

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1927

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

It will now be admitted, we think, by all Liberals who are disposed to be fair and honest, that Premier Stewart and the other members of the Provincial Government deserve great credit for the additional subsidy about to be received by this Province, and for the \$40,000 railway taxation that will be paid, year by year, on behalf of the Premier and the Government we heartily thank the Leader of the Opposition for having attacked the mover and seconder of the Address because they "eulogized" Premier Stewart on that account. Mr. Saunders has riveted public attention. We have no doubt that thousands of voters have read, or will read, the report of the Premier's speech, published by The Guardian, who would otherwise have passed it by. That speech proves to the satisfaction of every open-minded, fair-minded person, that Premier Stewart was a prime mover in respect to the conferences and negotiations which finally resulted in the railway taxation and the Duncan Report.

That credit is also due to the Premiers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick—as well as to those of Ontario and Quebec—is true; but the contention of the Leader of the Opposition that the Premier of this Province was entitled to no credit whatever is not true. The fact is now, thanks to the Leader of the Opposition, established.

On the other hand, the contention of some persons that all the credit is due to the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, cannot any longer be maintained with even a show of truth and reason. Mr. Mackenzie King is, indeed, entitled to the same sort of credit as the merchant who, having consented to the arbitration of a case in which he is interested, pays into court the amount that the arbitrators have awarded. If Mr. Mackenzie King had acted promptly his "credit" would have been so much the greater. But having locked the award up for months together, and kept it secret, his "credit" is somewhat discounted, in the eyes of the people. If, after having kept it secret for months, he hadn't gone to the United States and taken more time to think it over, together with the party interests involved, he would now be held in higher regard throughout the Maritimes.

AN UNINFORMED CRITIC.

The lively "Standard," of Montreal indulges in some witticisms over the additional revenues to be received by the Maritimes as a result of the efforts of their Premiers and the Report of the Duncan Commission. It states that "the increased subsidies will enable Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to take care of the interest on the public debt without more borrowings, and will put Prince Edward Island, which has no public debt to speak of, and few taxes to pay, on velvet. Indeed, it has been suggested that the best way to spread the increased subsidy in Prince Edward Island, will be to give each taxpayer a bonus. What with no taxes, cash bonuses, and automobiles allowed on the road only three days in the week, Prince Edward Island looks very much like the earthly paradise this harried and troubled world has been sighing for."

If The Standard had no desire but to be merely funny for the benefit of its readers, this would be "fine." But, seeing that it is, by some persons regarded as a serious organ of public opinion, its levity may be misconstrued. To say that Prince Edward Island has no public debt to speak of and few taxes to pay, is a statement that unfortunately is not in accordance with the facts—is, indeed, as wide of the truth as that "automobiles are allowed on the roads only three days in the week." Prince Edward Island

has a debt to pay, her people have taxes to meet year by year, and there will be no bonuses even after the Duncan Report has been implemented. Even with the best Provincial Government in Canada, it is not regarded as an "earthly paradise."

The Standard ought not to forget that all the additional revenue and all the improvements Prince Edward Island is about to receive were awarded her by an independent Commission after careful inquiry, and are to be regarded as her just due. The Standard ought also to know, and to publish the fact that the people of Prince Edward Island desire for the people of the other provinces not one dollar to which she is not fairly and honestly entitled under the terms of her Confederation pact.

GOOD SUGGESTIONS.

It has been suggested that the school children of Canada should specially honor the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation. Messrs. K. J. Dunstan and S. B. Gundy, of Toronto, have wired the suggestion to Premier King. Their idea is to have an address prepared that could be read to the assembled children all over Canada on a certain day. It has also been suggested that small flags might be presented to each child, and a copy of "The Fathers of Confederation," by Robert Harris, presented to each school.

