

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MR. LEA'S ATTITUDE

Legislative members, irrespective of politics, have expressed unanimous approval of the increased grant which the MacMillan Government has made to each of the hospitals. Many have expressed the opinion that the grants are not yet sufficient, and that in the near future further additional assistance will have to be given from the public treasury. Mr. W. M. Lea, Liberal Opposition leader, has suggested that the Government consider the imposition of a Health Tax.

This is an indication of the amount of water that has flowed under the bridge since August, 1916. On that occasion, a special session of the Legislature was called and a War and Health Tax was introduced by the MacMillan Government. It had for its purposes (1) the making of suitable provision for the special needs of island soldiers, their widows, orphans and dependents, and (2) the securing for returned soldiers as well as civilians similarly affected within the Province, such treatment in the Dalton Sanatorium as advanced scientific care could supply.

The Liberal party at that time opposed the measure, and in the following general election of 1917 its candidates campaigned the Province against this "Iniquitous Tory tax." Their campaign was successful. The Bell Government was placed in power; and one of its first acts was to abolish, not only the War and Health Tax, but the Dalton Sanatorium as well. So far as public health in this Province was concerned, they put the clock back a whole decade.

A few years ago, it was found necessary to construct—largely by public subscription—a Provincial Sanatorium. The maintenance of such institution out of public funds is no longer regarded in the light of governmental extravagance by Liberal members of the Legislature. And now, it seems, the wheel has taken another turn, and the idea of a Health Tax crops up—no longer as an "iniquitous Tory" measure, but as a suggestion on the part of Mr. Lea, provincial secretary-treasurer in the Bell Government under which the first health tax and the first tubercular sanatorium were relegated to the scrap heap.

Consistency, it has been said, is but the fetish of little minds. Parties, like men, grow in knowledge and experience, and if their policies change in the process of growth, who can blame them for leaving their "low-voiced past" and seeking quarters more spacious, even in the policies of their opponents? Thus, at any rate, might Mr. Lea argue. His own excuse for participating in the 1919 anti-health-tax campaign, as given during the present legislative session, was that he was then "a mere boy, practically," with no say in the party's policies. It is a somewhat dubious explanation, but it will have to serve. We notice, at any rate, that in the sketch of his political career which appears in the Parliamentary Guide (1933) reference to his association in any shape or form with the Bell Government is conspicuous by its absence. The Parliamentary Guide notices are usually supplied by legislative members themselves; and according to that authority Mr. Lea presumably first entered politics in the general election of 1927. There might be some reason other than modesty for the omission of Mr. Lea's earlier political record; and charity suggests that it is due to a sincere change of heart, and repentance for the disservice which the Bell Government perpetrated in wrecking the health efforts of the Mathieson-Arsenault Government.

BOOTLEG COAL TRADE

A bill for the suppression of the illegal traffic in bootleg coal is now before the Nova Scotia Legislature, and, if enacted into law, its provisions should prove effective in ending a long-standing menace to the Nova Scotia colliery trade. According to the Sydney Post-Record, thousands of tons of pilched coal, quarried from outcrop, poached from abandoned pits, or dug from improvised "shafts" in various parts of the colliery fields, are hawked about the streets of Sydney and the Cape Breton towns at all seasons of the year. This trade is illegal, because those engaged in it hold no mining licenses, are trespassers on the properties where they operate, pay no royalties to the Government, and observe none of the regulations laid down by law for the protection of the public and the safety of mine-workers. It is unfair to licensees who do pay royalties on the coal they produce, and to the mine-workers whose livelihood depends on the marketing of their product. Where the public interest comes

in, says the Post-Record, is in the quality and quantity of the deliveries. As a fuel, all kinds of bootleg coal are greatly inferior to that which is mined from the selected seams of licensed operators. There are of course gradations in the quality of outcrop and other varieties of bootleg coal, but on the average its commercial value is less than half that of the product of the best Cape Breton mines. The chief "racket" of the bootlegger, however, is in the measurement of his load. Uninspected and unweighed, a bootlegger's delivery of coal is merely "estimated" in quantity by the vendor, and is sold as one, one and a half, or two tons, according to his size-up of the intelligence of the prospective purchaser. The odds are therefore always heavily against the buyer in both quality and quantity, and the bootlegger collects on both counts. The proposed legislation aims to protect the Government's revenues, the miner's occupation, and the public interest.

