

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Honoring Haliburton

Over in Windsor, N.S., a monument has been erected to the memory of Hon. Thomas Chander Haliburton, author of "Sam Slick", and will be unveiled during the present month. This memorial is under the auspices of the Historic Sites and Monuments Committee and is in line with the program of this body to designate historic places and distinguished public servants in the best manner possible. Haliburton is generally regarded as Canada's first humorist and he man who set the pace for the later humorists in the United States. Possibly some of these did not admit it in their day, but it is true, nevertheless, that long before Mark Twain was regaling his readers with anecdotes of travel, Haliburton's fame was established on this part of the continent.

Haliburton was a keen satirist of conditions in Nova Scotia in his day, and of what he regarded as the shiffliness and lack of ambition of his fellow citizens. His characterization of the Yankee peddler selling cheap clocks at exorbitant prices is therefore something more than a mere humorous shot on the trade methods of New Englanders. Here, from the second chapter of "Sam Slick", is a typical example of his style:

"How is it that an American can sell his wares at whatever price he pleases, where a Bluenose would fail to make a sale at all? I will inquire of the Clockmaker the secret of his success."

"What a pity it is, Mr. Slick," for such was his name—"what a pity it is," said I, "that you, who are so successful in teaching people the value of clocks, could not also teach them the value of time!"

"I guess," he said, "they have got that ring to grow on their horns yet, which every four-year-old has in our country. We reckon hours and minutes to be dollars and cents. They do nothing in these parts but eat, drink, smoke, sleep, ride about, lounge at taverns, make speeches at temperance meetings, and talk about 'House of Assembly.' If a man don't hoe his corn, and he don't get a crop, he says it is owing to the bank; and if he runs into debt and is sued, why, he says the lawyers are a curse to the country. They are a most idle set of folk, I tell you."

"But how is it," said I, "that you manage to sell such an immense number of clocks, which certainly cannot be called necessary articles, among a people with whom there seems to be so great a scarcity of money?" Mr. Slick paused, as if considering the propriety of answering the question, and looking me in the face, said in a confidential tone,—

"Why, I don't care if I do tell you, for the market is glutted, and I shall quit this circuit. It is done by a knowledge of soft swarder and human nature." But here is Deacon Flint's, said he: "I have but one clock left, and I guess I will sell it to him."

The manner in which the sale was made at "Deacon Flint's" differed little from the methods still employed by "pressure salesmen" in canvassing these parts. Indeed, one is continually surprised, in reading "Sam Slick", at the timely nature of much of the criticism. The first appearance of this work, which also went under the title of "The Clockmaker", was in the form of a series of letters to the "Nova Scotian" newspaper, in 1835. It was in 1837, just a hundred years ago, that the contributions were collected in volume form. Both in America and in England, the wit of the book made it equally enjoyable to the general public, while its pointed reflections raised a good deal of angry discussion also.

Perhaps the most vehement attack which Haliburton's writings received was in the "North American Review", in which the critic spoke in tones of disgust at the entire conception and execution of the character of Sam Slick. It is not easy to determine, at this distance, just how the book was measured by our own countrymen. Probably it was hardly looked upon as literature by the scholar, but the ordinary reader did not mar his pleasure at the fun by looking at it too critically.

Judge Haliburton published several volumes of a more serious nature, bearing on colonial manners and history; but it is as a humorist and satirist that his memory survives.

The Public Should Know

The Globe and Mail, Toronto, urges the Dominion Government to state the terms of reference of the forthcoming Royal Commission on the financial relations of the Dominion and the provinces. However unavoidable the delay in the appointment of the chairman and other members of the commission, the public should at least be apprised of the ground the enquiry will cover.

The suggestion, adds the Financial Post, is an excellent one. "All over Canada, provincial governments, municipalities, boards of trade and other public and semi-public bodies are preparing briefs to submit to the commission. These special studies are to be welcomed and will be of inestimable value to the probers in their work of determining upon a better financial setup for Confederation. But it is already apparent that a great deal of confusion exists as to the boundaries of the enquiry."

