

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Notes By The Way

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UNRELIABILITY

The public interests of this province are badly served by an incompetent or something worse—kind of an Opposition. During the debate on the address Premier MacMillan has had to administer a sound and deserved reprimand to Hon. Mr. Lea for grossly misrepresenting the public accounts.

One would have hoped that Hon. Mr. LePage would have avoided the temptation to like extravagance, but no, he followed in the slippery path of his two predecessors, with the result that he alleged the Government had spent \$200,000 in travelling under the unemployment relief program in the fall of 1931—a hundred thousand of which he alleged had been wasted.

This is the Hon. Mr. Sharp's reply which leaves Mr. LePage without a leg to stand upon: "You claim we had spent \$200,000, one hundred thousand dollars of which was absolutely wasted; whereas we only had from Ottawa to expend the total of \$48,670.78, or about one-quarter of what you claim to be correct."

"I say if all the statements, especially regarding the enforcement of the Prohibition Act, made by the hon. member from Rustico are as correct as the statement just quoted, we know what value to place on them!"

Thus the three opposition leaders have been convicted out of their own mouths of misrepresentation and unreliability. No graver charges could be proved against any member of parliament or legislature.

HONOURS

The average citizen is not particularly interested in the bestowal or otherwise of Royal Honours. He is not in line for them himself, and if he gives the matter any considerable thought at all, it will be to conclude that such things are merely baubles fit for sycophants or, at worst, King's jesters.

"A prince can make a better knight, a marquis, duke and a that; But an honest man's aboon his might, Guld faith he maunnt fa' that!"

This represents the considered opinion of 99 men out of 100, and was upheld by the House of Commons when the former Conservative member for Kingston, Mr. W. F. Nickle introduced his resolution in 1919 asking His Majesty not to confer titles and similar honours on Canadian citizens.

But there is another side to the question, and one which governments and Prime Ministers cannot afford to overlook. There is a certain class of public spirited citizens prepared to give their services to the state and humanity without money and without price, to devote their abilities, energies, time and means to the public weal; and if there is no system of reward these public spirited citizens will go without recognition.

"Reward sweets labour," we are told, and this applies as much to voluntary effort as it does to the compulsory labor for the food that perisheth. In directing the affairs of state the Government, and especially the head of the government, finds it desirable, and almost necessary, to provide honours and distinctions for outstanding cases of merit or for the purpose of marking particular occasions. At the time of the Confederation celebrations in 1927, Mr. King, then Premier, was severely handicapped through being unable to recommend distinguished Canadians for Royal honours, and made the best of the circumstances by having the Governor General pass Orders-in-Council bestowing on distinguished citizens, prominent in the celebration the title "Honourable" for life—raising them above the common or ordinary citizen with a mark of Deputy Royalty's favour.

It is no State secret that our late distinguished Lieutenant Governor Dalton would have received the Royal favour of Knighthood had it not been for the Nickle resolution. On account of his great contribution to science in the discovery and

development of silver fox breeding, and in recognition of his great contributions to war funds, equipment and services, and his equally generous endowment for public health. Mr. Dalton was, early in 1917, recommended by the then Premier (Hon. J. A. Matheson, K.C.) for Royal recognition. Royal Honours lists are made-up and submitted to the proper authorities many months in advance, and Mr. Dalton was too late for the 1918 list, but would have gone forward on Sir Robert L. Borden's list for 1919, had not the Nickle resolution debarred it. This failure on the part of the State to recognize the services and work of Mr. Dalton was made up for by the Pope by whom he was created a Knight Commander of Gregory the Great—and no more popular and deserved honour was ever bestowed.

Apart altogether, therefore, from the private sentiments of average citizens, it must be recognized there is a place almost amounting to a necessity for an honours list; the main question is, how to guard and protect it so that unworthy, unscrupulous people should not find a place on it. The solution of this must depend upon the type of man we elect Prime Minister. If he be strong enough to withstand undue pressure from sycophants and big interests all will be well; if he be not, he will be no worse than the Rt. Hon. D. Lloyd George, and the recipients of his recommended honours no less worthy.

So far as the rank, and file of the citizens are concerned, the opinion of Robert Burns will remain unaltered.

