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WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1929

MARITIME REVIVAL

The industrial awakening that is now in evidence in the Maritime Provinces is being widely discussed in our sister Provinces in middle and western Canada. This revival is still in its incipient stages but considerable progress has already been made, and there is a promise of further development in the not distant future. No doubt the start to this impetus was the result of the partial implementation by the Federal Government of the recommendations of the Royal Commission under Sir Andrew Rae Duncan. One of the noteworthy results so far has been the determined effort to seek a wider Canadian market for Maritime products of the field, the sea and the factory. The recent organization of the sons and daughters of the Maritimes resident in other Provinces has been a big factor in the progress so far attained. Maritime Provinces Associations are becoming powerful magnets in the Central Provinces, attracting the products of the provinces by the sea to the inland markets.

As has been pointed out so ably by Trade Commissioner Burnaby and Professor MacPhee during the past few days, there is a practically unlimited market in the growing central and western provinces, particularly for food products grown on Maritime farms and in Maritime waters. The Central Provinces are expanding at a tremendous rate in metallurgical and coal mining as well as industrial activities. These vast areas, comprising the richest mining districts in the world, will attract millions of people who must be fed by the agricultural provinces, and in this the Maritime Provinces cannot fail to be participants.

While the press of our sister provinces have been generous in sympathy with the Maritimes in their somewhat difficult fight against heavy odds, there still remains the misconception, frequently voiced in Western and Central Canada, that the development of the Maritime Provinces depends solely upon our own people and that the present improved conditions are examples merely of the benefits that come to those who help themselves. This is but a partial truth. The Maritimes have suffered, through no fault on their part, by the industrial and economic changes brought about by Confederation. As the St. John Telegraph-Journal pertinently says:

How could a people help themselves when they lay under such burdens as the Duncan Commission revealed? It is quite true there is a new spirit and a new energy in those provinces. It is due to the improved conditions made possible by the new expressed desire of the Central Provinces to buy where for so long they have sold to the injury of Maritime Provinces industries.

COMING ELECTIONS

Three elections, all of which will possess greater or less interest for Canadians, are scheduled to take place within the next three or four weeks. May 30 is the date fixed for polling in Great Britain, where the three major parties, Conservatives, Liberals and Socialists, are already well-away in a contest which, though described as one of the most crucial ever fought in the Old Country, cannot be said to be claiming even an average amount of interest in Canada. One week later, on June 6, polling will take place in Saskatchewan, where the Conservative Opposition, allied with an attenuated Progressive party, is endeavoring to dislodge from power a Liberal Government, which, under various leaders, has held office continuously for 21 years. Six days later, on June 12, the issue will be decided at the polls in South Africa between the Nationalist Government under Premier Hertzog and the South African Party under General Smuts.

In each case there is perhaps an even chance for a Government defeat. At any rate the outcome is sufficiently in doubt in all three

contests to invest the campaigns with interest. In Britain most of the optimistic forecasters are on Premier Baldwin's side, but those who view the campaign from a distance foresee a close issue as between the Conservative and Labor parties, with a considerable augmentation in the Liberal representation in the next House.

In Saskatchewan the Gardiner Government is apparently up against a stiff fight, and it is conceded in the province and generally believed outside, that the Conservatives will make heavy gains. Next to Quebec, however, Saskatchewan is the Conservative party's hardest fighting ground in the whole of Canada, and the Government's defeat seems improbable. In the last election the Conservatives entered only 19 candidates and elected only 3 in a House of 65 members. But they remember, and take encouragement from, Nova Scotia's big turn-over in 1925.

In South Africa both the National Government and the South Africa Opposition profess the utmost confidence in the outcome, which promises to be exceedingly close. With sturdy Britishers, General Smuts is the favorite, because of his strong Imperialistic tendencies, no less than because of the separatist trend of the Hertzog Government.

