

The Charlottetown Guardian

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In A Nutshell

We are indebted to the Dominion Government publication "The Agricultural Situation and Outlook, 1937" (prepared December, 1936) for the following handy classification of the basic influences, favorable and otherwise, on farm prospects this year:

- Domestic demand situation: Favourable features:
1. Industrial production increased 9 per cent. in 1936 compared with 1935.
2. The index of manufacturing in Canada increased by 10 per cent. in 1936.
3. Retail sales increased by 4 per cent. in 1936.
4. Tourist trade continues to increase from year to year.

- 5. The spread between farm prices and the general price level was narrowed materially in 1936.
6. Prices of farm products continue to rise.
Unfavorable features:

- 1. Unemployment relief continues to be a major problem.
2. The construction industry has been slow in showing signs of recovery.
3. Moderate price increases for living necessities and certain operating requirements are expected in 1937; these may, however, be more than offset by more rapidly rising prices of farm products.

International trade conditions. Favourable features:

- 1. World trade increased during the first nine months of 1936.
2. Trade of Canada's two chief customer countries, the United Kingdom and the United States, has been increasing.
3. Stocks of primary products in importing countries have been reduced.

- 4. Trade agreement policies are bringing encouraging results.
5. Progress has been made toward more assured stability of exchange rates.

Unfavorable features:

- 1. Trade restrictions are still impeding the flow of world trade.
2. Political, financial, military and social problems continue to dominate trade policies of European countries.
3. Trade in foodstuffs has lagged behind trade in other commodities.

The publication also summarizes the important features of the situation and outlook for individual farm commodities. We quote the summary under "Potatoes":

- 1. Canadian potato production in 1936 was only slightly above the small crop of 1935.
2. Prices of potatoes during 1936-37 will probably average slightly higher than the 1935-36 season.
3. Export demand for both seed and table stock has been brisk.
4. An average yield in 1937 with anything more than a modest increase in acreage would probably result in marketing difficulties.

Quota Terms Uncertain

The new British trade agreement, practically ready for signature, Canada is believed to have secured a full extension of the 1932 Ottawa agreements in so far as important food products exports are concerned. This would mean that the present generous quota on bacon, obtained by the Bennett Government, would stand and that for the time being there will be no interference with exports of canned goods, dairy products, fruit and similar goods.

But, says the Ottawa correspondent of the Financial Post, there is believed to be one significant difference from the old agreements. Whereas under the latter the British market was guaranteed for a definite term of years, three years in some cases and five in others, under the new arrangement no time limit will be set. While nothing in the way of further quotas or tariffs is contemplated immediately there is a possibility that such may be imposed on short notice. In other words the coming agreement will be like renting a house on a month basis.

Great Britain's refusal to extend free entry to agricultural products for a definite term of years is believed due to possible conflict of such a course with her own farming plans. In the last five years agriculture in the United Kingdom as a result of tariffs, quotas and subsidies, has developed rapidly.

In return for United Kingdom favors, Canada, it is said, has made valuable tariff concessions to the United Kingdom, notably in the textile field, where it is believed that all specific duties have been abolished. A beginning was made in wiping out these poundage tariffs in the Dunning budget of May, 1936, mainly in cottons, but there were a considerable number left in woollens, carpets, hosiery and other textile lines.

Concessions in iron and steel items, in some boots and shoes, and in machinery and equipment lines are understood to be contained in the agreement.

Trotzky In Mexico

The exiling of Trotzky to Mexico has raised the question of "how come?" When the Russian Marxist was told he must leave Norway he was in a dilemma as there was not another place in Europe or the North American continent in which he could seek shelter. At this point President Cardenas of Mexico came forward dramatically to offer Trotzky asylum in his country. He did this in answer to an appeal made by prominent American and Mexican liberals, among them John Dewey, Suzanne La Follette, John Dos Passos and Diego Rivera. He did so also over the protest of certain Mexican labor leaders, among whom one, Lombardo Tole-

dano, head of the Mexican Confederation of Labor, has recently distinguished himself for his friendly relations with Stalin. Trotzky, ill, poor and constantly on guard for his life, has accepted the Cardenas offer. He does not, however, know to what degree the Mexican Government, whose constitution guarantees the right of asylum, will make that right effective by protecting him, even at the risk of offending its own politicians and influential Stalin sympathizers elsewhere, and at the risk, obviously, of deepening the Mexican-Russian rift that has already existed for some time.

