in automotive transportation.

"THE GRIT GLOBE"

Under the above heading the Eastern Chronicle, of which Mr. Don F. Fraser, Liberal M.L.A., New Glasgow, is managing editor, commends the Globe for its part in electing "the Hepburn party" to power in Ontario. It recalls that up in Ontario, the Toronto Globe was for a century the great Liberal organ, and then it began to slip until politically it was neither 'fish, flesh nor good red herring.'" Our New Glasgow Liberal contemporary rejoices in the hope that "the Globe will now likely be a good boy for a time."

The fact is, however, that the Globe was never more loyal to its party than when it criticised, as it frequently did, the attitude of its leader, Mr. Mackenzie King, towards such issues as were involved in the Empire trade agreements. In standing by traditional Liberal principles it incurred the spleen of partisan politicians and newspapers within its party; our local contemporary, for example, going so far as to repudiate the Globe altogether as a Liberal newspaper. However, now that the Globe is back in partisan harness, at least so far as provincial politics in Ontario is concerned, there is general rejoicing as over the return of a prodigal. Nor will the fatted calf be lacking at the feast, in the shape of the Hydro Commission chairmanship for the Globe's director and former editor, Mr. T. Stewart Lyon.

TOWARDS RECOVERY

The Canadian Government, notes the current monthly letter of the Royal Bank of Canada, recently introduced two bills in Parliament designed to speed recovery. The amendment to the Dominion Notes Act will permit the government to ease the money market and prevent undue depreciation in the pound sterling and the United States dollar. The act to provide for the construction and improvement of certain public works and undertakings throughout Canada should give a substantial impetus to the building industry. Since Canada has not been hampered by unreasonable legislation concerning securities the expansion of the currency involved in the first of these two acts should tend to improve the security markets, making them more receptive to new issues. In Great Britain there has been a large volume of new financing in the last two years and the influence of this new financing has been an important element in the rapid recovery which is taking place in that country.

FOXES IN NORWAY

The turnover during 1933 of silver fox skins sold through the Norwegian Silver Fox Association totalled $938,000 at par, writes Mr. S. G. MacDonald, Assistant Trade Commissioner in Oslo, in the Commercial Intelligence Journal. The average price received amounted to $42.88 per skin a fall of $10.72 from the previous year. The association reports an increased membership of 20 per cent over 1932. Silver fox farming during 1932 and 1933 has been on a very much better basis than during previous years, as with few exceptions among the larger fox farmers the raising of breeding stock as distinct from stock for pelts is greatly curtailed, while the assistance given by the Government fox experimental farm is proving of great value to all fox farmers, most of whom a few years ago had no previous experience. The influx of imported animals for breeding stock, particularly from Canada, which was of importance during the first eight or ten years after the Great War, has during recent years almost entirely ceased. During 1933 the Norwegian auctions proved a success, with buyers coming in fairly large numbers from Great Britain, Germnay, and a number of other European countries.

THEN WHAT?

The Toronto Globe characterizes as "a shameful confession," the official report that in the riots in Portsmouth Penitentiary, in which guards were defied and rooms set on fire, no shots were fired "at" the inmates, "but some eleven in all" were fired into the ceiling to bring the disturbers to a proper way of thinking. Then The Globe asks if one of these shots had "accidentally" killed or maimed a convict what? That, (comments the Montreal Gazette), is one question, but there is also the question of what might have happened had the rioters not been brought to a proper way of thinking. The buildings might have been destroyed by the fires then raging and the peaceful inmates might have perished with the belligerent ones. Then what? In a prison, when words fail, strong measures may be necessary even in the "guests'" interest.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tommorrow, camp Sunday.

When we read at the top or a Saturday-for-Sunday editorial "contributed," we feel the editor is "passing the buck."

Sure the unemployed committee used no honeyed words in describing their interviews with City Councillors.

After all are not the words of public men used largely to hide their thoughts. Not infrequently, too, in inverse ratio.

The worst that may be said of immigrants like Brigadier-General Ross and Premier Reid of Saskatchewan is that they are "an ever present help in time of trouble."

Premier MacMillan says the School Board has discussed for years the desirability of supervised playgrounds but has never been able to carry out the proposal. Yet a new comer to the city, with some get-up-to him, "has been able to carry out the proposal" in a few months. The School Board should feel ashamed.

