

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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CROP MORTGAGES

The discussion on the proposed amendment of the Act Respecting Seed or Fertilizer Mortgages on Potato Crops is vitally interesting if not particularly enlightening to the farmer. The position is simply this. Prior to 1930 a farmer in want of money could mortgage his crop to anyone. He was free to make any arrangement he liked, to be paid in money or in produce as he chose. The Act of 1930 took away this right from the farmer and prevented him mortgaging his prospective crop to anyone, save a fertilizer manufacturer or agent. Evidently the intention now is to strengthen the hold the fertilizer people have on the farmer's potato crop. Is this wise or advisable in the interests of the community at large and the farmer in particular? Would it not be better were the Act of 1930 wiped off the statute books altogether and the farmer's independence restored in so far as raising money or mortgages is concerned? This is a matter which the Legislature should take into consideration. It was pointed out during the debate that the question is not a political one and both sides are free to express their candid opinion on the subject. It is a bad thing in any community, and especially in an agricultural community, to have the commercial rights and privileges of the basic industry interfered with in the specific interests of one class or section. After all, the fertilizer manufacturers and agents are in a position, or should be, to look after themselves in common with other traders who deal with farmers, or with whom farmers deal. Let the Legislature wipe out, or repeal, the statute of 1930, and allow the farmer freedom to mortgage his crop to whom and for whatever he chooses.

OPTIMISM

Perhaps the most pleasing characteristic of the debate on the fertilizer bill in the Legislature was the optimism regarding the potato situation. The hope was expressed by Mr. Lea and others that the present year would show a distinct improvement in prices or at all events in markets, for our produce. This optimism is based on the great reduction in the acreage planted in the United States, together with the prospect of a turn of the tide in favor of more employment. When we get down to rock bottom it must be admitted that the lack of employment and reasonable remuneration to the great body of consumers in the United States and Canada is the main factor in the lowering of prices and the lack of markets. Too much confidence must not be placed in the reduction of acreage in the United States. These calculations in "futures" are apt to go astray when crops are harvested. The main reliance of farmers must be placed on the prosperity of the countries in which are the consuming population, for, after all, a farmer depends upon the mouths to be filled and the ability to fill them. It would not be wise, for instance, for the farmers in this Province to plant as many acres in potatoes in the current year as they did in the two preceding years, basing their calculations merely on the anticipation that there would be a great reduction in the acreage planted in the United States.

BETTER TIMES

According to reports from Washington, and nowadays one must go abroad to a certain extent for information concerning the good prospects or otherwise of his own country—certain tendencies in the Canadian situation, particularly in the balance of foreign trade and national investment, appear to justify the belief that a definite upward trend in exchange must be expected in the near future. Mr. Emil Saur, United States Consul General at Toronto, in a report to the

Department of Commerce at Washington, gives an analysis of the situation and finds (in his own words) "the recent depreciation of the Canadian dollar is not directly attributed to the state of foreign trade of Canada, therefore, other factors have influenced the recent course of Canadian exchange, among them foreign loans and foreign investments in Canada." The sudden drop in Canadian exchange several months ago is attributed to the impact of withdrawals from Canadian banks by United States interests when Great Britain went off the gold standard, short selling of the Canadian dollar, the general confusion occasioned by the European situation and the fact that "it was known sufficient gold to cover adverse balances was not available for exportation from Canada." Long term securities, it is generally agreed, he says were withdrawn from Canada in such volume as to seriously affect the exchange situation. With reference to the trade balance of Canada Mr. Saur says "it is expected this favorable balance will continue to increase, particularly as a result of the recent Canadian Protective Tariff and of the probable effects of the adverse foreign exchange rate for Canadian funds upon imports. If the favorable trade balance during 1932 should amount to more than \$200,000,000 it might be expected there will be sufficient balance to meet the obligations on the Canadian debt held abroad. This would tend to relieve pressure on the rate for Canadian exchange." Noting a decrease of foreign investment in Canada during 1931 the Consul General continues, "The trend must be reversed and a substantial increase in such investments effected before it may be expected that Canada's foreign exchange will rise to par." The statistics recently compiled by the Canadian investment houses appear to indicate that American buyers of Canadian securities is again on the increase. It may be expected that when stability in the security markets and in the foreign exchange is restored the flow of private capital into Canada for investment will be increased, particularly when it is felt that a return to par of the Canadian dollar would result in added profit to such investment." All of which is very satisfactory to Canadian people generally.

