

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Rich Mine Of History

The richest unmined field of Canadian historical lore probably lies not in this country but in the City of London, in the vaults of Hudson's Bay House, says the Montreal Star.

Historians have long been itching to get a fabulous store of records in London. There, as complete as it could ever be, is the epic of the Canadian North-West.

The records tell the story of the Company, and therefore of a large part of the present Dominion of Canada, back to the fantastic days when the Adventurers first banded together.

Time For A Showdown

Hon. Mr. Bennett spoke here on October 5th and was reported at length in The Guardian on the following day. Ten days later our local contemporary "notices" that Mr. Bennett denounced party patronage in speaking at Charlottetown and intimated that he would bring this matter up in Parliament at the next session.

Fancy that! After two years in office, with a sweeping majority in Parliament, the King Government is still waiting for Mr. Bennett to give them "the chance" to unearth something disadvantageous in the record of the Bennett Government!

Federally and Provincially, the Conservative record with regard to fair distribution of unemployment relief has proved unassailable. Men were employed on the basis of need, not of party politics.

It is to be hoped that when Mr. Bennett brings this matter up in Parliament, he will not omit from his denunciation the scandalous treatment to returned soldiers and other deserving civil servants in this Province by the Campbell Government, as well as the manner in which these worthy officials were replaced, in some cases, by persons so notoriously incompetent that they had to be sacked shortly afterwards.

Nor should Mr. Bennett forget to mention the crowning iniquity perpetrated by the Campbell Government in its partisan Civil Service Act, which Mr. Wade Hughes refused to support in the Legislature and which Mr. J. Walter Jones denounced in terms so strong that an attempt was made to drown his words by cries of "Order!"

Not even school inspectors of long experience and proved competency under both party governments, were safe under our present dictators unless they were known to have voted Liberal in the 1935 election.

In the case of unemployment relief projects, everyone in this Province knows that under the present regime "a ticket from a ward heeler," as Mr. Bennett said, is the only way to get a job.

The only difficulty Mr. Bennett will find when he comes to discuss Liberal abuses of the patronage system in Parliament, will be where to begin. So far as this Province is concerned, he can begin quite early in the King regime, when Mr. J. J. Larabee was absorbed into the Fisheries Department, for purely partisan reasons, to make way for Hon. Mr. Dunning.

Our local contemporary has the audacity to

head its apology for Liberal dismissals with the words "Lest We Forget." Our returned soldiers, to whom these words have a special meaning, will recall what occurred at the sitting in Charlottetown of the Veterans' Assistance Commission, Oct. 15, 1936, when complaint was made that "Government employees who have been employed for years are suddenly dismissed for reason other than incompetence or neglect."

Editorial Notes

Grace Darling died this date, 1842.

Chief Justice Rowell will now have some idea of the evidence to be presented to his Royal Commission when next it meets here, and that is more than the public do, not forgetting the 30.

A favourite car run these days between the good and bad weather is out the MacLure Highway to Rustico. Many who previously knew Rustico merely by name have made its personal acquaintances in this way.

According to a census taken by the Department of Commerce at Washington 60 per cent. of all the automobiles and 40 per cent. of all the refrigerators in use in American cities are used by families having incomes of less than \$2,000 per annum.

A country clergyman, who had gone round his parish blessing the various holdings, passed by one field "Why," said the owner, "have you not blessed my field?" "Your field," was the answer "does not need blessing. It needs manure."

We cannot visualize it, but the United States deficit at the close of the financial year, June 30, is estimated by President Roosevelt to be in the vicinity of \$1,000,000,000. Imagine having to count that in individual dollars, not to mention cents.

It is a funny world in some respects. For instance, the Duke of Windsor retired from Royalty because, among other reasons, he was fed-up with having to traverse the Empire as an Imperial investigator and commentator. Now he would emerge from his retirement to do this very thing for foreigners. But the British Government has cried a halt, and the Press agency publicity stunt has been called off.

A special tribunal at Stuttgart, Germany, sentenced Anna Binhammer, 31 years old, to four months in jail for adversely criticizing the Government and slandering Nazi Germany. She was born in Germany, but has become a United States citizen. The court found she had become a "renegade against the fatherland who had learned her political ideas as a governess with a Jewish family in New York."

The imports of farm implements and machinery in August were more than double those of August, 1936, amounting in value to \$1,745,008 as compared with \$827,538. However the import in the latest month was slightly lower than in the previous month, when the total was \$1,754,265. The United States supplied to the value of \$1,671,665. Internal combustion traction engines up to \$1,400 each accounted for the big gain, there being 1,420 engines valued at \$1,160,746 as compared with 552 at \$417,148.

