

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1933

N. S. ELECTION

As was generally anticipated before the dissolution of the Nova Scotia Legislature, the Harrington Government went down to defeat at the provincial election yesterday. After the election date had been fixed, considerable trouble arose through the registration arrangements of the Government failing to commend itself to the Liberal Opposition. As a matter of fact there was nothing seriously amiss with the arrangements, but the Liberal Opposition, for lack of better material, found in them a convenient stick with which to belabor the administration; and they used it to some tune. As time went on, it became evident that the new Franchise Act and the registration arrangements were not so black as they had been painted; in fact that they were a great deal better than most people realized. But by this time a great deal of the damage had been done. The Liberals had got broadcast and generally accepted among the unthinking that the Harrington Government was endeavoring to "put one over" with an endeavour to steal the election. As the campaign progressed the effect of this propaganda weakened, and the Harrington Government's position gained in strength. It is not too much to say that had the contest lasted another fortnight or three weeks, a great deal of the mud that had been so plentifully used to bespatter the administration would have been wiped off, and the record of the Government seen in its true light, with the consequent result that its chances for re-election would have been materially improved. However, the die was cast yesterday, and in a reduced Legislature of from 43 to 30 seats the Harrington Government was able to save only eight, including those of two Ministers, Mr. Harrington and Mr. Black, while one seat, Victoria remains in doubt.

Mr. MacDonald, the new Liberal leader, is a man of much ability and an orator of no mean order. He has been heard more than once in this Province and has a great many friends and admirers apart altogether from politics. It will be for him now to justify the platform on which he has been elected, the principal plank of which was the immediate introduction of the Old Age Pensions scheme, notwithstanding that no means had been provided for it during the present year. The people have taken Mr. MacDonald and his supporters at their word that Old Age Pensions would be granted forthwith. How they are going to accomplish this will be awaited with interest by friend and foe alike. In an unsettled time like the present, a period of great unrest and uncertainty, a Government in any country takes its life in its hands in going to the electorate. The ordinary voter does not seek to find reasons or causes for the distress in which he finds himself. It is sufficient for him that the Government in power at the time is a means to an end, and he argues that probably it could not be worse, anyway, if there was a change. This doubtless had a good deal to do with the change-over in the electorate from Conservative to Liberal in Nova Scotia yesterday.

A GOOD START

The directors and promoters of the Provincial Exhibition and Driving Park have reason to congratulate themselves on such an excellent start made at the Exhibition yesterday. The weather was magnificent; the attendance was large; the livestock and agricultural classes made an exceptionally fine showing, while the horse racing and vaudeville were up to the most optimistic expectations. The judging in the forenoon and afternoon was witnessed by large crowds who followed keenly the selections made by the judges, and commented with great interest on the points scored.

Admiring crowds visited the main building in which the horticultural, agricultural and industrial exhibits were displayed. There was also keen interest shown in the magnificent display of handicraft work, shown under the auspices of the Provincial branch of the Canadian Handicraft Guild, to which more extended reference is made elsewhere in today's Guardian. Another new feature which attracted attention was the exhibit of books from the new Prince Edward Island Library. The various improvements made in the grounds and equipment since last year were also noted and commented upon most favorably.

On the whole, it may be asserted that rarely before has there been greater or better quality of exhibits in competition and on view.

With a continuation of fine weather there is therefore every reason to anticipate unqualified success for the Exhibition this year. Today, which is "Prince County Day" at the Fair, should draw record crowds to the grounds.

S. A. TRADE PROSPECTS

The benefits of the agreements entered into at the Imperial Conference at Ottawa are gradually being realized by Canada. This country and our sister Dominion, South Africa, are now on the threshold of a substantial expansion of mutual trade and great improvement in our relations generally. This is the opinion expressed in an address in Montreal recently by Dr. P. R. Botha, South African Trade Commissioner. To develop her commerce with the Cape, Canada for years has maintained a Trade Commissioner at Cape Town. So successful has she been in this effort that at the coming of the depression, in 1929, her trade had reached a total of about \$13,000,000. Then at the Imperial Conference these relations, for the first time, were placed on a more permanent basis through the definite agreement signed for a period of five years.

