

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MENDING AND MARRING

One of the reasons given for the defeat of the Norris government and the success of the amalgamated Farmers and Progressives in Manitoba, is the weakness of the Norris Liberal government. On any day during the past two or three years the Norris government could have been put out of business at any time. The government existed by grace of the Opposition groups; it was in a minority and during two years at least has marked time, has done nothing effective, has just drawn its various salaries and seasonal indemnities.

The election was expected to remove the handicap but from the first days of the campaign the impossibility of any adjustment was seen by all.

The country was divided into irreconcilable groups and the result is that there shall be a form of government, nominally in the hands of the Farmers, but in reality at the mercy of the several groups elected.

The United Farmers and the Progressives will have a small majority over the other groups and will be able to form a government. With the aid of sympathetic independents they may carry on till the next election. Should any obstruction arise or any controversial question come up for legislation a break may occur at any time. In any case no effective legislation is likely to be attempted and no effective leading will be undertaken through fear of such a break.

The position of the new administration is not an enviable one. There are many difficult problems to solve. The formation of a new Wheat Board alone is a task of considerable size. Control of the marketing of wheat in such a manner as to give the farmers the price they think they should receive and give the speculators what they may regard as a reasonable take-off is no easy undertaking. The question of taxation also will be a trying one and when decided, if it is decided, will leave some sore heads.

The Manitoba situation is in a small way, a parallel of the situation at Ottawa. The government is at the mercy of opposing groups, each with ideas of its own as to what policy should be pursued. The result in Ottawa so far is an effort to please all and no one is pleased. It would be a guess to say that a year or two or more will be spent by the Manitoba legislature in an effort to please all and with little hope of success.

HARNESSING THE OCEAN

He would be a reckless man who today would declare anything impossible to science. For the past fifty years science has been doing the impossible of previous ages. The impossible of today will be an accomplished fact tomorrow. Before the mysteries of life and death only, science still stands baffled.

During the past few days citizens had an opportunity of examining a device intended to harness the ocean and utilize its unmeasured strength to drive the machinery of the industrial world. To harness the ocean has been the dream of all ages. Some day it will be done; possibly the device we refer to is the beginning of the great achievement. The ocean is never at rest. Its bosom has risen and fallen throughout countless ages; it will continue to rise and fall for countless ages to come. On its swell the mightiest ships rise and fall; rising and falling is the mechanical effect sought in the use of steam and electricity. The ocean swell provides this effect automatically, inexpensively, irrevocably. Why

cannot this effect be utilized in driving our machinery? Undoubtedly it shall be so used sooner or later and the amount of energy that will thus be made available will be beyond all computation. Let us hope that the effort now being made to harness the ocean will be crowned with success. The world needs the power as never before for coal, one of the two great available sources of energy, has risen to an almost prohibitive price while the other, running water, is only available in scattered localities.

THE WHISTLING CHOIR

In this hot and sultry July weather when almost the only concern is whether the weather will hold out till the picnic is over, a cheerful note is added to the occasional anxiety by our Liberal whistlers. The Summerside Pioneer which speaks for the Liberal party in the western part of the province lifts up its voice in its last issue in grateful recognition of the fact that the King government at Ottawa has survived its first session. "In the first test of the past session," says our Western Sobon, "the Liberal party had a majority of 120 and in the final vote the majority was increased to 125." It admits in an aside, that on the Budget vote the majority had been cut to 18, but that was nothing compared with the sweeping majority of 125. It might be cruel to inform the Pioneer that there has been no "rest" of the King government's strength or of its weakness during the recent session. Had there been there would be no King government. No one desired a new election at the present juncture, consequently there was no attempt to break the already broken government. But the Pioneer's rejoicing has a pleasant ring to it. It reminds one of the Patriots' unflinching argument in defence of the Bell government. When challenged to defend any one of the indefensible acts of the government the Patriot invariably sings this song: "The Bell government never was more strongly entrenched in the peoples affections and Premier Bell was never more popular than during the late session." And the people smile and go on with their picnic.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Reports from many parts of the province seem to indicate that noxious weeds are more in evidence this year than formerly. Certainly in the vicinity of Charlottetown the ox-eyed daisy appears to have acquired a renewed lease. This weed, one of the worst we have, is now treated as a respectable species of hay, and is as carefully harvested as timothy or clover. It is a serious mistake. The ox-eyed daisy is a soil robber and even if it were equal to hay in quality it will not produce the quantity. The best thing to do with it is to eradicate it even if it requires years of cultivation to do it.

