

The Charlottetown Guardian

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The King's Birthday

It comes at an awkward time—just before the Christmas holidays—and before we have recovered from the staggering events of the past few days which are likely to remain the most sensational historic event in the lives of all of us.

Notwithstanding that we are today under a new Sovereign, it is with the old sentiment of loyalty and devotion that his anniversary will be observed.

Empire Inspires Respect

A noteworthy and reassuring feature of the recent Imperial crisis, notes the Globe and Mail, is the courtesy which has been shown the Empire by foreign governments.

Even those powers between whom and Britain there has been more or less tension during the past few years remained silent at a time when a different attitude might have been extremely embarrassing for London.

Such consideration deserves gratitude, but it also shows, perhaps more clearly than could be revealed by any other means, that the Empire has not—as pessimists are so fond of asserting—lost its world prestige.

In this connection the Toronto paper quotes Dr. JOHANNES STOVE, a German author, whose book "The British Empire," first published in Munich in 1935 has just been translated into English.

Discussing British characteristics Dr. STOVE declares that the Briton "upholds the ideal of the gentleman, the teachings of fair-play and self-control."

He has this to say regarding British influence in world affairs:

"France feels the returning strength of England and must revise her plans for European hegemony... Italy must not deceive herself about the Empire's strength... she must not overstep the mark. Spain... must pay attention to the Empire if she does not wish to be the source of new conflicts. Japan alarms the world, but would be a greater cause for anxiety if the Empire did not have so much at stake in the Far East. Germany has wiped the slate clean as far as Britain is concerned and recognized the claims of the Mother Country and the Empire..."

Answering the question, "Is the Empire collapsing?" he points out that the latest British planes can, in case of need, reach the furthest Dominion—Australia—in three days, and quotes the Christmas message of King George V at Christmas, 1934: "The bond of one spirit knows no barrier of space."

He concludes that the disintegration of the Empire is neither approaching, nor desired even by other powers.

"The Real McCoy"

An interesting controversy has been waged in the New York Times as to the origin of the familiar expression "the real McCoy." Mr. ALFRED E. SMITH started the ball rolling with the following explanation:

"Every small town in the United States has what we call an oracle, who knows a little bit of everything. The oracle of the Bowery many years ago was a man by the name of McCoy, so that when any matter came up for discussion the expression, 'It's the real McCoy' came into being and usually in this manner: 'Well, I will give you the low down on that; I will give you the inside story, the real McCoy.'"

Correspondents of the Times do not agree with Mr. SMITH. One of them writes:

Kid McCoy, one time hard-hitting prize fighter was accosted by a bully who bragged that he could "fight any man in the house." Friends tried to warn him that it was Kid McCoy he was goading, but the braggart persisted and finally became so objectionable that McCoy "let him have one" on the jaw. When the recipient came to and opened his eyes he uttered the immortal words, "It's the real McCoy."

Another correspondent writes: Generations ago one continually heard the phrase, "the real McKie." It travelled from Land's End to John o' Groat's house, finally making its pilgrimage all over the globe. Scotsmen quoted it, especially when trying to emphasize the quality of their favorite beverage. Also, the most upstanding man among a group carrying that old highland name MacKAY, alias McKIE, was known as the real McKIE.

Editorial Notes

The King's birthday—long live the King."
Did you remember over Sunday about your privilege as a Santa Pal?

It is reported that 4,000,000 Christmas trees have been cut in Canada—not a few here—

for the United States market. At 10c each to the cutter that represents a pretty big sum.

The three Maritime musketeers, alias Premiers seem to be having a gay time in Montreal and Ottawa. Hope our own representative will come back with some funds to enable the rest of us to carry on.

Premier Aberhart still has the bulk of the people of Alberta behind him—moreover, as a result of his constant Sunday evening broadcasts, the indefatigable activity of agents, and his ability to maintain solid belief in his sincerity, there is ample evidence that converts are multiplying throughout the Prairies, according to Rev. Dr. Malcolm A. Campbell, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, who has just returned to Montreal after an extensive tour of the West in the interests of the Church.

