

EPAGE FOUR

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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LIBERAL VOLTE FACE

Our contemporary claims that the amendment moved by the Opposition in the Legislature in 1933 to reduce the salary of every school teacher and civil servant earning \$500 or over, applied only to those teachers receiving this amount in Government salary. This was not the attitude of Mr. Lea and his colleagues in 1933, however; our contemporary's alibi is made out of whole cloth.

On the contrary, the newspaper reports show conclusively that while the salary reduction could only be applicable to the amount paid by the Government, the determining factor was to be the whole salaries received by the teachers. At the time, Hon. Mr. MacPhee drew the attention of the leader of the Opposition to this fact, showing that part of the salaries were paid by the districts and part by the Government, and that regarding the part paid by the districts there had already been a substantial reduction.

Hon. Mr. Sharp pointed out that the salaries of 336 country school teachers would be affected if the Liberal amendment were adopted. Did Mr. Lea contest the truth of this assertion? He did not. But he certainly would have done so if he intended the salary cuts to be applicable only to those receiving \$500 or more of government salary. There was no misunderstanding as to the scope of the reductions in 1933. The amendment was on the basis of the total salaries earned, and it applied to country teachers as well as to those receiving higher salaries.

If evidence were necessary to show the political nature of the criticism against the MacMillan Government in 1933, it is surely this brazen attempt, on the part of the Opposition leader and press, to repudiate their own attitude at that time, simply because an election is in the offing. But the bluff will not work. There is not a line in the press reports of the legislative proceedings of 1933 to substantiate such a vote. On the contrary, the objection taken by the Government was the teachers would be receiving a two-fold reduction, as the supplements in many cases had already been reduced. This, we repeat, Mr. Lea and his followers did not deny, and they cannot now come forward with a revised version of their amendment, and expect the teachers and the public generally to treat it seriously.

HOUSE ON SANDS

It is no unusual thing nowadays to come across speeches and written articles about the Soviet regime in which the dominant note is an untempered laudation of the Bolshevik revolution, accompanied by fulsome boasting of the vast strides the U.S.S.R. has made along the lines of mechanical and scientific improvements and in the matter of fiscal credits and social progress. Often it is argued that, perforce of a vast and powerful nation having thrown its energies in this direction, the Russian proletariat, meaning thereby the working classes, has broken its old-time fetters and set before the world a Communist gospel which presages a world-wide upheaval to attain Soviet ideals of "liberty, equality and fraternity." It requires no labored argument to prove that this new order of social crystallization is materialistic in its main aims and purposes. At the Kremlin the results attained are attributed to the radical change which has come over the spirit of the people, inducing them to dismiss religious instruction as a mirage or a mythical postulate, or, in the yet more trenchant phrase coined by the Bolsheviks, as an opiate deadening the political and social aspirations of the community at large.

Such is the new thesis of emancipation and the new standard of enlightenment of freedom, if we are to believe the vehement exponents of this glamorous enterprise. It has led to the closing of many churches, the turning of these ancient fane into museums, and the substitution of the national heraldic symbols of the hammer and sickle in place of the ikon and altar. These phases of the reforming ordinance may perchance be deemed the superficialities of social overturn. But the attempt to mould the minds of the juveniles in a virtualy pagan atmosphere is a far more serious fact of Bolshevik strategy. The latest news from Moscow indicates that, as might be expected, the approved campaign is producing its inevitable crop of weedy results. It is reported that a disheartening percentage of crimes and

