

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Canada's Isolation

Every thinking Canadian will sense an ominous note in the news item of yesterday, reporting United States officials as entertaining the idea of fortifying the international boundary line. Information reaching Ottawa is to the effect that U. S. army and navy experts regard the weakness of Canada's defences as a menace to United States security.

The 4000 miles unfortified boundary between us and our American neighbors has been the theme of post-prandial oratory for a century. Now that it is danger of becoming a thing of the past, we might well ask ourselves why "the weakness of Canada's defences" was never heretofore regarded as a "menace" to the United States. Certainly it was not because of any defensive initiative on our part. No! But our neighbors knew, and the world at large knew, that Canada was by no means undefended—that it had the British Navy at its back, and that any attack on Canada, from any quarter whatsoever, would involve fighting the British Navy.

Now the situation has changed. The outside world no longer regards us as being under British protection. We are an autonomous state. Last September, at the League of Nations Assembly at Geneva, our Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, went out of his way to enlarge on that fact, and on the consequent corollary that Canada was under no obligations to fight in defense of Great Britain or other British commonwealths. Putting the same proposition into reverse, it meant, of course, that Britain was under no obligation to come to Canada's defense. Losing the opportunity of impressing on the world the essential British unity which still exists, Mr. King talked of nothing but the Statute of Westminster and our independent status as a nation.

Is it an exaggeration to say that this speech at Geneva made a profound impression in Europe and at Washington? Even the Liberal press in Canada said it was unfortunate. "It will occur to many," said the now defunct Toronto Globe, "that Mr. King was far too particular to emphasize the disunity of the Empire, and the absolute power of the various parts to decide singly and completely their own actions in events as they develop beyond. What Mr. King hoped to convey to Europe and the League States by this is difficult to understand, but no one can be accused of distortion of his text who sees it as a step toward isolation."

The Winnipeg Free Press (Liberal) denounced the Prime Minister's speech for its equivocal stand in support of League sanctions; but, says the Globe, "not being overly Empire-minded, the Free Press did not recognize that there are two parts to Mr. King's policy, and that he was as particular to talk Canada out of the Empire as out of the League." And it added: "It is now almost generally, if in some cases grudgingly, admitted that Mr. King was talking isolationism."

The consequence of such statements is naturally a feeling of insecurity on the part of our American neighbors as to Canada's defensive position. But there is another factor involved, more disturbing perhaps to our own peace of mind. A fortified U. S. boundary would mean a constant threat to Canadian security. There is at present no danger from that source, but who can tell what the future may have in store? Our neighbors, with a continually expanding population, may sooner or later demand an outlet north or south. Our boasted British freedom would be a mockery if it had to be lived under the guns of such a neighbor, however friendly at present, who would be in a position to invade us at pleasure.

New Light And Power Rates

It was announced at the City Council some time ago and later by advertisement in the local newspapers that the Board of Utilities was to take into consideration the advisability of compelling the Maritime Electric Company Limited to show cause why it should not reduce its rates or hand over its organization to the City at an agreed upon price or a price to be decided by a Utilities Board inquiry.

This question was brought into prominence some years ago by Mr. B. Roy Holman, who, during his years in the City Council, kept urging this plank in his election platform and had the satisfaction of seeing the rates eventually reduced from 13 to 5 cents per kilowatt.

The present Mayor and Councillors, and especially Mr. Russel Chandler, chairman of the Light Committee, have worked successfully for further reductions during the past two years. Another important factor has been the newspaper agitation conducted in the columns of The Guardian by Mr. John F. Whear. For some years past Mr. Whear has interested himself in the light and power question not only for Charlottetown but for outlying districts, and has by his research investigations and appeals kept the issue prominently before the public.

A satisfactory sequel to all these efforts is the announcement made before the Utilities Board yesterday that the City Council and the Maritime Electric Company have come to an understanding which is considered satisfactory to both parties, and is to the effect that the City will obtain reductions in electric lighting and power rates of sufficient extent to avoid the necessity of the Council attempting to raise funds to take over at a fixed valuation the plant now owned by the Company. It will be generally agreed that this is a satisfactory solution for the present, as economic conditions are not such as to warrant the City entering upon a new commercial undertaking which it would be in no position completely to organize, develop and control in a line of general recession.

