THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded 1887)

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$5.00 per year (in advance) delivered to City.
$4.00 per year (in advance) mailed to P. E. Island
$5.00 per year (in advance) mailed to Canada and U.S.
Members Audit Bureau of Circulations

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1938

Irresponsible Government

In one respect at least the Campbell Government may be said to resemble Providence, for it moves in "a mysterious way its wonders to perform." The bound volume of the Acts of the General Assembly of Prince Edward Island, 1938, furnishes interesting examples on this point.

It is customary in the Index to divide the legislation into two distinct parts, namely, Public Acts and Private Acts. The Public Acts are those for whose introduction the Government is responsible. The theory of Responsible Government assumes that the Cabinet has come to a decision as to the nature and importance of such measures, and is behind them to a man. The defeat of a Government bill on the floor of the House is equivalent to a vote of non-confidence. Private Acts, on the other hand, relating as they do to private companies or corporations, may be sponsored by private members and no political significance attaches to their acceptance or defeat.

This year, Chapters 27 to 34 of the Acts of the General Assembly appear in the Index as Private Acts. Chapters 1 to 26 which precede them are Public Act for which the Government is, or should be responsible.

Chapter 9 of these Public Acts is an Act to Amend the Game Act. Turning to the Journal of the House we find that this bill was not sponsored by a Government member but by Mr. H. H. Cox, who moved it through all its legislative stages, with Mr. W. F. A. Stewart as seconder of the motion for committee reading.

The same procedure was followed in Chapter 14, an Act Respecting Lobster Dealers, which imposes a $500 tax on certain dealers. Mr. Cox was again the moving genius behind this Government legislation, assisted by Mr. John Mustard as seconder of the motion to go into committee.

Chapter 23, an Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, also appears among the Public Acts, but again the Government sidestepped the responsibility of sponsoring it. That somewhat thankless task (as the subsequent discussion proved) fell upon Mr. Stewart, with Mr. Angus MacPhee seconding the motion for second reading.

There was an interesting variation in the procedure in the case of Chapter 17, an Act for the Protection of Milk and Cream Producers, Consumers and Distributors in Prince Edward Island. Minus the word "Consumers" in the title, this bill was first introduced by the Premier in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture. But it was subsequently ordered "on motion of Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Stewart," that the bill be withdrawn "and that Mr. Wright have leave to introduce a new and revised bill with the same title." The House obligingly gave leave and Mr. Wright accordingly fathered the bill and piloted it through committee.

Not a single member of the Government appeared in a responsible capacity in connection with the passing of any of these Public Statutes!

It is very strange that a Government which evades its legitimate responsibilities in this fashion should be so busy in matters with which it has no legitimate concern—arrogating to itself the powers of our Courts of Law, refusing appeals from its own tribunals, perverting the administration of the Prohibition Act into an out-and-out dictatorship, and otherwise mischievously interfering with the rights of our citizens under British democracy.

Hay Requirements Overseas

The hay crop in the United Kingdom is considerably below average according to reports received by the Department of Trade and Commerce. In the London and Southeastern areas approximately one-fifth of the hay was damaged by the drought in the spring and the rains during hay-making. Canada appears to have been able to supply hay without difficulty and comment is heard in London that the Canadian hay "appears to be of much better quality than usual, having plenty of clover."

In the West of England, South Midlands and South Wales there will be no more than half the normal hay crop. Dissatisfaction is expressed by some buyers at the difficulty in securing shipping space from Canada.

In the North of England the hay crop was about two-thirds of normal with the average quality rather low. Between 3,000 and 4,000 bales of Canadian hay have been arriving at Liverpool weekly. While the demand for Canadian hay is favourable, says the report, weather conditions will regulate the demand in the next few weeks.

The Poppy Appeal

Next week may fittingly be described as Remembrance Week, for the days leading up to Remembrance Day, on Friday, Nov. 11, are being devoted to the sale of poppies under the auspices of the Canadian Legion, in aid of returned soldiers and their families who are still paying, in physical and mental suffering, for the sacrifices endured in the Great War. The three-fold objects of the Poppy appeal have been well expressed by His Honour Lieutenant-Governor DeBlois: "First, as a thank-offering to Almighty God for restraining the wrath and greed of man and giving us the great blessing of peace; second, lest we forget the sacrifice of the past; and lastly as a pledge to do our utmost to maintain peace throughout the world and to assist in every way possible those who, owing to their disability, cannot keep step with us in the daily march of life."

