CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SATISFIED?

The task the Liberal candidates are engaged upon today and are likely to be busy with for the next few days, is to persuade the people of the province that everybody is satisfied with the Bell government; that the Bell government kept all the promises they had made before their election; that no deception had been practised and that the government in every particular kept faith with the people.

This is, as the boys would say, "some job." There is no indication so far at any of the political meetings that the people are satisfied; no indication on the part of any honest elector that the Bell government is credited with having fulfilled any promise made by Liberal candidates before election. On the contrary the charge is universal that the government came into power on false pretences and that it has staved off premature dissolution by continued deception.

No amount of shouting will change this opinion; men and women everywhere are thoroughly convinced of it and it is only adding insult to injury to tell these men and women that they are satisfied.

The $253,000 deficit hoax was an official act of the government. By it the government placed its official seal upon a document deliberately planned to deceive the people. Officially issued over the signature of a reputable official, this document naturally carried some weight, but when it was discovered that the questions set for the Provincial Auditor to reply to were deliberately set to mislead, then the document became a boomerang and has done more to discredit the government than anything else it had done. Some righteous members of the aggregation deny all responsibility for this act and declare they never made use of it! Yet they never denounced it as a piece of official perfidy; like a certain "young man" in a biblical story, at whose feet the clothes of the mob were laid, they cast no stones but silently consented and their sin was as black as was that of the mob.

The people are not satisfied that the Bell government was the best we ever had; on the contrary they are satisfied that no other government in the history of the province had so shamefully deceived them and they are determined that no further mandate shall be given to the party who has not only deceived them but are now trying to persuade them that they have not been deceived.

ROAD-WORK AND VOTES

Even Liberals hang their heads when reference is made to the present orgy of reckless and senseless extravagance on the roads. Men driving to the city from the extreme east and the extreme west tell of hundreds of men, boys, horses, carts, blocking the roads, presumably working, generally loafing or lounging by the roadsides. The roads are being torn up, the dust heaped on the middle of the road to be blown about by the winds or scattered by the wheels of of automobiles or carriages.

Tearing up roads at this season of the year when the soil is a bed of dust has always been condemned by everyone who knows anything of road making and never more vociferously than by the Liberals when in opposition. Now, however, with an election pending, with electors to bribe, the men who won their way into office by fraud and deception must do something to save at least a remnant and they are trying to do it by giving jobs on the road, useless jobs, jobs the doing of which is a positive injury to the roads.

Many of the men thus employed, the great majority of them; judging by their remarks, know that those who are now employing them so generously will be out of business on the 26th of July and that thereafter others will be the employers and, as one man remarked, "we know which side our bread is buttered on." They accept the job and the pay but are not being misled by it.

In the meantime the wholesale attempt at bribery is disgusting all fair minded men and women and adding to the odium already attaching to the men who secured their election by false pretences.

OMINOUS TO LIBERALISM

In Manitoba in May 1920 the party strength in the Provincial Legislature was Liberals 42; other parties 5 and one seat vacant, making a total membership of 48.

In the general election of July 18, 1922 the Liberals returned 7 members, the U. F. M., Independents, Labor and Progressives returned 48, the membership having been increased since the previous election to 55. Liberalism was practically wiped out.

In Quebec during the session of 1922 the Liberals had 73 members, Conservatives 5, Labor 2 and one seat vacant.

Taking alarm at certain symptoms, Premier Taschereau called a general election on February 5, 1923, a year before the legislative term had expired. The result of the election, in a House enlarged to 85 was as follows: Liberals 64, Conservatives 21, a sharp drop in Liberalism and a four fold increase in Conservatism.

In Ontario the other day 75 Conservatives were elected where previous to the election they had only 26; 17 Liberals were returned where previously they had 25. The Liberals thus became the third party in numbers and are not even the official opposition. Their present and immediately preceding leader, Hay and Dewart, were among the slain. Mr. Hay the last leader said the other day "I'm through."

In Prince Edward Island, at the last session of the legislature the Liberals had 24 members, Conservatives 5; Independent 1.

After the general election next Thursday, what?

ROYAL BANK'S JULY LETTER

The Royal Bank of Canada's letter for July is an exceptionally interesting and informative one. Discusing the agricultural prospects, it says that the outlook in the western provinces is distinctly more favorable than was the case at seeding time. The effects of unsatisfactory weather conditions in early May have been counteracted by the ample rainfall of the latter part of May and early June with the result that conditions now compare favorably with those which existed at the same time last year. In all three prairie provinces the crops have been singularly free from insect pests with the exception of certain points in southwestern Manitoba where the presence of grass-hoppers is reported. Labor shortage existed in various districts but this condition was not acute or general and did not materially reduce the acreage.