"In some provinces, experts have been engaged to study the relationship of the tariff, transportation and economic disabilities to the financial problems of government. It may be that the commission, when appointed, will bar out anything but the most general consideration of purely economic problems and will concentrate upon questions of public revenues and their disbursement. If this is to be the case—and the subject is certainly a large enough one for any commission—the Government should indicate as much."

There seems to be grave difficulties, the Post writer concludes, in obtaining the right men for the commission, particularly as the decision seems to have been reached to compose it solely of Canadians and without British or American

associates. The appointments have already been too long delayed. But the time that must elapse before the commission can get to work may be well used by those who desire to offer constructive suggestions or penetrating analyses of their own problems. To give point to such studies, to make them truly useful, it is essential that they be made to conform to the pattern of the commission itself.

Editorial Notes

The Royal Observatory, Greenwich was founded this date 1675.

The hot weather is bringing an early harvest, but playing sore havoc with roots.

Congratulations are in order to Mr. F. C. Burke on his success as Maritime Champion flier.

The Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett as Conservative party leader, is the right man in the right place at the right time.

Agriculture Minister Robert Gardiner estimates between 200,000 and 300,000 head of cattle ought to be moved out of Saskatchewan and Alberta because of drought conditions.

The maledictions on the Hon. Mr. MacIntyre's head on account of the St. Peters Road are enough to account for the continued drought. They would burn up anything save the hon. minister's lack of judgment and horse sense in the matter of roadmaking.

Though there is little likelihood that a new farm bill will be adopted before Congress adjourns, President Roosevelt has not lost his interest in the theory of a planned economy for agriculture. Crop control is inevitable, he said at his press conference on Tuesday, if we are to avoid another collapse of prices. And every time wheat goes down and cotton goes down, the purchasing power of half the country dries up and wheels in the factories slow down.

Every province and each city gets something worthwhile by way of a "hand-out" from Ottawa, save and except this province and city. Alderman H. D. Wilson has just informed Vancouver City Council that he had been assured by Dominion Transport Minister C. D. Howe that the federal grant to Vancouver for improvement of airport facilities would be increased this year from \$50,000 to \$70,000. Alderman Wilson also said he had been informed by the Minister the city would receive another \$50,000 next year, and \$40,000 in 1939. A miserly contract for a boat harbor at Basin Head here goes to Quebec not to P.E.I.

One of the outcomes of Washington's new financial and trade agreement with Brazil, is the cancellation by the latter of its trade arrangement with Germany. Germany had agreed to purchase 100,000 bags of Brazilian coffee for resale to Central European countries, Mr. Villela, acting Minister of Finance, informed the Bank of Brazil that, regardless of the stage of the negotiations, they should be ended. Germany offered some time ago to purchase 300,000 bags of coffee, using compensated marks. This coffee, Germany said, would be exclusively for resale to central European countries that were not dealing directly with Brazil. Brazil agreed to release 100,000 bags providing direct shipments would be made from Brazil to the different countries.

The British Government is now providing an air mail service to Cairo in nine trips and return per week, and two a week and return per week, and two a week and return to South Africa, and eventually three a week and return to Australia. The complete success which attended the recent experimental flights of the Cambria and Caledonia, in co-operation with Pan-American Airways, between Canada and Britain, with the prospect of a regular service next summer, and the ultimate establishment of a trans-Pacific service from Canada to China and the Antipodes, combine to indicate the importance of early action by the Canadian Government in establishing an attractive schedule of air mail rates across the Atlantic.