This year, with the permission of the Department of Education, the Provincial Command of the Canadian Legion is circularizing the schools of the Province, stressing the significance of Remembrance Day, especially at a time "when we should all give thanks for having been lately spared the horrors of another war," and appealing to the teachers for co-operation. It is suggested that they talk to the pupils on the sacrifices of the War and the privileges enjoyed under the British flag; that they assist in the sale of poppies to the pupils, which they can do by getting in touch with the nearest Legion branch; and that by application to the same quarter they can arrange to have a returned soldier address the pupils, a few days before Remembrance Day, on the true spirit of Armistice-tide.

There is no question as to the importance of developing among our school children, in the concluding words of the circular, "a greater realization not only of Empire privileges, but also of Empire responsibilities, as well as the duty of helping those who suffered in the Great War, or are out of employment due to the effect of their service to our country."

Liberal "Expansion"

Our contemporary boasts of Liberal trade "expansion" with the United States during the past year, but misses the essential point.

In the year ending March 31, 1937, Canada exported goods valued at $364,000,000 to the United States. In the following year this declined to $343,000,000, but imports from the United States rose in the same period from $303,000,000 to $487,000,000. A large part of these imports consisted of agricultural goods which competed directly with the products of our Canadian farmers.

Editorial Notes

Guy Fawkes Day.

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Sir John A. Macdonald, as Prime Minister, and his Union Government met the first session of the first Federal Parliament November 6, 1867.

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Inspector Fripps will be greatly missed when he leaves for his new position in Vancouver. It is due almost entirely to his ability and diplomacy that the R.C.M.P. have come to be looked upon as an indispensable part of our administrative machinery.

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It is now regrettably announced by Premier W. J. Patterson of Saskatchewan that the Hon. C. M. Dunn, provincial minister of highways and transportation has tendered his resignation. Mr. Dunn's resignation becomes effective immediately. Hon. W. F. Kerr, minister of natural resources, will take over Mr. Dunn's work until a successor is appointed, Mr. Patterson said. Mr. Dunn, defeated in the Melville constituency in the Saskatchewan general elections, June 8, and in a by-election later in Humboldt constituency, said he plans to resume his insurance business in Regina.

* * * *

The right and title to uncounted thousands of oysters changed as one result of the hurricane which swept the coastal region of New England recently, the U.S.A. Bureau of Fisheries report. Disturbance of the water was so great that oyster beds were moved bodily from one location to another. In many cases owners of beds found their "fields" either diminished or denuded, but what they lost was gained by some other bed, according to the bureau, as none of the oyster crop was actually destroyed. Title to the transplanted oysters rests with the owners of beds where they finally landed.

* * * *

A new and painless iodine antiseptic is reported by Dr. Frederic Damrau in The American Druggist. "Iodine has been officially recognized by the pharmacopeia of the United States since 1860," the article says. "The latest revision of this most authoritative treatise on drugs in the nation has adopted a new mild tincture of iodine which proves, despite the competition which iodine has had in recent years, that it is still accepted as the outstanding antiseptic of its kind." The article points out that the new mild tincture retains the antiseptic powers of iodine, but eliminates the objectionable stinging sensation. The regular U.S.P. iodine consists of 7 per cent iodine mixed with potassium iodide and 85 per cent alcohol. The new mild tincture consists of 2 per cent iodine mixed with sodium iodide in a solvent of equal parts of water and alcohol. The chief source of iodine is Chilean nitrate of soda, and the supply is almost unlimited.