All three of these election campaigns are of political importance far greater than the mild interest they are evoking would seem to imply. If the Baldwin Government is returned, Britain will be under the heaviest tariff protection it has had since the repeal of the Corn Laws. If the Gardiner Government is upset in Saskatchewan, the result will leave Quebec as the one remaining stronghold of Liberalism in Canada. Should the Hertzog Government be defeated, Imperialists will rejoice both in Britain and all the Dominions. In all three cases, therefore the election returns will carry messages of unusual political significance.

TRY THIS ON THE COW

Acting on the theory that cows like music and are vastly more contented and quiet while music is playing, a Detroit creamery has spent large sums of money to give it to them. Radios have been installed in the barns, a whole battery of loudspeakers governed by a master speaker. Music is turned on while the cows are being groomed and while being milked. "When the music is soft and low," we are informed, "you will see whole lines of cows settling down, and with every head turned toward the loud-speaker, all chewing their cud and acting as contented as possible." We are not told how they react to jazz, but our guess is that the cows would resent it. Cows are sentimental creatures; they like to be stirred emotionally but it is doubtful if they could be induced to shake a hoof except under compulsion.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Recently compiled statistics show that the Dominion Government is collecting more than \$1,000,000 a week from the people of Canada in income tax. The total for the fiscal year ended March, 1928, was \$58,871,047, while the business profits tax totalled \$68,031. The total cost of collecting these taxes was \$1,948,078.

Although the United States Senate prescribes scores of laws for regulating the affairs of the nation, its membership only includes one doctor. The Saunders Government was elected chiefly on a pledge—which it never implemented—of rigidly enforcing one particular law, and it has two doctors in its cabinet. Whether medical brains are at a premium in American political life, or whether the Saunders Government is over stocked with doctors and insufficiently supplied with legal talent, is a moot question.

Notes By The Way

Confederation was a wise prudent measure for British North America. No one can believe that the development which has taken place in wealth and population could have been achieved had the Eastern and Central Provinces not been united under a central Government. Especially was it a good thing for Quebec and Ontario, and for the vast lone land that lies beyond the Great Lakes. From the beginning of 62 years ago the St. Lawrence Provinces have been in the saddle, planning, legislating, ordering everything.

We of the Maritimes were slow to realize what was going on. We had not rightly estimated the sacrifice we had made when we surrendered our principal powers of government and legislation to the absolute control of another authority centered a thousand miles away. We thought we were equals in a great co-partnership dominated by a principle of fair play, all for each and each for all. We are wiser now, after the events.

We are not here to blame the ruling powers altogether for what has occurred. Human nature being what it is, it is quite possible that had the Maritimes had and retained a large majority in the Union from the first they might have used their power in much the same fashion as the big Provinces have done. As it is the Maritimes have been, shall we say, the victims of their own imprudent agreement, at least in part, and in part the victims of circumstances.

The Hudson Bay Territory was bought and the St. Lawrence Provinces proceeded to exploit it, turning their back upon us. We complained and they called us ungrateful secessionists and went on with the job of exploiting and developing the West—a market for their goods and wares. Also they seized upon the northlands adjoining them, which belonged as much to us as to them, and made Ontario five times as big as it was before and Quebec seven times as big as it had been when we entered the Union.

Did they think of paying the Maritimes for their share? Not at all. In good Roosevelt fashion, they wanted the territory and, having the power they took it. The entire area of the Maritimes, some 50,000 square miles, is insignificant in size compared with the territory thus ravished, and less rich in mineral and forest wealth. Under these conditions the Maritimes stagnated for half a century. Warned by our fate Newfoundland has steadily refused to join the Canadian Union and has prospered by her refusal. No one stole the Labrador from her, after the Canadian examples. Newfoundland retains her independence, makes her own laws, builds her own railways, and goes on prospering and contented.

The Maritimes once had five Cabinet Ministers at Ottawa. Now they have two. Once they had 41 members in a House of 181 at Ottawa now they have 29 in a House of 245. Always in a minority, we still had some voting strength to be reckoned with in the first Parliament, say one in four. It is insignificant now. The then almost uninhabited regions beyond the Lakes have now a voting strength in the House of Commons, two and a half times as great as the Maritimes, and the disparity is increasing.

