

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1930

A Temporary Deadlock

The answer of the British Labor Government to the suggestion of an intra-empire preference on wheat has been given by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald. "We cannot do it," he says. Yet most of the delegates at the Imperial Conference, including some of Mr. MacDonald's own party, are agreed upon the need of some form of tariff preference and in the long run it is the wisdom of the majority that will prevail. The chief obstacle, it is understood to be, not the Prime Minister, but Mr. Philip Snowden, who, with the closed mind of a die-hard free trader, seems determined to block the road to any system of Imperial economic unity through tariff increases on foreign goods.

Educational Cafeterias

Old systems and ideas about education are being assailed today as never before. New educational Utopias are looming on the horizon, and the champions of modernity are impatient at the slow progress we are making toward these rainbow-tinted goals. The latest protest against our present educational methods comes from Prof. Goodwin Watson, educational psychologist at Columbia University, to whom higher mathematics and the classical languages are a part of high-school curricula are anathema.

"Latin," says Prof. Watson breezily, "was once a language of commerce, trigonometry a skill for surviving. When civilization changed, those who excelled in such arts were left with no job except teaching others. Challenged to defend their life work, they evolved the plausible theory that in some occult fashion persons who studied these disciplines came out with harder, keener, better tempered and more highly polished intellects. The fallacy was revealed when tests demonstrated that the scholar had had a better mind before ever he began the parsing and computing. Intuitively useless mental activities have no superiority for mind training."

To which the only answer seems to be, that it all depends upon what one regards as "intrinsically useless" and what type of mind one is desirous of developing. Professor Watson would not only do away with Latin and trigonometry, but he would substitute for the departments of education traditionally revered—English, mathematics, history, science and the like—a new curricula divided into departments of Health, of Vocations, of Leisure, of Home Participation, of Citizenship, and what not. Within each of these departments would be offered "several hundred units of work, to be carried on inside or outside the schoolroom, by individuals or by groups, some units requiring only an hour or two, others requiring several months of work." His envisioned high-school would set forth "a thousand or more" of these units, "a sort of cafeteria of desirable experiences," through which, presumably, the student would be invited to amble at will, purchasing what he wanted or what his curiosity prompted him to think he wanted. Emphasis would be placed upon athletics, vocational training, physical and mental hygiene, etc., while the cause of history would be required to take a step and contribute "what it

really important for the understanding of policies regarding prohibition, crime, immigration, divorce, tariff, League of Nations, government ownership, naval propaganda, and free speech." In short, the modern school would be "a storm-centre, not an isle of peaceful seclusion from current life."

A significant admission is made by Mr. Watson when he says that "the really challenging task for education is the enrichment of leisure." This, it seems to us, offsets much of the argument he advances against the old-fashioned curricula in favor of more utilitarian subjects. Education, after all, is something more than the acquisition of the means of earning a livelihood, or even of maintaining one's physical and mental fitness. It is, or should be, a broadening out of all the faculties, a comprehending of all that disciplines or enlightens the understanding, corrects the temper, cultivates the taste, and forms the manners and habits. It should give a sense of proportion, a standard of values, a capacity for logical thinking. These are essential things, the things that distinguish the educated man from the mere specialist, however successful commercially or professionally, on the one hand, and the mere pedant, however learned, on the other. They are acquired, not at any educational "cafeteria" but by slower and surer processes of assimilation. And generations of cultured men and women are witness to the fact that chief among these processes has been the systematic study, for its own sake, of "the best that has been thought and said in the world"—in other words of the classics, preferably in the language in which they have been written; and of pure mathematics, which is the foundation of all scientific thinking.

Jobs For Canadians

Additional evidence of the beneficial effect of the Bennett tariff changes is furnished in a recent announcement to retail firms by Canadian Celanese Limited, largest makers of style fabrics in Canada. The announcement reads in part: "Canadian Celanese Limited agreed that if the tariff were increased the company would undertake the construction of a new plant. Work has already been commenced on plant extensions which will involve the expenditure of over two million dollars and give employment to an additional two thousand people. "Canadian Celanese Limited agreed that the Company would not increase its prices. "The Company has not and will not do so. It is confidently expected that the larger market opened up in Canada by the action of the Government will enable the Company to offer even better values."

