

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN NOTES BY THE WAY

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APPROPRIATE

When Mr. Baldwin expressed the hope that future generations would say of the delegates of the 1932 Imperial Economic Conference, "they builded better than they knew," he undoubtedly had in mind the inscribed inscription on the bronze tablet in the Confederation Chamber of the Provincial Building in Charlottetown. Mr. Baldwin on his visit to Charlottetown in 1927 spent some time in the Confederation Chamber and was particularly impressed by the inscription commemorating the achievement of the Confederation Fathers, which concludes with the words: "Providence being their guide they builded better than they knew." The fact that the then Prime Minister of Great Britain should have remembered these lines is not surprising in view of his keen appreciation of literary values. When the occasion arose for summing up the far-reaching consequences of the Conference at Ottawa, no fitter quotation could have been used. The incident furnishes a striking illustration of Mr. Baldwin's genius for saying the right thing at the right time.

SILENCE BETTER

In view of Mr. Mackenzie King's earlier statements about the Imperial Economic Conference it is not surprising that he is hesitant now about commenting upon the results that have been achieved. For his attitude is unchanged from the stand he took in his Winnipeg speech last January. There is nothing Mr. King can say that would be helpful in interpreting those results in any shape or form. The Conference agreements, one and all, embody the principle of Empire tariff preferences; and Mr. King has made it clear that he is absolutely opposed to that principle. He dubbed it "economic imperialism; an enlarged economic isolation," and declared that "from the Liberal viewpoint economic imperialism and economic nationalism are both wrong."

This statement, it is curious to note, was misinterpreted by Dr. Cyrus Macmillan at the recent Liberal meeting in the Strand Theatre to mean that Mr. King was in accord with the Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin, head of the British delegation at Ottawa. Mr. Baldwin had said: "Don't imagine for a moment that this Imperial Economic Conference means economic isolation of the Empire." Quoting this remark, Dr. Cyrus Macmillan added: "Mr. King said that, and of course he was abused as being against Empire trade." It is scarcely necessary to point out that Mr. King said nothing of the kind. The Liberal leader was denouncing, in advance, the policy followed at the Conference. Mr. Baldwin was upholding that policy, and in doing so he emphatically repudiated the criticism of Mr. King that it was intended to isolate the Empire economically.

If there was any doubt as to Mr. King's hostile attitude towards the objects of the Ottawa Conference, it was set at rest by a further statement made in his Winnipeg speech. "Canada," he said, "must decline to become a subsidiary unit of an Imperial holding company. Our position as a great exporting country demands the organization of our trading relations on a world-wide scale. Anything less than this would be a denial of our birthright."

No attempt has been made, either by the Liberal leader or his party press, to explain the meaning of this astonishing utterance on the eve of a conference called for the specific purpose of advancing Empire trade by tariff preferences. Its only rational meaning leads to the inevitable conclusion that had Mr. King remained in power the Imperial Economic Conference, so far at least as concerns Canada's participation, would never have materialized.

FROM THE KING

Acknowledging a message from the Imperial Conference delegates at the closing plenary session, His Majesty the King thus summed up his opinion of the results achieved at Ottawa: "Your work has been arduous and intricate, but I rejoice to think that your achievement has justified the high expectations with which the Conference began, and that you have been able not only to conclude important practical agreements for the promotion of trade within the British Empire, but also to adopt principles to help in future development. I am confident that the results of your labors and the spirit of co-operation which has brought about their success will be of real benefit to my people."

QUESTIONABLE

Our contemporary says it is sick of Mr. Bennett being made a political deity and does not intend to indulge in this hero worship. That is the reason it gives for not publishing the tributes to the Canadian Prime Minister by the leaders of the British and Australian delegations at the Imperial Conference, or the feature article by the Canadian Press on the benefits which will accrue to the Maritime Provinces as a result of Mr. Bennett's negotiations.

We have no doubt of the sickening effect of such news on our contemporary, but is that an adequate reason for suppressing it?

AUTOS ON THE FARM

Despite the depression there are, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, 321,306 automobiles on Canada's 728,623 farms, which is one automobile for every 2.27 farms. The number of cars has been doubled in the last ten years.

Ontario has more cars to the farm than any other province, the average being one for every 1.53 farms, and Quebec has the smallest ratio, the average being one in every 5.106 farms.

Saskatchewan ranks after Ontario with one in 2.10, Manitoba 2.12, Alberta 2.27, British Columbia 2.46, New Brunswick 3.26, Prince Edward Island 3.31 and Nova Scotia 3.83.

