

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Tariff Hearings Announced

Coincident with the announcement that Parliament will open on March 12 comes an important statement from Premier Bennett, to the effect that public hearings by a committee of the Cabinet will be held commencing Tuesday, the 17th instant, to receive representations for and against existing tariff rates. It is further stated that the agricultural and farm products items—the most important to the people of this part of Canada—will first be considered.

As additional evidence of the good faith of the Government in its policy outlined last September when some 200 tariff items were altered for the benefit of Canadian industry, agriculture, and labor, this announcement will be received with general satisfaction. At that time Premier Bennett gave emphatic assurance that where tariff increases operated to the detriment of the consumer by unduly increasing the price of any commodity, the preference would be withdrawn. He has already implemented that promise in the case of glass manufactures and other items, and it is evident that if necessary he purposes carrying out this policy in respect to other industries as well.

Tariffs, to be beneficial, must be adapted to the requirements of the country as a whole. For this reason it is necessary that not only manufacturers, but all classes of our people be given the opportunity of stating their case. This is in full accord with the mandate received by the Bennett Government from the people. Applications for tariff revision are to be made, not to an irresponsible Commission dominated by a so-called "Consumers' League" operating in the interest of a small group of Western Liberals and Progressives, as was the case under the King Government, but direct to a committee of the Federal Government itself. With such effective machinery provided for the hearing of tariff complaints, it is safe to assume that prompt action will follow wherever it can be shown that unfair discrimination has resulted from tariff increases.

It is, of course, natural to expect, in accord with the pre-election platform of the Conservative party, that there will be an upward revision of the general tariff when Parliament meets in its first regular session next month. It is quite possible that the changes will apply to the general tariff only, leaving the intermediate and British preference schedules as they are for the present at least. This would leave a clear field for Canadian participation in any Empire trade agreement which may result from the Ottawa conference to be held in Ottawa next summer. In the meantime, however, the tariff hearings before the Cabinet committee will proceed, and the sifting of this evidence will doubtless have an important bearing upon the tariff legislation to be presented on the floor of the House.

Niagara

The New York Sun aptly remarks that "Nature's performance of Niagara was ironical." The erosion of the rock-shelf of the Canadian falls has been constant and evident, so much so that it is said to have amounted to more than a hundred feet, within the experience of living men. The erosion at the American falls, on the other hand, was hardly perceptible. And when it is remembered that Niagara Falls, geologically speaking, is one of the youngest natural waterways in all the world—and perhaps not much more than 10,000 years old—it is probable that the American falls have looked, at any rate to the eye of the white man, very much as they looked until a few weeks ago.

And then, observes the Sun, "Nature, after waiting for centuries, and waiting until no photographers and only two witnesses were present, tore down the main cliff in a minute

more than science had estimated would be worn away in a thousand years."

But the three centuries of the white man's observation of Niagara is a very small part of the life of the falls—even if they have had no more than a century of centuries. What happened at the American falls had been predicted to happen, and it must have happened many times before. The gorge of Niagara below the falls, which has gained miles of length upon the upper river since the end of the last ice age, is there to attest that process. Soft shale, underlying the thin, hard, upper strata of dolomite, becomes undermined by the disintegrating process of air, water and frost. Then, when the base of that great precipice has been sufficiently eroded, the harder upper shelf of rock cracks under its own weight and the weight of water, and suddenly, some day—as it did recently—breaks away. It is estimated that 75,000 tons of rock fell into the gorge with the breaking-away, and the extent of it was fifty feet deep by 175 feet wide.

The main volume of Niagara's water goes over the Canadian falls. "After what has happened to the rocks that were so lightly weighted," says the New York Sun, "there is need to worry about those which carry nine tenths of Niagara's flow." Article one of the treaty provides that Canada and the United States shall "construct remedial works in the Niagara River above the Niagara Falls, designed to distribute the waters of the river so as to ensure at all seasons unbroken crestlines on both the Canadian and the American falls and an enhancement of their present scenic beauty."