SHIPPING AND SHIPBUILDING

Lloyd's Register for 1922-23 shows that the United Kingdom still heads the list of maritime powers in the matter of ocean-going tonnage. The figures are interesting and are as follows: United Kingdom: June, 1914, 18,877,000 tons; June, 1922, 19,753,000 tons. British Dominions: June, 1914, 1,407,000 tons; June, 1922, 2,201,000 tons. United States: June, 1914, 1,337,000 tons; June, 1922, 12,506,000 tons. Japan: June, 1914, 1,642,800 tons; June, 1922, 1,925,000 tons.

Notes By The Way

Lord Byng, Governor General of Canada, is touring in the West and during his absence Sir Louis Davies as Administrator is the active ruler of the Dominion for the time being. A first thought in this connection is that the high office of Administrator's held by worthy and capable hands, as all must admit. And it may be further remarked that there have been and there are today in Canada few public men whose lot has been more prosperously cast than that of Sir Louis Davies.

It was something not dreamed of in the days of our fathers that the actual seat of executive power over all British North America should ever be even temporarily located here in this little Garden of the Gulf, but so it is. It happens so because in this garden grew the man who possessed the capability, the ambition and the qualities of mind and heart that fitted him to rise above his fellows and to adorn a very high station in the great Dominion of today.

Perhaps it is not strange, although quite true that some persons, few and small-minded of course; appear to envy our fair Province this distinction of being the present Head Quarters of Canada. We are told by an exchange that "there is some criticism of the absence from the capital of the Administrator, Sir Louis Davies. While the Governor General is touring the West his Deputy is enjoying the sea breezes of his native province. The chief cause of complaint is that Orders-in-Council and other papers requiring official signature have to be sent from Ottawa to Charlottetown and the round trip means the loss of a week.

Orders-in-Council awaiting signature indeed. That is the trouble as it appears. A moderate number of these official documents were issued by the late Meighen government, as had been done by all previous governments of the Dominion and this was made a special ground of attack during the late federal election by Mr. Mackenzie King and his present colleagues. They affirmed that the authority of Parliament had been "usurped" and "overthrown" and Canada was being entirely "governed by Orders-in-Council," a despotic abuse of power that must and would be stopped when the Liberals regained power.

Thereupon something happened and Mr. King became Premier of Canada. After a few weeks the issue of Orders-in-Council began slowly at first but rapidly increasing. The mill has since been speeded up to record-breaking rapidity of operation. It is publicly stated that never before in six months of power—four months of the six being occupied by a parliamentary session—have so many Orders-in-Council been issued by any Canadian government. We await further details, but believe the statement to be true.

The "despotic abuse of power and usurpation of the power of

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

From the W. B. Louson collection

GREAT PRINCIPLES.

I would urge the young men and women of our day, into whose hands are to be committed mighty destinies, to begin all their reasonings about things—whether they be personal problems or problems of industry, or problems of nation and of race, or problems of international relationship—to begin all their reasonings about these things from principles which have been given to us by Jesus Christ our Lord. These principles are not many in number, indeed they are few. The grandest lives are the simplest and they are guided by a few splendid stars. The great need of the world today in civic politics, in national politics and international politics, is the need of men and women who hold a few high and splendid principles, who will follow those principles along any and every road in a perfect assurance that they are the stars which will lead to the Holy Child Jesus and to the secrets of the Kingdom of God—Rev. J. H. Jowett, D. D.

