

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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KING'S 'COUNTERBLAST'

"Liberals," according to our local contemporary, "are mobilizing their arguments and will shortly go on the air with a counterblast against the Prime Minister's reform programme."

A "counterblast" against reform will be no new thing for Mr. Mackenzie King to undertake. Thus far the whole policy of the Liberals in Parliament has been to hamper the constructive proposals of the Government. They fought with every weapon at their command against the Ottawa trade agreements which, more than anything else, have saved Canada from the full effects of the world depression as these have been experienced in other countries. They tried to block the passage of the Federal Marketing Act, which has already gone far to serve the interests of the farmers and other primary producers. Prior to that they had done everything within their power to prevent those changes in the tariff and tariff regulations which protected Canadian agriculturists and workers from being swamped by inundations of foreign products to be sold here far below cost. They have stood idly by with the avowed intention of permitting the world depression to beat the Government and place them back in power.

The fact is, as the Prime Minister has said, that Mr. Mackenzie King and his followers in this House are hampered by their firm adherence to the tenets of an outworn doctrine of stand-patism, of loyalty to the law of supply and demand, of allegiance to the god of things as they are. By way of contrast, Mr. Bennett pictured the present government as one which has given its heart blood in the people's service, which has sought to help the average man, woman and child, fought adversity and fought the Liberal party, as one which hopes to eliminate such faults and injustices of the capitalistic system as child labor, sweatshops, slave-wages, long hours and inequality of benefits, low prices to the producer and high prices to the consumer.

It is against such reform measures as these that Mr. King is reported now to be preparing his "counterblast." In the meantime, and of much more general interest and significance, it is to be noted that the reforms projected by the present administration began to be enacted at the last session of Parliament, and the ministerial measures to be brought down at the forthcoming session will enable the electors to reach a fair and reasonable judgment as to how they should cast their votes.

AGRICULTURAL SURVEY

The departments of Agriculture and of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, have co-operated in producing a bulletin entitled "The Agricultural Situation and Outlook, 1935." The purpose of this review is to bring into concise form all the known facts affecting the supply of, and demand for agricultural products in both domestic and foreign markets. With this information as a basis, farmers may adapt production and marketing policies to changing economic conditions. The report indicates that there is prospect of continuation of recovery in 1935. Wholesale prices have risen in Canada and abroad; prices of most farm products are higher than a year ago; business has become more active; employment has increased; and while the cost of living has risen somewhat, it has not been in proportion to the rise in prices and thus there appears to be an increase in purchasing power from which farm products should benefit.

It is stated that while the Ottawa Agreements are in effect the position of Canada and of the other Dominions in the United Kingdom market is safeguarded in so far as agricultural products are concerned by a guarantee of free entry as against tariffs imposed on the products of foreign countries. It is fortunate for Canada that United Kingdom production of wheat, tobacco, and to a lesser extent, apples, cannot, owing to soil and climatic factors and acreage limitations, be greatly increased. These three products, together with wheat flour, in the fiscal year 1933-34 comprised 83 per cent of total exports to the British market.

Poultry and dairy products from Canada under the terms of the Ottawa Agreements, provide for unrestricted free entry until November, 1935, after which the United Kingdom Government has the right to consultation with the Dominion.

Governments concerned to bring such produce within a system for the quantitative regulations of supplies from all sources into the United Kingdom market or to impose duties on those products maintaining preferential margins.

The policy of the United Kingdom Government in relation to meats is to secure a development of home production and to give the Dominions an expanding share of imports into the United Kingdom. After March, 1935, cattle and most imports will be regulated under terms to be arranged with the principal supplying countries, both Empire and foreign. Canadian hams, however, until 1937, is accorded an annual quota of 280 million pounds of which less than one-half was utilized in 1934.

The first annual review of this nature was published early in March, 1934. It met with such a large measure of approval that the joint committee decided to continue its efforts. The bulletin for 1935 may be obtained from the publication branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

THE TOURIST TRAFFIC

The past year was a memorable one in the history of the tourist industry, both federally and provincially. The establishment of a Federal Tourist Bureau, with the assistance of a grant of \$150,000 from the Dominion Government to assist the industry, followed upon the recommendations of a Senate committee which thoroughly investigated tourist possibilities and reported most favorably. This move should benefit the tourist trade in every province. In addition, we have been fortunate in obtaining a substantial reduction in automobile rates on the car ferry steamer, which should be of special advantage in attracting motorizing visitors to Prince Edward Island next summer. Over and above these considerations is the improvement in economic conditions which should enhance the prospects of attracting tourists here during the coming season.

