

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE ANSWER

The following statement in yesterday's issue of the local Liberal organ, is advanced as a reason why the Bennett Government should be defeated:

"Our foreign trade has been shot to pieces by high tariffs and other restrictive measures imposed at the special session of Parliament in 1930."

And here is the answer:

By reason of successive tariff increases adopted at Washington during the nine years of the Mackenzie King regime, Canada's exports of agricultural products and of manufactures thereof were reduced from over \$175,000,000 to less than \$3,000,000 per annum.

Canada thereupon, through the Bennett Government, negotiated trade agreements within the Empire, with the result that our favorable trade balance with Great Britain, which was reduced to \$84,000,000 in the last fiscal year of the Liberal regime in Canada, increased in the fiscal year ending March 31, 1934, to \$123,200,000 and enabled us to pay the annually accruing interest on our indebtedness to that country.

Moreover, during the nine months of the calendar year—from January 1 to October 1—the exports of Canada to all countries increased from \$348,000,000 in 1932 to \$390,000,000 in 1933, to \$459,000,000 in 1934.

So phenomenal has been our trade recovery that the Economic Council of the League of Nations credits Canada with leading every country in the world in this connection!

RUBBING IT IN

Puzzled to account to its readers for the undeniable fact that harmony, unanimity and enthusiasm existed at Tuesday's Conservative convention, the Opposition organ has hit upon a brilliant explanation. "That is quite natural," it says, "for the very cream—the elect—of the Tory party was present so that if 'harmony and unanimity' did not exist the outlook would be indeed gloomy."

What then about the Liberal convention at which Messrs. Larabee and Sinclair were nominated? The bickering and squabbling which prevailed on that occasion was admitted by the Liberal organ. Not even the chairman, Mr. D. J. Riley, was immune from criticism, and his task throughout the meeting was one of speeding difficulty in maintaining a semblance of order and decorum. Charges and countercharges were exchanged with the utmost disregard for "harmony and unanimity" and Mr. Mackenzie King's own nominee, Hon. Cyrus Macmillan, who had borne the party standard and the brunt of the fighting in the last election contest, was ousted to the indignation of his supporters. Are not Dr. Cyrus Macmillan, Senator Sinclair, Mr. Harry Tidmarsh, the cream, the elect of the Liberal party and were they not present on that memorable occasion? Or does our contemporary suggest that "the cream" of the Liberal party was submerged in baser elements, at that never-to-be-forgotten convention? This is the most favourable interpretation that can be put upon its explanation of the harmony attending the Conservative nominations. It is an insinuation which the friends of the nominated Liberal candidates naturally resent. And it is surely adding insult to injury to suggest that the Conservative outlook would be "gloomy indeed" if a replication of what occurred at the Liberal convention had taken place on Tuesday.

Just why the Liberal press should go out of its way to invite comparisons of this kind is something which its readers will have to figure out for themselves. Senator Sinclair, who is credited with being the party mentor and whose political sagacity is proverbial, will have to take our contemporary out behind the woodshed for some rigid disciplining, if it insists upon implying that he and his friends are other than "the cream—the elect—of the Liberal Party."

LIBERAL CRITICISM

Not all the leading Liberals in Ontario approve of the ruthless spoils system introduced in Ontario's governmental affairs by Premier Hepburn. Speaking at a meeting in Lindsay last week, Senator A. C. Hardy, son of the former Liberal Premier of Ontario, aroused enthusiastic applause by denouncing the orgy of decapitation conducted throughout the civil service by the new Liberal administration of the Province. The denunciation of the Hepburn methods is the more significant when it is recalled that two years ago Senator Hardy was President of the Ontario Liberal Association and that he was one of the Ottawa group which elected Mr. Hepburn to the pro-

vincial party leadership in place of W. E. N. Sinclair. Admitting that he was a strong party man, Senator Hardy nevertheless said he was in favor of fair play. The spoils system, he added, is an abuse of patronage that is a curse, and every Liberal should work against it. So far as he is concerned, he would continue to protest against dismissal of government employees who have served the province faithfully. He pointed out that even on the lowest level of expediency Liberals should remember that if they gullotine the Tories, the Tories will be tempted to gullotine them when they get into power. The worst aspect of the spoils system as adopted by the Hepburn administration, however, is that it has definitely degraded the standards of public life in a province which for several decades past has adhered to British ideals of government.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The second Dollar Day.