These suggestions are well worthy of consideration. The spirit of love for Canada and unity in all the provinces, should be sedulously instilled into minds and hearts of young Canadians. It is an interesting fact that this month of March is the month in which the Canadian Confederation was established. It was on the 8th of March, 1867, that the British Parliament gave its third reading to the British North America Act, which was assented to by Queen Victoria on the 29th.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A regular two-days service by dirigible airships between Great Britain and Canada is now contemplated. Major-General MacBrien announced before he left Canada, that a trial trip is intended in the summer of 1928.

It is stated that Premier Kniz, when present at the Imperial Conference, promised that a mooring mast for airships should be erected in Canada at a cost of \$350,000. An expert from England is to be in Canada next month to select one of several prospective sites. We hope that Prince Edward Island will not be overlooked!

There is before the Legislature of Ohio a bill to make dancing illegal in public places on Sunday. There should be no need for such a bill, or such a law, in any Christian country. Dancing, in itself, will be admitted, is a good thing for the young. It promotes health, vigor and good manners. But dancing in public on the Lord's Day, in the way they dance at public dance houses, is not considered with the respect which Christian men and women ought to have for their Lord and Master—and no respectable Christian would take part in it.

The Old Age Pensions Bill, now before the Senate, provides for the payment of a maximum pension of \$240 a year—subject to reduction by the amount of the income of the pensioner, in excess of \$125 a year. Moreover, the pensioner must be a British subject or a widow who, not being a British subject, was such before her marriage; and he or she must have reached the age of seventy years and resided in Canada for twenty years. As already well understood, the system is to become effective only by arrangement with the Province.

Notes by the Way

What the sum total of the Federal Government's proposals in regard to the Duncan Report will be is not so easy to determine as some may think. It now appears that after the interim subsidies granted for this year the future subsidies for the Maritimes will have to run the gauntlet of an Inter-provincial Conference, and we cannot foresee what that body may decide upon.

In the first place, we do not yet know how that Conference may be composed or what power is to be entrusted to it. Will each Province be equally represented by one or more delegates, or will the representation be in proportion to population, or according to the basis already established for representation of the Provinces in the Senate? What will be the scope of the questions which the Conference shall consider? Will they be limited to those dealt with by the Duncan Commission, or may they include such matters as the notorious land grab by which Quebec and Ontario have taken possession of a million square miles of the Canadian Hinterland in which the Maritimes had a joint proprietary interest, of which they have been deprived without compensation of any sort?

The Maritimes may yet have a battle to fight, before the Conference is called, or in the Conference, or in Parliament after the Conference has reported its decision, or its recommendations as the case may be. Danger lurks in the proposed Inter-provincial Conference, a danger of which our representatives in Parliament and in our Provincial Governments should beware. Let us suppose that the Maritimes get the \$1,600,000 which is allotted them in the Duncan Report for this year, and that it is made permanent yearly hereafter. Then Parliament restricts all the subsidies to Provinces making a like increase all round. What would be the Maritime gain from increased subsidies then? Simply nothing.

The Maritimes have been robbed and pinched for sixty years. They are now to be compensated out of the common treasury for their loss. But an Inter-Provincial Conference which follows, may say that all the Provinces shall be compensated with readjusted subsidies in like manner. Such a decision by the Conference would nullify and vacate the benefits which the Maritimes hoped for from the Duncan Report.

These are some of the chances and possibilities of the situation as it stands. There is much yet to be settled and will still be much even after Parliament has approved of the principal provisions of the Duncan Report. We shall not know how much or little the Duncan Report is worth to the Maritimes until we know what the Conference may do to make or mar our future. It may do better or worse than we hope or fear.

There seems to be a fairly good reason behind the suggestion of Major T. Edgar MacNutt in yesterday's Guardian that those who are writing letters just now for or against prohibition should attack their names for publication along with their letters. In the first place, as Major MacNutt observes, it adds greatly to the interest of the reader and many do not read letters over a non-degenerate and who cares to receive even a telephone message without knowing who is speaking?