France: June, 1914, 1, 918,000 tons; June, 1922, 3,302,000 tons. Holland: June, 1914, 1,417,000 tons; June, 1922, 2,613,000 tons. Germany: June, 1914, 6,093,000 tons; June, 1922, 1,793,000 tons.

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 expressed by its correspondents.

Train Efficiency

Sir.—The writer had occasion on a recent Saturday to travel from Summerside to O'Leary by train. At 12:30 o'clock I left the Capital of Prince County expecting to arrive at O'Leary about 4 p. m. instead of that hour it was 5:45 o'clock when the train pulled in. I had sent word to a relative to meet me at 4 o'clock so as to take me by team to Cape Wolke, a ride of at least ten miles. He was on hand in good time and had a long tedious wait of nearly two hours, and the folks at his home had the same long wait for the guest.

The slowness of railroad transportation between Summerside and Tignish is due to the arrangement of running a freight train every other day. That scheme may be economical but it is awfully exasperating. At nearly every station it is necessary to unload freight from three or four cars. One reason for the delay on the day I was a passenger was due to the fact that after the train left St. Eleanors it was discovered that freight for that place had been forgotten, so the train which was well on its way to Miscouche had to be backed up and the ice ree loaded. That little operation took twenty minutes.

That this arrangement of running freight trains is unsatisfactory it is only necessary to state that tourists who arrive in Summerside at midnight must wait until 6:20 o'clock the next evening before they can proceed on their journey, if they happen to get to Summerside on the day that only one train runs.

A passenger on the train I was on told me that on Dominion Day there was no freight to speak of, so that the train had to kill time at stations in order not to get ahead of schedule. I nearly threw a fit when informed of this, for I had been used to trains on the island (always) being in "the frog." Some of the torture might be eliminated by printing a timetable to agree with the running of trains.

The railroad on the Island is very much in need of an efficiency expert.

I am Sir, etc. R. E. PORTER.

Parliament," have not ceased as was promised by Premier King. On the contrary these so-called acts of despotism and usurpation appear to have so multiplied as to require some one of sufficient authority to be constantly in residence at the capital to sign them. So urgent are they that the slow transmission by mail is complained of. Evidently something more than the temperature and the state of vegetation has changed greatly since the 6th of December last!

We believe and trust that neither Lord Byng nor Sir Louis Davies will be greatly disturbed in their vacations by the urgency of the Orders-in-Council requiring official signature. Many of these are of but trivial import to the people of Canada. Appointments to office and dismissals from office are included in the list and any of these might be delayed for a few days without harm, while some recent dismissals in our own province are far from satisfactory and should not have been made—of which more hereafter.

A citizen who ought to know informs the writer that the law enacted in 1908 prohibiting the operation of motor vehicles in this province has not yet been repealed. Section 2 of that act reads as follows: "No person shall, after the coming into force of this act, use or operate upon a public highway in this Province any motor vehicle." Section 3 of the same Act provides a penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500). If not repealed, where are we at? Last week the number of licensed motor vehicles in the Province reached a total of 2,000.

SOVIET RUSSIA DECIDES TO RESTATE ITS CASE.

THE HAGUE, July 21.—Soviet Russia will accept Europe's invitation to restate its case. This information was conveyed tonight to the Associated Press by the Soviet spokesman. Whether that statement will result in a revival of The Hague conference, nobody, least of all the Russian delegates dare predict.

PAGING DONE BY RADIO IN A BIG BOSTON HOTEL.

BOSTON, July 21.—Paging guests by radio has been tried in a Boston hotel. The manager claims that the radio method gives more efficient service. Instead of the absolutely incomprehensible pronunciation of the desired patron is uttered in clear and distinct tones through a radio device attached to the hotel switchboard.



