

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Burden of the Dole

The crushing effect of the dole system in Great Britain was emphasized by Mr. W. K. Rogers in an interview in The Guardian following his recent return from a business trip to the Old Country. Mr. Rogers' opinion, gathered from first hand observation, is in accord with views expressed by thinking people of all political parties in England. Yet the system continues, and is likely to involve the Labour Government in still further expenditures on an extravagant scale. It is one of those fatal political expedients which, once adopted, lead further and further along the path of bankruptcy, affecting national character as well as expenditure, each concession to the system making necessary other and more drastic concessions until the Government becomes a mere puppet in the hands of an electoral power thriving parasitically at the expense of the productive classes of the nation. For the real problem of unemployment insurance in Great Britain hinges upon the fact that the politicians are dependent for votes upon those who receive uneconomic benefit in the form of doles or poor relief.

Before the present Government came into office the practice had begun of borrowing capital to maintain the income of the insurance fund. It being regarded as only a temporary difficulty, it was contended there was no harm in maintaining the unemployed on a non-insurance basis out of capital. The Labour Party, after a few months of office, proposed similar measures, although Miss Bonfield, Minister of Labour, said that if such borrowings continued, "it would be a dishonest course because it would be contracting a debt that you saw no possible way of paying off." Since then the "borrowings" have been more than doubled. Up to February of this year Parliament had authorized "borrowings" to the extent of seventy millions sterling. Within a few hours of Mr. Snowden's sensational warning about the condition of the national finances, Miss Bonfield asked, and asked successfully, for another twenty millions, twice as big an installment as any Minister of Labour had ever asked for before for this purpose. This, says the Saturday Review, was done without the slightest attempt to put right existing and well-known extravagances and leakages in the administration of the insurance scheme.

Why was there no attempt made to put the scheme back on a sound economic basis? Simply because the Government dare not face the electoral unpopularity that must follow any limitation of the benefits drawn by the electors. It is true that a Royal Commission has been appointed to look into the matter; but the non-official elements of the Labour Party have made it perfectly clear that they will oppose any reductions of benefits whatever the Commission may propose.

Preliminary to the acceptance of sound finance in the management of unemployment insurance, the Saturday Review writer believes, must be acceptance of the principle that those who draw relief from public funds must not enjoy the right of electing their rulers. The recipients of benefits given in consequence of genuine insurance must not, of course, be affected in their political privileges. But those who draw benefits that are in reality poor relief must be deprived of their votes. Sir John Simon has recently stated that "of the insured population of the country over 21 per cent. are unemployed and only 10 per cent. could receive benefit out of the fund on an actuarial basis." The contention advanced by the writer above quoted, is that unless the remaining 11 per cent. and all recipients of poor relief who are outside the insurance scheme, are disfranchised, there is no prospect whatever that any Government will be able to put an end to the present conditions.

Herschel's Achievement

It was 150 years ago this month that William Herschel, an unknown organist at Bath, discovered the planet Uranus, and became famous almost overnight. Born on Nov. 15, 1738, at Hanover, Germany, as the son of an hautboy player in the Hanoverian Guard, William Herschel was trained for a like occupation, but as the fortunes and future seemed rather dismal, his parents contrived to send him to England in 1757. Here he wandered from town to town until he secured an appointment as organist to the Octagon Chapel at Bath and soon became the favorite of society for his musical talents and activities.

A voracious reader with a keen interest in the sciences, Herschel's ardent desire to "obtain a knowledge of the construction of the heavens" finally led him into astronomy. With the price of a good telescope beyond his means he would not be satisfied until he had made one himself, and though it sometimes meant spending sixteen hours at a time polishing his mirrors, during which time he was fed by his faithful sister, and amused by her reading aloud to him from the Arabian Nights, he persevered until, in 1774, he had completed a reflecting telescope of 5 feet focus.

Always looking, for a purpose, he began a systematic survey of the sky, in the hope of thus discovering some of the secrets of the universe. Continually increasing and improving his equipment, he constructed an excellent reflector of 61-2 inches aperture and 7 feet focal length. On the night of March 13, 1781, he discovered an object in the constellation Gemini that did not look like an ordinary star, but, upon being viewed under higher and higher magnification, presented a distinct disk. At first he thought it was just another comet, and it was not until nearly a year later that its true planetary character became evident from the calculations of Lexell, who showed it to be revolving around the sun in a nearly circular path, at an average distance of nearly 1,800,000,000 miles.

