

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1930

Mr. Cox in Debate

If florid declamation made for oratory, Mr. H. H. Cox, Liberal representative for the Second District of Kings, would outclass Demosthenes and Cicero judging by his remarks on the budget Monday night. One of Mr. Cox's particular grievances was with The Guardian and its methods of criticizing the Saunders Government. Journalism, according to Mr. Cox, should be restrained and mannerly. Mr. Cox didn't say "restrained and mannerly" but his negatives implied that he had these positive virtues in mind. There has seldom been occasion to refer, one way or the other, to Mr. Cox during the three sessions that he has sat in the Legislature; but now that he has come forward as a critic we have pleasure in submitting some of his arguments in debate.

Mr. Cox's subject was "Prohibition and what this Government has done since it came into power." If he wandered from his text, it cannot be said that he was prosy. He regretted that "the Yankee Doodle from Charlottetown" was not present as he "wanted to take a crack at him." The Opposition had talked for hours about "a few prisoners getting drunk in jail." "Would it be anything wonderful for that little fellow over there" (indicating an honorable member of the Opposition) "to take a bottle into the jail and get a prisoner drunk on it? How could we help it? They say it was the Liberal Government that did it. What bosh!"

To say that the Government had gone behind in liabilities \$330,000 was, in Mr. Cox's opinion, "a piece of rot." If the Government had gone behind \$5,000 or \$50,000 or \$500,000, who was to blame? "It is not the Government that goes back," he explained, "it is the people that want the work done. If we haven't got the revenue to make up the amount of money that we spend, we must go in debt."

"We are suffering today," Mr. Cox declared, "for what the Conservatives done in taking the poll tax off because we haven't got the revenue for to go and spend what the people want under this age. You must remember that today the world is different to what it was four years ago. We are living in an age today that we can't spend more. The people are asking for more. Things are different and if we only had that \$72,000 poll tax and land tax that they took off, together with our \$3,000 surplus, what a beautiful situation we would be in!" (Laughter). "They can laugh! They are laughing; it turns around and laughs at the little fellow from Middleton, or somewhere around there; but that's the truth."

Mr. Cox was a great believer in road machinery. What did it matter if \$80,000 of machinery was ordered by telephone? "What difference if we bought it with a post-card?" The point was that the machinery was good machinery; it is in good condition as it ever was. "I can't see strong machinery and I can't see for years."

Mr. Cox was in too much of a mood to confine his remarks to the Speaker or even the members of the Opposition. "Ladies are going in the gallery had the honor of being directly addressed on more than one occasion, lapses which the Speaker failed to correct."

Government Control would be a failure in this Province, Mr. Cox believed, "because liquor would be no cheaper than it is today, so how is it going to eliminate the bootlegger?" And apparently it is just the same in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. "I never bought any of it there because I don't like the dirty stuff." (Laughter). "What did you say, Mr. McLean? Nothing? Your mouth twiddled; I saw it!" (Laughter).

Mr. Cox had no doubt as to who was the \$185,000 additional subsidy

received when the Conservative Government was in power in this Province:

"We got the \$185,000; they didn't get it; they never got a cent of it. We got it and we are going to get more. They condemn the Premier because he hasn't got it right in his fist. I have no doubt we will have another nice \$100,000 next year and it will stick you fellows right solid."

"Take the jalls! take the jalls! take the jalls!" Mr. Cox thundered:

"They say we are doing nothing Under the Stewart Government those jalls had only four or five. We got the jalls full. We have the Summerside jail full, and we have got to build on to it. Still they will say there is nothing doing under Prohibition."

The charitable nature of the Government towards the poor and needy was another matter that had Mr. Cox's heartfelt approval.

"Whenever delegations meet this Government," he said, "what do we do? When the women of the two orphanages come; when the blind will come; when the deaf and dumb will come, what do we say? We don't turn them down! We say: 'We are sorry that we can't help you out and give you more.' What can a Government do more than that? We are doing all we can do, and we are doing more than we can do."

Mr. Cox's summing up belittled the dignity of his address:

"I don't care," he said genially, "whether you are Conservative or Liberal, whether you are white or black or brown. You stick to the Liberal Government and I am mighty sure that in ten years we will be out of debt and this Province will be a whole lot better off."

