

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Editor and Managing Director: J. R. Burnett, Esq.
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Associate Editors: Frank Walker and D. R. Currie

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Turnip Rates

In the recent Press despatch emanating from Washington, D. C., it was reported to the effect that the Interstate Commerce Commission had granted permission to the Canadian National Railways and participating United States carriers to maintain reduced rates from Prince Edward Island to Boston, Mass., Providence, R. I., and New York, N. Y.

Negotiations were first commenced in the summer of 1935 with officials of the Canadian National Railways and interested New England railroads with the result that reduced rates to Boston and New York were effected on October 7, 1935. However, at that time the rate of thirty-nine cents per 100 lbs. also applied to points intermediate to Boston.

The recent decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission granted permanent relief to the railways on the reduced rates without need of further representations.

These reduced rates should be of material advantage to turnip shippers in Prince Edward Island during the coming shipping season.

Wheat Surplus Is Gone

Canada's vast wheat surplus, a disturbing thing during seven years, and, for a time, a thing of dread to farmers and dealers alike, has almost vanished. Mr. James R. Murray, chairman of the Wheat Board, has stated that by the end of the crop year, July 31, the grain bins will be empty and the contracts all cleaned up.

It is a notable record, for, though the final figures will not be available for two or three months, yet it is already apparent that the loss to the Canadian Government, through carrying and liquidating the huge surplus, will be negligible. The credit for the same will, no doubt, be claimed by the King government and its Wheat Board, which completed the liquidation.

Mr. Bennett, who was Prime Minister at the time, and Mr. John I. McFarland, his wheat administrator, set their faces against this fire-sale propaganda, and the credit of Canada was placed behind the determination to support the price of Canadian wheat.

The effort was a long one and an uphill one, but it was successful in the end. Indeed, the fight was practically won when the Bennett government went out of office in 1935, and Mr. McFarland was removed from his post.

There is, says the Vancouver paper, more than a little irony in the unkind fate which robbed the wheat administrator of the fruits of his victory and laid the credit for his best efforts on the doorstep of his strongest and most consistent opponents. But Mr. McFarland, though credit for his work will be claimed by others, will have the satisfaction of the knowledge that, by preventing the collapse of wheat prices, he saved some hundreds of millions of dollars to the Canadian farmer.

League Efforts Reviewed

"The League, Today and Tomorrow" is the subject of an outspoken article by Dr. John W. Dafoe, editor of the Winnipeg Free Press, in the current Monthly News Sheet published by the League of Nations Society in Canada.

It is the Winnipeg Liberal paper editor's view, in sharp contrast to the views expressed by his federal party leader Premier King, that the prime obligation on League members under the Covenant is to prevent aggressive war, if necessary by compulsion, proceeding to the application of force should this be required.

The present impotence of the League," says Dr. Dafoe, "derives from denial of this; from the assertion that the Covenant never meant this, or that if it did it means it no longer; and from the contention now widely urged that the employment of force, under any conditions, by the League is a nullification and rejection of the principles which are embodied in the Covenant."

Two counter-movements against fulfillment of the League Covenant are referred to, consisting of "the militaristic die-hards, who had no objections to war provided it was not a League war, and the pacifists, whose objection to war was so thorough-going that even a war for the preservation of the League met their disapproval." These forces, the writer says, in 1935

pooled their influence and made common cause against the rising tide of public opinion in Great Britain favouring League action in the Italian-Abyssinian affair. This was "the most remarkable case known of politics making strange bedfellows." At the moment, the influence of these ill-assorted allies did not seem formidable; but they played their part in the final debacle, following the attempt to enforce sanctions against Italy. "Here in Canada we had a parallel development; it too was not without its influence in bringing about the 100 per cent. repudiation of Canada's pledge to the Covenant by the Government of Canada." The Prime Minister is quoted, in a statement to the League Assembly, as rejecting Article 16 of the Covenant in its entirety.