Editorial Notes

Burns Anniversary.
The Rocky Point Ferry still running—a record for all time.

Sir William Mulock, newly retired from the bench of Ontario, where he was Chief Justice, celebrated his ninety-third birthday last week still hale and hearty.

According to the Dominion Bureau the value of our 1936 potato crop was \$3,388,260. According to a local shipper, the total value should aggregate nearer \$4,000,000.

It was Ottawa, of course, not Charlottetown, City Council that voted to send their Mayor, suitably decked and attired, to the Coronation in May, referred to in Saturday's issue.

One thing, Premier Campbell has not to worry about — there is no leader of the Opposition to consider to offset his picnic trip to the Coronation should he so ill-advisedly decide.

We take our lives in our hands these days every time we venture out of doors, or even remain in our homes without taking the necessary exercise.

New Brunswick can produce quads and keep them alive and kicking till their teens; Ontario can produce quints and keep them in the limelight for at least two years; but alas Quebec while competent in the wholesale production line has failed in the preservation department.

The United Farmers of Canada at their convention in Calgary, Alta., have unanimously voted in favor of the elimination of war profits even in agricultural produce. "Let there be no profits on war, not even for the farmer," was their slogan.

Provision is made in the main estimates for administration of both the Unemployment and Social Insurance Act and the National Products Marketing Act, both of which were found unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of Canada and are now awaiting decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. For the Marketing Act the vote is \$106,600, and for the Unemployment Insurance Act \$40,000. The former vote is unchanged from last year and the latter is \$5,000 less. No new schemes were entered into under the Marketing Act since the appeal to the courts. The Unemployment Insurance Commission never got down to actual work and the personnel has been occupied with the National Employment Commission.

The Provinces are getting more and more individualistic and anti-confederation fiscally. Manitoba has protected her breweries by imposing an impost on all beers purchased other than of Manitoba brew. Now Quebec has decided to popularize home grown maple sugar by granting a subsidy of five cents per pound on maple sugar to settlers in her northern territory. The bonus will enable the colonists to produce maple sugar for the market, in addition to having a supply for their own tables, on a basis which will enable them to sell the sugar at the same price as secured by the farmers in Beauce county, where are situated the great groves which make that county the centre of the sugar industry of the province, and of Canada.

Appeals to emotion produce more than appeals to intelligence, Dr. A. E. Morgan, principal and vice-chancellor of McGill University, Montreal, declared in an address the other day, adding that "human beings are not, never shall be and never should be wholly rational." The biggest danger of democracy is that it appeals to the highest level of intelligence in the citizens, he said, while "the appeals of Russia, Italy and Germany have been to the ideals of youths who were willing to sacrifice themselves for their ideals. 'Is the greatest danger in the world today coming from democratic nations? Is peace threatened by the British Empire, the United States, France, Sweden, Norway or Denmark? Are those the danger countries or is it these so-called efficient countries?' As efficient as a machine is the worst compliment that can be paid anybody.

Mr. C. Egerton Lorne, international examiner of the Trinity College of Music, London, England, has caused a sensation in Toronto by declaring that the Canadians there are not now speaking English but American. He describes the lapse as "lip and tongue laziness," but adds: "I am not complaining, but personally I do think it a pity; English is such a beautiful language, this English of Shakespeare, Milton and a hundred others. You are going back," he said. "When I came here in 1928 it was the exception to find wrong pronunciation of words and mispronunciation of the vowel 'u' and of the short 'a' where we use the broad 'a', but now the Canadian speech is going well on the American side rather than the English side and this makes a difficulty where candidates in our examinations are reciting great English verse or prose. Undoubtedly today the language is being corrupted in a great many ways, and while I don't like to speak with disrespect about any country, the Americans among themselves have corrupted the English language," he said. "In fact, it is not the English language that is being spoken in America today. It is the American."

