

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

President—W. Chester S. McLaughlin... Secretary—Lieut.-Col. D. A. MacKinnon...

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1933.

B. C. MIXUPS

Notwithstanding anything that may be said to the contrary, there was no "Conservative defeat" in British Columbia election for the good and sufficient reason that the Conservative Party did not enter the contest, due to internal dissensions.

CROP COMPETITION

Field crop competitions, says an exchange, are now so general in the Maritime provinces, as in other parts of Canada, that it may surprise some people to learn that such farm gatherings originated in 1899 when Dr. Jas. W. Robertson, then Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying in the Dominion Department of Agriculture, put aside \$100 of his own money to offer in prizes to Canadian boys and girls who would send him col-

lections of the largest heads from the most vigorous plants of wheat and oats from their fathers' farms. In the following year Sir William Macdonald, a native of Prince Edward Island, with a plan for continuing and enlarging this organized encouragement of seed selection, provided the sum of \$10,000 for prizes.

In 1904 the Canadian Seed Growers' Association was formed but its operations were confined largely to the Western provinces, some of which gave special grants of \$100 to each of their agricultural societies. In 1907, the number of agricultural societies conducting field competitions had increased to 60, of which 11 were in Ontario, 1 in Manitoba, 38 in Saskatchewan, and 10 in Alberta.

All this is well since Canada, with millions of acres of undeveloped agricultural land (and far too much that is cultivated in a more or less haphazard way) must always depend to a large extent upon its farm products for its prosperity and progress.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There have been unusually heavy shipments of Canadian barrelled apples to date this season to the United Kingdom markets. Up to October 26, the total was 916,324 barrels, representing 171 per cent. in excess of the 338,063 barrels shipped to the corresponding date last year.

The following comment is from a New Brunswick contemporary: "The New England States estimate their potato crop this year at 50,000,000 bushels, or about 2,500,000 more than the average for the last five years. The crop is said to be of excellent quality, and prices are higher than the average for some years. The government has loaned the potato farmers money to finance planting, fertilizing and harvesting, and now is financing the farmers so that they will not have to dump their entire crop on the market all at once. This is one of the things the New Brunswick dealers are up against."

Canada is coming back in coal mining, which in the last two or three years has been hard hit by the depression, and is making satisfactory progress in the production of coke, which is a good substitute for hard coal. Canadian mines produced 1,101,158 tons of coal in September as compared with 934,191 in the corresponding month of 1932 and 1,012,659 in September, 1931. The five-year average for the month was 1,204,859. Last month the Canadian output included 750,811 tons of bituminous coal, 48,789 of sub-bituminous and 301,558 of lignite. From Cape Breton comes word that "the best month's output since June, 1927, was produced at the Dominion Coal Company's pits in October, with a total of 898,756 tons."

Notes By The Way

In transportation, in living quarters, in educational methods, in government, in art and literature—what of tomorrow? What an age for the young man of today! What a day in which to be born! I am not afraid, says George Matthew Adams, of the "machine age."

For those who know how to make use of enforced leisure, even unemployment has its compensation. That a very large number of workless men and women have resorted to the solace of reading is shown in some remarkable figures quoted at the annual conference of the Library Association on Oct. 27.

One reason why we have thrust upon us so many worries and so much confusion, is because we either try to do too many things at a time, or expect to take three steps at once. The next step is the only important and essential one to take—the only one possible. After that, the others follow in their natural order, in proportion to the will and courage shown in taking the very next step.

An American Association's despatch from Washington tells that the United States Tariff Commission is to investigate an increase in imports, this "to determine whether additional measures are needed to protect the higher wages and prices sought in connection with the N.R.A." This should be of interest to Canada.

Nothing is more clear at present than that our trade future is with the British Empire. There was a time, six months ago, when there existed prospects of fairer trade with the United States, of a revival of reciprocity. Those prospects exist no longer. They have been swallowed up by the meaning and consequences of the NRA and we shall be lucky if the United States withholds even greater penalties upon our exports to that country.

The Bantu is a shrewd reasoner. Logically, he argues to himself that if the white men themselves cannot agree on the subject of their own religion, he cannot be expected to judge which is the best. The Bantu's own simple doctrine of the Great Spirit of the world, and the Lesser spirits of forest, mountain and stream is accepted by all his tribe without question, or cavil. Even in the event of the earnest seeker after knowledge deciding upon the particular church and asking for instruction, he finds that the white man has not one gospel but four versions, each slightly different, and not counting an Old Testament full of blood and ferocity. Is not his argument natural when he contends that the white man has no real religion? Cannot the warring sects agree to bring to the Bantu and the Negro the simple tenets which underlie every denomination, bring him to the feet of Christ, and leave him there?—Wilfrid Robertson, in The National Review, (London.)

