

The Quebec Elections

At the time of writing, returns from Quebec point either to a deadlock in yesterday's general election contest or to the return of the Taschereau Government by an exceedingly narrow majority—in which case it is more than likely that an early appeal will again have to be made to the electors.

The result is a surprising demonstration of the strength of Opposition sentiment in a province which has had Liberal government for forty years. The Liberals themselves were confident of easy victory, as in the past. It is evident that they were fighting against the tide of popular opinion, and that only the resources of their electoral machinery saved them from crushing defeat.

The Opposition forces were composed of the Conservatives led by Mr. MAURICE DUPLESSIS and the Action Libérale Nationale party, headed by Mr. PAUL GOVIN, son of the late Sir LOMER GOVIN, for many years Liberal Premier of the province and for some years Minister of Justice in the King Government. Mr. GOVIN and a group of young Liberals broke with the Taschereau Government and fought in alliance with the Conservatives against an administration which they denounced as having outlived its usefulness.

A major issue injected into the campaign was the so-called achievement of the King Government in the trade treaty signed at Washington. Federal cabinet ministers stumped the country on this issue. Hon. ERNEST LAPORTE, Minister of Justice in the King Government, took a leading part. The result, therefore, was a body blow to Liberal expectations federally as well as provincially.

It is seldom that the political tide has turned with such dramatic suddenness. Liberalism reached its apex in the Dominion contest. That two months later it should barely escape defeat in the strongest Liberal province of Canada needs no comment other than what the figures so eloquently supply.

Lots Of Irritation

"The extension by Canada to the United States of the intermediate tariff," says the Winnipeg Free Press, "has removed a source of possible irritation between the two countries."

This is precisely what it has not done in the case of United States potato imports, which under the terms of the treaty will flood Canada free of duty unless the intermediate tariff is jacked up at the next parliamentary session.

If this happens, United States will be "irritated" and if it doesn't our potato growers might as well say good-bye to the home market in the Central Provinces.

That's always the way with jug-handled treaties. You can't balance them by adding another handle on the other side. The fellow who gets the best of the deal when the bargain is made will insist on retaining his advantage.

Obviously, the time for Mr. KING to have thought about our potato growers was when he was signing the treaty. He could then have removed "a possible source of irritation," and also of misunderstanding, by making it clear that the Maritime potato industry was too important to be sacrificed under any pretext.

Who Is Responsible?

After three serious auto accidents on the highway at or near Summerside, the Summerside Liberal press is demanding that "the practice of trying to set records for a run from Summerside to Charlottetown over the new highway must cease." It calls upon the Mounted Police to take action, and on the public to exercise greater responsibility.

It neglects to mention the most important factor of all. No less an authority than Attorney General THANE A. CAMPBELL declared in the Legislature last March: "Law enforcement can only be obtained from a Government which has a sincerity that is born of conviction."

The Canadian Home

The six room house is more common in Canada than homes of any other size, but it is not typical in all parts of the country, says a report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Nearly 60 per cent of Canadian households occupy from four to seven rooms and almost 20 per cent live in three rooms or fewer. Only 3 1/2 per cent live in homes of more than ten rooms.

Clear cut regional differences exist. In the Maritimes, urban homes, such as in Halifax and St. John, centre around six rooms, while the rural homes are larger on the average than in any other part of Canada. Five room houses are the most numerous in urban Quebec but in rural Quebec there is no definite favor for any special size.

Both rural and urban Ontario homes characteristically include six rooms, the outstanding exception being Ottawa, where seven-room houses are most numerous.

Over 60 per cent of Prairie rural homes contain four rooms or fewer, while the number of such homes in Ontario is less than 23 per cent. In Alberta and Saskatchewan there are more rural households occupying homes of two rooms than any other. Prairie urban areas also contain proportionately more small homes and a lower percentage of large homes than is found in Eastern Canada, although the typical size is five rooms. Rural and urban home distribution in British Columbia are more nearly similar than in any other province. Four rooms predominate in both areas.

Editorial Notes

"Cherchez la femme" in the Quebec election.

Some people are to be disappointed regarding their winter supplies, due to the seizure of 930 gallons of rum by the R.C.M.P.

It appears President ROOSEVELT is holidaying at Warm Springs, Georgia as well as Prime Minister KING. Birds of a feather flock together.

Make haste slowly is one of Britain's un-failing rules, hence the postponing of the meeting of the League of Nations. Better be sure than sorry.

It was fitting on the eve of St. Andrew's celebrations Mayor HOUBE should eulogize the Scots, when welcoming Governor-General TWEEDSMUIR on his first official visit to Montreal.