The number of farms reporting tractors in Canada has increased from 43,578 in 1921 to 97,176 in 1931, an increase of 123 per cent; similarly the number of tractors has increased from 47,455 to 105,069 for an increase of 121.4 per cent in the same period.

The number of gasoline engines is not available for 1921, but the number of farms reporting them has increased from 136,632 in 1921 to 155,655 in 1931, an increase of 13.92 per cent.

There is one binder for every 1.69 farms, and one threshing machine for every 9.64 farms in Canada. The number of threshing machines is larger in the Maritime Provinces and Quebec than in the other provinces, probably due to the existence in these provinces of the smaller types of threshing machines.

One Canadian farm in 3.11 has a telephone, one in 8.6 has water piped to the kitchen and one in 20.17 has water piped to the bathroom.

EDITORIAL NOTES

When Sir Henry Rawlinson hung from the face of a cliff on a road in Persia to translate the inscriptions carved on the Behistun Rock wherein were told the doings of King Darius over twenty-three hundred centuries ago, he attempted no more harder task than the attempts that have been made to decipher the petroglyphs, or rock writings, on Vancouver Island. To date these remain a sealed book, according to a bulletin of the Tourist and Convention Bureau of the Canadian National Railways, but possibly some day the key will be found and their sum of knowledge will be added to our present findings concerning the aborigines who made these petroglyphs.

When a Russian workman turns out an imperfect article, he is considered to have committed a disgrace to both himself and the Soviet. Instead of throwing away the poor example of craftsmanship, or selling it to a retailer as a "second" it is put on display. In the different cities are to be found "windows of disgrace" in which are placed the things imperfectly made. Being revealed to the world as a poor workman is considered severe punishment. The purpose is to urge men and women to avoid public disgrace by bending their best efforts towards making every article so that it will pass inspection.

Some idea of the way water transportation helps producers to get their goods to the markets cheaply is gained from information issued concerning the Panama Canal, says the Border Cities Star. Lumber cut in British Columbia is distributed to every province in Canada. Much of this is loaded on boats at Vancouver and sent down the Pacific Coast to the Panama Canal and then up the Atlantic Coast to the St. Lawrence river, through the Lachine Canal, the Lower Lakes, the Welland Canal, past Windsor and on up to Fort William and then by train to Manitoba. It is cheaper to make the long haul around the coast by water and up the rivers and lakes, than it is to make the short pull over the mountains and into Manitoba by the all rail route from the Pacific Coast. It seems hard to understand, but the steamboats can carry huge cargoes and, of course, they do not make the speed of the trains.

"Big Ben" has a rival in "Old George." The great clock on Parliament Tower in London, England, can no longer boast the largest face. Big Ben's measures 22½ feet, while Old George has a measurement of 25 feet. Old George is the name given the great clock on the new Shell-Mex Tower on the Thames Embankment not so very far from Big Ben. Visitors to London will still hear Big Ben toll off the hours. Old George may be larger, but is silent. The famous chiming of the historic clock on the Parliament Buildings has pleased the ear of many a stranger in London.

There are too many unsolved crime mysteries in the United States. The country plainly needs State bureaus of specialists in crime detection backed by a national organization so distributed that experts may quickly and effectively join forces with local authorities, wherever and whenever major crimes and mystifying homicides occur. If this system were adopted, there would obviously be fewer unsolved murder mysteries, fewer bungled crime investigations, more justice done and, more important, less violent crime.

What the Canadian market meant to the United States is pointed out in a striking way by a writer in the New York Times. Thus: "The extent of the Canadian market for American products may be demonstrated by isolating the 100 chief items imported by our northern neighbor in 1930, comprising 82 per cent of its total foreign purchases. A total of 79 per cent of these 100 principal imports originated in the United States, as against 14 per cent from the United Kingdom and 7 per cent from all other countries." Yet at the height of these purchases, at a time when our imports from the United States ran as high as \$800,000,000 a year, Washington made commercial war upon Canada. Not satisfied with the Fordney-McCumber tariff, the United States launched the Hawley-Smoot schedules, practically barred Canadian products from its markets. It was one of the most extraordinary acts in the history of commercial relations.

The position of Great Britain is peculiar, says the London Daily Mail. Firmly believing in the wisdom of disarmament, she has drastically reduced her Navy, Army, and Air Force. As to the facts there is no possible doubt. They were condensed into two sentences by Mr. Tom Shaw, the Socialist Secretary for War in the last Administration, when he said: "The policy of unilateral disarmament has not achieved its object. . . . The enormous reductions which have obtained in this country have not been reproduced in other countries." But any further weakening of our defenses before general disarmament has taken place would only encourage the predatory elements in the world to fall on the Empire. In striving for peace, we should bring war and untold agony on the world.