Herschel won instant recognition and was soon invited to Windsor to become private astronomer to George III, at the munificent salary of \$1,000 per annum—"never before was honor purchased by a monarch at so cheap a rate." Whitsunday of 1782 saw his last public appearance as a professional musician; he took up the telescope in earnest.

No sooner had Uranus taken its rightful place as the furthest outpost of the solar system, than the observations showed that it did not follow its charted course. By means of the older observations it had been possible to calculate with great precision the path which Uranus was to follow in the sky, but it did not follow it. The new planet deviated from the straight and narrow path that astronomers had mapped out for it by means of Newton's law of gravitation, and when in 1845 the discrepancies between theory and observation had reached the "intolerable quantity" of two minutes of arc — one fifteenth of the moon's diameter—it was felt that something must be done about it, and that something led to new astronomical discoveries in which Herschel earned his title of "Father of Modern Astronomy."

Editorial Notes

The illuminating series of articles on "The Tariff and Business," published recently in the Montreal Star, and referred to previously in these columns, have been reprinted in pamphlet form and are exceedingly valuable for the information they contain with regard to the beneficial changes affected in trade conditions in Canada through the imposition of the Bennett Government tariff policy. The Guardian is in receipt of a complimentary copy of this pamphlet, which is well worth preserving for future reference.

Notes by the Way

"Science," has emancipated human thought from the bondage of traditional authority and, through the conception of evolution onward and upward, has provided mankind with a new philosophy of life. Upward or downward—which is it to be? The energy and force of the human volition, which has invented and set the dial of the radio for the influx of immeasurable powers upon our lives, should be able to control the machine it has structured. Yet this mastery is itself quite the biggest problem nations are confronting at the present hour.

The City Recorder of Montreal has sentenced a man who the police stated was a noted Communist to a fine or imprisonment, followed by deportation. The accused had been in similar trouble before and had promised the Recorder to leave the city voluntarily. He broke his promise and admitted the fact in court. This time the authorities will see that he departs and that he will not return deliberately to create trouble. Who says Communist agents to enter Canada and preach destruction of the present social order?

The Speech from the Throne at the opening of the present Parliament was at once an appeal to the morale of the Canadian people, an expression of confidence in the national spirit, and a declaration of the Government's determination to provide that leadership without which the people cannot make good their struggle for economic recovery. There has been ample evidence of what is described in the Speech as the spirit of co-operation and mutual understanding, which is the surest bulwark of the nation's welfare and happiness. If the same spirit of mutual co-operation is to be exemplified in the proceedings of parliament at this momentous session there can be no doubt that the country will be given a long start on the road to a "prosperity heretofore unattained," while there will have been provided effective safeguards against the recurrence of such conditions as those through which the Dominion has been passing.

It is difficult to understand the mental make-up of a Labor member of the British House of Commons who suggests that the navy be abolished and thinks the break-up of the Empire "would be a good thing." As with a world, no doubt it takes all kinds of people to make a House of Commons.

Sir Robert Horne, speaking recently at a British Empire minerals resources exhibition at the Imperial Institute, and referring to the suggested European confederation, said: "If the British Empire is to continue to exist it must be founded upon the capacity of the constituent nations of the Commonwealth to make common cause in all materials, as well as political interests, against combinations in the rest of the world. If the mother country or any one of the Dominions were to identify her economic life permanently with that of any other nation or group of nations, the fabric of the Empire would be split to its foundations."

The Canadian Pacific Railway came into being at the moment when not a few Canadians, and indeed many leading British statesmen were halting between two opinions. Could we really hope to perpetuate the British Empire? Would it not vanish as had the Empires of the past? Could Canada escape the magnetism of the great republic to the south of her? The spanning of the Canadian half of the continent, and after that the Pacific seas by all-British lines of communication was part of Canada's answer, and it was an answer made and persisted in amid manifold discouragements.