The Poison Gas Convention

Twenty-seven nations have now signed the poison gas convention under the auspices of the League of Nations, agreeing thereby not to make use of poison gas in war. Great Britain and all the British Dominions have signed and so have France, Germany, Italy and Russia. The United States and Japan are the only nations of the first rank still outside the agreement. It may seem strange, says the Vancouver Province, that nations which have definitely and unequivocally renounced war as an instrument of national policy should worry about the means of war. If they are not going to fight one another, they are not going to fight one another with poison gas. The larger issue would seem to include the lesser. It doesn't however, work out quite that way. While the nations have pledged themselves, in the Pact of Paris, not to resort to war, and while each may be entirely sincere in its pledge, and hopeful that the others are sincere, too, still there is by no means complete confidence. So, the anomaly—we have a world in which practically all the nations have promised not to make war, yet in which the preparations for war are enormous and costly. No nation, if the

Notes By The Way

Miss Agnes McPhail M. P. told a Washington audience Canada was "exceedingly foolish" in not accepting reciprocity in 1911. That was a year when Canadian democracy was put to a great test. It was faced with what the late Chief Justice Taft called "the parting of the ways." Were we to become an "adjunct" of the United States, or to develop along lines of economic independence? The people decided, and the decision went against Miss McPhail's friends. To a lesser degree the election of 1930 went over the same ground, and again Miss MacPhail is grieved and bitterly disappointed. She finds difficulty in reconciling these overwhelming reverses with her choicest theories about government by the people of the people, and for the people. They say, she, "trials of democracy." She believes in the people, but she believes more fervently in Agnes MacPhail, and if the people go against Miss MacPhail the member for Southeast Grey knows right well whose is the blunder.

A pessimist has been defined as one who is forced to admit that things are all right now but that in a short time they will go to the everlasting bow-wows. Our Liberal friends cannot deny the fact that industrially and economically, Canada is at present facing a new era of prosperity thanks to the leadership of the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett. They find consolation however and make themselves somewhat ridiculous in predicting all sorts of evil from the Bennett tariff proposals. These evils show no symptoms of coming our way. Unemployment is being rapidly reduced for as can reasonably be expected and the policy of the Leader of the Conservative party is already assured of a satisfactory outcome. He promised much and much has already been done.

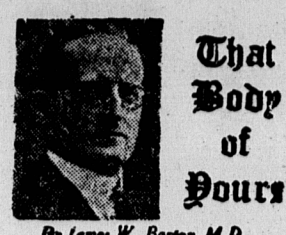
A recent issue of a single English weekly periodical, the New Statesman, contains thirteen columns of a list of "selected autumn books." These are not novels—not many of them. The fiction list occupies less than two columns. In all, some eight hundred volumes are specified. Is the list not a rather remarkable illustration of the intellectual strength and activity of the British people? Could any other country in the world begin to approach it? In the United States, one sees leadership of the world in materialism—vaster industry than elsewhere, more eager business absorption, more newspapers. But probably no periodical in the United States could get up a catalogue of American autumn worth-while publications of one-quarter the number or one-tenth the intellectual interest of that "selected list of autumn books" of the English journal. The little island overseas still leads the world in pretty nearly all the high things of human mentality and interest.

"There is no thought or feeling that can have entered the mind of man, which he would be eager to communicate to others, or which they would listen to with delight, that is not a fit subject for poetry. It is not a branch of authorship; it is the stuff of which our life is made! The rest is mere oblivion, a dead letter; for all that is worth remembering in life is the poetry of it! . . . If poetry is a dream, the business of life is much the same."—William Hazlitt.

Mental perfection is brains plus education. Brains are pretty equally distributed throughout any nation, and if education is equally well distributed, the nation has the maximum of cultivated intelligence to draw upon, and possesses the maximum amount of individual and national mental and manual efficiency. Mechanical efficiency is merely a matter of keeping up with the times; and any intelligent and educated people easily can, and certainly will, do that."—Public Opinion.

Hon. H. H. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, is adopting a wise course in utilizing the most effective agencies in the field of publicity to promote the purchase of Canadian products by Canadians. Propaganda for wares of non-Canadian origin reaches our public daily through a great variety of sources; and it is essential that something should be done to stimulate national sentiment in purchasing. The whole matter of "Made-in-Canada" goods is closely bound up with the problem of unemployment. Undoubtedly the buyer who gives home-produced goods of every description preference is helping to provide jobs for the workless of our cities and better revenues for another vast body of workers, the farmers.

