

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE BUDGET SPEECH

The masterly speech by Premier MacMillan in introducing the Budget in the Legislature on Tuesday night was the subject of much favorable comment by citizens yesterday. It is evident that the sweeping misstatements of the Opposition have reacted strongly in the Government's favour, and the detailed comparison of expenditures under both Liberal and Conservative administrations which the Premier was able to make, effectively clinched the case, so far as the financial records of the two Governments is concerned. Despite unprecedented economic difficulties in which this Province, along with the rest of Canada and the world in general, is passing, the Government's pre-election pledge to practice rigid economy consistent with efficient maintenance of public services has been fully implemented. The Premier was able to show that during the year 1933 the Government lived within its estimates, the total estimated expenditure being \$1,699,410, whereas the actual expenditure was only \$1,686,415—a saving of some \$13,000. "Can our predecessors," he challenged, "say the same?" There was no reply, Messrs. Lea, McIntyre, LePage, et al. being fully aware that in the last eight months of Liberal regime their Public Works department alone had exceeded the estimates authorized in the Legislature by over two hundred thousand dollars. There was no attempt made by Premier MacMillan, as was the case under Liberal governments, to mislead the House or the public into believing that the financial situation is anything but serious. Revenue and expenditure, he emphasized, cannot be balanced in this Province, unless there is a curtailment of necessary public services, which the Government does not feel justified in making. Nor does the Government intend to impose additional taxation for the purpose of raising revenue. The only solution is the settlement of our subsidy claims at Ottawa. To this end the Premier, in co-operation with the other Maritime Premiers, has obtained the assurance of the Prime Minister of Canada that full consideration of our claims under the Duncan Commission award will shortly be given by a sub-committee of the Dominion Cabinet. There is now good reason, therefore, for anticipating that before the House meets next year, this long-standing question will have been settled, and financial affairs of the Province will be materially improved.

A FLIMSY DEFENCE

Premier MacMillan's exposure of the gross misrepresentations in the Liberal press regarding Conservative liabilities brought a curious alibi from Mr. W. M. Lea, leader of the Opposition. Following the Premier in the Budget debate on Tuesday night, Mr. Lea defended the Liberal press campaign on the ground that in the 1931 election campaign The Guardian had severely criticised the manner in which the McIntyre highway was constructed, and had published photographs of cracks and crevices in the highway, which Mr. Lea alleged were a gross misrepresentation. Readers of The Guardian are aware of the circumstances in connection with the publication of the photographs in question. The Guardian had called attention to the numerous large cracks in the McIntyre highway which appeared within a few weeks after its completion. The Guardian statements were emphatically denied in the Liberal press, through the defects were obvious to everyone passing on the highway. The Guardian's answer to the Liberal press was to instruct Colonel Cook, of the Cook Photograph Studio, Charlottetown, to photograph the defects referred to. He did so, taking several photographs, each of a different section of the highway, where gaping cracks in the asphalt surface were apparent. Cuts were reproduced of the photographs, exactly as prepared by Colonel Cook, and were published in The Guardian. The result of The Guardian exposure was that gangs of men were immediately put to work on the highway. The cracked portions were dug up and repaired, this work being accomplished practically on the eve of the election. Liberal candidates then went about the country, maintaining that the cracks had never existed, and that The Guardian photographs were "a fake." This reflection on the professional reputation of Colonel Cook has been repeated many times by the Liberal press and by Liberal politicians. It has been demonstrated that

the camera used was a "trick camera"; that by some means a few slightly perceptible crevices were magnified to represent gaping cracks; that the same crack was photographed several times, and made to appear as different ones in each case. All these statements are absolutely untrue, the pictures as they appeared being an exact replica of the condition of different sections of the highway before being patched up in order to substantiate the Liberal claim that the highway was in perfect condition.

And now the only answer Mr. Lea has to make to Premier MacMillan's exposure of deliberate misrepresentation of facts and figures in the Liberal press, is to malign Colonel Cook's reputation as a photographer. It is certainly a flimsy defence, and one which the electors are likely to take with more than the proverbial grain of salt.