RELIEF FUND FRAUDS

Commenting on the exposure by the Auditor General of serious irregularities in the handling of relief funds by municipalities, chiefly in Quebec and the Western Provinces, the Montreal Gazette says: "If the situation is not as grave as represented, it is due to the municipalities concerned that an enquiry be made which will clear them of any ill-founded suspicion. The municipalities themselves, if conscientious and confident of their own records, should press for such an inquiry for their own sakes and in the interest of their citizens. And if it be found that fraud has been committed, the individuals responsible therefor should be identified and punished, and the punishment should be severe. Grant in the administration of relief funds is outside the category of ordinary criminal offences. It means the improper acquisition of money supplied by the taxpayer under conditions of the most acute financial difficulty for the aid of the unemployed and their dependants. The misappropriation of money destined or earmarked for the provision of food, shelter and clothing to men, women and children who are in dire need of the bare necessities of life is a crime which admits of no palliation, and justice under these conditions should be tempered with very little mercy."

CANADA'S FOODS IN U.K.

The Empire housekeeping section was an innovation at the South London Exhibition held recently at the Crystal Palace. Proof of its popularity among British women was seen daily. It was a crowded centre of attraction. The Canadian Gazette and Export Trader states that more frequent Empire exhibitions of this description are needed to make Empire products better known to the average woman who is just beginning to wake up to the enormous possibilities of Empire foodstuffs. No longer is she content with "Empire" butter and any canned goods that are offered to her. She wants to know exactly where the commodities come from and what other goods the respective Dominions are in a position to provide. The magazine adds that an attractive feature of the Canadian stand was its practicality. Not only did it offer the Dominion's products to the British housewife, but it also tendered sound advice regarding the incorporation of these foodstuffs into the daily menu in the simplest and quickest manner by the provision of an excellent "Maple Leaf Canadian Recipe Book." The book, which appealed to the Director of Canadian Trade Publicity, was compiled by Kathleen K. Bowler and a foreword was written by the Canadian Minister of Trade and Commerce.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Canada stood 13th in the British market in the first two months of 1934 with dairy produce, including butter, cheese, eggs, condensed milk etc. The following were the countries in order of supply: New Zealand \$3,116,391, Australia \$1,844,381, Denmark \$1,820,812, Netherlands \$517,301, China \$415,989, Sweden \$171,748, Finland \$169,401, Irish Free State \$164,564, Argentina \$110,983, Italy \$82,914, Soviet Russia \$74,746, Poland \$54,288, Canada \$43,685, Latvia \$31,644, Norway \$31,533, British South Africa \$28,678, Estonia \$17,735, Switzerland \$18,618, France \$9,911, United States \$9,328.

Notes By The Way

One of our King's Bench Judges has just thrown some sand into the machinery of the home office and the police. It all began over a man being taken up by the police and charged with being drunk. Up to now all sorts of fancy tests have been applied by the police, according to the varying ideas of vagaries of medical men, to determine whether a man is drunk or not. Now mark the legal subtlety. If, continued the judge, consent is given no right remains to say that a person is drunk because drunkenness destroys consent. So where are we? Perhaps we shall have to depend on the time-honored dictum of a London magistrate of half a century ago: "If a man's drunk and says he's not drunk—then he is drunk. If a man's drunk and says he's drunk—then he isn't drunk." That's simple enough, anyway.

