

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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A CLEAN-UP WEEK

His Worship Mayor Kennedy has published a timely reminder of the need and importance of a thorough "clean-up" campaign this Spring. In addition to the visitation of the Carter delegation on the S. S. Champlain in August, there will be a conference of the Maritime members of the Canadian Press, and other functions which will bring many additional visitors to the city. The Mayor and City Council recommend that the week of May 21 to 26 be devoted to a campaign of renovating, repainting and redecorating on a more than usually generous scale in preparation for these visitations during the summer season, and the suggestion is one which we believe will meet with the ready co-operation of our citizens.

In conjunction with the recommendation of the civic authorities, the suggestion has been made that the sheds along the water-front be given some attention this Spring. These buildings could be whitewashed at little expense and the result would be greatly to enhance the favorable impression of visitors coming here by steamer.

This class of visitors will include the distinguished European delegates to the Cartier anniversary celebration. Plans in connection with the visitation are now well under way, the following representative committee having charge of the details: His Honour Lieutenant Governor DeBlois, Premier MacMillan, Chief Justice Matheson, Mr. Justice Arsenault, His Worship Mayor Kennedy, Hon. G. Shelton Sharp, Prof. Blanchard, Dr. J. A. Clark, Mr. E. E. Clawson, Mr. J. O. Hyndman, Mr. S. A. MacLeod, Mr. H. R. Stewart, secretary, also the following non-resident members: Colonel Wilfred Bovey, Prof. D. C. Harvey, and Dr. J. Clarence Webster.

As the European delegation will likely land at the Marine Wharf, a strong request has gone forward from Premier MacMillan to both the Hon. Mr. Durand, Minister of Marine, and Hon. J. A. MacDonald, to have this section of the waterfront put in first-class condition, and a favourable feipiy fribti Ottawa is anticipated. If, in addition to this work, there is a clean-up along the whole waterfront as well as throughout the city generally, it would be a decided improvement and an asset of inestimable community value.

ECONOMY AT OTTAWA

Hon. Wesley Gordon, Minister of Immigration and Colonization, told the House of Commons the other day that the appropriation for his department has been reduced from \$3,064,278 in 1929-30 to \$1,435,812 for 1933-34, and to \$1,239,288 for 1934-35. This curtailment amounts to almost two-thirds of the original appropriation and is in keeping with the saving of over \$80,000,000 effected by the present administration in departmental expenditure.

As pointed out by the Minister, in 1930 the government of the day had about fifteen agencies in the United States spread from coast to coast, and a number of agencies on the continent of Europe and in the British Isles. It was thought desirable to close the agencies in the United States, and they have all been closed. It was also thought desirable to close the offices on the Continent of Europe, and they have all been closed with the exception of the offices maintained for the purpose of civil and medical inspection of those who have a legal right to enter Canada. There are three offices on the continent, at Paris, Antwerp and Hamburg.

Certain curtailments have taken place with respect to the offices in the British Isles. We have offices at London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Bristol, Inverness, York and at Belfast, but the staffs in all these offices have been very materially reduced. It was not thought desirable that these offices should be closed because that would have involved the loss of valuable established contacts. We get so many very highly desirable people from the British Isles that it was thought preferable to maintain these offices, although they are being maintained with greatly reduced staffs. There is also an office at Hong Kong through which are passed all people from the Orient who have a right to come to Canada.

Most Canadians will learn with satisfaction that the savings on immigration have been carried out chiefly in regard to the United States and the Continent of Europe, and that the department's agencies in the British Isles have been maintained though on a reduced scale. The former flow of immigration to this country cannot be resumed until the Dominion is in better

shape to receive newcomers and to assimilate them in a manner which will be satisfactory not only to them but to the nation at large.

THE BRITISH WAY

Gratification is expressed in Great Britain over the fact that in embarking on plans to control the production and marketing of natural products, Canada has adopted British rather than United States legislation as a guide. It is of interest that Australia is considering making a similar move. The Times points out that Mr. Bruce, the Australian representative in London, is convinced of the necessity of organizing a concerted policy in trade and production not only by governments but also by the leaders of agriculture, industry, commerce and finance. It is understood that Mr. Bruce's suggestions go even further than the Canadian bill. He proposes to establish Commonwealth and state boards with powers to regulate production in accordance with existing economic conditions and to prevent the over-supply of markets. The plan, according to the Times, depends on an Empire agreement for the control of specified primary industries in order to balance Empire production. The first immediate action taken by the proposed boards, says the Calgary Herald, would be almost certainly to restrict production. But this is only the means to a larger end. When production becomes profitable once more farmers will be able to buy the manufactured articles they need, thus increasing employment in the secondary industries and creating a wider market, in turn, for their foodstuffs and raw materials. This healthy development can only be achieved by organization and control. The alternative is to leave markets glutted and prices ruinously low.