OLD AGE PENSIONS

The first annual report on Old Age Pensions, tabled in the Legislature last week, shows that the number of pensions granted exceeds by over one hundred the number estimated, this being largely the result of present economic conditions, which have forced people to apply for assistance who otherwise would not have done so. This, of course, has added to expenditure incurred by the Government last year, but it was an expenditure which could not have been avoided, and which, with a return to better times, may be expected to be materially curtailed.

Every care, the Commission reports, has been exercised in administering the Old Age Pensions Act just and impartially. In all cases careful estimate has been made of the real and personal assets of the applicant, and in some instances misrepresentation and concealment, either through misunderstanding or by deliberate evasion, has been brought to light. There appears to be a tendency on the part of children to evade their responsibility for the care of their parents, and to thrust the burden on the public. This is not the purpose of the Act and in determining eligibility for pension or the amount of pension, the ability of the children to aid their parents under the provision of the Parents' Maintenance Act had been taken into consideration by the Commission.

According to the figures supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, there are some 8706 persons in this Province who have attained the age of 70 years. Of this number 2,622 applied for application forms, 316 failed to return their forms, evidently deciding for themselves that they did not qualify. 2,306 forms were returned, and of this number 1161 were disqualified for the following reasons: Have not attained the age of 70 years, 847; residence, 41; nationality, 3; income, 42; property and income combined, 64; property transfered; 66; property transferred; 67; under the Parents Maintenance Act 82; liquid assets, cash, bonds, etc., 74; property transferred for purpose of qualifying, 37.

The number of pensions granted was 1,148. Deducting deaths, 68, the pensions in force at Dec. 31, 1933, were 1,078.

There are 32 inmates of the Provincial Infirmary for whom pensions are being paid to the trustees of the institution for their maintenance, amounting to \$2,499.80. In addition, 18 inmates accepted the pensions and left the institution at an estimated saving of \$22.50 each month.

432 pensions have been granted to eligible who were previously receiving relief under the paupers grant of \$5.00 a month, which grant automatically ceased on their being granted pensions. In this connection there has been a saving for the six months of \$12,990, less 50 per cent being contributed by the Dominion Government.

The provincial share of the net disbursement total has been \$18,017.77. When the savings referred to under the headings of Provincial Infirmary and Paupers Grant (totaling \$11,413.80) are deducted from the provincial share of the net disbursements under the Old Age Pension system, it is found that under the old system only 463 persons benefited, while under the present system 1078 are receiving pensions at the small additional cost of \$2,598.47.

It is impossible, in terms of dollars and cents, to value the happiness brought into the lives of many aged persons through the administration of the Act. The fact that it has worked out so economically is a matter of great satisfaction, and one on which the Commission is to be warmly congratulated.

Notes By The Way

Cornwall is celebrating the 46th birthday of the Salvation Army in its midst. For it was in March, 1888, that the first Salvation services were held there by missionaries from Montreal, where the Army was established a few years previously. In the half-century in this city the Salvation Army has done great service, and this same may be said with respect to its long time in the Factory Town. Its way was hard at first, but it is a proven and respected agency now.

The colonization scheme proposed by the Empire Development and Settlement Research Committee seems to us worthy of very serious consideration. The proposed Chartered Company, supported financially by the British Government, would go some way to meet the difficulties in the way of the emigrant that have revealed themselves in recent years. But the assent and cooperation of the Dominion Governments would, of course, be essential. And the difficulty here is that the change in world economy, which is throwing out of business the great food-producing provinces of the Dominion, is bringing the Dominion Governments face to face with the necessity of providing for the future of great sections of their own people. Until they see their way to settling the emigrants, they are hardly likely to add a new one to it. But there seems no reason why the new settlers should not be self-supporting and surely for such there must be ample room in the still very fertile provinces of the Dominion.—London News Chronicle.

