

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, AUG. 17, 1923

"BURN THE MORTGAGE!"

In the campaign now on to raise funds for the wiping off of the Mortgage on the G. W. G. A. Building our citizens are in perfect sympathy and we trust their sympathy will express itself tangibly and effectively. The merchants are generously donating two per cent of their sales during the campaign for this laudable purpose and citizens can give valuable help in voting for a favourite candidate in the Popularity Contest. There are ten candidates in the field each one of them sufficiently worthy of popularity to justify the purchase of many voting coupons. Unlike our political contests in which an elector may vote only once the candidates in this case may be voted for an indefinite number of times and the vote cannot be lost, whoever wins, as the proceeds go to the G.W.G.A. Our returned soldiers are worthy of all the support our citizens can give them in their laudable efforts to wipe off the debt on their cozy home. Give them a boost and let there be a grand ceremony some fine evening when the Mortgage is being burned!

A POLITICAL MENACE

It is quite probable that, after the experiences, federal and provincial, of the past few years, at least one of our political handicaps, namely, the third party, will shortly disappear, if indeed, it is not already out of sight. The weakness of the MacKenzie King government is largely due to the constant menace of being defeated by an adverse vote of the third party, the Progressives, usually though not necessarily, friendly to the government. The government holds office by grace of the Progressive party and can move only as the move meets with the approval of the Progressives.

Progress under such conditions is impossible. The Progressives, ostensibly in the House to further and to protect the interests of the farmers, secured nothing of what they were elected for and they prevented the government from going forward. As a result the sessions of 1922 and 1923 were largely lost. Canadian farmers have grievances, many of them, grievances peculiar to their calling, grievances common to other callings. These cannot be removed or even alleviated by segregating themselves from their fellow citizens. The experiment was tried in Ontario under conditions which were exceptionally favorable. It was a lamentable failure; the grievances complained of and which the advent of a farmers' government was going to remove were only aggravated and the finances of the country were hopelessly muddled.

In Alberta where other interests than farming are clamoring for development and where, if the province is to prosper, they must be developed, the conflicting claims demand a radical change in the proposed policy of the Farmer Government, the class distinction in the political system is nearing the end and the province at the next opportunity, will in all probability follow in the footsteps of Ontario and elect a government free from class distinction.

In the House of Commons the Progressive wing made a dismal failure, so far as the interests for which they stood were concerned but they stood in the way of effective legislation generally. Canada has room for two main political parties only. These two great parties represent all classes, all nationalities, all callings; they are Canadians first, after that they are at liberty individually and collectively to promote the special interests of their constituents but there cannot and should not be class constituencies.

As already stated, the farmers have their grievances; they are

carrying the heavy end of the stick; they are up against the everlasting problems of marketing and transportation and these problems are largely under control of the party in power yet these problems are so interwoven with those of others that class distinctions are impossible and class legislation as well. The greatest good to the greatest number must ever be the aim of legislation and this can be effected only by the co-operation and unity of Canadian citizenship and Canadian representation.

FINISH THEIR WORK

We have heard no general demand that Premier Bell should "finish his work." There seems to be an impression that he did too much of it for the good of the province. Yet to leave work unfinished that had been started, to leave it to become worse day after day and to waste the money expended upon it, simply because they were voted out, was a culpable thing. Much of the work on the roads was undertaken for election purposes. Much of it was not needed, yet road work begun should on no account have been left to revert to its former condition or worse. As a result of the work begun and not finished there are miles of road that is not fit to travel on and which must be repaired very shortly whatever government is in power. The longer this work is left undone the more it will cost to get it back to usefulness. The Bell government should either finish its work or let others do it.