Saturday is Saint Andrew's Day, but the Caledonian Club are to celebrate on Monday when one of the speakers will be Mr. JOHN A. DEWAR who will give a tea minutes address on Dictatorship v. Democracy.

Our contemporary adds insult to injury when it suggests that Mr. BOULTER was responsible for garbling his own Canadian Press interview on the potato situation as it appeared in mutilated form in the Liberal organ.

No doubt Canadian prohibitionists will rejoice to know that more whiskey will be shipped out of the country than for many years previously. American prohibitionists will, naturally, take a different view.

It is unfortunate the Rotary and Gyro Club should be appealing for charitable funds at the same time—the former for crippled children, the latter for tuberculosis. Both are highly deserving organizations, and both objects praiseworthy. The public should rally to the support of both.

There is going to be a Conference of Mayors at Ottawa the same time as the Inter-Provincial Conference. The subjects for discussion are reduced interest rates for civic indebtedness; relief from unemployment costs, assistance in financing education, and other subjects connected with city government.

The executive of the Ontario Liberal-Conservative Association will meet in Toronto tomorrow to fix a date for a party Convention to select a provincial leader. The Convention is likely to be held in January or February, and so far the only name mentioned is that of Former Premier GEORGE S. HENRY.

Montreal is rejoicing that because of the Reciprocity importers will no longer have a preference on goods landed at Canadian ports. This is another blow at the Maritimes. The BENNETT Government made that imperative, now American ports will enjoy the privilege, depriving Saint John and Halifax of the right of being Canada's winter ports.

At the Inter-Provincial Conference Alberta will be represented by the Premier accompanied by Hon. CHARLES COCKROFT, Provincial Treasurer and Minister of Municipal Affairs; Hon. W. A. FALLOU, Minister of Public Works, Railways and Telephones; Hon. J. W. HUGILL, Attorney-General; Hon. C. C. ROSS, Minister of Lands and Mines, and J. C. Thompson, provincial auditor.

Dr. J. J. TALMAN, Ontario Provincial Archivist, no doubt having in mind Prime Minister KING's grandfather, told the Central Ontario Women's Institute: "You don't hurt people's feelings any more by digging up disreputable ancestors. Most of us have ancestors who were hanged for horse-stealing, anyway. Of course this cuts both ways. If it be no consequence to us what characters our ancestors bore, it will be a matter of indifference to posterity what sort of lives we live."

The proposed new treaty between the U.S.A. and Panama was held up largely on a question of gold standard. Negotiations for the pact to supersede the 1903 treaty, which empowered the United States to build and operate the Panama Canal, have been in progress for eighteen months. Final solution has been reached concerning the problems of payment in gold to Panama of the \$250,000 annual rental for the Canal Zone. An impasse was created in February, 1934, when the Panama Government's New York fiscal agents returned a Treasury check for \$250,000 payment, and demanded remittance in gold, as stipulated in the 1903 treaty. The same formality was followed this year, Panama contending the United States owed it gold to the amount of \$500,000 and refusing payment in devaluated dollars. And she has won out.

When Premier TASCHEREAU attempted to address a rally at St. James Market, Montreal, a week ago, what was described as a "bloodless revolt" took place, preventing the Premier being heard. The police were blamed for inactivity on the occasion, and four of them suspended. The result was that on Friday night lots of police were on hand at Maisonneuve market, in anticipation of trouble at a rally for Mr. WILLIAM TREMBLAY, opposition candidate in Maisonneuve, but all the men in blue had to do was to silence a "rooster" that clucked like a hen. Preliminary speakers were warming up when from one spot in the jammed hall came a series of soprano clucks that sent titters through the crowd. But one man got mad and called the captain of police. "There he is—the cock," he said, pointing into the throng. The captain moved over, uncovered a small man with a green hat. "You, the cock," said the captain severely; "you quit laying eggs! Once more out and out you go!" So they placed a "police guard" over the chicken coop, and that allowed the meeting to proceed uproariously in favor of Mr. TREMBLAY.

Notes By The Way

There is no normal joy in complete self-owning, or self-attainment. Unless there is a sharing the great joy is lost. How happy we should be that our friend has attained unusual success and usefulness even though he has surpassed us. If the latter, then he should be the more valuable as a friend because of the inspiration of his example. Why should we be envious of the other fellow simply because he has been more successful or more greatly favored by circumstance? There is no poison quite so deadly as self-poison, inspired by hatred, envy, jealousy, or selfishness. This is a big world and the passions behind every life are vast. We are all seeking for happiness above everything else. Many think that in material possessions is to be found this true happiness, but this is not true unless the possessions gained, in turn, bring happiness to others.