THOSE JONESES

Things are not always what they seem. A commercial traveller booked a large order from a store on the mainland, being impressed by its evident signs of prosperity and good management. Everything was spick and span, all the clerks were on the alert, and the proprietor was constantly on the move supervising. Yet before the thirty days credit had elapsed, the traveller was advised by his house that the store in question had made an assignment. He could not understand it until he realized that all the signs of prosperity and efficiency were merely a case of "Keeping Up With the Joneses." The firm not having the turnover to warrant the front displayed, in other words, to pay the overhead, had to bow to the inevitable.

"Keeping Up With the Joneses" is thus not the exclusive failing of individual families; it characterizes businesses, cities, provinces. The natural disinclination on the part of ambitious, enterprising, climbing organizations and governments to play second fiddle, not seldom leads to the over-stepping of the bounds of financial prudence.

It is all right until the testing time comes. Then the uninitiated are surprised at the break down; surprised that an outfit with such commendable enterprise and characterized by such progressiveness, should fail to make the grade. The tendency to "Keep Up With the Joneses" has been especially characteristic of Ontario and Western municipalities. The towns and cities of these provinces are models, everyone endeavoring to surpass the other in up-to-dateness and modern conveniences. But their testing time came with the 1929 depression, and today the majority of the Western municipalities are more or less bankrupt, while no fewer than 50 Ontario municipalities have been unable to meet their loan obligations. Provincial governments are no less subject to the temptation. In times of prosperity pressure is brought upon them on every hand to adopt this, that and the other measure to keep up with other provinces. Then when hard times come the government to keep up a good front express surprise that the cost of running the government has become extravagant. Wise individuals and firms may withstand the temptation to attempt to "Keep Up With the Joneses" but no matter how wise the members of a municipality or government may be, so long as their tenure of office is due to popular support they will ultimately succumb to the pressure of organized public opinion "to do as others are doing."

This is the principal explanation why popularly elected municipalities and governments find themselves with deficits and consequent borrowings. No mere change of membership will ever effect a remedy so long as public opinion is apathetic to science in the discovery and

The Suez Canal is of vital concern to India. Of late the strategic importance of the Canal to India, Australia, and New Zealand and the Far East has indeed, in contrast with the apathy of seventy or eighty years ago, been fully realized by imperial strategists and statesmen. Its defence has figured in all the British discussions with Egypt since the War, and is now whatever may be the political status of Egypt in the future, regarded as a major British interest. During the Great War Germany described it as the "jugular vein" of the British Empire—Calcutta Statesman.

Assuming, says the Times of India, that Mr. Gandhi sticks to his Guruvayur declaration that "the removal of untouchability is not a matter of law or compulsion, but is a matter of change of heart," is he going about his task in the right way? The depressed classes, for example, do not appear to be in the least enamoured of his plan to set up a temple-entry. Their accredited spokesmen repeatedly insist and explain that the people whom they represent attach little or no importance to the facility of worshiping in temples hitherto open only to caste Hindus, and that they are more concerned in the securing of them elementary rights of citizenship, including equal facilities for education and medical relief, the right to use public highways and public places, the right to be free from assault, and the removal of hundreds and one other disabilities. However excellent Mr. Gandhi's motives may be, his methods appear to be leading to trouble.

Now it is complained that boards of supervisors administering Ontario municipalities in default on their obligations are "dictators," assuming to do as they please. It seems that a community which has got itself into a mess of this sort needs a firm hand, and a stern one, and should accept the inevitable with appropriate meekness.

The most appalling result of the world's present preoccupation with economics, says a Toronto exchange, is the way in which it has blinded us to the intellectual, moral, and spiritual problems of politics, in the high and philosophical sense of that term. Nobody has talked to a Canadian audience as Mr. Galder talked well for the same fifteen or twenty years. Speakers have talked about overproduction, marketing, pools, socialism, the gold standard, international trade, mass buying, but nobody has talked earnestly about liberty. Nobody seems to care very much about liberty any more. Nobody, certainly, cries with a loud voice: "Give me liberty or give me death." The current opinion is entirely different. It is supposed that a man who has both liberty and a high standard of living, give me a high standard of living.

Great Britain's patience is about exhausted. She is becoming tired of following an example that is so little followed by way of showing trust in a neighbor's pacific intentions. Such trust may be carried to dangerous lengths. The Great Britain evidently now feels. She has reduced her land and sea forces and has refrained from building up a large air force. She has even been content to jog along in the fifth place in the air. Now that is to be changed. Great Britain intends to be the equal of any one power within striking distance of her shores. That may be achieved either by her building up or by others calling her down. The latter would be preferable, but if those others will not play their part Great Britain will build up. In a small way and to show she means business, she is doing some building up at once.

