

The Charlottetown Guardian

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1935

The Year in Retrospect

The Old Year, 1935, is so far gone that assuredly it will not live to see tomorrow's sunrise. The New Year, 1936, is already on the threshold, and we shall all gladly welcome it, hoping that its fair promises of happiness and prosperity will be fulfilled in some measure at least.

Canada during the year has made remarkable progress out of the depression. This does not mean that our difficulties are over, by any means. Financially and otherwise, our burdens will be heavy for many years to come.

This Province has benefited materially from improved conditions, particularly in agriculture, but our farmers are still coping with difficulties caused by the depression years, while in the larger centres the unemployment problem remains a most serious and pressing one.

The Provincial and County exhibitions, Fox Shows and School Fairs were highly encouraging, giving evidence of continued improvement in quality production. Progress also was made in health and educational activities.

The completion of the hard-surface highway between Charlottetown, Borden and Summerside, and of the Rustico highway, marked a great forward step in transportation improvement during the year.

Another achievement was the success of this Province in obtaining an additional annual subsidy increase, for all time, of \$150,000, as a result of the presentation of our claims before the WHITE Commission at Ottawa. The door for further subsidy adjustment was left open by the minority report of Chief Justice MATHESON, Maritime representative on the Commission, who emphasized fiscal need as the only fair basis of settlement.

Politically, the year was one of exceptional activity, the general provincial elections of July 23 being followed, on October 14, by the general Dominion elections. Both contests resulted in a Liberal landslide, the LEA Government being returned to power with 100 per cent. representation in the Legislature, and the KING Government with a large majority at Ottawa. Subsequently, one of the two federal seats in Queens County was opened by the appointment of Mr. J. J. LARABEE, M.P.-elect, to a position in the Marine Department in order to provide a constituency for Hon. CHARLES A. DUNNING, Minister of Finance, who yesterday was elected by acclamation.

Many well-known citizens passed away during the year, including Professor S. N. EARLE, Mr. R. H. STERNS, Dr. V. L. GOODWILL, Mr. K. J. MARTIN, K. C., Mr. W. T. HUGGAN, Mr. JAMES PATON, Mr. E. R. BROW, Mr. NEIL MACKENZIE, and Mr. CHARLES DREW. To all who have felt the sadness of parting from loved friends or relatives The Guardian extends sincere sympathy.

And so, on the threshold of another year, we extend to all our readers once more the compliments of the season, joining in the hope that the New Year will prove both happy and prosperous.

Editorial Notes

Remember tomorrow to write 1936.

To you is it avaut 1935! or merely good-bye?

Deserving (and undeserving too) Liberals want to know whether their new representative will accept telephone calls "collect."

Of past new years we are indebted to HOWARD SMITH Paper Mills Ltd., for the following extracts:

Port Royal, Acadia, 1606: . . . to keep us merry and cleanly concerning vicinals there was an order established . . . which was named "L'Ordre de bon temps" at first invented by Monsieur CHAMPLAIN, wherein they (who were of the same table) were every one at his turn and day (which was in fifteen days once) steward and caterer.

Mount Murray, Malbaie, 1759: The winter is become almost insupportably cold. . . The garrison in general are but indifferently clothed, but our regiment in particular is in a pitiful situation having no breeches, and the Philibeg (kilt) is not all calculated for this terrible climate.

Quebec, 1769: 'Tis sufficient employment for the most lively spirit here to contrive how to preserve an existence, of which there are moments that one is hardly conscious; the cold really sometimes brings on a sort of stupefaction. . . we had a million of beau here yesterday, notwithstanding the severe cold: 'tis the Canadian custom, calculated I suppose for the climate, to visit all the ladies on New-year's-day, who sit dressed in form to be kissed: I assure you, however, our kisses could not warm them;

but we were obliged, to our eternal disgrace, to call in raspberry brandy as an auxiliary.

Fort des Prairies, Friday, Jan. 2, 1801: The weather, for several days past, has been severely cold. Yesterday, being the commencement of a New Year, our people, according to a Canadian custom, which is to get drunk if possible, spent the day in drinking, and danced in the evening; but there was neither scratching nor fighting on this occasion.

