

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1925

THE DUTY OF THE PRESS

The simplest way to get rid of a thorny question, not a few people think, is to ignore its existence, to go about one's business as though the trouble did not exist. That is the principle of the Faith Curist, but all the same he gets a nasty jar when he goes to use the leg which is not there. Inter-Imperial relations are questions of paramount and vital importance, which unless faced and thoroughly discussed towards reaching solutions might land the Empire in the position of the Presbyterian Church in Canada today disrupted from one end to the other. The easiest way, the shortest cut, is more apt to lead to hell than heaven. The question of Imperial relations is a live issue with statesmen throughout the Empire today, and the Press, as in duty bound, is taking a hand in the discussion. Were it not for the freedom of the Press thus enjoyed, and usually exercised with such judicial discretion, the affairs of the Empire would soon reach a sorry pass, for we must ever bear in mind that our statesmen as a rule are very average men, men like as we are, and subject to the same errors of judgment and political indiscretions. It is to the relentless beat of the publicity of the Press on their actions and inactions that to a large measure we owe the progress, peace and harmony we enjoy today. The Press is the eternal watch dog of the people. Muzzle it and there is an end to orderly progress and prosperity, the world would be at the mercy of conspirators, the mailed fist; the torture chamber and dungeon would once more be the dominating influence for the suppression of impulses towards a greater and more enduring democracy than we now enjoy.

This is apropos of what is now taking place in the world of letters and statesmanship with regard to the future of the British Empire. No one who is closely following events can shut his eyes to the fact that at present the Empire is what we might describe as a bundle of loose sticks waiting for the right kind of string to tie them together in a compact whole. We have no Imperial Government. We do not admit, now, even the right of the British Government to determine what shall be our policy with regard to foreign nations.

In our resemblance to a loose bundle of sticks, when it comes to defence and protection we are liable to be picked up and garnered in by the first strong hand passing our way and seeing or finding a use for us. This is the position of Australasia at the hands of a growing and ambitious Japan. This is the case of South Africa with the internal growth and development of the republicanism of the old Orange Free State and the Transvaal Republic intensified by the communism of the White Labour of the Mines, and fanned by the constant fear of annihilation through peaceful penetration or otherwise by the black races to the north. This is the case in Canada with 110,000,000 people to the south of us or to our 9,000,000. Statesmen do not think of the day only, the morrow of their outlook comprehends the questions that must be faced and a solution effected or attempted so that the morrow shall not find the Empire we now possess dismembered, dismantled and dismayed. Possibilities always must be considered, discussed, examined and thrown to the melting pot of public opinion for testing from all points of view. Hence it is what may seem to some needless and heedless discussion,

is the very purging for purifying purposes which the wisest of our statesmen doctors have considered necessary and essential towards determining the condition of the body politic and the medicine best suited to effect a cure.

The Imperial Conferences have evidently as at present constituted served their day and generation. When the procedure of the Imperial Conference was settled, provision was made for periodical sittings of that body and a secretariat, introduced for the purpose of linking up the intervening years by means of correspondence. It was arranged that special conferences might be called if and when necessity arose for the discussion of matters of urgent importance. The constitution of the War Cabinet further extended the methods of co-operation between the Mother Country and the Dominions. Then arrived the Imperial Economic Conference which, in 1923, sat concurrently with the Imperial Conference. If, as it seems probable, one of these links falls, there is danger of other links doing likewise. Already the Winnipeg Free Press one of the best informed, best edited and influential newspapers in the Dominion, has decided that Imperial Conferences are cumbersome, slow, and indecisive. Slow and indecisive they certainly are as Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen bears testimony, and furthermore the system received a rude shock and further check when last year the Socialist Government of Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald refused to honour the obligations entered into by their predecessors in office with the Dominion Premiers. The suggestion made by the Winnipeg Free Press, which it must always be borne in mind is the exponent of the more Conservative of Western opinion, is that diplomatic agents be appointed by the Imperial and Dominion Governments to carry on "conversations" and negotiations between us and the Mother Country. Not only so but the Hon. E. M. Macdonald, Minister of Mr. King's cabinet, gave out an interview on his return to Canada from London and Geneva advocating that the affairs of the Dominion should be transferred from the Colonial Office to the Foreign Office. What does this indicate? That there is a strong and growing tendency on the part of a certain section of public opinion in Canada to replace the Governor General as an officer of the British Government, and to abolish Imperial Conferences as a means of interchange of views and for laying the foundations of Imperial policy. Conscientious newspaper editors and informed public opinion cannot ignore and stay their hands in view of such critical developments.