The entire Town of Cocoa, Honduras, has been indicted for graft in the handling of public funds. pledges are worth anything, intends to attack, but all are afraid that they may be attacked.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

GAMES AND INTELLIGENCE

Our psychologists tell us that the brain power of an individual cannot be increased; he is born with a normal intelligence, 100 per cent, a sub-normal 90 per cent, or above normal 110 per cent. They tell us that nothing we can do will increase this degree of intelligence. However I want to point out that if you will not only let your children play, but will see that they do play, that whether or not you increase their intelligence, you will certainly make available the 90, 100 or 110 per cent of intelligence they do have.

An individual with 90 per cent intelligence, who is taking his place in the family and community life, is certainly exercising a greater influence on life than the one of 110 per cent who have the intelligence but has not those other qualities or qualifications that make a real man. And so a boy who plays or exercises makes the blood making organs do more and better work, the circulation of this good blood is increased, and the brain is nourished by this better blood and more of it. He will thus be better mentally and physically for this exercise.

But what about the other things that will make him an all round man? He will have to meet other men mentally or perhaps physical combat when he becomes a man. As Professor Gallorani, Italy, points out "the knowledge of one's own strength, the rapid sizing up of any situation, the actual sizing up of an opponent's strength and ability, are all given a tremendous stimulus by play or athletics."

Being able to come to "attention" or be attentive to everything about you in a game, is the first and foremost thing that is learned in games. To do the right thing at the right time is something that you can scarcely forgive yourself. You not only have to act quickly but you have to think quickly, a combination of brain and muscle that makes for complete development.

So don't worry about your youngster's intelligence. See that he plays football and other games that make him have to take his place, and play his part, whether he likes it or not. He not only looks after his own "rights," but he learns to respect the other fellow's rights also. And the same applies to girl's games; the group games that are now so helpful and popular.



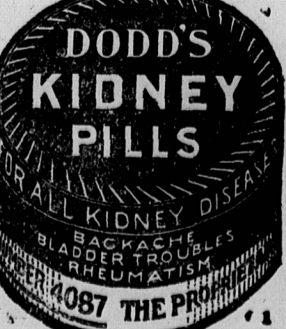
TO A BLACK GREYHOUND

Shining black in the shining light, Inky black in the golden sun, Graceful as the swallow's flight, Light as swallow, wing-ed one, Swift as driven hurricane, Double-sinewed stretch and spring, Muffled thud of flying feet— See the black dog galloping, Hear his wild foot-beat. See him lie when the day is dead, Black curls curled on the boarded floor, Sleepy eyes, my sleepy-head— Eyes that were aflame before, Gentle now, they burn no more; Gentle now and softly warm, With the fire that made them bright, Hidden—as when after storm Softly falls the night. —Julian Grenfell.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS EARNINGS

The gross earnings of the Canadian National Railways for the week ending October, 1930 were \$4,734,345 as compared with \$5,830,790 for the corresponding period of 1929, a decrease of 1,096,445.

"There is an inward fire that is fanned at times into a blaze. Beauty does it."—Harry Emerson Fosdick.



The R-101-And After

(Montreal Gazette)

With characteristic promptitude, England is setting to work to discover the cause of the disaster to the airship R-101 on October 5 last in France, and we may be sure that the inquiry will be carried through to a conclusion with equally characteristic English thoroughness. It will begin in the law courts in London on Tuesday next, with Sir John Simon acting as head of the investigating commission. The British Government could not have appointed a more efficient president. He will be assisted and advised by such technical experts as Lieutenant Colonel J. T. C. Moore-Brabazon, a pioneer motorist and experienced airman, and Professor Charles E. Inglis, an acknowledged authority on all problems relating to mechanics. Not only Great Britain, but every nation concerned in aviation, will take the deepest interest in the coming inquiry and await the findings with not a little concern. For the verdict of the commission will signify more than the cause or causes of a calamity which wrecked a giant airship and killed a complete airship crew and a great part of Britain's airship administrative and scientific staff besides the Secretary of State for Air and the Director of Civil Aviation. In the light of the knowledge the Government authorities will obtain through the inquiry, the result will influence their decision for or against Great Britain continuing her experiments in airship construction and operation.