Dr. Dublin, statistician of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has this to say: "Canada combines the vigour of a youthful nation with the experience in life conservation of older countries. She has a birth rate higher than that of the United States ten years ago, and a death rate lower than that of the United States today, this latter evidencing 'the most advanced public health practice.' As a whole, Dr. Dublin declares 'the picture of population in ease in Canada is much more encouraging for a healthy growth than in most other countries of the world.' These premature politics, operating through semi-military formations, have one end and one only: the seizure of political power by individual politicians who exchanged the ballot boxes for assault and battery.—London Sunday Referee.

The problem now facing the President, says the London Daily Herald, is whether he can secure the enforcement of the code system in face of the open sabotage that is going on. Enforcement is the great problem of the President's experiments. And it becomes more and more clear that if he is to secure enforcement he will only do so by the sternest dealing with those who are trying either to wreck his schemes or to make them ineffective scraps of paper.

The human body can stand for greater heat if it be dry than if it be wet, and strangely enough it can stand for hotter liquids under than out. For example, the average tea-drinker sips tea at a temperature of about 140 degrees F.—sometimes as high as 145 degrees. But he can not bear the water at 120 degrees, or his feet in water higher than 112 degrees. Few persons can stand a bath in water at 105 degrees.—Montreal Herald.

A continuance of the present policy of disarmament peddling, says the London Evening News (Ind.), accompanied by inviting gestures of defencelessness can only have one result. Some day, as Sir Austen Chamberlain put it in his speech at Birmingham on Friday, the nations of the Continent will decide that after all they can get more profit out of carving up the British Empire than ever they can get in fighting among themselves. It may come soon or late. The only thing that can prevent this is a longer this country postpones putting its defences in order the sooner the blow will fall.

There is room, says the Glasgow Herald, for difference of opinion regarding the wisdom of the modern practice whereby the Prime Minister on special occasions receives deputations who have been officially delegated to put the point of view of some special interest before the Government. But the unemployed marchers represent no one but themselves. They have gone to London against the wishes of the bodies which have the best claim to speak for organized labour, and they are controlled and dominated by Left Wing groups which are using them for selfish political ends. For the Premier to have received them at Downing Street would simply have been to encourage the kind of propagandist movement which is most dangerous to the general interests of the community.

No one in the shipping world—least of all perhaps the tramp owners themselves—has any liking for the idea of a subsidy, or is under any illusion as to the dangers involved and the difficulty of working out any satisfactory system. But private owners cannot indefinitely compete against the financial resources of foreign Governments. In some way or another, if they are to survive, they must be helped to withstand the subsidized competition to which they are exposed. The Chamber of Shipping, in the report which is to be presented at the annual meeting today, estimates that over £1,000,000,000 has been spent in this crude form of economic warfare, gutting the freight market with uneconomic tonnage and "burning a healthy world industry from an asset into a burden." As compared with pre-war conditions, freights have been reduced on an average by 23 1/2 per cent, while running expenses have been increased by 40 or 50 per cent. The British proportion of world tonnage, which was 41 per cent before the war, is only 27 1/2 per cent today.—London Times.

His Honor Judge McLean, of Pictou, likes a good joke. He tells the one on the foreigner who recently came before him for his naturalization papers. When asked who was the Premier of Canada, the man answered that it was Bennett. To the question who was Premier of Ontario, the man said Henry. But when asked who was the King of Great Britain, the surprising reply was Ferguson.

That Body of Hours

By James W. Barber, M.D.

THE NATURAL ARCH OF THE FOOT IS BEST

When a recruit complained of flat or aching feet, the first request of the medical officer was to see his shoes. If the shoes were worn on the outer side of the heel and to some extent on the outer side of the sole, the recruit was sent back to duty.

Because a foot that is weak—weak arches—allows the inner side of the foot to come down to the ground instead of being held up by the arches. In fact the first treatment in early wear or flat foot is to put a piece of leather about one-eighth of an inch thick on the inner side of each heel, which raises the inner side of the heel and across the weight on the outer side where it should be.

The first symptom of fallen arches is pain in the arch after walking up the foot, the pain may extend up to the calf, and in a number of cases may extend to the buttock—the huge muscles on which we sit—and even up to the lower back. In many cases of backache and even headache are due to weak arches. When the feet ache the natural tendency is to rest them, but more than rest is needed if the arches are to be made strong.

