

The Charlottetown Guardian

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1935

A Sorry Substitute

As a substitute for representation in the new KING Cabinet—of which there is none for Prince Edward Island, either with or without portfolio—PREMIER KING states that in his opinion "the representation of the Province would be effected in a more satisfactory manner if a member from that Province were appointed as one of the parliamentary secretaries to work in association with a Minister of one of the departments."

The duties of the proposed parliamentary secretaries are fully explained in today's despatches. They are clearly those of an underling. They give an opportunity of serving a political apprenticeship by doing the chores of the minister in charge. The appointees will have no seat in the Cabinet and consequently no voice whatever in the government.

What then did PREMIER KING mean by saying that this Province's representation "would be effected in a more satisfactory manner" by such an appointment at the next session of Parliament, rather than by a seat at the council table?

Could anything be more ridiculous? Could there be a more contemptuous way of acknowledging Mr. A. E. MACLEAN's application for the portfolio of Minister of Fisheries?

Nor will Mr. MACLEAN's friends derive much satisfaction from the complacent assurance of the Halifax Chronicle (Liberal) that "the new cabinet is properly representative, affording a voice in government for all interests and all parts of the country, leaving no important group of Canadian people without adequate representation at the council chamber."

Our "adequate representation" at the KING Government council table is at present nil. And it will still be nil, however many under-secretaries Mr. KING appoints.

The Situation In Aroostook

The past few years have seen particularly hard times for the potato industry; but few, even of the largest growers in this Province, realize what the effect has been in Aroostook County, the most famous and most prolific potato growing section of the State of Maine. Losses there are counted in thousands, hundreds of thousands, and even millions of dollars. The situation is described vividly in a series of articles now running in the Boston Sunday Post, which sent a special correspondent there after Congress, on July 23 last, had passed the WARREN Bill for the control of potato production.

The reporter found in Aroostook "veritable paupers living in mansions that remain from the lush days of yore; men who once reckoned their wealth in hundreds of thousands, with scarcely tobacco-money in their 10-year-old pants." He found "towns, once rolling in wealth, with all their residential streets full of ruts and pock-marked with holes because citizens couldn't pay their taxes." There, in the champion potato district of the world, he found only two towns in the whole section able to open their schools on their own money this fall. The other towns, all except Easton and Madawaska, will have to pay their teachers with script when the schools do open, and some of them haven't redeemed last year's script yet.

Watching the line of trucks unloading at the railway tracks at Presque Isle, in the heart of the County, the reporter's first impression was that here was enormous wealth in the making; here, at any rate, there could be no depression. Then a potato grower spoke. "Did you ever before in your life see so many people so darn busy losing money?" he asked. The grower pointed to a truck just turning out of one of his own fields: on it were 20 barrels of fine No. 1 potatoes, fit for the table of a king. "Know how much I could get for them today, if I was to sell them right now, and I will have to make immediate sale of enough to pay my harvesting costs? Today the price, delivered at the track, is 45 cents a barrel. . . . Each and every barrel of those potatoes cost me a dollar more than that to raise. Every time a truck chugs out of the field, I've lost \$20. And more than a thousand truckloads will go to the warehouse. And I'm only one of 4,500 growers, a lot of them much larger than I am."

"Why," asked the reporter incredulously "should anyone raise a crop on which he will lose money?" The explanation given was simple. Every farmer hopes to make money. He invests so much capital in fertilizer, seed, mortgages, tools, taxes, etc. If he doesn't harvest his crop, he loses everything he invested. If he gets some return on the harvest, he loses less money than if he quit. The same economic motive promotes the manufacturers to sell even below costs in order to cut sure losses. Last crop, Aroostook County shipped 54,000 carloads of potatoes, 250 barrels to the car, a total of 13,500,000 barrels. The price on U. S. No. 1 table potatoes opened at 50 to 65 cents per barrel, quickly dropped to 35 and 40 cents, and held at about that level until the first week of April of this year, when it jumped to 75 cents to \$1, stayed there a few days, and retreated to the former figure. The 1934 crop averages 122 barrels, 335 bushels, to the acre, an all-time record which brought production cost down to between 90 cents and \$1.00 per barrel. "There," said the grower, "you have it. Last year the potato growers of Maine took on the nose for \$6,750,000. Where is there the industry that can stand much of that? But wait a minute, that's not all the loss. That's only what they lost on the potatoes they shipped. Thousands upon thousands of barrels went to the starch factories at 15 cents a barrel, clear loss of 80

cents on each barrel. "Even then, economic fate wasn't done hitting the potato raiser. Some say 6000 carloads, some say 10,000, dug out of the bins after the new crop was planted early this summer, rotted and stinking, were spread out in the fields to disintegrate or be plowed under. Putting everything together, the total loss for 1934 was close to \$9,000,000. In the past six years, Aroostook County potato growers have lost \$75,000,000. That's the tremendous gouge for some 4,500 men to assimilate; an average of about \$17,000 each. Some of the larger growers have run behind as much as \$150,000 each."