Abnormal commercial conditions, such as prevail at present, had caused, Dr. Botha said, a drop in Canadian exports to South Africa, and vice versa, during 1932. Dr. Botha, however, cited among the benefits derived from the agreements, shipments of raw sugar, wine, dried and canned fruits to Canada. On our part, we are experiencing an increase in the export of lumber, agricultural machinery, automobiles, automobile parts, tinned fish and other commodities. "For five years at least," declared the Commissioner, "we are secured against sudden tariff changes that have previously upset our calculations." Evidence of the fact that our sister Dominion is seriously endeavoring to promote trade relations with us is seen in her establishment, this year, of a South African Government office in Canada.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In their efforts to "purge" Germany of everything Jewish, and to establish the "purity" of German speech, the Nazis are even censoring telephone spelling. For a long time, when it was necessary to spell a name, operators said "D for David," "S for Samuel" and "Z for Zacharias." They have been instructed not to use Jewish names for this purpose, but to say instead, "D for Deutschland," "S for Siegfried" and "Z for Zeppelin."

It seems unlikely, says the Mail and Empire, that Machado will be extradited. Whatever he has done in Cuba, there seems to be little doubt that his status as political refugee will be admitted, and English-speaking nations do not yield up political refugees readily. In fact, some years ago the United States refused to surrender a couple of Irishmen who had murdered a landlord from behind the shelter of a hedge. The American courts held this was a political offence only.

Notes By The Way

On several occasions of late there has arisen a world-wide conviction that Herr Hitler, of Germany, is riding for a fall. His campaign against the Jews seemed an insane move. But he has survived it. Today, however, it seems as though he had taken the one final, fatal step. He has initiated at Breslau a rule forbidding the use of face powder or rouge by women. Any woman using it is prohibited from attending Nazi demonstrations in that metropolis. Bigger men than he have met their fate when they tried to order the women of the world around. Mussolini could have given his cousin in Berlin a hint on that point.

With the United States taking its present nationalistic attitude, under the present experiment, there is little likelihood of the embargo against Canadian farm products being lowered. The only hope for Canada lies in imperial co-operation. A development of trade within the Empire, stabilized imperial currency and closer trade connections seem the only way out.

The position of Great Britain in the Persian Gulf is unique in world politics. Without owning a square mile of territory on either of its shores, or even possessing one of its barren and inhospitable islands as a base, she has for generations borne burdens there which no other nation has ever shouldered, except in the capacity of Sovereign; she has undertaken duty without dominion; she has kept and keeps the peace amongst people who never have been and are not her subjects; she has policed waters over which she has no formal authority, and she has kept an open market in those distant ports equally to all the merchants of the world.

Not so many years ago it was predicted in many quarters that the little fellow in manufacturing was doomed. Wiseacres declared that the small manufacturer would be eliminated by the giant corporation; the small merchant would go down before the chain store; the small farmer was to be suppressed by the large grain farm run on mass-production lines. But the depression has proved that the little fellow is more capable of standing on his feet in the midst of adverse economic forces than his big brother.

It was estimated that during the strike in the British coal fields in 1924 more than the equivalent of a million work days were lost in two months. During the great "national strike" of 1926 the direct loss to British trade amounted to £200,000,000 and the business of the entire country was paralyzed. In both strikes the miners suffered great hardships. In neither were they successful.

Italian aviator, who set a new world's record by flying a plane upside down for two hours, said: "I was bored stiff up there. Imagine hanging upside down two hours without a soul to talk to!" We're bored stiff by such performances, too.—Lindsay Post.

The idea that Canada cannot absorb more population at this time seems to us one of the many fallacies which haunt the political mind. The more people, the more work; the more work, the more wealth—that is to say, if the fructifying capital and the directing minds are there to organize things. What pauperizes a new country is a stream of undirected and ill-provided individuals, who, finding nature too much for them, give up the struggle and drift into the towns. If settlers could be organized in productive communities they should be able not only to pay their way, and live by their own, but also to create a surplus of wealth which would quicken the trade of their neighbors.

Unemployed miners in the Dolgelly district in North Wales have ventured to work the Gwynfynd gold mines, abandoned for many years. Employed miners in Wales, who actually hold steady jobs in the coal mines, with which they are familiar, contemplate going on strike because their demands have been rejected. This seems to be another case of men deliberately making trouble for themselves.

Farmers in Ontario are complaining that they are unable to find the workers necessary to aid them in the harvesting of their crops, and the same complaint will be heard right up to the time when harvesting is over. In the meantime cities are full of jobless workers who seem to have happily assumed the task of doing nothing under the direct relief policy. The social and industrial re-establishment of this class of workers will be most difficult and lengthy.