* * * *

The Monthly Letter of The Royal Bank of Canada for November surveys business conditions in Canada, the United States and Great Britain. Recent indexes of business activity in these countries have been much more encouraging as they indicate that the general decline reported in the early months of the current year has been effectively halted in all three countries. In August and September substantial improvement was reported in many leading branches of industry particularly in Canada and the United States, and early reports for October show that the improvement is continuing. Great Britain and the United States together absorb approximately 75 per cent of the total exports of Canada each year and industrial conditions in these countries exert an important influence on the economic life of Canada. With the recession of business in the United States, purchases from Canada were greatly reduced. With the stimulus of the increased industrial activity of her most important customers, Canada may anticipate expansion in her exports and further improvement in general business conditions.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The German Bishops, in accord with the teachings of their religion, lay stress upon belief in a personal God and personal immortality. They abhor the doctrine that the "spiritual qualities" of man, like the body through which they are made manifest, are doomed to "decompose in death." They rebel against "a purely materialistic conception of human life." Millions, of their own and other faiths, will hold with them in these matters. Even those whose strivings after truth have resulted in doubt must find something stirring in this challenge and must feel in it a possibility of a common ground and common action. For the essence of the position is its implied revolt against attacks by an arrogant State on human personality. The barbarism which the German Bishops are fighting is a denial of the whole course of Western civilization. Not only the religion but the art, the literature and the science of many generations are threatened in this dark warfare.—New York Times.

When she spoke at Portland a few days ago, The Lady Tweedsmuir asked that a copy of a paper previously read should be lent to her so that she might take some of the drives through the country of Leeds that were mentioned in it. People who cling to the main highways of this section miss a great deal of interest and scenery. It is true that the main roads possess attractive surroundings, but many of the side-roads are even more attractive, and most of them, especially in rear townships like Bastard and Leeds and Landsdowne Rear, have surprisingly good gravel or macadam surfaces at this time of the year. It is neither safe nor comfortable to travel at high speed over these narrow and not always bump-free surfaces. But one may make a leisurely progress over scores of little-known roads in the country and gain marked benefit therefrom. There is little traffic, there are pleasant contacts and the scenery, especially at this season, is of surpassing beauty. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Coming back from Spain, where he had the experience of bombing raids, Prof. J. B. Haldane, distinguished British scientist, is frankly critical of the British Government's air raid precaution plans. He claims that the greatest damage in war time is caused by big explosive bombs rather than by gas or incendiary bombs. The solution offered by Prof. Haldane is the construction of a vast system of tunnels in which the people of Britain's large cities might take shelter in such an emergency. This scheme would cost in the vicinity of 400,000,000 pounds ($1,920,000,000.) In London alone expenditure of 100,000,000 pounds ($480,000,000) would be necessary. In two years sufficient tunnels could be built to accommodate the entire population of the world metropolis. He proposes that the tunnels should be bricklined and 60 feet below ground level, with entrances not more than 1,000 yards apart. In addition to this plan of tunnel building, he suggests immediate construction of trenches in parks and open places as partial shelters. Prof. Haldane would also have the entire population instructed in the use of gas masks. He objects to the policy of storing gas masks until an emergency arrives, because issuing them to the public would constitute an insoluble problem, nor has he much use for the "home-made" gas proof room, as suggested by the authorities. — Kingston Whig-Standard.

Once again the engineering genius of the Clyde has come to flower in the launching of the Queen Elizabeth. The hull of the vast super-liner, which one day may seek the cherished blue ribbon of the Atlantic, slid smoothly down the slipways, settled comfortably in the water, and under the control of puffing tugboats, glided gently to the fitting-out basin, there to undergo months of preparation for its first trip to sea. The success of a launching of such proportions is a tribute to the high state of efficency to which engineering has been brought. For the Clyde is narrow. It is a man-made river. Several generations ago a man could wade across it only a few miles upstream from John Brown's yard, and not wet his knees. The depth of the river, which accommodates the largest ships in the world, is the work of the dredger. But behind the dredger there has been the engineer. To him then must go honors for the triumph of ship and river. — Christian Science Monitor.

There is food for thought in the fact that three of the national leaders at the meeting in Munich are of humble origin: Daladier a baker's son, Mussolini the son of a blacksmith and "hard up" in his youthful years, while all the world knows that Hitler was a paperhanger. And there they are as heads of world powers. Only by hard work and the spur of ambition may young men get along like this.—Exchange.

The unanimous finding of the Alberta appeal court that the levying of the farm production tax is beyond the province's powers has pleased, there is every reason to believe, even the members of the Government which put through the legislation providing for the levy. The proposal has met with the strongest kind of protests from the farmers of Alberta. Because of the storm that it raised the provincial ministers and their supporters in the Legislature have been placed in a most uncomfortable position. Accordingly they must feel indebted to the judges for relieving them of the embarrassment that they have been caused by the enactment of this ill-conceived and thoroughly unpopular measure. — Edmonton Journal.