POLICE REPORT

Accidental and sudden deaths in the Province during the year 1931, according to the report of the Provincial Police, totalled 32, of this number seven met death by burning, four by drowning, five by suicide, two from exposure, four from natural causes and five from the operation of motor vehicles. The latter figures compare favorably with the preceding year, when eight persons were killed by motor vehicles during the last four months of the year, (the period covered by the Police report). It is also worthy of note that not one fatality occurred at a level crossing during 1931.

52 motor vehicle accidents outside Charlottetown and Summerside were investigated during the year. The report adds that "taking into consideration the fact that more motor vehicles were in use last year than ever before, with the exception of a few speed fiends, the traffic was considered well behaved."

During the year a total of 26 constables and special constables were engaged, and during the same period a total of 22 resigned or were dismissed. On November 16th, the enforcement of the Prohibition Act was taken over by a squad of officers specially appointed for that purpose. With the return of direct enforcement of the Act to the Prohibition Commission the authorized establishment of the Provincial Police was reduced to a Commissioner and 7 Constables.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"It is impossible," says Le Soleil Quebec for the administration of the Province to function without finding new sources of revenue for those which have diminished or dried up. This course is inevitable. No government is exempt. Soon we shall be informed of the dispositions of the federal budget, and we may be sure that federal taxation proposals will not be less drastic than those of the provinces. It will be permitted to discuss the exactions and possibly amend some of them, but we will not be able to avoid them."

Mr. De Valera's optimism assumes the British Government's easy compliance in the abolition of the oath, and, therefore, of the whole treaty, says the Dublin Weekly Irish Times. He ignores the fact that, by such abolition, the Free State would cease to be a Dominion of the British Commonwealth, and would forfeit the right to tariff preferences. He argues that, if England is the Free State's best customer, the Free State is England's best customer—forgetting that, while England has a hundred customers, the Free State has only one. Further-more, the significance of Denmark's joyous interest in the Pianna Fall program is entirely lost upon Mr. De Valera.

The Empire is tired of making its markets a dumping ground for other nations. There is a feeling that the time has come to screen our most vulnerable targets. And one of the first targets that ought to be screened is this Island of Trinidad which for years has been the butt of Venezuelan tariff policy. The position should be clearly stated at Ottawa, so that all our brothers and sisters in the Empire may know about it. If there it to be discrimination against a tiny island in our Empire, let us make it discrimination against the whole Empire. Then we shall know where we are. The Empire's quarrels are our quarrels, and conversely when we suffer it becomes the affair of the Empire.—Trinidad Guardian.

The animus against Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, Canadian High Commissioner at London, is based on the fact that throughout his political career he always succeeded in beating his opponents to a finish. At the present juncture they have an additional motive in their desire to plaster Conservative leaders with some of the Beauharnois mud in which the Federal Liberal organization is buried to the neck. Mr. Ferguson's enemies were further emboldened by the fact that he was absent in London, where he has been doing the most important kind of service for Canada and the Empire. But they forgot that, with fast steamers, London is not so far away, and that Mr. Ferguson is still a bonny fighter. He will be in Canada early in April to give evidence before the Beauharnois investigating committee.