Cumberland House, Jan. 1, 1820: The New Year was ushered in by repeated charges of musketry; a ceremony which has been observed by the men of both the trading Companies for many years. Our party dined with Mr. CONNOLLY, and were treated with a beaver, which we found extremely delicate. In the evening his voyagers were entertained with a dance, in which the Canadians exhibited some grace and much agility; and they contrived to infuse some portion of their activity and spirits into the steps of their female companions.

Ottawa, January 1, 1875: We were more or less busy in the morning making arrangements for the children's play, and from 2.30 to 4.30 His Excellency and I were "at home" to receive visitors. We had 211 gentlemen, who said "How do you do?" had a glass of wine or a cup of tea, and passed away.—The Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava.

When it is found necessary in Hull, Quebec, to place a police guard round the residence of a sweepstake winner because of threats from extortionists we should not be over-sight-righteous in criticizing U.S.A. on the flight of the LINDBERGHs.

If all we read be true about the mischievous behaviour of the quintuplets in smashing crockery, breaking windows, and turning on the electric light in the middle of the night, it serves to indicate that however beneficial scientific up-bringing may be for health, the lack of the maternal slipper applied to the posterior is sadly detrimental to morals and manners.

Although the Conservatives for patriotic constitutional, and economic reasons decided not to stand in the way of the return of Hon. Mr. DUNNING in yesterday's by-election, it does not follow that his candidature was unanimously approved. About the strongest disapproval was evidenced among Liberals themselves, some of whom at one time threatened to propose a local Liberal candidate in opposition. But little would have been gained by that, as it was felt Mr. DUNNING has had a hard enough row to hoe since his acceptance of the Finance portfolio to entitle him to generous consideration when a seat had been opened for him.

It is understood that Mr. GEORGE HOOPER, who was appointed to replace Mr. C. E. MACKENZIE as official receiver under the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act, is in Boston and has not so far assumed his duties. Mr. MACKENZIE is continuing to carry on until such time as his successor makes his appearance. It is with regret that those concerned heard of the dismissal of Mr. MACKENZIE, as he has worked assiduously and successfully in straightening out the affairs of those farmers who found it necessary to appeal to the Board. It is to be hoped that his successor will be equally successful in pleasing both debtor and creditor in the discharge of his onerous and responsible duties.

Boquets were lavishly handed out at Saturday's Liberal convention but there was none, strange to say, for the modest gentleman who manoeuvred the DUNNING-LARABEE deal, who opened the negotiations at Ottawa, contacted Mr. LARABEE and had everything practically "all set" for Mr. DUNNING's nomination before the local party pundits were aware of what was going on. Probably Mr. J. WALTER JONES, M.L.A., doesn't mind. But some guarded reference to his achievement would surely not have been out of place. SENATOR SINCLAIR, for example, might have complimented him by quoting KIEPLING's immortal line: "You're a better man than I am, Gonga Din!"

The U.S.A. Congress opens on Friday and New Dealers and their opponents are busy laying plans for the new session. President ROOSEVELT's supporters are striving for a short and harmonious session and there are reports that President ROOSEVELT might not have much to propose in the way of major legislation beyond a new neutrality bill and appropriation measures. In Republican ranks, however, there is strong sentiment for breaking the whole fight over the New Deal wide open again in an aggressive attack on administration men and policies. Moreover, the American Liberty League is fighting for a drastic revision of past enactments, including the utility holding company act, the agricultural adjustment administration, the social security programme and tax legislation. So after all, with the prospect of over a billion budget deficit, Congress should experience stirring times.

Anti-British propaganda emanating from the United States is still being swallowed by not a few patriotic Canadians including Islanders. Why they ask, did not Britain apply sanctions to Japan when she invaded Manchuria? Britain had no more to do with that than any other member of the League and the United States. But what are the facts. Britain not only urged the League to take action, but invited a U.S.A. representative to sit with the League Assembly in dealing with the Manchukuo situation. The United States did not answer the invitation until it was clear that neither it nor the League was prepared to use force against Japan. Neither the League nor U.S.A. was let down nor left in the lurch by the other because neither was prepared to go beyond a paper protest, and therefore the case of Japan can not be quoted as a precedent. Britain's hands were clean then as they are now, but can the same be said of those of our neighbours to the south?