R. B. Bennett may give some thought to the things here set down. He was born in the Maritimes, knows our history and is not always looking to Washington. Premier King, quite naturally, looks upon Maritime affairs from a very different angle. Statistics tell that the Maritimes have the most old people in proportion to their total population of any of the Canadian Provinces, and are also the most thickly settled, while Prince Edward Island tops them all both in regard to age and close residence together. From these facts, "length of days" being counted a blessing, we ought to be happy down here. Experience teaches and we have it here. Is it not something to be proud of that there is more experience, intelligence, thought and wisdom in a square mile of this Province than in any other Province of the Dominion?

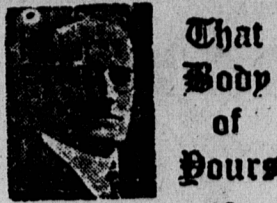


I am fevered with the sunset, I am fretful with the bay, For the wander-thirst is on me And my soul is in Cathay.

There's a schooner in the offing, With her topsails shot with fire, And my heart has gone aboard her For the Islands of Desire.

I must forth again to-morrow! With the sunset I must be Hull down on the trail of rapture In the wonder of the sea.

—Richard Hovey.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

TOO MUCH STARCHY FOOD

You are the ordinary healthy individual at work every day, and have nothing to complain of from a health standpoint.

However you find that you have frequently a pain in the abdomen which while distressing at times, is hardly worth a visit to your doctor.

Sometimes the pain seems to be "under the heart," at other times it is at the same point on the other side of the body under the liver.

It may also be down on the lower right side of abdomen in the region of the appendix and you quite naturally have a little suspicion that it may be appendicitis.

Again it may be on the lower left side of abdomen, or it may even be just under the middle part of abdomen.

There is one outstanding point about the pain however and that is that it seems to shift about and from these different points in the abdomen.

Your abdomen feels greatly distended and there is a considerable amount of "gurgling" which you rightly attribute to gas.

Perhaps you will be constipated for a few days and then there will be diarrhoea following this. You are thus unable to figure out whether or not you need a purgative medicine, for just about the time you determine to take a purgative, the diarrhoea commences.

Now what is the matter? Dr. E. S. Emery, Jr., tells us that it is the failure of the digestive apparatus to properly digest the starches in the food that brings about the above symptoms.

Perhaps a few general rules about eating would be of help here, such as:—Eat slowly, chew your food thoroughly. Do not hurry your meals, nor be in a hurry before and after meals. Do not eat when hot or excited. Eat only at regular times and just three times a day.

Five to six hours between meals, and the particular treatment is to cut down on your starches such as bread and potatoes and avoid hot rolls, hot biscuits, muffins, waffles, and cakes.

If the symptoms are at all severe Dr. Emery suggests that you do without starchy foods entirely for a few days. This results in complete relief of the symptoms.

Remember then that much of the pain in the lower abdomen is due to too much starch in so far as your particular body is concerned.

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

ANOTHER ROAD COMPLAINT

Sir,—The attention of the Department of Public Works is respectfully directed towards that section of road extending from Shaw's Corner through St. Catherine's to Bonshaw. This piece of road is in a most disgraceful condition. The heavy spring floods have cut drains and gutters in many places and up to the time of writing no move has been made to have them filled in. The greater part of this road has not been machined since the spring of 1925. When under the capable direction of W. D. Shaw as Roadmaster, and the late Geo. Sherren who had charge of the road machine, this road was left in splendid condition and a monument to the efficiency of the late Stewart government and its officials.

Last year the residents waited long and patiently for the coming of the tractor. Spring came and summer had almost passed when one morning in the latter part of July they were rudely awakened from their slumbers by the wheezing groans of this cumbersome machine as it approached, accompanied by its worthy operators. This is the season of the year when Sirius the dog-star reigns and the dense foliage of maple trees makes pleasant shade for those who are weary. The hills were gone over and all the dust and small stones available were dragged up onto the centre of the road to be formed into a quagmire when the heavy fall rains came.