In France there have been riots between royalists and socialists that bring forth talk of "civil war." The expression is, of course, a gross exaggeration. Meanwhile the French newspapers offer to put 3,000,000 francs at the disposal of the Government to save France from civil war and the risk of foreign invasion. France apparently is suffering from a bad attack of what is commonly and vividly called the jitters. It is noteworthy that the French veterans are strings to their offer, including reform of the constitution, which might mean anything at all.

With respect to the World Court, one United States newspaper observes: "The situation has been rather extraordinary as it has been clearly demonstrated that public sentiment favors American membership in the World Court, still ratification of the protocol has been prevented by a small group of Senators. Ratification was endorsed in the platforms of both major parties in 1922, has been favored in resolutions of local organizations such as the American Bar Association, the National Grange, the National Educational Association, etc. even leading women's organizations, many chambers of commerce and the legislative bodies of cities in spite of this imposing array of public sentiment the Senate action has been postponed time and again. It seems fairly easy to dig up one-third of the senators to obstruct anything usually by avoiding a vote. However, it is said that in the case of the World Court a survey shows that senatorial opposition is crumbling and that the supporters of the resolution intend to force a vote."

Former Governor A. L. Smith does not work well in harness. He has resigned the editorship of The New Outlook, a position which he held in office at a high salary. He explains that his other business activities make it necessary. It is intimated, however, that there are other reasons. The proprietor of The Outlook, Elliot Smith, has recently published a sharply criticizing President Roosevelt. There was a show-down and Mr. Smith resigned. He had not hesitated to oppose Roosevelt's monetary policy and pour ridicule on his less than brilliant ideas. He is still a Roosevelt man and was not disposed to take dictation to the extent desired by the proprietor of The New Outlook. His pungent criticism usually by avoiding a vote. However, it is said that in the case of the World Court a survey shows that senatorial opposition is crumbling and that the supporters of the resolution intend to force a vote.

The Big Brained Ape

(Winnipeg Free Press) Brudition is said by Professor Elliot Smith to have revealed recently physiological evidence supporting in undeniable fashion the relationship claimed between Man and Monkey. This is opening the door on a family skeleton being kept darkly in the closet. It is irritating to the general public to be told that the monkey is a creature of the past who would prefer to remain hidden off the genealogical tree of the human family. It appears that two learned scientists Dr. S. Zuckerman and Professor Le Gros Clark were seen willing to let well enough alone. They have gone digging in the age past which should be forgotten to be forgiven. This is not showing Man very friendly or sympathetic consideration at a time when serious writers are ready to pounce on the monkey and his kind. They are returning to the chaos from which he is supposed to have emerged. Mere Man is at a loss how to defend himself against such a wealth of incriminating evidence, and perhaps giving way to instincts of self-defense, he is being forced to take to the tall timbers. Of course, Professor Smith, drawing on the erudition of the other savants, only relates Man to the Monkeys, but gives the descent of each from the Ape. It is grateful to understand that the Science admits there were two strains, each a grade in descent from the Ape. But if Man can be indifferent to a relationship now so far distant from that of his earlier brother the Monkey, he still may owe Science a grateful acknowledgment for the fact that he is more than thirty million years his power of speech, to the creature known as the Big-brained Ape.

Public donations towards the purchase of the Codex Sinaiticus

Bible have passed the \$150,000 mark according to British Museum officials. ences of opinion as to Mussolini's methods. But publicity will most likely judge him not by those, but by the results he has obtained. Adjudged from that viewpoint, Mussolini may well be regarded as the saviour of his country today. There are more than thirty million Italians who think so—and they ought to know.

Fifteen years ago today Benito Mussolini then an obscure editor in Milan, called a mass meeting of citizens in the famous San Siro Square of that city to follow the Fascist party. He can point today to an Italy with restored credit, united under the Fascist banner. There are of course those who do not hold with Mussolini; but the masses are behind him solidly. Trade is booming. Italian credit is sound. Business is undergoing an amazing transformation under State supervision. The banking system has been revolutionized. Italy is forging ahead. Most important of all, the Italian people have regained their faith in themselves, their belief in their destiny, their place in the sun. There may be—probably there always will be—certain differ-

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barlow, M.D.