Facts such as these—and many more could be cited from the Boston Post's articles—will be a revelation to those growers in Prince Edward Island who, but a few weeks ago, were misled by political propagandists into holding the BENNETT Government responsible for losing potato markets.

Editorial Notes

Here 26,027 voters have no representatives in parliament, while 35,965 voters have four members.

The unemployed are crying out for work—and getting soothsayers from the Liberals.

The British elections will have a sort of local interest to us from the fact that Lord DUNCANNON, our Governor-General's elder son and heir, has been adopted National Conservative candidate for West Islington. He is just 22 years of age, but brainy and an accomplished speaker.

We have been treated with contempt by Premier KING. Many electors were fooled by the Liberal propaganda—vote for SINCLAIR and LARABEE now, and one or other of them will resign in favour of Dr. CYRUS MACMILLAN who will be a member of the KING Government. Alas, and alack—there is one born every minute!

A Washington despatch tells of a United States plan to "plough under a part of this year's potato crop." The planners, suggests an exchange, may be agricultural experts but they appear to be a bit hazy about just how potatoes grow in relation to the soil.

The great risk of conviction on unsubstantiated evidence is illustrated once more in the LABATT kidnaping case. One of the accused now serving 15 years imprisonment was positively identified by Mr. LABATT as his guard in the hide-out. Faced with another man, self-confessed as the perpetrator, Mr. LABATT admits that previously he was mistaken, and that the new accused was really his guard.

With the passing of "Uncle ARTHUR" HENDERSON, the Rt. Hon. RAMSAY MACDONALD, Lord SNOWDON and J. H. THOMAS are practically all that is left of the Independent Labour Party group that forced labour into politics and formed the first Labour Government. Mr. MACDONALD is now 69, and an active member of the BALDWIN Government, as is Mr. THOMAS, but Lord SNOWDON is on the shelf and "out" with both Labour and RAMSAY.

Circumstances alter cases even in that of imprisonment. Here we have had successful attempts of prisoners breaking out of jail; in Morrisburg, Ont., the reverse has been the case, two men broke in and stayed in: Two wandering hoboos wanted some place to spend a comfortable night so they smashed a window in the unoccupied jail and went to sleep in the unlocked cells. Constable COLIGAN, on his return to the building, forcibly ejected them and then, on second thought, returned them to their chosen sleeping quarters and locked them in until next day when they were further remanded.

Recently the official Japanese spokesman in Shanghai announced a Sino-Japanese four-point agreement. The four points, as summarized by one commentator, were: 1—Positive co-operation between Japan, China and Manchukuo economically and politically. 2—Joint action between these three states to extend aid to North China to sweep out Communists. 3—Early liquidation of all anti-Japanese activities in Central and South China. 4—Joint action to curb all intrigue originating in China or elsewhere which is likely to disturb North China or other parts of the country. The last point might be rephrased to say "Formation of a Sino-Japanese bloc against Soviet propaganda."

A new type of concrete, so dense that a man can walk on it 20 minutes after it has been placed in molds without making any marks on its surface, was demonstrated recently by Mr. KARL P. BILLNER, internationally known concrete expert. Ordinary concrete takes days to harden. Mr. BILLNER says his process is a "distinctly new departure in this important field," a vacuum method treatment. Recognizing that the amount of water required to obtain sufficient plasticity in the mixture is vastly greater than the quantity needed for the chemical effect of hydration. Mr. BILLNER said, "I commenced experiments with the object in view of overcoming or largely reducing evil effects due to excess water."

"You can't write Greek epics convincingly in an industrial age," Mr. RACHMILL LAVINE told a Montreal audience in the course of a lecture on the development of Russian literature since the 1917 Revolution. This statement was by way of illustrating the MARXIAN view that art and literature are not separate from life but grow out of the times, and that, far from being special individuals, living in a world of their own, artists and writers are shaped by their environment. Acting on this principle, Mr. LAVINE demonstrated, the Soviet writers have developed a "socialist realism"; they are earnestly seeking the viewpoint of the masses; they feel that a work of art should foreshadow, in its reflection of the reality of today, what was coming in the future; they are trying to create a dynamic art. But is this not of what political and communistic propaganda is made?