What is the present situation? "The central fact," says Dr. Dafoe, "is that the League as a factor towards preserving peace is prostrate, powerless, and barely alive. There is not a country in the world that in thinking of defence or watching its possible assailants counts on the League. Every small nation in Europe except Austria, Hungary and Albania, agreed to impose sanctions, though many of them were vulnerable to retaliatory measures by Italy and its Fascist sympathizers. They lined up because they knew that this was the only way of keeping the League in being. They are all today dependent upon their own strength or upon alliances. To many of them the League connection is a liability. Some of them are being swept into the orbit of the Fascist powers."

Nevertheless, there are encouraging signs, indicating that the tide of League support is setting in anew towards definite objectives. There has been, at least, a renewal of expressions of devotion to League ideals and principles. From these and other portents the writer affirms his belief that "though sorely wounded" the League can still be restored to health by the friendly ministrations of the peoples, acting through governments constrained to give effect to their will. "It is by no means beyond the range of possibility," he asserts, "that the fifty-two nations who stood together in the Abyssinian crisis could now by common action revive the League and give it a power and cohesion it has never had, given fearless leadership by Great Britain and France, with an unofficial assurance of United States sympathy."

Editorial Notes

The Four Peace Pact that was to ensure the tranquility of Europe, in spite of the League of Nations, was signed this date 1933. Alas, only another "scrap of paper".

Should the Junior member for Queen's return to private life as predicted by The Financial Post, it is more than likely the Senior member will perform go with him.

Mr. Hon. R. B. Bennett these days is like Brer Bunny, lying low and saying nothing; not even the persistent London interviewers can get him to speak about anything but the weather, a tolerably safe subject in England at anytime.

Hon. Henri L. Anger, Quebec Minister of Colonization, is on a 10-day tour of the Gaspesia and Magdalen Island regions, accompanied by Honorables Langlais, Quebec Legislature Member for Magdalen Islands, to study a colonization plan favouring those regions.

Premier Angus Macdonald studiously avoids coming to close quarters with Col. Harrington on the issues raised in the Nova Scotia election; he feels safer recounting the improvement allegedly affected in the Provincial finances since the depression, neglecting to even mention the huge bonded and unbonded debt accumulated in the process.

The Liberal Party as a Federal organization is fast disintegrating. Quebec is through with King and Lapointe on account of their armament policy. Ontario is through with them because of their desertion of "Mich" Hepburn and his anti C.I.O. policy. Take away these two provinces and what support can King hope for? The likelihood is that King will retire and "put it all in a book", while Lapointe will be appointed to the bench in succession to Sir Lyman Duff.

Boy Scouts at a Bar Harbor, Maine, pet show staged a race between a hare and a tortoise and the latter won, for the reason that his speedier antagonist got stage fright and ran around in circles, says the Montreal Gazette. This may be proof that the hare of today is just as foolish as his brother in Aesop's story, who, you remember, thought himself so smart and his rival so slow that he took a nap on the track and lost the race. Men, too, sometimes act that way.

No doubt we have to thank Mr. Harlan I. Smith, of the National Museum, Ottawa, for the announcement that a party from the National Museum will excavate the sites of certain old Indian villages in Prince Edward Island with a view to adding to the museum's store of information and curios relating to the aboriginal inhabitants. Mr. Smith visited the province last summer and was particularly interested in its archaeological sites. He offered advice with regard to the establishment of a provincial museum.

The new Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir John Simon) has for many years been the leading King's Counsel in England, and most of the big fat plums have fallen to him. So much so was this the case that when he was the guest at a complimentary dinner on the eve of sailing for India, to study the basis of the new Constitution, there was a general feeling of relief around Inner Temple that some others would "have a chance" within the next year or two. That sentiment was aptly expressed by one of Sir John's legal colleagues, who declared that when he sailed he could very well sing—slightly adapting Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar"— "There'll be no moaning of the Bar When I put out to sea."