France blocks the way to any resumption of disarmament talks. She says it is "impossible" for her to disarm. She will not hear of allowing Germany to rearm. Just what she is temporizing for is not apparent at the moment. It almost looks as though France herself does not know. She is afraid now, she is afraid of trusting Germany in the slightest degree; but surely she should be more afraid of causing a terrible explosion by refusing to renege on the promise she is already showing weak spots through which steam is hissing.

Asounding changes have taken place. Ideas considered basic have been abandoned. The national direction has been altered. Yet few people quarrel with these things. The bulk of them are thrilled with the daring of the President, concerned with the wisdom of his intentions, convinced of the goodness of his intentions, conceded even by his critics. Buoyed up by government billions, business has improved, unemployment decreased, distress been relieved, and the nation is happy. There are plenty who appreciate the great risks being run.

One of the most interesting passages in the address of Dr. D. H. E. Lines, president of the Australian Medical Congress, now sitting in Hobart, relates to cancer research. It has been established that sun baths are apt to induce cancer in people of high complexion, and the numerous beach loungers of today might be warned by the fact that cancer apparently thus caused has occurred in people far below what has been considered the cancer age.—The Australasian.

It may even be, says an exchange, that governments which practice economy will, for some years to come, be more popular than governments that indulge in reckless extravagance. They should be. If this be the cumulative result of the depression and of Sir Henry's eloquence, it will be all to the good.

While Ottawa is investigating the evil effects of mass buying and low wages in industry, the Northern Miner points out that the average wage in the mining and metallurgical fields of Canada is well above \$1,800 a year. In the gold mining areas it is \$1,800 and the employees get 52 weeks' full employment in the year. This average is for wage earners only; it does not include the salaries of executives.

To put it briefly, there is no evidence that the penalty does the

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barber, M.D.

EXERCISE GIVES MORE THAN MUSCLE DEVELOPMENT

Pom time to time certain physicians take time to make fun of the claims of gymnasium or indoor exercise. These physicians suggest that the only exercise that should be taken is that found in some form or game such as golf, tennis, football, basketball, and other games. Now if exercise is to be beneficial it must be taken regularly and there are many days in the year when riding, golfing, or other games cannot be played; the weather decides whether the exercise can be taken or not. When one attends a gymnasium or takes regular body building exercises at home, there is never any real reason why the exercise cannot be taken. It is exercise, regular exercise, so helpful? Systematic exercise of a muscle educates or trains the small arteries in the muscle to keep a little open all the time, so that the muscle not only gets an increased amount of blood during the exercise but during all the rest of the day and night also. That is why a "trained" athlete keeps his high "leg" in any subsequent work and develops with ten to twenty minutes exercise a day. A trained athlete or gymnast on the field or stage takes no other exercise than that required for the game or the stage act.

When man was in process of creation or development, his heart, lungs, stomach, liver, and other organs developed to a good size so that they could supply the muscles with the air and food necessary for the muscles to do the great amount of work they were supposed to do, or were capable of doing.

In other words, as stated by a famous physician, the circulation of the blood, and the respiration (breathing) may be looked on "as the servants of the muscles." Further, this training of the muscles is only a part of what exercise does for man.

Dr. J. Lindhard in his work on Physiology of Exercise states that with regular exercise there is an increase in strength, endurance, and sureness of perfection of movement, and he attributes these benefits to changes in the muscular system, the heart and the nervous system. The nervous system, respectively.

Now if you are able to play games, especially outdoors, there is even greater all round benefit than can be obtained from indoor exercise. In strength, endurance, and sureness of perfection of movement, the fact that it can always be obtained, and regularity is the keynote of successful body-building.

Voting And Not Voting

(Vancouver Province)

For some years there has been a clause in the British Columbia Elections Act requiring the registrar of voters in each electoral district to prepare a list of voters for an election. The names of those voters who did not exercise their franchise. The requirement has the effect of a mild penalty. The act appears to presume that if a voter does not cast a ballot at the time that he is called to cast one next time. But he has the presumption he will not warrant the voter is notified in due form that his name is being removed from the list, and he can, by making an affidavit, have his name re-added to the list. In case of revision, he can have it restored. If the voter does not vote, he is put to the trouble of keeping himself in proper standing. That is the penalty.

