

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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INSPIRING CONVENTION

The harmony and enthusiasm which prevailed at the Conservative convention for Queen's County yesterday must have been an inspiration, not only to the candidates nominated, but to the organization committee and to Conservatives generally throughout the Province. The meeting was a largely attended one, and the spirited applause which greeted the nomination of Hon. J. H. Myers and Mr. W. Chester S. McLure, M.L.A., as candidates for the County in the forthcoming federal election was an eloquent tribute to the popularity and ability of the gentlemen named.

Messrs. Myers and McLure are well known throughout the Province. Mr. Myers is a successful farmer and has a brilliant political record as legislative representative for the Fourth District of Prince and latterly as Minister of Agriculture, in which capacity he came into contact with all sections of the Province. He is admittedly one of the ablest platform speakers in the Province and his qualifications for Federal honors have been recognized both at home and in Ottawa.

Mr. McLure is an outstanding figure in the business life of the Province and of Canada. As representative for Charlottetown in the Provincial Legislature he has shown marked ability both as a speaker and legislator, and the fact that he has made good in everything he has undertaken is a promising augury for his future success in the wider field of Dominion politics.

DEVELOP UNIFORMITY

A gentleman who visited the large market centres in England recently was given an illuminating lesson in the secret of Danish domination of the British Market. Visiting a large grocery he was shown hundreds of Danish sides of bacon hung along the length of the store room. Examining them carefully he found that they were uniform in size and quality. The grocer explained to him that when a customer ordered a side of Danish bacon or fifty sides, as the case might be, he knew exactly what he was getting and that he was getting the best that the market could supply. In the store room in which Canadian bacon was shown there was no such uniformity. The sides were of different sizes and of different distribution of fat and lean so that as the grocer explained it the customer would be obliged to specify what kind of bacon he wanted. This was cumbersome, and the grocer, without intending it, gave it to be understood that he didn't want to be bothered with commodities which required specification and might not always prove satisfactory to the customer.

Canadian bacon has found a place for itself in the British market but not the highest place, and for the simple reason that it lacks uniformity. Individual samples may be of excellent quality but the customer must pick and choose for himself, which is often a hindrance. The reason for this lack of uniformity in Canadian bacon is that there is no Canadian bacon type hogs. Every Province has its own type or types, often a half dozen or more, and these are crossed and re-crossed until the original type has been practically eliminated.

If this country is to make its way in the British market, or in any of the world's other great markets, it must develop a type of Canadian bacon hog and thus attain to the uniform quality that the world's best markets demand.

In Denmark there is but one type of bacon hog and that type is developed under Government directions. There are central breeding places in which the prescribed type of hog is raised and these are sold to the farmers at actual cost. Moreover, the Danish system, not only in bacon, but in butter and eggs is conducted on a purely co-operative basis. The farmer knows that conformity with the Association's regulations is to his own advantage, and he rigidly complies with all the requirements laid down by the Association. There is also a system of rigid inspection which prevents the export of any unworthy commodity. This insures, to the Danish farmer, the highest price and the highest place in the world's most exacting of all markets, that is, the British market.

WHAT IS CIVILIZATION?

Most of us assume that civilization is so obvious that to ask if it exists is to be ridiculous, says a writer in the Manitoba Free Press; but if the question is pressed as to what exactly civilization comprises, the answer does not come very readily out of the problem. For example, modern London, in its streets and buildings is an enormously more gigantic and impressive place than the London of Queen Elizabeth; but would we say it was a more civilized city? Thebes, which Homer said had a hundred gates, was a more imposing architectural creation also than Elizabeth's capital; but was Thebes, because of that, more civilized than the city in which Shakespeare, in a dirty old theatre on Thameside, produced Macbeth and King John?

If we exclude the so-called evidences of civilization—pyramids, palaces, temples, literature, art, laws, cities, and so forth, and decide these are at best contradictory and inconclusive proofs of civilization: wonderful idols, for example, masterpieces of constructional art, which were really furnaces in which human victims were roasted to death in honor of the god; stupendous monumental tombs in whose production ten or twenty thousand slaves were worked to death; if there is a flaw in most of these proofs, where are the proofs of civilization to be found? If there is no other evidence than these chequered and blood-shot testimonies, what right have we to assume that civilization is anything more than an abstract notion of the mind?

Modern London has better buildings; but Elizabeth's London had better poets. Which is the more civilized? The United States has developed mechanical mass production. Ancient Greece developed Plato and Aristotle. Which contributed—or contributes—most to civilization? This involves the direct question as to the existence of a civilization; but we can ask others. Assuming there is civilization, and that it has an outlook, what are the elements in contemporary social life which will determine the appearance of the social life of the future?

