

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 1934

MR. KING'S "POLICY"

Notwithstanding all that has been done by the Bennett Government in the way of unemployment relief contributions to every Province in the Dominion, the Liberal organ says "there has never been any definite policy on relief and unemployment such as has been urged by the Liberal leader Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King for the past four years."

Mr. Mackenzie King's attitude on unemployment relief is to be judged, not by what he urged in Opposition, but by what he said as Prime Minister of Canada when confronted with the same problem before going out of office in 1930. On that occasion from his seat in the House of Commons, he read five of the Provinces of Canada out of Confederation with his declaration, first that he would not give "a single cent," and later "not five cents" of Federal revenue to aid any Province in which a Conservative government was in power.

For days public leaders throughout the Dominion, Liberal as well as Conservative, refused to believe Mr. King had laid down such a policy, more particularly because he was dealing with the hunger-stricken victims of unemployment when he announced it. But his statement, as reported by the Canadian Press, was amply confirmed by the Hansard report of April 3, which stands to his everlasting discredit, and which, if he were possessed of any shame, should effectually seal his lips against any criticism of what the Bennett Government has striven to do for the unemployed of every Province, irrespective of political affiliation. We quote this passage from Hansard, now that the question of Mr. King's attitude on unemployment relief has again been raised. It reads as follows:

Mr. Mackenzie King: "So far as giving money from this federal treasury to provincial governments is concerned, in relation to this question of unemployment as it exists today, I might be prepared to go a certain length possibly in meeting one or two of the western provinces that have Progressive premiers at the head of their governments—"

Some hon. Members: "Oh!" Mr. Mackenzie King: "But I would not give a single cent to any Tory government."

Mr. Bennett: "Shame!" Mr. Stevens: "Shame!" Mr. Mackenzie King: "Do my hon. friends say 'shame?'" Mr. Bennett: "Yes, shame!" Mr. Mackenzie King: "What is there to be ashamed of?" Mr. Stevens: "You ought to be ashamed of that."

Mr. Mackenzie King: "My hon. friend is getting very indignant. Something evidently has got under his skin. May I repeat what I have said? With respect to giving moneys of the federal treasury to any Tory government in this country for these alleged unemployment purposes, with these governments situated as they are today, with policies diametrically opposed to those of this government, I would not give them a five-cent piece."

Well might our civic and municipal authorities ask where they would be today with their unemployment problems if Mr. King had remained in power, and his "policy"—worthy, as Hon. Mr. Guthrie exclaimed, of a Tammany leader in the lower wards of New York—had remained in effect after the defeat of the Liberal government in this Province!

HARMLESS HUMOR

Not so long ago Lord Irwin (now Lord Halifax), in an address, urged his youthful hearers to retain their sense of humor, but to take care "not to make all their jokes at the expense of the other fellow." The admonition, notes a Canadian exchange, was not unnecessary. The humorist is often inclined to allow his jokes to hit even his best friends, while if they retaliate he becomes indignant. Such a humorist is but "a poor sport." The man who cannot take a joke had better never try one on anyone else. The man who can laugh at the joke which hits himself is sure to go through life with less friction than the one who holds his own person sacred while regarding all others as legitimate objects of harmless fun. Fun ceases to be fun when it arouses ill-feeling. The moment we see that a joke is ill-timed we had better call a halt to our joking. Most of us relish most of all a joke which a wise speaker tells against himself. It does not hurt him at all in our estimation to relate how he was "caught." There are certain persons, and most estimable ones at that, who are not much disposed to be humorous, and they had better be reckoned with whenever we attempt to take. It is rather

poor fun to laugh at people who do not see the joke. Better far let us laugh with those who appreciate it, even if it is against themselves. But humor, to be at its best, must absolutely be good-natured. A small tincture of malice in it spoils it for all kindly disposed people.

WHAT WE EAT

It is interesting to know what we eat. A Western exchange has been inquiring into this question, and finds among other things Canadians consume much more pork than beef. The per capita consumption of pork in 1933 was 74 1-2 pounds which incidentally was eleven pounds less than in 1932. Consumption of beef was 56 pounds and mutton and lamb a little over six pounds. There is more chicken used than lamb, the per capita consumption in 1933 being over 7 1-2 pounds, turkey 3-4, duck, less than half a pound and goose less than one pound. The consumption of butter and cheese does not vary much, a little over thirty pounds to each person in the last few years and almost 3 1-2 pounds of cheese. But the consumption of eggs has been declining a little each year for some time. In 1930 the per capita was almost 25 dozen in 1931 slightly over 24 3-4 dozen, and in 1932 there was a drop to 23 3-4 dozen and in 1933 a still further drop to less than 21 1-2 dozen.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Half-holiday for stores. There is no lack of places to go for entertainment this afternoon.