even murders are being committed by minors and that the police have "found gangs of hardened criminals who are mere children." Child beggars, sneak thieves, pickpockets and youngsters of "Raffles-esque" impulses have long been a problem in Russia, and of late years undoubtedly their numbers have rapidly increased. The Kremlin officials are worried. Small wonder it should be so. True, there is a Government commission for the care of minors; but in Moscow, where there are a million juveniles, and many of them on the prowl for such loot as they can seize, the commission has only twenty-nine members and it would seem that these guardians have neglected their duties to the extent of having allowed at least 1,200 cases of juvenile delinquency last year to go unpunished. It is understandable, therefore, why there has arisen amongst publicity organs and a considerable section of the Russian people an agitation in favor of the restoration of ethical teaching, and for the use of moral suasion as well as, and in preference to, punitive measures. To say, as is said by some exponents of the counter-reform, that this must be done in order that the youth of Russia may become "well-disciplined fighters in the cause of Socialism" is simply to repeat the colossal error already made, and could only render confusion worse confounded. That the Kremlin authorities have repealed the previous provisions of the Criminal Code and have now placed juvenile delinquents on the same footing as adult criminals before the law courts, does not amend matters very much. There is more sagacity in the suggestion that parents and teachers and members of the League of Communist Youth should play the part of big brothers and sisters to the children. But how can this be done so long as the religious element is debased or relegated to the cold, dim background? Experience has proved that nothing else, and nothing less, has availed to train the children in the way they should go. It comes back to the Confession that the Ten Commandments have some direct and dynamic bearing upon the social fabric and its wholesome development; and wherever this moral element is ignored or deleted, the people are building a house upon the sands. What does it mean, if not that the Soviet emissaries find themselves hoisted by their own petard?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow Good Friday. April showers bring May flowers.

Disasters in the Maritimes as elsewhere never seem to come singly.

From now till Monday politics will cease from politicking and elections will have a rest.

Now the Farmers Credit Arrangements scheme should be plain to all concerned.

This season is just another reminder that whom the heart of man shuts out sometimes the heart of God takes in.

On April 3rd Miss Agnes Macphail, M.P., told the House of Commons: "No one is less certain of what the Liberals intend to do if they are elected than I am. If they become the Government it will be a serious thing for Canada, should they not know their minds any better than that, apparently they do now."

The Ladies Aid of the P.E.I. Hospital have struck upon a new idea for tagging people on Saturday. Instead of handing out the usual flag, they will decorate the lapels and breasts of men and women contributors with a black cat mascot. This plan originated in England and proved so popular, that the Ladies Aid decided to import a consignment of Black Bill (not Tom) cats for distribution on Saturday. The novelty should prove attractive.

Currency theory, like racial theory, says The Spectator, is conventionally obscure, but the average man gets just about as muddled when he hears about credit and deflation, as he does when somebody tries to explain the wanderings of Aryans in Central Asia (or wherever it was). To preach that the remedy for our economic troubles is to give us all more money is simple, in accord with everyday experience, and obviously attractive, just as the doctrine that we belong to a race divinely selected to rule our fellows is obviously attractive.

Notes By The Way

Few political leaders in Canada have been wealthy men and it is to their eternal honour that they left office much poorer than they entered it. This may be said of Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir John Thompson and Hon. Alexander Mackenzie. It can be said of Sir Robert Borden, Canada's wartime Prime Minister. There has never been the least suspicion that Mackenzie King has made more than a bare living during his lengthy experience in public life. Hon. W. S. Fielding, after giving many years of valuable service to the Canadian people, retired a poor man. The present Canadian Prime Minister is a wealthy man, but he was wealthy before entering public life and it is safe to say that he is poorer financially now than when he became head of the Federal Government five years ago.—Calgary Herald.

The monarchy of Ethiopia, perhaps 6,000 years old, has a population of 12,000,000 intelligent, interesting and progressive people. It was Menelik II, the first, whose reign began in 1889, who created modern Ethiopia. When he died in October, 1908, the Empress kept his death secret for four years, thereby delaying the coronation of his successor. In 1931 Ras Tafari seized the throne and had himself proclaimed Emperor, since which peace has reigned and the country has progressed until the present. The Ethiopians appear to have derived their religion and civilization from the Egyptians. The royal inscriptions are written in the hieroglyphic character and the Egyptian language.—Mail and Empire.

One thing that makes life so interesting is the opportunity that each of us has of making each day different and more interesting than the one that has gone before. We all have a certain routine, but it is routine, even, should be varied and improved upon whenever possible. With so many new owning cars, the opportunity is given for new scenes and new chances to improve the mind by coming in contact with many classes of people, interesting cities, lovely countryside, and historic landmarks.

I believe in competition. There is altogether too little of it in the world. Competition puts the ambitious chap on his toes and at his wit's end. It keeps him scratching for ideas. Where there is no competition there is no life—just mere existence. If there is no one else with whom to compete, a man should compete with himself. To better what he has already done. We are inspired by the advances made by others. Prizes are often given to those in competition, but this method is of little value. There are apt to be broken hearts as an aftermath. That which should inspire a man on should be to gain the satisfaction of having performed worthily and in a superior manner.