We are up to the ears in a mechanized society, and we are heavily influenced by the theory that mechanical progress is the inevitable course our communities will take; carrying us and our descendants into a machine-controlled society of the most extraordinary complexity. This, of course, is a pure assumption, and even if it were established, such a course might just as well carry us out of civilization altogether as into an extension of the notion which we imagine civilization to be. Because if civilization does exist, and is progressive, it is something which cannot be accurately measured or gauged by the usual activities of human societies. It is some quality which can be traced through all the varied stages of the past, and which asserts itself on human relationships as a continually stronger influence.

Notes By The Way

The pro-Americanism of the King Government will not down. However much the newspapers supporting it may desire and attempt to disguise it or to lull their readers into forgetfulness of its existence, it remains a fact, that cannot be ignored. Equally apparent is the disparity between the attitude of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and that of his successor in the Liberal leadership, to Canada's connection with Great Britain, the British Empire, the monarchical system and British institutions and traditions.

For all these Sir Wilfrid Laurier had an affectionate admiration that is sadly absent from the leader and his colleagues who are now in power at Ottawa. Sir Wilfrid's attitude in regard to our British connection was quite in accord with that of his compatriots in the Province of Quebec. Before Sir Wilfrid's advent to political life, Sir Etienne Tache had made the memorable statement, "The last gun to be fired in defence of British sovereignty in Canada will be fired by a French Canadian."

The same sentiment has been repeatedly endorsed by Premier Taschereau and his predecessor in office, Sir Lomer Gouin. They were both loyal supporters of Canada's connection with the Empire, as Sir Wilfrid Laurier was. It is true that the large majority of the 65 members representing the Province of Quebec at Ottawa give their support to Mr. MacKenzie King. They were very proud of Sir Wilfrid, as they well might be. They had been trained in his school, and were very loyal to him.

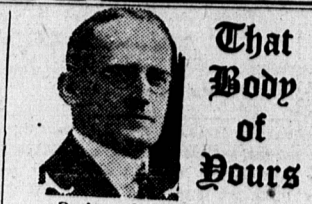
But they had in their minds when he passed out of life a very strong prejudice against Mr. Fielding, whom the majority of English-speaking Liberals preferred. And by their numbers and consequent dominant voting power in the Convention, they made Mr. King the successor to Sir Wilfrid in the party leadership. Having done this they came under some sort of obligation to support him for a time and under certain limitations.

Sir Lomer Gouin served as Minister of Justice under Premier King, but not very long until he found the atmosphere of the Council Chamber un congenial and he resigned. That is the story in brief of the early relations of Premier King and his supporters from Quebec.

Quebec does not want to sever its relations with Great Britain, and the British Empire. While that connection stands she enjoys under an inalienable treaty the full possession of her own laws, her language and her religion. Her people know that if British connection were abrogated there can be no alternative short of absorption into the United States, and all that she holds most dear would be engulfed and lost forever.

The people of Quebec are really conservative and protectionist, but not in name nor in the party sense of the word. They are now beginning to see more and more clearly from year to year that the King Government is pro-American in its failure to protect the Canadian home market against encroachments. Quebec farmers see, as other farmers see, how they suffer from the deluge of butter and other farm products that is let into our home market at less than the cost of production in Canada.

In like manner Canadian manufacturers find that they have to compete in their home market with the overflow of mass production in the United States, dumped into Canada at what it will fetch at quick sale. Pro-American is a mild term as applied to Premier King and his colleagues who are thicker than thieves with the nabobs in Washington.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE WEATHER AND RHEUMATISM

You have heard the story of the salesman who tried to sell a barometer to an old lady. He explained that it would be possible with the barometer to foretell the coming of a storm.

The old lady replied, "What do you think the good Lord gave us rheumatism for if it wasn't to help us know when the weather is going to change?"

Is there any truth in the statement that the rheumatic patient can foretell a change in the weather? You and I have met a number of these cases and we are quite ready to believe that there is some truth in it.

However research physicians of the Mayo clinic have been gathering statistics on this matter. In the summer of 1927 they made daily records of the condition of rheumatic patients in hospital.

Each day the pain of each patient was estimated from the patient's own statement, then the pain of the whole group was estimated for that day, and the average comfort or discomfort of the group was recorded on the same chart with the pressure of the barometer, the temperature, signs indicating cloudiness, winds or storms with rain or snow.

They have made a report on what they observed in a study of 367 patients with rheumatism, or arthritis as it is called. The longest case recorded for any one patient was one year, and the shortest was two weeks. What did they find?

That in some forms of rheumatism or arthritis due to age, to injury, to gout, the weather did not affect the patients very much. However in patients whose rheumatism was due to bad teeth, tonsils, sinus or gall bladder trouble, the weather greatly affected their condition, for the presence of a storm was associated with increased pain. "This held true not only for days when there was rain and snow but also for those days when the weather was definitely cloudy."

They tell of one morning during early summer when they were all pleased with the general sense of well-being among the rheumatic patients. The sun was shining bright, no cloud in the sky. Early in the afternoon one patient after another, twelve in all, began to call for some sort of relief from pain. Late that afternoon an electric storm suddenly appeared.

What will be the effect of this experiment? That in some hospitals already they have chambers where the atmospheric pressure can be adjusted so that relief from pain may be attained.

