

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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A Shameful Situation

All records in the City Police Court or within the memory of the oldest official of the force have been broken this year in the number of arrests for drunkenness. Since the "prohibition" Government took office in 1927 there has been evidence of a steadily increasing amount of drunkenness until on Saturday last, with over a month to go before the end of the year, the 1930 record stands at 495. In a city of the population of Charlottetown such a condition, even in the days of Free Rum, would call for protest and denunciation. What shall the sincere temperance people say of such a condition existing today, under a government elected specifically for the purpose of giving drastic enforcement of the Prohibition Law? In every country in the British Empire, in every other province in Canada, the past two decades have seen progress in temperance. Prince Edward Island is the only part of the Empire in which the Police Court records show a contrary condition. And this despite the fact that one of the arguments most frequently used by the Liberal press and campaigners in 1927 was that strict prohibition enforcement would inevitably cause a decrease in the number of arrests and convictions for drunkenness. They even held out the hope that with proper enforcement we should be able practically to dispense with our jails altogether.

On the Liberal organ's own showing, there can be but one reason for the situation existing today. That is the incompetency of the Government to fulfill its election obligations. The people, on the assurance of the politicians now in power, decided that Prohibition can and must be enforced. Why then is it not enforced? Why should drunkenness prevail to an increased extent under a law which prohibits the sale of any intoxicating beverage except for medicinal purposes? Why is there so much petty crime, so many jail inmates, so many convicted bootleggers walking the streets, so many unconvicted bootleggers riding in motor cars? The shocking tragedy of last week, in which one young man met his death and in connection with which another now finds himself charged with murder, was associated with liquor. There have been other crimes, other fatalities, in recent months due to the same cause. It is not so long ago that a man died in one of the police cells of the city, poisoned by rotten liquor. Does the Government feel no responsibility for these things? Does it imagine the people have forgotten the solemn assurances given by Liberal candidates and by the Temperance Alliance on behalf of Liberal candidates at the last election?

The present situation in Charlottetown has its counterpart in Summerside and throughout other sections of the Province. Increasing drunkenness! What is to be done about it? The Government remains inactive. Its gagged press remains inactive. Only the bootleggers, the rum runners, the moonshiners—only those who, according to the Patriot in 1927, were to be "put out of business"—are active as never before. It is no longer a "checker game" between these gentry and the officers of the law; it is a steep chase in which the officers take all the hazards, crash all the fences, stumble over all the ditches, and finish hopelessly in the rear.

True, the jails are filled with bootleggers. The Summerside jail is bulging with bootleggers. But what does this avail? They are the small fry, the peddlers, the pikers, the retailers of concoctions wholesaled or smuggled in by persons of brains and political influence enough to keep out of jail. These are the men who should be behind the bars. Instead, they are riding in automobiles. They ride up in their automobiles to attend the sessions of the Police Court and the Prohibition Court. They like

to keep posted on the latest news. They have no need of disguising their identity. They do not fear capture and conviction. Their cars are faster than the officers' cars. Their influence is greater than the officers' influence. They have friends, they have money, they have social standing, they have an established reputation for generosity to benevolent purposes. They have everything that the poor victim of the traffic, arrested for being drunk and disorderly, or drunk and incapable, or drunk and dying, has not. And so long as they flourish the traffic will flourish. Let the Government have the honesty and sincerity to acknowledge, as Ex-Premier Saunders acknowledged in the Legislature last session, its incompetency in dealing with the situation. And then let it get out and make room for better men, for a Government willing and able to carry out its pledges and its promises.

Early Statistics

Interesting statistics dealing with the young colonies of British North America in 1851 are contained in an old report drawn up by a committee appointed by the Government of Canada at Quebec. The report consisted of "A Tabular Statement of the Population, Income, Expenditure and Debt of the Provinces of British North America." These provinces, numbering five, comprised the following: Canada (Ontario and Quebec), New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland.

The report stated that in 1851 the population of British North America numbered 2,297,219; the amount of Customs duties received was \$976,938; the amount of revenue received from all other sources was \$1,770,040, making in all the sum of \$1,153,979, averaging per head for Canada 7s. 4½d., New Brunswick 12s., Nova Scotia 7s. 8½d., Prince Edward Island 8½d. The public debt of the Colonies amounted to \$4,691,509.

The foregoing report was included in a more comprehensive "Report on Trade and Commerce," printed by order of the Legislative Assembly at Quebec in 1855, and which contained, along with other data, a statement of imports into Canada, for the year 1853, of the following ten commodities, together with the value of the imports:— Coffee, \$34,324; confectionery and preserves, \$1,479; molasses, \$52,437; cigars, \$12,145; spices, \$9,201; cordials, \$189; rum, \$3,207; honey, \$71; sugar, \$220,824; mahogany, \$89; total value, \$333,969.