Fine Tourist Publicity

"More About Nova Scotia," by Miss Clara Dennis, of Halifax, is the subject of a charming book about present-day conditions in our sister Maritime province. It provides an excellent sequel to Miss Dennis' previous work, "Down in Nova Scotia." The author, who is a daughter of the late Senator William Dennis and a cousin of the present Senator W. H. Dennis, describes what she sees and hears at first hand; and these impressions, linked with her own extensive knowledge of the background of the countryside, its historic and other associations, make a vivid picture. The Musquodoboit and Stewiacke Valleys, Truro, Parrsboro, Joggins, River Hebert, Wallace, Pictou County, Antigonish, Canso, Chester, Guysboro, Lunenburg County, Liverpool—a hundred and more places are touched upon in a manner which should prove of special value and interest to summer visitors.

Miss Dennis is well and favorably known in Prince Edward Island which she has visited on several occasions, and perhaps she may yet find time to do for this province what she has so admirably done for her native province of Nova Scotia in the way of tourist publicity.

Editorial Notes

English channel first crossed in a balloon this date, 1783.

Canada's Navy has set out for the Pacific—manoeuvring to protect our Western shores.

Now there will be no necessity for home doctoring and "old wife cures" when medical aid can be brought to one's door anywhere by airplane.

The Dysart Liberal Government of New Brunswick, are arranging to introduce Provincial Income Tax—its a very Liberal Provincial Government's have — tax everything, tangible and intangible.

The sympathy of the community goes out to Mrs. W. A. MacLaren who has lost by death her father, mother and husband all within a comparatively brief period. The late Mr. MacLaren, whose passing occurred with such startling suddenness, was popular with a large circle of friends who greatly deplore his loss.

Many here will remember Mr. David Pottinger, who died in Montreal the other day at the age of 94. He was for several years general manager of the Intercolonial and Prince Edward Island Railways, with headquarters at Moncton. Since his retirement in 1913 he was justly regarded as Canada's grand old railroad man.

Little scientific proof exists for the theory that the continents are "drifting." Dr. R. Meldrum Stewart, director of the Dominion Observatory at Ottawa, said before the Montreal branch of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. The Austrian geologist, Wegener, had computed North America was moving away from Europe at the rate of about a meter a year. At that rate, there would be a shift of about a mile in 1,000 years. But Dr. Stewart asserted that wireless observations between Ottawa and Greenwich over a period of many years had shown that the longitudinal time varied so slightly that any "floating" of the continents under the Wegener hypothesis might be laid to errors of observation.

Dr. A. H. Wood, C.M.G., has retired from the chairmanship of the Alberta Wheat Board. As chairman Dr. Wood made a distinct contribution to co-operative marketing in that province. He believed in co-operation thoroughly, but continually urged that it be accompanied by sensible and sane business conduct. In this way, he argued, substantial and sound business concerns could be built up by the farmers themselves to suit their own ends. His co-operative speeches were always tempered with wisdom and understanding and devoid of bitterness. He has been honored by a doctor's degree from the University of Alberta and by a companionship from the late British monarch, King George V.