According to the Montreal Gazette, representatives of the Maritime Provinces "do not always emphasize the advantages which they have, or the measure of prosperity which they enjoy. Now, however, some real recovery is admitted (by the three Premiers at the Montreal Maritime Provinces banquet) and the future of the Maritime Province seems to be bright. This is as satisfactory to the people of other provinces as it can be to those of the Maritimes themselves." Which means Quebec does not see why we should get much, if any, financial assistance from Ottawa.

The consolidation of all prisons under one authority, an examination of the criminal code to bring it up to date from the point of view of modern penological knowledge, and the development and extension of prisoners' welfare societies with the aid of Government subsidies were three of the most embracing recommendations made to the Royal Commission on Penitentiaries and the Penal System of Canada, sitting in Montreal. The advantages of psychiatry and psychology as applied to crime prevention, and vocational guidance for the criminally-disposed, were also outlined by experts in those fields of science at the outset.

The following are the annuities to the Royal Family by Parliament:
Their Majesties Privy Purse \$147,800
Salaries of Household 111,800
Expenses of Household 171,600
Works 20,000
Royal Bounty 12,000
Unappropriated 7,100
\$470,300

By order of King George in 1931, the Privy Purse was reduced by \$50,000, so that their present Majesties income will be \$420,000.

A total of \$64,000,000, considerably more than last year, was left in Quebec Province by visitors in 1936, a report on tourist trade by Hon. Joseph Bilodeau, Quebec Minister of Municipal Affairs, Trade and Commerce, revealed. It was the first report on tourist trade in Quebec since the Duplessis Government assumed power. Since 1915, the report showed, \$589,000,000 have been spent in that province by American and overseas visitors. Mr. Bilodeau estimated that 75 per cent. of last year's tourists came by automobile, the remainder by rail. Up to October 31, it was said 6,701,653 persons had entered the province. Mr. Bilodeau revealed the new Government planned a complete census of automobiles entering the province for tourist purposes.

Chemistry is shattering the popular fallacy that ozone is a bounteous source of human health and vigor, says "Scientific American." Ozone is confined chiefly to the stratosphere, has proved ineffective against tuberculosis, and were it not for excessive costs and instability it could be used as a war gas, scientists find. It is now believed to have no place in air conditioning. Investigations in this field were reported to the ninety-second meeting of the American Chemical Society by Professor H. B. McDonnell, of the University of Maryland. In Professor McDonnell's experiments, low concentrations of ozone shortened the lives of guinea pigs. Even those which had been inoculated with tuberculosis died sooner than they would have otherwise.

Except in the apple-growing regions, farm income is likely to be considerably larger this season than last, says the Monthly Review of the Bank of Nova Scotia. Grain, hay and other fodder crops were abundant and pasturage good. Plentiful feed and increased prices for dairy products have resulted in an upturn of creamery butter production and greater attention to dairying. Potatoes yielded fairly well and have to date fetched higher prices than was the case a year ago. In contrast to early expectations, the apple crop turned out to be smaller than that of 1935 and its quality was much below average. For these reasons the exportable surplus is tentatively estimated to be about 30% less this season than last. Moreover, since the domestic crop of apples in Britain is plentiful, the market outlook is obscure.

Coincidences merely, mayhap, but worth recalling: The heir to King Edward VII was his eldest son Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence. He was engaged to Princess May, daughter of T.S.H. the Duke and Duchess of Teck. All the British people hailed the engagement with enthusiasm and general rejoicing when, alas, the Royal Duke died unexpectedly in his 28th year on January 14, 1892. The world was in tears for a royal bereavement and a broken romance. Unexpectedly called from his semi-seclusion as second brother, Prince George Albert, though retiring and bashful, valiantly stepped into the breach assuming the responsibilities of heir, and, best of all, made love to and married the popular Princess May within eighteen months of the death of her first betrothed. On assuming the Crowns they chose to be known as King George V and Queen Mary.

Notes By The Way

We are all cast in the same form. There is a similarity to every human being—until each one of us makes something else out of himself. "From the same material," once wrote Thomas Carlyle, "one man builds palaces and another hovels. One builds warehouses, another villas; bricks and mortar are mortar and bricks until the architect makes them something else."