It is time to get our Jacques Cartier program into order. Public enthusiasm cannot be stirred up at a moment's notice—it must be developed by advertisement's artful aid.

It is well Mr. T. Stewart Lyon and the Toronto Globe parted company when they did, for heretofore Mayor Stewart's strongest backing came from the Liberal organ as regards law, order and good government.

President Beatty and the members of the Board of Directors of the C.P.R. are to start from Moncton today on a tour of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. As we have no C.P.R. lines or connections this Province is not included in the itinerary.

The Governor-General is to visit officially Moncton next Wednesday when a public reception will be held at Victoria Park. There will be a procession of autos to the Park, but apart from that, there will be no demonstration or engagements for His Excellency.

The whole of the Labour Party, held together by iron discipline, is pledged to schemes of wholesale confiscation. "It is not the trade unions which make the program and direct the policy," says Lord Snowden, with great candour. "The Labour Leaders do not even pretend to be democrats."

It is a pity there was not opportunity, during C. N. R. Vice President Alistair Fraser's welcome visit, of having "conversations" over our relation to the Car Ferry. We rightly contend, however, that the Dominion Government, and not the C. N. R., is the proper authority with which we have to deal in the matter.

The fact that it has been definitely decided to hold a meeting of the Steering Committee of the Disarmament Commission at Geneva in October is heartening news, especially when it is accompanied by the announcement that a naval conference may be held at the same time to pave the way for the 1935 Naval Parley. Diplomats are working hard and disinterestedly to keep the big bad war wolf at bay.

In reference to the California situation it is well to recall what Dean Inge says about revolutions: "Those who think that the danger of revolution is negligible forget that all revolutions are made by small minorities. Lenin, with his curious frankness declared that out of every 100 of his supporters there were 60 fools, 39 criminals, and one Communist. Yet with this seemingly puny lever he was able to turn the Russian State upside down."

A most unusual situation has developed in Toronto through opposing policies of city and provincial governments. The Mayor has re-

Notes By The Way

London Daily Express: Business is picking up elsewhere. The armament industry is active. Sorry, there will be no cheers for that. . . . When those guns of admirable British workmanship go off, where will they be painted? If you look in Bedford Park you will see a notable war trophy. A gun captured from the Germans, and bearing a British trade mark. The Dardanelles were sown thick with mines, made in Britain, which blew British seamen sky high in that campaign of bloody memory. For whom are we making the shining instrument of death?

After the revolution in Russia, the Soviet decreed that young Russia must disregard everything but the Soviet program. What letter was said about the rest of the world? It was designed to convey the impression that it had made a mess of things and was no example to an up and coming civilization. Its history, its religion, its whole life was merely a blot on the white canvas of the Russian did not remain due to the doctrines of bolshevism. But Russia is now getting out into the world again. The Soviet has never hesitated to change its policy and has no regard for precedents. Now the Bolsheviks must take measures to adopt the standards and methods of the rest of the world. A new era begins.

The eerie atmosphere of Mont-real has been heightened by the discovery of a scorpion, five inches long, clinging to the ceiling of a corpse recently recovered from the St. Lawrence River. Morgue attendants, whose nerves are usually proof against the unusual, was last night when the venomous insect crept out from under the coat lapel of the dead man. Using a stick, they flipped it into a pall of chloride of lime. Scorpions are almost unknown in Canada, although they have been discovered here in shipments from Southern ports.

A press despatch quotes the hope of physicians that Patricia McGuire, the sleeping beauty of Chicago, may soon arouse from her long slumber. For more than two years the attractive, 26-year-old stenographer has been asleep—victim of a strange disease. Medical men, challenged by the case, have visited her bedside and attempted to find the secret of the ailment.

All the world likes to receive letters and almost as unanimously dreads writing them. Letter writing would be a lost art but for lovers, dutiful relations and the availability of stenographers. So rare is the historical letter writer that persons who write to the newspapers are looked upon by their contemporaries as cranks or eccentrics. And yet there are letter writers who derive from this recreation other pleasure than that of seeing their thoughts and names in print. One of these latter school writes: "I have all my life made a hobby of writing letters—I get the kick out of it that others get from bridge, golf, billiards, etc. It is a pleasant and refreshing recreation. And what is more mentally stimulating than letter-writing? Some sage said that 'letter writing makes a full man.' Letter writers are unpopular for the reason that letters require answering, yet popular for the reason that people like to receive personal messages. The only letter in which an answer is published is the published epistle, and thought contrary to the opinions of its readers.—Bangor Commercial.