There is no doubt that the R-101 disaster dealt a heavy blow to airship prestige. Before that disaster is explained there are many professional minds in England whose confidence in airships has been so shaken by the event on October 5 that they do not hesitate to express a conviction that the work of the builders of this kind of aircraft ought not to go on. One may read in any of the English exchanges which arrived by this week's mail that professional and unprofessional voices alike are proclaiming that Britain has never yet produced a satisfactory airship, will never be able to do so, and that therefore the field had better be abandoned. The greatest success achieved has been that the R-100, which flew safely to Canada and back to England in August last. Previously, eight airships of the "R" class, built at a cost of nearly \$12,000,000, were lost, and the aggregate flying time of the eight dirigibles were only 1,540 hours. It is not to be wondered at if certain people today, depressed by the R-101 disaster, and disappointed because of previous failures, are candid in condemnation of the whole policy of airship building.

This extreme pessimism, however, is not likely to prevail, even if the Simon investigation establishes definitely that what occurred to the R-101 in France could not have been prevented. It is stressed that the central and all-important point before the court will be simply—why did the R-101 crash? But this will not shut out a discussion of airship possibilities generally. It may be shown, for one thing, that the use of non-inflammable gas in airships—helium instead of hydrogen—would appreciably help to a solution of the airship problem. Be that as it may, although the October calamity will necessarily slow up airship developments in England, it is inconceivable that, after so much has been done by that country to advance the cause of airship flying, Great Britain will be willing to leave to Germany and the United States exclusively the construction and operation of airships. Many Britishers may be discouraged, but the people as a nation will not be daunted by what has happened to the R-101 and her gallant crew. The goal that the giant dirigible had in view, in association with her sister ship the R-101, is worth striving for, and if it can be won Britain will wish to continue her experiments until victory shall crown her efforts. And it may be safe to say that Canada and the other Dominions which are directly interested, and have shared in the cost of erecting mooring masts and in kindred expenditures, will gladly continue their co-operation until an Imperial chain of airships girdles the Empire.

Shutting Out Canadians

(Manitoba Free Press)

Labor at its conference in Boston, passed a resolution to prevent workers who live in Canada, and work in the United States, continuing to work in the States. The area particularly affected by the resolution is the border districts of Ontario around Windsor and Detroit. If the A. F. of L. were a United States labor organization the resolution might be regarded merely as another sample of the celebrated policy of "exclusion" to which the States has aggressively committed itself; but the American Federation of Labor is an international body part of whose membership is composed of workers in Canada who belong to international trade affiliated to the A. F. of L. Quite patently the idea of "internationalism" cuts very little ice with the "American" majority of the A. F. of L. The Canadian members may in some technical sense be brothers, but obviously the ideas of brotherhood held by the majority in the Federation stop short at the United States side of the border: the Canadian brother is to be kept in Canada and the door shut with all the necessary firmness in his face.

The position of Canadian organized labor in relation to the United States' so-called international unions is an old subject of comment in Canada, but this blatant exhibition of national selfishness is an organization based ostensibly on brotherhood, and drawing very considerable revenues from Canada, puts the relationship in a light which must be extremely offensive to the Canadian membership.

MONTREAL POLICE OFFICERS CONNECTED BY TELETYPE

MONTREAL, Oct. 29.—Montreal's new police signal and teletype police intelligence system was inaugurated on Oct. 15. In the presence of a large group from the city hall, Alderman Bray, chairman of the executive committee, sent the first message. By the new system the twenty-seven stations, the traffic department and detective office receive simultaneously any of all messages sent out from police headquarters. This system is shortly to be extended by the police department to include all thirty-four stations in the Montreal district, and the ex'ts from the city.

"Intellect is always dangerous in a woman."—Will Durant.

Perfection Ice-Cream

In order to look after our rapidly increasing business in Perfection Ice Cream, we have had installed in our store an up-to-date Kelvinator system. This will insure our customers getting their Ice Cream in an excellent condition and place us in a position of being able to cater to your requirements at all times. Your orders for Ice Cream Bricks, Jack Frost Ice Cream Bars and Bulk Ice Cream will be promptly taken care of. E. A. Foster Central Drugstore The More You Deal at This Store the Better You Will Like the Service

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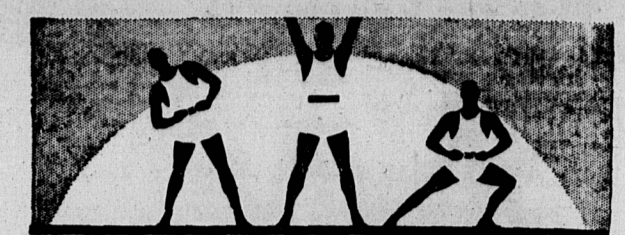
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