To straighten out a customs ruling, setting the import duty on baby clothes, officials at an eastern port have lately decided the most curious question: What is an infant? An infant, they decided after much head-scratching, is any child under six. It is probably just as well to get news of this decision from the country's mothers, or there likely will be a large, indignant outcry. For to mothers there apparently is no age limit for infants. When her boy or girl first trots off to school he seems as much a baby to her as when he yowled in his cradle. She even treats her grown-up sons and daughters as though they were infants. Likewise, what husband who ever has had trouble locating his shirts and socks has not been called "a helpless infant" by the little woman?—Victoria Times.

Germany and Italy have recognized General Franco but even her best friends would have difficulty in recognizing the Spain Franco has left.—Toronto Star.

There is no want of determination in the Government levies—many of whom had some training in "paramilitary formations," but disciplined troops have an advantage which always tends to increase. It is odd to think how many of these disciplined soldiers are Moslems, led back by Spaniards to the conquest of Spain; and also that the final conquest of this long-disputed rift territory should furnish the means for attack on the Spanish Government. If the whites win, the Rift will be guarded as a precious possession; if the "reds" there may be a disposition among them to wash their hands of Africa. And if Spain were disposed to get rid of its African possessions, then indeed there would be perturbation in the Chancelleries. Germany and Italy would both have a word to say.—Stephen Gwynn.

The value of pamphlet and handbill advertising as sold by the editor of the Fort Erie Times-Review after a visit one night to the post office: One night this week the office waste-basket was half filled and in addition the floor was littered by discarded advertising pamphlets. Aside from the fact that an untidy mess was created in a public building, there can be little reason for thinking that the message these pamphlets carried was read by a large percentage of the persons to whom it was sent.—St. Catharines Standard.

One way in which British Columbia wastes public money is in giving away franchises and buying them back. The Fraser River Bridge Company got its franchise for nothing. Now, for its surrender, it receives a commission of 7 1/2 per cent. of the cost of the bridge. If the bridge costs \$10,000, as it is expected to, the net will be \$300,000.—Vancouver Province.

Hats off once more to the town of Sussex, which for the fourth consecutive year has paid its way and returned a cash credit balance. In these hard times, when debts and increased taxation seem to be the style in many communities, the town council of Sussex is to be commended for its fine showing. It is setting an example to public bodies elsewhere.—St. John Telegraph-Journal.

Freedom of the press only meant that the press was transferred from the censorship of government officials to the censorship of public opinion. In order to have a really dangerous press one had to have a forbidden press. Here in England we had the freedom take its course. We had thrown the reins upon the horse's neck. What was the result? We had freedom plus responsibility, and if freedom bred responsibility, then we had perfect harmony for social and political affairs. There were two great features which he trusted the world would always preserve. There was no press in the world in which the invasion of private life was more condemned and more sedulously avoided. Attacks on private individuals were practically non-existent. People could live their private lives in this country with a greater measure of freedom and respect for their feelings by their neighbors than was the case in any other society in the world. The press had played a great part in that.—Winston Churchill.

Two research workers have counted noses throughout the world, figured trends, and have concluded the peak of the world's population probably will be reached in 2100 with 2,645,500,000. Present population was placed at 2,073,300,000, an increase of nearly five-fold over the 445,000,000 in the world in 1850, the earliest time of recorded estimate. The scientists point out that the startling rapidity of recent population growth means that in the comparatively brief period of three hundred years the increase has outstripped by nearly five times that of all previous history of mankind, estimated at 100,000 to 500,000 years.—Sherbrooke Daily Herald.

A great home-building boom would be just about the best thing that could happen to us. It would mean a better life for vast numbers of people, and it would furnish our rising prosperity with the most solid kind of fare.—Sherbrooke Herald.

