

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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What Capital Tax Means

Are we tending towards socialism or whither are we drifting? Mr. J. S. Woodworth, M. P., in the course of the debate on the Budget argued that

"To relieve unemployment the whole wealth of the nation should be conscripted; perhaps there should be a scaling down on debts; certainly there should be a tax on capital."

This means, to take a concrete example, that every farm on Prince Edward Island should be taxed sufficiently to provide relief for the unemployed. Would our farmers appreciate or approve of such a policy? It is taking from the industrious "Haves" and giving to perhaps the wasteful "Have nots." Yet strange to remark, Mr. Woodworth is not singular in his advocacy of such a policy; there are those in our churches and elsewhere who look longingly towards a time when the Socialist ideal will prevail, claiming that the present world depression is due to the existing Capital and Labor system of constitutional government.

People who are inclined to argue thus will find direct contradiction to their claim in the present monetary misfortunes of Australia where Socialism has been more intensely practised than in any country outside Russia. A committee of experts has suggested for Australia a policy of extra taxation, lower debt interest, and retrenchment in expenditure which is calculated to restore the lost equilibrium of the Commonwealth's finances; but while all the Australian State Governments, save that of New South Wales, which is bitterly Socialist, are willing and eager to economize by any means in their power, the Federal Government, also Socialist in character, is using its utmost influence to prevent the suggested savings from being put into operation. The Federal Treasurer, Mr. Theodore, has indeed gone so far as to endeavour to alienate the banks by accusing them of practices which no bank would employ save in the nightmare of a suspicious but inexperienced Socialist.

It is not in the way of socialistic adventure that Canada is to make progress, but in the safe and sane keeping to the beaten paths of economy, retrenchment and industry with the tangible reward that sweetens labour.

In the republic to the south of us conditions are very much worse financially than they are with Canada. Indeed Canada is more prosperous than any country in the world, and Prince Edward Island is unique in that we do not know what real dawn-and-out hard times are. And why is that? Largely because our farmers toil and spin from early dawn to dewy eve to build up a competence for themselves and their families—something tangible that they can call their own. Who is Mr. Woodworth, or those who think like him, that would seek to tax the result of such labours out of existence? That is what the Capital Tax means for us, and that is the amendment to the Bennett Budget which Mr. Woodworth suggests.

A Rousing Convention

The enthusiasm of the Conservative party workers in the Second District of Prince was evident at Wednesday evening's convention in which Messrs G. Shelton Sharp and Austin Ramsay, Conway, were nominated as candidates in the forthcoming provincial election. Every poll in the constituency was represented 100 per cent. The magnificent majority received by Mr. Sharp in the by-election held a few months ago, at which the Attorney General in the Lea Government suffered humiliating defeat, was naturally referred to, and confidence was expressed that the vote rolled up on that occasion was but the beginning of Conservative victories in the Second District. Cer-

tainly it was evident, from the tone of the meeting, that Mr. Sharp's success as representative at the last session of the Legislature met with whole-hearted approval. He received again, the unanimous nomination, amid great applause.

Mr. Ramsay, though new to political life, is widely known and esteemed throughout the constituency. There was keen competition for the nomination, evidencing again the strength of Conservative sentiment. We congratulate Mr. Ramsay, whose nomination was made unanimous, and also the convention upon its choice of both candidates.

The Second District of Prince has made political history in recent months. The stern rebuke which it administered to the Lea Government in the by-election last fall caused such a panic in Liberal quarters that the two remaining by-elections in the Charlottetown and Cardigan districts, were called off. There can be no doubt but that the Lea Government figured on scoring an easy victor in a district which had been consistently Liberal since Confederation, and that it received a rude awakening when the ballots were counted.

Since that time, the Government and its party press have made every attempt to minimize Mr. Sharp's victory—the Patriot newspaper going so far as to refer contemptuously to the constituency as "an isolated district" whose reputation of the Government candidate, apparently, did not matter. It is up to the electors of Second Prince to repeat at the coming election the dose administered on Trafalgar Day. With the strong anti-Lea sentiment in the other districts of the County and throughout the Province generally, there is every reason to expect that the Conservative party under the Hon. J. D. Stewart will be elected, and that a new era of advancement and progress for Prince Edward Island, under a Government sympathetically co-operating with the Conservative Government at Ottawa, will be inaugurated. The Second District of Prince deserves to be represented in the Legislature by two strong supporters of the incoming Stewart Government, and we trust and believe that the electors will again give their hearty support, both to Mr. Sharp and his colleague, Mr. Ramsay.