I confess to a certain irritation, in reading Socialist books and speeches, at the constant repetition of the phrase "capitalist system," as if its meaning were self-evident and universally acknowledged. A system, if the word is applied to human institutions, means something organized and planned and imposed by the planners and organizers upon the material or the persons they are dealing with. It is



By James W. Barton M.D.

APPENDICITIS, THE COMMONEST SURGICAL AILMENT

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Notwithstanding that this is the operation most frequently performed in hospitals, there are still many deaths occurring, not from the operation but because of delay in operating.

If you were to examine the records of any well regulated hospital you would find that these records were practically the same as any other, in fact, the same as the records in all hospitals.

Dr. F. K. Boland, Atlanta, gathered the records of 4,270 cases of acute appendicitis in which treatment was given by 197 surgeons from 1927 to 1931. Of this large number all but 46 underwent operation.

What do these records show? The records show that of 219 cases operated on less than 6 hours after the onset of the symptoms there was not a single death. Think of that for a moment; not a single death in acute appendicitis in 219 cases undergoing operation, simply because the operation was performed so soon after the symptoms arose.

What happened when operation was delayed? The figures show that 7 to 12 hours after the symptoms arose and operation was performed, 1 in every 100 cases died.

Between 19 and 24 hours, 2.6 per cent died.

Between 37 and 48 hours, 5 per cent died.

Between 49 and 72 hours after, 8 per cent died.

Every health writer, including myself, has been telling readers that the two reasons why patients die with appendicitis is first, delay in operating as shown by the above figures, and second, the use of purgatives before operation.

In some cities, Philadelphia being an outstanding example, the public is educated as to the dangers of "abdominal pain," just as some communities educate their people about diphtheria and how to safeguard their children from death by this dread disease.

Dr. Bo and restates the danger of the delay and the use of purgatives, and finds that the fault usually lies with the patient or with his family or friends, although the attending physician or surgeon is not always blameless.

In case of "stomach" with pain coming on later and going down to centre of abdomen to right side, call in your doctor.

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rightly applied to Communism or Socialism, which aims at imposing a scheme or plan upon a given society; but the essence of capitalism, so-called is that it leaves everybody free to make his own schemes and plans and the choice, between them to be decided by experience and results. So far from being hard and fixed, the thing which for short we call Capitalism, or the Capitalist system, changes every year, I had almost said every month and every hour. It is an evolution from the time when men first began to buy and sell, and is constantly developing new forms and coming up against new obstacles, which it endeavours to remove or circumvent.

—J. A. Spencer in The London News-Chronicle (Lib.)

Business Recovery In The Maritime Provinces

(Royal Bank of Canada October Letter)

In the past and particularly since the depression of 1920, recovery has come more slowly in the Maritime Provinces than in other parts of Canada, but the present strong upward trend has been shared to the full in the Maritimes. The number of men at work in the steel plant at Sydney is more than double the number employed last year at this time; lumber prices have increased and lumber sales are better than for many years. The crops of the past season have been satisfactory; the apple crop was of bumper size and the potato yield was abundant. The atmosphere of gloom and depression prevalent last year has given place to confidence and optimism with the general improvement in almost all lines of business.

Although the crops suffered from dry weather during the growing season, there was no such drought as prevailed in almost all other parts of Canada. Dry weather damaged oats but was not sufficiently prolonged to injure the wheat and barley materially. Rains in August and September were in time to help the root crops. Exceptionally high yields of potatoes were secured in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick; the average in the three provinces increased to 100 cwt. per acre as compared with 86 cwt. in 1932.

A record yield of high quality apples is assured in Nova Scotia. The commercial crop is placed at 2,125,000 barrels as compared with 1,054,500 barrels in 1932 and a five-year average of 1,296,000 barrels. The export movement has been heavy and it is anticipated that shipments during the balance of the season will attain record proportions. The returns have been better than last year and this in spite of the large volume moved and an unusually large supply of domestic apples in Great Britain.