When the See of York fell vacant in the reign of George II, the King consulted the Rev. Dr. Mountain about whom he should appoint. The doctor replied, "Heddy thou faith as a grain of mustard seed thou wouldst say to this Mountain—at the same time laying his hand on his breast—"be removed and be thou cast in the See." The King laughed heartily and conferred the preferment on the facetious doctor.—Edinburgh Dispatch.

There are insects that definitely recognize man, most notably the honeybee, which can distinguish accurately between a familiar and a strange human being. How that is done is not so certain, though it is probably not by that sense upon

Notes By the Way

The township of Sandwich West has before it for consideration a motion which would require all candidates for municipal office to post a deposit as do candidates in Provincial and Federal elections. The proposal, of course, is one entirely new. There is much to recommend it. The purpose is to prevent persons offering themselves for public office when it is clear they have no chance of being elected and thus only put the municipality to needless expense. There are cases on record where elections have been precipitated by persons for the sole motive of attracting public attention. If the privilege were not abused, there would be no occasion for suggesting a deposit and if any action is taken along this line, it will be because the people believe the abuse has become too great.—Windsor Star.

But there is mounting evidence that the citizens of democratic countries are neutral in this sort of controversy. Small and vociferous minorities support one or the other doctrine, but the overwhelming majority of citizens are not "prepared to defend with their lives" the Soviet cause or that of any other dictatorship. They are rather prepared to defend their own democratic ideals. The peoples of all countries, if they were asked, would reply that peace is more important to them than any doctrine. The doctrinal war of European dictatorships, as they can plainly see, increases the danger of actual war. Citizens of democratic countries, if they are to take their own affairs, will use the voice to disapprove the claims of rival dictatorships upon their allegiance.—Boston Christian Science Monitor.

In a recent issue of "Life" a new illustrated magazine, we have noticed a graphic picture of some of the accomplishments of the Roosevelt Administration. It bears the heading, "What President Roosevelt did to the map of the United States in the two years with \$5,500,000,000." Pictured on the map are a few of the Roosevelt recovery program projects, stretching all the way from the Atlantic to the Pacific. These projects include slum clearances, ship channels, 120 airports, flood control schemes, rural schools, tunnels, hospitals, power dams, housing schemes, bridges, forest conservation, new highways, new salmon elevators, post offices, and other public buildings, warships, aircraft carriers, reservoirs, sewers. As an example of the magnitude of the program it is interesting to note that 6,201 schoolhouses were built or repaired under the public works program initiated by the present Chief Executive.—Windsor Star.

Russian census enumerators are reported to be surprised at the large number of answers in the affirmative to the question, "Do you believe in God?" This, coupled with the reappearance of Christmas observances, would seem to indicate that Christianity in that vast country is by no means extinct, notwithstanding all that has been done to eradicate it.—Christian Science Monitor.

Drinking oceans dry has been brought a step nearer by the chemists. While experimenting with making artificial gums of resins Dr. Adams and Dr. Holmes found two which would act as fillers for sea water. The sea water, filtered first through one resin and then the other, was deprived of its saltiness and became drinkable. It is a very tiny step, and the amount of drinking water obtained only filled a flask in the laboratory, and was more expensive than most drinkables. But the sea-day drinking water will be manufactured out of sea water at small expense in large quantities, although Francis Bacon in the New Atlantis put it down as one of the impossibilities.—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

The Brookings Institution takes cognizance of mankind's essential betterment by pointing out the increasing interdependence of men and nations. Its latest report emphasizes the policy of unrestricted production with accompanying means of consumption, but its wider implications reach beyond the economic features and lead contemplative toward new frontiers. For, says the report, "The lesson of the world depression is that all groups in society are indissolubly linked in a common enterprise. No class, not nation and almost no individual could escape the devastating economic effects of the collapse of the economic system which began in 1929. It would seem, therefore, that the question left us by the depression is not: How much did we lose? But, rather: How much did we learn?"—Christian Science Monitor.