This is Fish Week, today Fish Day. "Increasing export business," said Hon. Mr. Michaud, Minister of Fisheries, "is improving the position of the fishing industry, taking it as a whole, and domestic sales have also increased, with the result that the industry can approach its fish week in 1937 in higher spirit than at any time in recent years. Nevertheless, it is possible for Canada to make still more of its great fisheries resources than has yet been done and I hope that the people generally will encourage the country's 72,000 commercial fishermen, and the others concerned in fisheries operations, by joining in the fish week observance."

"The present generation are not afraid of Death—they are afraid of Life! They look upon a Europe turning pagan; upon Germany writing a new Bible to suit her own ideas; upon Italy declaring she would like to be known as the protector of the Mahomedans world. Already one in every nine of all the peoples of the entire world are Mahomedans; now we have the negroes of the South saying they are not negroes, but Moors, and considering going over, en masse, to the Mahomedan faith. Now, as never before, the troubled world is calling for the message and the guidance of the mission worker, and the King speaks to His people that they may open their eyes and see all about them the many fields 'white unto harvest.'" So said Mrs. Victor Smith, Recording Secretary of the Ontario W.M.S., in addressing the Janet Geggie Auxiliary of the W.M.S. of Parkdale Presbyterian Church.

NOTES BY THE WAY

One fact has been proved beyond all question by the events of the last few days—that the Rome-Berlin axis is strongly forged. If this axis could be prolonged to London, and could also take in Paris and, as has been suggested, Warsaw, the fear of war would recede far into the background. The leaders of the two great peoples have repeatedly declared that the German-Italian understanding is not aimed at other States, but is an arrangement to which other Powers are invited to adhere. The Daily Mail has repeatedly pointed out that Germany, which, as Herr Hitler said recently, "in national strength and military efficiency has again become a world Power," must be treated upon a basis of equality. The first step on the road to agreement is a friendly understanding between Britain and Germany.—Daily Mail.

All dictators work in the same way. First they close the courts to the people, then they gag the press, and then they proceed to reduce the people to a hopeless state by regimentation and spy system. It will work here in Alberta if the people will stand for it.—Lethbridge Herald.

"I urge all nations to treat the minorities decently," pleaded Adolf Hitler in his recent Nuremberg speech. He is right, of course, and urge justice and tolerance for minorities. If all nations did this to their minorities and to smaller nations the world would be safer and pleasanter. But the German concentration camps filled with Jews, Catholics, labor radicals and other dissenting minorities, Hitler's appeal suggests a couplet written by the poet Burns: "Oh wad some power the gittie gie us . . ."—New York World-Telegram.

It is rather significant, particularly in view of a certain school of thought which blames Great Britain for slowness in not mixing in a European war, that an American freighter carrying zoological specimens showed the Union Jack while passing through dangerous waters of the Mediterranean. The fact indicates that the men who sail the seven seas, if not everyone else, realize that the old flag still means something in the way of protection, and that perhaps after all, a certain song we sometimes sing is not purely jingoistic.—The Northern News.

Every compromise with the infinite value of the human soul leads straight back to savagery and the jungle. Dispel truths of our religion, and what follows? The insolence of domination and the cruelty of despotism. Denounce religion as the opiate of the people and you will swiftly proceed to denounce political liberty and civil liberty as opium. Freedom of speech goes, intolerance follows and justice is no more.—Stanley Baldwin.

What a crusader always lacks, is a sense of humor. Hitler insists that just as he is for the Germans alone to decide whether they want Nazi rule and for the Italians alone to decide whether they want Fascist rule, so it ought to be for the Spaniards alone to decide what sort of rule they want. His idea of making sure that the Spaniards decide for themselves seems to be for Germany and Italy to send soldiers, munitions, airplanes, guns, etc., to help in this decision.—Montreal Star.

It is nearly sixty years since the receipts of livestock from the farms and ranges in the market centres have been as small as they have currently been running. The Chicago Tribune asserts. It further says that there is not meat enough in the United States to provide the American people with the amount of meat which the American people have been accustomed. This condition is declared to be the inevitable result of the government policy of destruction, vastly extolled at the time as the right way to bring relief to agriculture, and which has brought bitter fruit.—Minneapolis Journal.

The British are not very pleased about the Italian suggestion to settle Mediterranean differences "in a spirit of complete equality." It is an old British diplomatic custom never to rely alone on the promise of the other partner. Germany has often attempted to make friends with Britain without the intervention of a third Power, but it has always proved futile. London would not accept the outstretched hand without a guarantee of assistance. Even if the common interests of Italy and Britain were important enough to make an immediate settlement imperative, London would be unwilling to depart from her old outlook. It is not the aggression of Italy which should be the basis of Anglo-British conversations, but fruitless, the Mediterranean will be transformed into a British stronghold.—Berlin Exchange.