ROSE DAY

The street sale of roses on Alexandra Day in aid of the patriotic activities of the I.O.D.E. has met with generous public response in recent years. The anniversary has come round again, and citizens today will have the opportunity of expressing, in the most practical manner, their appreciation of the services which this splendid organization is rendering, not only in strengthening the bond of Empire relations, but in many worthwhile community enterprises.

The place which newspapers might take in the education of children is suggested, by a writer in the Midland, (Ont.) Free Press. He believes that every school teacher who has charge of children more than ten years old should devote a part of the school day to reading newspapers to them and commenting without bias on the information they contain. The writer says: "Today the well-educated newspaper is really a modern college. I know of no constant newspaper reader who is not well informed and intelligent. And I believe that by interesting children in the world and its ways early in their lives the school will help them to achieve a breadth of view and a habit of forming intelligent opinions that they would probably gain in no other way. Incidentally it will give them more alertness and keenness to learn and make the most of the elementary attentions to the point of flattery and will doubtless be induced to desist by somewhat stern measures."

Japan, as she sets about it, cause Great Britain infinite trouble commercially. Nevertheless she cannot hope to win in a trade war against a country whose experience and the resources of Great Britain. It would be much better for her were Japan to negotiate with the British government, as invited to do a year ago. A trade war is as foolish and destructive as armed hostilities.

While the United States is in no position to buy heavily of Russian products, it is in a favored position to supply the goods which Russia especially needs. The lack of balance in the post-war trade between the United States and Russia is clearly indicated. The classification of Russia's imports reveals that since 1921 four groups of commodities—cotton, metals, machinery, and automotive vehicles—have formed an increasing proportion of her purchases. In 1922 they constituted 25 per cent of the total imports, and in 1931 and 1932 they had increased to about 75 per cent. These are goods which the United States is especially equipped to export, but as Russia has few goods and still requires services with which to make payment, it would appear that any considerable volume of trade between these two countries must be established on a triangular basis, with some third country, or more probably a group of countries, taking the Russian goods which the United States does not need and thereby supplying the Russians with the means for paying for imports from the United States.—Foreign Affairs (New York).

Canada ending in 1932, in the volume of harness and saddery production. It begins, says the Mail and Empire, to look as if Dobbin is staging a comeback.

A Toronto wholesale harness concern reports largely increased orders. Leading manufacturers in Canada place the increase at 60 per cent. The orders come largely from Western Canada. This development in business analyzed, shows that in 1932 horse collars made in this country aggregated \$3,278 as against \$4,928 the previous year, an advance of 50 per cent. This year's figures are not available, nor are exact statistics for last year, but the increase shown in 1932 has been more than maintained. The demand for sweat pads advanced from 70,000 to 152,000 during the same period, and the volume of harness accessories trebled. This seems to indicate that horses are again being used for farm work in the Western provinces instead of tractors. The introduction of machinery to supplant horses led to a decrease of two-thirds, in the de-

Notes By The Way

Quite apart from the questionable morality of not paying your club subscription, the failure to pay and the consequent uncertainty and precarious character of the League revenue have resulted in a very bad system of League budgeting. Experience shows that some countries do not pay, it is necessary, in order to make the League income and expenditure balance, to over-estimate the coming expenditure by the amount of expected defections. The result of this is twofold. First, the "estimates" voted by the assembly are faked estimates throughout; every item is more or less "over-estimated." Secondly, as contributions are assessed on the basis of these faked estimates those countries that do pay promptly in fact pay more than their allotted share of the actual expenditure. There has thus grown up a system of hiding and subterfuge which is not a credit to the League and is definitely unfair to France and ourselves, who do pay up promptly. The result of our lead in this matter has been an undertaking that the whole of these practices, which have grown up and now become a scandal, will be reviewed before next year's Assembly.—The Rt. Hon. W. Ormsby Gore, in International Affairs (London).