Chamberlain's Prophecy

Mr. Winston Churchill closes the story of his early life with a remark which Mr. Joseph Chamberlain made to him and others after a House of Commons luncheon in 1902. Mr. Chamberlain said: "You young gentlemen have entertained me royally and, in return, I will give you a priceless secret—tariffs! There are the politics of the future. Study them closely and make yourselves masters of them, and you will not regret your hospitality to me."

That utterance of the great Imperial preferentialist was prophetic of the present day. Mr. Chamberlain was the forerunner of the Canadian Prime Minister, who has pressed the policy of Empire tariffs and reciprocal intra-Empire preferences upon the Imperial Conference and the British nation.

Editorial Notes

Advice to motorists, says an exchange, is becoming a sort of joke, and perhaps too much of a joke. The

Notes By The Way

A big sports car was following a "Baby" car along a main road when, to the amazement of the driver of the sports car, the "Baby" car suddenly jumped straight up in the air, came down again, and proceeded as though nothing had happened. This occurred several times. At last the sports car passed the other and then it pulled up and the driver signalled to the driver of the "Baby" to do likewise.

"There's something the matter with your little 'bus,'" said the sports car driver, "every now and then she jumps straight up in the air; it's most extraordinary."

The "Baby" car driver smiled. "There's nothing the matter with the car," he explained, "but you see, I've got hiccoughs."

Premier Ferguson, of Ontario, who is mentioned as the next High Commissioner, has no doubt about the ultimate success of the Bennett Imperial policy. In an interview he said: "There's no question that public opinion is very pronounced in favor of a complete change of commercial policy envisaging closer economic union between members of the Commonwealth. We've got to consolidate our forces both economically and sentimentally. Though the present conference may not achieve much, it has had great weight on public opinion in emphasizing that economically united we stand, divided we fall."

Asked if he did not think that views expressed to him had been colored by a desire to flatter his own well-known opinion, Mr. Ferguson dissented.

"I've not talked to politicians and public men alone," he said. "I've been round the country and talked to every class of individual from fellows in the street, the taxi driver and the cigar seller to the Prime Minister. What I've told you is a digest of the truth derived from every quarter."

On the other hand the Rt. Hon. William Graham, President of the Board of Trade, addressing a private meeting of Labour members of Parliament declared: "Great Britain had her South American trade in mind in turning down proposals for a tariff on foodstuffs during the Imperial Conference."

"The United Kingdom," he said, "was asked to tax imported wheat and other foodstuffs without any immediate advantage in sight, and probably for no ultimate advantage."

He said a third of Great Britain's trade is with Europe, a third with foreign countries in other parts of the world, and a third within the Empire. He declared there was not the slightest doubt that imposition of a tariff on imported food would have a dangerous repercussion on at least two-thirds of British trade, and particularly on a large volume of South American trade.

According to this argument Argentine wheat and Argentine trade is of greater importance to Britain than Canadian wheat and Canadian trade. Only short sightedness could account for such a stand on the part of a responsible minister. Can't he envisage the day when the Argentine will seek her own interests independent of Britain? Of course, the present difficulty is that Great Britain has millions invested in railway and other enterprises in the Argentine, and any exclusive movement of wheat trade from there to Canada, would endanger the dividends on such investments.

Denmark will make a strong bid for the Canadian butter market with her surplus production, J. Hardman, Danish manufacturer of London, England, and Copenhagen, Denmark, now in Toronto's state. He is on a short visit to Canada and United States to investigate business conditions.



By James W. Barton, M.D. BEING A GOOD SLEEPER NOT ALWAYS A GOOD SIGN

It was my privilege some years ago to visit an institution for the feeble minded. Every opportunity was afforded for a close inspection of the inmates at play, at school and at leisure. I learned that although there were some inmates who for various reasons were not hearty eaters, every inmate was a good sleeper.

As you know a great many of these patients suffer from a lack of gland development, particularly the lack of the proper development of the thyroid gland in the neck.

On the other hand individuals with over-development of the thyroid, are very active mentally, and unfortunately are not generally good sleepers.

Now this doesn't mean that if you are a heavy sleeper your thyroid is deficient, or that if you are a poor sleeper that your thyroid is too active.

A chap who had always been active and alert, up early in the morning ready for work, or play, or a fishing trip, became gradually a little lazy, no desire to get up early even to go fishing, and was often found sleeping during the day.

What was the reason for this sleepiness? Simply a number of infected teeth that had so poisoned his system that he was tired and sleepy all the time.

And when infection gets to the point that you are tired, heavy and sleepy all the time, it is doing real damage to your system.