NO SET RULES FOR AMOUNT OF LIVER NEEDED IN PERNICIOUS ANAEMIA

Just as insulin is saving the lives of thousands of individuals afflicted with diabetes, so also is liver, liver extract, and extract of hog's stomach saving thousands with pernicious anaemia. Before the discovery of the value of liver in pernicious anaemia—where there is great loss of the red blood corpuscles—cases died despite the use of every kind of medication and many transfusions of blood from healthy individuals. The cures from the use of the ordinary calf, cow, pig or beef liver once or twice a day have been remarkable. When the patient became very tired of eating liver despite the hundred different ways it has been prepared, the extract of hog's liver injected into the body under the skin or into the muscles has brought about the same satisfactory results.

Formerly as there has been some "failures" in this treatment of this severe type of anaemia, Dr. Geo. R. Minot, Boston, one of the originators of the liver treatment warns that the treatment of pernicious anaemia is not by liver, stomach or other organs, or the preparations made from these organs, or muscle meat or concentrate of vitamin B prepared with normal stomach juice. The treatment of pernicious anaemia consists in getting "enough" of the necessary food substance right into the body itself, not just getting it into the stomach and

Liberation In B. C.

(Montreal Gazette) Hon. T. D. Pattullo achieved a sweeping victory at the polls in the recent general election. His leadership proposal seems to have alarmed nearly everybody but his immediate followers in the Legislature. In the face of general protest, that body has given third reading to the Bill by a vote of 34 to 12. It would appear from this legislative action that the Prime Minister and his supporters are not to be deterred by public disapproval which has been very pronounced. On the evening of Friday, March 23, a non-partisan mass meeting was held in Victoria, at the Chamber of Commerce, and 1,000 persons crowded into the hall, according to the reports in the Victoria newspapers. Among the speakers in denunciation of the drastic legislative measure was the Dean of British Columbia, Very Rev. C. S. Quinlan, who acted as chairman. The Dean, in the course of his remarks, stated that he had always maintained that politics had no place in the life of a clergyman, but there were times when one must step aside from the procedure of grace and this is one of those times. For the first time in his career, the speaker continued, he was forced to come out of his shell of reticence regarding political matters, in order to express his opinion of the S. P. A. because he thought it a matter of political expediency, but a matter of vital principle. The act he was convinced, proposed to deliver to the Government a blank cheque, and he declared he would not trust the Government, or any other government, with a blank cheque. "It's too big a thing to place in the hands of a few men," he continued, and anyway it was not necessary. Other speakers supported him in his attitude, including the former Mr. G. G. McGeer, an outspoken Liberal; Rev. Robert Connell, leader of the C. C. F. Opposition in the Assembly, and others of various political parties. Following the addresses, solid approval was given to two resolutions, one of which was to the effect that the citizens of Victoria do hereby protest solemnly and with due sense of our responsibilities against the placing of such powers in the hands of the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council as subversive of democratic institutions and good government and highly dangerous to the well-being of the people of British Columbia. It was further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Lieutenant Governor, the Cabinet and the members of the Legislature. The other resolution proposed that a wire be sent to the Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, appealing to him, as a Liberal, not to intervene for the preservation of civil rights and liberty in line with well known Liberal principles. Incidental remarks made in the House of Commons by Mr. King indicate that he is already distressed by the Pacific Coast Liberal chief's extraordinary action. The British Columbians have been upset on many occasions in recent years because of the conduct of their legislators, and it is not so

A Romance Of Two Wars

(Toronto Globe)

One by one the Boer leaders who led the farmers of the veldt during the long struggle with Britain are passing from the South African scene. The latest to go—and in his nineteenth year—is Francis William Reitz, who was Paul Kruger's Secretary of State in the Transvaal, and who drafted the Boer ultimatum which led to a military struggle that aroused the whole world.