The worst thing about paternalism is that it weakens or destroys the spirit of individual self-reliance. In the case of a business man special favor it may make him richer but it does not make him a better business man or better citizen. When the government gives a man a dole, either directly or by providing unemployment insurance, it may help him over a desperately hard place and that sometimes is necessary, but it runs the grave risk of undermining his character. The benefaction should not be continued a day after the occasion insistently calls for it when the government encourages people to think that they need not be responsible for their honest debts, it invites the danger of making bad neighbors and bad citizens of them.—San Francisco Argonaut.

Secretary of State Cordell Hull, says the Providence Journal, takes sensible ground in his note to the Bolivian Minister at Washington regarding the protest of the Bolivian Government against the action of the United States in forbidding the sale of munitions, within the borders of this country, to either Bolivia or Paraguay. We stand firm, then, on our decision to have nothing to do with furnishing the belligerents with the wherewithal to maintain their wicked conflict. May this example be generally followed, and a very practical method be thus adopted of bringing the senseless shedding of blood in the chaos to a close.

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Chat Body of Hours

By James W. Barber, M.D.

WHY NOISE TIRES YOU

Anyone who has lived for any time in Europe can understand why so many homes have a "courtyard" in which flowers or vegetables are grown. It may have been mostly for protection in former days but it must have been also for "quietness"; to get away from the clatter and clatter of horses' feet and the iron tires on the wheels of wagons and carts. To-day when we go to any hotel we ask for an inside room, a room that is opening upon the "quadrangle," to get quietness.

Dr. G. W. C. Kaye in the Annual Report, Smithsonian Institute, says, "the protective shieldings by buildings or woods like quietness of inclosed rooms, the rooms opening on a hotel courtyard are usually much quieter than a room on the outside of a building; that is if you can get far enough from the kitchen noises. Noise really affects health or our ability to work?"

"As regards the effects of noise on human beings, there would appear to be a volume of medical testimony that the strain of heavy traffic and other types of continuous din may act as a powerful irritant to the nervous system; placid and normally unruffled persons tending to become irritable and 'worn out.' Industries such as shipbuilding, boiler-making, cotton weaving, and printing are, it is stated, prone to cause an accumulation of fatigue products in the system with dizziness, headaches, poor hearing, and general exhaustion."

Noise is now admittedly so harmful to the health and ability of men and women to work profitably, lessening their value to their employers and so noise is said to be "on the payroll."

In law noise may be defined as an excessive, offensive, persistent or startling sound. However you and I know that even common noises must be affecting us because when they stop we find ourselves relaxing our bodies and minds showing that we have been unconsciously tensing or bracing ourselves against the noise. And as you know tensing our muscles brings on tiredness just the same as if we were using them for work or exercise.

To prevent or lessen noise requires co-operation from all sources; machines to be made less noisy, automobiles and trucks to be better cared for, and insulating materials used in the building of factories, offices and homes.

The Poets' Corner

THE GARDEN PATH

To the garden path I came at the opening of the dusk. When the new moon hid its flame in a half-diminished hush. Of cloud, and the scent of the rose was heavy with nard or musk. The fireflies pricked the gloom where the meadow vapors rolled; The cup of the primrose-bloom was brimmed with a pallid gold; And above a single star shone virgin and faint and cold.

I caught the breath of the dew's soothing and strangely sweet; And what subtle clew of clews I know not led my feet. Down the garden path to the end and you on the garden-seat!

And suddenly space and time ebb'd, were merged in one; My heart-beats leaped to a rhyme as old as the rime of the sun; And 'love' was the first word said, and other word there was none!

—Clinton Scollard.

That commonsense to which the common man appeals as the ultimate judge of truth continues to be an unpleasant shocks from science. However, for the time being, he has been brought up to believe that a cup which is washed in the scullery and carefully dried is clean. Not so, we learn from Prof. Andrade, of the University of London. It would take an hour's work by a trained chemist to remove the layer of grease—and not mere metaphorical elbow-grease, either—in which the cup remains wrapped.—London Daily Telegraph.