Notes By The Way

At the present moment it would seem that our material development is like a highpowered car, carrying us forward at breakneck speed and that our philosophical development is following it in the trailer. Impressions are sometimes false and it well may be that the picture is exaggerated. Yet this is certain—that our philosophy should determine our course. Our material development should be the trailer. That is why this gentleman should head Mr. Baldwin.—Hamilton Spectator.

The members of the Legislature would be entirely warranted when they reassemble if they should decide to waste no more of their own time and the taxpayers' money flitting with Major Douglas. If that gentleman was at all seriously concerned in having his theory tried out in Alberta he would have been on the spot long ago to direct operations. He has acted all the way through the piece as though his object was to prevent it being tried. And if the "remote control" report he now gives is to be taken now from which he can sidestep neatly if it is tried and doesn't work.—Edmonton Bulletin.

Important as closer contact is, it should not be necessary to create any new elaborate machinery for the purpose. Each dominion has a high commissioner in London, who functions as the interpreter and adviser between Whitehall and his own government. Without changing the character of his representation in any way, it should be possible for him to act in the same capacity with the other dominions through their high commissioners. There seems little reason why they should not be grouped in an informal Empire Council to which each could present the views of his government on matters of trade, defence, or any other economic and political problems of mutual concern.—Toronto Globe and Mail.

European nations, as a whole, have adopted the new policy, which is to face, as they say, reality, rather than theories. This is an age of political materialism is being ushered in under guise of common sense. But while the materialists vanish, the memory of those who died in the past for ideals continues to shed their light.—Hamilton Spectator.

A Japanese boy learning English is credited with the following thesis on the banana. "The banana are great fruit. He are constructed in the same architectural style as sausage, different being skin of while is not advisable to eat wrapping banana. The banana are held aloft while consuming, sau age are usually left in reclining position. Sausage depend on creation on human-being or stuffing machine, while banana are pristine product of honorable Mother Nature. In case of sausage both ends are attached to other sausages, banana, on other hands, are attached to one end to stem and opposite terminal end is strictly loose. Finally, banana are strictly of vegetables kind, while affiliation of sausage often undecided."—Wall Street Journal.

Failure to understand the British Empire is not remarkable. It has been said many a time that it faced "disintegration", but on each occasion it emerged stronger. We can accept the historical proof if it is too much trouble to think out the reasons. These, however, Mr. Baldwin has provided a few when he refers to "just ordinary people who have adapted the government of the country in order to meet the environment of the age in which they lived." To the Government of the United Kingdom has belonged most of the credit up to this time.—Toronto Globe and Mail.

"It is difficult to say what one feels about the weddings one sometimes sees today—extravagant, tawdry, more fit for the cheap stage than the house of God. Even the wedding ring has degenerated into a bauble of unimpressive prettiness in place of the impressive symbol worn by our mothers." These remarks were made by the Dean of Johannesburg, the Very Rev. W. A. Palmer, in a sermon at St. Mary's Cathedral. The Dean roundly condemned some methods of sex education employed today, and, entitling his address "Preparation for Life," commented also on the absence of any moral obligations on the part of some sections of young people in the borrowing of money. "An amazing amount of credit may be obtained by boys just out of their teens," declared the Dean.—Exchange.

A visitor from Mars, reading United States newspapers and listening to United States radio programmes recently, might have found cause to wonder just whose king was being crowned in London. Certainly, the Coronation of King George VI proved a matter of unusual interest to Americans; they could hardly have been more absorbed in the Coronation than if their country was still a British colony.—Victoria Times.

Members of the Sons of Italy Tennis Club at Sault Ste. Marie are reported to have delayed the opening of their playing season because a pair of robins built a nest at the gate entering the club courts and the mother is now engaged in hatching her young. Such consideration is admirable. It deserves high praise. One wishes that some small measure of it might have been displayed by another son of Italy in connection with Ethiopia.—Windsor Star.