THE FORTY DAYS

Now that the forty days commemorating the forbidden exhumation and re-burial of the remains of St. Swithin are about over, it is reasonable to expect a return to normal Prince Edward Island weather. Seldom has a traditional omen been as clearly substantiated as was that which declared that if it rains on St. Swithin's Day it will rain for forty days. It rained this year on that particular day and those who have watched the weather since declare that it has rained every day since during some part of the 24 hours. This may or may not be minutely accurate but all will agree that we have had more rainy days since this anniversary than we have had during the same period of time within their recollection, with the possible exception of some other St. Swithin periods beginning in the same way.

There are few, it is true, who regard this omen as other than a foundationless superstition. It is quite true that there is no authentic proof that in other years rainy St. Swithin Days were followed by forty rainy days, yet the belief exists in many minds that the omen is an unfulfilling one.

It is a curious fact that many of our omens and superstitions are supported by peculiarly corroborative coincidences. Ghosts and so-called fore runners have existed in imagination, at least, since time immemorial. Lucky or unlucky days are often followed by the expected. Premonitions have been fulfilled and calamities have followed on the heels of a warning. Of course the coincidences are remembered and discussed but the failure of the presaged warning or sign has been forgotten. In this way our superstitions are kept alive. We note with care the fulfillment of a "sign," but we take no note of the hundreds of signs which carry no consequences. Yet, disbelieve it how we will, we are all more or less superstitious and there are more men and women than we think who will not say, sit one of thirteen at table, begin a journey on Friday, walk under a ladder or occupy room thirteen in a hotel or on board ship!

Notes By The Way

Two of the nine provinces of Canada stand in a class by themselves in that they each have two chambers in their legislatures. Nova Scotia and Quebec are the provinces referred to. This bicameral plan has the sanction of long usage. It is still in vogue in the United Kingdom. It prevailed in all the provinces of British North America before they were united in the Dominion. It is still the general plan in the many state legislatures of the great Republic across the border. And in face of so many and widespread examples it can hardly be denied that the desirability of abolishing the legislative councils of fifty years ago was a debatable one.

Yet we hear of no demand for creation or the restoration of these "upper houses," as they were called in any of the old provinces or the new ones, which seem to have got along quite comfortably without them for a generation past. There was in the old days a lively demand for their abolition in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Ontario in the days when legislative councils existed there. And it was with difficulty that they were legislated out of existence. And there are some indications that Nova Scotia, if not Quebec may before very long dispense with its upper house and so conform to the usage adopted by the large majority.

It is somewhat noteworthy that the two provinces which continue the bi-cameral legislatures are two which at the last election sent solid Liberal delegations to the federal government. Quebec has had a succession of Liberal provincial governments for a quarter of a century and Nova Scotia has had the same sort of thing for over forty years past. And as legislative councillors are appointed by the government of the day and appointed for life, and party lines are very closely drawn the present political complexion of the two remaining legislative councils in Canada may be easily guessed.

Nova Scotia has just one Conservative among her 21 legislative councillors and Quebec has but one or two at most in a council of 24. When a councillor dies in Quebec or Nova Scotia another Liberal usually chosen from the lower house, is pensioned for life and takes his seat in the council. And the pension in Quebec is \$2,000 a year. In Nova Scotia it is only \$1,500 but that is one half more than the pay of an elected member of the lower house, who now receives \$1,000 per session. Until within a year or two past in Nova Scotia legislative councillors were paid \$1,500 as they now are while members of the elected lower house received but \$700 each.

The beauty of the system from the Liberal point of view is that should the Conservative majority be elected to the lower house and a Conservative government be formed, it could only pass its measures by sufferance of the pensioners in the other chamber. And it would require many years to pass before the course of nature would remove the difficulty, as among councillors few die and none resign. Thus are the dice loaded against the opposition in the two Liberal provinces of Nova Scotia and Quebec. The system also tends to perpetuate itself. The legislative councils naturally refuse to pass a measure abolishing themselves and a remedy for conditions which at present prevent the fair and equal working of party government is hard to find.