The process of strengthening the arches is a slow one but a few weeks patient treatment may prevent the need for arch supports. Every morning, and at least once more during the day, you should walk a number of times around the room or office,—anywhere in fact, on the outer sides of the feet with the toes turned in. This "arches" up the foot, strengthening the muscles which hold up the arch. When barefooted, attempting to pick up a marble or other object with the toes, likewise gives the foot the "claw" shape, which raises the arch. It must be admitted that this treatment requires time and patience, but the spring of natural arches is a real tonic to the spirit, for most of us earn as much money as we get as much pleasure from the use of our feet as we do from the use of our head.

If the progress is unsatisfactory, see an orthopedic physician, who will arrange to fit you with artificial arches if your own cannot be brought back to normal or to nearly normal. Artificial arches are the last resort; don't make them the first.

Budgeting for Deficits

(Montreal Gazette.) Provincial treasurers in the western provinces have been informing the legislatures in the respective Houses of their attempts to make both ends meet, and of the difficulty of balancing the budgets. The general trend is to be that incomes are declining while demands for expenditures are insistent. In ordinary times increased tax would be resorted to, but in the present state of public temper this is out of the question. Manitoba is not to levy new taxation and Alberta and Saskatchewan likewise are showing prudence in this respect. British Columbia, too, is in line with the Prairie Provinces, and Hon. John Hart, Finance Minister, surprised the Legislative Assembly on Monday by declaring that there would be no new taxation. The only way a decrease in the one per cent. compulsory impost would be lifted from the shoulders of single persons earning less than \$800 a year and of persons earning less than \$1,000. In any case, this attitude is confirmation of the wisdom of the advice recently given by Sir Henry Drayton in his tour of the country under the auspices of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, when he waged a campaign against increase in the cost of government everywhere. Some of the leaders replied to Sir Henry's strictures, saying they are endeavoring to do what he urged. Despite their best efforts, however, they are compelled to announce deficits and they are wondering what the outcome will be. Some of the critics of Sir Henry Drayton's economy talks remark that the question of government bonds and loans generally, and they point out that if there was re-funding at 4 or 3 1/2 per cent, the problem would be quickly settled. The Canadian Chamber of Commerce is a strong supporter of such a refunding policy and hopes to effect extensive savings.

In the Alberta Legislature the other day Hon. R. G. Reid, Provincial Treasurer, delivered his eleventh budget speech and admitted that the Government was budgeting for a deficit of \$24,107, after providing for debt retirement. The Government's estimated expenditures, he said, showed a decrease of \$22,400 as compared with the 1933-34 fiscal year. The estimated revenue was \$14,996,966, as compared with \$15,000,000 last year, while the estimated expenditures were \$12,107,573, as compared with \$15,147,474. For unemployment relief there was provided \$1,468,130 in the budget. The latter item represents the great problem of finance in Alberta as elsewhere. Tax changes are likely to be made, but the Treasurer gave the promise that a wage tax, such as prevails in Manitoba now, would be a last resort.

In the Saskatchewan Legislature Hon. A. K. MacPherson, Provincial Treasurer, had a somewhat similar tale to tell in his budget speech. He asserted that there had been a saving of \$1,860,000 effected in the expenditures of the past fiscal year from the total of \$16,978,713 voted by the Legislature, but as regards this year he did not believe that the deficit could be kept under \$1,000,000. He favored refunding at lower interest rates and to bring about there will have to be whole-hearted co-operation among all governmental bodies concerned. The question has national and international aspects and constitutes a knotty problem. The favorable sign in all the budgeting talk is that the responsible ministers and the legislators generally fully realize the seriousness of the situation and are evidently doing their best to keep down expenses and to avoid adding to the taxpayers' burden. In their difficult task they should have the support of their own citizens and the sympathy of Canadian citizens elsewhere.

Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia are the provinces in which commercial production of tomatoes for canning purposes and fresh sale are of great importance, the total acreage being approximately 20,000 acres.—The Agricultural Situation bulletin.

Burns And Company Preferred

(Ottawa Journal.)