Lobster Exports Increased

In view of the general trade situation it is not surprising that the foreign sales of Canada's fishery products showed a decline last year. The value of these exports, exclusive of oils, was \$31,050,000 in round figures compared with \$35,969,000 in 1929. Decreases were spread fairly well over the whole list of fish goods which Canada exports, but the largest decline was in the sales of canned salmon. On the other hand, there were gratifying increases in some branches. One of these was the can and lobster trade in which the export was valued at \$2,235,000 in 1930 against \$3,113,000 in the previous year. Exports of live lobsters also increased, while fish-meal sales amounted to \$884,000, an increase of some \$59,000. There was an increased export of this latter product to the Netherlands, and some business was done with the United Kingdom.

Editorial Notes

One of the features of planting in New Brunswick this year is the large acreage being sown with certified disease-free seed potatoes. It is estimated by the Frederick Gleaner that the area so planted is four times as great as that of last year.

With its issue of June 1, The Financial Times of London, publishes an interesting and valuable Canadian Supplement giving authoritative information about the Dominion and the provinces which cannot fall but be of advantage to us. The space devoted to Prince Edward Island is generous and informative.

Notes by the Way

The depression in America, says a Swiss economist, is the fault of women. However, having been blamed for something or other since Adam made his complaint, they probably won't worry much.

Preliminary figures of the census in India, indicate that the population has increased by more than 30,000,000 during the last decade. This means that the increase is approximately ten per cent, as compared with one per cent, during the previous ten years. The low increase during the 1911-21 period was due to an outbreak of influenza in 1918 which accounted for 6,000,000 deaths. During the last ten years, there has been no such catastrophe.

Aristotle held that intense tragedy could only befall men of high degree; they had so much further to fall. In America the disaster has fallen on a people not only unaccustomed to straitened living but confident that they had found the secret of perpetual prosperity, that under no circumstances could they ever fall to the level of poor, effete, debt-ridden Europe.

The effect of the competition of automobiles upon railway travel and revenue is indicated by the drop in both in the U. S. during the past 10 years. In 1920, 1,234,862,043 passengers were carried. In 1928 the number of passengers had fallen to 790,327,447. In 1929 passenger receipts amounted to \$1,286,613,000 and this sum had fallen in 1929 to 874 million dollars.

The Opposition amendment to Premier Bennett's Budget was about as empty a document as has ever been presented in Parliament. It practically finds no fault and does not make a single major objection to the new Government proposals and much less it proposes an important alternative. "How would the Liberals have met the five million deficit? The Ralston amendment does not tell us. How would they have given employment to the workless? The amendment does not say. How would they have encouraged exports? We are not told. How would they have distributed the necessary taxation? Again, we are left in the dark. "The amendment asserts that all these things are desirable. It might as well assert that good health is desirable."

Much of the harm already done to Britain's trade can be undone by sane and patriotic action. The Prince of Wales offered one instalment of the solution when he urged his country to consider the case for protective tariffs. A timely comment is afforded by the dumping of 15,000 barrels of Russian butter in England. Tariffs, applied with wisdom and judgment, would do a great deal for Britain's relief.

According to the Rev. Joseph Fallon, S. J., who has just returned from a visit to the British Isles, the Irish Free State is in a sounder position than any other part of the Kingdom, which fact he attributes to the soundness of her varied industries and her ever-increasing export trade. The Free State's prosperity will be regarded with satisfaction in other parts of the Empire and congratulations will go out to President Cosgrove for the success of his policies.

From Shanghai, comes news that fifty thousand peasants are fleeing from their homes to escape the savagery of "red" bandits, and reports are that hundreds of children have perished by the roadway in the exodus. China has been the scene of civil warfare for several years and the Government armies do not seem to be making much headway. Domestic peace appears to be a long way off in what used to be called the Celestial Empire.

The ordinary American visitor in London has a better acquaintance with the city's antiquities than nineteenth of the Londoners of the same order of intelligence and education. The Britisher is more interested in the Empire's far-flung colonial possessions—Kenya in darkest Africa, Ceylon, Egypt, Ashantee. He likes to hear about new lands open for exploitation, new fields for his enterprise. At the drop of a hat he will turn his back on every storied urn and animated bust in the whole collection and travel half round the globe to make his home in a lonely pestiferous trading-station, perhaps to rule a tribe of fuzzy-wuzzies and assume the white man's burden of trying to get fanatical adherents of half a dozen to dwell together in some semblance of harmony.

It is not generally known, that when the previous Government restored penny postage it expected the British Government to own way.



By James W. Barlow, M.D. ALLERGY—BEING SENSITIVE TO CERTAIN SUBSTANCES

I have spoken before about the new word—allergy—that has become so well known now that we are finding out the cause of asthma, hay fever, the hives, eczema, and certain kinds of stomach and intestinal disturbances.