Values are all relative. However their appraisal depends upon many a point of view. There are those who would rather spend a dollar more on a dinner than a pair of shoes. And there are those who would forego a new pair of shoes to buy a pot of flowers. Twenty-five cents, spent by a lover of art, to buy the marvellous collection of objects in the great New York Metropolitan Museum might mean more to a thousand dollars to a vacation in some foreign land. People usually buy the things they need. A certain hunger must be appeased. A picture, a book, a meal, a flower, the theatre, may do this. People sacrifice more for what they want than for what they actually need. Perhaps, after all, this is but one way of expressing the truest urge of one's nature.

J. A. Spender declares that in history our school children should be taught is the history of the last thirty years. It would be of far more use to them than the dates of "old forgotten things and battles long ago" with which they are laden at present. The result of this ancient history is to compel them to make their start centuries before their own era. If they started where their fathers, or grandfathers left off, they would make more headway on their own account.

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That Body of Ours

By James W. Barker, M.D.

When I was a youngster at school there was a boy in the class who was left-handed. He wrote as well as the rest of us and seemed to have at least as much intelligence. However the teacher insisted that he write with his right hand and a rap on his knuckles was his reward when he was caught using his left hand.

As far as we could gather from the teacher's remarks left handedness was in the same class as lisping, stammering or stuttering, and that usually the youngster was not as bright mentally or as strong physically as one that was right handed.

Now this idea that one side of the brain may be better developed than the other side, and that this causes various mental and physical defects has been believed for a great many years. In fact it is only during the past ten or fifteen years that this idea has been even challenged.

However experiments and investigations recently show that there is no truth in one side of the brain being better than the other, or that left-handed persons are deficient mentally or physically.

Professor Bethe, physiologist of Frankfurt, Germany, has completed some research of this question, his experiments including the examination of a group of children, and a large number of students.

He says, "The view that left-handed persons are supposed to suffer from physical deformities, mental backwardness, epilepsy, criminal tendencies, cross-eyes, stuttering and the like, is discredited by the many distinguished men and women who were and are left-handed. Furthermore, the left-handed persons, as a survey showed, were better in the examinations, on the average, than were the other cases."

These facts are now admitted and a youngster who wants to write, draw, golf, pitch a ball, or do anything else with his left hand is permitted to do so, without any objection from the teacher or instructor.

It is certainly gratifying that this idea that a left-handed individual is "defective" should be shown to be absolutely false.

So I fell to wondering (as she lay close to the fire as a cat may be) If, centuries since, we twain were one, Lit with hopes of the day to be.

Perhaps: who knows? Yet if such be true (Whisper the secret, Fluff to me!) Much would it help me to comprehend That haunting flame in the eyes of thee.

Perchance by the shores of some deep lagoon, Thy face met mine—as it now meets me; By Nilus' banks, 'neath an Afric moon, I told my love—as I now tell thee.

It may be, Sweet, that I stroked thy hand Softly as now I am stroking thee, When our lives were free as the air, A couple of thousand years ago. —E. H. Blakeney.

Why We Like The Robin (Edmonton Journal) Dusk had fallen in the woods. A few glowing bars of crimson filtered through from the west and set off each trunk and branch in stark silhouette. At the top of the tallest tree, seemingly carved in ebony against the weird light was a songster who was providing the only sound in the still forest. The other birds had long since tucked their heads beneath their wings but the heart of the robin was obviously too full to allow the day to die in silence. If one read his lay aright, it had been a wonderful day, a day to be grateful for.

A Constitutional "Herring"

(Montreal Star) Hansard, at the best of times, is seldom bright reading in bulk. Of late, however, whole acres of it have been drearier and more desiccated than ever. What takes the heart out of the plain citizen who reads it is the utter remoteness from present-day Canada of much of the criticism so solemnly, pompously put forward.

A section of the Opposition have the constitutional bug again. They found it a pretty good thing in 1926, and, never forgetting the "swings-and-roundabouts" philosophy of political "outs," seem prepared to back another horse out of the same stable next year.

