

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1930

Jail-Birds Make Whoopee

Prince County Jail, the "free and easy" jail where the days are seldom dull and the cells are never empty, has achieved, under the Saunders regime, the most extraordinary record of its kind in Canada, perhaps in the world.

Wheat Stocks

One of the fairly obvious things about the present wheat situation is that the difficulty of disposing of the wheat crop of 1929 at a fairly satisfactory price is associated with the very large carry-over of wheat from the previous year which was carried into the 1929-30 season.

Official Canadian Carry-over

Table with 2 columns: Date (July 31, 1929, 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925) and Quantity (104,427,327, 77,626,071, 50,765,435, 35,601,194, 26,482,692)

This table of figures does not include all the unsold Canadian wheat at the dates in question, for it does not include stocks of grain in the United States.

Table with 2 columns: Date (July 31, 1929, 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925) and Quantity (130,000,000, 93,000,000, 58,000,000, 42,000,000, 33,000,000)

Building up that huge carry-over has been a costly business not only because of the depressing effect it has recently had upon wheat prices, but because of the interest and storage charges which have had to be paid out each year to carry the grain.

To what extent the carry-over from last year has been a depressing factor in this year's prices cannot be exactly calculated, but the figures above indicate that the difficulty in question did not come suddenly upon us, but has been long in accumulating.

A Wobbling Party

At the National Convention of the Liberal party, held in Ottawa in 1919, the following resolution was adopted:

"RESOLVED, that a revision downwards of the tariff should be made whereby substantial reductions should be effected in the duties on wearing apparel and footwear, and on other articles of general consumption (other than luxuries) as well as on the raw material entering into the manufacture of the same.

It was at this convention that the Hon. MacKenzie King was chosen leader of the Liberal party of all Canada. And yet speaking at Amherst, N. S., on August 5th, 1921, or two years later, Mr. King said:

"Free trade is not the policy of the Liberal party. If it were I would oppose it because I believe it would bring disaster to our industry and remove from the farmers the home market, which is practically the only market they have left."

Hon. C. A. Dunning, former Premier of Saskatchewan, was taken into Mr. King's Cabinet as Minister of Finance, a portfolio ranking next to that of the Premier in importance. Speaking at Regina on the 6th of the present month Mr. Dunning said:

"As is well known, I am a low tariff man. That means that I believe that the tariff of this country be set as low as possible."

Hon. W. D. Euler, Minister of National Revenue in the King Government, another important portfolio, was one of the guests at a banquet tendered Cabinet Ministers at Brantford, Ontario, on the 24th of last month. On that important occasion, when he could not but know that his views would be given much significance as outlining the policy of the Government, Mr. Euler said:

Notes By The Way

Lords Beaverbrook and Rothermere have succeeded in arousing the British Public by their advocacy of Empire Free Trade. A London cable tells that more space is now given up to the discussion of Empire problems in the press than at any time in the past 20 years.

The Daily Mail, Lord Rothermere's organ, and the Daily Express, Lord Beaverbrook's own paper, have no doubts of achieving a great triumph for Empire Free Trade, while The Daily Herald, organ of the Labor party, ridicules "the Beaver Army."

The Canadian Parliament has opened with something more than the usual pomp and glitter this year in order that people may think that everybody and every line of business between the two oceans is flourishing. That is not an accurate nor an impartial view of the situation.

For the first time the King Government meets Parliament at the opening of the session with a clear Liberal majority in both the Senate and the House of Commons. Members of the Senate died year after year, more Conservatives than Liberals passing out in that way.

It is announced that Hon. Mrs. Norman Wilson will speak at an early date in the Senate. It has been mentioned that she is the first woman ever to hold a seat in the Upper House of any Parliament in the British Empire or in the world.

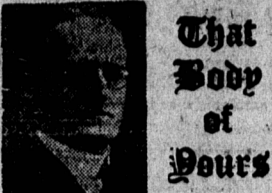
Whether this will be the last session of the present Parliament or not will probably be disclosed before long. Many members, especially those who were elected by narrow majorities, or whose chances of re-election are doubtful will insist upon another session after the present one.