To say an individual is allergic is simply to say that his system, his tissues, are very sensitive to certain substances, and these substances so disturb the workings of his body processes that he may have, asthma, hives and eczema result therefrom.

That this is true has been discovered by many people who found that eggs, wheat, meat, oranges, milk and other foods which stand at the top in food value, disturbed them by bringing on one or more of the above ailments.

Similarly animal fur, horse hair, feathers, and other substances coming in contact with their skin, or lining of nose or throat, brought on trouble.

Accordingly when a youngster, or adult also, is subject to attacks of any of above ailments, a careful history of the case is taken before treatment is given. For instance the places the individual visits, the eating of certain foods, new bedding, contact with animal pets such as dogs, cats and horses.

With asthma, the occurrence of the attacks at night, might indicate that the bedding was to blame, whereas an attack during the day shortly after a meal, would indicate some article of food.

Similarly with eczema and hives, although food is more likely to be the cause.

Sometimes the parent's occupation may cause trouble in one of the children. Dr. Bret Ratner, New York, reports two instances in youngsters one due to rabbit fur where the father worked in a felt factory, and the other to meats where the father was a butcher. Both cases cleared up when pains were taken to prevent the children coming in contact with the substances.

As you know, in order to find out just what substance or substances are causing the trouble, skin tests are made in which a small amount of the suspected substance is dropped into a scratch in the skin. Already between 300 and 400 substances have been used in these tests. While it may be difficult in some cases to locate the exact cause, many people by remembering what they have been eating, where they have been visiting, or sleeping, are able to locate the offending substance for themselves.



FROM "CHRIST IN THE UNIVERSE"

No planet knows that this Our wayside planet, carrying land and wave, Love and life multiplied, and pain and bliss, Bears, as chief treasure, one forsaken grave.

Nor, in our little day, May His devices with the heaven be guessed, His pilgrimage to thread the Milky Way, Or His bestowals there be manifest.

But in the eternities, Doubtless we shall compare together, hear A million alien Gospels, in what guise He trod the Pleiades, the Lyre, the Bear.

O, be prepared, my soul! To read the inconceivable, to scan The million forms of God those stars unroll When, in our turn, we show to them a Man.

—Alice Meynell.

Creating Home Markets For Maritime Producers

(The following editorial from the Sydney Post outlines the benefits which will accrue under the Bennett Government policies to the coal industry of the Maritime Provinces. The development of this industry, which will mean greater markets within easy access of the agricultural producers of Prince Edward Island was one of the election planks in the Conservative platform in the last federal election campaign.)

The Dominion Government has issued five orders-in-council to aid the marketing of Canadian coal. These measures of assistance apply, in one form or another, to every coal-producing Province in Canada. Four of these Provinces, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the assistance provided takes the form of reduced rail rates. Lower rail rates are also extended to the coal produced in the Crow's Nest Pass district of British Columbia, but an even more important measure of assistance to the colliery industry of that Province is the provision of a bounty of 25 cents per ton on all British Columbia coal sold for bunkering or exported to any foreign country except the United States. Taken together these orders-in-council constitute a carefully prepared and generous scheme of assistance to the whole colliery industry of the Dominion.

The order-in-council affecting Nova Scotia and New Brunswick supersedes that issued by the King Government and known as P. C. 539 in March 1928. The new order establishes lower rates, and contemplates larger hauls, than that which it replaces. For New Brunswick it provides a reduction of one-sixth of a cent per ton mile from the regular rate, on all coal carried by rail from the mines of that Province to Quebec and Ontario, the maximum rebate being \$1.50 per ton. This will give New Brunswick substantially lower rates to Central Canada than the \$2.10 rate fixed by the old order-in-council. And it extends the rail rebate to coal shipped to Ontario, as well as to Quebec, whereas the previous order aided the movement to the latter Province only.

But it is of course Nova Scotia that stands to profit most from the new rates, both because this is the greatest colliery Province and because of the special provision in the order relating to coal carried to St. Lawrence by water, and thence forwarded by rail to consuming points in Central Canada. Under the old order issued by the King Government in March 1928, a three dollar winter rate was established on all coal carried by rail from any Nova Scotia mine to any approved point in Quebec. A lower scale of rates and a larger market territory are established under the new order, which gives a reduction of one-seventh of a cent per ton mile, up to \$2 a ton, from the regular rates on coal shipments, between November 15 and April 15, from Nova Scotia mines to points both in Quebec and Ontario. In effect this gives a winter rate from Cape Breton to Quebec city of \$2.03 a ton, and of about \$2.25 to Montreal, as compared with the previous "test rate" of \$3 to any point in Quebec. With the increased tariff protection of 25 cents a ton, it will improve by more than a dollar a ton the position of the coal producers of this Province against American competition at Quebec and Montreal, as compared with their position under P. C. 539 of 1928.