Not all chain stores pay starvation wages it now appears.

If seeing is believing the stores did enormous business yesterday—Dollar Day.

We should take particular pride in the celebration of Prince George's marriage since he is the first Duke of Kent since Prince Edward Island was named after his great-grandfather.

Ottawa correspondents are more or less guessing as to the date of the opening of Parliament. The first week of January is too close to Yule-tide holidays for members to return to Ottawa, so it resolves itself into a choice between the second or third week, the Thursdays (the usual opening day) in which are dated 10th and 17th respectively.

Premier "Mich" Hepburn, who saw fit to ignore the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto, has wakened to a realization of his responsibilities, and graciously performed the opening ceremony at the Royal Winter Fair. No Premier has the right to allow politics or personal spleen to interfere with the discharge of his public duties, especially where these affect the trade and commerce of the province or dominion.

Some idea of the effect the Saar question is having in certain quarters in France, (writes "Janus" is conveyed by a private letter from Paris. The writer, whose boy is at school in Switzerland, mentions her intention of leaving him there in view of the probability "of war in the spring." For the same reason plans for the redecoration of the family flat are being abandoned, since it is not much use spending money on paint and varnish when you may have a bomb through the roof in six months' time. All this seems very wild and fantastic—and no doubt is—but it is in fact taken from an ordinary private letter from one friend to another.

The safeguards provided in the report of the Select Parliamentary committee on Indian government reform should go a long way to relieve the doubts and fears of Anglo-Indians and Imperialists generally. The White Paper policy practically threw the future of India into the hands of some 230 different speaking nationalities, and half-a-dozen religions without adequate Imperial guidance or control. The new report, on which the British Government's bill will be based, retains in the hands of the Mother Country, directly or indirectly, control of defence and external relations, which practically means that military and foreign policies will be independent of Indian interference.

Last night's meeting of the Children's Aid Society brings forcibly to our attention the fact that, notwithstanding the great strides made in improving the condition of neglected and wayward little ones, a great deal still remains to be done before we can claim that all our boys and girls start out in life with an equality of opportunity. Too many of our rising generation have practically no home life, and no encouragement to become good citizens. With the much more limited scope for employment due to the close down of emigration, the problem parents, social workers, City Council and Government have to face becomes greater and more serious than ever.

Distance lends enchantment, and sometimes also discernment, to the view. The London Spectator has been gifted with the letter as will in the country.

Notes By The Way

The soul of good expression is an unexpressed, which still keeps to the mark of meaning, and does not betray truth. Fresh angles, new lights; but neither at the expense of significance, nor to the detriment of verity; never in fact, just for the sake of being unexpressed. The way to find our English by self-conscious experiments, and keep our minds set towards the fresh, clear, supple expression of our visions, thoughts and feelings, the greater chance our English has of being fine—Galsworthy.

A new method of producing oil from coal in large quantities has been tried out, at Cannock, Staffordshire, where a large party of distinguished visitors saw the distillation plant in use near a colliery which supplies fine coal for which there is only a small market. A hundred and fifty tons of this are treated each day under a continuous process which yields 15.5 cwt. of oil, and 15.5 gallons of No. 1 petrol from every ton of coal. The secret of the success achieved by these experiments lies on the discovery that whereas coal is difficult to heat right through, most particles of coal are small, and so are heated by immersion in oil. What Nature takes two million years to accomplish, this system achieves in 2-3-4 hours.

Following the idea originated at Westminster Abbey, Ottawa war veterans erected a replica of the ruins of the shell-torn Cloth Hall at Ypres on the post office lawn and fenced off the square. The Day of Remembrance, made by disabled vets and purchased by those wishing to plant them in memory of the fallen. By the time Poppy Day arrived hundreds of these little labor of love flowers were in the square. And now they are to be burnt and the ashes taken to France, where they will be scattered over Canadian war graves. A touching method of remembering loved ones, and a reminder to the world that we must not let such a thing happen again. —Border Cities Star.

Man is the great instrument that produces wealth. We are not poorer, but richer, because we have, through many ages, rested from labor one day in seven. The day is not lost. While industry is suspended, while the plough lies in the furrow, while the Exchange is silent, while no smoke ascends from the factory, a press is going on quietly, and the money is being made as any process which is performed on more busy days. Man, the machine compared with which all the contrivances of the Watts and the Arkwrights are worthless, is repairing and winding up, so that his returns to his labor on the Monday with clearer intellect, with livelier spirits, with renewed vigor. Never again will the machine that makes a population stronger and healthier and wiser and better, can ultimately make it poorer.—Lord Macaulay.