Not in the recollection of any man under fifty has there been such activity in the lumber business in Nova Scotia as this year. Travel by railway and air every station not an urban one there are

Maritimes' Need

(Financial Post)

In any arrangement that may be made at the present Imperial Conference to facilitate trade between United States and the British Empire the special position of the Maritime Provinces must be considered. It has been suggested that for a larger portion of the American cattle market Canada might well share some of the United Kingdom outlet for pork, products, apples and lumber with her southern neighbor.

Under the original Ottawa agreements and as renewed by the recent Anglo-Canadian trade agreement, this Dominion is guaranteed a substantial preference for such products in the Mother Country. The preference has proved a boon to the Maritime Provinces and has gone a long way to offsetting loss of markets in United States for foodstuffs, particularly fruit, lobster, cod fish and potatoes. Any sacrifice of the present preferred position in Britain in return for wider outlets for Canadian cattle would not help Nova Scotia or Prince Edward Island. These provinces do not produce any surplus in cattle.

For generations, it is pointed out, the Maritimes Provinces looked upon United States Atlantic Coast cities as natural markets for the great diversity of agricultural and other natural products they produce. In addition, these same cities absorbed a heavy percentage of the younger population of the provinces "down by the sea."

Offsetting the flow of goods and population there was a big influx of wealthy tourists from United States every year. These people came to fish, to hunt, to swim and to enjoy a climate and surroundings unsurpassed by anything on the whole North American Continent. Many of the American visitors, including the present President of United States, had their own summer homes on this side of the border. This tourist trade from United States the Maritimes Provinces still possess, and through continuing large scale expenditures on public highways, same game conservation laws and the establishment of modern hotels and summer camps, they propose to hold on to it. In retaining their market for foodstuffs, however, they have not been as fortunate. American post-war tariffs cut seriously into that trade. This loss, in the opinion of the writer, should be remembered by the rest of Canada in any new trade proposals that may now be considered. And United States should not be allowed to forget that from a geographical standpoint food producers in our Maritime Provinces are very much closer to the great Atlantic coast centers of population than are 95 per cent. of the producing areas in their own country.

Not A Santa Claus Fund

(Globe and Mail)

In so far-reaching an enterprise as the Dominion Government insurance program Plan misunderstanding or misapprehension of the opportunity offered are bound to arise. For example, a writer to the Editor of The Globe and Mail, citing instance of refusal by the bank of a loan, asks indignantly, "What is it all worth?" If responsible persons cannot get loans, they cannot understand why the taxpayers should be left to foot the bill for all the advertising and other "colossal expense."

As a matter of fact all the advertising is donated by branches of trade likely to benefit by work provided by the Home Improvement Plan; a very natural thing to do. All the men throughout Canada are working for the advancement of the plan, each in his own district, are giving their services without remuneration of any kind, as a patriotic gesture toward improvement of conditions. Government bears none of this expense.

Instead of the taxpayers being responsible for incidental expense of the plan, they stand to benefit by its removal of many thousand people from the relief lists. There is every indication, by the amount of improvement already undertaken throughout the country, that thousands of workmen—chiefly in the hard-hit building trades—will benefit substantially by the plan. And, though \$3,000,000 has been put to work now, this is only as a beginning. Every week sees an increase in the number of applications for loans. The plan is proving an undoubted success.

It is not a Santa Claus plan. It is only common sense that in the lending of money there should be careful scrutiny of all the circumstances of the applicants. Defaults must be guarded against. In the United States under a similar scheme losses totalled only 1.05 per cent, and with careful supervision it is hoped to keep the loss in Canada less even than that.

With this end in view, it is intended that loans be based on character and income, rather than on tangible security alone. There must be evident the willingness and the reasonable ability to repay. To such applicants funds will be advanced for a great variety of purposes, made clear in the literature of the plan.

Even where there has been difficulty in securing from the banks loans of this nature it is noted that in three-quarters of such cases adjustments have been made. Naturally, in some cases, after close investigation, banks may hesitate to make the required advances. Where there is inability to repay, the handing over of money would only increase the difficulties of the borrower. Every consideration will be shown applicants; but, again, it should be borne in mind by all that this is not a Santa Claus Fund.