With these brightening prospects, more than ordinary interest should be taken in the annual meeting tonight in the Board of Trade rooms of the Tourist Association. The Association has done much valuable work in boosting Prince Edward Island's tourist attractions, and its officers are highly optimistic of the prospects this year. A large and representative attendance at tonight's meeting will be a practical way of showing public interest in their activities.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Parliament opens today. Premier Bennett has another important speaking engagement before the end of the month when he will address Toronto Board of Trade.

Never in its history has half as much been done for the health of the community of this Province than since Premier MacMillan came into office. He has not only been active, but seemed active on behalf of the public weal, and the best minds of all parties give him credit for his public spirit and initiative.

Hon. Armand Renaud Lavergne, Deputy Speaker, who also has tendered his resignation, is the stormy petrel of the Liberal-Conservative party. He organized the Nationalist Party of Quebec in 1911, and entered the House as a Nationalist. But in 1929 he organized the Quebec district for the Winnipeg Liberal-Conservative Convention at which Mr. Bennett was chosen leader.

Mr. Speaker Black, who has forwarded his resignation to Premier Bennett, was offered the seat in the Cabinet now held by Hon. Grose Stirling of Nelson, B.C. It is expected he may "go up higher" when senatorial, judicial and other vacancies are filled before the session closes. Mr. Black belongs to Woodstock, N.B., but went to the Yukon shortly after completing his law course, and has a law office in Vancouver.

With Premier Bennett and Hon. Mr. Stevens of one mind regarding the practicability of reforming the capitalistic system, and with concrete reforms to submit to the electorate, it means there is but one party to vote for at next election. Both the Liberals and the C.O.P. are out of the picture. The former because they have no policy but stand patism, and the latter because they are inclined to allow the Communist tail to wag the C.O.P. dog.

Notes By The Way

England wants a piper like the man who lived in Hamelin town. Gas attacks, firearms, deadly poisons and all the schemes of modern science marshalled against the estimated 40-odd million rodents resident in the country have failed. The common brown rats continue to survive and thrive in spite of modern, ruthless warfare. Authorities believe that the rats have become more numerous by twenty millions in the last 50 years.

There is a feeling among serious men, says an exchange, that unless crime is better coped with across the U.S. border the coping with crime on the Canadian side is bound to deteriorate. The feeling is based on the fact that the U.S. side of the border unless reliance on the prestige of law and the courts can spread to the other side. Clearly it is essential to Canada that we jealously maintain the merits of our system and do not permit it to crumble away. The Oklahoma Bankers Association is reported in a weekly magazine across the border as having paid rewards ranging from \$100 to \$500 on 218 robbers convicted or killed. These bankers offer only \$100 reward for the capture of an outlaw alive, but \$500 if he is shot and killed. The reason given for this is that if the bandit is captured alive he becomes the object of hero worship, but if a sheriff shoots him down it is the unquenchable thirst for the hero worship. There is another reason. If a bank robber is captured alive the courts do not always sentence him to prison, and if they do he stands a good chance of escaping and proving a worse bank robber than before. Take the case of Henry Starr who was captured, his gang smashed and he sent to prison. He got out of prison, got on again, was freed once more and after robbing forty-eight banks, was wounded and captured, sent to prison, pardoned again and in attempting another robbery was killed. The story of all these robbers, the same, captured by the police, sent to prison, escaped or pardoned, and robbing again on a larger scale with the larger bands their notoriety enabled them to collect.

If these yawning stories keep up, the horn of ham or on the platform had better look out. It is all very well to have a bore on the radio, where a flick of the dial will send him droning on to the Heavy side layer, but a bore at the fire-sid or at your favorite society may find himself regarded as a private nuisance. Nobody wants to start a yawning marathon, that can only be stopped by having the feet tickled, as they did to the Chicago policeman, or be taken to the hospital like the lady of Round Grove, Ill. to be treated with the unsatisfactory verdict, "virtually cured." Besides, yawning may lead to dislocation of the jaw, as it did in the case of a Schenectady singer.