In so far as the United States Treasury statements give an accurate picture of the income and expenses of the Federal Treasury, the situation as of the end of the first quarter of the current fiscal year is about what was expected. Receipts are about \$60,000,000 below estimates for the quarter, and total expenses about \$23,000,000 below expectations. The deficit is piling up at the rate of a little more, instead of the expected little less, than \$2,000,000,000 for the year. We are spending about \$3 for every \$2 we take in. If the present rate of receipts and expenditures continues, we shall close the year not far from the original estimates.—New York Herald Tribune.

It is only slander that Marie Antoinette asked if the French people had bread to eat, when they didn't. She was a little more in the line. Queen had really talked like that she would be vindicated at this late hour in her own country. In the Champagne region distress is so acute that the yield of the crop is expected to be living on potatoes and champagne. The reason is a huge wine surplus, a bumper crop, and a resultant collapse in champagne prices. New crop and reserves amounting to 250,000,000 quarts, and the annual sale is 25,000,000 quarts. The small growers live on potatoes because they cannot buy bread. They lack milk for the small children, but they have their own champagne to drink.—Ex.

be seen from the following pronouncement on the U.S.A. economic situation: "The situation confronting President Roosevelt as the sixth year of the great depression opens is one of appalling gravity. The high hopes with which the recovery policy was initiated in 1933 can no longer be invoked. The evidences of general economic improvement have not been visible since May. In the interval the curves have been downward. The American Federation of Labour announces that the total of unemployment runs again over the ten-million mark, and so this is added the assertion that the minimum rates of wages established under the Recovery Act and the codes represent a lower average of real wages because of the rising cost of living due to the government's policy of restricted production (now abandoned) and the misuse of the codes for the fixing of retail prices. The authority of the federal Department of Labour is cited for the statement that some 17,000,000 people are in receipt of Government relief—say, one in seven of the total population, a proportion that may rise to one in five before the end of the winter. Which means one in every family has been gifted with the letter as will in the country.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Burtin, M.D.

THE X RAY TREATMENT OF GOTTRIE

In former days patients could not be blamed for not wanting to undergo operation for gottrie, as it meant in most cases travelling to a distant city—away from friends and home—and the knowledge that the operation was considered dangerous.

To-day however the operation is performed everywhere throughout the civilized world and the results are very satisfactory. Notwithstanding this fact many patients are fearful of operations and allow the gottrie to develop to such an extent that their life is endangered, and they finally have to submit to operation under less favorable conditions than if they had undergone the operation sooner.

However operation isn't always the only method of treatment and Dr. Geo. E. Pfahler, Philadelphia, whom I mentioned in a previous article, says that he believes that X ray treatment gives excellent results in all cases of gottrie in which the patient is not dangerously ill with alarming heart symptoms, or is not suffering from the pressure of the gottrie.

The advantages of the use of the X rays instead of surgery are: (1) The fear of operation is removed and therefore the patient is more likely to come under treatment early, and before any damage is done to the heart. (2) Due to the removal of the fear of operation, and early treatment, the patients are not interrupted in their occupation. When the disease is well advanced, or serious symptoms are present, they must, however, be put at rest. (3) There is no pain or shock and the patient is able to return to his occupation. (4) Patients with advanced disease or serious heart complications may be treated without shock, and if radium is used, need not even be removed from their rooms. (5) There is no risk of death from the treatment. (6) There is an absence of scars, or any hard white lumps of scar tissue. (7) The results are about equal to those obtained by surgical operation.

Shakespeare Films

George Arliss is said to have been the first to bring Shakespeare to the screen. It would be an experiment worth trying," he said recently. Mr. Arliss's remark sets several traps for the unwary. One is that millions of English-speaking persons are growing to maturity without ever having seen Shakespeare played upon the stage, and who have small hope of ever seeing a Shakespearean screen play. Another thought is that since audibility has come to the screen, the great obstacle to the success of Shakespearean screen plays is gone. The "word music" of Shakespeare can now be heard from the lips of great actors. In the silent films, Shakespeare was like a rose without either fragrance or color. The silent film of "Hamlet," some 16 years ago, was an admitted failure. But today, with both sound and color available, a Shakespearean screen play could satisfy both the ear and the eye, at the same time appealing to the intelligence.