Those who go about abusing our social system—and I think this applies to similar groups in the United States—calling it a hell upon earth and so forth, are doing about the worst disservice to their country that any man could do "says Dean Inge." For, in spite of all the fault that justly may be found with it, the fact remains that there has never been any time in the history of the world when the average citizen, the working man and woman, could command anything like the comforts and amusements and opportunities for education and intellectual pleasure that he and she have now. With all its deficiencies, the civilization of the twentieth century is the happiest and best for the average man and woman that the world has seen. And yet these gentry make it their business to poison people's minds and stir up discontent everywhere until the temper of society becomes sour, embittered, despondent and quarrelsome. Our social arrangements are better for the poorer citizens than they have ever been before and they are on the way to become better still. America leads the march. By mass production and by improved machinery rough manual toil is being eliminated. Comforts hitherto un-

The Poets' Corner

SONG

Gather ye rosebuds while ye may, Old Time is still a-flying; And this same flower that smiles to-day, To-morrow will be dying.

The glorious lamp of heaven, the sun, The higher he's a-getting, The sooner will his race be run, And nearer he's to setting.

That age is best which is the first, When youth and blood are warmer; But being spent, the worse and worst Times still succeed the former.

Then be not coy, but use your time, And while ye may, go marry: For, having lost but once your prime, You may forever tarry. —Robert Herrick (1591-1633).

Studying Sunspots

(Natural Resources Canada)

While the size and composition of the heavenly bodies and their distances from the earth and from one another are of immense moment to the astronomer, nevertheless the final object of all this study is the application of the acquired knowledge for the good of mankind. Many are the benefits resulting from astronomical research. Means have been discovered for protecting our ships at sea, for assisting in the survey of lands, the finding of minerals, and many other things which conduce to man's safety and comfort.

A most important astronomical study is that of sunspots and in this study the Dominion Observatory, Department of the Interior, Ottawa, has for a number of years taken a prominent place.

It is known that the sun is not a constant body; it has brighter and darker areas (sunspots) which are changing in number and extent in an irregular manner with a prominent period of average length a little more than eleven years. Accompanying this variation there are apparently rather small changes in the solar energy received at the earth, but a strikingly large change in the upper atmosphere of the earth, producing electric currents which affect terrestrial magnetism, the northern lights, and likely produce cloud-nuclei in the lower atmosphere. Ultra-violet light also exerts an important direct influence on living things.

Many investigations have been carried on, the world over, in the search for consequences of the sunspot cyclical changes. Effects have been indicated in rainfall, temperature, cloudiness and storminess, and in various forms of life and economic conditions. Apart from the scientific interest, it is important to ascertain the extent of such effects throughout Canada.

Records for long periods are needed in this search. There are faithfully kept meteorological records in many places in Canada, some extending over fairly long periods. These records when analyzed, show some striking effects of the sun-spot influence. For example, Edmonton precipitation shows a 56 per cent range in the eleven-year period, with a maximum one year before the minimum of sunspots; the temperature for the same time (1893-1925) shows a variation of 24.8 F. in the cycle, with maximum at the minimum of sunspots. The temperatures at Toronto and Montreal for the years 1873-1925 show a similar effect. Many stations have been examined, and the evidence points to the widespread influence of sunspots.

Records of living things are scarce; however, old trees exhibiting variation in the widths of the annual rings of growth afford record of living conditions, in many places for centuries. With the cooperation of various branches of the Dominion Government service and of others, tree sections have been secured by the Observatory from many parts of Canada. The eleven-year sunspot cycle seems to be revealed in the trees already measured, but with variations in different regions. A section of a buttress which grew at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Ottawa, exhibits a 58 per cent range in the growth rings for the average sunspot cycle. Spruces, including two pre-glacier specimens of Sitka spruce usually show nearly a 20 per cent range during the eleven-year cycle.

dreamed of are being put within the reach of almost all, and yet the working day has not been lengthened or wages diminished. This is the American alternative to Socialism. It works whereas Socialism has always been a dead failure.

The Grave Of Skyrross

(Toronto Globe)

Skyross, ancient storied Isle of the Aegean Sea, will witness on Easter Sunday the unveiling of a memorial to Rupert Brooke, who was buried there after his death while on a British expedition to Gallipoli in 1915. This wild, lonely rock of the Mediterranean retains the flavor of the days when Achilles roamed its shores, sorrowing for his absence from his comrades at Troy, its grave of a modern genius surrounded by rough blocks of white marble such as have been quarried there since Roman times.