On the whole the prospects in the West are very good and it is expected the total crop will be much larger than ordinary.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Borrow the money and pay as you go" is the advanced system of finance adopted by the Bell government. One of the difficulties in connection with the system is that while they borrow the money they don't pay as they go and some one else will have to pay after they have gone.

Notes by the Way

All will regret the illness of Hon. C. W. Crosby, Minister of Public Works, at the present terminal stage of the election campaign. He would no doubt desire to take an active part in the political discussions of the hour, and the Opposition candidates in his district would be pleased to have him present at the meetings. It would facilitate discussion, especially in regard to matters relating to one of the great spending departments of the Government, if its official head could be able to meet the opposing candidates face to face before the electors.

Mr. Crosby's illness and the absence of the Attorney General, who is not seeking re-election, create a very unusual and what is believed to be an unprecedented situation in the Government camp. Within a week of polling day only two of the four salaried Ministers are personally taking part in the public meetings, and these two, Hon. Messrs. Bell and Lea, are both contesting a single district in which they are so hard pressed that they apparently fear to take the risk of absence beyond the district boundaries.

If report tells truly, these two most potential elements in the Government are simply begging for votes, each for himself. All in vain the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us," is raised by hard-pressed supporters from fourteen other districts, while the two champions, the most voluble if not the most persuasive of all the coterie, reserve their eloquence for the home market. And the home market is dull just now for the goods they have to offer. Poll taxes, levied to pay salary grabs do not commend themselves to the agricultural minds in the Fourth District of Prince.

But if the chief energy of the Government defence is confined to one district there is equal trouble in the entire fifteen. Everywhere the farmers are asking, Is it true that we pay four-fifths of all the poll taxes? Is it true that you intend to continue it? Is it true that under the Bell Government five times as many of the voters pay poll taxes as pay it in another district? These are hard questions to answer truly without losing votes, for if answered truly the answer must be YES in every case! And it is hard to evade making an answer. There are so many who will insist upon an answer.

Of course, Messrs. Duffy and Higgs tell us how much was done to help the returned soldiers, who are exempted from this tax! What a boon it is to our brave boys that they are exempt from a tax that nobody in Prince Edward Island ever paid before! Also they are exempt from being sued and having to pay costs in addition to the tax. They should be very thankful for that great mercy. Not a single soldier was haled to court, or even served with a demand for payment, except by mistake. Surely every returned soldier will vote for the Bell Government candidates who showed such noble consideration for our heroes.

The women voters also are expected to be grateful. They have been frequently reminded by the Government candidates that they are also exempt. The Bell Government gave women the vote—or the half-vote—without any head tax! What gallant generosity was here, Ladies! Thank Heaven, and the Bell Government for so great a boon. Not a single woman (or a married one) paid a poll tax, or was sued, or put to cost, or had to beg to be let off from paying poll tax. Think of what might have occurred if the Government had been less merciful and considerate!

It is true that Mr. J. D. Stewart, K.C., the Leader of the Opposition promises, if he and his party get into power, they will repeal the poll tax. And then not only the brave soldiers and the fair ladies, but mere men, also, will be exempted from this tax. Some of these men are your fathers, husbands, sons or brothers. They help to provide for the household. Most of them work daily for your living and their own. In some cases, as The Patriot tells us, they find it pretty hard to "make both ends meet." Three dollars less in taxes means three dollars more for the house. Yes, the women after all may have some interest in the poll tax, even if they are exempt from paying it personally! They may think this over.

Telegraphy in P. E. Island

FIRST CABLE LAID.—DEVELOPMENT OF THE SERVICE, ETC.

(By W. L. Cotton.)

Since the year 1727 when Stephen Gray discovered that a wire seven hundred feet long could be so charged as to make it attract light bodies at a distance, an since the year 1749—the year of Franklin's successful experiment with the kite, many great and wonderful things have been accomplished by means of electricity. One of the first of these was the sending of messages by wire over considerable distances. It is stated that, early in the nineteenth century, Francis Ronalds constructed a telegraph line eight miles long and offered it to the British Government—and that the offer was rejected with contempt! Not until the 21st day of November, 1852 was the first submarine cable laid in America, and it was laid between Cape Tormentine in New Brunswick and Cape Traverse in Prince Edward Island.

For the information here supplied concerning the development of Telegraphy in this Province, I am indebted, for the greater part, to Mr. T. C. James, who was for many years Superintendent of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, and to Mr. A. E. Morrison, now its highly competent Superintendent here.

Previous to the introduction of the telegraph cable laid in 1852, the Hon. W. H. Pope was the active promoter of "The Gulf Express and Telegraph Company." In the charter obtained from the Legislature there was a provision that no other Company should trade the right to place telegraph lines within three miles of its lines. As the distance between Richmond Bay and Bedeque Bay is less than three miles, the Gulf & Express Company obtained a monopoly of all the telegraph service and business west of Travellers' Rest and Summerside.