Using modern Western terms, the misfortune of China is the thing of which China used to boast formerly and of which the great majority of the Chinese people are probably still proud at heart. China in the long run is never conquered. She ends by conquering her conquerors. With the vast coils of her population and her ancient civilization she encircles her invader, isolates him; and ends by absorbing him. It may take a few hundred years more or less, but what is that to China? We of the West are too impatient for such Fabian campaigning. We may admit that in the long run the Chinese people come out on top, but it is not a pretty picture while the process is under way. China in the squared ring with Japan does not impress. Her antagonist is out for immediate results. Japan is always trying for a knockout. China has not yet succeeded in shaking off the lassitude which comes from an inner certainty of victory—a couple of hundred years hence.

Hon. C. A. Dunning has just issued particulars of the loans granted under the Home Improvement scheme to the end of June amounting to \$6,843,098.95. Of this amount \$4,848,548.10 was loaned in cities and towns with population of 5,000 and upward. Of 18,103 loans reported to June 30, 12,189 were in these cities and towns. At the end of May loans in cities and towns above 5,000 numbered 9,388 and amounted to \$3,678,427.10. The larger cities, with population of 40,000 and upward, reported 6,792 loans amounting to \$2,668,511.17. In cities between 20,000 and 40,000 loans numbered 1,410 and amounted to \$599,964.44. A total of 1,851 loans worth \$766,849.76 was reported from cities and towns between 10,000 and 20,000; and towns ranging from 5,000 to 10,000 accounted for 2,136 loans with a value of \$813,231.73. Canada's two largest cities continued to run very close in the total amount loaned under the plan, although Toronto far exceeded Montreal in number of loans.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A new stanza for either "God Save the King" or "My Country 'Tis of thee" was sung on the Canada-U.S. international boundary line the other day by delegates attending the Pan-Pacific Women's Conference in Vancouver. It went like this: "Two Empires by the sea, Two nations great and free, One anthem raise, One tongue, one faith we claim, One God, one glorious name We love and praise."

The addition admirably expresses the closely allied ideals and aspirations of Canada and the United States, and embodies a worthy and, indeed, noble sentiment.—Brantford Exposition.

Every year State Department of Agriculture officials find it necessary to warn the public that all late fruit, particularly apples, should be washed before eating, as many of them carry the residue of chemical sprays used during the growing season. As insect, fungus and flight infestations grow and reach resort more and more to tree foliage and fruit sprays, and many of these combinations are seldom washed off by rain or deteriorate sufficiently by the time the harvest is made to remove the danger of poisoning. Sensible precaution in this direction will prevent serious consequences.—Detroit News.

"I suppose there is nothing more certainly accepted by our modern world than that life is a quest. Stagnation means death. A nation, a church, a society an individual that tries to live in the past, that refuses to advance, that looks backward and fruit spraying, that forward hands self-condemned by our modern standards. Clearly there was never a period of greater movement."—The Bishop of Blackburn.

In the days before the war many thousands of Ontario farmers emigrated to the West to make their fortunes and many of them achieved their ambition. Others were not so fortunate, but in spite of the hazards of drought, hail and rust, few of them returned to farm in the East. The rewards are large in the West for the farmer when a good year arrives, and it is this expectation that keeps the agricultural investor even in years of lean revenues and weather vicissitudes. The West is a land with men of optimism and undaunted courage in adversity, and it is a part of Canada that has contributed vastly to the Dominion's prosperity and national wealth.—Calgary Herald.

With French forces, to the extent of two individuals at least, involved in a clash with Japanese soldiers, and report of strained relations in areas patrolled by French troops, the Oriental scene takes on renewed serious angles from an international standpoint. That incident where two women citizens of the United States were alleged to have been hounded rather roughly by Japanese sentries at Peiping has been smoothed over, apparently. This French-Japanese "misunderstanding" may prove more serious.—Ex.

If you will take the trouble to follow the history of the man who says he "drinks now and then", you will find that he drinks more now than he did then.—Niagara Falls Review.