Brooke remains one of the flaming figures connecting literature and the Great War. A mile from a rugged shore, under an olive grove, is the grave which gives poignant force to Brooke's own lines:

If I should die, think only this of me: That there's some corner of a foreign field That is foreve England. There shall be In that rich earth a richer dust concealed.

We think of Brooke as we might think of Byron, who likewise stirred the proud loyalty of the Greeks, or of others whose life was untimely ended, such as Sidney, Marlowe, Chatterton, Keats and Shelley. His life recalls, too, the beloved R. L. Stevenson, whose tomb in far Samoa Brooke sought after he passed through this continent to the alluring South Seas in 1913.

A few fortunate Canadians saw Brooke in the dog days of 1913. He was an Apollo in appearance, of a refinement of face that could not escape the admiration even of other men. He thus impressed Mr. R. H. Hathaway, one of the Toronto writers who met him: "Tall, straight, slender, blue-eyed, high-colored, with clear-cut, regular features and a mass of fair hair, rather long and carefully worn, he was indeed a carefully youth—veritably a Greek god in modern guise."

Another acquaintance remembers Brooke as a somewhat aloof, dreamy figure, detached, isolated, and hesitant in meeting strangers; in fact a representative cultivated Englishman, with unusual sensitiveness and supreme power of self-expression. His poetry shone with phrases that one would fain remember, and his poems were alive with burning pictures from the life about him. Here are lines heartily selected:

Empty hearts grow tired of the world's vanities. Voice more sweet than the far plaint of violets. Then in some garden hushed from wind.

Warm in a sunset's afterglow. And then these lines from "The Dead," written in the early days of the war:

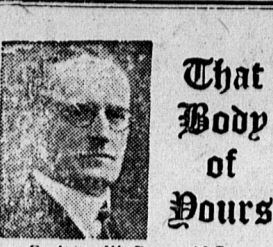
Blow out, you bugles, over the rich Dead! There's none of these so lonely and poor and old, But, dying, has made us rarer gifts than gold.

As Sir Ian Hamilton said, "Wherever he has touched on war, his pen has ennobled the theme. . . . His best poems possess a strange shining quality, like lamps that have been lit by the same radiant personality." Many Westerners will turn their thoughts to distant Skyrross at Easter.

Weather fluctuations are serious factors in living conditions, and it is not surprising that they are reflected in such records as are available of fur-bearing animals, grouse, grasshoppers, etc. In general, rabbits are most numerous about the sunspot minimum and scarce at maximum, and with this variation the animals which prey on the rabbit must also vary, in addition to direct changes resulting from the climatic pulsations. A record kept in Manitoba, when analyzed in relation to the eleven-year sunspot cycle shows striking correlation. Individually and combined, the records exhibit the sunspot cycle, grasshoppers at a maximum at the minimum of spots, grouse at a maximum about a year after.

Astronomers feel that fuller knowledge of the sunspot cycle will eventually assist in permitting long-range weather forecasts of a general nature, and will thus provide valuable information in relation to forest protection, wild life conservation, and other matters of social and economic importance.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. BACKACHE, BLADDER TROUBLES, RHEUMATISM. 4087 THE PROPHET.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

DECKING OVER "BAD" CHILDREN

A few months ago we learned of a department at Yale University with its own building and equipment where a study will be made of the "behavior" of individuals. In the ordinary language of the day, research men will try to find out "why some people got that way." Just how youngsters behave when by themselves and when with others will be observed without the youngsters knowing that they are being watched.

In some cases it will be possible for parents to observe their child as he plays with other children, and see just what kind of a youngster he really is, when he is not under their authority. He will be watched closely by the members of the staff, and his peculiarities, and reactions to authority, to games, and other parts of the course of training, will be studied.

Any and every little thing that will make him less sociable, less willing or anxious to do his part in the group, will be noted. Everything will be done to train him to become a "part" of the group or class so that as he grows older he will fit in with the everyday life of the community.

And now we see another step in the study of children old enough to be attending school. In New York a "behavior clinic to study and help youngsters who are 'backward'" in their class work, youngsters who do not get along well with their teachers and the other children, and children who play truant, will soon be opened under the direction of the public school system of New York?