This was the situation when Mr. F. N. Gisborne, in 1852, obtained from the Legislature the exclusive right to land telegraph cables on this Island. It was then proposed to place a line of steamers between Galway, Ireland, and St. John's, Newfoundland, in connection with a telegraph line to Cape Ray, whence a submarine cable was to be laid to Cape Breton, and thence by means of other cables to Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

As already stated Mr. Gisborne was successful in having a cable laid between Cape Traverse and Tormentine. But he was not successful in his attempt to connect by a telegraph cable Newfoundland and Cape Breton. His company had become involved in pecuniary difficulties. In 1854 he went to New York in the hope of obtaining money with which to carry out his scheme. There he met Cyrus M. Field. Mr. Field, at his request, called together a number of the chief caitalists of the United States. To these men Mr. Gisborne and Mr. Field unfolded the scheme, which was carefully considered and fully discussed. Finally it was resolved to form the New York-Newfoundland and London Telegrah Cable Company, and to purchase from Mr. Gisborne the rights of the Newfoundland Company.

The first cable laid across the Strait of Northumberland was of very inferior quality. Communication by means of it was spasmodic and uncertain. Mr. W. Quinlan was the first operator. Under Mr. Field's direction the work of the Company here was re-organized. Mr. Charles A. Hyndman, then a young man, was appointed superintendent of telegraphy in this Island. The difficulties encountered by Mr. Hyndman were those of a pioneer. Breaks of the cable, interruptions of communication, crude and unscientific methods of repair, lack of efficient help and support—these were the conditions with which the late Mr. Hyndman had to deal. It is creditable to his memory that he dealt with them intelligently and successfully.

He was succeeded by Mr. T. C. James, whose energy, activity and ability are known to many of The Guardian's readers. In the year 1873, the Anglo-American Telegraph Company acquired the rights and privileges of the New York, Newfoundland and London Telegraph Company. Under Mr. James' direction, a new and improved cable was soon afterwards laid across the Strait. It was a piece of the shore end of the Atlantic cable that was laid in the year 1866, and it was the heaviest and best kind of telegraph cable laid up to that time. This cable was submerged in the month of November, 1873, by the cable ship "Robert Lowe," Captain Tidmarsh. It was laid over the reef of Cape Tormentine, and was crushed by the ice in the following winter. In the summer of 1875 it was carried clear of the reef and placed in deep water. After that communication was not again interrupted until the winter of 1910. In December of that year it was broken; and it was not repaired until April of the following year. Again, in the year 1912, the cable was broken by the winter steamer Stanley. But in the summer of 1913, it was practically renewed. Since then telegraphic communication has been continuously maintained between Prince Edward Island and the world at large, as well as throughout the Province.

For a comparatively small community, with comparatively few messages to be transmitted, telegraphic rates by cable were necessarily high. In 1903, the late Mr. Horace Haszard then a member of the House of Commons, and Mr. John A. Messervey, then President of the Charlottetown Board of Trade, were particularly active in an endeavor to obtain a reduction of these rates. A meeting of the Board of Trade was called. The matter was discussed and a committee, consisting of the Hon. Mr. Justice Haszard, then Leader of the Provincial Government; the Hon. George E. Hughes, then a member of the Government, and Mr. Messervey, was nominated to go to Ottawa to consult with members of the Federal Government for the purpose of obtaining a reduction of those rates. The two first named members of the Commission at once proceeded to the Capital. There they had the cordial co-operation and asistance of P. E. Island's representatives in Parliament. Success crowned their efforts. The Federal Government was induced to add somewhat to the amount granted by it for telegraphic service, the Provincial Government increased its grant, and the company lowered its rates. Subsequently, under the leadership of Hon. Mr. Mathieson, now Chief Justice of this Province, improvements in the service were instituted and further concessions were obtained. We have now, consequently — under Mr. Morrison's supervision, a telegraphic service equal in efficiency, with that of the largest cities in America.

It is worthy of remark, in conclusion that between 1879 and 1912, the staff in the Charlottetown office, comprised but five persons. Now the staff in Charlottetown numbers twenty. Mr. James retired from the office of Superintendent of the telegraphic service here in 1912, after forty years of continuous service, and Mr. Morrison, who is now Superintendent, has been for forty-three years, continuously, a member of the staff.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

LIKE A HOUSE—THE VENTILATION

When they were building up a new building at the University the architects kept stressing the point of a "double fan system for ventilation."

You can see what this means to the air of the building. A huge fan to draw all the impure air out, and another huge fan to drive the pure air in.

So many places heretofore had been ventilated simply by the exhaust fan which drew the impure air out.