There are obvious reasons why the Government should profess that it meets the members of both Houses with confidence. Ministers would profess that sort of confidence in any case, as it is good politics. But as

"I am not a free trader, nor do I think that free trade could be the practice in Canada today. Free trade is all right in the ordinary way but it does not erect impassable tariff walls about them, I am not afraid to say and use the word, that in a country which is excluded from the markets of another country the tariff may legitimately be used in a reasonable way to protect the rights of the consumers and also for protecting the industries of that country so that these industries may have a right to their own market."

Premier King and his colleagues will have some difficulty in explaining to Parliament and the country just where they stand in regard to the tariff, past, present and future.

Winter Sickness. Keep Minard's handy. It has proven invaluable for many cold weather ailments. MINARD'S 'KING OF PAIN' LINIMENT



By James W. Barton, M.D. SPINAL CURVATURE

Your heart is saddened when you meet the individual with a curved spine. You realize that he is handicapped for life, and that life is often of short duration.

It was my privilege in years past to see a number of cases each year which were just at the 'beginning' stage of spinal curvature.

They were boys from 10 to 16 years of age, and under the direction of an efficient physical director we were able to correct most of these cases within one or two years.

However these were mild cases, mostly due to carelessness. The very severe cases you see on the street are mostly due to infantile paralysis or to some hereditary condition.

Our method of treating these cases years ago was to use a 'hanging' apparatus which suspended the youngster by the neck. After 'hanging' for short intervals during a period of 15 to 20 minutes, he would lie on his abdomen and the director would put his arms in 'key' position, bring the spine into as straight a line as possible, and have him try to raise his head and shoulders high off the floor a number of times.

Then he would hang by his hands on a pair of rings, one of which was higher than the other, thus helping to correct the curvature. After this in severe cases a plaster cast was applied which was worn for months.

Now despite these efforts there are cases where results cannot be obtained without an operation. The operation consists in cutting down to the spinal column and by the use of a chisel cutting out a groove alongside the little 'knotty' processes which you can feel when you run your finger down the spinal column.

Little splinters of bone 2 to 4 inches long and about one-sixteenth of an inch thick, taken from the patient's shin bone, are placed all the way down the spine, and the patient remains in a cast for a number of weeks. This whole process of exercise, casts and operation, takes at least a year, but the results are certainly worth it.

If you have a boy or girl with a beginning curvature get it under treatment at once. If a severe case, and you haven't much money, take your youngster to any large hospital where orthopedic work is done, and it will receive the utmost care. You owe this to your child.

Alexander MacKenzie in 1878, along with his leading colleagues in the Government, was very confident that they would win the general election of that year. So was Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the reciprocity election of 1911 but both 1878 and 1911 brought disastrous defeat to the Liberal Party. Sir Wilfrid in 1911 had many points in his favor. He boasted "a government of all the talents." The country had prospered under his regime and the federal treasury was filled to overflowing with surplus after surplus.

Let any one familiar with their personnel compare the Government of Premier MacKenzie King with that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the present Administration will be found weak in every department. It is like comparing water with wine for strength. Where is the Laurier of the King Government? Where the Sir Oliver Mowat or the David Mill at the head of the Department of Justice? Where the incomparable W. S. Fielding as Minister of Finance who delivered 17 budget speeches? Where the Hon. A. G. Blair as Minister of Public Works and Railways? Where the Postmaster General comparable with Sir William Mulock? Or the Interior minister who ranks with Hon. Clifford Sifton in ability and influence? Where is the Solicitor General in the same class of legal standing with Hon. Charles Fitzpatrick?

Those men were in the Laurier Cabinet. Their like are not to be found in the King Cabinet. Mr. MacKenzie King is not a Laurier, although he holds the leadership of the Liberal party in succession to Laurier. A small man may sit in a seat once filled by a larger one, but he does not fill it. Premier King's coterie of colleagues are a company of weaklings when compared with the strong men with whom Sir Wilfrid surrounded himself.