This is the situation as it exists in Canada today. There is no use shutting our eyes to it, as the question of Imperial and Dominion defence must be faced, and our people must be made aware of the tendencies in which ever direction they point. The Empire, as we have said, at present is an unbound bundle of sticks. Shall they all be bound in one bundle with one string, (and what kind of string?) or shall some of them seek to make a little bundle by themselves, or be snapped up by some strong hand which finds them temporarily isolated or drifting. The Press has its duty to perform in making the people think of these things.

BADLY SHEPHERDED SHEEP

What the promoters originally contemplated as a stroke of economic administration and an out-

standing example to the world of the possibilities of organic Christian union has sadly miscarried in the Church Union movement, the discouraging results of which are now being recorded. If ever there was an example of how not to do a thing we have it in this sorrowful fiasco—the cleavage of a great Church at the behest of leaders who spurned the need of public discussion and adequate consideration, and who pinned their faith in rail-roading the great body of laymen of one Church into a combination with other two for reasons which they did not fully appreciate far less approve. There is no use mincing words.

The Methodist Church, and, to a lesser extent, the Congregational Church have reason to complain of a breach of faith on the part of the leaders of the Presbyterian Church which has landed them in a Union with only a section, and that not the most progressive and prosperous section, of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Had the question been thoroughly canvassed and as thoroughly tested before the decision on the part of the General Assembly these two Churches never would have been misled and never would have been landed in the unenviable position they are in today. The great Methodist Church and the Congregational Church have entered the Union by law of incorporation, and endow the Union with all their worldly possessions. They are fully committed, but the Presbyterian Church is not so. Only those congregations that vote themselves in join the new body and take with them their worldly possessions, together with such proportions of the endowments as the commission set up for the purpose shall decide. The others remain as heretofore with their property, name and possibilities. The new United Church has imposed upon it nearly all the weaker charges of the Presbyterian Church especially in Saskatchewan and the Northern territory of Ontario, while for the most part the self-sustaining congregations which have hitherto largely maintained the Presbyterian organizations at home and abroad are remaining as the continuing Presbyterian Church. Fundamentally this position of affairs is the outcome of attempting the short cut to attain a desired end. In 1905 the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church approved of union provided it carried the consent of the entire membership. This at the first vote failed to do, and a second attempt was made in 1912 when it was to be gone on with should it be supported by the "practically unanimous action" of the membership. The second vote, however, instead of showing practical unanimity showed a fifty percent increase in the vote in opposition. Without taking another vote and without the large bulk of the people knowing the particulars or effect of the proposed union, the Assembly ultimately proceeded to bring organic union into being. Then the trouble began. Whatever else it may be the Presbyterian Church at back-bone is a democratic body it rules from the foundation up not from the cupola down, and when the people got an opportunity of being heard, they sounded no uncertain note either for or against Union. There is now a cleavage, and instead of "one big merger" as was hoped for there will be a sorely burdened big body and a smaller, more efficient (because less handicapped) body carrying on as independent Churches in Canada.