Sanctions irritated a lot of people, but nobody more than the Peruvians. The fact is, the Peruvians love gorgonzola and parmesan, and the populace was far from pleased at not being able to eat Italian cheese. Do you know what was done? The Peruvian Government solemnly declared that gorgonzola and parmesan were—chemical products. So then they could be bought at the chemists.—La Republic (Paris)

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.

MORGANATIC MARRIAGES

Sir,—Under the above heading you reprinted in Thursday's Guardian an editorial from the Sydney Post Record, in which the proposal of a marriage between royalty and a commoner was said to be of "a baffling character," "never to be recognized under English law." Reference was also made of the fact that in such a case the two contracting parties would "not be of equal status." The "inferior" rank of one of the parties was also referred to.

So far as British newspaper comment during the past two weeks has been reproduced in Canada, the above does not seem to have been the ruling attitude, rather the reverse. There seems to be no reason to suppose that the British Parliament would have refused a request from King Edward for the right to marry an American woman of high character, free from the stigma of divorce, and of such woman there are, of course, many thousands in the Republic to the south of us. While there may be no generally accepted measuring instrument in matters of this kind, there can be no doubt but that castes and blood distinctions are fast disappearing and making place for the ability of character, culture and refinement. There are, moreover, many good reasons why an alliance between the Royal family of Great Britain and the United States would be desirable.

I am, Sir, etc. H. K. S. HEMMING

Baldwin's Achievement

(Montreal Star) Mr. Baldwin's direct and moving speech to the House of Commons paints for us a picture of kindly solicitude and paternal patience during these trying days. While we all thought of bitter clashes, of exacerbated wounds and surly defiance, it seems that these two British men were quietly discussing a very difficult situation, in the utmost amity, and trying to find a solution that would be acceptable to both and to the Empire. They failed. Under the circumstances, it is probably as well that they did fail. The grave situation that Mr. Baldwin presented to King Edward as likely to arise if the criticisms on all sides continued was not overdrawn. The British monarchy is the last of the great monarchies. "Long may it last!" is the prayer of all of us. It exactly suits the temper of our people, and the circumstances of our world-circling Empire. But as Mr. Baldwin said, the greatest popularity and even the greatest respect in which the Crown is held are sentiments that can be all too easily lost. "And once lost," said the Prime Minister, "I doubt if anything could restore them." In fact, a restored monarchy is a crippled monarchy.

So is it too much to say that Stanley Baldwin, English country squire, has done more for the British monarchy in the last week than has ever been needed to be done before?

Winter Prophecies

(Vancouver Province) According to those who draw inferences from such observations, Nature has prepared for "a hard winter."

Squirrels have been encountered busily collecting nuts and cones. "Berries are numerous," where berries grow. "Bears and foxes have longer hair"; "Birds going South left earlier"; "Geese coming down have thicker breastbones"; "The Indians say it will be a hard winter." So the signs run.

Indians usually say it will be a cold winter. Their childlike optimism convinces them that a good harvest in fish, flesh, fruit and fowl precedes a time of want. Their hope always was that a mild winter would follow a scanty autumn. A reason given by an Indian recently for thinking the winter

Suitable Christmas Gifts

If you are looking for a Christmas Gift suitable for father, mother, sister, brother or other relatives or even children — you can find something fit to your requirements and at a price that will not be too hard on your purse.

FOR FATHER WE SUGGEST—Pipe, razor, cigars, playing cards, shaving cream, or one of those combination sets specially put up for men.

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For presents suitable to all, inspect our large and assorted stock of Christmas Gifts.

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That Body of Power By James W. Barton, M.D. THE SECRET OF LONG LIFE

You have likely heard the story of the old man, 95 years old, who was asked what he attributed his long years. He replied, "I don't know yet; there are two food firms dickering with me at present, so I'll tell you when I get the price settled with one or the other."

The Lord Bishop of London, 79 years old, recently visiting Canada, was asked his advice on attaining old age. His recipe is to eat sparingly, take plenty of exercise, avoid alcoholic beverages, and don't smoke.

On the same day that his Lordship gave his views on the secret of long life there was published a news despatch which told of a Hungarian woman who died at the age of 106. It has been her habit to drink a quart of wine and smoke five pipesful of tobacco a day.