Potato Policies

(Maritime Merchant)

The development of new varieties of potato better equipped to resist disease is a matter of great importance to these provinces. It is estimated, for example, that spraying potatoes for late blight costs the farmers of New Brunswick about \$400,000 per year, and this, of course, is only a part of the story. The development of new varieties is not being given as much attention in Canada as in the United States and Europe. It is therefore interesting to learn that a potato breeding policy was adopted by the experimental station at Fredericton two years ago and that varieties have been crossed and approximately 25,000 seedlings have been transplanted this season. It is a complex problem, but some progress has been made with the assistance of Dominion officials in formulating a potato breeding policy for the future. Various breeding centres in the United States, visited and Dr. Gussow, Dominion botanist, may visit stations in Europe. With the knowledge thus gained the formulators of a fruit-ful policy will be sought, to make more productive and profitable an industry of much importance to the Maritimes.

Hotter Stars

(Exchange)

How hot are the stars? Scientists thought they knew. Now experiments at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, have shown that the stars may be many thousands of degrees hotter than has hitherto been calculated. The surface temperature of stars is measured by the quantity of light they emit. This quantity is calculated by comparison with a "color standard" which in the past has been a standard artificial star of known temperature—usually a special electric lamp. Now Greenwich scientists have proved that there is a considerable difference between the results given by analyzing light through a telescope and by analyzing it by ordinary laboratory methods. They have discovered this discrepancy by observing an actual flare through the Observatory roof. It was observed as if it were a star and its heat was calculated by comparison with the "color standard." The result was slightly below the flare's own heat. An error on so short a distance

50 Years Ago

And Since By FRED COOK

MR. BLAKE AS A PUPIL

One afternoon in the autumn, I went to Ennisciffe to see if I could coax something from the Old Chief. Luckily there were no visitors, and Ben Chilton, Sir John's confidential messenger, after I had been announced, returned to the waiting room with a message from Lady Macdonald saying she would like very much if I would join Sir John and herself at tea. She particularly wanted to know how I interviewed a public man, and when Old Ben told me this he chuckled mightily. I confess I was a little nervous at this remark, but finding the distinguished couple in the best of humor I was soon at my ease.

After tea Lady Macdonald looked over at me as much as to say, "Now let me see how you interview Sir John." As a matter of fact this was the opportunity I had been looking forward to for some time, but I did not expect there would be a lady present when I desired to ask Sir John about a certain incident which had been the rounds for a few weeks.

The story was that in the early days of the previous session, the Prime Minister had given to Mr. Blake a lesson in persiflage, and I was curious not only to know if it were true, but if so, what the real ins and outs of it were. My question set the Old Chief a going.

With a smile and sundry waggings of the head, he said he was walking up to the Parliament Buildings one afternoon in the early days of the session, when Mr. Blake overtook him on the broad walk, Coat collar up, slouched hat away down on the head, Mr. Blake saw a habit of a habit with him. Just as he was passing Sir John, the latter hailed him with a hearty "Good-day, Blake; feeling all right today?"

Mr. Blake looked up with a start and recognized the leader of the government. He fell into step with Sir John and remarked: "Ah, Macdonald, I envy that bright cheerful manner of yours—the way you accost people and make them feel contented with the world. How ever do you do it? I would give anything to have the same happy faculty."

"My dear Blake," Sir John said he replied, "it is as easy as rolling off a log as the Ottawa river lumbermen say. You can acquire the same faculty without much difficulty. Let me illustrate. Supposing tomorrow I am walking up to the Buildings as we are today, and one of my supporters overtakes me as you did. He turns to me and says in a modest, retiring manner, 'Good day, Sir John. How are you today?' I reply, 'Splendid, Jones splendid. And yourself?' He answers and then we continue our walk together. He then hazards the remark: 'Well, I think we are going to have a little snow.' At which I observe, 'Probably so, Jones, but 'no matter.' Then we both laugh and Jones goes off to Room 16 to tell the boys the little joke we have had. There you are, Blake, these opportunities crop up all the time. Be on the lookout for them and they will soon come to you naturally. Mr. Blake gazed at Sir John with admiration and remarked, 'Well, I will remember that one at any rate.'"

The story went that a few days later Mr. Blake had his opportunity. It was a dull day, with grey skies and all the portents of a downfall of the "beautiful." Striding along as usual up the walk to the Buildings, Mr. Blake overtook one of his own followers, a timid little backbencher, who ventured to give him greeting.

"How are you today, Mr. Blake?" he enquired. "Oh, as usual, Smith."

And then Mr. Smith remarks, "It looks as if we are going to have a little snow."