Still more valuable are the enlarged concessions in furtherance rail rates from St. Lawrence ports on waterborne Nova Scotia coal. Under the superseded order-in-council a rebate of one-fifth of a cent per ton mile was allowed on this movement, but the maximum of this subvention was 75 cents per ton, and the distance to which it was thus limited was therefore 375 miles. Moreover it was not allowed at all on coal shipments for railway use. Under the new order, one-fifth of a cent per ton mile reduction is conceded, up to a total of 75 cents on movements to points in Quebec, as well as to Cornwall and Ottawa in Ontario; while the subvention is enlarged to one-third of a cent per ton mile to other points in Ontario, up to a total of \$1.50 a ton. Furthermore, these reductions are to be allowed on all such coal shipments for locomotive uses as may exceed the quantities of Canadian coal heretofore consumed by the railways on the basis of the average for the past three years.

These subventions are authorized for a period of two years, from June 1, 1931, to June 1, 1933, the difference between the reduced and the regular rates to be made good each year to the railways out of the Federal treasury. That the net result will be a great increase in the quantity of Nova Scotia coal sold in Central Canada, is not open to question. In addition to the depressed rail rates, the raising of the tariff to 75 cents on bituminous coal places Nova Scotia coal on a far more favorable competitive footing, as against imported fuel, in the whole of Quebec and in the Eastern and Northern Ontario, than it ever enjoyed before. The enlarged markets thus opened up are variously estimated as having a consuming capacity of from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 tons per year, but their real value can only be determined when business conditions are normal, and the consumption of coal reaches fair average levels. And they are markets that are destined to expand greatly in the future.

Canada and the Silver Question

(Exchange) Mr. J. F. Darling, an eminent authority on currency and a director of the Midland Bank, addressed the Canadian Club of Toronto last week and repeated his proposal for the rehabilitation of silver, and urged again that Premier Bennett take the initiative in getting action on this important question. "Why wait for international or even Imperial conferences?" he asked. "Why should action not be taken now by the three nations whose combined resources are adequate to rehabilitate silver—the United States, Great Britain (which, for this purpose, includes India) and Canada? A full Imperial or international conference could be held later. For a matter of such supreme importance the chief representatives would naturally be the heads of the respective Governments—President Hoover, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Mr. R. B. Bennett. Neither President Hoover nor Mr. MacDonald appear eager to take the initiative. Mr. Bennett has a unique opportunity to take the initial step by suggesting a meeting and Ottawa as the meeting place."

As in previous addresses Mr. Darling pointed out the importance of a stabilized silver currency in trading with the Orient and declared that during the next few decades trade on the Pacific will become of vast importance in the history of this country. Beyond a recognition of the great possibilities of Canada's trade with the Orient there is still no indication of the attitude of the Canadian Government toward the whole question. Beyond doubt Mr. Darling has aroused a very great deal of interest among financiers in Canada, and it is equally certain that the question on is one which cries for solution.

Eutopian Era

(G. K.'s Weekly)

From his simple, quiet home at Lossiemouth, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald broadcast a message to the people on the meaning of Empire Day. The address was full of platitudes, and expressed a sickly pietistic belief in democratic evolution and the necessity of keeping the present Government in power. Apparently if Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's advice is followed, a new era will dawn. Unfortunately the Morning Post dropped a fly into his oration by pointing out that in 1917, when the war was causing most concern in England, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald identified himself with the publication of a manifesto supporting the Russian Revolution and promising a new era. It remains now for Mr. MacDonald to explain which era he proposes.

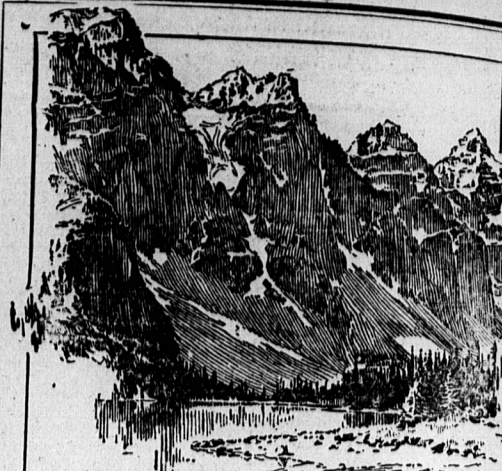
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handed, a new era will dawn. Unfortunately the Morning Post dropped a fly into his oration by pointing out that in 1917, when the war was causing most concern in England, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald identified himself with the publication of a manifesto supporting the Russian Revolution and promising a new era. It remains now for Mr. MacDonald to explain which era he proposes.

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