The Winnipeg Free Press relates how it came that at Calgary, in the head office of Burns and Company Limited, \$7,000,000 worth of preferred shareholders were asked to wipe themselves out of existence. It is a story with a moral.

The moral, briefly, is the folly of the practice, born of the boom years, which allowed and honorable firms, operating under private and sometimes family ownership, are seized upon by up-and-coming gentlemen—the modern "promoters"—turned into was public concerns. Between 1928 and 1930 this sort of thing thrived.

The old-fashioned local firm, owned by a family or by a small group of associates, and managed by them as a personal, intimate thing. The proprietors, who had founded their industry, or who had grown up with it, were proud of its history, jealous of its honor, and felt public responsibility. Workers, executives and proprietors were all one big family.

The past decade brought a change. It brought the "promoter," a gentleman who, knowing little of industry, or the management of industry, knew much about ledgers and stocks and bonds. Through complex financial transactions and an uncanon jargon, his idea was to build up fortunes, with the public supplying the bricks with which the fortunes were to be built. These "bricks" took the form of stocks and shares.

The old established firms were put through a process of "reorganization" made to furnish a grand new capitalization. Their ownership scattered upon the backs of brokers all over the land. What had once been the property of a few associates and of a community became split up into a babel of a stock and B stock of preferred shares and common shares, and Heaven knows what else. The old intimate touch was gone. What replaced it was absentee ownership—the soulless corporation.

Two years ago Mr. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, warned against this practice. Speaking to business men, he counselled against the growing influence of finance in industry, against the influence of the promoters, in comparison with those who had built up and were managing industries. Unfortunately most of us were too much under the get-rich-quick spell. These old fogies who were running things in the old way, what did they know? So, many of us listened to the young men we met in clubs and Pullman cars, young gentlemen who knew all about stocks and bonds and about how to sell them, and whose economics were taken from the Saturday Evening Post.

That these go-getting, well-tailored gentlemen knew absolutely nothing about the industries they were "reorganizing," or about the world conditions which might influence their handwork, didn't matter as all. Weren't they taking an old-fashioned iron when a new one might get a shop and a glass of beer in peace and turning it into an elaborate, bistrot hotel, owned by a lot of stockholders? Weren't they even proposing to buy newspapers and magazines, and were run by merely trained newspapermen? Perhaps the story of Burns and Company, Preferred, with a lot of others like it, will make a difference. With that hope which springs eternal, we may believe it will.

The Poet's Corner

FAIR  
The clocks are chiming in my heart  
Old murrums of days that die,  
The clock of things a-dribbling by,  
The clocks are chiming in my heart!  
The stars have twinkled, and gone out—  
Fair candles blown!  
Those ashly fires that flamed anon,  
The stars have twinkled, and gone out.

—John Galsworthy.

When The Cabinet Meets

(London Public Opinion)

An ex-Cabinet Minister writes an interesting article on the above subject in the "Sunday At Home." He says:—"Although the King summons the Ministers to a Cabinet meeting, he himself is never allowed to be present! The Cabinet is empowered to use most of the powers of the Sovereign, who, in fact, is of course, immediately acquainted with what has transpired at each meeting. "There is no obligation for the Cabinet to meet in Downing Street, although 'No. 10' is convenient because of its closeness to Parliament and the various Government offices in Whitehall. In times of emergency the Cabinet meets anywhere, and during the war it did so in many most unusual places. "No. 10 is an extremely old building, almost as fit in its political associations as the Houses of Parliament themselves. The name of Sir George Downing (who in the sixteenth century built a number of houses in this street) is perpetuated in the name now given to the thoroughfare. "When they take office all Cabinet Ministers are pledged to observe strict secrecy, and extraordinary precautions are taken to ensure that human nature does not overweigh discretion. Many of these documents to be perused by Cabinet Ministers only are of such a confidential nature that for any one else to see them would be highly dangerous. To avoid this a most interesting little ceremony takes place. "The confidential documents are handed to the Prime Minister by a messenger. The Prime Minister is consequently the first Cabinet Minister to know their contents. He then returns the papers to a special

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Editor and the Board of Directors do not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

JUGGLERS OF FINANCES

Sir,—It is said that figures never lie. Innocent little imps of fact themselves they never do. But in the hands of an expert juggler it is a marvel the capers they can be made to play, and distortions into which they are manipulated. And the more expert the juggler the more grotesque the display.