Two considerations arise in connection with the clause mentioned above. One is the desirability of such a penalty as is provided. Undoubtedly the object is to induce people to go to the polls by putting an inconvenience in their way if they do not go. This raises the whole question of compulsory voting. Does the franchise involve a privilege or a right or a duty? If voting can be regarded as a duty, like paying taxes, then, of course, there may be a case for compulsion, always assuming that the duty is of such a nature that compulsion can properly apply. But if voting is a privilege or a right, then it must be entirely at the discretion of the voter whether he makes use of his privilege or exercises his right. In such case, even mild penalties have no place.

The second question which arises concerns the usefulness of the penalty. British Columbia has experimented with the plan for something over a decade now, and it does not appear that it has had the effect of inducing more people to go to the polls. It doesn't go far enough for that. It is an annoyance, but not a very serious annoyance, because, as the recent experience in Burrard and Vancouver Centre seems to show, comparatively few voters, when notified that their names are to be stricken from the lists, take the trouble to have them reinstated. They know there will probably not be another election in British Columbia for four years or more, and assume that there will be opportunities in the interval to get reinstated. Perhaps they will take advantage of such opportunities as offer. Perhaps they will not. In the former case they will be able to vote as they would have done had their names remained on the list. In the latter they will be deprived of the franchise, though what advantage that will be to anybody is not very clear.

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The Queen Of Sheba

(Montreal Gazette)

Great interest has been aroused amongst archaeologists by the reported discovery of the ancient capital in which the renowned Queen of Sheba ruled three thousand years ago. Such is the purport of a message forwarded to the French Air Ministry by Captain Molinier and Andre Malhau, who have just made a flight over the Persian Gulf. The communication runs as follows: "We discovered the legendary city of the Queen of Sheba. The exact location is not disclosed and but few details are given. It was stated however, that the find was made on the edge of the Arabian desert known as the Rub-el-Khali, a part of the world very little known except to the Arab tribes dwelling upon the borders. It will be recalled that this region was brought to public attention a short time ago by Mr. Bertrand Thomas, the first white man to cross the vast sandy waste. The French flyers however, state that the aerial photographs taken show that, in spite of the encroaching sand dunes which threaten to overwhelm the relics of this venerable stronghold, some 520 towers or temples still remain—mute vestiges of its former glory. And one further touch of interest is added in the statement that the spot known to the ancient Greeks as Mariba and to the Sabaeans as "Saba" is situated about a thousand miles southwest of Jerusalem.

What a vast fund of romantic associations cluster about these towers, the crumbling relics of a period in human history when the material wealth of Eastern dynasties had already reached a pitch of proud display and to have culminated in a dazzling excess of regal splendor that, according to many historians, has never been excelled. Professor Sayce, an authority upon the power of the Sabaeans, tells us that the Sabaeans had a tradition that their civilization to a period more than a thousand years before Christ, and that these people used an alphabet of their own much older than the Phoenician characters, and belonging to the most ancient of Semitic scripts. It is pointed out that the patriarch Abraham is acclaimed in the Biblical records not alone the Father of the Israelites, but also of the tribes of northern Arabia. What time Thothmes III, called "Alexander of Egypt," had planted his standards all the way from Palestine to the banks of the Euphrates, and during the later period when his great-grandson Amenhotep IV, or "Tutankhamen," became the "Solar Disk," the Sabaeans were a strong power amongst the nations of Western Asia. And this coincides with the power of the Sabaeans of Joseph and his brethren had become a nation great and populous in Egypt. The Assyrian monarch Tiglath-Pileser III, came to the throne about 733 B. C. At that time the power of the Sabaeans prince extended to the extreme north of Arabia and brought them into contact with Assyrian dynasts, to whom they paid tribute. The discovery made in 1887 of the Tel-el-Amarna cuneiform tablets in Egypt shows that the populations of Western Asia in the time of Moses were as highly cultured as those of Western Europe at the period of the Renaissance. And there can be no doubt that just as the Sabaeans shared in the amazing riches, pomp and power of a luxurious age, so they also shared in its literature and arts and all other phases of craftsmanship and social culture.

My semi-private hotel is situated in a charming locality and faces what is known as "Round Lake Park" which surrounds a large round pond resembling somewhat the "Round Pond" in Kensington Gardens, London, but smaller. There may be seen myriads of gulls, ducks and some swans, all so tame that the presence of a stranger is a signal for the birds to congregate about the visitor, evidently expecting to be fed from the paper bag containing the crackers and bread-crumbs. The gulls and pigeons will surround one while the food lasts.