The screen possesses one outstanding advantage over the stage, and that is the command of good players for every part. Since all Shakespeare's parts are important, this means that a screen production could be far better than the average stage production, which is generally limited to one or two stars supported by a collection of merely average players.

No Dictator For Chinese

The report that Chiang Kai-shek was planning to establish himself as dictator of China first appeared more than a year ago. That report persisted, sometimes as a rumor, sometimes as a semi-official statement, was perhaps due to Chiang's refusal to comment on it. He may possibly have believed that, since the report originated in northern China, it was not likely to be taken seriously by the Nanking Government, it would be accepted with doubts and so not worthy of an official denial. He has, however, recently found the rumors troublesome and through the Chinese Weekly Review has made a denial of ambition to become dictator, adding as well that a dictatorship would be virtually impossible in China.

His own course may have given to his critics ground for the belief that he was scheming for exclusive governmental control. According to Chiang, any person who construed his acts as evidence of an effort to set up a dictatorship thereby proclaimed himself ignorant of China, while of those who compared a dictatorship in Germany or in Italy with a dictatorship in China he said that they should remember that either of those countries was smaller than many of several Chinese provinces and that Europe itself was smaller by some 100,000 square miles than

Germans Called To Saar

(Toronto Globe) Germany's effort to ensure a vote in the Saar favorable to the return of the territory to the Fatherland seems to establish a new high mark in intensive electioneering.

From Montreal and New York comes information that former German residents of the Saar area are returning in large numbers to their old home to cast their vote in the plebiscite on Jan. 13, next. Although it is denied that passage and expense money is being supplied by the German Government, there are admissions that funds from private sources are available for the "assisted" return of Germans. A considerable number of prospective voters, it is said, have sailed already from New York.

The terms of the Treaty of Versailles, under which the plebiscite is to be conducted, provide for three choices: the territory may vote to become part of Germany, part of France, or to remain under the control of the League of Nations. The choice in the treaty relating to the eligibility of voters reads: "All persons, without distinction of sex, more than 20 years old at the date of the voting, resident in the territory at the date of the signature of present treaty, will have the right to vote."

In neither France nor Germany is there any longer an effort to conceal the uneasiness about the situation that is developing as the election nears. In the treaty relating to the eligibility of voters reads: "All persons, without distinction of sex, more than 20 years old at the date of the voting, resident in the territory at the date of the signature of present treaty, will have the right to vote."

Mr. Knox, the British Chairman of the League's Governing Commission, has taken steps to recruit constabulary to a strength which it is hoped will be sufficient to avert disorder. In France fears have been expressed of a sudden movement of Hitler Storm Troops into the Basin. Germans deny emphatically that any such coup is contemplated. They affirm, indeed, that the Storm Troopers are under special orders not to wear uniforms within twenty five miles of the border; and they accuse the French of planning to retain the Saar regardless of the decision of the voters.

Mr. Knox occupies a position calling for constant prudence and foresight. Any indiscretion on the part either of France or of the League Commissioners would quickly be seized upon by Germany for her own advantage. A considerable body of the voters is said to be disposed for the present to take a non-committal attitude. Several influences which are not favorable to the return of the Saar to Germany until the break-up of Hitlerism are likely to manifest themselves strongly. A display of force by the Commission or by France which could be misinterpreted as high-handed or as a violation of the League's principles of the undecided group toward Germany. Commissioner Knox so far has maintained admirable poise, and it is not likely that he will be misled by the horrid tales of the Nazis into taking hasty or ill-considered action.

Many close observers of the situation are hopeful that trouble will be averted through the watchfulness of the Commission until Jan. 13. But they feel that after that the future will be unpredictable. If the Saar population should vote for return to Germany there will loom up difficult questions—relating to the French ownership of the mines and of Germany's ability or willingness to pay for them in gold, as the treaty stipulates. Should the area go back to Germany with the mines still in the possession of France, the possibilities of trouble can scarcely be foretold.

China, "China," he declared, "is much too big to be ruled efficiently by a dictator, however able he may be."

In explaining plans or theories of government for his country Chiang Kai-shek said that the communists. He evidently used the opportunity presented in this interview to record his opinion on many political questions. He denied that he is pro-Japanese, and he said that he sent assistance to the Chinese army in the defense of Shanghai and that the brunt of the fighting was borne by troops he dispatched. He likewise refused to accept blame for the growth of radical sentiment in central China, and he declared that "if the government wished to take the Red districts and the Red capital it could be done immediately," but that he would not do so until the roads, forts and blockhouses, and thus prepare for any attempted comeback on the part of the Reds.