Mr. de Valera has stepped down from the office of President of the Irish Free State to become Prime Minister of Ireland. Under the new Constitution his title is Taoiseach, which he prefers to translate as chief rather than as leader. The new charter embodies the plans and specifications for the Ireland of his dreams, Christian democracy based on the family and exercising sovereign rights independent of all foreign control to develop its life according to its own genius and traditions. In Mr. de Valera's eyes the charter inaugurates not only a new Constitution but a new State adapted to the peculiar character of the Irish people, expressing the religious principles of the majority, with complete tolerance for others, and containing a unique set of "directives" designed to guide the legislative body in translating these principles into social policies to meet modern conditions. The Constitution he has put through against opposition, tame compared with the fierce contests of the past, is proof of his personal power and a triumph of his ideas. It is a masterpiece and monument to the austere moralist who survives the heath of the revolution. It is proof also that although five years in office have mellowed him, they have not altered the conceptions of his own revolutionary youth. Mr. de Valera's opponents accept his Constitution because they say it changes nothing. Mr. de Valera probably is closer to the truth in contending that as the first charter was not drawn in complete independence free of considerations based on the old treaty with Britain it means a new start and so changes everything. Its importance, in his mind, lies in setting an Irish pattern for Ireland. This importance is underlined by recognition on the part of Britain and the dominions of Ireland's full right to set this pattern. So a new chapter in Irish history and Anglo-Irish relations begins.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The country cannot at one and the same time have abundant employment and the cheap food which was partly symptom, partly cause, of world-wide depression and under-employment. The low prices which prevailed even as recently as a couple of years ago meant starvation for agriculture everywhere and the inability of agricultural populations at home or abroad to purchase the product of industry. Happily we have now emerged from that situation and the rise in prices has been no more than the necessary and inevitable accompaniment of rising prosperity. — Telegraph and Morning Post, London.

Franco now faces a better trained and equipped force than he did earlier in the war. The opposing forces are almost equal. The only advantage he holds is in the air strength. The capture of Teruel indicated a greater driving power in the government forces than they have displayed in the whole war. The smiting of hostilities to the Aragon front has so relieved Madrid and Almeria from threatened offensives.—Exchange.

Either the Japanese forces which went to China to "establish order" are out of control or they are under control. Tokyo may be really distressed or either answer will be embarrassing. President Roosevelt's "request" that America's opinion of the recent Japanese performances be conveyed to the Emperor is especially difficult to handle. Either the Emperor can control the military or he cannot. And what Japanese are stopping Americans on the streets of Tokyo to express regret, Germany and Italy are showing active concern. Obviously Tokyo is nearer than it has yet been to having to give a genuine answer to British and American protests.—Christian Science Monitor.

When things go well there are always people who wag their heads and say that good times cannot last. This vague notion is the only foundation on which rests the coming slump. There are no facts behind it, and no responsible opinion. All the facts and all the authority are on the other side. "There is no slump at all," says the Reginald McKenna, chairman of the Midland Bank. To this fully informed business man the famous trade cycle is a myth. What he does see is the enormous expansion of Britain's home market. Facts like these are the complete answer to all doubts and fears.—London Sunday Chronicle.

There is no proof that this generation betrayed youth, nor that it is preparing to betray it again. Youth does not speak out against the last war, nor is there evidence that young men are more concerned than old men about the world's existing state, or could do much more about it than is being done. Alas! It is the other way round. The men who in the past ten years brought upheaval and tragedy to Germany, Italy and other countries of the world were not old men. They were young men; mostly youth. When they turned out to be "old men," they did not turn to peace. They turned to war; turned to back shirts and brown shirts; to guns and bombs; to steel and marching men. In Germany and Italy today, where is youth? No, there is no proof that in the democratic lands, at any rate, youth has been betrayed. Some young men may charge betrayal, but not all, not most; the charge, when it is made (and it is made too often), come from old men. Youth itself is being misquoted.—London Sunday Chronicle.

Speeding up of Russia's armament program is reflected in an increase in orders placed in the United States. Having demonstrated that he can control the domestic situation, Stalin is actively setting his face in opposition to Japanese penetration of China. Russia is regarded in Washington as the only country that will have an important influence on Japanese policy.—Business Week.

If for one occasion the constitution is amended in a single essential article, the precedent will be created, the door will be open. And we will afterwards how the hardy centralizers will rush into this breach to take the rest. The loss of one privilege will invite another, the disappearance of one right or one power will provoke another. Social reform can be carried out perfectly in this country in the contractual way between the different contracting parties of Confederation. Practical successful experiments have proved that. We should continue on the same road, but the constitution should not be uselessly amended for ulterior motives, as dangerous as they are plain.—Montreal L'illustration.