Stalin arrests Kamenev and Zinoviev. Years ago he hounded out Trotsky. There is a strange, poetic justice that remorselessly tracks down the leaders of armed and bloody revolution by sea, land and air. "Had Zinoviev who slew his master?" When Goering was in Belgrade recently he declared that Dimitroff, the Communist accused of burning the Reichstag, was plotting his murder. "Why should I?" said Dimitroff. "I can have that to Hitler."

The making of synthetic honey was described at the bi-annual Public Health Congress in London recently by L. H. Lampitt, chief analytical chemist to a leading catering firm. He pointed out that honey, in effect, was principally a mixture of two sugars which could be prepared artificially from cane sugar. The flavonoid was derived from the flowers from which the bees collected the nectar. "I do not know of any special dietic attribute of natural honey which will not be provided by the carefully prepared artificial mixture," he added. "yet I consider it wrong that the word 'honey' should be attached to any foodstuff which does not contain the natural product of the hive."

Most of us are here worshipping to a greater or lesser degree. The very example of a hero spurs us on. Often we build them, in our imagination, greater than they are. But that fact harms neither them nor us. But often the disappointment comes when we are privileged to meet one of these heroes face to face. Why! he seems like anyone else, plain, perhaps, some distinguishing trait of speech or personality. Just so. But for people like anyone else—except when their superior moment comes and they produce the thing that has marked their genius. Most of our heroes would attract little or no attention at all should they parade upon a street where they are totally unknown—but let them be cloaked in their secret haunts, with their souls bubbling in feeling and vision—and behold their masterpieces are born and spread out for the world of men to love and admire.

Different countries have different ways of dealing with understamped letters. Here, the letters are forwarded and the persons to whom they are addressed pay the penalty. In the United States the letter is returned to the sender, who is given the opportunity of amending his fault. In Denmark, the post office itself affixes any postage which may be lacking and the following morning the red-coated mailman drops a printed slip in the offender's letter box. "As we assumed you did not wish the address to pay penalty postage, we affixed the necessary postage to the amount of . . . We beg you kindly to affix the said amount to this form and hand it in at any post office at your earliest convenience." In this matter the Danish post office probably comes out first.

When it was suggested recently that an inventory be made and published of the private fortune of the Emperor of Japan the idea was regarded almost as blasphemous. The Emperor is reported to have one of the largest fortunes in the world. Recently he has given large sums to relieve distress. The rice crop failure has caused sufferings to many peasants. Few of them can save against a rainy day.

\$5,000 FIRE IN N. B. (C. P. by Guardian's Special Wire) ANDOVER, N. B., Jan. 15.—Damage of \$5,000 was caused here early today when fire destroyed a large residence owned and occupied by John Turner. He was awakened by the fire and barely had time to escape. Built 100 years ago, the house was a hotel before St. John River traffic was largely diverted to railways.

That Baby of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D. EATING BEFORE GOING TO BED INDUCES SLEEP

As there never was a time when there was so much need for restful sleep as to-day it is only natural that there should be more and more sleep producing drugs being manufactured. It would seem that at least one or more new drugs come on the market every week. Most of these drugs, excellent for the purpose, but occasionally a "knock out" drug appears that can do more harm than good.

Now we all need sleep—but before taking up the use of a sleep producing drug we should look about for a more natural method of inducing sleep. As you know, sick people need sleep, but the great majority of them in hospitals are not given drugs but given warm milk, soup, or other light food, or sleep. Following this idea a number of food manufacturers are now advertising their particular foods as the safest and surest method of obtaining sleep.

The idea behind the use of food—particularly warm foods—to produce sleep, is that the food in the stomach draws the blood from the head as more blood is needed in the stomach and intestines during digestion. However, this eating before going to bed does not always give the individual quite as ideal sleep, but many cause restlessness and extreme wakefulness.

Prof. Donald A. Laird, Colgate University, Hamilton, New York, for a number of years has been doing research work on sleep. "A study of the movements of adults and children during sleep shows that eating before going to bed can improve sleep if judgment is used in the selection of foods. Our 15 subjects slept best with fewest movements when a light meal of the familiar ready-to-eat cereals was taken before going to bed, and their sleep was disturbed more than normal for the subjects when a meal of 'hard-to-digest' food was taken before retiring. The sleep of children was affected by the nature of the last meal more than was the sleep of adults.