By James W. Barton, M.D. HEALTH AND POSTURE

Although the entire world is hoping that there will be more wars, it will be unfortunate if the ordinary physical or military drill is not taught in our schools. Not that military tactics should be taught, but the military position of "attention" should be a part of every physical exercise period whether indoors or out.

What do we find in the posture or the position in which our boys and girls, young men and women, stand, sit, or walk? While I haven't complete figures for boys and girls, the figures for young men and women, divided into four classes, are as follows:—

- A. Those with a good posture—about 7 per cent.
B. Fairly good—13 per cent.
C. Poor—55 per cent.
D. Very bad—25 per cent.

This means then that only 7 in every 100 carry the body erect, and 13 in every 100 carry the body in a fairly erect position, whereas 80 out of every 100 carry the body poorly or very poorly.

Does posture affect health? Physicians in the United States and in Great Britain are not entirely in agreement as to whether bad posture causes poor health or poor health causes poor posture.

As a matter of fact this point need not worry us, because the real point is that poor health and poor posture very often go together.

"Bad posture may put certain parts of the body under a strain or cramp them so that the blood supply to them is poor and they are unable to do their work effectively."

"A deep chest with good air capacity may not cleanse the blood properly or sufficiently if held in a cramped position."

"A stomach which is capable of doing its job well when in the normal position, may give constant trouble when it has sagged so far down in the abdomen that there is interference with its nerve and blood supply."

"An intestine, which formerly did its work well, may lose the tone of its muscle wall when there is constant stagnation due to its position in the abdomen."

In other words the organs in the chest and abdomen, and this is really where we "live", cannot work in a cramped position.

So if we can get children and young adults to stand or sit "tall" or in the position of "attention", better health and a better outlook on life will be attained.



DREAM-PEDLARY

If there were dreams to sell, What would you buy? Some cast a passing bell; Some a light sigh That shakes from Life's fresh crown Only a rose-leaf down. If there were dreams to sell, Merry and sad to tell, And the crier rang the bell, What would you buy?

A cottage lone and still, With bowers nigh, Shadowy, my woes to still, Until I die. Such pearl from Life's fresh crown Pain would I shake me down, Were dreams to have at will, This would best heal my ill, This would I buy.

—Thomas L. Beddoes.

Burma's Future

(Exchange) By mere chance was Burma joined with British India. Geographically and by race, it is a distinct entity. It is true that its population of ten to twelve millions includes many besides the Burmese proper, but these other races are not akin to the East Indian. The East Indians, however, have permeated the country and are largely the traders. Burma has an area considerably larger than Germany or France.

The recent expression of feeling in Burma was for Burma to be included in the proposed Indian Dominion. The East Indian traders doubtless had great influence in this regard. It would suit industrial Britain far better if Burma were not so included. Lancashire, for example, sees no reason why the markets of Burma should be turned over gratis to the Indian mills. Burma, itself, is not a manufacturing country.

For Burma as a separate country Great Britain is apparently willing to go far in the way of constituting

New Empire Era

(Mail and Empire)

Proofs accumulate that the agreements reached at the Ottawa Imperial Conference last year, and recently reaffirmed at the so-called little Imperial Conference in London, have inaugurated a new and progressive era for Empire trade. The benefits resulting accrue to the colonies as well as to the Mother Country and self-governing Dominions. We have it on the authority of Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister, Secretary of State for the Colonies, that "Ottawa started a new colonial era."

It is remarkable that, in spite of the great fall in prices, since 1924 the proportion of the United Kingdom's export trade going to the Colonial Empire has increased by over 60 per cent, though the tremendous slump in prices has reduced purchasing power and the power of Colonial Governments to place their orders on Government account. That ability to trade with Britain has, of course, been greatly increased by the policy of preference passed by the British Government and carried forward through the whole Empire at Ottawa. This movement was set on foot by the offer made by Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett at the Imperial Conference of 1930, and put into effect at the Ottawa Conference. Speaking for the Imperial Government, Sir Cunliffe-Lister recently said: "Before the Ottawa Conference, while Canada gave certain very valuable preferences to the West Indies and while New Zealand gave certain preferences, the rest of the Dominions and India gave no general preference at all to any of the Colonies. As we were able, therefore, to negotiate at an Imperial Economic Conference for the Colonial Empire as a whole, it was possible to make agreements, wide in their scope and invaluable in their details, which would have been impossible to achieve at any other time and under any other conditions. There are the detailed preferences set out in the schedules to the agreement. More important even was the establishment of the principle that from then onwards all the Dominions and India would make their preferences Empire-wide and extend preferences to the whole of the Colonial Empire. That, I think, meant the completion of a partnership of very real value and it should be of increasing value in the future. The stimulus which has been given by this new policy has not merely stimulated the market, but has stimulated the Colonial producers themselves to engage in research and to make their own production more efficient."