Paris finds further reassurance in the announcement that the insurgent Spanish administration of Spanish Morocco authorizes French investigation of report of infiltration of German troops. There are, indeed, some predictions that the forthcoming visit to Paris of Dr. Hjalmar Schacht, Nazi minister of economics, may open the way for, first, an economic treaty with Germany, then the world would recognize its normal breathing.—Christian Science Monitor.

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That Body of Yours

THE DENTIST AND CANCER OF THE MOUTH
From time to time I suggest that dental and medical students should take the lectures of the first two or three years together as the work is similar and together is really a branch, specialty, or department of medicine. This would mean such close cooperation between dentists and physicians in interpreting X-ray films and also any symptoms in the mouth and in the body that the patient would receive that much more benefit and protection.

B. Earl Clarke, M.D., Providence, Rhode Island, in Dental Cosmos, states that about 4000 persons in the United States die of cancer every year, and of this number 4000 (10 per cent) die of cancer of the mouth. In his opinion therefore the dentist occupies a most important and strategic position in the front line of defence.

The dentist's responsibility is three-fold: (1) prevention, (2) early diagnosis or discovery of the condition, and (3) treatment.

1. While the cause of cancer is unknown Dr. Clarke points out the well known fact that the chief predisposing cause of cancer is a long continued irritation. And there is more chance for irritation in the mouth than in any other part of the body because the mouth takes in hot, cold, rough food or other substances, and grind them against the teeth, tongue, gums, and lining of the cheeks. To this can be added the artificial teeth that are worn at the cancer age—40 years and after,—and also bad or irregular teeth.

The dentist can teach his individual patients and the public at large the wisdom of keeping a clean mouth, having infected and jagged teeth removed, and irregular teeth straightened.

2. The chances of success in the treatment of cancer hinges largely upon the stage at which the disease is attacked. Thus a small bliter on the lower lip, a small crusty spot also on the lower lip were overlooked by a physician and a dentist. Both were early cancers and were well advanced before receiving treatment. Cases where poor fitting plates and jagged teeth have caused cancers which later become cancers are recorded by Dr. Clarke.

3. Treatment:—Treatment by surgery, radium, and the X-ray is now the work of the physician. However the dentist can be of help in removing jagged teeth or any teeth that may be irritating the mouth in any way. This can be done just before radium is inserted and under the same anaesthetic. Afterwards the dentist can make sure that new plates or dentures do not irritate the lips or the lining of the mouth. With both physicians and dentists watching for early cancer the patient is doubly protected.

Canadian visitors to Great Britain have often been surprised to find the people of the British Isles had little knowledge of and less interest in Canada. They were more familiar with Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, chiefly because the other Dominions had advertised themselves more effectively than we had done. Today, however, one may easily see that Great Britain has become greatly interested in Canada.—Kingsville Reporter.

A touching story appeared recently in the public press. A man and his dog went to a hospital. The man was taken in—but the dog was left outside. Shortly afterwards the man, his master, was taken out the rear of the place, never to return. The faithful dog, however, would not leave, and the story stated that he had waited there for 12 years, until he went to join his master. Perhaps it was a broken heart that finally led him away into the great silence.

Other interesting historical places in the Canongate had still to be visited. There was the old Tolbooth, a picturesque building bearing the date 1591. At one time the Abbots of Holyrood as overlords of the Burgh, held weekly courts here for the punishment of offenders, the adjustment of debts, and to conduct the affairs of the little municipality. And the Canongate Kirkyard, where Robert Ferguson, the poet, was buried. Burns, to his credit, then visited the forgotten spot, and kneeling, kissed the sod under which lay the wasted body of one who had given him the frame-work of many of his noblest efforts in verse.