The Buenos Aires Fair

Not long after President Hoover's tour of South America a British trade mission visited that country. Now another, headed by the Prince of Wales, has gone to the Argentine to attend the Empire Trade Fair at Buenos Aires. This fair, part of the Empire campaign for larger markets, is being held for the purpose of bringing British Empire goods to the attention of South America in a large way. Buildings have been erected at a cost of \$2,500,000, exhibits valued at \$20,000,000 are in place, and the transportation and display of them is said to have cost the eight hundred or so manufacturers represented about \$5,000,000.

Britain has two advantages in her bid for trade in South America. She has heavy investments in the continent, and she has, for years, been a heavy purchaser of South American goods. More than half the foreign capital invested in the Argentine is British, and there are huge investments in Chile and Brazil. Eighty per cent. of Bolivia's exports go to Britain, while British imports from the Argentine amount to about \$325,000,000 a year. It is the hope of the British Government and of the exhibitors that, as a result of the advertising through the fair, larger quantities of British goods will be purchased.

Canada, too, of course, has an interest in the fair. She has an important exhibit there, and a large party of Canadian business men, headed by Sir George Perley, will leave for Buenos Aires and other South American centres on the Canadian National steamship Prince Robert this month. The Canadian Chamber of Commerce is in charge of the tour. Canada's trade with the Argentine has increased 300 per cent. in the last ten years, but it is felt there is still plenty of room for expansion both in the Argentine and in the other South American republics.

Editorial Notes

The London Daily Express, which is the personal property of that well known Canadian, Lord Beaverbrook, devoted a leading editorial recently to showing that Canada is the richest country in the world.

Notes by the Way

The fundamental difficulty exists between Indians and Indians, says the London Observer. It is rooted in centuries of political history and in many more centuries of religious legend. Britain did not create it and cannot remove it. "Therein the patient must minister to himself." The problem would become a thousand times worse if the British Raj vanished. Hindus and Moslems are face to face with each other. Britain cannot constrain either. Nothing on earth can help them but direct dealing.

The weather prophets of a few months ago who were saying that this would be a mild winter or no winter at all, are not calling any particular attention just now to their predictions of that time, says the Amherst News and Sentinel. In fact we do not hear anyone say that this has not been a reasonably fair sized winter in every sense of the word. Up to Tuesday for four days in succession the thermometer registered below zero every morning and there were three days when the range was between ten degrees and twenty-two below. This, we take it, means winter. The fact, also, that there was over 24 inches of snow in the month of January indicates that this part of the country was not lacking in this respect.

We are not suggesting that these conditions are any ground for complaint, though it is a fact there is but little frost in the woods on account of the snow coming first, but the facts do suggest that weather prophets know no more today about what is likely to happen a few months hence than they did twenty-five years ago. They knew but little about it at that time. One occasionally wonders what the meteorologists have in mind when they say that the time will soon be at hand when weather forecasts can be made weeks and months ahead on an assured basis.

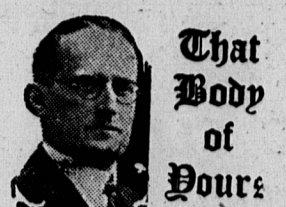
Wholesale executions are taking place in Turkey with a view to suppressing, or intimidating, certain "reactionary" elements in the population which want to maintain the old religion. Revolutionary threats heard among the reactionaries have given some color of legal excuse to these executions. The remarkable thing is not that terrorists methods should be adopted by the Turk. They come natural even to the modern republican Turk, if not more so. The remarkable thing is that they should be taken as a matter of course, and even as rather justifiable, by public opinion generally in America and Europe, as reflected in the press. It all depends perhaps on a word. So long as these Turks are called "reactionaries" and not Moslems or Mohammedans, or at any rate supporters of the caliphate, little sympathy is likely to be expressed on their behalf. If the caliphate were to regain the upper hand and were to begin by executing the Kemalists, the world would resound with the horrible excesses of a "reactionary" regime.