A man who has made a hobby of an art without other useful employment to divert his mind, is unemployed for anything but to ride his hobby-horse, and when the tired horse falls he falls into the ditch. This has been the frequent fate of neocromantic Liberal equestrians. The ditch more familiar than the road-bed.

We remember around about 1919. The party magicians in mighty force were tossing the figures and coats of government, dazzling the vision of the electorate with figures of waste and needless spending, from which Liberal showmen on the stage, there will be immediate relief, reduction of taxes, and the deficit converted into a real live surplus of just exactly \$25,000, no more, and no less.

Who can blame the people for at once engaging this promising troupe? Birds of such financial process were the rarest of the rare, and the electors carried sufficient of them to form a government. It was called the Bell Government.

The birds were hungry. Outdoor starvation had given them the voracious appetites to consume the bullion and masticate a bank to its very foundation. The heifers were after them, hungry as a pack of wolves just returned from the barrens. The pre-election economists must have a doubled up seasonal indemnity, and heads of departments, an additional \$500 to their salary. And they dare not fatten themselves without throwing sprats and tid-bits to the mob at the door.

But those promises? That reduced taxation? That \$25,000 surplus? How to get over that? Then the strategy of Ahab was resorted to. "Art thou he that troubleth Israel?" Make the defeated Government the scapegoat. The expert jugglers of reduced taxes and a big surplus were brought again to the footlights. Figures were painted in black and fiery colors and danced in the air with a sleight of hand deception to square the feet of the finest Japanese acrobats, and the mirage of a \$232,000, Arsenault Government deficit was improved as an excuse to tax "everything, tangible and intangible," to add over \$200,000 taxes to the people's burdens, and to swell their bank accounts. It was to compel the taxpayers to swallow this dose that the Liberal nurse recommended secret today was turned on when giving castor oil to the child and forcing it down the throat.

"The best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft agley." The intended scape goat, however, kicked the conjurers \$232,000 mirage of deficit into smithereens. It had been made out of figure in approved Liberal style, pieced together as only financiers of that party can piece them, and when the search light was turned on, great was the collapse thereof, so great, so soul piercing that the Liberal Leader sought refuge by moving that the minority Public Accounts report be not included in the Journals. The following year they were compelled to inscribe in the Journals the fact that their cooked up \$232,000 deficit had divided to \$47,000, and the cumulative evidences of exaggeration, and the false grounds for sweeping taxation and prodigal expenditure, obliterated the Bell Government at the following election with as smashing effect as the big fake deficit met his fate.

And the financial jugglers of Liberalism are still making play toys of figures as their custom is. I am Sir, etc., OLD TIMER.

THIS MODERN WORLD  
The world of business becomes more and more complex the boy or girl who enters it without training is under a handicap. A systematic Savings Account, growing at compound interest, will assist you in giving your child a favorable start in life.  
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laid dispatch case, kept solely for the purpose, which he carefully brought up and sent with it. "Cabinet Minister, upon being handed his set of office by the King, is also given a key to this dispatch case. The messenger then hands the case to each member in turn, who reads the papers, replaces them, and relays the case before passing it on.

"Secrets kept in this manner, however, are not secrets for long as it is general for the matter to be brought up and discussed in Parliament within a few days. There are, of course, exceptions to this; but many of the matters which the Cabinet are pledged to keep secret today will be public knowledge tomorrow. "The Budget, for instance, is revealed to the Cabinet the day before the Chancellor of the Exchequer makes his historic speech. Immediately after the Chancellor has delivered the speech in the House, printed copies of it are available in the lobby for members, contrary to general belief, therefore, there are people who know the secrets of the Budget before it is made public; these are the printers. "No single man, however, knows the entire contents of the Budget, as each is allowed to set up in type a small portion of it. A trusted official then pieces the various 'takes' together, and himself super-

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