By James W. Barton, M.D. VARICOSE VEINS

Notwithstanding the fact that hundreds of thousands of cases of varicose veins have been treated successfully by the injection method, there are still a great many individuals who refuse any aid in this condition. Before the use of the injection method there was some excuse for doing nothing about it, because the removal of these veins meant going into hospital, undergoing an operation, remaining in hospital two or three weeks, and some three to six months carefulness on the part of the patient after coming out of the hospital.

There were also of course a certain percentage of these cases where the operation was not a success.

By this new injection method, as mentioned before, the patient walks into the doctor's office in the regular way, has one of the veins injected by one of the various substances now in use, and then walks out again. It takes no longer than the ordinary visit to the doctor. It may mean three or four more visits until the vein or veins are all completely injected, but there is no loss of time from employment, no visit to hospital, no anaesthetic, no operation.

Drs. C. Weeks and R. S. Mueller, New York, report 325 cases by the injection method and their belief is that "it is the safest and surest method of ridding a patient of varicose veins."

They also find an effective method of treating varicose ulcer, and varicose eczema, both very distressing ailments due to varicose veins, as 88 per cent of their cases were healed and remained healed according to the usual follow up observations.

Perhaps you have been troubled with piles or haemorrhoids which after all are only varicose veins, and have been afraid, or have disliked the idea, of an operation. This injection method has proved just as effective in the treatment of piles as in varicose veins in the legs.

Fire At Sea

(From Engineering)

The catastrophes which have occurred of late years by fire to such famous passenger liners as the "Bermuda" and "Europa," culminating in the recent major disaster to the French vessel, the "Georges Philippa" are causing serious apprehension in the public mind regarding the measures which are being, and are being, taken for the protection of life at sea. The shock to the public conscience occasioned by the loss of the "Titanic" caused a complete revision of the regulations and requirements designed for the safety of seafarers, so far as the risk due to sinking is concerned. The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea now requires a degree of protection by means of subdivision of the hull structure which is considerably in excess of that hitherto provided.

While this is the case so far as the risk of sinking due to collision, or any other cause is concerned, when we turn to the equally or more serious question of outbreak of fire, it is found that the requirements regulating the outfit and maintenance of passenger ships are principally concerned with appliances for fighting fires after they have broken out. Although the carriage of goods of a dangerous character on passenger ships is prohibited, and there are elaborate precautions, aiming at the prevention of fire due to electric lighting and power plant, yet, so far as the structural arrangements of a passenger liner are concerned, the naval architect is only required to arrange for efficient fire-resisting bulkheads to be fitted extending from side to side of the ship, above the bulkhead deck, and in the superstructures, at a longitudinal distance not exceeding in general 131 feet apart.

In dealing with this matter it may be well briefly to indicate the precautions which are at present taken in seagoing passenger ships to detect and locate fire, and to try to quell it efficiently and rapidly after it has broken out. Patrol systems are maintained on the decks, stairways, along the corridors and in the public rooms. Automatic fire alarm and detecting systems are provided, which are arranged to indicate or register, at convenient stations, most quickly under the observation of the officers and crew, the presence of fire at any parts of the ship which are not readily accessible to the patrol system. An observation station may be arranged on the navigation bridge, with an elaborate system of piping to convey smoke which may arise in any compartment to a correspondingly marked small glass tube, which is under the eye of the officer of the watch.

The Earliest Spearhead

(Manchester Guardian)

The life of Britons from the early Stone Age man to that of the Teutons who overran the Roman province is illustrated in the exhibition of recent archaeological discoveries which has been arranged at the London Museum. These treasures from the earth, ranging from the earliest flint weapons to the barbarously jewelled helmet of a Frankish chief were seen for the first time at the Government reception on Monday to members of the International Congress of Prehistoric Archaeology, which is meeting here. These are not museum specimens but recent finds collected from all over the country to show what our field workers are doing to satisfy the imaginative curiosity of the present about the remote past, from the ages when man as a mere killer was haunted by the spectre of over-destruction, as we are by that of over-production, to the Anglo-Saxon civilisation.

A long piece of sharp and black wood in a bottle is one of the most astonishing things, because it is the only wooden implement that has survived from the Palaeolithic Age, some unknown thousands of years ago—the head of a spear with which long-obsolete beasts were hunted. It was found, oddly enough, in the forest of primaeval Clacton-on-Sea. Another unique thing, so far as this country is concerned, came from the Cresswell caves in Derbyshire. It is a piece of reindeer bone on which is engraved a masked human figure, perhaps a magician or medicine man who seems to be executing a ceremonial dance. This is much the earliest English work of art, and belongs to the Aurignacian culture so well known from French examples.