Notes By The Way

The phrase, "Sanctions mean war," has found wide currency during the past few weeks. It has been taken up by friends of Italy, by pacifists, by French publicists eager to keep their country out of any embroilment that might threaten the Franco-Italian entente, and by British jingoes whose warlike ardour is for the moment restrained by a fellow-feeling for Italian Fascism and a desire to exploit the situation in the interests of large British armaments. This way and that, the cry has gone the round of all those who for any reason want Signor Mussolini to be allowed to do his damndest to the Abyssinians rather than involve against him the power of the League. It is inevitably, a formidable cry; it is designed to rally the lovers of peace to the same side as the lovers of Fascism, and to combine against the League in the present crisis its best friends with its worst enemies.

A recent visitor to Toronto from South Africa reports that country in a flourishing condition, with little unemployment. For this satisfactory state of affairs chief credit is given the mining industry, to the further development of which most elements in the country are directing their energies. Surely there is a lesson here for Canada.

Fashions are apt to have odd and unforeseen consequences. The approach of the pantomime season reveals, it is said, a scarcity of principal boys with the traditional figure. Pantomime, we are assured, is as popular as ever, and chief in favour in the principal theatres of England this year are to be "Cinderella" and "Dick Whittington." Both, if honoured custom is to be observed, demand actresses who can not only force the songs of the season upon a shy public or crack a nimble jest with the Baron or the Alderman's cook; but who have in addition a robust and manly gait and physique.—Manchester Guardian.

On one page of a Toronto newspaper are two stories with the same lesson. Seventy hotel guests were forced from their rooms in night attire because one of them left a cigarette butt on a chesterfield. Two families in another house were forced into the street in below-zero weather and their furniture was ruined because a cigarette butt set fire to a chesterfield cushion. The careless smoker is a menace to life and property everywhere. Parking his cigarettes among furniture is one of his most common habits.

A cameraman travelled all the way from New York to Woodstock this week to get a picture of the execution of the woman in that city. He certainly was ignorant of Canadian sense of propriety and decency, and it is such affronts which give the profession of cameraman a bad name, most of them do not deserve.—St. Catharines Standard.

In this election Mr. Lloyd George has played a part which we regret. We understand his desire to pull down by hook or crook the immense ministerial majority in the last Parliament, but he went the wrong way about it with the British people. He would have been more destructive had he been a little more fair. Lord Snowden similarly frustrated himself by a double dose of acid. One might as well recommend to the ordinary man that oysters ought invariably to be taken with lemon sauce. Sir Robert Bannan's manners were impeccable, but he stood for an impossible policy. We fear that the crushing fate of Liberalism in this election is irrevocable. There can never be the faintest ghost of a hope for it in this living world so long as it harks back to the ancient creed of "Free Imports without Free Trade."—London Echo, Observer.

In a recent address Lord Sempill revealed that the first balloon ascent was made in 1784, by a Scotsman named Tyler, although the credit has gone to Leonardo da Vinci. The Scots, of course, are so accustomed to doing things worth while that they gave no time or thought to writing down the record, and recently other nations are claiming the pioneering honors. It is well this hot-air balloon business has been set straight.—Toronto Globe.

It costs the Italian government more than 300,000,000 lire a year to keep the Libyan budget balanced. This 300,000,000 lire is paid by Italians at home. It costs the Italian government another 250,000,000 lire to maintain its armies and garrisons in Libya. This also is paid for by the Italian taxpayers at home. Total annual loss: 550,000,000 lire. Total annual trade between Italy and Libya (in good times not now): 400,000,000 lire. And after 24 years of Italian control the number of Italians living in Libya—which is seven times the size of Italy—is less than 30,000, or not quite 7 per cent of the Libyan population.—New York Post.