From Berlin comes news that under an agreement between German and the Spanish insurgents most of the iron ore produced in the land of the Basques is to be exported to Germany. It is not explained what the Spanish insurgents are to receive, or are receiving in return. Some observers may think it is aid in the prosecution of the warfare. Whether or not such suspicion are justified it is altogether likely that Spain, no matter which side wins, will have to pay for whatever help comes from outside. That is generally the case and the bill is never pleasant.—Montreal Gazette.

For the past year reports of Japanese floating camnetes operating off the west coast of North America have been appearing with increasing frequency. These great vessels, in one case as large as 11,000 tons, have been reported as far south as California and as far north as Alaska. It is the Alaska and British Columbia aspect of the problem that is of greatest importance for it is in these waters that the Japanese are reported to be catching the cream of the red salmon run. The complications in the situation arise, of course, from the fact that these vessels are operating on the high seas and outside the three-mile limit. Yet they are definitely threatening to exterminate the whole Alaskan—and later perhaps the British Columbian—salmon industry.—Ottawa Citizen.

A deliver into the past has discovered in the year of Canadian confederation much was happening that convinces him of the truth of the saying: "The more things change the more they are the same." Among the items he found in an 1867 newspaper were accounts of revolutionary disturbances in Spain, of a congress to overthrow existing governments and establish "the United States of Europe" and of another international gathering that had as its purpose "the nationalization of landed property and other useful objects."—Edmonton Journal.

"Now, children," said the vicar, who was questioning the Sunday school class, "with what did Samson arm himself to fight against the Philistines?" None of the children could tell him. "Oh, yes, you know!" he said, "Oh, yes, you know!" he said,

That Body of Yours

By James W. Dorison, M.D.

RAW APPLE AND RAW BANANA DIET IN DISTURBANCES OF THE STOMACH AND INTESTINE

I have written before about the raw apple diet for diarrhoea in infants and children. The raw apple absorbs organisms and collects mucous, thus cleaning out the bowel and giving it a fresh start, as it were. The raw apple diet is now in use in both Europe and America.

What may prove equally helpful in stomach and intestinal disturbances in children is a diet of bananas instead of raw apples, or a combination of raw apples and bananas.

Dr. Theophil Baumann in one of the European journals of children's diseases states that the raw banana diet has certain advantages over the raw apple diet in the treatment of chronic intestinal disturbances of children. "Bananas are readily eaten by children, do not irritate the intestine, and have a high food value thus preventing acidosis due to hunger. Bananas are rich in minerals and in nitrogen which prevents any rapid loss of weight. There are also better formed stools, and less gas formation with the bananas."

It is in children over nine months that the banana, the raw apple, or the apple powder is best suited; the diarrhoea is more quickly controlled and there is less chance of it returning. "To obtain the best results, after an interval of six to twelve hours (in which only tea is given) raw fruits and tea (using saccharine instead of sugar) are given for three or four days. Depending on age, four to eight bananas per day are given, or the same number of apples. The bananas are peeled and cut up fine, the core is removed from the apples and also the skins if they are to be given to infants, and they are then grated. Older children can be given a mixed diet of bananas and apples. The change to a normal diet should be made gradually."

Most youngsters are fond of bananas; they are rich in food value and mineral salts, and digest easily. Apple powder is to be preferred to apples because it does not contain the irritating fibres of fresh apples.

"Fruit juices do not seem to be as effective in the treatment of acute disturbances of the intestine."

The Poet's Corner

TO FINDE GOD

Weigh me the fire; or canst thou find A way to measure out the wind; Distinguish all these floods that are Mixt in that watry theatre; And taste thou them as saltless there. As in their channel first they were. Tell me the peoples that do keep With n the kingdoms of the deep; Or fetch me back that cloud again, Be shivered into seeds of rain; Tell me the motes, dust, sand and spears. Of corn, when summer shakes his eares; Show me that world of stars, and whence They noiseless spill their influence: That thou canst; then shew me Him That shines the glorious Cherubim.—Robert Herrick, 17th Century.