A Bad Record

According to statistics given out by the American Automobile Association 31,500 persons were killed in motor car accidents in the United States during last year, an increase of 12 per cent. over the fatalities of 1928 and of 300 per cent. in the last ten years. Motor vehicles caused 32 per cent. of all the accidental deaths in the country last year while ten years ago only 15 per cent. of accidental deaths were due to this cause. The deaths from motor vehicles in a year very nearly approximate the total in the world war.

Reckless driving of automobiles is not the only thing in which the United States suffers by comparison. The Philadelphia Ledger says that since 1800 in 31 American cities, with an aggregate population of 40,000,000, the homicide rate has doubled. Thirty years ago deaths from violence in these cities numbered five per 100,000 of population. Last year the rate was ten. The figures ranged from 86 for Memphis and 51 for Birmingham and Atlanta, in the Southern States, to 3.4 for Philadelphia, 7.1 for New York and 12.7 for Chicago. Contrast these figures with those for the thirteen leading Canadian cities, where the homicide rate decreased from 2.7 in 1918 to 1.3 in 1928. The rate for Montreal was 1.6. During that year there was only one homicide in the City of Quebec. The rate for all England and Wales in 1928 was 0.8.

Spending to Save

The Bank of Nova Scotia issues a very sensible and timely warning to the people of Canada, and especially those of the Maritimes. It is this: Now is the time to spend responsibly and wisely, not to be mean and stingy. There should be no curtailment of expenditure simply to save; "our conduct ought to be such as to minimize hardship and distress through lack of employment by reasonable expenditure on the part of everyone. . . . where possible, the products of Canadian farms and factories should be preferred." Wise words which should be carefully conned and inwardly digested.

Notes By The Way

It is a pretty sure and certain sign that the legislators at Ottawa are getting tired of the monotony of the House when they start making the rafters ring with their melodious voices. At the end of last week, for the first time this session, the House of Commons picked up one of its oldest traditions by bursting into song preliminary to a division. In the past the Quebecers with their liling "Alouette" usually have taken the lead in these sing-songs devised to fill in the wait before a vote while the party whips are calling absentees into the chamber. But on this occasion the Ontario Conservatives started it with "My Wild Irish Rose." Practically the whole House swung in when the tune was changed to "Show me the way to go home." It was only after this epic had been brought to a ringing finale that the Quebecers awoke to their ancient responsibility and struck up "Alouette." But they were too late. Before the first verse of the rollicking French folk song had been finished the whips returned and Mr. Speaker began the division.

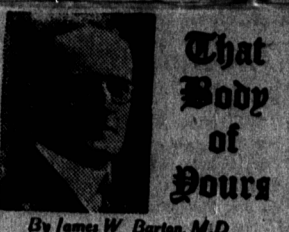
The Alberta Liberals have once more a leader, the choice of a successor to Captain J. T. Shaw, K. C., falling on Mr. W. Macdonald, K. C., former Mayor of Macleod, Alta. He has been prominent in Liberal politics for a number of years, is a good speaker, and personally popular. There were three names in nomination, Mr. W. R. Howson, Edmonton, and Mr. E. J. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin, besides Mr. Macdonald. The race for leadership was close between Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Howson, three ballots being necessary before the former won out.

How a complaint from Toronto had a boomerang effect when investigated at Regina is told in the Toronto Globe. A charge was made by Miss Nellie Forman, former Settlement House worker in Regina to the effect that foreign-born girls between the ages of 14 and 15 were being forced into marriages with men they hardly knew. In press statements some weeks ago Miss Forman is said to have stated that the foreign-born use their children as chattels, forcing the girls into marriage when they are hardly more than children.

Investigations were ordered by the Government, and the statistics covering a period of three years show that out of twenty marriages in 1928 of girls under the age of 16, seventeen of the girls were Canadian, one was French and two were American. In the following year there were twenty-eight marriages of girls under 16, and of this number twenty-four of the girls were Canadian, one was from the British Isles, one from Finland, one from Poland, and one from the United States. In 1928, the last year recorded in the statistics, only twenty-one marriages of brides of minor age occurred in the Province. Out of this number fifteen were Canadian girls, two were Russian, and four were Hungarian, Polish, Rumanian and American, respectively.