Old Mother England, ever vigilant and tirelessly persistent, did not allow her diplomacy to be interrupted by Hitler's bloody Berlin holiday, and so we are told that British bondholders will be paid interest on the Dawes and Young loans despite the moratorium. In other words, Baldwin has called Hitler's bluff.

Toronto dearly loves the bizarre. It is reported that at the recent Centennial celebration at the Exhibition Park, 100 young men and women in their 21st year, with arms uplifted a la Fascists, dedicated themselves to work in peace and harmony for the common good of the country, Mayor Stewart administering a special oath of fidelity in the following terms: "I will observe and uphold the laws of this city, of Ontario and of Canada; I will respect and obey all persons responsible for the administration of our public affairs; I will endeavor to see that justice is meted out fairly to all; I will strive in all ways to do my duty as a citizen of Canada and a British subject; I will love my neighbor, fear God and honor the King."

Troubles never come singly. If we are to accept the opinion of the Royal College of Surgeons a neuter sex is gradually being developed. Dr. L. R. Broster, the Charing Cross Hospital surgeon associated with cases of sexual abnormality in a Hunterian lecture delivered before the Royal College of Surgeons suggested the possibility that we are spectators of an evolutionary process drifting into a neuter sex. After describing 75 cases of girls and women who developed secondary male sex characters and who were operated upon by the removal of the adrenal glands, Dr. Broster says his study suggests the condition is not a disease, but a definite deviation from normal evolutionary proceses. "The presence of the adreno-genital syndrome in man is a retrograde movement since it tends towards the intersex type. Is it stationary, receding, or increasing? he asked If the latter, then we may be the innocent spectators of an evolutionary process drifting slowly and inevitably into the neuter state. Too many minds, content with their lot and unaware of these abnormalities in others, decry this so called tampering with nature. Theirs is a selfish attitude, but in clinical science there is a spirit of altruism which aims at projecting our acquisitions to the betterment of the human race."

Notes By The Way

Philadelphia Inquirer: The British decision to suspend payments on the war debts was received with a degree of calmness which indicated that many Americans considered this result inevitable. It was made so by the persistent refusal of Congress to consider any reduction of the debts and by the Johnson Act, which overrode the President's opinion that a small payment on account should be considered a default. Chancellor of the Exchequer Chamberlain said in the House of Commons that the British Government had no idea of repudiating its obligations and that, but for the Johnson Act, it would have made another token payment at this time. This makes it clear that the only chance of salvaging part of the loans is through negotiation of a reasonable settlement, which may be undertaken when Congress is willing to face the realities of the situation.

We enjoy the blessings of liberty as a matter of course. Europe brings us back to a realization of the value of the boon when we see what happens when it is withheld; when secret police and mob violence create such a reign of terror that a man is afraid to speak to his neighbors or even to the members of his own family, and when even a lack of zeal for the tyranny may expose him to suspicion. We need to exercise the vigilance which is the price of liberty. There are even in free countries lovers of tyranny who hanker after Nazi or Fascist methods, who are enemies of free speech and would make spies of the police. Against all such assaults on liberty we must be on our guard.

As a matter of fact there is no such a thing as a "good" report of a speech, except it be given word for word. The speaker who recognises that and condoles with the young man who is almost bound in a summary to not achieve perfection, will make hay with newspapermen.

Here is humanity living on the earth, but with the haziest idea of what the earth consists of; yet there is no hesitation in explaining the composition of the mighty universe and the operations of the mysterious heavenly bodies. After all, we are merely skimmering about on the surface of things. We strut our brief span on the crust of the earth, knowing only that we are enjoying here for a time the gift of life and, alas! making a sorry muddle of the gift, too often. What is beneath our feet we do not understand in the least; so how can anybody be dogmatic about what is not only far above our bodies but also of our minds? The fate of the finite in the infinite is to be forever groping without any prospect of measuring the length, the breadth and the height. The most that the greatest human intellec can say is: "In Nature's infinite book of secrecy a little can I read."

Christian Science Monitor: We live in a world today that has just awakened from a sleep, from a dream of false prosperity, easy riches and unearned ease. We are facing realities today. And the reality is that riches and honor come not for the asking, that prosperity to be lasting must be founded upon honest endeavor and positive values.