All were patient until the spring hoping that the road work would commence at the south end. We are informed that such is not to be the case but that the road work is to commence at the north side of this section and that the taxpayers in St. Catherine's will be obliged to again eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' tables. When the road taxes were collected last fall there was no

The Tree As An Invention

Condensed from the Atlantic Monthly—Charles D. Stewart

In any tree, however alive, the substance composing trunk and branch—the solid part of the tree—is inert and lifeless matter. The heartwood of a tree is dead in every sense. Its tubes no longer convey sap upward. From the heartwood outward to a point very near the surface we find the water-conveying structure consisting of long tubes; and these tubes are mere conduits, inert and lifeless. At first, when they were being built, there were live cells working inside of them, little bags of protoplasm; but, once they were completed, the live tenants disappeared.

The only part of a tree that is really alive is a thin sheath of cells at the surface of the wood called the cambium layer. It is this live part that keeps building and making the tree larger.

If we cut through a tree, we can count the rings of its annual growth. A cut across a tree near the ground may show 300 annual rings, while cuts at higher points will disclose but 100, or 50, or 40. The rings become fewer and fewer. If we take a particular ring and follow it up we find that it grows smaller and smaller till it diminishes, a ring near the center of the stump coming to an end at no great distance from the ground. And each of these rings, according as it is the 40th or 100th from the center, will show a height as well as the thickness that the tree has attained in that number of years. Just as a tree grows smaller upward, so likewise do these inner sheaths of annual growth. All the successive surfaces of the tree are enclosed here.

Thus we see that a tree is really a sheath of life spread over the dead trees of other years. Generation stands within generation, successively wrapped about. The outer life of cambium and leaf and bud uses this trellis to go up and reach out toward and skyward. Instead of throwing its old skeleton aside each year and starting anew, it clings to its dead bones, profits by their stature, and makes tubs in them to provide a supply of water for a larger growth. When we compare this way of growth with other methods, both animal and vegetable, it must strike us as a most interesting invention.

As the inner or lifeless part of a tree is incapable of growth a nail driven into a young tree at any particular height will remain at that distance from the ground throughout the life of the tree. And a branch coming out at any point will not be carried upward as time goes on.

A tree, like other forms of life, is engaged in the constant circulation of fluid through its tissues. Life processes, animal or vegetable, can go on only so long as each individual cell is surrounded by a fluid containing nutriment. To meet this demand and to provide for a large amount of evaporation, a tree passes up a great deal of water. A fairly large beech tree will use about 65 gallons of water on a dry, hot day, and a large oak will require much more. Even a sunflower will use two pounds. And this water, in the larger species of trees, will have to be lifted 200 and even 300 feet.

Anyone familiar with pressures in a water tower must be interested in asking: How is this done? In the present stage of man's knowledge of physics, we do not know.

The lamp-wick principle, capillary attraction, will not go far in raising water. Water rises in a capillary or fine tube to a height in proportion to the fineness of the tube; and the viscosity of water is such that if the tube is very fine it will not rise at

reduction made because a mere pitance had been spent on our roads; the last cent was exacted and this money was spent on the more favored sections of the road division. This road has often been half-humorously, half-sarcastically called a rabbit path. It is quite possible if it had been called a cow and horse path, more attention might have been paid to it by those who are responsible. The bridge crossing MacKenzie's Creek is in a very dangerous condition and for the past year there has been no railing on this bridge, and anyone crossing with a spirited horse is liable to be precipitated into the stream. The bridge crossing Darrach's Creek is also very much in need of repair, the railing has been crowded in each time it was repaired until now a team and auto could not pass. This letter is not written with any political animosity, but merely to draw the Department's attention to existing conditions, and as a comparison between efficient servants on the one hand and inefficient ones on the other. Thanking you for your valuable space in your much appreciated newspaper,

I am, Sir, etc., CASUAL OBSERVER.

all. Capillary attraction would not raise water to the top of even a moderate-sized tree.