There are leaves on the pavements, and with a touch of rain the conditions are ideal for a skid. Darkness comes early and the dusk sees in the cities the heavy-going traffic while children still are using the streets. Caution is doubly imperative if mishaps and tragedies are to be avoided.—Ottawa Journal.

The average woman washes an acre of dirt dishes and a mile of glass, scrubs five miles of floor and washes three miles of clothes every year. She needs hot water sixty times a day. The information comes from Mrs. Eileen Murphy, home service director of the British Commercial Association. Mrs. Murphy also tells that three million British homes have no hot water. Good Christians, reading their Bibles, reckon it pretty hard for the Israelites that they had to make bricks without straw. The Israelites were slaves.—Daily Express.

"We shall have no exaggerated expectations about America's actions, but I will say that an understanding so perfect and so spontaneous between the two branches of the English-speaking races is bound to bring us a new era of harmony in consolidation to those forces in the world which stand for peace and freedom."—Winston Churchill.

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.

JUDGE STEWART CRITICIZED

Sir.—Judging by the general expression heard from those who have taken the trouble to read the letter from Judge Stewart on the resolutions passed by the Maritime Board of Trade regarding "Transportation with the Mainland" and "Harbor Improvements at Charlottetown," the public think of him in about the same spirit as they regard the "bird that fouls its own nest."

What a display of ignorance, according to Judge Stewart, was made by Sir Andrew Rae Duncan and the other members of his Commission in their report of 1926, which states—"There is substantial foundation for much of the complaint we heard in Prince Edward Island with regard to railway service." "Altogether the ferry boat service is unsatisfactory and does not get the attention it should receive." The presentations before the Duncan Commission were made not by Judge Stewart or men of his peculiar turn of mind, but by men, who for years without pay and at their own expense have fought for, and secured many of the advantages this province today enjoys; and who are not yet satisfied with existing conditions, and who are alert and alive to the need for further developments for our province. Judge Stewart might very profitably study the presentation made by his namesake the late Premier J. D. Stewart before the Board of Railway Commissioners in Oct. 1924, from which the following extract is taken:—"Prince Edward Island stands in an unique position among the Provinces of Canada. Her industrial and commercial life depends on the adequacy of means of communication with the mainland of Canada."

"Consequently one of the terms of the Union is as follows: "Efficient steam service for the conveyance of mails and passengers, to be established and maintained between the Island and the Dominion, winter and summer, thus placing the Island in continuous communication with the Intercolonial Railway and the railway system of Canada." "The adjective 'efficient' is perhaps the most important word in the above paragraph; without that word the term above quoted would be valueless."

"The word can only have a relative meaning and significance. "The object of the term or paragraph above quoted was, it is submitted, to make Prince Edward Island, as far as possible, a real and integral part of the Canadian Confederation. Only such a service as will measure up and compare in efficiency with that in other Provinces of Canada will fulfill either the spirit or letter of the above stipulation."

"A service that was efficient twenty years ago is not efficient today, for its efficiency must keep pace with the efficiency of service in other Provinces of Canada." "How much better it would be if Judge Stewart would use his ability to further the interests of the Province, rather than use his position to belittle the efforts of those in our own province and in the other parts of the Maritimes who are striving to better conditions for our people, and increase the efficiency of our means of communication and our business opportunities."

I am, Sir, etc., ANTI-KNOCKER.

The Poet's Corner. CHANSONS D'AUTOMNE. When: a sighing begins In the violins Of the autumn-song, My heart is drowned In the slow surge of Langorous and long. Pale as with pain, Breath fails me when The hour to sleep. My thoughts recover The days that are over, And I weep. And I go Where the winds know, Broken and brief, To and fro, As the winds blow A dead leaf. —Paul Verlaue.

"WORN OUT" AND WORRIED

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Defending Bankers

(By Anonymous)

With reference to an article headed "Abusing the Bankers" first published in the Amherst Daily News, and republished in The Charlottetown Guardian on the 14th instant, the following comment may be of interest.

Premier Aherbath in the letter to Premier King referred to in the article was too sweeping in his condemnation of the Bankers and the Government. The Bankers do not and cannot control the means of distribution of credit. All they can do is to supply the sound demand for it and when this demand is absent it is then the duty of the Government as Hon. Lucien Maynard B.A., LL.B. stated in the Legislature of the Province of Alberta, on the 6th August, 1937. "To use whatever power may be necessary to provide food, clothing and shelter to the people"—i.e., of course when they are unemployed through no fault of their own, but through the slowing up of the economic machinery. As Harold Fisher states in his book "England Takes the Lead." "The visible forces of the economic world are commodity money, gold, silver, copper, iron, tin, lead, zinc, nickel, bank notes, bank loans, bills of exchange, drafts, and all kind of securities being all manner of authorities to receive and promises to pay it by individuals and corporations. The invisible forces of the economic world are no less than the sum total of all industry. The orthodox "Sound Money" experts believe they can restrict and limit the promises to pay which men are making every day by limiting the available cash to discharge those promises. But they cannot do it. They can cause promises to pay to default because of lack of means to discharge them. A depression occurs when the stream of newly created promises to pay fall to cope with the pressing liability promises to pay in existence."