The reason a feeble minded individual sleeps well is because he has nothing on his mind to keep him awake, whereas the normal individual may have cares—worries, or other emotional disturbances—that keep his mind too active for sleep.

So whether you think you sleep too much, or think you do not get enough sleep, it is worth your while to investigate the matter.

Sleep means as much to that body of yours as food. Too much sleep increases weight—wears out the body.

While it is natural to feel a little heavy, a little sleepy after a heavy meal if you find that you feel sleepy during the day, have your family doctor and dentist look you over.

If you can't sleep at night and have no particular reason for wakefulness—business or other worries—then have your doctor look you over and check up the thyroid gland.

In thyroid disturbance there is usually a rapid heart, trembling of the muscles, nervousness, slight bulging of the eyes and so forth, but in the early stages all these symptoms may not be present.

The Poet's Corner

THE PASSING Year after year we tread our destined way, And see and love and learn: Led by a law that sanctions no delay And no return.

And then because the burden would be such As no tired heart could keep, Time with his tenderly benumbing touch Beckons to sleep;

Sleep with the lips that hush, the hand that laves In cool oblivious stream— Sleep with the murmur of retreating waves From shores of dream. —Arthur L. Salmon, in the Glasgow Herald.

THE TWO MACS

149 St. George St.

The Public Forum

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

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Sir:—In Friday's Guardian I gave reasons for assuming that law value and law stability is entirely dependent upon enforcement. It is true that all laws are violated, but, equally so, the volume or ratio of lawlessness is invariably regulated by the measure or intensity of enforcement. This is verified by every known criminal statistic.

The lawbreaker is in very essence a gambler. He plays for the win there is in it. Make his profession profitable; show him by unmistakable evidence that all the dice are loaded against him, and he will drop the game as he would a hot iron. But show him that the average of chances are in his favor and you entice him into a gambling feature beyond the forces of anaemic restraint.

Of what effect can a half-baked lecture on morals and a "suspended sentence" have upon the juvenile delinquent already well initiated into the avenues of crime; or, what deterrent power to the thief or medium criminal is there in a ten days sentence for a six months offence—with the added chances of escape because of official favor, or scarcity of room in an overfilled jail?

The smuggler is in his business for the profits which accrue. Cut out those dividends and he will willingly then by force of necessity he will abandon his illicit calling. As in all forms of business he encounters losses by bad debts, seizures of goods and overhead expenses. These he deducts from his averages of profit and when the balance is on the right side of the ledger his further exploits are assured.

If law administration were advanced only to that point at which the profit balance would invariably be adverse to his hope and ambition—there would be no smugglers. Give him a seventy-five percent profit to overcome a twenty-five percent loss, and you encourage him to keep on; but reverse this and make his losses by seizure and otherwise run up to sixty or seventy-five percent, with profits only amounting to from twenty five to forty percent, fools though they may be, neither they nor their creditors will continue to tangle with such an unquenchable fire.

These laws of nature and of business averages, should convince those responsible for administration of justice that a seventy-five percent enforcement upon their part would bring about a practical hundred percent of results. In other words, you do your part, up to the reasonable measure of your responsibility, and the processes of nature law will do the rest.

This reasoning applies to every means of law education as well as of law enforcement. In the home training, in the church or social circles the seventy five percent objective, when attained will expand of itself into the greater area of fulfillment.

It is because there is no apparent effort to reach these standards that lawlessness is on the increase in our Province; and because our Nero's fiddle while Rome is burning, the good name of our people is under tarnish—not by the publication of facts that are evident to the most simple; but because there is no in our justice system are in actual existence.

I am, Sir, etc. REFORMER

HAVE YOUR EYES EXAMINED AND GLASSES FITTED BY E. E. PARKMAN Registered Optometrist Montague, P. E. I.

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Peace and Liberty I am happy to inform him that one of the notes ever said any such thing, and it is a pity that the earlier slogans of a great nation should be twisted and emasculated to bolster up a modern desire. For peace and liberty are by no means synonymous. Liberty is infinitely the higher ideal to pursue, and if at times it must be pursued through fire, mud and misery, there is no nation better fitted than the United States to prove it in their own history. But the old glories are fading from a world with the fixed idea of a peace that shall bring not necessarily human happiness attained through sacrifice, but an ever-flowing prosperity attained anyhow at all, so long as it is not to be interrupted at the instance of an ideal and a possible fight to maintain that ideal. We have recently stood in humbly silence to honor the men who died for something they did not quite understand. Their honor and their courage stands, but they have been betrayed by international banking by chicanery, by every effort to turn their sacrifices into money that can be made by men of superior cunning and their work lost in a mass of false about peace "when there is no peace—only a more indecent form of warfare, a warfare in which the command man has no part and in which he is the main sacrifice."