A Montreal motorist who was recently fined in a law court of the metropolis for the traffic infraction, asked if the court would wait until the end of the week to allow him to pay his fine. Enquiry by the magistrate revealed the fact that the offender was on direct relief but would be able to pay his fine at that time because he would have received back a fine amount of the city. Such a situation probably appeared most annoying at first. Be that as it may, it also showed that Montreal did not stand to lose completely in the bizarre situation, in this particular case, the city would be able to get back the money which it had paid out to this man in direct relief.—Three Rivers Novellist.

Sons-in-law, brothers-in-law, uncles, and cousins of Mr. Mussolini are reported serving gallantly in the front-line trenches in Ethiopia. Which reminds us of what Artemus Ward said during the Civil War on this subject, "I'm for Ole Glorie," said Artemus, "and I won't stand for no surrender, but I bought down. By gum, I want this crevel war to go on 'till it takes the last relative my wife's got."—Chicago Tribune.

They (the Government) are hounded by their efforts by our ardent pacifists who are advocating a policy of pin-pricks against Italy. One only need be mentioned. It is demanded that we close the Suez Canal to Japanese transports and munitions. Now we have declared the perpetual neutrality of the canal. In 1905 a part of the Russian fleet (after what looked very like a hostile act against our fishing-boats) passed peacefully through the Canal to take part in the war against Japan. And further, the right of all other states to use the canal is secured by treaty. These claims to set up a super-state are a menace to world peace. Prudent diplomacy has produced a compromise which, the free-press declares, merely gives Italy time to strike as soon as conditions become favourable. But no sane person believes that the dangerous articles of the Covenant will be employed in the way of any act of war against that country.—W. A. Hilt; in The Empire Review (London).

The oldest colony of the Empire, New-England, recently had to seek the help of this country in bearing her financial burdens. She has one trade which is of value to her hard-hit people, the fish export. Italy was her third best customer. Our economic and political geniuses at Geneva have applied sanctions so successfully to Newfoundland that this third best customer cannot be supplied. Italy bought more from Britain in normal years than Britain bought from Italy. With her our trade balance was on the right side.—London Sunday Dispatch.

We have altogether too many ready-made ideas and opinions handed to us—and the unfortunate thing is that we accept most of them! This is the trouble with so many of our schools. The greatest lesson in this life is to learn to think for oneself and to do his job in business well to do this, it is well worth while. One's most valuable asset is one's brain. A thinker doesn't need capital. His brains make capital.

Regarded as a unit, the Empire came through the strain of the War magnificently. As a unit it has come through the strain of the peace better than the rest of the world. It has been a real League of Nations, and there has been no possibility of war was genuinely ruled out and all of whom accorded general support to one common, and highly pacific, foreign policy. But even in foreign policy large changes with disintegrating possibilities have been made. Canada has its own diplomatic representative in Washington, Ireland in several countries, India has her own trade representatives in Germany, and within the Empire her own political representative at South Africa. For above all there has been no common economic policy. Ottawa represents the first serious attempt to devise one, and in the attempt has exposed the serious weaknesses of the whole situation and the urgent need for permanent machinery for Empire consultation, the adjustment of differences, and the pursuit of common aims.—Calcutta Statesman.

A "parachute kite" capable of lifting four tons of cargo has been successfully tested at Moscow, Russia. The "kite," a vast fabric dome 70 feet in diameter, raised four tons to a height of 4000 feet in a wind of 25 feet per second velocity. The tests are being continued and Soviet authorities predict that it will be possible to devise "parachute trains" able to easily lift their heavy cargoes as far as the stratosphere.

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There are three important conditions which materially aid in preserving good eyesight—good light, good print, and good health.

The light should be without shadows, without glare, and without reflection. The proper amount of light is that obtained from a 60-watt frosted bulb 10 to 20 inches away from the printed page. A 100-watt lamp is required when the lamp bulb is 2 1/2 to 3 feet away.

All light should fall on the printed page and not directly in the eyes. The light should fall from above or slightly behind and over the left shoulder. Light that falls directly in the eye exhausts the nerve of the eye causing eyestrain.

The second important condition—good print—is available in all school books which are usually well printed in clear black type. Some books read by school children out of school are badly printed and parents must see to it that their children read well-printed books with fairly large type or engravings.

The third important condition—good health—refers to good bodily health as well as to good eye health. And the one depends to a very large extent upon the other. Thus all body defects should be corrected and the body built up by play or exercise to ensure good health.