Notes By The Way

A man after he reaches middle age learns that he cannot be logical. He knows when he gets up in the morning that he will probably have his leg pulled during the day and, when the moment arrives, he wastes no time. He holds out his leg and gets it over with.—Toronto Star.

There are many people who believe that a politician who achieved eminence as a pre-war radical and who retained it after the war, will find no appropriate place in present-day politics; but veterans who still retain a walking-on part on the political stage will never admit that they "lag superfluous."

So much has been said about the mistakes and blunders of the so-called "younger generation" that it's about time to call out a few mistakes and blunders that the older generation is about to present to the unborn generations of the world. The present war madness that a few men have aroused in the world—threatening to throw all hope aside and to bring death and destruction to all civilization—is surely not to be pencilled up to the younger generation. The older generation plan the wars, the younger—the fittest and ablest—of the younger generation are those who must pay the price with their very lives. Every possible means for murder and terror has been perfected so that the chance of the commonest soldier is futile. He is torn to shreds and scattered to the four winds—to redden the earth with his blood and to leave an endless stream of tears across the face of the motherhood of the world.

There is no mystery which grips the imagination quite as strongly as the one which arises when a ship sails out into the ocean and then vanishes without a trace. Something about the mental picture of a ship fighting her last fight in the darkness, her people dying without even a chance to let folk ashore know what happened to her, puts a cold hand on the spine. One of the greatest of such modern mysteries is that connected with the Danish training ship Koebenhavn, which sailed from Buenos Aires in December of 1928 and has not been seen since.

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To the superstitious cures for whooping cough recently mentioned in "Miscellany" may be added some curious ones found in Portugal. One prescription is: Mix nail-parings with a little tobacco and roll the mixture into a cigarette. Drop this at a crossroad without looking up, and the person who picks up the cigarette and smokes it will take over the illness with it. Another recipe is: "More is better." Trea bread to eat, wine to drink, straw for a couch, and a basin to wash in. You then pronounce a little charm, calling on the illness to leave you. Then you run away without looking back. The theory is that the disease will be content to remain where it has all the bodily comforts that a man can need. An even stranger remedy is still used in Portugal for curing a sty. "In the King's name," cries the patient (although Portugal has been a republic for a quarter of a century), "the house of my sty is on fire!" And to trick the sty into hastening away to the scene of the supposed conflagration dry grass is burned and the affected eye held over the smoke.—Manchester Guardian.

The Englishman, we regret to say, has always been a fighting animal. Consider for example the speeches made recently by the stalwarts of the T.U.C. Was there ever such Jingism? While the League of Nations is searching for a way to peace, our Trade Unionists are already proclaiming that force is the only remedy. "More resolutions," their general secretary declared, "are no good; pious declarations of race are wasted upon Mussolini." And, again, "There is only one way to deal with a bully, and that is by the use of force." Sir Walter Citrine admitted that sanctions in all possibility involved war—"It may mean war," he said, "but that is a thing we have to face." A big war to prevent a small war, such is the pacific conception of peace! Little wonder that Mr. George Lansbury wrings his hands over his colleagues, and protests that whatever they may say and do, he himself will never fight.—London Morning Post.

It is interesting to note that the German press expresses admiration for Great Britain's almost single-handed fight for the perpetuation of the League of Nations. One Berlin Journal asserts that the British foreign policy is the moral prop of the League. It is added by German writers that the Reich is intent upon keeping out of the Italian-Ethiopian war. Germany, it is insisted, is determined on remaining neutral. All this is interesting because of the fears expressed in some quarters that if Britain and France were to become engaged in armed conflict with Italy, Hitler might seize the occasion to enter the fray by Mussolini's side. We have never thought that there was any real prospect of such a catastrophe—a catastrophe which would mean a European or world war.—Exchange.

The Aberhart Scheme

(Winnipeg Free Press)

VII

24. Are the non-negotiable certificates not contrary to the Bank act?

Answer—There are two exceptions noted to the Bank act: (a) A cheque on some chartered bank. (b) A promissory note, bill of exchange, bond or other undertaking for the payment of money made or delivered by the maker thereof to his immediate creditor, and not designed to circulate as money or as a substitute for money.