Root pressure or osmosis, a sort of powerful absorption due to unbalanced chemical pressure, has been considered. By cutting off a plant near the ground and fastening a glass tube upright on the stem, it is possible to ascertain the height to which its sap will rise by the pressure from below. Under favorable conditions a grapevine will exert a pressure sufficient to raise a column 36.5 feet, while a birch has tested as high as 84.7 feet. This might seem a promising line of inquiry except that root pressure takes place only in early spring, and especially in the morning. It has been found that when the tree is evaporating the greatest quantities of water, on dry, hot days of summer, there is no root pressure whatever.

It has been proved that the rise of water in the tubes of a tree is caused by a pull from above. A branch, if cut from a growing plant, with its end inserted in an air-tight manner in a glass tube, will draw a supply of water from the tube with such force as to pull a column of mercury up after it. But here again a difficult intervenes in the solution of the problem.

A suction pump at its best will lift water but 33 feet. The pump, by the lift of its piston, removes air pressure from the upper surface and tends to create a vacuum, in consequence of which the water is pushed up the pipe from below by the weight of the atmosphere, a pressure of 15 pounds to the square inch at sea level. No invention can be made which will pull more than the laws of physics will enable it to do. And 33 feet falls far short of reaching the top of a sequoia.

But water has got to go up those tubes to the top of a tree. It will and does. Hence, scientists began to consider whether water in thin columns, as in these fine tubes, has not an actual coherence, a tensile strength, sufficient to stand a strong pull. Possibly, after all, water may be drawn up from the top as if it were a rope. Strange to say, experimentation has gone quite far in proving this to be the case. But there is a difficulty.

The rise of water to the top of a tree is dependent upon evaporation, which makes room for the continual upflow, and gives rise to the strong absorptive pull, or osmosis. This being true, if a plant or a branch is placed in an atmosphere so saturated with moisture that evaporation is impossible, it will be unable to keep the water flowing up its stem. Yet experiment has shown that the intake persists, though it is slowed up, even when the leaves are entirely submerged in water. So the rise of the water still remains a mystery.

A tree manufactures its food direct from earth and air, a thing the animal cannot do; and though it has no lungs, nor anything corresponding to such a device, it feeds life's constant fires by taking in oxygen night and day. And how can a tree breathe without lungs? Another mystery!

It is when we consider the tree as a plant made to conquer difficulty, a sea creature living no land, that we see its lofty waterworks in their full significance. The tree was a very bold and original idea in nature; and the steps leading up to it were four. First in the order of development came the primitive water plants, the thallophytes, floating freely about or living in the saturated soil along the shore. And in those days there were no other kinds of vegetation. Second came the amphibious plants, such as the mosses; third the woody plants beginning with the ferns; and fourth the most modern woody and two-sexed plants of this high mechanized vegetable age.

In the mosses we see vegetation crawling on its belly up towards the dry land. Stealthily and cautiously it draws away from the water's edge lying low. It must not venture far; for it has no true roots; and it cannot raise its head out of the moisture. At first it was but a thin sheath of cells, lying flat on the mud; then it became several layers thick, the moisture being passed from cells below to those above by absorption.

Finally, the great idea came to pass in the form of a fern. Here was a vegetable mechanism with true, running roots, which the moss has not; and it possessed a woody stem provided with tubes for conducting water. With the invention of the fern, piping the water upward, while the roots struck down to bring it from below, nothing more was necessary to the making of the tree. It only remained for the stock company of cells to go ahead and, in modern parlance, construct a "bigger and

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THE LAND WE LOVE

BY FRANK TRICH

THE TELEPHONE IN CANADA Q. What is the present status of the telephone in Canada?

A. The number of telephones in Canada is steadily increasing, totaling at the end of 1927, 1,259,897, a "phone to every eight of the population. There are no less than 3,600 telephone systems in Canada, the Bell being the largest. The capital investment in all the systems represents, \$75,000,000. The net operating revenue for 1927 was \$8,345,422 and salaries and wages of 23,437 employees was \$20,000,000. Ontario leads in the number of 'phones with 558,486 and Quebec second with 235,970.

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