Commenting on the proposed new constitution for India, the New York Times suggests that "in one respect the new Constitution probably goes beyond the expectations of the Indian Nationalists themselves." "It brings on the stage," says the Times, "a united Indian nation. The Federated India of the Constitution is to include the 72,000,000 people of the Native States with the 247,000,000 inhabitants of British India proper. British stalwart opinion used to assert that there is no such entity as India, and that such sense of unity as now exists among the races and religions of India is the creation of British rule. From such arguments Great Britain is now stepped. Should the followers of Gandhi accept the new Constitution, they will be greatly strengthened in working for complete self-government by the fact that they will be speaking for a united India."

A newspaper printed in an Ontario town recently complained that when it sent to Toronto for Christmas cards it received in return cards that were marked "printed in U. S. A." The publisher did not see why Christmas cards of Canadian manufacture could not be supplied. Canadian printing houses can perhaps answer that question. Of course the question of price would enter into the case if the Canadian product were very much higher than that which originated across the border. If all Canadians insisted upon having cards printed in Canada there ought to be enough business to enable publishers to make a reasonable price.

Brutalizing Baths

(Regina Star) People who have always been a little sceptical about the alleged virtues of the cold bath have their fears confirmed by a disclosure recently made, in the course of a letter to the London Times, by a correspondent



By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE ANXIOUS LIFE OF THE SURGEON

Some one in a British hospital, noted that the death rate among the surgeons on the staff was more than three times that among the physicians of the same age.

Why? Because the physician as he grows older becomes more proficient in his work due to the large number of cases he sees, and can use his acquired knowledge to benefit the patient. He has anxious times of course as he tries to conserve the strength of the heart in severe illness. Everything he does helps the patient and, as it were, he takes no chances.

The surgeon on the other hand, in order to help his patient, in an effort to give relief, must actually jeopardize the patient's life by having to operate. Naturally, although he may acquire more skill, or retain considerable of his skill as he grows older, he has really more anxiety about his cases, because of the "shock" of the operation.

And it is this anxiety that kills off many surgeons at and about the age of sixty. And the most frequent cause of death is heart disease, a closing or a partial closing of the blood vessels supplying blood to the heart itself.

Dr. Wm. J. Mayo, in speaking about the death of so many surgeons at such an early age gives credit to the medical profession for some of their discoveries which have made the life of the surgeon less anxious.

He spoke about iodine, and how Drs. Plummer and Marine, physicians, showed that the introduction of iodine into the system would remove the immediate effects of the "improper working of the thyroid gland, thus curing the patient without surgery in some cases, and in others making it safe for the surgeon to operate.

Then also physicians have discovered that where one of a pair of organs—kidneys, adrenal glands and so forth—was diseased, that the surgeon could safely remove it as the one remaining could do the necessary work.

The introduction of substances into varicose veins has done away with thousands of operations for varicose veins and piles (hemorrhoids).

Banting's insulin not only cures diabetes in young people, but keeps older people alive who would otherwise die. And to the surgeon it has meant a great lessening of the number of amputations among diabetics.

It is gratifying to know that the life of the surgeon is being rendered less anxious by the help from physicians.



ON A DEAD AVIATOR

His gravitation's now for stars and planets; These draw him, while the earth drops like a stone. Strong-winged beyond the flight of gulls or gannets He rises, ever rises, he is flown.

He has o'erflown return in the wild rapture. What rumour of him in the unending space? Flying so far, so fast, beyond recapture; The flying ecstasy bright in his face. —Katharine Tynan.

who is evidently deeply addicted to this inhuman habit. Just how inhuman it is can be best shown in his own unguarded words. What, he inquires, "could be more joyous and exhilarating than to get out of bed and go straight to a cold bath at six o'clock? And then to get out of the bath all aglow, and with the feeling that you could knock down the first man that gets in your way; that I take to be a sign of robust health."

Apparently the cold bath produces in the enthusiast very much the same effect as the application of "hot and rebellious liquors to the blood"; he seems to emerge from his slumbers in a state of mind not very dissimilar from that which is known to the vulgar as "fighting drunk." He goes into the bathroom a civilized and cultivated Dr. Jekyll (his letter is signed "M. D. Lond."); he comes out of it a ravening Mr. Hyde, ready to trample underfoot the man that crosses his horrid path. Fortunately, at 6.15 of a January morning, not many victims are likely to obstruct his terrible progress—and perhaps by breakfast time he will have calmed down a bit.