Fear never was a time when fear held the hearts of politicians so much in thrall. That is mainly what is wrong with democratic government. The human mind, dominated by fear, never realizes what it is capable of doing; it cannot develop self-reliance and self-respect. "If I were forced to choose," said Edmund Burke, "I would far rather incur the hatred of this whole House in fighting for what I believe to be the right than enjoy the good will of my colleagues by acquiescing in what I know in my heart was wrong."—Victoria Daily Colonist.

The Administration approach to the press is different. It is based not on compulsion but on charm. In dealing with the press, Washington stoops to conquer. Where the club has been used on stock exchanges, where strong-armed leadership has been used on Congress, where the power of licence keeping radio close to official skirts, the press is handled with open arms, cordiality, and service.—Review of Reviews.

Truth (London): No Christian can have remained unmoved by the announcement that the British Museum has come into possession of what appears to be fragments of an unknown gospel. To the New Testament scholar, of course, the news is immensely exciting, but even the man in the street cannot fail to recognize the interest of a discovery which brings us half a century nearer to apostolic times and to the person of Jesus. For these two or three mutilated leaves, recovered from the sands of Egypt, represent the earliest Christian writing known to be extant, being apparently not later than the middle of the second century A.D., and therefore ante-dating by more than 50 years the Chester Beatty papyri of the Gospels, the Acts and the Pauline Epistles, hitherto considered the earliest.

Gertrude Stein: What do they want to know in the newspapers that is what does anybody want to know? They want to know what they want to know or do they only think so only know or do they want to know what they want to know from the newspapers because if they do if they only think so then they do get what they want. What they want or think they want to know what they want in the newspapers is to know every day what has happened the day before and so get the feeling that it happened on that day the same day and not on the day before. That is what the American newspaper is supposed to do to make it be as if they the newspaper had it to do that is to make the things that happened yesterday happened today. "And do they do so?"

The question arises what England would think of an Italian expedition into Abyssinia. We know already that England is ill at ease. A glance at the map is enough to show that if Italy occupied Abyssinia

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

REDUCING WEIGHT BY REDUCING THE FOOD AND USING DINITROPHENOL AND THYROID EXTRACT

Owing to the severe skin eruptions, disturbances of the nervous system and even some deaths from the use of dinitrophenol in reducing weight, the original research workers Drs. Cutting, Mehlrens and Thainter, Los Angeles, and the Journal of the American Medical Association have warned their fellow physicians and the public generally that this drug is dangerous in some cases. The result has been that physicians are not prescribing it very much although the overweight individual can walk into a drug store, purchase it, and use it without supervision.

It is agreed that the average case of overweight should not use dinitrophenol thyroid extract, as simply cutting down on the amount of food will reduce the weight in every case. When reducing the food does not reduce the weight the overweight individual may only have the right to should put himself under a physician who will be able to guard his health and life whilst undergoing treatment with dinitrophenol or thyroid extract.

Dr. Sidney Hirsch, Cedarhurst, Long Island, in Medical Record says: "Because of the precautions so necessary in the use of dinitrophenol I limited each patient's daily intake to 3 grains at most in capsule form. In addition each was given from one-half to one and one-half grains of thyroid extract daily and a diet of 1200 to 1500 calories (which is about half the usual intake). To make sure that my dose was right and to have the patient under complete control or supervision I had the patient return every second or third day. During these visits the patient was given the necessary amount of medicine to use until the next visit."

You can readily understand that seeing the patient so often and giving just enough of the dinitrophenol and thyroid extract to last until the next visit made the treatment safe.

And after all as both these drugs create a great amount of heat in the body and the body is receiving only half the usual amount of food, just what the effect will be cannot be known beforehand. It is only good sense then, if weight must be reduced by these methods, that the patient be under the supervision of a physician.

All things unto themselves are absolute: The one that falls before a frolic wind Is ripe for falling; thistle-down we find Anchor'd when oaks are riven from the rood. The will, that grows through bush and briar, and brute, Knoveth itself within each human mind; And action, that appears as purpose-blind, Is but the brooded thought no longer mute. Whatso'er the hazard, at the first or last, The blighting remains within the bone; Nor any force that lifts to make a cast Can claim the consummation as its own. 'Tis what we are makes certain; 'Tis what we are makes certain; And in Time's gamble seals the assurance.

—William Soutar.