We heard a good deal recently about the United States presenting a "farm" to Canada "to even off" the boundary at Ontario. When the matter came before the House of Commons, however, it turned that instead of being "a farm" it was merely a "backyard" of about two and a half acres, uninhabited, and uninhabitable because it is swamp. The gift to Canada is simply a matter of international convenience. The twist in the boundary line in the Neck of the Woods area created more trouble than it was worth, hence "the gift."

The Halifax Herald, erstwhile strong supporter of Prohibition in Nova Scotia, under the heading "Beer in Britain," carries the following editorial in a recent issue: "A few days ago the cables carried the news that Queen Mary had visited a public house in London and had been favorably impressed with what she saw there. (A public house, it may be explained for the benefit of those who do not know their British Isles, would be called an "open bar" in this country). It was, the cable added, probably the Queen's first visit to such an establishment; and the staff and patrons, with true British respect for their Majesties, paid her tributes of loyalty and devotion. "This recalls the announcement of a few months ago of the King's preference for a particular kind of beer, and another announcement that the Prince of Wales had presided over the making of a new brew in a London brewery. "It is like that in the Old Land. Beer, particularly, is an institution there, to be discussed solemnly in Parliament as an essential right of the working man. Of course, it is difficult for many of our own people in this country to get the viewpoint; ways and customs are different over here. But there it is. And it is worth adding that the public house visited



By James W. Barton, M.D.

NOISE IS A HEALTH PROBLEM

You have heard about the league organized to prevent tuberculosis; another to prevent cancer; another to prevent rheumatism; and still another for the prevention of heart disease. All these would seem to be necessary if we are to preserve useful lives. However when you read about an organization called the Noise Abatement Commission, you will begin to realize that noise is more than a nuisance; it is a real danger to health and life itself.

When we think of noise it is usually the noise of the street that comes to mind—the automobile with its squeaking brakes, the tooting horn, the loose muffler; the heavy trucks with their solid rubber wheels, the pounding hoots of horses; the rattling of street cars often equipped with flat wheels; the noise of factories with their machinery and with hour whistles; the noise of locomotives near or far away; and many other noises of which you may think.

However the Noise Abatement Commission are trying to lessen and get rid of noise anywhere and everywhere. Thus they request radio owners that they do not let the loud speakers rise above the natural loudness of the human voice.

To office workers they suggest that "noisy machines be put where they can least disturb everyone concerned, and that full use be made of mats or absorption vibration, and of screens and partitions to absorb sounds."

Also that when using the telephone that they should speak "directly" into the mouthpiece, so that others in the office will not have to hear the conversation.

And for the home itself the suggestions are, that children be given the quietest rooms in which to sleep; that rugs, draperies and screens be used in bedrooms to overcome noises coming in from the outside owing to open windows admitting air; that ash cans have mats of hemp or rubber; and that dog owners should keep their animals quiet.

Now why all this care to prevent noise? Because noise acts on that body of yours just as does hard mental or physical work. Noise striking the ear drum goes directly to the brain, and this keeps nerves and muscles alert. This constant alertness means the manufacture of wastes, and wastes act as poisons on the system and cause fatigue.

In other words, when you work amid noise you do anywhere from 25 to 40 per cent more work, than if the noise were absent.

Thus noise becomes a real problem of health.

The Poet's Corner

CRYSTAL NIGHT Can there be any peace beyond this hour— Blue shadows lengthening as daylight dies, A book beneath a candle's lighted flower, A cat with half-uncertain emerald eyes Furring with contemplation on the floor, The sharp wind lashing newly crystallized trees, The measured swirl of snow against the door— Can there be deeper, whiter silences? The clock ticks onward to eternity, Lightly as snow the minutes drift away; Here is the heart's desire—tranquility And dreaming at the closing of the day Beside a fire that smolders spark on spark, Throbbing like golden music in the dark. —D. W. Hicky, in the New York Times.