A Monthly Income for Life

SUPPOSE you know for certain that when your earning days are over your present income would be replaced by another—one which would be adequate for the support of yourself and of your family! And suppose you were sure that income would continue as long as the need for support exists! Can you imagine anything more comforting?

For Yourself in Old Age

NINETY-FIVE out of every hundred men who live to be sixty years of age are then dependent upon their daily earnings or upon charity for their support. It was this condition that caused Lord Rothschild, the eminent banker, to say that "while it required a great deal of boldness and of caution to amass a fortune, it required ten times greater wit to keep it."

But you can easily escape the misfortune of being dependent in your old age. Simply invest a portion of your earnings for a few years in an Imperial Monthly Income Endowment. Then, beginning when you are 55 or 60, or at whatever age you choose, we will send to you—regularly—each month—for the rest of your life—a cheque to provide for your comfort and independence.

If you should die before the policy matures the Monthly Income will be paid to whomever you have named as your beneficiary. And these Monthly Income payments will be made to you or to your beneficiary for not less than 20 years, no matter when your death may occur.

For Your Wife in Widowhood

YOUR salary will stop with your pulse. But your widow and children will still require shelter, food, clothing, education.

You can provide now for these needs by means of an Imperial Monthly Income Policy. Then after you're gone we will send to your widow—regularly—each month—a cheque for \$25, \$50, \$100, or whatever sum you may choose. These Monthly Income payments will commence immediately after your death. They will continue as long as your widow lives. Should she not live to receive at least 240 Monthly Income cheques, the balance of that number will be paid to her estate.

There is no other provision you can make for her that is so sure and, at the same time, so convenient. Just think! She will have no worry or bother or expense in looking after the investment of her legacy. She can't lose it. Neither can she be swindled out of it. And it will earn a rate of interest far beyond what could be secured by an inexperienced investor, without danger—great danger—of losing the principal sum.

NOW—while you are insurable and can spare the money—ask us to tell you how small a yearly saving will put an Imperial Monthly Income Policy between you and a penniless old age—between your family and a life of hardship. Just fill in the information called for on the coupon at the side and mail it to us and we will send you full particulars without delay.

Form for requesting information about the Imperial Monthly Income Policy, including fields for name, address, and age.

The Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada. Head Office: Toronto

Betting Flourishes Where it is Illegal

Not in the history of racing in Canada has the betting part of the game received so much advertising as it has this summer. It seems probable that this publicity has resulted in a greater amount of gambling, because there are many people who would be indifferent to a right or privilege until they thought it was about to be withdrawn and then would hasten to exercise it. No doubt, if the sale of chewing tobacco were to be prohibited, the Act to come into effect next week—hundreds of people who never chewed tobacco in their lives would lay in a few banks of it in case of emergency. The betting in Canada of course is done by means of the parimutuel machines, except that part which is carried on by the illicit handbooks. In Kentucky and Maryland, too, the betting through machines is legalized. In New York betting is illegal, and therefore has to be carried on secretly, but we have no doubt that there is much more money bet in New York than is bet in Ontario.

Situation in New York.

Betting could not be carried on to any considerable extent if it were not for the connivance of the police. It certainly could not be conducted on such a scale that the odds are posted with each race and published in every newspaper that carries betting news. For a couple of years horse racing was dead in New York because of a law which made the directors of the race tracks personally responsible for any gambling done on the premises. When this law was in force the tracks shut their gates. When it was repealed, without the law forbidding betting being repealed, the tracks reopened and have been enjoying tremendous prosperity ever since, even though the Jockey Club and the track owners did not derive a dollar in revenue from

the betting, which amounts to hundreds of thousands of dollars a day. The Jockey Club does not recognize betting officially, but it is well known that if a man makes a bet with a bookmaker and loses and does not pay, or if a bookmaker swishes, he finds the numerous private detectives taking a curious interest in his affairs, to the effect that he finds it impossible to bet again.

Betting on the Ned.