The appointment of Dr. W. A. Riddell as special permanent representative of Canada at Geneva has caused considerable stir in London diplomatic circles as leading confidence to the report that Canada was aiming at national independence. Dr. Riddell's official title will be Dominion of Canada Advisory officer and his duties will be practically to safeguard the interests of Canada in all matters that came before the League of Nations. If the League is to function without undue friction some such representative is essential.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The appointment of Dr. W. A. Riddell as special permanent representative of Canada at Geneva has caused considerable stir in London diplomatic circles as leading confidence to the report that Canada was aiming at national independence.

Notes By The Way

The excellence of Canada's farm products is now more than ever before a matter of world-wide fame. Especially is this true of the products of the field and of the stock yard, as was demonstrated at the Great International Show of 1924 at Chicago. The competition with United States producers was very keen, and on an extended scale, and yet Canada emerged from the contest a winner of Grand Championships in Wheat, Corn, Alfalfa, Flax and Field Peas, and in live stock also in Herefords, College Cattle, Clydesdales, Shires, Lincolns, Cotswolds, Dorsets, Southdowns, Leicesters, Shropshires, Long Wool Sheep, Fat Sheep and Car-load Lamb Lot, along with such a host of other prizes as astonished not only her competitors, but Canadian exhibitors themselves. It was a signal triumph.

There was a total of 9,198,714 cattle in Canada in 1924. The three Prairie Provinces had 3,861,145 of these, showing a rapid increase in that quarter, as also in dairy products. In the years 1921-23 the total number of cattle in Canada diminished, but a general recovery has since taken place with a large increase over 1923 in the number of cattle exported, both to Great Britain and the United States. The exports to Great Britain increased by 29 per cent. over the previous year, mainly as the result of the removal of the embargo.

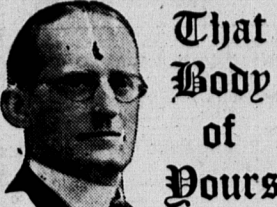
In poultry Canada's birds shown at Wembley and at the International Poultry Congress in Barcelona, Spain, in 1924, commanded so much admiration that it was decided to bring the International Congress to Canada in 1927. It was found that the Canadian birds not only withstood the discomforts of the ocean passage and the heat and humidity of strange lands, whilst birds from other countries succumbed to lesser trials, but they continued their egg production at each exhibition and secured many high awards. There was an enthusiastic demand to buy the Canadian birds and they could have been sold over and over again at high prices. They were not brought back, but were presented to royal and other dignitaries, the Royal Spanish School, etc.

Spaking of poultry recalls the fact that Canada's domestic bird stock now totals over 45,000,000 head and is steadily increasing. That was the case in 1923. It was then made up of over two million turkeys, over a million ducks, and some a million geese, and some forty-two million other birds. Ontario comes first with one-third of the total, and what is remarkable, Saskatchewan comes second on the list, and Alberta third, those two provinces together having more poultry than Ontario.

The number of birds per farm is another story. Taking all the farms of Canada, the average is \$3.9 per farm. And British Columbia leads all the provinces in that regard with 98.6 per farm. Alberta comes next and Ontario third with 79.1 per farm. Fourth and fifth places are held by Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Prince Edward Island comes sixth with 60.4, and is followed by Quebec with 49.7, New Brunswick 28.2 and Nova Scotia at the foot of the poll with 17.9. Our own Province is not very high on the list, to be sure, but compared with New Brunswick we have more than twice as many, and compared with Nova Scotia more than three times as many domestic birds per farm as they have. As to the number of birds per square mile, Prince Edward Island has all the provinces beaten to a frazzle!

The Manitoba Free Press which strongly supports the King Government, apparently holds views with regard to the Immigration Department closely resembling those before expressed in this column. We quote:

If the Government is in real earnest about immigration it will strike most people as very strange that a minister is not appointed who can give his whole time to the problem. Mr. Robb is, officially, Minister of Immigration and colonization, and Acting Minister of Finance. This is out of courtesy to Mr. Fielding, and for all practical purposes Mr. Robb is Minister of Finance and Acting Minister of Immigration. Just at present the work of the latter department is fundamentally of greater importance to the country than that of all but one or two of the other departments of Government. The duties of Finance Minister nowadays are quite heavy enough to assume responsibility for another department which calls for the best efforts of the minister in charge.