Death Of Watchmakers

(Edmonton Journal.)—Nearly every adult carries a watch of some sort, and it would appear that the watchmaker could be assured of continuity of employment. But, according to a statement by a delegation of the Canadian Jewelers' Association, boys are not learning the watchmaker art as apprentices.

The delegation stated that there was not an apprentice in watchmaking in any of the Toronto jewelry stores, and that the technical schools for the watchmakers of the future.

The dearth of apprentices in the watchmaking trade is not an isolated example of the change that has taken place in methods in handicrafts although the situation in the jewelry trade may be more surprising in that there does not appear to be any serious falling off in the work to be done. It is she would be in a position to dominate the Egyptian Sudan and, consequently, the great route from the Cape to Cairo. She would command the high plateaux and hold a veritable citadel from which she could look down on all Eastern Africa. In addition, the new Italian Empire would only be separated from Tripoli by the Egyptian Sudan, which might cause any new troubles in the Sudan or Egypt to breed all sorts of hope in our Southern neighbour.—LaTribune des Nations, Paris.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian reserves the right to accept or reject the opinions of correspondents.

A SUGGESTION

Sir,—Now that the snow plough is working on the St. Peter's Road, would it not be a good idea to have the hills that have been widened last year opened out as far as the Suffolk Road. This will enable the farmers to drive in to town by wagon for Easter market. If it is necessary to have shovels used to get the plough through, would you give the farmers a chance to pay their taxes this way? The city needs the farmers' business. I am, Sir, etc. W. R. DENNIS.

THE BOOMERANG RETURNS

Sir,—The latest to join in the outcry over the two short articles by "Producer," that recently appeared in your columns, is a writer signing himself Milton Furness, who is addition of the fact that Livestock Marketing Board. From the important position he occupies, as well as by the very superior and condescending manner in which he writes, I conclude that he is a person of small consequence, and as he is a duly minded of the fact. At the end of his letter to the very modestly says, "I have made clear to him many things of which he seems so totally ignorant." Upon which I carefully re-read his missive, so that no point of its light and leading should escape me. I confess to some disappointment in not finding the enlightenment so generously proffered, but I was enabled to cull out two great outstanding facts. Once on a time, "he went to Montreal with one hundred and forty-one of his information likewise he had dressed hogs." I hasten to acknowledge my indebtedness for this valuable information, of which I had previously been ignorant. But when he charged me with saying that the Marketing Board materially assisted "in lowering prices to the producers of hogs," I dissent, I said no such words. What I did say was "that prices are controlled absolutely by the packers' combine, and in bringing about this condition, the Livestock Marketing Board materially assisted." It is painful to think that one who carries the lamp of knowledge for others, should be himself given to misrepresentation. With confidence now somewhat shaken in his accuracy of statement, we cannot next to an account of, where an increase of two cents a pound over local prices was received for a shipment of hogs. Accepting the statement, (with reservations), let me point out that four great packing firms were then competing for a market that was, with a consequent levelling of prices, what are now merged into one. And right here comes in my own personal experience. It so happened that in the same month and year (April, 1928) I delivered live hogs, shipping club, a payment for them and received a price of 12 cents per lb. Another lot I sold to the agent of a local packing firm for 16 cents, dressed weight. This transaction fairly represents others of its kind, at that time.

Another notable event recorded by the Vice-president was the advance in price while his shipment was enroute to Borden. And of course, we did it! Wonderful to relate, when the price rises, we do it! When it falls, it is other fellows! Prices of commodities follow! Prices of commodities follow! When prices were very high I have seen the price of pork high as much as 3 or 4 cents per lb. in a single day. But because it happened to be offering some on the market, I wasn't concerned at all to think that I had anything at all to do with it. We are told next, "Producers advocate the old system of dressed hogs." No, Mr. Vice-president, not particularly so. But why should I speak ill of it, and do cry what has been of such great use and benefit for so long a time? I have a little experience too, and when someone tells me there is a loss of 10% on home killed pork, even if an authority with great store of information, I take the story for what it is worth, and that is very little. The reputation of excellence had been established long before modern methods were introduced. As far back as seventy-five years ago, when the number of swine in the Province was more than twice as great as it is at the present time, (census of 1861), our pioneer farmers, without the assistance of salaried instructors, permanently established the industry by the very methods that we now hear so frequently disparaged. The methods then in use served their day and purpose. For this is a world of change, and we change with it, and as with other things, even so with hogs. But the trouble is, we have a certain class of people who believe that wisdom came with the world when they entered it, and is likely to die when they leave it, and to their number we may add those who are in the habit of presuming on the "total ignorance" of others, while only exposing their own. Now mark what the Vice-president tells us: "Hogs killed in the plants by experts are perfect in every particular, hence they are apt to pay the additional price." But how does this compare with the following excerpt, taken from an article in the Guardian of about a year ago, and sponsored by the Livestock Marketing Board: "On the bruised and battered condition of the hogs were so badly bruised that the dressed carcasses had to be relegated to an inferior grade of product. Large portions of the flesh in many cases have to be removed, and thus the entire part has to go to an inferior trade, at a much lower price. The packer cannot continue to bear the loss indefinitely, and must make allowance for all losses when estimating what he can afford to offer for hogs." And again, "deep-seated contusions are costing the