The Happier Lot

(Hamilton Spectator) We are not quite sure whether we should envy or sympathize with Ardgowan Valda. She set four records yesterday, yet yesterday, for her, was almost exactly like the other 364 days in the year. She chewed the cud placidly, while a herdman milked her, and finally went to sleep as usual. A good essay could be written upon the influence of world records—or even, merely of fame—upon human beings. We have seen them arise from obscurity—women flyers, boy athletes, young actors and actresses. And we have seen them harden, as it were, under our eyes. They have lost their simplicity, their naturalness, their spontaneity. They have become bored, and contaminated by too smart people, brilliant and sometimes a little nasty. It requires a stout heart to withstand the disintegrating influence of fame, especially when it is suddenly attained. We do not think fame brings happiness or satisfaction. It seems to make people restless, anxious to shine socially, or at least to excel in some other activity than that which brought them to public attention.

Now if Ardgowan Valda, of Dundas, knew that she had set up a new world high for fat content in milk, she might go the way of all famous flesh. She might become like a cow in a Walt Disney cartoon, trying on funny hats and prancing herself before mirrors, emulating the graces of the world of fashion. The knowledge, however, is hidden forever from her placid eyes, and she will never (we imagine) be given a taste of that which feeds the appetite, and never satisfies it.

On the whole, we think we and to help them he tapped his jaw with one finger. "What is this?" he asked. This joggled their memories, and the class answered in chorus: "The jawbone of an ass."—Ex.

Tax Conscious

(St. Catharines Standard) Ottawa tells the country that the revenue of the National Department of Revenue has increased by over \$15,000,000 for the first quarter this year and income tax collections have increased in the same period by \$5,600,000. Excise tax revenues have increased by \$10,425,000 and excise duties by \$1,809,000. All this makes a beautiful story. No doubt the Minister of Finance needs it all. But it all constitutes a very heavy exaction of tribute from the people.

The other day a man received a bill for a well built boat he had ordered earlier in the year. He was quoted a price for the boat, and when he got the bill, he found that the price did not include the sales tax, which was added, and which amounted in this case to \$784. There was in black and white, clear reminder that when one bought a boat, or it might have been anything else, one had to pay the government substantially for the privilege. Had it been a \$3,000 motor launch, the tax would have been \$240.

It is an exception when the purchaser is reminded that on what he buys the government takes an eight per cent. impost. One walks into a store and buys an overcoat and suit of clothes. The merchant has had his price and it is paid, but in that price is hidden that eight per cent. which the government takes and which the purchaser never thinks about. It relates to all purchases, large and small, with few minor exceptions. The eight per cent. sales tax is inordinarily high and is too much. It is a tax which does not spread itself properly. Take the bachelor with a \$3,000 salary (on or the married couple without children, sometimes both of them earning salaries and compare their status with the man who has to buy shoes and clothes for five, six or more children, and generally that man has a much smaller wage income than the average. On the multiple purchases the family man makes of necessity, he is soaked the eight per cent. which he can ill afford. And yet in the families of this country, lies its real destiny. True the bachelor and married couple without children, but a moderate income tax, they have the wherewithal to pay and they unquestionably escape the incidence of taxation in many other ways.

With buoyant revenues, and the promise of a balanced budget, it would seem to be a clear case for the Finance Minister to appreciably reduce the sales tax of eight per cent. It would be in the interest of all business to do so. And if the people of the country could only be made tax conscious, realizing that on everything they purchase the government took a tribute of eight cents on the dollar, public opinion would see force the reduction.

CRITICIZES MODERN YOUTH

CAPE TOWN —(CP)—Modern youth came in for some harsh criticism when Rev. A. J. van Wyk, moderator of the Cape Dutch Reformed Synod said they showed "a shameful lack of respect for older people, the Church and for God."

should envy her. Ardgowan Valda, with her pasture and her hay and her regular hours, is, we think, happier than the latest idol of the masses.

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