

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Monday Daily (founded 1887) 25.00 per year (delivered) in advance 25.00 per year (mailed) in advance in Canada, and \$4.00 to U. S. A.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1921

THE TARIFF QUESTION

The hollowness of the Liberal out-cry against the Government because the revision of the tariff has been postponed is evident to the most unsophisticated. It is a purely political cry and an excuse for raising objections against the Government. The recent enactment by the United States Congress of an emergency tariff and anti-dumping Bill changes the whole relation between Canada and the United States. The American Act places a practically prohibitive tariff upon all Canadian agricultural products. Wheat, Corn, beans, potatoes, cattle, sheep, meats and in short all farm products are included in the list on which the heavy import duty is imposed. When we remember that last year we shipped \$168,000,000 worth of agricultural products to the United States, the effect of this new embargo will be evident. We must seek elsewhere for a market for that portion of our agricultural products, which heretofore has gone into the United States. Much of this market we shall find at home in our growing industrial centres. Some of it also will find its way into other trade routes which are now being opened up. It cannot be denied that the effect of the United States new tariff wall will be severely felt, for some time at least, and until other adjustments will be made. For example, we sold to the United States last year goods to the value of \$450,000,000, at the same time purchasing from them \$860,000,000 worth, leaving an unfavorable balance against us of nearly \$300,000,000, the effect of which was felt in the reduced value of our Canadian dollar. With a material reduction in our exports to the United States and a continuance of our present purchases from there, there will be little improvement for some time to come in the exchange situation.

It would be folly of the most abject kind for us at this juncture to lower our tariff wall, at best the wall affords no more than a meagre protection against our larger neighbor, while to lower it at a time when they are raising theirs against us would simply be suicidal.

SELECTED SEEDS.

The question of procuring suitable seed is this year engaging more attention than usual. Last year, it will be remembered, was an unfavorable one for grain, the latter part of the summer being exceptionally dry and warm. As a consequence the grain ripened much too early and did not fill. Much of this grain is not fit for seed; to sow it would be to lose time and waste land. Suitable seed must be procured elsewhere in the Province or outside of it, and the procuring of it is perhaps the most important problem that confronts the farmer today.

Current Comment

One of the strongly commendable features of Sir Henry Drayton's budget speech was in his announcement upon the Exchange feature of the new tariff regulations. By the displacing of large trade balance against this country in favor of the United States the value of the Canadian dollar in that country has been for a long time in a state of wide depreciation, while the reverse of these conditions prevail in European countries where our dollar is at a considerable premium. The only apparent way to bring about an equalization of values is for a reduction of our imports from the United States and a like ratio of increase of imports from the Continent. To influence our trade into these channels the Government have fixed the basis for duty upon the dollar value, PLUS THE EXCHANGE IN THE UNITED STATES, AND OTHERWISE MINUS THE EXCHANGE FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. This means that, where the duties are ad valorem, when we pay \$1.15 Canadian money for a dollar article in the States, we will have to pay duties on the dollar and fifteen cents, whereas when we purchase a dollar article in Great Britain for eighty-five cents of Canadian money we will only have to pay duty on eighty-five cents. This must have the effect of encouraging more imports from England and less from the United States, thus influencing a return to normal exchange conditions.

Another advantageous feature, and one which even the rabid Liberal Toronto Globe admits, is in the stronger restrictions upon the dumping of surplus goods from other countries into Canada, which has proven such an injury to legitimate business in this country. In times of dullness or slack trade the American manufacturer in order to keep his factory going and find employment for their home labor, maintains the selling price of his commodities to the regular native trade on a profit bearing basis, but disposes of his surplus, unsaleable at home, either at cost or even less than cost on the Canadian market, thus by the most unreasonable and unfair of competition, interferes with the legitimate business of our manufacturers and producers, and taking the employment from our working men and in a sense taking the bread and butter out of the mouths of our industrial workers and producers. And in the new Government regulations for curbing this "dumping" evil a governing influence has been provided which will have a very strong tendency to the stabilization of legitimate trade, and properly protect the artisan and producer from piracy.