The eyes is a marvellously delicate and most complex organ, able to come twelve to fourteen feet from the complete picture for the brain to understand or interpret. This requires a perfectly working machine or organism.

Now if a perfect eye needs good light, good print and good health you can readily see that where there is defective vision or eyesight it is even more necessary to have these three important conditions.

The above information and advice is from Dr. A. C. Snell, Rochester, N. Y., in the Sight Saving Review, published by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

Canada In London

(Vancouver Province)

Hon. Vincent Massey, who reached England on Tuesday, is the seventh in quite a distinguished line of Canadian high commissioners. The first to hold the office was Sir Alexander Gait. Sir Alexander was one of the Fathers of Confederation, and was somewhat ahead of most of his colleagues in his constitutional thinking. He saw much earlier than most of the men who worked with him that the granting of autonomy to the North American colonies in the B. N. A. Act would lead to demands for further autonomy and that Canada would, before long, be asking for the right to negotiate commercial treaties with foreign countries.

As early as 1870, Gait was talking in this vein, but neither Ottawa nor Westminster was ready for so long a step. By 1878, however, Gait was himself engaged on behalf of Canada in an attempt to negotiate commercial agreements with France and Spain, and when he went to London in 1880, it was understood that some of his duties were to be of a diplomatic nature. He was to be the channel of communication between the Dominion Government and the Colonial Office and to work with the British Foreign Office in an attempt to further Canadian interests abroad. He had financial tasks too, and immigration work, and it was hoped he would be able to do something toward the removal of imperial preferences. Gait, however, found many difficulties in his way. He was not made a member of the diplomatic corps as he thought he should have been; he grew impatient at the delays in carrying on his negotiations through the Colonial Office and Foreign Office and ministers abroad; he chafed at the failure of the Canadian Government to provide properly for his expenses; he couldn't get very far with his plans for extensive immigration; and his ideas with respect to reciprocal trade were coldly received by the Liberal government in power in the Old Land.

In 1883, Gait resigned and returned to Canada. He was succeeded by Sir Charles Tupper, who, except for sixteen months in 1887-88, when he was minister of finance, held the post until 1896. Sir Charles, a man of more vigor and stronger personality than Sir Alexander, was inclined to cut through or brush aside red tape, while Sir Alexander paused to untie it. He made a forceful representative of Canada, and proved highly useful in solving some of the financial problems brought up by the building of the first trans-continental.

When Sir Charles returned to Canada to succeed Sir Mackenzie Bowell as Prime Minister, Sir Donald Smith, who was to become Baron Strathcona, the following year became high commissioner. Strathcona held the office for eighteen years, and was during all that time a picturesque and very busy representative of Canada. He had prestige in business and social circles, he had great wealth, and he placed both at the service of the Dominion. His character, his exertions and his lavish hospitality gave the office of high commissioner a new dignity and importance, and succeeding high commissioners have been expected to live up to this. "Compared with Strathcona's indefatigable exertions," said Wilelaw Reid, United States ambassador, "my own office is a snore."

Strathcona's immediate successor was Sir George Perley, whose earlier duties were concerned with the war as minister of overseas military affairs, and his later tasks with repatriation and reconstruction. He returned to Canada

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The editor reserves the right to delete or to modify any material which is unnecessarily unduly or otherwise objectionable.

FREE RUM

Sir,—Your correspondent "Citizen" is a young man, or, at least a man not schooled in much of his country's history. He tries hard to convince your readers that we have reached a most deplorable era of rum drinking owing to our having a prohibitory liquor law!

Now, comparisons are said to be odious, nevertheless your readers will be glad to establish the truth. For obvious reasons Island historians have been generally silent in respect of sins and shortcomings, but there is one reliable means of obtaining the truth—the testimony of the oldest and oldest inhabitants.

Go, "Citizen," and ask them about rum drinking 60 or 70 years ago.

Learn from them that there was then no rum law. Every person, man or woman, was allowed to sell as much and drink as much as he or she could! How "Citizen" would have enjoyed life then! Rum in every store! Rum at every stump! Rum at every dance! Rum at many funerals and wakes! Elections were generally bacchanalian drunk to vote! Each candidate had his supply of rum as close as possible to the "hustings"!

A prominent Island minister has written a book in which he gives a ludicrous account of the candidates having run out, he was being "snowed under." But a team was despatched to the nearest rum depot for a further supply of the necessary voting fluid. On its arrival at the booth, the candidate in danger experienced a piling up of votes in his favor! That is a sample of the effects of free rum.