A Tribute To Thrift

(Financial Post) A plea for clear-thinking about the old-fashioned virtue of thrift was made last week at Winnipeg by C. O. Ferguson, general manager of the Great-West Life Assurance Co. in an address before the Winnipeg Board of Trade. Mr. Ferguson told his western audience that he still persisted in the belief that the habit of saving was excellent and every improvement of a material nature which we now enjoy is the result of savings. "It must persist," he remarked, "in my belief that, in the life of the community, as in that of the individual, present distress can only be alleviated by drawing upon savings. Certainly an unlimited supply of small pieces of engraved paper, called currency, cannot in themselves feed or clothe the people. "Every time a public budget goes unbalanced, a mortgage is in effect imposed upon savings, and savings, whether of the past or the present, are a capital levy is made, and there are some thinly disguised capital levies now in operation. There is an appropriation of savings. Every time a life insurance surrender value, or other reserve, is withdrawn to meet current needs, the sum total of community savings is reduced. Unemployment, except to the extent that it is paid for out of taxation on current earnings, is a charge upon savings. Civilization, argued Mr. Ferguson, has progressed or retrogressed according as thrift has been encouraged. At all times there have been those who have taken a delight in despoiling the thrifty. In former times the despoilers were frequently the noblemen or others of the pseudo-land, now they are of the apathy, powerful because of the apathy, and frequently quite unconscious of what misfortunes may ensue from their teachings to themselves and others. Mr. Ferguson concluded: "It is not just to treat those who have saved with contempt or have saved to be extended to them gratitude be extended to them for having laid aside, from the time of their youth, that which is now so welcome in the time of need."

farmers of Canada millions of dollars every year." All of which may be quite true, but in direct contradiction to the first statement. But no matter how contradictory all we are expected to believe them all. Another gem from this rare collection, "Producer" beneath the dignity of an intelligent farmer." Which reminds me of the cynical writer of another defined dignity "as all" name for attenuation.

No, Mr. Vice-president, you do not welcome me even want criticism constructive or otherwise; nor discussion of any kind, unless you yourselves do all the talking. I have been unfortunate, unfortunately, that of too many of our farmers' operations in the past, or rather of their management. The fairest criticism was resented and construed into "an attack." A request for information was seldom complied with. No one was wanted to speak, or to praise them. And the result was that might have been anticipated. For this reason some of them are applying the lesson, for wise men learn by experience. This implies nothing against the principles of co-operation, which are sound in themselves, and their application in some form to our social and economic problems, is regarded by many students of these questions as their only solution.

Neither have I any animus against the Livestock Marketing Board, or any other co-operative. I wish them well. Which does not prevent me from having an opinion, and expressing it if necessary. I have had no wish to unduly prolong this discussion, out of regard for the editor's space, and the readers' patience. Therefore, some things in previous letters, which consisted mainly of personalities, I have not thought necessary to answer. Yes, boomerangs have a way of returning, and this is one of them come home!

I am, Sir, etc. PRODUCER

Robbing Peter—Peter MacNab had been arrested for inebriety, and had an unusual excuse in court next day. "I wisna drunk, sir," he said earnestly. "I found myself outside a kirk and knowin' ma unworthiness to gang inside, I knelt down on the steps and said a wee bit prayer." "I see you were really holding a little service of your own?" asked the magistrate. "Yes, that was it, sir." "Well, we'll now take up the collection. Seven-and-sixpence or three days."

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