By James W. Barton, M.D., WHY CONGESTION OCCURS

You have wondered why someone who has undergone an operation, perhaps had some heart trouble, or even broken a leg, should have a congestion of the lungs, or pneumonia, as it is called. It does seem unfortunate that when a man is "flat on his back" with one serious condition, that his chances of recovery are rendered uncertain by this dread condition in the lungs.

However, the lesson in this to you and me, is so important, that it is certainly worth thinking about. I used the expression "flat on his back" above, and that is the whole point in the matter. When a man is severely ill with heart complications, or after a serious operation, it is absolutely necessary that he remain very quiet indeed. In a heart condition, even sitting up might prove his undoing, as that requires twice as much effort on the part of the heart, as lying down.

After an operation, any twisting or turning must interfere with the proper knitting together of the tissues; so that here also lying absolutely quiet is essential. And with a broken leg too, the weight is applied to keep the broken ends of the bones in close contact with one another, and this means that the patient must be quietly on his back. What happens to his chest, to his lungs. Why where he rests on his back, the back of his chest also, the ribs are not able to enlarge the chest outward, when air is drawn in. Where the ribs should spring outward, they are kept stationary because of the weight of the body against the bed. This means then, that the lower part of his lungs at the back, do not get moved much by the air coming in, because the ribs as it were, cannot enlarge the chest. Thus that portion of the lung doesn't get its share of fresh air, neither can it properly get rid of the waste gas that should be thrown out. When then you add to that the sluggishness of the blood circulating in a part that isn't being moved properly, you can readily see that a condition of stasis—lack of movement—sets up. This combination of circumstances by slowing up everything, simply congests the part, and so you have congestion of the lungs—pneumonia.

It isn't nice to think about, but it is a certain object lesson on the value of having your lungs free to expand properly for you.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

JANUARY 15, 1925

CURSING OR BLESSING?—Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.—Jeremiah 17:5-7. PRAYER:—O Lord, Thou art our strength and our everlasting reward.

THE SILVER TRAILS

When the wanderlust comes o'er you and the hills are deep in winter; When the star-bright night is sizzling and the winds are calling, "Come Take the lone trail by the lakeside leading dimly in the moonlight. 'Cross the wastes of frozen water stretched as tautly as a drum.

You may watch the moonlight drifting down the vales of faint blue shadow. See the dark pines rise like phantoms with their gaunt arms raised on high. You may listen to the music of the winds that sweep the hill-tops. Smell the pungent-scented spruces stretched along the velvet sky.

Do you wonder, do you ponder, on the spirit-ure that beckons. With its mystery and its beauty, with its stillness and its urge? Then go follow, follow, follow, by the woods and through the wastelands— Through the magic moon-lit wastelands where the North Winds sigh and surge. H. REGINALD HARDY.

Your Birthday DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. JANUARY 15—You have original ideas, a keen mind and shrewd perception, and if engaged in business it should be your own. If a housewife, you are an excellent manager, a careful buyer, and very shrewd. Curb a tendency to speak sharply and sarcastically to those under you, and encourage those who wish to be your friends. Your birthstone is a garnet, which means faithfulness. Your flower is a snowdrop. Your lucky colors are Navy-blue and black.

That Body of Hours

—AN APPRECIATION— ALEXANDER ANDERSON, LL.D.

The death of Dr. Anderson in his 89th year, deserves more than a passing notice. As an old pupil who enjoyed his continued confidence and friendship, I desire to add a word of appreciation to what the press has already said so well. Dr. Anderson came to the Island in 1862 as a young man just out from College, under engagement with the Government to fill the position of second professor in the Prince of Wales College. On the resignation of Dr. Ingles in 1868 he was appointed Principal and held it until the 10th of February, 1901, when he became Chief Superintendent of Education. These positions he worthily filled until some time in the year 1912, when owing to advancing years he tendered his resignation to the Government.