In the Legislature or on the public platform the speaker is before his auditory and all who are present know who and what he is. "The man behind the speech" is always an essential part of the performance and is not the man who writes a letter equally so. No man who writes a letter for publication that deals with a controverted question should be either afraid or ashamed to sign his name thereto. There are many correspondents, as every newspaper editor knows, who never write a letter for publication except with their own proper signatures, and these are the letters that are most highly valued.

Something may be said of course, on the other side, but the signed letter is almost always preferable to one that does not bear the name of the writer. Total prohibition has many sincere and able advocates and it also has other advocates who sometimes misquote the Sacred Scriptures, as did "Teetotaler" in The Guardian of Wednesday. We once heard a Doctor of Divinity complain of the mis-quotation of the passage, "Woe unto him that putteth the bottle to his neighbor's mouth, and to his neighbor's drunkenness." This form of quotation omits the latter part of a sentence which is essential to the real meaning of the passage.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

OVERWEIGHT AND INSURANCE

A couple of years ago I mentioned the fact that our insurance companies would not reject an overweight individual for insurance if the size of his abdomen was not any larger than his chest.

Now this seemed like lax work on the part of the companies because the chest expanded should be really larger than the abdomen, in the ideal physique. A few months ago these companies admitted that the weight they allowed for middle aged men and women was really twenty pounds more than it should be. In other words the individual was carrying twenty pounds too much around all the time, which meant a "steady decline in physical efficiency."

Now the point is that if insurance companies would insist upon their risks making good on their policy, and just charging them a higher rate for being heavy, or as they say advancing their age four or five years (for which the insured has to pay of course), then it would mean that many of our usual middle aged citizens would go on to a useful old age.

As Leonard Williams points out, this extra fat gets in between the muscle and other tissues, and pressing against the blood vessels makes more resistance to the circulation of the blood. Thus the heart has not only to look after this extra twenty pounds of useless tissue, but has to pump against the pressure it makes as it presses against the blood vessels.

This often results further in kidney trouble, as it is definitely shown that the decrease in weight and kidney ailments among fat people is twice as high as in persons of normal weight.

In addition to heart and kidney ailments they are now finding that some asthmatic patients get great relief by cutting down their weight.

Now what is the cause of overweight? In more than nine cases out of ten it is due to overeating. Not that the individual eats more than some of his thin friends, but because his particular tissues deposit fat readily. Starches like potatoes and bread are especially fattening, and bread with overeating is under-exercising, because the stout individual doesn't like to exercise. He really does more work of course when he exercises, than one of normal weight.

Then there is finally cases where the thyroid gland is not as active as it should be and this allows fat to accumulate. These cases are helped by the thyroid extract under the supervision of the family doctor.

You really don't have to be overweight if you investigate the matter thoroughly.

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

By W. L. Gordon

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "the table is that wide" (indicating the width with the hands). Say "so wide."

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: of rice. Pronounce the "o" as in "off," not as in "all."

OFTEN MISPELLED: consensus; three s's.

SYNONYMS: purpose, motive, intention, project, undertaking, design.

WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: DEPICT; to paint, portray or describe vividly. "The story was realistically depicted."

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

March 24, 1927

ONLY A VALLEY OF SHADOWS:—Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me. Psalm 23:4.

LET ME LIVE BY THE SEA

Let me live by the sea, the splendid sea, and hear the waves roll in— Away from the throng in the filthy mart, Away from its torrent and din. Far away from the gold-mad crowd, With its tumult and tawdry glee; It seems to me like a thot from God When I think of the beautiful sea.

Let me live by the sea, the storm-tossed sea, And feel the brine on my face— Away from the dust on the trodden road, Where man runs life's rabid race. Far away from the discord and strife, And the things that men decree— It seems to me like living near God, To live by the shining sea! —Christine B. U. Johnson.

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.

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

Sir,—I am delighted to hear that Mr. McLure's suggestion that a new building for a Provincial Library, Museum and Art Gallery is being favorably received; and I hope that it will, as soon as possible be adopted.