Although Burns was almost without an acquaintance when he arrived in the Capital, the merit of the Kilmarnock, edition of his

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Edinburgh In Burns' Time

Even in Burn's time Edinburgh was no mean city, although the pen of Sir Walter Scott, the Wizard of the North, had not yet essayed the task of writing the immortal romances associated with his name. That notable ridge from the Castle to the Palace of Holyrood House, with its closes and alleys, was pulsating with the life of its inhabitants when on the 28th November, 1788, this stranger from the West took up his abode, along with John Richmond, a lawyer's clerk, at Baxter's Close, in the Lawnmarket.

His two days journey on the back of a pony through the Wilds of Lanarkshire in winter time, must have been a trying experience. Ambition, however, was in the heart of this young man. Reaching the West Port and Grassmarket of bloody memories, he ascended the steep Bow and found himself in the Lawnmarket, that street from which Monarchs and men had gone forth to battle for Scotland's cause, like many of the brave heroes we mourn today.

As a student of Scottish History, Robert Burns must have known well the tradition of the hallowed ground—the grim fortress on his left, overlooking the marshy Loch Leuch; the as yet unbuilt New Town, with its fields and farms, the Firth of Forth, and the Highland hills beyond.

Relieved of the pony that had safely brought him to the east, in the humble home of Mrs. Carrfrae, with its sanded floor and chaff bed, costing 3s. per week, he settled down.

Almost fresh from his Ayrshire cottage, what a sight met the eyes of the sturdy young poet as he strode down the High Street! On the right was Liberton's Wynd, where Johnnie Dowie's tavern was situated. This howf was one of the most famous in Auld Reekie. There Robert Burns, later on, was to meet Lords of Session, roystering advocates, and some of the best wits and literary men in the Capital at that time. Noted for its ale, Edinburgh ale, its Nor Loch loch, and its Wash rabbits, Johnnie Dowie amassed a fortune, which he left when he died in 1817, to his son, who was a major in the Army.

The venerable Kirk of St. Giles, with its Luckenbooths, looming behind, could not fail to arrest the poet's attention. The Royal Mile was full of animation. The upper classes paraded along in the stately attire of the period. Tradesmen chatted in groups at their shop doors. Caddies whisked about bearing messages or attending to the affairs of strangers. Add to this the long-tongued criers, who called the Gilmerston carters carrying coal and yellow sand, and the fisher jennies from Newhaven haggling over the sale of their caller haddies.

STREET CHARACTERS

Even in those days the Capital of Scotland had its street characters, each with his or her crowd of followers. Chimney sweeps, with their sooty bags, rubbed shoulders with the Town Guard, carrying their old-fashioned bayoneted axes. This, however, did not complete the picture of a motley throng—the water caddies with their stoups; the blue-blonded shepherd in his grey plaid, the kilted drover armed to the teeth, as was then the fashion; and the passing sedan chair with its liveried bearers, carrying their fair mistress to some fashionable gathering.

It must have stirred the imagination of the poet as he passed down the High Street, to view the house of John Knox, at the Netherbow. Allan Ramsay's shop facing Niddry's Wynd, would not be forgotten. Burns had read that fine pastoral poem, "The Gentle Shepherd," also the plaintive Scots lyric, "Lochaber No More." Now, in reverence he was standing on the stone steps of the outside stair that the wig-market poet had often trod. A striking bit of Auld Reekie's architecture was that timber-framed "land" where the head of the Cap-and-Feather Close, where the young and ill-fated brother of the Muse, Robert Ferguson was born in 1750.