With the greater part of the world engaged in trade wars with other parts it is encouraging to learn of the treaty of commercial peace arranged between Great Britain and France. Without making a big time about, it is a very distinct British victory; and it is to be hoped that the rest of the world will note that Great Britain has the power to force those who discriminate against her to come to terms. There is not the slightest fear that Great Britain will use this power unfairly; indeed it is probable that she could not do so even in the unlikely event that she were so inclined, because the whole of her trade policy is built on the principle of fair trade as free as it can be made.

Hitler's storm troopers seem quite determined that class distinction shall cease in Germany. In Hamburg the other day bands of troopers tore door plates labelled "For visitors only" from the front doors, and now, so far as Nazi authorities are concerned, the iceman and the grocer's boy may enjoy front-door and parlor privileges.

Speaking of the holiday season now with us. There is something in Mark Twain's verdict that there is only one better way of spending a holiday than lying under a tree with a book, and this is to lie under a tree without a book.

Who was the greatest benefactor of mankind? This question was raised in England recently, and the answers have been legion. It is an interesting question and one that is capable of much discussion. A distinguished Englishman, Sir Charles Grant Robertson, educator and historian, in his answer believes that the question should be divided into whether benefaction consists of physical or mental benefit. He says that William Shakespeare was the great mental benefactor of the human race. He says that Pasteur was the great physical benefactor. But the question then arose, which of these two is greater? Does alleviation of man's bodily ills equal the mental stimulus from genius? Indeed, an interesting question.—Boston Post.

A desire to build for beauty as well as for utility dominates the German program calling for about 4,000 miles of federal automobile roads. Straight stretches of more than two or three miles will be avoided wherever possible to route motorists to attractive scenes. The standard road width is 72 feet, in the middle of which is a strip 10 to 16 feet wide to be planted with shrubs to reduce headlight glare and present attractive vistas.

People I Knew-

Professionally and Otherwise

BY F.J.I.

THE ABBOT OF FORT AUGUSTUS

Two distinguished soldiers who subsequently entered the priesthood and rose to high position in the Church were Captain Butler, whom I knew as the Roman Catholic Bishop of British Guiana, and Captain David Hunter-Blair who became Abbot of Fort Augustus and is now titular Abbot of Dunfemine. I met the Right Rev. Sir David Hunter-Blair, Bt. of Blairquhan, Ayrshire, only once when in 1895, I think we both were visitors at Blair's Catholic College, near Aberdeen, on the occasion of an ordination ceremony. My eldest brother, an M.A. and B.D. of Aberdeen University and B.A. of Oxford was at the time teacher of elocution at Blair's Catholic College, and it was through him I had the opportunity of being present at the ceremony. For many years Blairs was (and still is) one of the foremost colleges of its kind in Scotland, students going there from all parts to take their initial training for the priesthood, the concluding portion being given at Coutences in France. Aberdeen and France have always been closely connected and associated in both education and commerce, France being to Aberdeen what the New England States are to the Maritimes.

Father Hunter-Blair was at that time Rector of the Abbey Catholic School, Fort Augustus and was evidently taking what is known as a "bus man's holiday" by visiting a similar institution. He had not then succeeded to the baronetcy. Before entering the priesthood Father Hunter-Blair, who had been educated at Eton and Oxford, was a Captain in the Ayrshire Militia, and a Private Chamberlain of The Sword and Cloak to His Holiness Pope Pius IX and His Holiness Leo XIII. He entered the Benedictine order in 1878, was ordained priest in 1886 becoming Rector of Fort Augustus Abbey School four years later. He went on a special mission to Brazil in 1896, and afterwards was licensed as Master of Hunter-Blair Hall, Oxford, one of the colleges of the University, which he presented and endowed. After his retirement from that position he was blessed-in Abbot of Fort Augustus in 1913, holding office till 1917, when he resigned and was created titular Abbot of Dunfemine, but still residing at Fort Augustus.

It was the Benedictine Order that originally converted the English to the Christian Faith, and St. Augustine, Archbishop of Canterbury, was a Benedictine. In earlier times Fort Augustus had been built as a bulwark against the Jacobites who destroyed it in 1746. It was subsequently restored, and acquired by Lord Lovat who in 1876 presented it to the Benedictines. That order converted it into a college, monastery and hospice, one of the finest ecclesiastical structures in Scotland.

Fr. Hunter-Blair as Rector of the Abbey School gave it great distinction and laid the foundation of one of the finest educational institutions in Scotland, the college being associated with Glasgow University for degrees.