Under the 1932 treaty Canada and Australia are bound to sell wheat to the the Motherland at the world price, which is the price on the Liverpool Exchange. This price is fixed by competition between the buyers of the world, not the buyers of the United Kingdom alone. The British market is not large enough to absorb all the Canadian export surplus of wheat. The balance of this surplus is sold in competition with the exports from the United States, Argentina, Russia, the Danubian countries, and every other wheat-exporting country. It is this competition with foreign wheat which fixes the Liverpool price and therefore the price which British importers pay for Canadian wheat. For this reason the preference is not thought to be of much value. If the preference is repeated, Canade may sell less wheat to Britain, but, in that event, other countries will sell more and there will be less competition in selling to foreign countries. It is, in the Canadian view, a case of six of one and half a dozen of the other. —Manchester Guardian.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

INSULIN TO CURE ACNE—PIMPLES

As sufferers with acne (pimples) suffer so much mental distress and embarrassment, anything that may help them in getting rid of this disfigurement is very much worth while.

For years it has been found that some of these cases improved when starch foods—sugar, pastry, bread, and potatoes— were decreased, so that anything that would lower the amount of sugar in the blood has been considered good treatment as starch turns to sugar in the system. Thus the injection of pituitary extract, which seems to hasten the digestion and use of starch in the system, has given good results in many cases. The viosterol treatment which stimulates body processes has given brilliant results in most of the cases in which it has been used from one to three months.

A most interesting discovery has recently been made which would seem to prove that starch foods and their handling by the body tissues has much to do in causing acne was reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association some months ago by Dr. Joseph Wortis.

As you know, the latest treatment for dementia precox is to administer a large dose of insulin which produces what is known as insulin shock. In the successful cases, when the patient recovers, his mind is clear and often remains that way. It so happened that in six of Dr. Wortis' cases of dementia precox, the patients were suffering with acne of the face, and after the insulin shock the acne cleared up. Despite the small number of cases (six), all the patients were so definitely benefited that these satisfactory results should be made known.

'It is possible that both dementia precox and acne are associated with some common disturbance of the digestion and handling of starch by the body processes and this disturbance is corrected or removed by the use of the insulin."

While Dr. Wortis does not recommend insulin shocks treatment, which so greatly reduces the sugar in the blood, as the routine or regular treatment for acne, he considers it possible that keeping the blood low in sugar by small regular doses of insulin, under suitable precautions, may prove serviceable.

The Poets' Corner

THE SONNET

A Sonnet is a moment's monument,
Memorial from the Soul's eternity
To one dead deathless hour. Look that it be,
Whether for lustral rite or dire portent,
Of its own arduous fulness reverent:
Carve it in ivory or in ebony,
As Day or Night may rule; and let Time see
Its flowering crest impearled and orient.

A Sonnet is a coin: its face reveals
The soul,—its converse, to what Power 'tis due:—
Whether for tribute to the august appeals
Of Life, or dower in Love's high retinue,
It serve; or 'mid the dark wharf's cavernous breath,
In Charon's palm it pay the toll to Death.

—D. G. Rossetti.

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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.

A QUEER NON - PARTISAN

Sir:—Everybody knows of Mr. Tanton's loyalty to prohibition and admires it and mostly everybody knows of his loyalty to the Conservative party in which he has the "utmost confidence" and of his opposition to the Liberal party to which he was "always antagonistic." One would suppose that is about as good a mark of partisanship as could be secured within the bounds of this province Such an attitude will satisfy the dictionary definition of a partisan, just one single lapse from absolute devotion in a long long life! Only once through all the years was the one party wrong and the other party right! What a miserable lot these Liberals are! What a noble group is that Conservative party! Such partisanship creates a real difficulty ... democratic government.

The first thrust of the partisan sword has not yet proved mortal, but knowing its destructive possibilities, I say to all and sundry, "Good-bye!"

I am Sir, etc.
J. W. A. NICHOLSON.
NORTH BEDEQUE.