Although there are in St. Petersburg a very large number of hotels and rooming houses—many of the former being magnificent hosteleries, this winter it is difficult to procure rooms, there being such a congestion of visitors. This condition will probably continue until well on in March, when some will be starting for home.

Today (Saturday, 10th) we are having a torrential rain and few visitors are to be seen out for pleasure. The streets are miniature rivers, and as I remarked last year "when it rains here it rains!" Cold weather is predicted for Sunday and we shall probably be getting out our overcoats. More anon.

I am Sir etc. B. R.

March 10, 1934.

Medley

The Viking doorman seems fatigued Humming a marriage march from Greig. The Italian bootblack brushes by To an aria from "Butterfly." The German florist sprays the palms Crooning a hula-hula of Brahm's The French chef seasons a rich fillet To a broken phrase of Charpentier. The Russian liftman signals off Whispering Rimsky-Korsakov The American guest in his glided suite Sings, "She's my baby; ain't she neat?" —The New Yorker

My songs were once on the sunrise: They shrouded it over the bar; First-footing the dawns, they flourished, And flamed with the morning star.

My songs are now of the sunset: Their brows are touched with light But their feet are lost in the shadows. And wet with the dew of night.

Yet for the joy in their making Take them, O love, as they are. And for his sake who made them Let them be dear to you.

—W. E. Henley.

Superstitious

A wealthy society lady had just engaged a new maid was instructing her in the duties of waiting on the table. "At dinner, Mary," she explained, "you must remember always to serve from the left and take the plates from the right; is that clear?" "Yes, ma'am," answered the girl condescendingly. "What's the matter, superstitious or something?"

PUBLIC FORUM

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

THE SUNNY SOUTH

Sir,—What a change! Leaving Boston on Saturday the 3rd March, with its snow, slush and cold, which is common with the New England States and Eastern Canada, it is difficult to realize—even with the change from heavy to light clothing, that we are already in the sub-tropical sunny south. After thirty-six hours of travel, far more than the usual influx of visitors are in evidence today. Over 40,000 tourists have registered and it is claimed that as many more have neglected to enter their names in the visitors books in the Chamber of Commerce—the headquarters of information. It is safe to claim that ninety per cent of those who meet on the streets and in the parks are non-residents and all appear to be enjoying the restful sidewalk benches, looking at the well-dressed shop windows, or playing golf, bowling, shuffleboard, quoits or roque, or the checker games of chess, bridge, checkers or dominoes. Then there are hosts of bathers, fishermen and day excursionists by auto, bus or steamboat all intent on getting as much pleasure as can be gained in the time at their disposal in this playground city.

The benches in the heart of the town at "Williams Park" are generally filled, but especially so when the celebrated "Moses Band" plays six afternoons in the week and Saturday nights. I attended a band concert in this restful park last Thursday night at which it is claimed that 10,000 people were present to hear a programme of mixed music of marches, operas, symphonies, vocalists and dance music. Every available seat was occupied, while some thousands had only standing room or were seated on the ground. These concerts are sponsored by the City and are free to all. This is the only City in Florida or the south where these green benches (holding four or five people each) are to be found. One may always be sure of a rest when tired in the "Sunshine City."

St. Petersburg is always a very attractive place to winter in, seems a misnomer the word "winter" as the climate resembles our own when his great-grandson Amenhotep IV, or "Tutankhamen," became the "Solar Disk," the Sabaeans were a strong power amongst the nations of Western Asia. And this coincides with the power of the Sabaeans of Joseph and his brethren had become a nation great and populous in Egypt. The Assyrian monarch Tiglath-Pileser III, came to the throne about 733 B. C. At that time the power of the Sabaeans prince extended to the extreme north of Arabia and brought them into contact with Assyrian dynasts, to whom they paid tribute. The discovery made in 1887 of the Tel-el-Amarna cuneiform tablets in Egypt shows that the populations of Western Asia in the time of Moses were as highly cultured as those of Western Europe at the period of the Renaissance. And there can be no doubt that just as the Sabaeans shared in the amazing riches, pomp and power of a luxurious age, so they also shared in its literature and arts and all other phases of craftsmanship and social culture.

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Superstitious

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