The single chamber system is at once less cumbersome, more economical and much more promptly and really responsive to the will of the people than this duplex plan. It is also more honest and less open to trickery. At present it is quite a common trick of dishonest members of the lower house to vote for a measure in their own house and then use their utmost efforts to have it defeated in the council. This recurs when the measure is desirable to the majority of the electors but is contrary to the opinion or personal interests of the members concerned.

The old idea was that two different bodies each giving three readings to every bill brought before them and having power to amend or reject it tended to safe and prudent legislation. Possibly this was true in some cases. In other cases both houses were more careful than the single house now is, each throwing the onus of careful consideration upon the other. Very often the two houses played at cross purposes and needless legislation was delayed or blocked. In any case it will hardly be claimed that the measures passed are less carefully considered now than they were before and the responsibility for their justice and accuracy falls exactly where it should upon the shoulders of men elected by and responsible to the people.

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion expressed by its correspondents.

Former Islander Pleased

Sir.—In your issue of July 28th I read with much pleasure the returns of the provincial elections, a victory worthy of the province proving that the people will stand for right and it alone. At a later date I will explain to the people of Prince Edward Island in which I was born how I was robbed out of one thousand and three hundred dollars and ten months work with equipment by my Liberal friends and stood on the street without a thin dime and asked to accept such treatment as justice by the Federal Government of which I always helped. I will also give some first hand news about the Elmira Branch Railway, Kings County which I helped build and will interest voters at the next general election I think. I am, Sir, etc. JAMES A. SHEEHAN East St. John.

"Turn To The Right"

Sir.—In your issue of the 13th you had an editorial on "The Rule of the Road." All our late governments were controlled, apparently, by the motor interests. Your editorial referred to, breathes a desire that our new government will "carry on" by arbitrarily compelling vehicles to turn to the right when meeting joy-riders upon the public highways. I need not remind you that they have no mandate whatever to pass any such law. The late Bell-Lea-Johnston dictatorship in all its arrogance, did not attempt this. The poet tells us that "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet" and the reverse is also as true. Any acts of arrogance will be quite as intolerable from our new government as they were from the late gang now happily passed away.

I am sure that everyone wishes to give the Stewart government a fair trial. We all desire a restoration of Responsible Government and a cutting down of the public expenditures which has reached such an incredible sum, and which, if continued, must lead to unbearable taxation. However, such articles, as the one referred to are not a good omen. Still hoping, we will wait and see. I am, Sir, etc. FARMER.

TITLED CANDY MAKERS REFUSE TO JOIN UNION

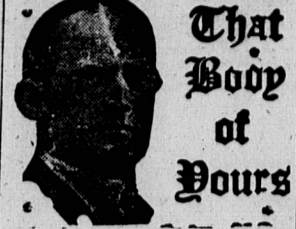
SAALFELD, Saxe-Meininingen, Aug. 16.—Needy countesses and baronesses who work in a large chocolate factory here caused a brief outlaw strike the other day by refusing to join the Socialist-bon-bon makers' union. The demand that they take out membership cards had been made to women out of working hours several times previously, but always rejected. Finally a walking delegate sought out one of the titled ladies at her work-bench. Her indignant refusal to join the union caused such a commotion in the plant that the delegate was thrown out, a workers' mass meeting was held, and a strike proclaimed. Later the laborers tried to return to work, but found themselves locked out. A settlement was reached, however, after a few hours. Most of the titled employees, and a number of ladies of the former firm, come from the neighborhood of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt. The factory's distinguished payroll includes also the widow of a former cabinet minister.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

CANADIAN QUOTATIONS Within a peace that only heaven sends To men who, pilgrims though they be, yet know Life's simple gifts—a home, the heart of friends. The company of the past; a fragrant briar; All these were ours, for in the heart's rich glow Even Hamlet came and brooded on the fire. —"In a Beloved Home," by Dr. E. J. Pratt, Victoria University. The mother arms are born, not made; The mother flame burns bright unfed, And there's a sweet place hollowed out Somewhere for every little head. The mother tears are lived, not shed. When little heads go otherwise; And little heads who miss that place Can never know what waited there. —"Missed," by Anne Elizabeth Wilson in Canadian Magazine.