It will thus be seen that the Doctor held the position of Professor in and Principal of our College for thirty-nine consecutive years and that of Superintendent of Education for eleven years,—in all fifty years. It is a noteworthy fact that during half a century of strenuous service he was always at his post, holding high the banner of duty and exercising a commanding influence on the side of true culture and high scholarship. His tireless energy, his abounding earnestness, his buoyant optimism never flagged or wearied so long as ambitious youth of the Province required his wise direction or skillful instruction.

Times have indeed changed since his first landing upon our shores. Then education was at a low ebb. Very many of our people could neither read nor write. Money was not abundant. In such circumstances it was no easy task to cultivate and create a sentiment that would land itself to the establishment of proper and sufficient facilities for the education of our boys and girls. When the late Benjamin Disraeli, addressing the people of England, declared that "upon the education of the people of this country the fate of this country depends," he was giving expression to a truth which Dr. Anderson had by his great patience, unwearied labors and singular devotion to duty, prepared the minds of our people to not only fully accept, but to give form and substance in the creation of a system that provides a suitable and sufficient education for every child in the Province. He well showed the seeds of an interest in education both in the colleges and rooms at and elsewhere throughout the Province—seeds which in after years produced such an abundant and fruitful harvest as to have made the Island known and respected in almost every educational centre of North America. Endowed with an alert and active mind, a strong and robust physique, an inexhaustible enthusiasm and educational accomplishments of a high order, he was enabled to do much for the cause of education in this Province.

In addition to all his other high qualifications, the Doctor was a disciplinarian, the very first rank. It was never necessary for him to resort to those severe methods which the lesser endowments of many instructors make necessary in order to command the attention and respect of his pupils. His great success as an educator gained for him a name and fame far beyond the limits of our Province. McGill in 1888, conferred on him its highest honorary degree. The many hundreds of his pupils scattered over almost the whole civilized world—many of whom fill positions of the highest importance—gladly bear testimony to his estimable character and great worth. They would fondly place on his bier a wreath of remembrance and gratitude for all he was to them as preceptor and friend. Whatever others might suggest as an epitaph for his tomb, I would recommend the following from Shakespeare, as befitting his relationship in life to so many: "When I am forgotten as I shall be, and sleep in cold dull marble, say I taught thee."

Dr. Anderson's ideals were always of the highest. In all his teachings he ever directed the minds of the youth to higher things. Always realizing that "duty is the inner soul, the very life of education," he never failed to point out to his pupils the way of duty and honorable service in all the relations of life. As evidence of a sympathetic nature which did him credit, it was not an uncommon performance for him in a desire to advance willing pupils in the prosecution of their work to give one and sometimes two extra hours a day to the teaching of a class during the whole of a term. Although receiving but a small salary, time and a half overtime was never a slogan of his. In the early days of his connection with the college there were none of the attractions now prevailing to relieve the tedium and monotony of our long winter evenings. His public lectures on Shakespeare's McBeath, Hamlet, Julius Caesar, Savorola and other kindred subjects were of a high order and were heard by large and delighted audiences.

Although he passed almost all his mature life in the Province, where his family of five were all born and grew up, his love for the land of his birth never wavered. This commendable trait, however, did not in the least minimize his admiration and affection for his adopted land. We can well honor both attachments. As death comes to all, his passing after a long and useful life need not occasion sorrow. It was the late Henry Ward Beecher who said, "It is as natural for a man to die as to be born," a truism by no means inappropriate to the demise of Dr. Anderson. The same noted divine also said, "Every green thing loves to die in bright colors." Dr. Anderson, full of years, full of hours in the natural course of things has passed beyond the veil wearing the bright colors of a rich harvest of long, useful and valuable service, of which thousands now and always will reap the benefit.

"Integrity of life is fame's best friend, Which nobly beyond death shall crown the end." W. S. STEWART.

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