A non-negotiable certificate is an undertaking for the payment of money made or delivered by the maker thereof to his immediate creditor, and not designed to circulate as money or as a substitute for money. Negotiability is an essential characteristic of money or script. Any undertaking for the payment of money delivered by the maker to his immediate creditor which is non-negotiable therefore, cannot be contrary to the Bank act. (Notwithstanding Mr. Aberhart's statement in this answer it is certain that the right of the Aberhart government to issue these non-negotiable certificates will be challenged in the courts. And there is a well-defined opinion that the issuance of these certificates would constitute a violation of the Bank act of instruments "designed to circulate as money or as a substitute for money." It is disputed by Mr. Aberhart in a pamphlet entitled "The B.N.A. Act and Social Credit." After making what purports to be a legal argument, he makes these observations: "Whether the people of this province would consent to have the will of the majority rendered inoperative by loosely jointed constitutional machinery, oversteering the course of a sordid nature brought to bear upon our good government, remains to be seen. It is not the purpose of this pamphlet to intrude into the realm of 'necessity' in this connection."

25. How would you fix the Just Price on the various grades of wheat.

Answer—In the same way as you would fix the Just Price of the various grades of eggs, or any other article, or upon any other grade, would simply mean a slight reduction of the commission on turnover of production.

26. If the prices of goods were all fixed in what way could individual enterprise manifest itself?

Answer—Individual enterprise would manifest itself in the character of the service rendered, the neatness and sanitation of the store and the care of the goods, the ability shown in salesmanship. (The reader may profitably meditate on the dullness and stagnation of an economic order in which the only remaining scope for individual enterprise is as suggested in this answer, keeping the floor of a shop clean and its shelves tidy.)

27. What effect would the principles of Social Credit have upon advertising?

Answer—There would be a decided decrease in the expenses of advertising. Advertising would be more real. It would, for the most part, call attention to the qualities of new goods offered on the market.

28. What effect would Social Credit have upon employment?

Answer—Social Credit would at once increase employment. The increase in the purchasing power would create a greater demand for goods which would require more services, not only in retailing the goods, but in shipping them from the wholesale and in producing them in the factory.

29. Would basic dividends make the women too independent?

Answer—Economic security is the right of every citizen male or female. Women were never intended to be slaves, but helpmates. There would, no doubt, be more wholesome marriages consummated. They would not need to marry for a meal ticket.

30. Would the dividends be for small for large families as for small?

Answer—No. There would have to be some adjustment for a large family. I do not mean by this that each child would be bonused.

31. How long must one live in Alberta to become a bona fide citizen under Social Credit?

Answer—At the present time one must be five years in Canada, and one year in Alberta before they can have a vote in the province. The question of the proper qualifications of a bona fide citizen would have to be taken up and settled very definitely.

32. If I should leave Alberta would I lose everything?

Answer—No. You would be able to sell your property if you so desired. You could carry your bonds with you if you preferred to do that. There might be a restriction upon assets carried away, more than they and their loved ones could use for the rest of their life-time.

(Here we have a flat admission that under the Aberhart dispensation the people of Alberta will not be allowed to take their property with them. Under this provision the government could, in the case of a man wishing to leave the province confiscate the bulk of his belongings.)

Answer—Taxation would be at once reduced under Social Credit as would cease borrowing. Gradually as our debts were eliminated, the taxation would decrease. It would seem that the local services of schools and so forth, and the government expenses would continue to be secured by a tax. Of course it could be possible to raise this amount by the Unearned Increment Levy, just as the basic dividends would be recovered.

(Mr. Aberhart's statement that taxation would be "at once reduced" under social credit, coming immediately after he has set out a plan for the stiffest taxes ever imposed in Canada, is rather breath-taking.)

34. Would all bonds and saving accounts be confiscated or commandeered under Social Credit?

Answer—No. It is not the intention of Social Credit to confiscate or take away anything from those that already have it.

That Body of Power By James W. Barlow, M.D.

REMOVING TONSILS BY THE "ELECTRIC" METHOD

It is now agreed that when an individual has a sore throat frequently with a tonsillitis more or less severe, the tonsils should be removed.

When the tonsils must be removed it sometimes happens that the patient is afraid of the operation or his physician thinks it unwise for him to undergo an anaesthetic. It is for these reasons that removing or destroying tonsils by electricity has become popular, and most of the physicians equipped with the electric apparatus used for destroying tonsils are kept busy at this work. Of course the patient has to have a number of treatments before the tonsils are destroyed.