The Relief legislation comes up, with its emergency powers for the Government, and the critics appear less concerned with the problem of relief, less concerned with seeing that their fellow-citizens are efficiently tended over the depression and that the best possible use is made of public money, than disposed to view with alarm any supposed trenching upon the rights of Parliament.

The Marketing bill comes up. A considerable section of the Opposition is frankly in favor of the principle of the bill, recognizing the absolute need for some control of Canadian export and marketing methods. But the constitutional "herring" is again brought into play. The question is: "Is it constitutional?"

This goes far beyond the thrush of Browning, "who sings each song twice over, lest you should think he never could recapture the first delicate rapture."

Mr. Stevens, of course, put the matter in a nutshell when he remarked that a number of things have happened to Canada and to the world in the last four years. It was still possible, by a feat of extraordinary mental disassociation, to think about the world of 1920-28 as if it were Gladstone's England and oneself a Gladstone, occupied with great parliamentary principles.

But in 1934 parliaments have vanished all over the world wherever their leaders have been unable to devise new, strong methods of combating the world-wide economic misery. Starvation has stalked the round earth, for four years. Poverty has been the immediate enemy in almost every land. The peoples of this world are concerned today with the starkest problems, bread, butter, milk for the children—the right to work, even.

Is it too much to expect that our professional critics, who have the most important function to fill in Opposition, will come down to earth? Fabian tactics, waiting for the "swing of the pendulum" are approved politics, of a sort. But they are the most miserable statesmanship.

Years ago a tunnel under the Strait of Northumberland, connecting Prince Edward Island with New Brunswick, was proposed as a means of carrying out the terms of Confederation which called for the continuous maintenance of communication by the mainland. The project was said to be feasible but the great cost was the obstacle.

The establishment of the car ferry seems to answer the purpose, taking the place of ice-breaking steamers which followed the ice boats of half a century ago.

There have been proposals for building a tunnel under the English Channel and this may come in time. One ambitious project which has been carried out is the construction of a tunnel under the River Mersey, connecting Liverpool and Birkenhead, the principal centers of commerce and industry on the Mersey side. It was the largest under-water tunnel in the world and will be officially opened by the King and Queen on the 18th of next July. To build the tunnel, two miles in length, it was necessary to remove more than a million tons of solid rock. The great project has been completed at a cost of approximately \$40,000,000 after eight years work, and is equipped to deal with 4,150 vehicles an hour in a four-line traffic stream.

Completion of the giant engineering project has solved a 75-year-old problem of cross-country transport. Vehicles will be able to go from Liverpool to Birkenhead, and vice versa, in eight minutes. It takes an hour by ferry. There will be no provision in the tunnel for pedestrians or horse drawn vehicles.

The work of drilling the pilot tunnels was begun at both sides of the river. When the tunnels were there was an inch of difference in the height, width or level of the two cuts. On April 3, 1928, the late Sir Archibald Salvidge broke through the thin wall of rock left between the two headings and shook hands through the small aperture with the mayor of Birkenhead. With the pilot tunnel complete the next step was to enlarge it. This enlargement through solid rock, and the lining of the walls, was the biggest task of all. The great tube is now 44 feet in diameter from bank to bank.

Work on the new tunnel was inaugurated in December, 1925, when Princess Mary turned compressed air into the drills at the working shaft at Green's Dock, Liverpool. Then began the formidable task of substituting for 1,200,000 tons of rock below the river bed, 82,000 tons of iron and 270,000 tons of concrete. During the period of tunnel boring 332,400,000 tons of water were pumped into the river.

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.

AN UNTRUTH Sir,—In the Patriot's issue of the 16th ult., it is stated that the Member from Tracadie was, if anything, hostile in his remarks towards the Marketing Board Act. I happened to be in the House when the member spoke on the question and I have to say that the above statement is incorrect. The member said that it was an Act containing provisions for republishing the marketing of farm products and was something new in this country, and for that reason, the Legislature should proceed cautiously. He further said that if it was to help the farmer and fisherman to get higher prices, he would support it to the limit, and did so. Of course I would not expect the Liberal organ to tell the whole truth when quoting a Conservative member. Its outlook is circumscribed and its sense of truth and justice warped when it discusses politics. Its chief aim is to hoodwink the people if it can, let the truth and fair play stand aside. It holds views on a certain matter today, and on most cases, like its federal leader, Mr. Mackenzie King, it will wake up the next morning holding views quite the opposite. Once in a while it finds itself astride the fence, prepared to leap on either side according to the way the wind blows. I am, Sir, etc.