A central location for the proposed building would be at the corner of Great George and Grafton Sts., now vacant; but if Mr. Spencer has already prepared plans for his new building, and could not admit of an enlargement to meet the requirements of a library, etc., on the ground floor, I beg to suggest that the corner of Prince and Grafton streets, familiarly known as "Quirk's Corner," would be a good second-best location. If it could be obtained at a reasonable price, it would—with two churches and the Guardian Office close by—be an eligible site for the proposed Library, etc.

I AM, SIR, ETC.

AN OLD CITIZEN.

RABIES AGAIN

Sir,—Our poor dogs have been muzzled for months and yet "Conservative" who without doubt is suffering from the same disease, as can be seen from his letter "An Outrage" which appeared in the Patriot of March 21st, is allowed to go unmuzzled. He had better be careful, he may bite himself or worse still some sane person. He starts out by saying "Premier Stewart's resignation is an outrage upon the Conservative party."

Mark that, "Upon the Conservative party" not the Temperance party. Oh no, it is party he is worrying about, not the liquor question. The Patriot likewise is not concerned over the country being wet or dry, but over the prospects of the Liberal party. He also says, "he, the Premier, has torn down the party's flag."

Surely those who favor Prohibition (which does not prohibit) do not imagine that all the moral God-fearing people here in the provinces, where it is in force, and in the other provinces are peopled by outcasts who are going straight to perdition. This province is known as the Garden of the Gulf, but has never laid claim to being the Garden of Eden.

FOR THE SCRAP BOOK

A SERIES OF LITERARY QUOTATIONS FOR BOOK LOVERS

Thursday, March 24th Longfellow died 1862.

The faint silvery warblings heard over the partially bare and moist fields from the bluebird, the song sparrow, and the red-wing, as if the last flakes of winter were as they fell. —THOREAU.

On the shelf of the bookcase behind you stands the "Divine Comedy," and I know that if I open it at a certain place, I shall be filled with a fierce hatred of some one who has never wronged me, or stirred by a great love for some one whom I shall never see. There is no mood or passion that Art cannot give us, and those of us who have discovered her secret can settle beforehand what our experiences are going to be. We can choose the time of our initiation, and the time of our freedom also. —Oscar Wilde

The Poet—And this shall be the reward: that the ideal shall be read to thee, and the impressions of the actual world shall fall like summer rain, copious, but not troublesome, upon the invulnerable essence. Thou shalt have the whole land for thy park and manor, the sea for thy bath and navigation, without tax and without envy; the woods and the rivers thou shalt own, and thou shalt possess that, whereas others are only tenants and boarders. Thou true land lord! sea lord! air lord! Wherever snow falls or water flows or birds fly, wherever the blue heaven is hung with clouds or snow with stars, wherever are forms with transparent boundaries, wherever are outlets into celestial space, wherever is danger, and awe, and love,—there is Beauty, plenty, own, and thou shalt possess that, whereas others are tenants and boarders, thou shalt not be able to find a condition! important or ignoble. —Emerson.

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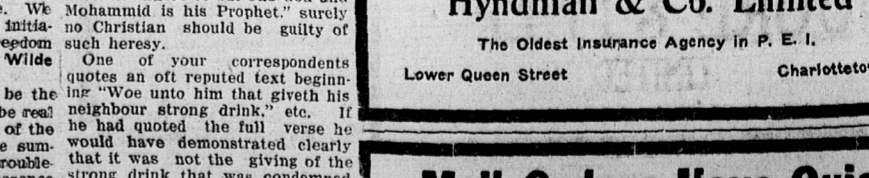
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The French budget this year provides 78,650,000 francs in subsidies to French aviation companies as compared with 69,500,000 francs last year.

HEADACHE

is not an ailment, it is a symptom, an indication of some constitutional derangement elsewhere and it should be treated not with a headache cure but with Mac's Liver Pills

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