George Bernard Shaw, Drs. Lorenz, Steinhilber, and other old men give to the world their opinions as to how to live to "a ripe old age."

What is the real secret of attaining old age; is it simply to come of long-lived parents or grandparents? Dr. E. Freund, the celebrated Vienna physician, states that for a number of years he made enquiries regarding the mode of life between 75 and 100. He obtained detailed information from about 100 such persons from all walks of life.

Dr. Freund was unable to find any "regular" factors such as heredity, choice of foods, choice of occupation, effects of stress and strain, that really entered into the matter of attaining long life.

"For in fact, only two persons report that they belong to a long-lived family, whereas a large number report that they lost their parents early. That an especially healthy constitution counts in attaining long life was likewise disproved as many of these old people report tubercular disorders, rheumatism, biliousness, influenza, dysentery, pneumonia and surgical operations."

A care-free life was not a factor as many reported great physical and mental exertion, and much stress and strain. All used a mixed diet. Not one case reported being a vegetarian, and not one reported living on meat alone. Some used plenty of milk, while others used none. Similarly with other foods.

The one important factor seems to be the temperament and particularly the manner in which these persons react to unpleasant happenings.

Only one of all the long-lived persons admitted having a certain irritability, but even this person says that his irritability lasted but a very short time. "The secret of long life would appear to be 'take it with a smile.'"

temperatures of ocean wave, and mark the rumors of the high courts of the air, there is no indication of northern unrest. The surmise from the high and outer seas is a winter rather warmer than average. Much rain may

be severe, was the larger quantity of firewood cut by the white settlers! The breastbone of the goose is decided in the nest. The mature bird flies away from wintery weather and can have no interest in it or be adapted structurally for it. The fur of wild animals is rich in response to summer feeding. Excellent pelts are grown by foxes in captivity, with no winter to fear. Bounteous nature would not grudge or economize on an inch of hair in a mild season. Berries depend on spring growth and nurture, followed by summer warmth, and can have no reflection on future weather. Squirrels collect feverish-ly while material is in sight, and the more they gather the more they forget.

Moreover, "weather" is rather local. Unusual intensities do not extend very far, and contrasting temperatures east and west are noted continuously. Toronto, Regina, and Victoria have little in common among the weather reports.

It is more probable that our winter weather is made in the south than in the north. The north-land is cold every year. If less of that cold is brought down by winds the temperatures here will be warmer.

Somewhere out in the wide, warm Pacific volumes of water have been heated under the tropical sun. With the slow serenity of magnitude, this ocean water forms gently-moving currents of interchange with the water north and south. Over these the surface water is lifted by the tide, ruffled by the wind. Even the regular trade winds may be upset by the drawing of the moon in both air and water, but the atmospheric whirlings are magnificent in reach. Billowing leagues of cloud roll up in the mighty abysses of the deep blue skies, ready to ride from the courts majestic wherever the lords of the air shall bid. For storms rebellious rise in sudden heat and the fangs of the north are ever ready to strike. When these disturb none can forecast or prophesy. Yet in the calculation of those who watch these

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come to make up for past deficiencies, but the Pacific Coast may have less distress than usual, with many occasions to see the squirrel scurrying about for the caches they have missed, and Indians smiling over piles of provident wood.

The Poet's Corner FROM "KING HENRY THE FIFTH" Tis not the balm, the sceptre, and the ball, The sword, the mace, the crown than imperial, The intertissued robe of gold and pearl, The far-ced title running 'fore the throne he sits on, nor the tide of pomp That beats upon the high shore of this world, No, not all these, thrice-gorgeous ceremony, Not all these, laid in bed majestical, Can sleep so soundly as the wretched slave, Who with a body fill'd and vacant mind Gets him to rest, cramm'd with distressful bread, Never sees horrid night, the child of hell, But, like a lackey, from the rise to set Sweats in the eye of Phoebus, and all night Sleeps in Elysium; next day after dawn, Doth rise and help Hyperion to his horse, And follows so the ever-running year, With profitable labour to his grave. —Shakespeare.

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