It seemed I knew it all of old, So long ago the world was young When to such drum-throbs once I danced And heard these weird cadenzas sung. There was a moon I marvelled at; There was a new and clamant shore; Dark eyes looked questioning in mine A million years ago and more. Back through a million years and more I crept, but tom-toms in my brain Still pulsed through tattered memories, To Now and Town returned again. "Where have you been to all this time?" How could I tell? 'Twas best perchance To counterfeit a yawn and say: "Just looking at the Indian dance." —Frederick Niven, in The National Athenaeum.

The 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.

CONDITIONS IN KING'S

Sir,—"Observer" in the Patriot of the 16th inst. refers to the efforts of the law officers to suppress smuggling and other illicit trafficking in intoxicating liquors in the East Point district. He praises the officers and says this is now the driest section in Prince Edward Island. If this statement is correct the other sections must be very wet.

No doubt the officers are doing the best they can, but the public men who should be supporting them are not giving them any assistance, and in some instances, are actually putting obstacles in their way. The consequence is that there is a great deal of illicit liquor sold and used in this part of the country. The public men who are either apathetic now, or who are actually helping the law breaking fraternity were either temperance candidates, or were elected on a temperance platform a little over two years ago. It is this kind of thing that makes two thirds of the drinking and the trouble. These public men must think that the temperance people of this Island have very short memories.

A few weeks ago Officer Miller was interfered with and assaulted while in the discharge of his duty. This was surely a very serious offense. Very properly, the officer had his assailant haled before the court, but I have been told that the Crown so bungled the case from the beginning that the trial ended in a fiasco. Instead of the guilty party being sent up to the Supreme Court he was let off with a fine, and a very small part of the fine was collected, which makes it impossible to collect any more. If the politicians have the right to name incompetent counsel or counsel who are sure to bungle things in such cases, and if the courts get things mixed up, the officers have no chance at all, and we are not far from the conditions that prevail in Chicago.

Everybody knows that Mr. Barbour is trying to do his duty, and if he were allowed to employ his own counsel or even to conduct his own cases, we would likely have different results, but apparently he is not allowed to do this, and the Justice Department at Ottawa is not therefore free from blame.

If the politician in King's County who at present seems to have access to two governments, and who is carrying things with a high hand, even bullying the Premier and getting orders-in-council passed, letting culprits out of jail, is allowed to have

THE LAND WE LOVE

By FRANK YEIGH THE NURSERY INDUSTRY IN CANADA

Q. What is the extent of the Nursery Industry in Canada? A. Opportunely exists in Canada for the expansion of the nursery industry not alone with regard to increasing domestic requirements, but also to an export market which rooms up ever more promising. Nursery-men in Canada in the year ended May 31st, 1928, sold 341,808 fruit trees, bushes, and plants to the value of \$128,537 and floricultural and decorative plants to the value of \$2,680,130. These were apparently insufficient to meet the requirements of the country and in the year 1928 the value of all shrubs, plants, trees and vines imported into Canada had a value of \$1,795,931 as compared with \$1,496,395 the year before. Imports were mainly made up of florist stock.

his own way the prohibition law and the customs laws might just as well be repealed. If the temperance people of this Island will stand for such conduct, they should not be called men and women. If the politicians knew that our temperance principles were stronger than our political partyism we would have different conditions soon.

I am Sir, etc., EAST POINT

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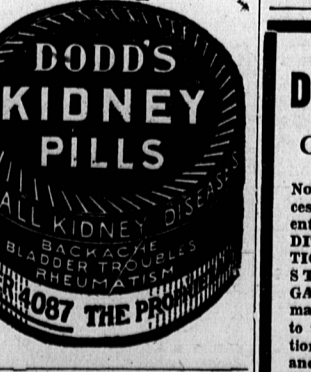
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The Poet's Corner

INDIAN DANCE When they had pitched their smoked Tepees In horse-shoe curve upon the plain, I strolled into the Indian camp— And straightway was a boy again. The years between were crumbled dust;

A dream of youth had come to pass: I smoked a calumet with five "Tall red men in the sun-dried grass. Yet coming back to Now and Town, Interrogated where I'd been, "Just looking at the Indian camp," I said, with most nonchalant mien. For who believes in miracle? Or why proclaim so much as half Our happy lunacies to one Who would, not understanding, laugh? But there was deeper miracle At night, when stars and fires were lit And wind-borne rhythms came to Town As though to cast a spell on it. Out to the Indian camp I went— And far beyond my boyhood then: Greece was not dreamt: Rome had not been; Young wonder filled the hearts of men.

There's something lost in organ-peals Or witchery of violins; These Indians had not quite forgot Who danced in deer-skin moccasins. Where had I heard these lites before, That plaintive cry, that dying fall? Or did they but remind me Of The wind in trees, a wild-fowl's call? than usual is a serious business as it means a longer winter, and in our northern climate the cost of living during the cold season is very high.



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