PACIFISM AND TEMPERANCE

Sir:— Does not Mr. Nicholson know that prior to, and at the 1927 or 1930-31 elections the Churches, the Labour and Liberal Parties circulated for signature a paper demanding disarmament? That was carried out so thoroughly that Mussolini dared defy the British over Ethiopia. That gave Hitler his chance at the Rhine. Then the two dictators backing Italy in Spain. Then the raid on Austria. Then Czechoslovakia. And more will follow after Munich. By listening to those pacifists, Britain was less prepared than in 1914. What lunacy it would be to fight under such conditions? That might appeal to Mr. Nicholson's mind, as confirming the scriptural injunction to be "counted fools for My sake." But how can it apply to both pacifists and Mr. Chamberlain?

Does Mr. Nicholson believe in young men studying for the Ministry under professors with Communist, or Fascist, or Nazi leanings, and disloyal principles that lower their calling to a commercial basis? No wonder they fall so lamentably in their Temperance activities!

Paul preached Righteousness, Temperance, and a Judgment to come. No compromise such as the churches made with the Saunders-Lea-McIntyre Government on a Sunday!

Watchman, what of the Night?
I am Sir, etc.
OLD TIMER.

What It Means To Be First Lord

(London Daily Mail)

There is a new First Lord of the Admiralty. He gets £5,000 a year (with luxurious house.) The magnificent Admiralty yacht, the Enchantress, will be at his disposal.

The salary probably seems attractive to you, but a good First Lord earns and spends every penny of it. He is the representative of the Navy in Parliament, responsible for the direction and supervision to promote and discharge recommend honors and awards.

He is very much the Boss of the British Navy.

His responsibility is so great that he has a little Cabinet of his own, the Board of Admiralty, to advise and direct him. Though he is not compelled to take the Board's advice —he unusally does. On the Board sit Britain's Sea Lords —first, second, third, fourth, and the recently appointed fifth — the big executives of the Navy.

Even in the Cabinet his position is enviable . . . he is one of the most powerful of Ministers.

* * *

The house that goes with the job is a much finer place than either No. 10 or No. 11 Downing Street. It stands at the south-east corner of the Admiralty building in Whitehall. Its rooms are spacious and beautifully furnished. The drawing-room has unique furniture —chairs, tables, couche with legs and arms carved in the shape of dolphins. Lord Nelson's body once rested there.

A connecting door links the house with the Admiralty itself. The first Lord has access to every room in this, London's most exciting building. There is Room 40 for instance, the eyes and ears of the world.

Here cipher wireless messages, intercepted from the enemy, were decoded during the war. Today the Admiralty's most trusted and talented men sit there, linked by radio with the ships and ports of the seven seas. Messages, secret and confidential, pass through their hands. They are just a few of the First Lord's 4,000 staff.

There is the superb Admiralty library, too, if the First Lord feels like reading. Not ordinary reading, though. A hundred thousand books and documents giving details of almost every naval engagement ever fought. Charts and maps and plans to bewilder you.

* * *

And if you want to get away from the stuffy air of Whitehall there is the yacht already mentioned. It is a long-standing tradition that the First Lord is free to use the yacht as he wishes in the performance of his duties. Mr. Duff Cooper drew fire for his Baltic cruise, you remember.

The Enchantress is finer than any rich man's ship. It is the Admiralty afloat, equipped, as the cinema posters say, "regardless of expense."

The First Lord has a busy job. There are dinners, banquets, luncheous to preside at, speeches to make, and naval manoeuvres to attend. There are admirals to interview and inventions to be considered. There is the all important question of the £'s. d. of running the Navy. And, finally, there is the task of telling Parliament and through Parliament, the people all about it.

GERMANY'S AIR-MINDED

BERLIN,—In six years increase in use of aerial means of transport to and from Berlin has risen from 33,757 persons in 1932 to 190,558 in 1937.

EVENING HATS OF FUR MATCH MUFFS

Hats for wear with dinner dress are a feature of autumn fashion. A little round toque of white Russian fitch matched the short balloon-shaped sleeves of a flared green velvet semi-crinoline. A barrel-shaped muff of the same fur completed the ensemble for theatre or restaurant wear.

Fur appears on new evening ensembles, placed low in one case on the fitted jacket or a striped lame evening ensemble. Mink borders the decolletage of a gleaming white lame evening gown.

BOXER WANTS SEAT

CARDIFF, Wales—Jack Petersen, former British and Empire heavyweight boxing champion, will contest the Plasnewydd ward as a Liberal candidate for the Cardiff city counsil.

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