And so I thought of that body of yours and of the tremendous need for ventilating all its parts—every organ—every tissue—I realized how wonderful the Creator had fashioned your ventilating system.

As you know your system of ventilation is by the lungs.

If you are an adult in ordinary health you will breathe in and out about seventeen times in the minute.

And what happens when you breathe in?

Why Nature sends in about thirty cubic inches of air almost pure, rich in oxygen—the life giving element.

And what is breathed out?

Thirty cubic inches of air, rich in carbon dioxide which contains the poisonous products of the system.

Thus Nature since man's creation has been using the double fan system to ventilate that body of yours.

Now I've spoken of the lungs as the ventilating organs and of course they make the bulk or large exchange from the outside world to you, and from you to the outside world.

But your faithful friend the heart with the assistance of all the blood vessels has been really doing the ventilating of the very smallest and remotest part of the body.

You see when blood with fresh air goes to an organ or any tissue it guilds up that tissue and organ as it passes through it; likewise it takes away from that organ or tissue their worn out parts.

This blood loaded with the waste matter comes back to the lungs to get rid of said waste, and to take on fresh air for building purposes.

So although that body of yours has the double fan system of ventilation by means of the action of the lungs, the real work of ventilating is done by the blood as it passes through the tissues.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

A VILLAGE CHURCHYARD

(Helen Frazee-Bower, in N. Y. Herald)

The silence of unuttered dreams
has turned
This village churchyard to a thing
more still
Than starlight sleeping on a winter
hill;
For fled is now the wild romance
that burned
In youthful hearts, and aged ones,
that yearned
For greater wisdom, can no more
fulfil
Their own desires. At rest from
good or ill,
They sleep in silent trenches, unconcerned.

Yet here is quiet born not all of
pain,
For budding grasses speak of hope
not dead,
And mingled with green blades the
poppies red
Give promise of desire that blooms
again;
As though the dreams life would
not let them keep,
The dead had found more beautiful
in sleep.

The Public Forum

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

Good Bye, P. E. I.

Sir,—No wonder what John D. McIntyre says. Every day whole families are saying the same, for we are drifting back to the form of government we had before Coles and Whelan fought and freed us from the slavery and tyranny of landlordism and rent, and gave us responsible government that the representatives were responsible to the people to see that their wants were safeguarded by them. While we had that form we improved and prospered in any and every way equal to any other country with any form of government, but now the people are responsible to its members for they commit tyrannical acts and uphold such by what is called brute force, for they will not listen to the demand and arguments of the people even to resign for not fulfilling their promises.

Now there is the worst elephant placed on the people's shoulders that was ever placed there in the highway grant. There were tenders called for sections of eight mile lengths and the tenders were to be sent and approved by the government as they were. But as soon as a tender is accepted the road overseer goes with a gang of men clearing the sides of the road of whatever seems objectionable to the contractor. Now is this not asisting the contractor and robbing the Government of the amount paid out for this work? To show you that there seems to be silent partners in the combine here is what the contract calls for, and accepted from him by the Government:

Removal of Debris:

"8. On the completion of the work the contractor shall put the entire highway in perfect condition for use, and shall remove from the road allowance and adjoining property all rubbish and surplus material resulting from the work which may have accumulated during its prosecution and shall clean up the entire highway within the limits of the right of way."

Is that not plain enough that all this stuff that is put on the side of the road ought to have been taken off by the contractors?

In another section it says that the engineer has power to force the contractor to do this work, or have it done, and deduct from the amount of his contract. Let the voter look at the roadside and figure up what it will cost to put the roadside as it was when the contract was taken. I was travelling along a road the other day and saw men carting this stuff off the road, and one said there was a complaint put in that the school children could not go to school till it was removed or put on the road under autos and waggons. Now what will it cost to remove all this material for the whole length of the road that is completed, or who did the contractors pay this to for being relieved from such? Along most of the districts that I travel I challenge any teamster to plough or put a road machine on those places to repair said districts, and another thing I say is that the removal of that stuff puts on the road material that never should have been put there. If the contractors have been paid this amount or kept to the contracts the Government would not be a dollar in debt today. I challenge any man today to figure and show that the removal of this stuff when done will not add as much more debt on the Government. The highway grant has become a tax curse instead of a blessing.

No one is enjoying the Opposition's lot if they unluckily enough get the musty crumbs left, and this will be a warning how to let contracts.

A. W. B.

Musical Notes

Keep piano closed at night and in damp weather.

On sunny days let the sun shine on the keys; it will prevent them from turning yellow.

Will Entertain Them

If puzzled just what to do with the restless youngster on a rainy day, the wooden part of a handle used for carrying parcels will make a splendid pipe for blowing bubbles.

Fools admire, but men of sense approve.

Let every man practice the trade he best understands.

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