

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1931

Strange Revelation

Confession is said to be good for the soul, and no doubt this applies to a Liberal organ as well as to an individual. In its issue of yesterday our local contemporary asserts that the Lea Government was criticised by the Conservatives for slandering, and that The Guardian had also been guilty of making the same charge. It then proceeds to inform its readers that on Aug. 25 last the Lea Government advised Ex-Sheriff John G. McFadyen that he had been re-appointed Sheriff by the Governor-in-Council, whereas, it asserts, the Governor had not given his approval and therefore "the notice should never have been sent, because until the Minute of Council had been signed by His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council could not be said to have acted."

Comment is unnecessary! With regard to the appointment of Sheriffs, the Stewart Government filled the vacancies which had occurred in the three Counties owing to the Sheriffs not having been appointed, as is customary, in the month of June, before the end of their existing tenure. Evidently for political reasons, the Lea Government did not deem it desirable to make these appointments while the election was pending. Having been defeated at the election, they had no power or authority to make the appointments thereafter, although, according to our contemporary, it would appear that they improperly attempted to do so.

The Situation In Britain

It is now possible to estimate with some degree of definiteness what will be the new alignment of political forces in the British House of Commons when the next session opens on September 8th. Premier MacDonald has been deposed by the Labor party. It looks very much as though his career as a Labor leader is ended, although he has not yet decided whether to present himself for re-election when the time comes for another appeal to the country. Chancellor Snowden has definitely announced he will retire from politics as soon as the coalition Government has completed its task, and that his decision has in no wise been influenced by the new turn of events. Meantime, the Laborites have re-organized their forces and have issued a manifesto declaring war upon the new Government, expressing their determination to resist to the utmost the economy programme with which the Cabinet has to deal. Arthur Henderson has been chosen leader of the Opposition and will be supported in this capacity by J. R. Clynes and W. Graham, formerly Home Secretary and President of the Board of Trade, respectively. The economic crisis has acted with seismic force, producing a cleavage which seems destined to remain. And the political forces thus ranged against each other the Montreal Gazette believes, are already gathering for a pitched battle. As now appears, the first onset will be over the provisions embodied in the present Government's economic schedule which the Labor party bitterly denounces as a false move and an attack upon the interests of the workers. They forget that the crisis was such that it could not wait. They forget that a Socialist policy was in large measure responsible for an unbalanced budget that menaced British credit, and that when the real pinch came, Labor leaders, by their own confession, felt themselves unequal to the task of coping with the emergency. But all this does not in the least hinder the Labor Opposition from accusing their former chieftains of recreancy and base surrender to capitalist inter-

ests which have brought pressure to bear upon Great Britain from the outside. It seems fairly assured, continues the Gazette, that the Laborites can reckon upon a technical tally of 281 in the Opposition camp. The Government has a numbering of 331 out of 612 seats in the House of Commons. The coalitionists may, therefore, count upon a majority of 50, which is a workable majority and larger than the Labor Government was able to muster most of the time it remained in office. These figures, of course, are subject to "snaps" and "pairings" which from time to time may interfere with the standardized roster. But it looks as though, immediately fronting the budget issue, the forces back of the Government programme are better marshalled than those within the Opposition ranks. The real test will come with another general election. What the result of such a contest will be, nobody can tell. But there is at least the certainty that the next campaign will be one of the hardest fought and most momentous political struggles in British constitutional history.

Death-Bed Repentance

On the eve of its departure, namely, Aug. 26—it having expired three days later—the Lea Government reduced the gasoline tax to the rate fixed by the Legislature, which it had taken power unto itself to boost.

Repentance without restitution, we are told, is of no avail; and the defunct Lea Government, having mulcted the autoists of an extra cent per gallon for three months, will receive no credit for this belated attempt to curry favor with the public.