A list of some of the more important works published by the Right Rev. Sir David Hunter-Blair follows:

"The Rule of our Most Holy Father St. Benedict"; "History of the Catholic Church in Scotland"; "A Royal and Christian Soul"; "A Medley of Memories"; "John Patrick, 3rd Marquess of Bute," "Flying Leaves". "A New Medley of Memories"; "Memories and Musings"; "More Memories and Musings"; besides seventy eight articles in the Catholic Encyclopaedia.

The solemn and impressive ceremony of ordination in the Chapel of Blair's College, the first of the kind I ever attended, consisted of the raising of two young ex-students from the office of deacon to priesthood. The ordination ceremony formed part of the Pontifical High Mass, which was celebrated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Chisholm of Aberdeen with the Rector of Fort Augustus College as assistant priest. The Rector of Blair's and all the priest professors of Blair's took part. The impressiveness of the occasion was enhanced by the presence in the body of the chapel of the young Blair students in their cassocks and surplices, as the ceremony they were witnessing represented the climax to which they were looking forward, of the years of study then still before them. In contrast to the rich vestments worn by the Bishop and others of the clergy, the two ordinands, at the outset, wore only the stole over the alb—a full length vestment of white linen. The stole hung from one shoulder only. In the course of his charges to the ordinands, the Bishop extorted them to let their conduct be the outcome of a chaste and holy life, and to let their preaching be a spiritual remedy for God's people, so that both by preaching and example they might build up the house of God. With the two ordinands before him, the Bishop laid his hands on their heads, and all the priests present, moving in procession within the sanctuary, did the same. The Bishop then adjusted the stole on each, as representing the yoke of the Lord. The Bishop next charged them to receive the outer vestiment, the chasuble, which was placed on each as representing charity, and while the college choir sang "Veni Creator Spiritus" he annointed the palm of their hands in consecration for their sacred office. Lastly the Bishop presented to each a chalice with a paten and host upon it, thereby conferring upon them the power to offer sacrifice and celebrate Mass. From that point onwards the newly ordained priests celebrated the Mass with the Bishop, and at the appropriate time professed their faith which they were thenceforth to preach, by reciting the Apostle's Creed. It was a moving ceremony from beginning to end, not the least of whch was the offering of congratulations to the young priests by their parents and friends who were present in the limited public space available in the college chapel. It left a never-to-be-forgotten impression upon my youthful mind, recalled the other day when I saw it recorded that the venerable Abbot had entered upon his eighty second year, the fifty-seventh of his entering the Benedictine Order, and the forty-eighth of his ordination to the priesthood.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

TESTING THE SKIN FOR THE CAUSES OF ECZEMA

Some years ago it was said that being a skin specialist was about the best profession possible as the patient never dies and he never gets better.

Some one else says that a skin specialist could call every skin ailment eczema and be right most of the time as more than half of skin ailments are eczema.

However calling a skin ailment eczema, does not get at the cause of it and so naturally does not get at the cure either.

One of the methods of finding the cause of certain cases of skin irritation of an eczema-like character is by what is known as the patch test.

Drs. Samuel Ayres, Jr., and Nelson Paul Anderson in the Annals of Internal Medicine, emphasize the advantages of the patch test in finding the cause of certain skin irritations by reporting 24 cases of skin eczema in which the cause was found by means of the patch test.

By very careful questioning they narrowed down the list of probable causes and then applied the test in the following manner. Every effort should be made to obtain the exact conditions under which the irritation took place. If the substance is a chemical it should be applied in about the same dilution to which the patient has been previously exposed. Leaves of shrubs or plants should be as fresh as possible. Dry powders may be moistened with water.

The substance to be tested is placed on a small square of cotton about the size of a postage stamp which is then applied to the front of the forearm, or other suitable place, and covered with a square of some air and water tight material such as cellophane or oiled silk, which should be about four times as large as the spot being tested. This outer covering is then held firmly in place by wide strips of adhesive tape.

The test patch is allowed to remain undisturbed for 24 hours unless it is necessary to remove it before this time.

If the tested substance is the cause of the eczema there will be a square of redness exactly the size and shape of the patch.

Little pimples and blisters are usually present resembling the original skin ailment for which the patient is being tested.