The thought then is that if cases of insomnia or sleeplessness arising at drinking light food stuffs often induces sleep as they are easily digested. The individual usually knows the foods that are for him "hard to digest," usually fat foods—cream, butter, fat meats and rich desserts, and should avoid them.

ELWIN MALONE, St. Peter's Cathedral.

The Poet's Corner

BY CANDLELIGHT

Slim blue candles tipped with flame
Touched the night to gold,
Ehch the dusk with memories
Of vivid days of old.

I hear sweet echoing laughter
And the lilt of a fairy tune,
Watch the gay ghosts dancing
To a ghostly fiddle's tune.

Laughing maid and gallant squire
Curtsy, dip and gallant
In jewelled gowns and old brocade
Of a far-off golden day.

Slim blue candles tipped with flame
Touched the night to gold,
Those were vivid, glowing days,
Gallant days of old!

—Margaret Morash,
in "An Acadian Sheet"

their genius. Most of our heroes would attract little or no attention at all should they parade upon a street where they are totally unknown—but let them be cloaked in their secret haunts, with their souls bubbling in feeling and vision—and behold their masterpieces are born and spread out for the world of men to love and admire.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the expression of views on questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not assume responsibility for the content of correspondence.

WHY DISCRIMINATE?

Sir,—A farmer delivered five hogs to Davis and Fraser's, bred from stock acid and recommended by the Swine Breeders Association as Select Bacon. Two of them graded Select and were paid for at the market price. Three of them were sold at a loss of six dollars to the producer. They were all nursed by the same mother and fed in the same trough and all weighed two hundred pounds, which is within the charmed circle. What is required, now, is a more uniform hog that will not vary, or a different system of inspection, as a loss of \$2 a hog to the producer is more than the business warrants.

I am, Sir, etc., FARMER

BOY SCOUT LEADERS

Sir,—I write in the interest of Scouting for boys.

We are most of us agreed as to the great value of this movement, as a social, moral and educational factor in the life of the boys in this and every community. There is, however, one thing which hinders the progress of Scouting, and that is the lack of leaders. It seems to be most difficult to get men to devote their time to the work of Scoutmasters. The Scout Movement has been in being here for quite a number of years and there must be, among our younger men, many who have been trained in the various Scout Troops of this city. They know the value that Scouting was to them and to them I appeal to give back for the benefit of the rising generation some of the help that they themselves received. Surely they must feel that it is their duty to "hand on the torch."

I am, Sir, etc., ELWIN MALONE, St. Peter's Cathedral.

The Classification of Ships

(Exchange) An interesting chapter of economic history could be written around the debt which civilization owes to the many adventurers into technology from other vocations, who have contributed, notably to marine insurance, the character of their normal employment, says "Engineering." Often it has proved that they bulldozed better than they knew, but of most it can be said that they did have some prevision of what they were building. In very few such instances can the dissociation of interests have been greater, or the ultimate development and influence have extended so far as the ambition of the Register of Shipping, in the case of "Edward Lloyd (Coffee-man) in Lombard Street," to whose memory the whole fabric of modern marine insurance and ship classification stands as an enduring monument.

Marine insurance, to be other than a sheer gamble, almost presupposes some system of classification, if only in the mind of the insurer, and there is reason for believing that the insurance of ships and their cargoes is a practice which has been in being since the dawn of the sea trade itself; but the present organization of marine insurance is as surely a product of Edward Lloyd's Coffee-house as Lloyd's List, now entered upon its third century of continuous publication. One commoner, was growing apace in the eighteenth century; the needs of the underwriters for dependable and conveniently arranged particulars of ships offered to them developed with the commerce, and the publication of "The Register of Shipping, in 1760, can now be seen to have been inevitable.

Since the first appearance of this register—later known as the Green Book—ship classification has experienced some strange vicissitudes. In retrospect, indeed, it is difficult now to understand how the practice of classing a ship solely on the basis of age and the locality of the yard she can have satisfied more than a small minority of the interests concerned, or how this acceptance of the principle survived so long in face of the obvious imperfections of the system. From the outset the usage was to denote the class of the hull by one or other of the five vowels, in declining order of quality, but in the original book and for some years afterwards the letters G, M, and B "good," "middling," and "bad" designated the state of the equipment. Within ten years, however, numerals had succeeded letters for the equipment, and thus, by 1770, the germ of the familiar "A1" was to be seen, in the form "A1." Five years later, the lower-case symbols had been discarded in favour of capitals, the numerals being retained, and in this manner "A1" modestly assumed its place in the English language.