The latest political sensation in Europe is contained in word from Berlin telling of Prussian police raids on Nazi headquarters for the purpose of frustrating what is said to have been an elaborate Hitler plot for the seizure of the reins of government in Germany. Adolf Hitler, the dangerous fire-brand who patterns himself on the Mussolini model but lacks the Italian dictator's good judgment, was soundly defeated by Marshal Paul von Hindenburg in the presidential elections last Sunday. Now it is claimed that Hitler, probably expecting defeat, had arranged beforehand to seize power anyway. If this is the case, Chancellor Brüning seems to have pretty well upset the applecart. The world breathed a sigh of relief when it learned that Hitler hopes had been dashed by conservatively-minded German electors. The world will continue to breathe easily if Mr. Hitler is kept well out of the official picture.

Mr. Charles Napoleon Dorion, Conservative M. P. for Quebec-Montmorency, paid quite a compliment to Prime Minister Bennett during the course of a speech in French to the House of Commons the other day. He said: "I heard, the other day, the honorable member for Quebec East (Mr. Lapointe) call the Prime Minister 'Mussolini'. Well, I prefer a Mussolini to those who are quoted as an example by our Liberal friends on the Labor group; the Lenins, Trotskys, Stalins and others of the same stamp. "I prefer to all those men, one like Mussolini: who, through his energy, has saved his country from destruction, and from being the prey of Bolshevism at it exists in Russia. "I wish that all countries had at the head of their government a Mussolini, especially in the hard times we are passing through. If all countries had as their leaders,



THE DUODENAL TUBE

You have often heard and may have seen a 'stomach tube' which is used in testing the rate at which the stomach is digesting food, and is also used to remove poisons from the stomach.

However what is known as the duodenal tube because it goes down into the stomach and then from stomach into the duodenum (first part of the small intestine) is now receiving much more attention than the stomach tube. It is about as thick around as a slate pencil, and is about 45 inches long and can be used for a great many purposes.—the contents of the stomach duodenum before eating or a test meal, can be obtained; the gall bladder can be drained by pouring some epsom salts down the tube and then having the patient lie down with head lower than the rest of the body, and the bile will come up the tube and out of the body. After abdominal operations, the patient should never be allowed to vomit. When this tube is inserted immediately after the operation it removes poisonous secretions, no vomiting occurs, which adds greatly to the comfort and safety of the patient.

Another condition after operations which is distressing to patient and doctor is terrible pain from gas pressure. Dr. F. D. LaRochelle, Springfield, Mass., says that if, after every stomach operation the tube is introduced and the stomach kept clean and empty, and the loss of fluid replaced by inserting water into the body by hypodermic means, this severe and sometimes fatal gas condition can usually be prevented. In fact Dr. Rochelle speaks of the use of this tube in jaundice, nausea, and vomiting, removing tapeworms, obtaining pure stomach digestive juice, washing out entire stomach and intestinal system thus lessening putrefaction.

Where urine gets into the blood, a serious poisonous condition, hiccup becomes a distressing symptom. The use of this tube to wash out the stomach and upper part of the intestine usually cures the hiccup. I believe you will agree that this little piece of rubber tubing is worth much to mankind in locating and curing various ailments. Some years ago I wrote of a man living 60 miles from a railroad station who used the tube twice a week to prevent 'colic.' So if the duodenal tube is to be used on you or yours don't worry about it. It is harmless, painless, and gives great results.



FROM "IN MEMORIAM"

O thou that after toil and storm Mayest seem to have reached a purer air, Whose faith hath centre everywhere, Nor cares to fix itself to form, Leave thou thy sister when she prays, Her early Heaven, her happy views; Nor thou with shadowed hint confuse A life that leads laborious days. Her faith thro' form is pure as thine, Her hands are quicker unto good: O, sacred be the flesh and blood To which she links a truth divine! See thou, that countest reason ripe In holding by the law within, Thou fa' not in a world of sin, And even for want of such a type. —Tennyson.

Film Star: "I hear you're married again, Dorothy. Whom did you marry this time?" Second Film Star: "Er—er" (opens bag): "I believe I've got his card somewhere."