Tastes Changed.

At his usual rate of speed he turned out two a month, but if necessary he could produce four. In the course of his career, therefore, he must have earned large sums of money which, if they had been properly invested, would have left him wealthy. How he disposed of his money is not said. The general explanation is that he was a writing man. And, of course, there came a time when there was no demand for Harbaugh's dime novels, or for any dime novels at all. Tastes changed. Boys today probably get the thrills at the



BY JAMES W. BARTON, M. D. EATING AT NIGHT.

Many people eat a hearty meal at night before retiring and yet seem to enjoy good health and yet seem to be in the prime of life. Seeing this perhaps you have tried it and the results have been disastrous. You have awakened with a headache and a bad taste in the mouth.

Why? Well, its just this way. You have an occupation that does not entail much muscular work. Perhaps you have a light lunch at noon and then have a substantial meal in the evening. This meal includes meat, vegetables and dessert. The meat or eggs as you know repair the tissue you have worn out through the day, and the other foods supply the necessary heat for the body's activities.

If however you indulge in another heavy meal before retiring you can readily see that as all the body's functions are in a state of rest, this food particularly the meats will not get used up, and will lie in the body as waste matter. Hence your headaches. The person however who seems to "get by" and eat heavy meals at night is usually one who takes more active exercise than yourself or perhaps spends more time outdoors, and thus has this excess matter burned up for him the next day.

Now eating at night can be made helpful, if a little thought is used. For instance in many hospitals it is customary to give all the patients a bowl of warm milk or broth about 9-30 in the evening. This draws the blood to the digestive apparatus, away from the brain and induces sleep. The warm milk or broth is no real tax on digestion and often fulfills the desire for something to eat before retiring for the night. So perhaps a little milk, cocoa, or fruit will answer the purpose for you.

Hard Times Helped.

An important accessory in the deep damnation of its taking off was a cold-blooded ruling of the American Post-office in 1893. Before that time the dime novels had been carried like newspapers as second-class matter. But the authorities ruled that as each issue was a complete story in itself it did not come within this category and a higher rating was demanded. This increased the expense which the publishers were unable to recover from the nickel or dime which they charged for their libraries, and being unable to raise the price some of them went out of business. In the same year there was a financial panic which added to the troubles of the publishers. Two or three of them tried to carry on, but a new generation was growing up, and of course the preceding generation, when it got to be about eighteen years old, stopped reading dime novels. Probably the frequent denunciation of the books from the pulpits and other seats of authority had some influence in stamping out the practice. In any event the habit has been broken, and that without the adding of another amendment to the United States Constitution.

Earned Large Sums.

It was in 1867 that Harbaugh, a mid-manner little man, began writing in Casstown, Ohio. He was secretary of the Maryland Society in Ohio and was interested in local history. He wrote sentimental poems of which he was fond, but which brought him little money. He was also fond of collecting old books and of growing flowers. These interests and the occupation of turning out the dime novels, occupied all his thought and time. He never married. He had written various stories of adventure for New York publishers for some years before he hit on the character that was to bring him fame. That was "Old Cap Collier," the detective. The first of these stories he wrote in 1883 for N. L. Munro, and so great was their popularity that his publishers sought to keep him on the same line ever after. In all, he wrote 650 dime and half-dime novels, receiving \$250 for the longer story and \$150 for the shorter.