A VALUABLE BUY

CALGARY, Nov. 22—It was perhaps the dullest ending to a sale of household effects the auctioneer had ever experienced. The unusual collection of novels, dictionaries and reference books was going very slowly. Suddenly there was a commotion in the corner and bidding became brisk and reckless. A woman customer had found 1,000 shares of oil stock in one of the books. Divorces are increasing in number in England this year.



OLD MAN OF THE WOOD

That wood was like a painted book. As still and grey and cool. And there were cypress trees and moss. And lilies in a pool. And there were old magnolias. With flower lamps in bloom. So not a child could be afraid. In all the forest gloom. And sometimes came a grey old man. As twisted as a tree. But when I tried to speak to him, He never answered me. And then—he did not come again. But—such things could be—He may have slowly turned into A lonely cypress tree.

He used to walk there every day. And does not, any more. But I have found a grey old tree I never saw before.

—Mary Brent Whiteside, In The New York Times.

Pirandello

(Vancouver Province) The three leading dramatists of our day are Bernard Shaw, Luigi Pirandello and Eugene O'Neill. All three are intellectual dramatists. They are concerned primarily with the things of the mind, opinions, ideas, obsessions, complexes, repressions and the like, though each, of course, has his own distinct interests and his own methods. Shaw is an old man. He has passed his zenith. O'Neill is still mounting the ladder. Pirandello, who has just been awarded the Nobel Prize for literature, is at the height of his fame. Among Continental dramatists he has a reputation that has not been equaled since the days of Ibsen and Chekhov. Pirandello came to the drama rather late in life. He had written several books of poetry before he was twenty-three. Then he went to Bonn and took his degree in philosophy. Returning to Italy, he became a teacher of Italian literature. He wrote and acted in rings of novels and innumerable short stories. A friend persuaded him to dramatize one of his stories, and that was the beginning of his new life. At 37, Pirandello's literary output is enormous. He works constantly. "For a painful family reason," he told Mallarme, once, "I have enclosed myself in work. And I think incessantly, whether walking, eating or talking. So you, I never stop spinning out my ideas into plays."

Pirandello's interests are intellectual. His plays are plays of ideas. But he doesn't mean that they haven't the stuff of drama in them. They are, in fact, highly dramatic. The real drama of life, Pirandello holds, is psychological and in the problem of personality, and the clash of dream with reality he finds in the situations and the climax and catastrophe he requires. He is a very competent dramatist with a thorough practical acquaintance of what the theatre requires. He is well aware that drama, even intellectual drama—perhaps intellectual drama most of all—must be spectacular. If it is to get across the footlights; that it is not enough to appeal to the reason; that the senses and the sensibilities must also be touched. So he employs all the arts he can command to make his characters live. On the whole, he succeeds, though sometimes he is accused of creating not characters but philosophical puppets.

The problems of existence and personality form the core of practically all Pirandello's novels and plays. Again and again he rings on the same theme. What is life? What is the individual? What is the Ego? What is the difference between appearance and reality? Isn't it possible that dreams and fancies have, as a matter of fact, more reality than the things that are thought to be real? Isn't it possible that the dream is the real thing while the other—which is generally regarded as real—is the figment? In the most famous of the Pirandello plays, "Six Characters in Search of an Author," the characters in a plotted but unwritten play enter a theatre at the rehearsal of another play and demand that they be given existence. In "The Life That I Gave Him," written for Duse, a widow who has lost her only son keeps the boy's image alive in her heart by writing letters in his name to the woman he had loved. In "Henry IV," a man who had for years thought himself the German emperor, regains his sanity.

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But is appalled with the thought of returning to his old identity that he decides voluntarily to remain emperor. And so it goes. To those who can not get inside it, the Pirandellian world is a mad world and its people all mental cases. But to the author, it is those outside who are mad. "Who is to set up standards," he asks, "in a world in which anything is real if it only exists in someone's mind?" A proposal in Calgary to name one of the city's parks Jacques Cartier, in honor of the 400th anniversary of the French explorer landing in Canada was opposed by the Royal Orange Lodge and the Knights and Ladies of St. George, there. Farmers of the Irish Free state will be encouraged to raise wheat.

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