At one Mr. Blake was reminded of the lesson which Sir John had given him. Now what was that joke? Ah, he remembered, and promptly replied to his follower, "Oh, yes, but it's quite immaterial." Pleased with himself, Mr. Blake continued to his quarters in the Parliament Buildings. The news of this got around and when Sir John had finished telling me about it he chuckled mightily. As a matter of fact, I believe to this day the latter supposed incident was an invention of the Old Man's, but no matter; it is too good to withhold.

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.

ANONYMOUS LETTERS

Sir—There is a great deal more truth than poetry in the contents of Mr. Lewis P. Tanton's letter on "Our Highways" that appeared in Monday's Guardian. The practice of mistating and exaggerating facts, for partisan and other purposes, by writers to the press who hide their identity behind pseudonyms is altogether too common in this country, and is one of those mean things in life that should be frowned upon by all who believe in the spirit of playing the game. I sometimes wonder what kind of a mental picture you and other editors of writers of unfair letters, for I presume that you make it an invariable rule not to publish an anonymous letter unless you are sure of its authorship.

The inference naturally drawn by readers of anonymous letters is that the writers lack sufficient moral courage to back up their statements, and, further, that in all probability they have some selfish motives in view.

There can be no doubt as to the intrinsic value of correspondence sent to the press by the public, for this source makes suggestions emanate of unquestionable value to the community at large. In the daily papers, published in the larger cities, it is usually the duty of a special editor to study carefully all correspondence received from the public, with the result that undesirable anonymous letters are becoming less frequent than heretofore.

I am, Sir, etc., H. K. S. HEMMING.

Estonia's Potato Vodka

(Exchange)

The potato, not the vine, is the plant of Bacchus in Estonia. So K. Kusk, the Estonian consul general, is planning to induce the United States to drink all Estonia's surplus potatoes, says the New York World Telegram.

"Estonia produced 750,000 tons of potatoes last year," says Mr. Kusk. "Of this production 250,000 tons was converted into alcohol. The alcohol was converted into vodka—approximately 2,500,000 gallons of vodka. This seems to indicate that the manufacture of one gallon of vodka requires 200 pounds of potatoes."

"The yield of potatoes in Estonia is so bountiful that the government can afford to sell in Tallinn a quart of potato alcohol, which will yield two quarts of vodka, for 8 cents. This represents the alcohol of 125 pounds of potatoes."

"Estonian vodka's famous throughout Europe. Before the war, when we were part of the Russian Empire, we furnished most of the vodka of Russia. We had 250 distilleries in a region with less than 1,000,000 inhabitants. This vodka, which makes us merry, made the Russians very melancholy and literary. But in Estonia I have seen a workman tilt back a pint bottle of vodka and drink it off like soda pop."

"The smallest item in the cost of vodka is the actual product. The bottle costs more than the liquor; transportation more than the bottle; taxes more than the transportation; finally, the middleman's profit more than the taxes."

A New Foundland

(Toronto Globe)

How fares Newfoundland as a colony, reduced in status from Dominion, owing to her mismanagement, a few months ago? Only a desperate condition could reconcile the Ancient Colony to this position after enjoying the name of Dominion. The Commission Government supplied by Great Britain is now operating, and on the turn of the fiscal year a few days ago time was taken to look the situation in the face. The St. John's Daily News says the foundation of the new Newfoundland is not yet completed, but "enough of it exists upon which to build, and the new Government's first Budget indicates in

means that the error in the case of stars must be many thousands of degrees. For this reason the Observatory staff are experimenting to find a new "color standard." When they have found an infallible one they intend to recatalogue the heat values of every star in the heavens.

ENOS' "FRUIT SALT" COOLS LIKE A SEA BREEZE! KEEPS YOU WELL!

somewhat general terms the manner of the proposed building. Newfoundland's troubles for many years related to question of fishing and relations with France, the United States and Canada. Present troubles have to do largely with the need of greater efficiency and the degree of participation of Government in enterprise. On the latter point, the Daily News favors only such public interference as will direct and stimulate private enterprise. The position of the new Commission Government is somewhat experimental. "From the administrative standpoint," says the News, "the coming year should see great progress made toward the reorganization of the Civil Service into an efficient body with a high standard of integrity and an esprit de corps that could never have existed under the old 'spoils' system. The Customs and Postoffice Department have been costly to the taxpayer because party politics led to their gross mismanagement. Schemes for the reorganization of both departments on a basis of real efficiency and economy, and with a view to creating high standards of public service, will undoubtedly be established during the current fiscal year." Britain has a name through the world for efficiency in Civil Service, and here lies the chance of Newfoundland to accept direction from the proper source and ultimately return to a safe financial foundation.

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