William Francis Reitz was among the ablest of South African public men of the Dutch race. From 1874 to 1889 he had been Chief Justice of the Orange Free State, and its President from that time until 1896. When the war clouds began to gather on the South African horizon many prominent Free States rallied to the support of "Oom Paul" and his Transvaal burghers, Mr. Reitz becoming the Secretary of State.

The South African War carried something of the glamour of romance associated with martial movements, and not a little of this, was provided by the Reitz family. Immediately on the outbreak of hostilities the State Secretary and his four sons, two of them still in their teens, took to the saddle, the gun, and the ration of blitting. During the conflict they became widely separated, and endured privation and misery, yet each was content that if the others were alive they were "carrying on." In his gripping story, "Commando," one of these sons, Denis Reitz, relates a graphic story of the campaign, and the sufferings of his relatives and neighbors as they were harried from kope to kope and from one stand to another by the pursuing British troops. At one time they were with De Wet, at another with Botha, still again with Smuts or Cronje, and other Boer Generals; and there was a pathetic family reunion at Vereeniging when the treaty of peace was signed with Lord Kitchener.

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The Poet's Corner

UP-HILL

Does the road wind up-hill all the way? Yes, to the very end. Will the day's journey take the whole long day? From morn to night, my friend. But is there for the night a resting place? A roof for when the slow dark hours begin. May not the darkness hide it from my feet? You cannot miss that inn. Shall I meet other wayfarers at night? Those who have gone before. Then must I knock, or call when just in sight? They will not keep you standing at the door. Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak? Of labor you still find the sum. Will there be beds for me and all who seek? Yes, beds for all who come.

Roosevelt Faces Rising Tide Of Criticism

(Financial Post) That President Roosevelt's legislative honeymoon is over is hardly surprising. A year ago it would have been very bold to forecast that he could have commanded the Senate and the House of Representatives for as much as a year. That is what he has been able to do. It has been a remarkable achievement. He must count on numerous defeats in Congress from now on but even so he will probably have greater co-operation from the Congress than any president in recent years has had. Of greater significance than the weakening of the president's hold on Congress is the fact that so far as the business world and the general public are concerned the president has reached the period when criticism will become increasingly blunt. During his first year of office, when Roosevelt made serious blunders and then moved quickly to correct them, he was forgiven on the ground of the emergency and the lack of historical precedent as to remedies. Now his mistakes are being marked down against him. Opposition groups, over whom he has ridden roughshod in his drastic efforts to promote recovery, no longer feel that it is unpatriotic to express their critical views. One could make up an interesting list of the constructive achievements of the administration during the past year. An equally illuminating list could be made up of the blunders that have been made. Neither would tell the whole story. The cancellation of the air mail contracts was not the most serious mistake made at Washington but when it was followed by the death of twelve air mail fliers, which deaths may have been as much as toward toward weather conditions as to experience, the absurdity and injustice of the government's action was dramatized for the general public. The second factor arousing criticism is the fact that the depression is fighting back. Analysis of trade figures shows that retail sales in the United States in volume are today less than they were a year ago which indicates that the net result of the government's effort is to enable people to buy fewer things at higher prices. The N.R.A. is definitely at a crisis. Having attempted too much it is falling in some of its major objectives. None of the criticism and none of the failures seem to cool the ardor of the theoreticians who still consider themselves the apostles of a new economic and social order and who are attempting to fasten

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ON THE UNITED STATES A PLANNED economy for which the only precedent to date is that of Soviet Russia. The Columbia University brain trust has given way to the Harvard Law School brain trust with a dash of Cornell for seasoning. But the fundamental objectives of the different groups are the same, to remake the United States. Their failures are glossed over in their own thinking and blamed upon the reactionary opposition. The phrase used by Arthur Krook, veteran Washington correspondent of the New York Times, to describe the President's current position, is that he is now entering the year of reality. One wonders how long it will be before Roosevelt finds it necessary to reject the advice of his more impractical advisers and continue his attack on the depression by means of more practical strategy.

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