The benefits accruing extend to many Colonial products. Empire-grown coffee obtained a great advantage at Ottawa. Research in Kenya and other coffee-growing parts of the Empire has been stimulated and prices have been maintained at a relatively high level. The preference granted by Great Britain to the sugar industry of the British West Indies, Mauritius and Fiji, has saved the industry in those colonies. The preference has assisted the market and sugar producers have become more active in development and research work. The British banana preference, which after the Ottawa Conference was stabilized at two shillings six pence a hundred weight, has proved of enormous value. So has the preference granted on this fruit by Canada, Jamaica, the Cameroons and Fiji have been the chief Colonial beneficiaries. New and wider Empire markets have been developed in Canada and elsewhere for oranges, grapefruit and other Empire-grown fruits.

In order to perform this trick, you must wear a coat with buttons on the sleeves. Place a small coin between two buttons on your sleeve and hold another similar coin in your hand. Then announce that you will drop the coin from your hand into your sleeve and produce it from the outside of your sleeve. Bend your arm and drop the coin down your sleeve. Make several magic passes with your other hand and slip the secret coin from its hiding place between the buttons. Your chums will be very puzzled.

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A more real test is to take the number of modern books we wish to possess rather than the number of those we merely wish to read. And it is here that contemporary literature is at a discount. The number of books that are purchased as opposed to those that are merely borrowed is small.

Probably at no time in the history of English literature were so many books published whose popularity was purely ephemeral and whose purchasers were exclusively circulating libraries. It does not follow that many people do not derive a great deal of pleasure out of reading modern fiction and 20th century neo-historical biography. At first acquaintance these things are more attractive than the forbiddingly fat volumes of the Victorians, just as Gerstwin is at first acquaintance more acceptable than Beethoven.

But popular music soon falls, and the books that authors write in our day have precisely the qualities of the easy and tuneful music that grows wearisome with repetition. Yet we can at any time read Dickens or Thackeray, Macaulay or Gibbon. Once we have started, the many volumes before us do not scare us away, and we never lay volume vi. down without feeling the inevitable sadness which Dr. Johnson attributes to the end of anything.

For these writers of yesterday absorb us in spite of ourselves in a way that the moderns never manage to absorb. We can come back to them again and again. Their morality is obvious, their history is inaccurate, they never say in one word what could be put in three, their complacency is absolutely maddening. All these drawbacks they undoubtedly possess; from all these drawbacks our contemporaries are engagingly free.

And yet the older works have an enduring quality that the others

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have not. They contrive to be both restful and enthralling at the same time. They drive our worries away while we are reading them. We do not jump up every moment to put on the wireless. They have some-how or other, for all their pompous verbosity, a quality that is lost as absolutely as the brilliant colours of the old masters. Partly this is because writers from Fielding to Dickens could invent and tell a story, while the moderns seldom take the trouble to produce anything beyond a neurotic introspection which may be due to pre-war Russians or post-war conditions. Whatever the reason, it makes the book disturbing for the reader, because it goes along in nervous jerks that are anything but soothing. If, on the other hand, a modern writer produces a biographical novel, it is usually inferior to the kind of thing that Fielding and Smollett did two hundred years ago. It is not talent but energy that is lacking. The moderns never seem to give either the time or the effort that their predecessors gave to what they created. That nobody in any walk of life works so hard as they used to do is a point on which every worker of the older generation by hand or brain is agreed. And literature more than anything else betrays the specious and the slipshod. These things are not altogether the fault of the contemporary writer. They are the fault of the time he lives in. To write as Macaulay wrote, or Dickens or Thomas Hardy, who was the last of them, a man requires a background that is spacious and secure. But such a background no longer exists. The uncertainty and restlessness of modern life are reflected in modern letters. A man without confidence in his future can feel no confidence in his future or in himself, and such confidence is essential to really great work.

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