THE LAND WE LOVE

By FRANK LEIGH THE CITY OF KINGSTON Q. What is the history of the city of Kingston? A. The City of Kingston has an interesting history running back for over two and a half centuries when Fort Frontenac was founded, in July 1783 by Frontenac who built a stockaded fort occupying the present site of the Fort de Front Barracks.

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.

CAR TAXES

Sir,—I have been reading some letters in the papers regarding car taxes, and I think it time for action to be taken at once. The taxes are so high that some people do not use their cars some seasons at all, some others for only half the year; this is also true about their trucks, as well. While they think a tax on gasoline is quite right, yet they say, "I don't use my car or truck (as the case may be) enough that I can afford to pay such a high tax."

Some say cars are so hard on roads. Well I know of cars that run all last summer and did not register 1,000 miles, and to pay such a high tax I think is unjust. If Ontario, as one writer puts it, only pays \$5 and they say they have good roads, why not we adopt that plan and we have good roads too; also more cars and more five dollar bills to improve roads.

It was said at one time, "Oh cars was only a luxury." My contention is cars and trucks are no longer a luxury but a necessity, and they are taxed entirely too much.

One writer says a certain party permitted cars to run on our public roads; surely the then premier would feel more comfortable going to church in a car, than some of the present powers—that he who would not sign for cars to run to church on Sundays. I don't know where they could have wanted them to go. Now, I think our Noise is sore enough with taking this kind of dose, that every car or truck owner should rise against this enormous tax as it appears the higher the country is taxed the farther it goes in debt. Therefore as car owners, let us stand up for taxes on cars to be reduced immediately in the year 1930, not wait until another government comes in power, be it Liberal or Conservative.

And a word about roads. As a traveler I had the privilege of being on those beautiful Island roads yesterday. While some of the mud road was very bad, another part that had been gravelled last summer was practically dry and good, which goes to show a little gravel is good and is needed on all the roads. Perhaps why this part was so good is because there are six inches to a foot of gravel lying between the travelled road and the ditch. Would it not be better to spread gravel over a greater distance (in length not width) and not quite so thick, which is very hard to travel over either with motor cars or horse drawn vehicles? Hoping to hear from all car owners. I am Sir, etc.

TRAVELLER.

NOT THE WHOLE TRUTH

Sir,—Some one in the legislature, stated that all prohibition cases in which there was reasonable evidence, brought to the attention of inspectors, were proceeded against. Whether some person had been pulling that speaker's leg, or he trying to pull the public leg, is hard to determine. It is not the whole truth.

There are scores of cases in the last three years, established upon sworn evidence, which were never prosecuted. There are many more with substantial grounds for conviction, which were not proceeded against. These are visible on every hand.

In every conviction for "sale of liquor" there was also a buyer. In many cases the buyer was the worst offender of the two. Often the buyer by holding out inducements is the real cause of the sale. In many instances they are of the so-called respectable class, in the favor of the gods of enforcement. The Prohibition Act makes no difference between buyer and seller both are equally guilty; both liable for the same penalty. Every seller has been convicted upon the evidence of (or existence of) a buyer. The Inspector has this sworn evidence before him: it must be true.

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How many buyers have the Commission, or their inspectors, proceeded against within the last three years? Have they prosecuted a single case? And yet they come out to declare that every reliable information is prosecuted, that they are honestly enforcing the Act.

What about those cases for which the Commission are directly responsible? I refer to the "stool pigeons" and "detectives." These, armed with prohibition funds, are sent out to buy liquor, and to induce and encourage others to sell in violation of law. The stool pigeon or detective is just as liable for a breach of the Act as any other purchaser. Why is he not prosecuted for every purchase he makes? The Commission have no power vested in them to grant indulgences to any person or persons authorizing them to buy or sell intoxicants contrary to the text of the Act. Nor have they the right to exempt the vast horde of buyers, stool pigeons and detectives from the penalties of the law.

If there were no buyers the bootleg business would die a natural death. Why give them all this encouragement, and openly and flagrantly violate the Prohibition Act in order to do it? I am, Sir, etc.

OBSERVER.