How changes in the Green Book, or Underwriters' Register, led to the challenge of the rival Red Book, the Shipowners' Register; how nearly the rivalry brought both of them to extinction; and how they were eventually combined, in 1855, into Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping, is a long and somewhat involved story, well told in the centenary volume of the Annals of Lloyd's Register, now published by the Society as the official record of its origin and its work. More important, however, than the ending of a useless rivalry were the immediate steps taken by the sponsors of the new register book, to

Lady Haig Writes On Lloyd George's "Dastardly Attack"

Of Empire wide interest is the following letter of Mr. T. Stewart Lyon in the Toronto Globe:

Canadians who served under Earl Haig in the Passchendaele campaign, and who resent the criticisms of Lloyd George in his recent book on that dreadful episode of the war, may be interested in knowing that I have received from Lady Haig a letter expressing her thanks for and appreciation of a statement made by me at the St. Andrew's banquet in Hamilton, in which I told of an interview with the Field Marshal in his headquarters during operations in Flanders in the fall of 1917.

On that occasion Sir Douglas told me why it was impossible for political, as well as military reasons, to break off the engagement on that part of the front. He knew that he was sacrificing his reputation by continuing the battle, but he had to go on, because of the imperative need of aiding in the restoration of the morale of the French armies by drawing toward the Flanders front as many divisions as possible of the German army, so that a reorganization might take place along the French front.

Having seen this reported in the English papers, Lady Haig writes, saying: "I must send you a line of most grateful thanks. It is only the words of those who served under my husband that can be used in refuting such a dastardly attack as that by Mr. Lloyd George. As Earl Haig's widow, I have to treat the whole thing with silent contempt, but I long for others to speak out and tell the truth. I think the part I like best in your speech is your mention of self-sacrifice. Knowing my husband as I did, living with him and having his own diaries and letters, I know his whole life was one of sacrifice, and of putting his men and his duty first, and the cause for which they were all fighting.

"Losses he felt very deeply, but he never allowed himself to get depressed, because he had a great faith and trust in God. The loyalty of his men and their confidence in him helped him during the war to carry out his very difficult task, and the knowledge of that confidence in himself enabled him to get through his difficulties and to remain on at his post doing his best.

"I like, too, that you say he 'slept soundly and with the knowledge that he did not sacrifice lives needlessly.' I should mention also that his self-sacrifice at home toward myself and my children was astounding, which side of course is only known to me. I am glad to pass this letter on, confident that there are many Canadians who will join in the sentiments expressed by Lady Haig as to the attack of Mr. Lloyd George upon a man who contended with great decisions involving the lives of thousands of his fellows, who humbly and without thought of self did what he believed to be best for the interests of his country.

Kindness and Cruelty

(San Francisco Argonaut) Kindness and cruelty appear to be relative terms, and wholly dependent on habit. One hears no complaint on the part of Chinese wives, because their husbands never kiss them. Doubtless they would complain if their husbands did. Sir Richard Burton, the famous English linguist and traveller, relates that he once met a dusky maiden in one of his expeditions, who bewailed with bitter sobs the loss of her husband's love. He wished to know why she thought it was lost. Well, it had been a long time since her husband had given her a beating. The husband was duly informed, and that night Sir Richard heard blood-curdling screams coming from the hut where the woman with a face wreathed in smiles, announced that she had been mistaken; that her husband did love her, after all.

What a woman wants is determined by the age in which she lives. True, she always wants to be loved; but here satisfaction in the married state is found, here in a class, there in a blow.

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President Wilson used to find great pleasure in relating how he once had his special car side-tracked at Hamilton, Mo., so that he might make a quiet pilgrimage to the monument erected on the bluff to Mark Twain. Unknown to the natives, he asked one of them if he remembered Tom Sawyer. "Never heard of him," the Missourian made answer. "Do you recollect Huckleberry Finn?" asked the President. "Finn? Finn?" mused the native. "There was a family down, the road a piece, but I don't think there was a Huckleberry among 'em." "Do you happen to recall Puddin'?"

He Knew Wilson

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