The entire country is aware of the contrasts above set forth, and that is why the Ottawa Ministers, behind a profession of confidence are really shaking in their shoes in fear of meeting the electorate at the polls.

The snow plow under official handling has made St. Peter's Road somewhat better in spots and worse in spots. But just as the strength of the chain is measured by its weakest link, the worst obstacle to traffic left on a road after an attempt to clear it is the measure of the success of the operation. The best that can be said of the job was what the curate said of the decorated egg placed before him at table—"Parts of it are good."

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.

HON. HARVEY McEWEN'S TRAVELS

Sir,—We now retrace our steps southward through Washington, Oregon and California to San Diego, a distance of about 1600 miles over some of the finest paved roads in America.

This was a great hop growing place but prohibition killed that business. We pass through Corvallis, Eugene, Grants Pass, Oreka and over the Siskiyou Mountains and Mt. Shasta and camped at Willows. Next days via the toll bridge at Valljoe, we enter the Oakland district which is a succession of small towns all joined such as Richmond, Albany, Beverly, Oakland, Piedmont and others, Oakland claims a population of 400,000, and San Francisco, just across the Bay, claims 850,000, but owing to the fog we could not see the water. The air all around this place is so full of smoke or fog that you can only see a short distance and mars the pleasure of travelling.

At Piedmont we called on an old friend, William Sinnott who was born at Morell and left there many years ago. He is a retired ship mechanic but after an active life idleness does

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The Poet's Corner. FROM MEANDER. Him I call happiest, Parmeno, Who, having seen this solemn show, The common sun, the clouds, the sea, The stars and fire, not painfully, Goes quickly back from whence he came.

THE LAND WE LOVE. By FRANK YEIG. ISAAC JOGUES. Q. What is the history of Isaac Jogues?

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Parliamentary News

(Sydney Post) Ontario is not to have quinquennial Legislatures till the people so decide. This announcement has been made by Premier Ferguson, in contradiction of the rumor that his Government intended introducing a bill to extend the legal life-limit of the Legislature from 4 to 5 years.

"Whatever important project the Government has in mind," said Mr. Ferguson, "whether it be a five-year term or anything else, we will submit to the people. That will always be our policy. It is the very spirit of responsible government."

Such is modern Canadian "Toryism," in which the most advanced democracy finds its most genuine expression.

All the Provinces except Ontario and Prince Edward Island have adopted the five-year term as the maximum time-limit of their Legislatures. They have this power of amending their constitutions under Section 92, sub-section 1 of the British North America Act. On the other hand the Dominion Parliament has no such power, and, if it desires an amendment of its constitution, must memorialize His Imperial Majesty in Council, praying that the necessary legislation be enacted by the British Parliament. The maximum duration of the House of Commons is fixed by Section 80 of the B. N. A. Act, which provides as follows:

"Every House of Commons shall continue for five years from the day of the return of the writs for choosing the House (subject to be sooner dissolved by the Governor-General) and no longer."

Excessively long-lived legislatures are regarded as derogating from the right of the people to choose and effectively control parliaments. If too great a length of time be allowed to elapse between one election and another, the tendency is for parliament to get out of touch with popular sentiment. To maintain the principle of parliament's responsibility to the people, the British Constitution requires that no House of Commons shall last more than seven years, and that it must be convened in session at least once a year.

It is interesting to recall the reason given for the extension of the Legislative terms of most of the Provinces from four to five years. It has always been regarded as sound democratic practice since the establishment of responsible government, for an Administration, whether Federal or Provincial, to appeal to the people at least six months or a year before the expiration of parliament's maximum term. This meant that, when the Provincial Legislatures were quadrennial, as they all were originally, local Governments had to hold elections after three sessions in order to observe established convention, and it was not often convened.

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