Unless the conception of an international society governed by respect for law is to be completely abandoned, and the peace of the world helplessly entrusted to fragile truces between armed camps, Italy must be made to feel the steady and inexorable pressure of the world's judgment and condemnation. The cheapest form in which the pressure can be applied practically is in the field of economic activity. And it would be shameful if the nation which took the lead in framing the Kellogg-Brand peace treaty permitted its vast resources to be used in a manner that vitiated

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE END OF THE YEAR

It is the end of the year and thoughts go back over the year, and also go ahead to the coming year. You remember victories and defeats in the various departments of your life, and naturally decide that your mistakes will be fewer the coming year.

Now it is only good sense to take a look at ourselves from time to time, but with many this simply means the financial appearance—our assets and liabilities. This is very important because it affects our whole life.

However the biggest asset you have is your health. Ambition is a wonderful asset, and brains is another, but even with ambition and brains you can only go as far in this life as that body of yours will take you. You may have physical handicaps and be able to overcome them and it must be admitted that this overcoming is in itself a real asset.

You may have a Rolls Royce body or a Ford Body both of which, as with the cars, give you the needed strength for your work. But a simple defect of the body, just as in the car, can interfere with power and comfort. For instance, a headache, indigestion due to hurried meals, continuous constipation due to hurrying away to work in the morning, lack of sleep, infected teeth or tonsils can all lower your capacity for work or play, and you are that much less fit for life.

The thought of course is that you give your health the attention it deserves. There are many simple points you can watch—regular meals, regular sleep, regular intestinal habit, regular exercise. There are also points you cannot watch or know about and this is the thought for the coming year.

By having your dentist go over your mouth twice a year, you are assured of healthy teeth and gums—a most important matter from the health standpoint.

See that that body of yours is in its best possible shape to tackle the problems of the coming year.

Alberta's Financial Crisis

(Sydney Post Record)

The official announcement has just been made at Edmonton by Hon. Charles Crocker, Provincial Treasurer of Alberta, that another Federal loan of \$3,000,000 is coming to the Province, as a result of arrangements made by him last week with the Dominion Government. This advance will finance Alberta's agricultural and unemployment relief measures.

By having your dentist go over your mouth twice a year, you are assured of healthy teeth and gums—a most important matter from the health standpoint. See that that body of yours is in its best possible shape to tackle the problems of the coming year.

When it is remembered that these heavy advances from the Dominion Treasury are merely financing services for which the Alberta Government is exclusively responsible, some idea may be formed of the plight of a Province whose voters were promised in the recent election that the incoming Social Credit Administration would pay every adult \$25 per month in the form of "national dividends." In the circumstances it is worth while computing what this Social Credit hand-out, to which the Aberhart Government is definitely committed, would amount to in the aggregate per year.

According to the 1931 census Alberta had a population of 731,695 people, of whom approximately 50 per cent or 364,802, were adults. The population has grown considerably in the past 5 years, but on the basis of the 1931 census, these Social Credit "dividends" of \$25 per adult, would amount to \$9,145,000 per year. Premier Aberhart has admitted that he cannot begin the Social Credit payments before the end of 1936. Mean while his Government cannot maintain the ordinary provincial services out of revenue, and Mr. Aberhart says he will require \$12,000,000 more from Ottawa to supplement the income of his Treasury during his first year in office.

If there is one believing Social Creditor left in Alberta, it is a fairly safe guess that his name is not Aberhart.

The efforts of other nations to make economic pressure effective against war.—Baltimore Sun.

It is strange that with the rapid progress of knowledge no satisfactory solution has been reached of the mystery of sleep. The ancients were satisfied to say that sleep was unconsciousness, but in the time of sleep there is no real unconsciousness. The senses may be dulled, but they are not out of action. Any theory of sleep that proceeds on the analogy of drugs is fallacious, since loss of consciousness is not sleep.—Belfast Telegraph.