Another big success is in the confusion it has cast into the Liberal ranks. They are all at sea or at sixes and sevens on the subject. There is abundance of amusement in reading the comments of the Liberal press upon the subject. One paper, the Toronto "Star", de-

THE PUBLIC FORUM

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

The Clover Huller

Sir,—In a recent issue you give prominence to a letter signed "Elector," O'Leary, criticising the Commissioner of Agriculture with regard to the handling of the Clover Huller, and lest the Commissioner might think all farmers of the same mind would like to see a few facts in your valuable columns.

I am a grower of Clover Seed, which I expect "O'Leary Elector" is not, and I was one of a Committee who waited on the Commissioner to induce him to purchase such a machine for the use of farmers in this Province, and I cannot allow such criticism to pass without question. This machine was purchased by the Department only on strong representation being made by Clover Growers backed up by the Dominion Seed Branch Ottawa.

Every farmer in this Province knows the past few years he has not been getting the results from the sowing of Clover Seed which he expected. If he sowed Late Clover Seed it invariably proved to be the early variety the following haying time. The growing of Clover Seed is no experiment in this Province. Quite a number of farmers have been carrying it on successfully for a number of years, and it is quite logical to suppose that Seed produced from plants which have withstood our climate conditions will be more liable to produce a good catch than Seed imported.

The past season was a poor one for Clover Seed production as well as other farm crops, and consequently the Huller was not in much demand, but I can say it was operated very successfully in my section of country and some excellent seed was threshed. I can state on the most reliable authority that the Clover Huller Seed is shipped to a farmer in O'Leary to demonstrate in that district the value of the use of such a machine, but as freight moves slowly, by the time it arrived there the roads were in a bad condition for moving such a heavy machine, and if the farmer to whom it was billed was unable to move it from the Station for some little time surely no blame can be attached to the Commissioner of Agriculture, and I am quite sure nobody regretted that this machine was exposed to the weather more than the Commissioner himself.

When "Elector" says the machine never threshed a pound of seed, that may be true as far as O'Leary is concerned, but he should state the whole truth or none at all.

I consider the encouragement of Clover Seed production one of the most laudable undertakings of the Department of Agriculture, and I would suggest to "Mr. Elector" that he withhold his criticism along this line else when we journey to the Office of the Chief of this Department seeking further consideration we will be faced with the seeming ingratitude of our farmers.

I am, Sir, etc., ANOTHER ELECTOR, Queens County.

"Thine Often Infirmities"

Sir,—Would you kindly ask the reverend gentleman who made such a great speech at Kensington and published in yesterday's Patriot to read I Timothy, V Chapter, 23 verse—and think it over.

I am, Sir, etc. CHRISTIAN READER

PITY THE POOR INDIAN!

Sir,—It was with interest and a great deal of sympathy for the poor Indian that I read a letter in the Guardian regarding the poor Indian that was lodged in jail for fish ling a few smelts, perhaps to keep his wife and children from going to bed hungry. I am sure the people at large will not have much respect for the justice of J. P. who passed such a sentence. Why not treat all offenders alike, white and dark. There were lots of smelts caught this spring and I don't think the law prohibits a person from catching a few smelts for his own use. If so, it ought to be abolished. Why not be just as strict regarding other laws of the land? There were quite a number of autos from the city out in the country on Saturday the 30th of April which was strictly against the law. Might as well have gone any other day in April. I also notice lots of cars travelling after night without the rear light on, but they are rich and they can break the law unnoticed. These things cannot go on without the authorities knowing it. How many laws are broken every day, how many bottles of whiskey are sold illegally every day in Charlottetown and the offenders go scott free? Then why put a poor Indian in jail for catching a few smelts. Remember there is a hereafter for any one who would be so small.