This is one of the reasons why there are so few losses in the tremendous and illicit business of betting in the United States. The bookmakers from the big operators, who will accept \$10,000 on the hoof, to the little fellow, who takes a two-dollar bet, do not lose more than two per cent. of the money offered them, according to a writer in the New York Herald. There is an old convention that a gambling debt, since it cannot be collected at law, is a debt of honor, and thus must be paid before any other debt. This tradition and the activity of the private detectives protect the bookmaker from serious loss. Of course the bookmakers and the numerous assistants, scots, and runners will not bet with every stranger who appears. But it is easy enough to find someone who knows them and will vouch for the stranger. Once accredited, he can have a credit of thousands of dollars. A note from Bill Smith to Bill Jones, the track bookmaker, presented by Bill Thompson, will result in Jones saying to Thompson, "All right, Mr. Thompson, as much as you like."

The Odds.

Mr. Thompson picks a horse and maybe bets \$500. Mr. Jones makes a note of the affair. Nobody signs any document, no money changes hands. If Mr. Thompson wins, he will leave his address with the bookmaker, and the next morning will receive a cheque for his winnings, which may amount to \$5,000, or he may be paid cash on the spot, and this without having vis-

ibly risked a dollar or incurred any liability whatever. Sometimes it turns out that when Mr. Thompson bets he loses and does not liquidate, but this happens about once in fifty times, and the bookmakers are not greatly disturbed, since they make the odds, and the more they are cheated the narrower will be the odds they offer. These odds, by the way, are never as great as those to be had in the machines. The machine odds are the odds of public opinion; the bookmaker odds are those of private judgment, as modified by public opinion. On tracks where the unlawful bookmakers operate there is usually a conference among them in the morning and a general elastic agreement as to the opening odds, this agreement being founded on what they believe to be the chances of the various horses. After the opening odds there are likely to be rapid alterations due to the amount of money that is being placed on the different horses. The more money there is bet on a horse, the shorter is his price.

Great Winnings.

The greatest odds ever paid on an American track were those which rewarded the few backers of Wishing Ring, at Latonia, on June 17, 1912. Anyone who had a \$2 ticket for first received \$1,885.50; those who bet \$2 for second, received \$644.60, and those who bet third drew down \$172.80. Obviously, no bookmaker would ever offer such odds, because the bettor who would not bite at a hundred to one would not bite at nine hundred to one. Two years earlier at Lexington, a horse named Muzetta paid more than for hundred to one. These tremendous odds simply mean that only half a dozen people out of a thousand bettors thought the horse would win, and the half dozen divided among them the money wagered on other horses by the mob, for mutual betting is pool betting, in which the bettor backs his judgment against that of other bettors, not against the collective wisdom of the bookmak-

ers. The shortest odds on record were those laid on the James R. Keene entry in the Lawrence Realization at Sheepshead Bay in 1910. One had to risk \$100 to win a dollar on his horses, Sweep and Suffragist. Once at Jamaica and twice at Belmont similar odds were given on Man o' War.

OKANAGAN APPLES WILL BE BIG CROP.

VICTORIA, July 21.—The apple crop in the Okanagan will be 84 to 85 per cent of that of 1921, with an estimate of 2,281,000 boxes, or 3,271 cars, as against 2,750,000 boxes in 1921, according to the crop report issued today by the Horticultural Branch of the Department of Agriculture.

MR. GIBBORNE RETIRING

OTTAWA, Ont., July 21.—F. H. Gibborne, K. C., parliamentary counsel will be superannuated shortly after about 40 years' service in the Justice Department of Parliament.



DON'T LET YOUR BANK ROLL SKID. TAKE OUT AUTO INSURANCE

When you own and operate a car, you are liable to cause injury, even if you drive carefully. We will assume the dangers for personal liability and will protect you in the payment of property damages, also for loss from Fire and Collision.

Hyndman & Co. Ltd. Managers for P. E. I. The Oldest Insurance Agency in P. E. I.