There will be two units; a main clinic, centrally located for diagnosis, (locating the cause), and treatment of cases for the older children who do not get along well in school on account of their behavior; and a branch for investigations along preventive lines among the younger children.

To show how this important work is developing a new medical journal dealing entirely with this subject is now being published. It is called Orthopsychiatry — (ortho means straight), and means straightening out of the mind, or bringing it into a straight line, that is to a normal condition.

We can all remember youngsters who had constant trouble at school—whippings, detentions, suspensions—and we never thought any more about it than that they were "bad" or mischievous. These youngsters will now be better understood, will be given a chance to "make good," and become useful members of the community instead of giving trouble to their families and others.

This all looks like good common sense, and yet we are only just beginning to find it out.

The New Chief Of The Railway Board

The selection of Mr. Justice Fullerton of the Manitoba Court of Appeals for the post of Chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners in an admirable one, which should be as well received in Nova Scotia as in Western Canada, and which will greatly improve the judicial character of the Board. Judge Fullerton has a keen legal mind, a strong personality, fine professional ideals, and a capacity for intensive work which will stand him in good stead in the exacting position to which he has been called. In this city, where the earlier years of his brilliant career were spent, and where he served as Mayor with signal ability for two terms, his appointment will be particularly pleasing.

While Judge Fullerton's appointment means that the Maritime Provinces will be temporarily deprived of representation on the Board, the situation will doubtless be corrected in this regard a few months hence. Commissioner Laurence's term will expire next November, and it is manifestly the Government's intention to replace him by a Maritime man. In the meantime, there should be no reason to fear that any important Maritime interest will suffer from lack of regional representation, while the Commission as a whole will be greatly strengthened, and its prestige assured, to preside over its deliberations. The Railway Commission is a tribunal of tremendous importance to the whole country, and the maintenance of high standards in the selection of its personnel is quite as important as the choice of properly qualified jurists for the Supreme Court of Canada.

"I think this scenery is just heavenly." "Um, I don't know. Take away the lake and the mountains and it is just like anywhere else."—Lustige Koeler Zeitung (Cologne).

Dairying In The West

(Montreal Gazette)

Relatively small imports of butter from the Antipodes are taken in Vancouver as a sign that the Prairie Provinces are giving increased attention to dairying, so much so that their butter supplies are almost meeting their requirements. This is one more proof that the farmers are resorting to mixed agriculture as the population increases and the growing villages and towns furnish greater markets. In 1929 the dairy production of Canada was valued at \$291,742,857. In Quebec there were 1,400 factories and the production was \$83,000,000. Quebec is an old dairying province that has a surplus for export. As regards the West, Manitoba's dairy products were worth \$15,000,000 to the farmers. The next western province, Saskatchewan, in 1929 produced \$22,030,000 worth of dairy products, and in the province were 44 cold storage plants and 80 creameries. The output was 14,786,205 pounds of creamery butter, the milk cows providing the butter numbering 420,000. The creamery butter produced was valued at \$5,581,300. In the most westerly of the Prairie Provinces, Alberta, the dairy products in 1929 were valued at more than \$22,000,000. The creamery butter output totalling 15,000,000 pounds. As a comparison, it may be mentioned that in 1905, when Alberta was made a province, the total value of the dairy products was only \$2,030,000. The increase in the two other provinces has been proportionately as great in the 25-year period. The figures of the last recorded year indicate how the dairy farmers are progressing and support the statement from Vancouver that the prairie butter production comes near to meeting the requirements of that part of the country. A few years ago western dairy products meant those made in Ontario not far west of Toronto. Now it is the real West that is making butter on a large scale and with a promise that soon the "home" needs will be fully met. It is an encouraging sign of permanent development in an important line of farming effort.

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SAN FRANCISCO GETS NEW MARINE BELL. SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 19.—Like the famous "Luten" bell of Lloyd's in London, the San Francisco marine exchange has a newly installed bell which will be rung each time word is received of a ship lost at sea. The bell was dedicated at an impressive ceremony participated in by shipping men who make San Francisco their headquarters ashore. At this service it was rung for the first time, principally as a mark of respect to the officers and crew lost at sea on the steamers South Coast and Brooklyn.

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