Time: Make use of time, if thou lovest eternity; know, yesterday cannot be recalled, tomorrow cannot be assured; today only is thine; one day is worth two tomorrows. —Enchiridion.

men as firm, energetic and as patriotic as the one who is at the helm of our Government, the world would soon become normal again. Mussolini! That does not constitute an insult for the leader of the Conservative party; we accept the title as a compliment paid to our Prime Minister."

FALCONWOOD REPORT OF SPECIALISTS REGARDING CONDITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

(Continued)

The following is the report of the Mental Specialists, Drs. W. T. B. Mitchell and Grant Fleming of the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene on conditions at Falconwood prior to the disastrous fire and their recommendations thereon.

XVI DISCHARGE OF PATIENTS

Section XXV of the Act, as amended, states "Subject to the approval of the Trustees, the Medical Superintendent may discharge, upon recovery, amendment, or because of harmlessness or unsuitableness, any patient, except those under criminal charge," "patients who have been for more than six months under care in the hospital and have so far recovered as to be capable of being taken care of in a private family, may be discharged on trial, in care of their relatives or friends, or falling these, may be boarded out under such conditions and at such rate of payment as the trustees shall direct. . . . under the supervision and inspection of the Medical Superintendent."

Although provision was made in the original Act with a view to releasing under supervision, it cannot be said that this is being done. Cases are released under the care of relatives, but there is no provision of staff made for their supervision from the Hospital.

We are unable to suggest how many cases now in the Hospital might be discharged to such care, provided a supervisory service were available. That number could only be determined after a proper classification and study of the cases, and a knowledge of the home conditions acquired by a visit to the home.

In our opinion, it is likely that quite a number could be discharged with these provisions. We are of the opinion that the public health nurses of the Province could undertake the necessary home investigations and give some of the necessary supervision.

This implies a considerable amount of educational work among families, but we see no reason why the Province should be burdened with the care of persons who can be taken care of at home, just to relieve the family of its own responsibility.

It is particularly interesting to note that the original law makes provision for the boarding-out of cases. This has been carried out in a few European centres with success.

The boarding-out of cases is a subject which should be given very serious consideration. It may well be that the Island would be an ideal place for boarding-out, and that it might give a lead in this to North America. This system of care has the great advantage of avoiding capital expenditures for new buildings, and the cost of maintaining building.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That there be appointed one public health nurse, adequately trained in mental hygiene, who would under the direction of the Medical Superintendent, supervise the home care of patients discharged from hospital on trial. She would also make or secure the required home investigations of cases for whom application for admission has been made. Her record of home conditions would assist in the treatment of cases. She would act as nursing supervisor in mental hygiene of the public health nurses as the mental hygiene work is taken into the general public health programme of the Province.

XVII PROVINCIAL INFIRMARY

The report, to this point, has dealt only with Falconwood Hospital. The Infirmary is organized separately, and yet is closely linked with the Hospital. It comes under the same Board of Trustees, and the Medical Superintendent is responsible for the medical care of the inmates. The Matron and the male supervisor are not under the staff of the Hospital.

The average number in residence, during 1930, was 94, with 27 admissions during the year. It is a mixed group of idiots, feeble-minded, cripples, epileptics, and homeless of all ages, and the aged and infirm.

The comparative cleanliness of the Infirmary is striking. The mixture of all types of cases is most undesirable.

In our opinion, the Infirmary should be under the administration

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.