The Public Forum

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

EMPLOYMENT SUGGESTIONS

Sir,—I read in yesterday morning's paper a letter from "Unemployment Committee, L.P.U.," which to my mind was very timely, as I understand there has been a large sum of money allotted to this Island to relieve the unemployment situation. Now, Sir, you might naturally ask what the Government and City Council could do at the present time to relieve the situation. Might I take the liberty to suggest the planking of the Hillsborough Bridge, the repairing of the Marine Wharf that was stopped about a month ago, and also the repairing of the Ferry Wharf and the continuing of the work on the new annex to the City Building. These jobs would take quite a lot of men and would certainly help the poor men, as now is the time a few dollars are needed in many homes in this city.

I am, Sir, etc., MORE LIGHT

Exaggerated Pessimism

(Monthly Review, Bank of Nova Scotia) From some of the jeremiads to which a suffering world has recently been treated, it might well be supposed that the present depression is likely to last for years to come; that conditions may go indefinitely from bad to worse; and that our economic system is threatened with a general breakdown.

It should be said in plain terms that none of these statements are true. Severe as it is, the present depression is not more severe than other great depressions in the past; relatively to them it has not lasted unduly long; nor is our economic system as a whole in any sense endangered.

During the past century—to go back no further—the world has experienced a series of industrial upheavals, at intervals of from three to ten years. Some of them have been comparatively mild—some very severe. Evidence is not lacking to show that a number of them were at least as severe as the present depression, and lasted as long or longer.

Each one was followed by trade recovery which generally made its appearance at the moment when it was least expected. It should, unfortunately, be said also that the lessons of each were promptly forgotten by many of those who should have profited by them, once it was obvious that recovery was under way. These are instances, not of difference, but similarity between the present and the past. The suggestion may, perhaps, be made that the principal difference between the present situation, and analogous situations in the past, is our almost complete awareness of the mishaps that have befallen other nations.

The newspapers from day to day keep their readers informed of conditions in Britain, the United States, Germany, the South American republics, Australia, Japan and China. Wherever there are distressed markets, a knowledge of them is immediately spread by cable and wireless over the whole world. As a result of their knowledge of the difficulties arising in other countries, many business men are indulging in exaggerated pessimism. If we recall the condition of the exaggerated optimism that prevailed in 1929 and was so mischievous, we may successfully resist the contagion of exaggerated pessimism now.

The Waltz

(New York World) The Prince of Wales told a relative of the late Johann Strauss that the waltz is the best dance of all, and many will agree with him. For there is a disposition to regard it in some mysterious way as finer than other dances; the notion reminds one of the frequently heard remark that "pool is a good game, but billiards is more scientific." And it may be conceded that in the hands of a Chopin, a Gounod, a Tschalkowsky, a Lehar or a Strauss it is a lovely thing. But to what extent were the waltzes of these gentlemen really dances? One can dance to Lehar's "Merry Widow" waltz, of course, and perhaps to Strauss's "Blue Danube," but not many of us would like to venture out on the floor to Strauss's "Geschichte Aus Dem Wienerwald," or Chopin's waltz from "Eugen Onegin," or Gounod's waltz from "Faust." These things, when they are danced, are reserved for professionals, and professionals can make any music serve their ends: some of them have even danced to Beethoven symphonies.

Newspapers, Old And New

(Exchange) The Victoria Colonist, has an article on the change which has taken place in newspapers. One feature of this, truly remarks, is the decline in interest aroused by parliamentary debates. There was a time when such news, and we might add, political platform speeches, practically monopolized the space. Now these are of secondary importance. And says the Colonist, "the newspapers have made it so." Incidentally, it goes on to remark that shorthand, once considered to be indispensable in a newspaperman's equipment, is no longer a necessary part of it. In fact, in the ordinary routine of news gathering and reporting it is an impediment rather than an adjunct. If we may further explain, the reporter now seeks to get the essential parts of a man's speech or interview. The newspaper of today may be compared in a sense to a departmental store, in which different kinds of news are served up on different counters.