The British Way

"If you asked any American, European, or Asiatic, who flew the Atlantic, he would say 'Lindbergh.' Even in Britain, while it is generally known that someone else did it first, you would not find one person who knew the names of Alcock and Brown, for every ten who know of Lindbergh." This is the complaint of a British M. P. in a speech recorded in the Journal of the Royal Society of Arts. "Similarly," he continues, "if you were asked for the most famous incident in British airship history, you would say, 'The R101 disaster.' The flying of the Atlantic both ways, the first crossing of the Atlantic by any airship, the first crossing of the Atlantic from East to West at all—the fact that these are all British records has almost faded out of our minds, and certainly is not known to one in ten thousand of any other peoples."

Britishers have an ineradicable prejudice against blowing their own horn. It is an old fashioned prejudice, out of keeping with the present age, but quite in line with the tradition of the race, which is perhaps not a disadvantage after all. The fact seems to be that Britishers are content with achievement and are perfectly satisfied to let the other fellow do the bragging.

Taxing Girls

The Summerside Liberal organ, true to type, is advocating increased taxes. It suggests the imposition of a municipal poll tax on young ladies holding positions in commercial offices (not civil service, be it noted). It says Summerside is spending large sums on street and sidewalk improvements, and gallantly concludes:

"What more logical way of raising this increased revenue than by adopting the above suggestion could be found, for who uses our streets and sidewalks more—day and night—than some of our girls?"

NOTES BY THE WAY

The new National British Government appears to be well balanced. Counting the full Ministry, there will be five Laborites, five Liberals and seven Conservatives in the new Government, or in the actual Cabinet of ten members, four Labor representatives, including the Premier, four Conservatives and two Liberals.

A Saskatoon geologist who has investigated the cause of the perceptible lowering of the water in the Saskatchewan River attributes it to the glaciers gradually disappearing in the Rocky Mountains. He predicts that the river will dwindle to a dry ravine in 350 years. The "old oaken bucket" will be covered with many coats of moss before the dust files in the river bed.

Besides placing a heavy burden upon British trade and industry, the extravagant social services introduced in Great Britain by Mr. Lloyd George, and recklessly extended by the present government, continue to play havoc with the ancient families which have served the nation well. The Earl of Londdale is disposing of his racing stable, and he is to rent Lowther Castle to strangers. The Earl of Derby is selling his race horses and will sell his magnificent estate of Knowsley if he can find a purchaser. So the present Lord Strathcona has placed on the market the large Scottish estate built up by the first peer of that name, who, as Donald Smith, became so prominent in Canadian affairs more than a generation ago.

Slavery once existed in Canada. Upper Canada, now Ontario, can boast of being the first country under the British flag to abolish slavery, which was done by an Act of the Upper Canada Legislature in 1793. An Imperial statute of 1833 removed all remains of the system in Canada. The first recorded sale of a slave was at Quebec in 1628, when a black boy from Madagascar was sold for 50 half crowns.

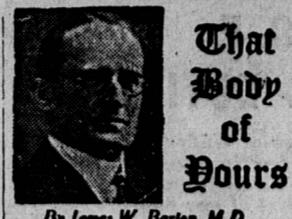
In the foreword of the Saskatchewan public School curriculum, the following significant passage occurs: "Teachers are requested to concentrate upon the final objectives, namely, health and happiness, social efficiency and the use of leisure for the enrichment of life. The emphasis is not to be placed upon subjects of study, but upon child welfare. The spirit of the curriculum is more important than the details of the subjects prescribed."

Comely strips in their, far-flung empire may not constitute the highest type of entertainment, particularly some of which have not outgrown a certain coarseness, but at least they do not offend by their use of the salacious and the sensational and generally they bring the solvent of generous humor to many family circles where their leading characters have become as familiar and as well-thought-of as the neighbors next door.

Science has badly shaken the home. Now science is coming to the rescue of the home. A quarter of a century ago and earlier the home was the haven to which all hastened after the day's work and there to remain until the morning. Then the "family circle" was more than a beautiful legend and it was around the home fireside that the kith and kin and sister's beau gathered for entertainment par excellence. And then along came the "movies," the automobile, the dance hall and the other "infernal contraptions of science" to disband the compound members of the home circle and to cause an evening spell of dark desolation and somber silence over man's castle. The modern home, one was told, became a place in which to remain as briefly as possible and fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters became strangers to each other.