"The Bankers are as powerless as a new born babe to induce promises to pay to be made. The writer of the article referred to is quite wrong in stating "the bank must always have money on hand to meet the demand for its return." The Banks are usually only required to hold 40% of Commodity Money i.e. gold, silver and copper in the balance held in securities of all kinds of goods to pay. In previous depression liquidation of debts or promises to pay was followed by reflation or creation of individual promises to pay, which resulted in increased production and employment. In order that the economic machine may run smoothly it is absolutely necessary that Promises to pay must be made to approximately equal Promises to receive. At present the latter largely exceed the former. It is the duty of the government to create Promises to pay by borrowing for non-productive purposes because they at the same time create Promises to receive by way of interest and amortization fund in connection with bonds or promises to pay so issued. The disparity between these two kinds of promises is gradually adjusting itself, but in the meantime the Government must issue a substitute promise to pay without the accompanying promise to receive. The disparity of these two kinds of promises can never wholly be equalized under the existing and ever increasing mechanization of production without Government intervention because employment caused by mechanization of production takes away from the unemployed labourer his potential for creating promises to receive by the use of his labour. It will therefore always be necessary for the Government to supply their deficiency to the extent of unemployment. In the recent depression recovery has been by extensive Government borrowing and very small private borrowing. The public deficits thus created have been financed by taxation and sale of public securities, a large part of which have been purchased by the banks. This policy has had the effect of increasing bank deposits between 1933-36 in Canada by 343 million dollars or 17%. This is because when a bank purchases government securities deposits are increased but when the public buy these securities there is no increase in deposits because this latter operation simply means the transfer of existing private deposits to Government deposits. Bank deposits in Canada in June, 1933 amounted to 1971 million dollars and in Dec. 1936 deposits had increased to 2314 million dollars, i.e. an increase of 343 million dollars as stated above. On the contrary, during the same period Commercial Banks of Canada loans had decreased from 1157 million dollars to 904 million dollars or a decrease of 253 million dollars. The result of this decrease in loans has been to compel the banks to increase their investments in Government securities to provide the latter with the necessary funds to pay relief to the large number of unemployed. This is bad business both for the Banks and the Government, because the Banks are getting a much smaller return from Government investments than from private loans. The Canadian Commercial Banks investments have increased between June, 1933 and Dec. 1936 from 869 million dollars to 1383 million dollars i.e. an increase of 514 million dollars and yet the Banks revenue is so reduced that they have had to reduce their interest rates on savings Banks deposits from 3% to 1 1/2% and unless the demand for private loans for productive purposes increases they may eventually be unable to pay any interest on Savings Bank deposits, and the Government will have to continue going deeper into debt and even-

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Joys Of Yesterday. (Hamilton Spectator) Mr. Neville Chamberlain, standing the other day before the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, sighed, a little rhetorically, for the good old days. "Every one, I think—certainly not least His Majesty's ministers—must look back with envy on the good old days when Britain was an impregnable island and possessed the only fleet of capital ships in the world, and when men, if they cast an upward and inquiring glance at the sky, did so only to ascertain what were the weather prospects." "Yes, we agree with the Prime Minister. We, too, look back with envy upon those (for Englishmen) happy times, gone forever to return as they are, look back upon those times when Britain was the workshop of the world and when British goods commanded its markets. But a few things have occurred since then. Other countries have built navies comparable to the British navy, just as other countries invaded British markets, and you can no longer cast an upward and inquiring glance without wondering how long it will be before a fleet of bombers comes over upon its mission of death. "Autres temps, autres mœurs!" British statesmen have a more precarious duty to perform today, and—even though this vast (but vulnerable) Empire may yet be the most powerful combination of nations in the world—it can never again (so long as war remains the final arbiter in international affairs) rest upon its laurels.

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NEW AIDE-DE-CAMP FOR LORD TREWDSMUIR. OTTAWA, Oct. 19.—Lieutenant R. Scott of the Royal Navy, newly-appointed aide-de-camp to the Governor General, has arrived in Ottawa to take over his new duties. It was announced tonight, he succeeds Lieutenant G. Rivers-Smith, who will return to England shortly.