"IN HIS STEPS"

Sir,—The world has given to religion interpretations which differ vastly from those of its Great Teacher. The pity of it is, that too many of His professed followers adopt the worldly viewpoint. This is done to escape the responsibility of imparting virility to its precepts. Temperance is an obligation of religion. Its advocates have included prohibition as an essential part. The Alliance, and its thousands of supporters, accept it as such. As an established law of moral duty, should not its performance accord with the essentials laid down by the Master.

The fact that it does not is the present handicap to the success of prohibition. The virtues of religion have not been injected into temperance leadership. Catering to worldly interests has so saturated the system with dry rot, that it has become almost an alien to Christian doctrine, and a victim of vicious social conditions. When the "woman, taken in adultery," was brought before Jesus, He did not condone the sin. Her accusers were all adulterers. How could He condemn her, and not the others? Therefore He ordered the penalty of the law, commanding that he who "is without sin, cast the first stone." One by one they escaped that seat of inviolate justice, the accused alone carrying the pardon of the Court.

If today the same judgments were delivered in prohibition cases, and the escorts of the prisoners were commanded, if you have not yourself violated this law, then execute this judgment; are there any that would not walk from the court room as free from penalty as their accusers?

Are the Temperance Alliance and their backers living up to these precepts of law enforcement? Or, have they by both action and inaction, condoned and approved the law breaking of their own subagencies, and the conviction of the not more guilty of the underworld? "Thou shalt not steal," and "Thou shalt not bear false witness," are irrevocable laws. They apply with equal force to administrators of laws as they do culprits on trial. Are breaches of these Divine commandments cured of their foulness by reason of their relation to a moral cause?

When public wrongs are committed, laws violated, precepts of justice discarded and truth and honesty cast into the discard in the contest for temperance, can this great moral cause hope for any measure of substantial progress? Would the beloved Master permit these? Are those who do them following "In His steps"?

And whose the responsibility? Can the foremost leaders in the temperance movement clear their skirts by declaring, "These are not our acts; we are not accountable for the conduct of those who follow?" How oft have they quoted Cain, Am I my brother's keeper? Has it reverse application? And how a-it, "Inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these My brethren, have done it unto Me."

And how much worse it is when by resolution these things are commended? I am, Sir, etc.

TRUE TEMPERANCE.

LIVESTOCK MARKETS

(Canadian Press) MONTREAL, April 1.—There were 88 cattle, 1909 calves, 521 hogs and 14 sheep and lambs, for sale on the

Advertisement for Rosebud Cut Plug tobacco. Includes illustration of a pack and the text: 'and enjoy the supreme satisfaction of pipe smoking—with Rosebud Cut Plug. Rich, sweet, mild—this famous quality tobacco is a real treat for pipe smokers. Valuable "poker hands" in every package.'

Advertisement for Prince Edward Island's "Golden Future" A Booster Feature. Text: 'To Stimulate Business and Business Conditions in Prince Edward Island, published by The Charlottetown Guardian. We are Soliciting the Cooperation of the Business Firms and Leading Men of Charlottetown, Summerside and the Province. Mr. Frank Walker, Assistant Editor of the Guardian is editing this Special Feature Edition, which is now in the course of publication, and Mr. J. M. Kirkland is in charge of Publicity. Boost for a Greater Province'

Advertisement for Fred H. Trainor, plumber and heater. Text: 'PLUMBING AND HEATING. If you want Expedient and Expert Workmanship Send to Fred H. Trainor 80 Grafton Street Opposite Prince Edward Theatre Phone 393-J'

Advertisement for Dr. L. B. Evans of London, England. Text: 'Dr. L. B. Evans of London, England. Noted Physician treated successfully and obtained permanent cures of stomach conditions, such as Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Sour Stomach, Flatulence, Gas, Bloating, and many other ailments peculiar to the stomach with a prescription which we have procured and sell under the name of Evans Stomach Mixture. We alone have the sole rights on this prescription and since selling it have received numerous testimonials from satisfied purchasers. Don't fool with your stomach. Serious conditions are likely to arise if you allow yourself to lapse into a chronic state of gastric trouble. Get a bottle today. Price 85c. The Two Macs 149 Great George Street'