A famous American writer and traveler, writing of the Sandwich Islands says that in early civilization it was the custom, on the death of a king or queen, to do away with all law for a certain period. He tries hard to describe the resulting conditions. The orgy of crime, debauchery and licentiousness could not be fully described in printable language!

It is hard to see how anyone, who reads the history of the world, would like to see the Island without a law against the selling and drinking of rum. Moderation! The moderate drinker is often called the Devil's decoy to allure the youth to ruin. He has led their sons to ruin by their so-called moderate drinking.

I am, Sir, etc.,
TEETOTALER.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

YOUR CHILD'S EYESIGHT

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THE BUREAU ASKS—Lay it on some more.

I admit the Tourist and Travel Bureau should have more money. They can use it to highly profitable advantage. But there is a handsome surplus of those taxes, collected by government from car owners, from which this money could be paid and for which it is now earmarked by legislation.

But auto holders, already pinched to the death in the taxation vise, should protest against this protest for raising more revenue. We have taxes more than enough.

I am, Sir, etc.,
OVERTAXED OWNER

HAVE WE PROHIBITION?

Sir,—Tacking prohibition as the title to a free rum law does not make it a "Prohibition Act," although the exponents of the traffic try to imply it as such.

In 1827 the Liberal party appealed to the people on a definite and emphatic prohibition platform. They were overwhelmingly returned to power on that issue.

Their platform pledges were: "Absolute prohibition of the sale or use of intoxicating liquor except for medicinal purposes."

Reduction of doctors "scripts" to 25 per month.

No medical certificate to be issued without a professional examination of patient, and designation of ailment for which it is prescribed.

Vigorous prosecution of doctors infringing this law, including detentions of further right to issue certificates.

Three special prohibition magistrates to be appointed, one for each County.

Independent Commission consisting of half Liberals and half Conservatives, at the nomination of the Temperance Alliance, to be appointed to enforce the Act.

Penalties to be increased in severity and enforced against all offenders, without leniency or respect of persons.

Liquors for medicinal purposes to be provided at approximate cost of delivery.

All surplus revenues from fines, sale of liquors or other sources to be retained and applied to the purposes of the Act.

Co-operation of the Ottawa government (then Liberal) to suppress smuggling.

Federal Mounted Police to be added to the local force of inspectors to ensure effective results.

Automobile Taxes

Sir,—The Travel Bureau, are asking another tax on motor cars. It is on MacDuff. Suppose for a change they tax some of those \$6,000 revenue hotels and resorts, which reap the profit?

Automobile and gasoline taxes were originally earmarked for road and highway improvement. These taxes are already sufficient to pay the entire cost to the province of the Bennett-MacMillan Highway in two years.

In 1934 we paid in auto taxes direct \$100,872.40 and gasoline tax \$202,595.33, less rebates and expenses \$23,094.36, a total of \$270,373.37. This tax has been exceeded this year and will probably be \$300,000. To this must be added municipal taxes of over \$100,000 and car insurance, contributing to insurance taxes, making the present levy upon automobiles close to half a million dollars annually. This is more than the entire costs of all our highway and road service.

There are poor people, owners of cars not worth more than fifty to a hundred dollars, now contributing almost the total value of their cars in these combined taxes, and

MACS Pig Worm Powder

This powder has been carefully analyzed, and has been found a very effective remedy in the treatment of worms.

MACS Blood Food

For pale and thin people. A combination especially valuable in the treatment of those diseases, where their origin is traceable to an impoverished condition of the blood.

One of the greatest remedies in the treatment of Rheumatism.

For those who have lost their appetite, Macs Blood Food will prove the restorative.

GET A BOX NOW 50c. Mail Orders C. O. D. promptly attended to.

Prescriptions a Specialty.

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The Poets' Corner

STARLIGHT

Starlight through the curves of space
Falls an age and does not tire,
Falls an age and does not tire,
A curve of undiminished fire.

No interstellar cold may stay
These atoms in their arc of flight—
The mathematics of the night
They see far off the burning sun,
The furious wash of tides that shake
The whirling nebulae, and twist
A moon's orbit till it break.

And, while it plunges, there is born
The eye wherein, as in a well
This light will dive and cleave
To the dark brain where it may dwell

And beat against its ivory walls—
A fragment of a universe,
A shining prisoner whose name
The jailer cannot even rehearse.

—Harold Lewis Cook

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There is a Great-West Policy to meet every need—Family and Business protection, Educational, Retirement Income or Pension and Annuities.

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