But it may as well be remembered that the boycott is a two-edged sword. It cuts both ways. Nobody could blame Japanese people for refusing to buy Canadian-made goods if it became plain that anything like a universal boycott was being applied against Japan here. Further, such a boycott engenders hatreds that linger, and which will work against Canadian goods any Japanese good-will toward Canada long after the present business in China is past.—Vancouver Sun.

It is absolute nonsense to talk as if any section of the country could be mobilized or organized against any other section. The moment any such feeling comes into our public life, our fishing-rod Dominion will be in dire peril. What we should remember is that we are all Canadians. We are not provincially-minded. Any of us would resent an abuse of our spirit of concession, precisely as an individual resents an obvious attempt to impose on his good nature. But sectionalism would be a deadly danger. It, as history tragically teaches us, is the poisonous spawning-ground of secession.—Montreal Star.

It is one of the tragedies of the post-war era that we have had much talk and little action. Conferences which should have been the prelude to more decisive policies

That Body of Hours

By James W. Burton, M.D.

INFLAMMATION OF THE GALL BLADDER IS VERY COMMON

It has been found by examination after death that 2 to 3 individuals in every ten have gall stones and another 2 to 3 or every ten adults have disease of the liver and bladder without stone formation. This means then that not less than half of all adults have gall bladder trouble. And if only those of middle age (40 to 60 years) are considered, it would mean that 7 of every 10 have liver and gall bladder trouble.

It is not surprising therefore that I write so often about the liver, the king of the organs, and the little sack adjoining it—the gall bladder—into which bile or gall manufactured by the liver is poured. Notwithstanding this great percentage of cases, it is a fact that the majority of those with the chronic inflammation of the gall bladder do not know they have it and believe that the symptoms—gas pressure, bloating, belching, and "indigestion" are due to something they have eaten which upset the stomach.

In reporting his observations of 529 operations upon the gall bladder at Hamilton (Canada) General Hospital, Dr. O. W. Niemeier in the Canadian Medical Journal states:

"It is possible that certain chronic gall bladder conditions may remain apparently latent (inactive or quiet) for long periods of time. From experience, however, we know that these patients will endure considerable distress from digestive disturbance and suffer discomfort and even attacks of pain for long periods of time without seeking relief by operation."

Dr. Niemeier points out that when the symptoms are practically always present it is a mistake not to undergo examination, including X-ray. If examination shows sufficient evidence operation should be performed as soon as possible as the history of these 529 operations shows that in the early cases without stones, there were less than 2 percent of deaths, whereas when condition existed for a long time, the death rate was nearly 4 percent—just double.

"A diseased gall bladder, even though quite (few if any symptoms) is a menace to the patient because of the possibility of an attack of gall stone colic with complications."

A diseased gall bladder may also be the cause of other disease or diseases in the system.

War Graves

(Manchester Guardian) Twenty years ago the Imperial War Graves Commission came into existence, when the guns still roared from Switzerland to the sea and war graves as they were known to the serving soldier (when they were not a nameless sepulchre in the tragic soil through which he dug and tramped) were the vast or scattered clusters of brown wooden crosses behind the line. Now they have been turned into an almost world-wide assembly of ordered and gracious resting-places "To the Memory of One Million Dead of the British Empire," and in "The Immortal Heritage," which was published recently, Sir Fabian Ware gives a full survey of the work of the Commission in bringing about that transformation. There is a moving preface, too, by Mr. Edmund Blunden, who speaks for the serving soldiers of twenty and more years ago. And there is a reminder of the hope expressed by King George V when he visited the war graves on the old Western Front in 1922, that those "visible monuments" might serve ultimately to "draw all peoples together in sympathy; totalitarian States postulate self-control, but mainly for a readiness to sacrifice all to another decision by that armed force which plainly brings on the history of the past two decades, no decision at all. It is hard to study this record of what the Imperial Commission has done, with its many gravely beautiful illustrations, without a sense of tragic irony as well as of awe. Still, even our detractors praise peace while they surround themselves with drilled devotees. The choler is between sanity and self-control; the nations or insanity and self-destruction. If some of us can toll and organize for the dead, why not all for the living? No other memorial could serve the dead so truly.