Now science promises to undo its evil work and restore the home and family circle as of yore. There has been so much going on away from home for these many moons that even papas and mamas have feared to remain at home lest they miss something. The future promises to bring many things into the home that one will loath to leave it.

Of late years Canadians have demonstrated a creditable capacity to fabricate their own raw materials into finished articles of commerce. This tendency is greatly facilitated by the fiscal policy adopted and placed in operation by the present federal administration. Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and the British West Indies are turning towards us in search of closer trade relations. Once there is a change of Government in Great Britain the



By James W. Barton, M.D.

A SERIOUS ILLNESS MAY HAVE A SIMPLE BEGINNING

You have heard the expression that "great oaks from tiny acorns grow." I often think that if we could keep that in mind that many a serious ailment might be prevented. Some one has said that "the great strategist, whether military or medical, anticipates what the enemy intends to do and forestalls him by more ample preparations."

If you and I could just think back from some serious ailment—pneumonia, tuberculosis, heart disease, rheumatism, deafness, typhoid fever and others, and really see the starting of all these ailments, what would we find? In pneumonia or tuberculosis, just a little cold that was not serious enough to keep us in bed more than a couple of days, but to tell the truth we did feel weak for some time afterwards and we had to go to bed again. Heart disease; just a couple of bad teeth, or a sore throat that really did occur fairly often. We admit that we didn't go to bed with these sore throats because they didn't seem to be very serious. We did have some rheumatism following one or two of these attacks of sore throat but the rheumatism didn't come on for some time afterwards.

Deafness: we can hardly be blamed for this because it was during and following an attack of scarlet fever that the deafness was noticed. Typhoid fever: we'll admit that when we went on that camping trip we were a little careless of where we got our drinking water; never thought of boiling it.

Now it is not my intention to try to frighten anybody about these things. Nothing will undermine the health and the general resistance to ailments like being over anxious about your every habit of life—your food, your sleep, your exercise. This over anxiety actually lowers the tone of every organ of the body.

My only thought is that at the beginning of any illness, however slight, every care should be given to build up the resisting forces of the body so as to prevent a slight ailment becoming a serious one. This simply means resting in bed a little longer than may seem necessary, having your doctor visit you, even if the illness seems slight, and not resuming hard mental or physical work too soon after an illness.

Good Jobs Go Begging

(Regina Daily Star) Announcement by Mr. George Simpson, editor of official debates of the House of Commons, that it is becoming increasingly difficult to find reporters with the necessary experience, suggests that a number of young Canadians might with profit to themselves take up short-hand work and train themselves for Parliamentary reporting.

Short-hand ability with newspaper experience make the ideal combination, for a parliamentary reporter must convert his record of extemporaneous speaking with its inevitable redundancies, transpositions, and verbal imperfections into terms appropriate to a written record, preserving the speaker's style and as far as possible the exact phrasing of the speaker. Despite the common belief that the unabridged version of the debates is an exact record of the speeches in the House of Commons, Mr. Simpson says that few public speeches, delivered in or out of Parliament, however agreeable to the ear or clear to the understanding, can bear literal transcription.

One of the cruelest pranks a newspaperman can play upon a public speaker who disputes his report, is to print an exact verbatim record of the speech as it actually was given.

Dr. Samuel Johnson, listening behind a screen in a bookseller's shop to the gossip of parliamentary members was the first parliamentary reporter. The profession is an honorable one and fairly well paid. Most newspapermen seem to prefer the smell of printers' ink and the excitement of making up a new paper each day to the tedium of listening to parliamentary and dressing up their speeches into readable English.

Motherland will join this procession. When that time comes Canada will be able to place in the Empire pool of resources and potentialities as great a contribution as any other part of the Empire and a greater contribution than most parts.