However more than the apparatus is needed, for surgeons using both the surgical and the electric or electrocoagulation method state that "it requires as much or more skill and knowledge of the throat structures to do the 'electric' method as it does by surgery." Dr. J. B. Baldwin Marshall, Texas, in the Tri-State Medical Journal states that he uses the electric method of removing tonsils in cases that are poor surgical risks, such as patients suffering with severe kidney diseases, high blood pressure, anaemia (thin blood), or those who have a tendency to bleed and are afraid and will not submit to the surgical removal of tonsils. In his judgment electrocoagulation of tonsils is a tedious, long-drawn-out procedure and requires considerable skill and experience to remove tonsils thoroughly without damaging the pillars (walls which surround the tonsils) and leaving a dry, disagreeable throat. It is not an ideal or even desirable method of removing tonsils unless there are special reasons why they cannot be removed by the usual surgical method.

It has been found that the majority of surgeons who use both the electric and the surgical method consider the removal by the knife the most satisfactory method.

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.

SUMMERSIDE JAILER

Sir,—The recent dismissal of Jarvis P. Tanton from the Gaolership of the Prince County Gaol, is one of the most diabolical examples of governmental stupidity that any party could possibly be guilty of, with a total disregard for the public service and a most callous indifference to the expressed wishes of the great majority of supporters of the Liberal party and the public in general, and also without the least shadow of an excuse Mr. Tanton has been curtly informed that his services are no longer required.

Notwithstanding that Mr. Tanton during the several years which he served in that capacity, proved himself to be one of the most capable and efficient caretakers that ever occupied the position. His record from the day of his entrance upon his duties has been one of an unbroken line of success time and again, he has received favorable mention from the Grand Jury and on more than one occasion he has received unstinted praise from the Supreme Court Bench of the province.

During his incumbency of office, prison discipline was well observed no insubordination was tolerated the rough necks and wrong doers were soon given to understand that

35 How would you get free from publisher's debt?

Answer—The first step would be to transfer, as soon as possible, the foreign debt into a domestic one, so that all payments toward its liquidation would constantly circulate within the bounds of our own province. In thus transferring the debt an attempt would be made to reduce the interest rate.

(How is the outside debt to be transferred to a domestic one? Only in one way in view of Mr. Aberhart's backing away from his earlier plan of confiscating bank accounts and insurance policies, and that is by commandeering the proceeds of Alberta exports over a period of years and paying off the outside debt from the steady flow of non-negotiable certificates. This would aggravate a situation that would begin to develop from the start: a disparity between the value of Dominion currency and the value of the "tickets." Here there would be another parallel between Russia and Alberta: the widening spread between the valuta used for internal purposes and currency negotiable and acceptable outside.)

36. How would you free individuals from private debt?

Answer—The payment of monthly basic dividends and the guaranteed commission on turn-over would at once give all producers and distributors an income which would enable them to decrease their private debt. Later on the province may be able to help them to liquidate their debts with interest-free loans.

(Answers to questions 26, 27 and 28 will appear in a future issue of this steady inflationary flow of non-negotiable certificates.)

How could municipalities pay their debts?

Answer—Just as soon as the individuals began to get free from the debts they would better be able to help pay off their municipal debt. The province would have to consider the loaning of credit to the municipalities without interest in the meantime.

37. Would production loans be issued to anyone making application?

Answer—No. Production loans would be issued only to those who were qualified to make use of the loan.

The Great Economy Tea MORSE'S BLUENOSE TEA is a good flavoured package tea at the price of ordinary bulk teas. Only 23 cents per half pound package, but thoroughly dependable, with the guarantee of Canada's oldest tea firm.

Silver Tip IMPROVED FUR FINISHING FOX BISCUITS Silver Tip Biscuits are sold in bulk or in 25 and 50 lb. bags. They are recommended for their richness in lime and their effectiveness as a bone and muscle builder.

"Time Tries the Truth in Everything" Time is the test which tries the worth of a man or an institution. Two hundred and twenty-five years of time has solidified the reputation which the Sun Fire Office of London, England, has maintained throughout its existence as "The Oldest Insurance Office in the World," Founded in 1710.

A Good Story Spoiled (Exchange) The Toronto Star had a very interesting story about a venerable lady in the Queen City who was 99 years old on Monday, and who planned to go out to the polling booth to mark her ballot. This very much alive nonagenarian, the Star said, intended casting her first vote for Sir John A. Macdonald, and that statement was featured in the headlines. It seems a shame to spoil a good story, says the Peterboro Examiner, but most people will feel that while there is some excuse for a person nearing the century mark having a bad memory. In regard to things that are past, the same defence cannot very successfully be set up in the case of a newspaper staff.

DR. L. B. EVANS of London, Eng. Noted Physician treated successfully and obtained permanent cures of Stomach Conditions, such as Dyspepsia, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Gastric Distress and many other ailments peculiar to the stomach. Don't fool with your stomach. Serious conditions will arise if you allow yourself to lapse into a chronic state of gastric trouble.