The Canongate with its stirring history was yet to be traversed. The Playhouse Close, at the head of St. John's Street, would not be passed by. Burns' love for the drama must have awakened memories of the trials and tribulations of John Hume, a minister of the Kirk who wrote the tragedy of "Douglas" and which he shared to produce at the Playhouse Close Theatre. As students of Burns' work well know the prejudices of the clergy were a thorn in his flesh. His sturdy independence, and hatred of the zealots of that period who had forced a brother of the pen to leave the ministry for what they narrow-mindedness designated an unpardonable sin, must have stirred the heart of Robert Burns to a whiteheat of indignation.

Other interesting historical places in the Canongate had still to be visited. There was the old Tolbooth, a picturesque building bearing the date 1591. At one time the Abbots of Holyrood as overlords of the Burgh, held weekly courts here for the punishment of offenders, the adjustment of debts, and to conduct the affairs of the little municipality. And the Canongate Kirkyard, where Robert Ferguson, the poet, was buried. Burns, to his credit, then visited the forgotten spot, and kneeling, kissed the sod under which lay the wasted body of one who had given him the frame-work of many of his noblest efforts in verse.

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his message universal and immortal. "But deep this truth impressed my mind. Through all His works abroad, The heart benevolent and kind, 'The most resembles God!' That final stanza, from the lips of the peasant poet, left on the gathering an impress of his rugged independence never to be forgotten.

THE CLARINDA AFFAIR
About this time Burns had made the acquaintance of Willie Nicol, of the High School, who was a man after his own heart. Visits to Nicol's house in Buccleuch Bend followed, with the result that "Willie brewed a peck o' maut," one of the most popular convivial songs ever written was penned.

On his return to Edinburgh from a Border and Highland tour, Burns took up his abode in St. James' Square. Then began a new phase in the life of the poet. Previously he had met a young and beautiful lady deserted by her husband. She had a poetic turn of letters. Kindred souls, Burns in criticism declared in language of the deepest devotion his resolve to "love Clarinda to death, through death, and forever."

One can picture the amorous lover, after his limb had recovered from an unfortunate accident, winding his way from St. James' Square to the south-side of the city. There in General's Entry, in the Potterrow, he frequently paid homage to the "Fair mistress of the poet's soul." The violent attachment did not last long. The futurity of the entanglement must have been apparent. A copy of verses, and a pair of wine-glasses as a parting gift, and the romance was over!

The glamour of city life had begun to wane, and on March 24, 1788 he had bid farewell to "Scotia's darling seat."

The Edinburgh of Burns' time bears no comparison to the present day, but as a memory of the past it will ever be cherished by those who love Scotland's National Bard.

Beauty In Snow
(New York Herald Tribune)
Consider the various beauties of every snowflake, seen as it is and not as formless whiteness. A lifetime has been spent in that entrancing contemplation and the effort to reproduce what a lens reveals. Consider those "little machines" the molecules—invisible but law-abiding—or the formamifera: single-celled fossils in exquisite designs that tell where they are in the ground. The splendour of Draco unfold, which without the clear night the telescope shows the Milky Way glowing dimly, but when a child climbs to that island universe himself its immensities will lead him on beyond imagination.

We cannot see the finest thing in the universe, the electron. We cannot comprehend the cosmic year—of two hundred million years of our own reckoning. But in the common forms of matter around us hide enticing patterns, and on any clear night the telescope shows the Milky Way glowing dimly, but when a child climbs to that island universe himself its immensities will lead him on beyond imagination.

DOUGHNUTS. Two eggs, 1 tablespoon melted butter, 1-2 cup sugar, 1-4 teaspoon salt, 1-2 cup milk, 3 cups flour (pastry), 1-2 teaspoon nutmeg, 2 teaspoons baking powder. Beat eggs till light, adding sugar gradually. Sift together flour, baking powder, salt and nutmeg. Add to beaten eggs and sugar alternately with milk and melted butter. Roll out in soft dough, cut with cutter, drop in boiling fat and fry a golden brown. Roll in sugar if desired.

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