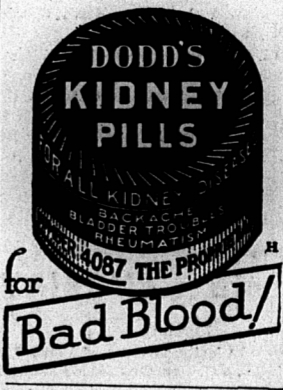
"PROTECT JUDGES STAND"

Sir,—As the season for making good resolutions is upon us it would be for the general good of harness racing if secretaries and other managers of meetings should emphatically resolve to thoroughly protect the judge's stands. While on general principles little good can be done by comparing the procedure on the running tracks with that on those which are devoted to harness racing this is a case in which a comparison may with profit be drawn. Only on very rare occasions may anyone except the regular officials be seen in the stand at a running meeting unless called there for some specific purpose material to the business in hand, but on the trotting track it is by no means an uncommon occurrence for a reporter or some other outsider to mount the steps of the pagoda, uninvited plump himself down in a convenient chair, plant his feet on the table and proceed to discuss the judicial decision just rendered. The majority of men who act as judges at trotting meetings do not feel inclined to order the intruder out of the stand and those who thus thrust themselves uninvited into places where they have no right to go are either too favourably impressed with their own importance or too thick skulled to take a gentle hint. Managers of associations should see to it that outsiders are kept away from the judges stand, and in the event of some ignoramus butting his way into it should unceremoniously eject him by force if moral suasion should prove insufficient.

Insufficient protection by the association has a tendency to keep many good men from serving as judges of trotting racing, and anxiety to please the representatives of the press has led many managers to grant them far too great license. The callow youth assigned to cover his first trotting meeting views in the stand, perhaps, gentlemen who were occupying similar positions of honour when he was yet a scolding babe in swaddling clothes. Something is done with respect to invade a most comprehensive "laopso" of the judges whom he ramsons

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Infirmary be placed under the same management as the Hospital. (To Be Continued)



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unmercifully and stigmatizes as utterly unfit to discharge their duties. The general public not present during the occurrence has no means of knowing whether the strictures were called for or not, and seeing them in cold type concludes that they are true. The officers of any association should in such a case interview the young man and in good set terms inform him that they will not tolerate the publication of such slanderous matter, and back up their statements if necessary by ejection from the grounds. The judges' stand during a racing meeting is to all intents and purposes a court of record and as such honour, deference and respect should be paid its occupants, as to judges in the civil court. Certainly the judges of racing are required to pass on matters fully as intricate and difficult as the jurist on the civic bench and they are moreover at the grave disadvantage of being compelled to think and act quickly while their legal brethren may take as much time as they may see fit. Does any one suppose that the judges of the law courts would permit reporters to charge them continuously with incompetency, bias, dishonesty and a hundred disqualifications? Not by any means, committal for contempt would very speedily follow persistence after warning, supposing that the jurists attacked should prove lenient enough to first caution the offender. Too great respect cannot be shown the judges of racing. The judges' stand is not always as well filled as it might be, but the presence of strangers and outsiders in it will not make it any better, nor will the vicious attacks of sensation mongers. Dignified criticism by well informed men no one objects to, and differences of opinions will always arise. From discussion of points which admit of two or more views being legitimately and sensibly taken of them good always comes, but the men who can reason out the knotty problems of the turf to a logical conclusion never go hammer and tongs after the judges simply because the official ruling happens not to correspond exactly with their own views. Naturally when any reporter is placed "on the carpet" by the managers of any association he makes a great fuss over what he considers to be an attempt to throttle the press and the others of his stripe take up the refrain, pelting the official with mud because they dare not maintain the dignity of the judges' stand and the fair name of the gentlemen who are serving them in it. Ofttimes these officials have feared to take the course dictated by common sense in the belief that these scribblers will be reflected in his report would damage their meeting; but surely nothing could do more harm than mendacious or erroneous criticism of the judges. It is hard enough on a conscience to find competent men willing to serve in the stand and most of them do so without remuneration of any kind. Surely, then, it is the duty of the associations' officers to uphold as a matter of courtesy if not with wider aim of elevating the tone of the trotting turf, the dignity of their judges and to protect them against interference, raids and attacks of the kind mentioned. I am Sir, etc. JOSEPH L. MUIRHEAD Summerside.



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