I am, Sir, etc. A SYMPATHIZER

clares, "The Budget presented by the Minister of Finance is not a sensational one. IT VENTURES UPON LITTLE THAT IS NEW." Yet on the other hand such papers as the Globe, Transcript, Citizen and even our own parrot like Hitle Patriot have their big sensational and in many instances "canned" articles transforming this "LITTLE THAT IS NEW," into mountains of objection, of excessive taxation "restraint of trade" and of all the other political ghosts that are made to stalk the country to scare the people. The Halifax Chronicle both wisely and in truth declares that—"The Government has no mandate AND NO

Others' View Points

175 Miles of Golf

(Darlington (Eng.) Northern Echo) —Having an idle week, and being filled with an overflowing passion for golf, Elven and Forest Hedges and Jesse Jacobsen three American ragtime artists, decided to walk from Birmingham to Hull playing the Noble and Ancient game over the whole of this long course.

They also decided that the winner should take a whole week's salary of the trio. They were not to use more than two clubs, a driver and a mashie, and were not to change clothing or shave.

Forest Hedges dropped out after covering a third of the course, but the other two pressed on and reached Hull Saturday afternoon having been six days, 7 1/2 hours in covering 175 miles. Thousands of strokes were made and scores of balls lost. The feet of the players were badly swollen, and they had to cut their boots.

Competition 200 Years go.

(Manchester Guardian.) —The cigarette smoking contest for women, announced as one of the attractions of the forthcoming Tobacco Fair, will doubtless be carried out on different lines from a contest described in "Requiesce Hearnjane."

"On September 4, 1723," writes Thomas Hearne "was a smoking match over against the Theater in Oxford, a scaffold being built up for it. The conditions were that anyone (man or woman) that could smoke out three ounces of tobacco first without drinking or going off the stage should have twelve shillings. Many tried and it was thought that a journey man taylor would have been victor, he smoking faster than, and being many pipes before, the rest; but at last he was so sick that 'twas thought he would have died, and an old man, that had been a soldier, and smoked gently, came off conqueror, smoking the three ounces quite out."

A Newspaper's Value.

(Christian Science Monitor.) —Mr. Robert Blatchford, of England, has been counting up how many words one gets in a newspaper for a penny, and how many for the same sum in the average novel. He makes it 63,000 in the paper, and 757 in the novel. You get only one story in the novel, whereas in the paper you get scores of interesting articles or paragraphs about real events and living men and women. You also get literary articles by well known writers or public men on topical subjects. Moreover, many of the articles and sketches in the newspaper are better written than in any fiction except the best. Mr. Blatchford expresses surprise that people who will give seven and six pence for a novel will grumble at three pence for a first-rate newspaper.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

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Words That Live

Kind words never die, either do unkind words. The latter linger in the memory and sting for years.

That personal thrust. It gave evidence of your ability at reparation. But it hurt. The pain is still in your brother's heart. Said a dying minister: "Oh, if I could only recall the sharp and bitter words I have spoken. But he could not. Those cutting words that rush to lips. Push them back! Push them back! Let them be exchanged for words of gentleness and love. Such words will also live, as the years pass by they will swell like an anthem, and resound with ever increasing sweetness and joy!"

Duty Performed

No honor, no reward, however great can be equal to the subtle satisfaction that a man feels when he can point to his work and say: "The task that I promised to perform with all loyalty and honesty to the utmost of my ability is finished."

—Henry M. Stanley

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Literary Treasures In A Pillow Case

One of the greatest "finds" of literary treasures in many years was made a short time ago by a New York lady who walked into the offices of a firm of auctioneers that specializes in these matters and producing a letter of Edgar Allan Poe's and the manuscript of "Lenore." She asked if they were worth anything and learning that they were worth several hundreds of dollars at least remarked that she was then rich for she had at home a pillowcase full of similar manuscripts. The lady is a descendant of Henry B. Hirst, a poet who was a contemporary of Poe's and highly esteemed by the critics of his generation, but has long ago been forgotten. Hirst at one time was about to start a magazine and in this expectation several of the prominent writers of the day sent him contributions, and apparently forgot to ask for their return, or Hirst may have copied them and retained the originals. The Poe manuscripts were evidently presented to him by Poe, neither of them having any idea that one day they would become extremely valuable. The collection is to be sold next week in the Anderson Galleries, New York.