Export sales of lumber to Great Britain have not been in such large volume in ten years or more and the outlook in the lumber market favours continued improvement. Stocks on hand have been reduced to skeleton proportions and a very considerable volume of new cutting would be necessary to restore stocks to normal, even though new orders were not being received in good volume. According to present plans, there will be between five and six million dollars spent in the woods this coming winter. Since there are large areas, particularly in New Brunswick, almost entirely dependent upon revenue from the forest industries, this new money from the outside world is bringing about a marked transformation in business conditions.

The pulp and paper plants have been operating to capacity. In one or two instances, output has substantially exceeded the anticipated maximum. The continued activity of these mills implies further increase in woods activity during the coming winter.

The Nova Scotia steel industry, moreover, has received two orders having a total value of over two million dollars, consisting of steel rails for South Africa and for the Canadian National Railways. The former order has been completed, but the 50,000 tons in the latter order will keep the plants busy for the balance of the year. In September the average number of men employed was 1,800, as compared with 700 in September, 1932.

Orders for textiles are being received in increasing volume. The textile plants have been busy and there is a feeling of optimism in the trade concerning the volume of future business. Smaller manufacturers report more varied conditions, but there is no question but

that improvement has been fairly general. Coal production has expanded as a result of the increased demand from the steel companies. The output of the Cape Breton collieries of the Dominion Iron & Steel Corporation amounted to 349,000 tons in September, as against 297,000 tons in August and 191,000 tons in September, 1932. The total production of coal in Nova Scotia during the first nine months of 1933 amounted to 2,391,000 tons as compared with 2,349,000 tons during the same period in 1932. It is expected that the collieries will continue to operate extensively until well into November.

Much has been written about the self-sufficiency of the Maritime Provinces and of their exceptional capacity to endure hard times without undue suffering. In actual fact, there are two kinds of economy existing side by side in these provinces, and these two kinds of economy are the types which are competing for attention on the world stage.

In the first place, in those farming communities where agriculture has been diversified, the farms are largely free from debt, so that a price decline does not place the farmers in as serious a position as it does those in parts of the country where there is heavy mortgage indebtedness. Comparatively simple relationships exist between production and consumption; the farms are largely self-sufficient. Falling prices, with their inevitable tendency to reduce farm prices disproportionately, reduce the farm surplus but do not seriously impoverish the farmer; he merely buys less manufactured goods. Since there is no great surplus of goods from these farms that is not consumed locally, they do not participate in the exceptional benefits of prosperity. On the other hand, it is equally true that they do not accumulate large stocks of products during a rising market which must be disposed of at a heavy loss when prices are falling. On these farms there were few evidences of the excesses of prosperity in 1929, but there has been, also, but little of the grinding poverty of unemployment and dispossession in the years that followed. A close study of the balance of production and consumption of these sections of the Maritime Provinces suggests that they have achieved that condition of affairs toward which many nations now seem to be shaping their course. To eat and wear those things which a nation grows and produces has become a world slogan. Let those who think that this ideal can be achieved only upon a Utopian island, study the economy of the diversified farms of the Maritime Provinces, farms which maintain relative stability in good times and in bad, farms where self-sufficiency is natural rather than a theoretical ideal.

In contrast with this economy stands the economy of those industries in the Maritimes which produce goods for exchange with other parts of Canada and the outside world. Surplus stocks of potatoes, fish, apples and almost all the pulp, paper and lumber, steel and coal produced in the Maritime Provinces must be sold in outside markets. It is these industries which have felt the full influence of the rise and fall of tides of world trade.

There are large areas of New Brunswick which are almost entirely dependent upon the sale of pulp-wood and lumber. To the steel

workers of Sydney and the coal miners came the bitterness of unemployment. The potato growers of Prince Edward Island could find no market for their potatoes. To industries such as these, exchange of goods is a fundamental necessity. An economic plan which over-emphasized the consumption of local products and would shut out goods from other countries and other areas would leave these industries in dire trouble. The contrast between the two types of economy in the Maritimes would bear closer study. Their diversified farms can be largely self-supporting even though they are cut off from exchange with the outside world. The

industries of the Maritimes, however, must exchange goods with the outside world if they are to be prosperous. It was the increase in foreign trade which restored prosperity to this section of the country. Since sterling has been restored to approximate parity, the results of the British Empire Economic Conference have become concrete; a definite expansion in trade, an exchange of the surplus products of the Maritimes for an increasing volume of goods from Great Britain. The ill-effects of the economic isolation which existed before that Conference stand in clear contrast to the growing prosperity now found in the Maritime Provinces.

That Body of Ours

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