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. This Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

GLARING CAR LIGHTS

Sir,—I think it very dangerous the way motorists drive in this Province and never dim their lights. On Sunday night when I was coming in from the country I met a car on its side in the ditch. I stopped and the owner of the car said a car had passed, that the driver had not dimmed the lights and their strong glare blinded him. It is the same way all along the roads, meeting horses and people walking and the car lights just blind you on the road. Then we wonder why there are so many car accidents. I think all car drivers should dim their lights. I dim my lights but there are very few who pay the compliment back. I am, Sir, etc.,

CAR DRIVER

BOARDING HOUSE RATES

Sir,—We are day by day reading of the world wide depression and hard times that exists, which indeed we all know and feel even in our own favoured "Garden of the Guit", where there are few of the wealthier class and very many more who find it hard enough to make both ends meet. A great many of our people, farmers and others, throughout the Island are making every effort, every sacrifice to send their sons and daughters to Prince of Wales, St. Dunstan's, and business colleges, as the case may be, in Charlottetown, but find it impossible with money so scarce and everything the farmer produces cut down to the lowest figure, to pay the high cost of board demanded in the City. So we must needs keep the boys and girls at home. Some few years ago, when prices were good and board reasonable, we had a chance. Then hotel and private board went up, "soared," and we were told it was because every commodity was so high, and of course at that war time it was so. But my object in writing this is to inquire why in all common sense now that all commodities, flour, potatoes, meat, eggs, and in fact everything eatable is down to rock, bottom prices, why do the hotels and boarding houses continue to exact exorbitant prices. We may be told that the hired help is so expensive, but why do the proprietors pay such wages when at this crisis we are all glad (or should be glad) to get a fair living wage and no more. We are all proud of Charlottetown, our fair Capital, and we naturally look to it for educational purposes, and needless to say we very much enjoy our visits to the city for business or pleasure, but I am of the opinion that if the hotels and boarding houses continue their prohibitive prices, the people throughout the country will perforce have to stay at home. But may I ask, is it wise, or for the best interests of the city, to thus debar the outside people who, for the most part make up the population of the Province? I am, Sir, etc.,

ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

Like The Ostrich

(The Monetary Times) Despatches from New York over the week end, contained the news that the United States Farm Board had agreed to trade 25,000,000 bushels of wheat held by its Wheat Stabilization Corporation for 1,050,000 bags of coffee held by the Brazilian government. The move in one way is a return to the system of barter which obtained between countries over a hundred years ago but whether it will have the desired effect or not remains to be seen. Just how the plan will work out is something that time alone will tell. On the surface it seems to be rather difficult to see just where the advantage is going to be. True, the Republic of Brazil will have a stock of wheat which it did not have before and the United States government will have a stock of coffee which it did not have before, but the available world supply of either commodity will not be reduced one iota by the move. In fact it would seem that the United States Farm Board is only adding to its troubles. In the first place it is evident that the price which the Board is accepting for its wheat is in the neighborhood of 50 cents per bushel as the 25,000,000 bushels will be worth \$12,500,000. Some months ago it was stated that the board had purchased in the neighborhood of 250,000,000 bushels at an average price of 92 cents per bushel. If these figures are correct the board stands to lose at present valuations \$10,500,000 on the transaction which of course will be modified one way or another when the coffee is actually sold. That, of course, cannot take place for quite a while yet as under the terms of the deal the board promises not to begin selling coffee until September, 1932, and at the rate of 62,500 bags a month it will not finish selling until January, 1934. Hence the investment of the United States in wheat as far as the 25,000,000 bushels is concerned becomes a frozen asset. More than this the Farm Board is now in the coffee trade as well as the grain trade. There is admittedly some advantage in diversification of holdings of securities, if these are well selected, and apparently the Board thinks there is some advantage in diversification of commodities, whether they are well selected or not. The wheat sent into Brazil will presumably displace an equal quantity which would have been bought

The Poet's Corner

GROWN-UP TO CHILD: TEN COMMANDMENTS

Take a rake with ten teeth To hollow out the sea; Ride astride a seabird's back, Nor ever be Afraid to raid the nests of gulls In the shy places of the rocks; Nor slow to draw music from The fluted comb. Spread a bed of gathered down From dandelion clocks; Scorn not the thorn whereon there grows The everlasting rose. Do not you afar to spin A thread to catch the air, Nor lack to pluck the golden broom On the high ledges where The rare birds there do preen and plume Themselves above the bay. Nor fail to sail a coral boat Out to meet the day At dun of dawn: And may Your eye decay Whatever there shall lie Between the green sea and the sky.—A. L. Rowse in the New Statesman and Nation.