The Poets' Corner

SONNET

The forward violet thus did I chide:
Sweet thief, whence didst thou steal thy sweet that smells,
If not from my love's breath? The purple pride
Which on thy soft cheek for complexion dwells,
In my love's veins thou hast too grossly dy'd.
The lily I condemned for thy hand,
And buds of marjoram had stolen thy hair:
The roses fearfully on thorns did stand,
One blushing shame, another white despair;
A third, nor red nor white, had stolen of both,
And to his robbery had annex'd thy breath;
But for his theft, in pride of all his growth
A vengeful canker eat him up to death.
More flowers I noted, yet I none could see,
But sweet or colour it had stolen from thee.

—Shakespeare.

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.

POLITICAL HISTORY, NO. 4

Sr,—In my last letter a typographical drop out of a "t" transformed my word "immortal" into "immoral". too serious to pass uncorrected.

Following the 1891 election, events justified Sir John A. Macdonald's immortal prediction, — "After me the deluge". The one Liberal hope—disintegration within the Conservative ranks—commenced to function. Racial and religious prejudices commenced to creep into the otherwise solid compact. And there is no canker more dangerous and insiduous in governing bodies than bigotry and fanaticism.

Sir J. J. C. Abbott who succeeded as Premier after Sir John A. Macdonald's death, a man of wealth but of retiring disposition, did not wish to hold a position to which he had no ambition, and because of poor health he resigned. He was succeeded by Sir John S. D. Thompson, a Roman Catholic of great ability who, had he lived would have held office as Prime Minister for many years. It was Canada's misfortune when this able and popular administrator died suddenly in London when paying an official visit to her beloved Majesty Queen Victoria.

Following Sir John Thompson, Sir Mackenzie Bowell led the Government for a little over a year, up to April 1896. About this period there arose what political propaganda scattered as the story of, — The nest of traitors." Premier Bowell was at that time head of The Orange Order in Canada. There was sufficient of bigotry in those days to use this as an influence to undermine the Conservative support, more particularly in Quebec, their greatest stronghold, and further foment internal differences within the party. "United we stand, divided we fall", was as true in politics as in other lines of effort; and division within Conservative ranks was the one last hope of the Liberal Party.

An election was then inevitable. To clear the decks for action was imperative. A patched trust to internal strife resulted in a call to Sir Charles Tupper, when High Commissioner in Great Britain and of acknowledged ability, to the premiership. With only a few months before the election, he was handicapped for time to prepare. The call came too late to achieve its purpose. There was no trade policy in sight. Conservatives had only the brilliant record of Sir John Macdonald and their magnificent building of Canada's admitted progress and prosperity upon which to appeal to the electorate. Gratitude and memory are both short lived, and in this it was abundantly proved.

There was however an election issue. The Manitoba Greenway Government had legislated a public school policy. Roman Catholics were urgent in demand for separate schools, particularly as far as it included those of their own faith. The larger bulk of Conservative support in Canada was of this faith. To retain this support and avert disaffectation in Quebec. Sir Charles announced a policy of "Remedial Legislation" to preserve the rights of the minority.

Adroitly Leader Laurier took an attitude partly of negation, but of assurance that in fraternal influence with his political confrere Greenway a compromise agreeable to both sides would be secured. Secret messages went to great industrialists that the National Policy would not be interfered with. Measuring the attitude of both leaders on the one issue, the influences which worked inimical to the Bowell Ministry, were fanned into life, Laurier, himself a Catholic, was commendable to his own people, many Protestants leaned to what appeared the least of two evils, with the result that pure luck placed the Liberal party in power, that luck and accident which for so long a time they had longed for and waited.

Sir Wilfrid (shortly after being knighted) developed into a most astute leader. Realizing that permanency depended upon solidity he at the outset aimed to create a Cabinet of the ablest in his party in Canada. For this he appointed Hon. W. S. Fielding, Premier of N.S., as Finance Minister, Hon. A. G. Blair, Premier of New Brunswick, Minister of Railways, Hon. Frank Oliver of B. C. Minister of Interior, Sir Wm. Mulock, Ontario as Postmaster General, Hon. Wm. Paterson ,Toronto, Minister of Customs, the famed Isreal Tarte of Quebec, Minister of Public Works and Sydney Fisher of Brome, Quebec as Minister of Agriculture.

In my next I will review the Laurier record and the logic of its period of admitted success.

I am, Sir, etc.,
POLITICAL STUDENT

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