Hotels Blame Officials AS TOURISTS SHUN BERLIN

Berlin, Aug. 16.—Germany's soil seems relatively free of the tide of tourists reported to be surging over Europe, for June's 30 days brought only 1,475 foreigners to Berlin than the 16,024 who made this a stopping-place during the 31 days of May. The firms interested in tourist traffic are furious at such a condition in the height of travel season, and indignantly blame the government for its "scarecrow" taxes and other measures inimical to foreigners. Some of the newspapers have been bitter of late in attacking the authorities for their lack of consideration in "killing Berlin as a joy magnet" for strangers. There

movies that their fathers got out of Beadle's library, and the Harbaugh technique is not the technique demanded of the writer of scenarios. The present generation is altogether too sophisticated to enjoy the art of Harbaugh which was frank in the extreme. We dare say that the boy of today, aged sixteen, would regard as ridiculous the characters which held his father enthralled when he was the same age. Do boys of today read the Boys' Own Annual? We doubt it. They do not read Jules Verne, nor Captain Mayne Read, nor R. N. Ballantyne nor W. H. G. Kingston—none of the writers that the boys of thirty years ago felt they could not live without.

The Frontier Setting.

The stories of forty years ago might well seem preposterous nowadays. As the New York Times points out, in those days there remained some wilderness in the west. Indian war had not ceased to be remembered. Buffalo Bill was functioning. There were pesky redskins who occasionally went on the war path as well as the conventional cowardly Mexican who remains in the films. A movement to the West was going on. That's where boys ran who ran away from home. Today they are more likely to run to New York or Montreal. But to the boy of today hunting Indians is akin to hunting the dinosaur. Thomas Harbaugh thought that the yellow newspapers killed the dime novel. The motto of the latter, a thrill to every other paragraph, became the motto of the yellow papers, and they had more over a suggestion of reality that the dime novel lacked. The editor of a publishing house which tried to continue the dime novel after the era of Beadle expressed the view that the cheap magazine killed Cock Robin, by developing a slightly better reading taste, though we doubt if most of the readers of "Old Cap Collier" are today reading cheap magazines.

Help Us Burn the Mortgage of the G. W. V. A. Home To assist the boys in this, we are having a week of special sales at our store, beginning Thursday morning, August 16th. A percentage of the cash received will be used for this purpose. Votes for the Popularity Contest will be given with each sale of 50 cents and over. So, come along and help your favorite candidate. All summer goods at greatly reduced prices. Hundreds of special values will be offered at every section of our new store. S. A. McDONALD

In 1922 the Fire Waste in Canada amounted to Forty Four Million Dollars. This is strong evidence of the need of Fire Insurance Protection. Is your Home and Business property adequately protected? If not consult with Hyndman & Co., Ltd. The Oldest Insurance Agency in P. E. I. Phones 67 and 333 SECURITY SERVICE

THERE'S A REASON Why Imperial Fox Biscuit is the Chief diet of foxes at this season; why it is being fed daily in the Prince Edward Island ranches and winning favor from the most careful feeders. Imperial Fox Biscuits can be relied on as a fresh, wholesome food, much relished by foxes, perfectly safe and a well balanced ration supplying every essential food requirement. Imperial Cod-Liver-Oil Biscuits is the best known remedy for sick foxes. Order through your local dealer or send orders direct to THE IMPERIAL BISCUIT CO., LTD. CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I. BOX 446

is not only a 60 percent lodging tax for foreigners, but restaurants and public places of amusement are required to lock up at 12 o'clock every night and public dancing is permitted only four nights a week. Any guest found after midnight in a place which should close at that hour is liable to punishment the same as the proprietor. The closing hour was advanced from 1 o'clock, and certain dance day were cut out as a "sign of mourning" at the time the Ruhr was occupied. The papers protest vigorously against a continuation of the present conditions.

USE GOOD HARDWARE IN YOUR BUILDING Good hardware will add many years of life to any building and will save expensive repairs which are sure to follow if cheap hardware is used. Good hardware also adds to the beauty and appearance of the finished building or home. Come to us for your builder's hardware and you'll be sure of getting dependable quality—the lasting kind, that gives complete satisfaction. Our builder's hardware department is complete and we will be glad to help you with your building problems—estimates cheerfully given. The Rogers Hardware Co Ltd. Wholesale and Retail