The number of things in which readers are interested is so diverse and numerous that there must be organization and classification of news, so that different tastes may be quickly and conveniently satisfied. But all this is not a reflection on the old-fashioned newspaper, and the Colonist does not fairly realize that or do justice to it. Journalism is an evolution and has developed according to the requirements of its readers, neither faster nor slower, and it does not follow that old-time newspapers were a whit less enterprising than those of today. They depended largely on individual effort to get news which today is supplied by such organizations as the Canadian Press.

When telegraphy was first brought into requisition, telegraph tolls were very high, and only the larger and richer newspapers could afford to pay them, and the use was greatly restricted as a consequence and to events of unusual importance. Now we have co-operative leasing of telegraph wires and the use of automatic telegraph printers. After the Atlantic Cable was successfully operated in 1864 or 1865, a new era began, in that newspapers, who could afford it, began to publish news received by cable. Prior to that all news came to America by mail packet and was necessarily very slow in reaching its destination. But cable rates at first were almost prohibitive so far as news was concerned. The first to take advantage of them was the New York Herald. The editor and proprietor, James Gordon Bennett, spent what would now be considered enormous sums in getting European cable dispatches, and his feats of enterprise in that respect were considered almost prodigious. All that gradually changed, and we have complex and comparatively cheap cable services utilizing the Seven Seas of the world.

But there were other features of old-time journalism, say, in Canada. Fifty or sixty years ago, diversions were few as compared with today, and business and other activities correspondingly so. Interest was more largely centred in politics than anything else, and long reports of parliamentary doings and political speeches, all reported in short hand, were almost eagerly read as the sporting news of today, or the news of extraordinary happenings. And, talking of sporting news, it is interesting to know that the sporting page, now a feature of every paper on the continent, was first established in the Toronto Mail about forty years ago, and a well known sporting writer of that day, the genial Mr. Harry Good, was responsible for it. He made it very popular and it was soon a feature of all daily newspapers. It is, therefore, not quite accurate to say as the Colonist does, that "the interminable verbiage which the Hansard records belongs to the Hansard, and not to the public press. It took many years for the newspapers to discover this." What happened to be news years ago happens to be not the kind of news the people want today; but in a general way the Canadian press has always kept up to the demands of its readers.

The Colonist quotes John Malcolm Bulloch, a British literary critic, who states that the change in journalism has also its paradoxical side. He says the pivot of the world is the parish pump; in other words, purely local news has the greatest appeal. And this is explained thus: "The reason why small local papers flourish alongside their national contemporaries is because of their domestic news. Mr. Bulloch says there is a much bigger story in a street accident in your own town than in a pitched battle in a foreign country. What also should be remembered is that people, more and more, are demanding news about actual happenings. They are caring less about what people say, for it is only on the rarest occasions that people say something new or anything worth treasuring in the mind."

Which is simply another way of saying that, notwithstanding all the mutations of time and circumstance, the world still remains very human,

FEED THE BIRDS CONTEST
The Guardian offers prizes of \$2.50, \$2.00 and \$1.00 to each of the three Counties to children Feeding, Counting, and Writing the Best Story about the Birds, visiting their farms.
This contest closes March 31.
For further particulars read regularly "Agricola's" Notes in The Guardian.

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Ismail's Throne
(Manchester Guardian.) One of the greatest treasures ever looted from Persia now stands in the Museum of the Old Serai Palace at Constantinople. It is the throne of the unfortunate Shah Ismail, whose army was defeated and capital taken in 1514 by the Turkish Sultan Selim the Grim. It is one of the few Oriental treasures that literally illustrate the fables of the East; it is just such a treasure as one would expect to find in Aladdin's cave or to see in the palaces of the Arabian Nights. For it is incrustated from tip to toe with every variety of precious jewel. Nor are any of them poor quality. Thousands of superb pearls, rubies and emeralds inrust its gold-plated surface. Its surface contains thousands of pounds of intrinsic value for each square six inches!

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