"After" Vincent Massey

(Sydney Post Record) The story carried by the Ottawa Journal to the effect that Hon. Vincent Massey's record as Canada's High Commissioner to London is to come in for heavy criticism at the approaching session of Parliament, will cause general surprise outside the Capital. Mr. Massey's appointment was acclaimed as a particularly happy one when it was made, and those who knew him well predicted that his career would prove serviceable and distinguished. But if the Ottawa newspaper's article may be credited, he has fallen down sadly on the job. "Administration of Canada House in London," it says, "is to be the subject of strong criticism in the House of Commons at the coming session of Parliament. Liberal members particularly are incensed over the lack of attention and 'scent courtesy' accorded them this year."

DODDS KIDNEY PILLS
TREATMENT FOR
HEADACHE RHEUMATISM
BLADDER TROUBLE
NEURALGIA
THE PROMISE

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.

CHARACTER TRAINING NEEDED

Sir—Kindly allow me to present a challenge to our Educational Authorities. It is generally admitted that scientific advancement in recent years has far outstripped moral and social progress. Notwithstanding marvelous skill and mechanical power, the good earth is still polluted by poverty, distrust and war. Therefore direct Character Education, call it Social Science, World Citizenship, or what you will, should be prescribed by the Department of Education, in every country, as a separate subject, obligatory to all pupils in every grade.

The indirect methods now used are effective as far as they go. The studies of health, literature and current events, also school discipline and the example of teachers, all contribute, but are plainly inadequate. Social, economic and international conflicts all point to the necessity of direct practical character education from kindergarten to university. This is not to excuse the home or the church, but to point out that the school has a special opportunity. Many parents themselves need character training and only a few are trained teachers. Attendance at church schools is voluntary and brief, while at public school it is compulsory and for several hours five days a week. Public instructors are trained while Sunday School teachers are often untrained and few church schools give a systematic graded course. Public schools are supported by taxation and churches by free-will offerings. Churches are apt to emphasize doctrine while schools can stress moral values. Churches, being divided, miss many who need training in how to live.

Cannot our educators develop a course of character teaching, based on the moral and social principles of Jesus, interpreted in the light of the modern social, economic and international situation? Will the school accept its responsibility to lay broad and deep the foundations of social and financial justice and world friendship?

I am, Sir, etc.

REV. T. R. GOUDGE,

Noel, Hants Co. N. S.

About the BIRTHDAY GIFTS
At the 45th Anniversary Sale
Of course... the three birthday cakes, given by the store as a whole. Then each department offers a birthday gift, and also the Office.
What to do
When you make a cash purchase, or pay cash at the office, you will be given a slip, on which you may write your name and address. The slips are retained in sealed boxes until the last day of the sale. Then they are drawn for the fortunate winners.
Special Gifts
Men's Furnishings—Broadcloth Shirt — \$2.50
All Wool Pullover Jersey \$2.95
Men's Clothing—Reversible Rug — \$3.25
Boys' Clothing—Navy Frieze Zip Jacket — \$2.75
Ladies' Gloves & Neckwear—Kid Gloves — \$2.50
Hosiery Department—3 pr. Silk Hose — \$2.25
Yarns—1 Box Monarch — \$2.88
Silks and Dress Goods—Dress Length — \$3.00
Girls' Shop—Jumbo Sweater — \$1.95
Linen Department—Lace Table Cloth — \$2.50
Lingerie Department—Satin Slip — \$2.00
Ladies' Hat—Hat — \$2.50
Ladies' Ready to Wear—Creme Dress — \$5.95
House Furnishings Dept.—Esmond Reversible Blanket — \$2.25
Men's Basement—Jumbo Coat Sweater — \$2.50
Women's Basement—All Wool Coat Sweater — \$2.45
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The attitude of Hon. Vincent Massey, Canada's High Commissioner in London, will be drawn to the attention of Parliament. The members who went to London for the Coronation saw little of the High Commissioner, who, they claimed, was too busy with social functions to bother with them.

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