TRUTH

Returning The Mace (Toronto Globe) Keen interest has been aroused by announcement that President Roosevelt has asked the authority of Congress to return to Canada the mace carried from the old Parliament Buildings in Toronto when they were destroyed by invading American troops in 1813. This is one of the developments of Toronto's Centennial year celebrations. It is a graceful gesture. This ancient mace has been forgotten by most people, but in its day it was the symbol of constituted authority in this part of the British domain. It has been carefully preserved in the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and no doubt will return in good condition.

The question now arises as to what to do with this old mace when it does come back. The Federal Parliament has a mace; so has the Ontario Legislature. As evidence of procedure at times, the City Council, and particularly the Board of Control, is without such an emblem of authority, and perhaps it would be well to have the returned mace repose on the Clerk's table while the city fathers are doing business.

However, the likelihood is that the mace will go to the Ontario Legislature as successor to the Parliament which sat at York during the American invasion. That would seem to be where it belongs. In 1813 it was the symbol of legislative authority at York; and when it returns to Toronto it will be the same, wherever it may find a resting place; and it also will have an important sentimental value. As President Roosevelt puts it, "The mace is a token of representative government established at York nearly a century ago. It symbolizes the orderly rule of such government in Canada, continuing from that day to this." Oliver Cromwell, in his day, did not think much of the mace, but, despite that, the British people continue to hold it in high regard.

It is interesting also to note that when the Mace is returned—likely on July 4 by Hon. W. D. Robbins, United States Minister at Ottawa, there will be unveiled at the Old Fort two tablets in memory of soldiers who fell during the fighting there so long ago. One of these, in honor of Americans who lost their lives, is being provided by a women's patriotic society in the United States, and the other in memory of the defenders by Toronto Chapter of the I.O.D.E. This announcement by the Centennial authorities indicates that the occasion will be unique as bringing together the representatives of two peoples to do honor to those who fell during military conflict between their countries. Time, the great healer of wounds, will give to this ceremony at the Old Fort a very human and kindly touch.

Newfoundland Seal Fishery (Montreal Gazette) Newfoundlanders will be cheered by the success of the spring seal hunt. It is the first fishery of the year, and the record of the count, just completed, is that the seal skins brought home a total of 223,700 pelts. This is an increase of more than 47,000 over last year's catch. The pelts have an estimated value of \$20,000, compared with a return of approximately \$200,000 in 1933. When the value of the seal oil is added, the ultimate result will be an appreciable increase in the Island's export trade. Newfoundland's seal fishery has gone on since 1742. For many years it closely rivaled the cod fishery in economic importance. Hundreds of

ships and thousands of men made the annual foray into the icefields northeast of the Island and in the Straits of Belle Isle, and between 650,000 and 750,000 skins was a regular harvest. But in the last half-century the fishery has fallen off. The number of skins obtained has not exceeded 250,000 in any year since 1919, and not once in more than a decade has the Island's total export value of seal skins and seal oil reached \$1,000,000.

In 1930 eighteen steamships with a complement of 2,320 men went to the seal fishery. The total "catch" was worth less than \$600,000. Ten vessels and 1,324 sailors did almost as well the following spring, but in 1932 the hunt was made by only 731 men from four ships. The "harvest" on that occasion, like the fleet, was the smallest on record. Newfoundland that year exported seal skins and seal oil worth only \$150,194. Last year two ships and 350 men were added to the hunt. This year eight local-ly-owned steam vessels conducted the fishery and the result, as already recorded, exceeded expectations.

Some speculation is going on at the present time as to the future of the industry. Experienced dealers are convinced that there is a main herd of seals which the sealing vessels never reach. But experimental flights by "spotting" aeroplanes have so far failed to establish the existence of such a main herd. Certain hunters, however, remain undisturbed by a belief that there is a central herd "somewhere out of reach," and reaffirm that the sealing vessels only come into contact with small herds separated from the main body. The Commission Government, which is making a thorough survey of all the fisheries in search of means that will enable Newfoundland to enjoy a fuller advantage of an industry that is the mainstay of the country, may possibly be able to definitely establish whether there does exist a main herd of seals which

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