Endymion the Forgotten.

Hirst's most important work was a poem called "Endymion." Of this his publisher, James T. Fields, writes: "I have read Endymion and am charmed with it. Whipple, also, who had it on the anvil yesterday says it is delightful and that he finished it at a sitting." Longfellow also thought highly of this now forgotten poem. He wrote to Fields, "Publish Endymion by all means. . . The versification also is particularly striking. No poet has used this stanza before except Bryant. . . Honor and eternal praise to Bryant. . . but honor and praise also be given to the younger bard, who has managed it through the long poem with consummate skill." Addressing Hirst on another matter, Longfellow wrote: "Let me thank you for 'Roland and His Woes' with all its wealth of imagery and affluent, beautiful diction, and to use the Spanish poet's phrase: Running with feet of silver Over the sands of gold. He meant a brook! mean brook."

A Fierce Feud

Thomas Dunn English, a poet of the period who has achieved some degree of immortality as the author of "Ben Bolt" figures in several of the letter. He and Poe and he and Hirst were sworn enemies. The latter pair appear to have fought a duel, details of which are lacking. On this matter Poe wrote "to ask if Hirst could give him an account of it." He continued, "I would take it as a great favor, also, if you would get from Sandy Harris a statement of the fracas with him. See Du Solle also if you can and ask him if he is willing to give me for publication an account of his kicking E. out of his office. I gave E. a flogging which he will — and luckily in the presence of witnesses. He thinks to avenge himself by lies—but I shall be a match for him by means of simple truth." This letter has been unpublished hitherto, and there are other letters of Poe's that are unmentioned in his standard biography.

Mother-in-Law's Tribune.

That Hirst was an intimate of the Poe family is indicated by another letter which he received two weeks after the poet's death from Maria Clemm, his mother-in-law. She asked him to give her a critique of "a composition by Mrs. S. Anna Lewis, which Poe had intended to do. She writes "God bless you for doing justice to the memory of my own dear Eddie. You who knew him so well knew what a noble heart he had. And now will you do me a great favor, me your old friend? Since this deep affliction, I have been staying at the house of Mrs. S. Anna Lewis. . . She was at the death bed of Poe manuscripts. The longest of these is Poe's essay upon critics, written on his favorite narrow strips of blue paper, and pasted together in a roll about 150 inches, my darling Virginia. Eddie was very much interested in her writings." These letters are interesting to students of the period and to admirers of Poe, but of much more financial importance are the

Some Treasures.

One of the choicest, the existence of which has hitherto been unknown is that of "Annabel Lee." This consists of six stanzas on two quarto pages and pasted together in the usual fashion to form one sheet. It is impossible to hazard a guess at what these treasures will bring. Poe manuscripts, especially those of famous poems, rarely come upon the market, but they are keenly sought after by collectors. A fluctuation hard to explain is revealed in the fact that in 1911, a Poe letter of sixty-four lines, written for publication in answer to the charge made against him by Hirst that he had plagiarized Keat's "Endymion" in his "Ulalume," brought \$365, and four years later its value had declined to \$175. No charge is so bitterly resented by an author as that of plagiarism, but Poe must have had a generous nature when he endowed the author of the charge with the rich collection of manuscripts which for all these years have lain neglected in a pillow case.

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275 BRITISH WARSHIPS SCRAPPED.

LONDON May 13—Some two hundred destroyers twenty five battle ships and fifty light cruisers have disappeared from the British navy list during recent months. The British Admiralty has issued an explanatory announcement, saying the vessels were all sold to British firms for breaking up.

This statement was the result of reports circulated in America that Great Britain was making extensive sales of warships to South American Governments for eventual transfer to Japan.

The only ships disposed of to foreign governments since the armistice the Admiralty informed the Associated Press, "are the battleship Canada and two other

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