GLASS WALLPAPER

(British United Press) ERFURT, Germany, September 2.—Wallpaper made entirely of glass is the latest product of a glass factory at Lauscha. The new product is durable, washable, and guaranteed not to fade.

Insuring At "Lloyd's"

(Regina Daily Star) A Star reader has been making some enquiries about Lloyd's, the famous British insurance concern that for two and a half centuries has been the centre for maritime information and where it is popularly supposed that one can insure anything. In fact our reader wondered if the western Canadian crop could be insured at Lloyd's. Doubtless it could—but at a price. Lloyd's insured the English Channel against the "risk" of being defeated by Gertrude Ederle and paid Gertrude's papa \$100,000 in return for his \$25,000 premium. Lloyd's though a corporation, does not do any insuring itself. It is an association of underwriters who meet to place risks and reinsure. Because the founders of the corporation as far back as 1689 met at Edward Lloyd's coffee house in Lombard Street, London, to transact business, the corporation became known as, and has retained the name of "Lloyd's."

Farmers in England do insure at Lloyd's against drought risk—which is not heavy in England. Cloth merchants insure against sudden changes of fashion. Race course owners and boarding house keepers insure against rain. Wine merchants insure against the risk of prohibition coming in. One chap with a nervous complex for \$4 got a policy for one thousand pounds against the risk of St. Paul's Cathedral falling.

One man—a Canadian, too—got a policy against the risk of striking his wealthy mother-in-law from whom he had expectations. A Quebec couple with a history of twins on both sides of the family took out a policy against the risk of twins. They were to get \$5,000 for twins, \$10,000 for triplets and \$20,000 for quadruplets. Lloyd's won. The couple have three children—all singly born.

One man in England insured against the risk of having twins. Nature was generous to him and he was presented with triplets. The underwriter refused to pay, holding that he had only insured against twins. Hence the caution of the Quebec couple in stipulating for the indemnity for triplets and quadruplets. Policies are not issued as gambling chances. Lloyd's has very complete statistical records and the premiums bear a relation to the law of probabilities.

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ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

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from the Argentine or Canada possibly and this in turn will come out on the world market in competition with United States, Canadian, Australian and Russian wheat. So that while the Farm Board gets this quantity of wheat off its hands, it does not get rid of it entirely, as it still is a factor in the world markets and thereby defeats to some extent the object with which it was first bought some months ago. In this connection it is to be noted that there is no restriction placed on the sale of wheat by the Brazilian government as is the case in the coffee to be taken over by the United States government. How much better it would have been had this wheat and more of the Board's holdings been sold to China on long term credits or even given to her or to other nations where food supplies are scarce. Had it been given to the unemployed in the United States it would have relieved much distress and would have strengthened the wheat markets considerably. It is just this big supply of over 200,000,000 bushels of wheat owned by the Grain Stabilization Corporation and overhanging the world that is one of the weakest spots of the whole grain market today. While this exchange of commodities may be termed barter or by any other name, it can only be regarded as a diversification of their holdings by two governments who tried to stabilize the markets by artificial means, and is now a gamble by each country in the product of the other. Both countries remind one of the ostrich who hopes to save himself from an enemy by sticking his head in a hole in the sand. Joan, the city girl, went for a brief spring holiday in the country. After a while she became aware of a young farmer who was paying her his attentions. One moonlight evening, as they were strolling across a meadow, they saw a cow and a calf rubbing noses. The young man gazed longingly into the girl's eyes. "Ah," he exclaimed poetically, "that sight makes me want to do the same!" The girl smiled. "All right, go ahead, then," she replied. "It's your cow, isn't it?"

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