The exhibition skips the Roman occupation, but there is a great deal of interest concerning the confused and dark age of Teutonic conquest that followed. Recently there was found in Dorset the conical helmet of one of our Teutonic invaders, which was adorned with about thirty huge garnets—barbaric splendour indeed.

X Ray Progress

Soon after Roentgen discovered the X-rays physicians began to apply them to look, as it were, through the flesh. In 1896, when the rays were discovered, it took about twenty minutes to obtain a radiograph of a hand. The other day Dr. John R. Cary announced that there will be installed at the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Centre, to be opened on September 1, an apparatus which will take X-ray snapshots in one 120th of a second. That such progress is possible in little more than a generation is due largely to the work of Dr. W. D. Coolidge of Shenectady.

Instead of photographing bones or internal organs a physician may study them by means of the fluoroscope, the essential element of which is a screen coated with a phosphorescent compound such as calcium tungstate. The X-rays which pass through the less dense portions of the body fall upon the screen and cause it to glow. Bones and dense organs which cut off the rays appear as shadows. Fluoroscopic examinations are especially valuable in diagnosing derangements of the stomach and intestines as a meal is digested, which consists largely of blismuth and therefore appears black on the screen.

News comes from the California Institute of Technology that Dr. Jesse W. M. Drummond and Dr. Archer Hoyt have improved the fluoroscope so that it is now possible to present three dimensional X-ray images to which the observers can actually be applied. As might be suspected, two X-ray tubes cast shadows on the fluoroscopic screen from different angles, the spacing being about equal to that which separates the human eyes. First one tube flashes rays and then the other. Thus sixty images appear from two different angles in a second.

The images are examined by means of a "selector" which imparts stereoscopic qualities to them. They are reversed, moreover, just as if they were seen in a mirror, an effect which is produced by the crossing of the X-rays and the "winking" of the tubes. Broken bones will be more readily set and bullets and needles and other foreign bodies more easily found with the new fluoroscopic screen.—New York Times.

That Body of Hours

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PRESCIENCE

The new moon hung in the sky, The sun was low in the west; And my betrothed and I In the churchyard paused to rest— Happy maiden and lover, Dreaming the old dream over; The light winds wandered by, And robins chirped from the nest.

And lo! in the meadow-sweet Was the grave of a little child, With a crumbling stone at the feet, And the ivy running wild— Tangled ivy and clover Folding it over and over; Close to my sweetheart's feet Was the little mound up-piled.

Stricken with nameless fears She shrank and clung to me; And her eyes were lit with tears For a sorrow I did not see: Lightly the winds were blowing, Softly her tears were flowing— Tears for the unknown years, And a sorrow that was to be.

—T. B. Aldrich.

The Modern Boy

(Manchester Guardian)

If one may venture to quote from memory, the briefest of Stevenson's several delightful "Fables" ran something like this:

"When I was a tadpole," said the Frog severely, "I never had a tail."

"Just as I thought," replied the Tadpole gaily; "you never were a tadpole."

There is enshrined in that encounter a moral which is often neglected by mentors of the young—and neglected once again, perhaps in the course of a speech to the British Medical Association last week. A schoolmaster who was addressing that centenary gathering seems to have painted rather a gloomy picture of the "modern boy"—the contemporary tadpole, it appears, presents few of the features which a well-behaved frog associates with its own period of adolescence. The tadpole, so the audience was assured, is consumed by "a longing for speed and mechanization"—whereas 40 years ago, one supposes, no boy ever yielded to the blandishments of locomotives and the engine-driver's career. In any event "Tu quoque" seems to be the tadpole's justified rejoinder; if these were no full-grown frogs hurrying round Brooklands or across Loch Lomond, whence would the tadpoles derive their supposedly depraved ideas? As for the complaint "I doubt if 50 per cent of them could saddle a horse" the estimate is, if anything, an understatement; it is quite possible that there are not two boys in a hundred who could tell the difference between a girl and a surcingle, any more than they could hit a mark with an arquebus or cross-bow. But this is not a symptom of vice; it is a sign of changed times and conditions. Of course when the same critic proceeds to denounce "the extraordinary lack of truthfulness" among boys of today the charge, if it could be established, would be a good deal more serious; methods of moving from place to place alter with the centuries, but standards of common honesty do not vary, and a general departure from them would be disastrous indeed. But one would have to know a very large number of boys very intimately before such an accusa-

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tion could be established—a larger number than is handled by the most important schoolmaster. At the very least one must regard the charge as "not proven"—and one cannot help thinking, if last week's evidence was correctly reported, that the prosecuting frog had a more than usually well-developed throat against tadpoles.



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