Maritime Rights

(The Maritime Broadcaster)

New Brunswick is to be ignored and the Confederation Pact is to be considered as "a mere scrap of paper" when the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec go into action over changes in the British North America Act. Most newspapers in the two powerful Provinces are gloating over what they think has been "put over" on the other Provinces. "The Financial Post" (published in Toronto) leads the gloaters and it boldly proclaims that "it is now assured that Canada's Constitution will be domiciled in Ottawa instead of London. The decision of the Premiers' conference—all but unanimous—to give Canada power to amend its own constitution, may prove to be the first step toward solution of some of our most difficult political problems."

Premier Taschereau, of Quebec, who has all along been a staunch supporter of retaining our imperial connection, has joined hands with Ontario. Even Nova Scotia, which has never been satisfied with its treatment in the Confederation, has an Attorney-General who seems willing to have further inquiries inflicted upon her in the shape of national policies, which will be solely for the benefit of Ontario and Quebec.

"The Financial Post"—and its issue of December 21 has much of its space devoted to boosting the betrayal of the Provinces—says in a front-page headline: "Make Canada Own Mistress." "B. N. A. Act," and by Canada it evidently means those Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, which carried the name Canada before the Maritime Provinces were inveigled into the Confederation.

The Post and evidently those interests, whose sentiments it voices, will ignore any protests from New Brunswick. In fact the paper says: "Premier Arthur Dymally, although his name is really A. Allison Dymally, withheld his support, but this fact will not delay action." Readers will note that this is hardly the language of diplomats or statesmen who have the good of all the Dominion at heart and believe in a square deal for all. So if New Brunswick is to be given no voice in affairs which are so vital to her interests now, what will be her state when "constitution is domiciled in Ottawa instead of London."

After all this boosting for making "Canada own mistress of N. B. A. Act" the "Financial Post" evidently does not believe all it preaches for one paragraph in its issue of December 21, seems to voice the opinion of its editors, who on some other occasion have appeared quite sane. This paragraph is as follows:

"Changing our constitution will make needed reforms possible but it will not produce reforms. It might conceivably make it possible for much worse politics to be imposed upon the country as a whole. When the B. N. A. Act is domiciled at Ottawa then statesmanship will be greatly needed. Politicians could use the new elasticity in the constitutional changes to effect costly and short-sighted moves. Statesmen would use it to solve some major national problems."

So the reader can see that even the Post is dubious over the need of having statesmen first? The people of New Brunswick are dubious over the proposals and the people of all the other provinces should be. Premier Dymally, Hon. Mr. McNair and other New Brunswick representatives have taken a stand for the good of this Province and for the whole of the Dominion and every citizen of New Brunswick should stand solidly behind these leaders in this fight for a square deal.

The people of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island should urge their Governments to stand fast in this critical time and see that the Provinces are given the fullest protection from the further domination of those interests in Ontario and Quebec who would sacrifice further these Provinces for their selfish objects.

If the agricultural policy of all the Provinces is to be dictated by Ottawa, what chance will the farmers of New Brunswick have to get markets for their potatoes and other products? What chance will the Maritime manufacturers have to compete with Ontario and Quebec? Do the people of the Maritime Provinces think they will benefit from policies that will be forced upon them if the British North America Act is domiciled in Ottawa?

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Tending The Graves Of Former Enemies. (Ottawa Journal). A story in yesterday's newspapers told of an agreement signed in Berlin—to set up an international body to deal with war graves. A committee, composed of representatives of the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and France, will care for the war graves of the dead of these countries. Germany will tend the graves of Britons, Canadians and Frenchmen in Germany; England and France the graves of Germans who lie in France.

The Poets' Corner. THE NEW YEAR. Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light; The year is dying in the night; Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow; The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind, For those that here we see no more; Ring out the feud of rich and poor, Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause, And ancient forms of party strife; Ring in the nobler modes of life, With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin, The faithless coldness of the times; Ring out, ring out, my mournful rhymes, But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out false pride in place and power, The civic slander and the spite; Ring in the love of truth and right, Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease; Ring out the narrow lust of gold; Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace.

Ring in the valiant man and free, The larger part, the kindlier land; Ring out the darkness of the land, Ring in the Christ that is to be.

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