That Body of Hours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

IS TUBERCULOSIS INHERITED?

It is hard to convince the average man or woman that tuberculosis is not inherited. They look about them in every side and know that a parent, an uncle, a brother, or a sister of a patient with tuberculosis has died of tuberculosis. Yet physicians, particularly those working close to tuberculosis tell us that while tuberculosis may appear to "run in families," it is only "because children catch the disease from an older member of the household who has it."

Shortly after I graduated in medicine the superintendent of a large sanatorium told me that he believed that in at least half the adult population evidences of past or healed tuberculosis could be found. To-day it is believed that if every part of the body could be examined some evidence of tuberculosis would be found in everybody which, for the time being at least, was in a "quiet" state.

Why then if tuberculosis can be found in practically everybody, do we not all suffer with the symptoms or at least show some signs of it? The specific or definite cause of tuberculosis is a germ or organism. If a few tuberculosis germs get into a healthy body no harm is done because the body fights back. But if one lives daily with a carefree person who has the disease the danger is great. Kissing, coughing, and spitting may be the means of spreading tuberculosis germs. Anything which has touched the sick person's lips may have germs on it.

You can thus see how simple it would be for a youngster to "finish" or "use up" the balance of any food—milk, tea, coffee, dessert of any kind—left by a patient with tuberculosis, using the same cup plate or utensil used by the patient, and thus develop tuberculosis. Parents and the patients themselves, when living at home, should remember this vital point. It would be well for all of us to remember also the first signs—the danger signals—pointing to tuberculosis. These signals may not mean tuberculosis in every case but should cause one to suspect tuberculosis. These signals are: (1) too easily tired; (2) loss of weight; (3) indigestion; (4) cough that hangs on.

Boys' Books

(Vancouver Province)

What has happened to the art of writing boys' books? Here we have an age unequalled for wonder and progress, for adventure and for life in the history of the world. But there are no good boys' books being written. They say that writers will never cease, but what I think in this matter of boys books is that wonders have ceased. There is nothing left to wonder about.

I found the young son of an old friend the other day reading in the library devoted to the adventures of some young fellow in Wellington's wars. He admitted that he read Ballantyne's books, and that Kingston was a wow.

Now those are the books that thrilled my own youth half a century ago. What has happened to the youth-writers that they can not put out something with a modern thrill in it? The answer is simple—there is no modern thrill. Modern youth takes everything for granted; it knows no limitations. The former adventure writers dealt in what appeared to be miracles, the modern writers only deal with facts. Facts are awfully depressing things! So the boys of today throw themselves back into an age where adventure was actually adventure, and they have a good time.

Julius Verne wrote in a distant age about motors and airplanes, about undersea boats and about gramophones before they were invented. Your son and my son were born into a world where there wasn't a car at the door and an airplane roaring overhead, or a radio roaring in his ear.

What is left for him to be imaginative about? What avenues of adventure are there for him?

The Poet's Corner

POESY

Singer, sing on! Your medium does not die, The world's romantic now, and love as young As when blind Homer or sweet Sappho sung. Life has its epics yet; no drought can dry Those founts of tears that rose in Arcady. The seasons in their grand procession go, And on earth's beaches the tides ebb and flow. Sing on! None can I like you old Time defy. 'Tis yours in unborn summers, to be read In homes unbuilt; effective, your command. And gilded monuments are worn to sand, If you around life's common things but shed The light that never was on sea or land.—A. L. Fraser, Bathurst, N.S., in "By Eastern Windows."

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Antarctic Flight Rewarded (Winnipeg Free Press) The Royal Geographical Society has awarded its Patron's Medal to Mr. Lincoln Ellsworth, the American explorer. This Medal is one of the highly coveted special distinctions conferred by the R.G.S. each year, and its award is accepted as indicative of the merit of the accomplishment of which it is a recognition. Mr. Ellsworth's citation is for "his work in developing the technique of aerial navigation in the Polar regions, culminating in his successful flight across the Antarctic in 1935-36."

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