

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1926

CHRISTMAS WEEK.

WE have now entered upon the great week of the year, Christmas week. Good business, following upon the heels of a most bountiful harvest and good prices, a fine Christmas spirit, widespread generosity and charity, an outstanding characteristic of our people, have all combined to make the Christmas of 1926 one to be long remembered.

Prince Edward Island has been mindful of its poor. Prosperous as the country is as a whole, it will ever remain true that "the poor ye have always with you." Some one has divided the poor into three classes. "God's poor, the devil's poor, and poor devils." The first mentioned are the legitimate wards of those who are more highly favored and, although many of them may be overlooked, there is no known want that is not made good by our charitable people.

The second class, the devil's poor, who like Jacob Marley, forged the chains with which they are bound, are also the wards of the more fortunate, although in a different way. It is possible to do something even for the devil's poor and that is the mission of Christianity. The devil's poor are in a devil's environment, and it is for Christian people to, as far as possible, clean up the environment.

And the poor devils, what can be done for them? They are the helpless, the imbeciles, the most pitiable of all the poor. They are adrift, without chart or compass, without any outlook upon life, without ambition, or pride, or pleasure. They, also, may be helped, may be advised, may be kept a little longer from the inevitable shipwreck.

The Christmas spirit embraces at least during the Christmas season—all the poor and by giving the spirit free rein at this joyous season, the periods of Charity may be lengthened and we may hope that, in the not too distant future, the Christmas spirit may spread over the whole year.

Let us so use the intervening days of preparation, that the Christmas of 1926 may be the best yet for our country, our community and for ourselves.

THE MARITIMES AND THE WEST

A REVEALING illustration of the temper of many people of the West, says the Ottawa Journal, in dealing with national problems is afforded by the comment of the Manitoba Free Press upon the report of the Maritime Commission. After a few insipid introductory paragraphs evidently designed to pretend that it views the question in a broad national way, the Free Press discloses its real attitude in this paragraph:—

"There are a number of recommendations in the report of no particular gravity; but the major proposal—that of a statutory railway rate, with the Dominion treasury paying the freight rate covered by the reduction in place of the shipper—is one which is not lightly to be accepted. It is a principle capable of extensive application; and if it is accepted and blessed by Parliament, we shall not be surprised if attempts are made in the future to apply it extensively."

Yet this is the same Manitoba Free Press which in 1917 fought tooth and nail against suspension of the Crow's Nest rates, notwithstanding that at the time those rates were losing the railways millions which, ultimately, in the case of the Canadian National, had to be put up by the rest of us. It is the same Free Press that, day in and day out, clamors for the destruction of the Railway Commission so that Parliament, with its ear to the ground for Western votes, may give

the West statutory low rates, regardless of the East. The same Manitoba Free Press that because of some hoped for benefit for the West, wants Canada to throw tens of millions of dollars into the Hudson Bay Railway. It is right and proper, according to the logic and the Canadianism of the Free Press, to tax the people of Canada 60 or 70 millions of dollars for a project that is fantastic, simply because some deluded people in the West want it as an outlet for their wheat. It is gravely improper to have the Maritimes ask for a railway rate to bring their coal and other products to the markets of Central Canada!

Much loose talk is sometimes heard about the Maritime Provinces feeding at the trough of the treasury. Such talk would be less rare, we think, if those who indulge it would take the trouble to go back over the public accounts of this country and study the per capita expenditures in the various provinces during the past 20 years. It is true that a lot of money has been thrown to the wolves in wharves and breakwaters in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; true also that the old Intercolonial was a sink-hole for millions. But where in the other provinces should not forget that the Maritimes have been taxed, and taxed heavily, for outlays of hundreds of millions upon railways and canals from which they derived little benefit. Since Confederation Canada has spent \$143,000,000 on canals; has put half a billion of capital expenditure in Government railways; has put tens of millions in harbors on the St. Lawrence, at the head of the Lakes, and on the Pacific; has put \$35,000,000 in the Hudson Bay Railway. The Maritimes helped pay for these things.

When the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific Railways were taken over by the Dominion Government, there were guarantees outstanding on these railways by the provinces, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Province, Total guaranteed. Rows include British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia.

These have been assumed by the Federal Government. The principal and interest are now a charge against the federal treasury. In the case of two provinces, through default of payment by the company of bond interest, the Government of Canada was required to redeem the coupons which these provinces would otherwise have been called upon to pay, and has since done so, interest date by interest date.

These things being true—and they are but the surface of the story—it is a little unjust, we think, to treat a Maritime claim for consideration as the plea of a mendicant. Certainly it does not lie in the mouth of Western Canada, living in the most fragile of glass houses, to cast stones.

The Journal trusts that the Maritime report will receive sympathetic and just consideration. And we would remind Mr. King that, in the most specific way, he is pledged to carry out Sir Andrew Duncan's recommendations. He went on record to that effect on half a dozen Maritime platforms.

EDITORIAL NOTES. And, Jes' fore Christmas, remember that Prohibition is still the law of the land. Last week was one of the busiest in the history of the Charlottetown stores. Good weather, good roads and plenty money was the immediate reason.

Notes by the Way

THE wise Prime Ministers and delegates who recently met in London decided that the Dominions have an equal status with the Kingdom of Great Britain. That they have so decided does not make it so, and no amount of shouting can make it so. It is simply absurd to say that Canada and Great Britain are on the same plane of nationhood or possessed of equal powers, prerogatives and privileges.

Canada exists as a Dominion because of the British North America Act, a law enacted by the British Parliament. The same is true of other Dominions since officially created in the same way. Can Canada repeal the B.N.A. Act? No. Can the Parliament of Canada even amend that Act? No. Several times since 1867 the Parliament of Canada has asked the British Parliament to make minor amendments to that Act and it was done. The British Parliament thus did for Canada what the Canadian Parliament could not do. Does this indicate that equality of status which the Conference has asserted?

Has Canada, or any of the overseas Dominions the right to make war on her or their own account? No. In all that pertains to making war or peace the Dominion is powerless if acting alone while Britain, the Mother Nation, has full power. And the Dominions have not yet the choice or power to keep out of war when Britain is at war. The late Conference changed nothing as regards that. It remains just as it was when Sir Wilfrid Laurier tersely expressed the fact that "when Britain is at war Canada is at war."

Prime Minister King has announced his intention to reform the Senate. How does he expect to effect it? By asking the British Parliament to do for Canada what the Canadian Parliament is powerless to do. And that condition remains precisely as it was before the Conference met. In the face of such inequalities of powers and privileges between the Mother Country and the Dominions, what utter folly it is to talk of an equality of status.

Inter-imperial relations as brought to the front by the Conference will form the subject of earnest discussion in all the greater English-speaking Parliaments of the Empire and in the press for months to come. But little real change was effected in those relations was just now made in London and that may be regarded as fortunate. It is better that no new Magna Charta of Dominion liberties has been written, better that the boast is empty than that a risky first-cut should be taken. Safety first is as sound a principle in national development as in conducting a railway train.

British freedom, it has been said has "slowly broadened down from precedent to precedent." So may it be with the liberty and expanding powers of the Dominion. They have not suffered from tyranny in the past nor are they threatened with any form of oppression in the future. We can go along very well with relations as they are and without further changes or definitions.

The proposed establishment of coking plants to deal with Nova Scotia coal is generally approved as a step forward in mining and industrial enterprise. It gives promise of widely extending the radius within which the products of the collieries can be marketed and at higher prices. The reduced weight by the process of coking will lessen the cost of transportation, while at the same time additional employment will be given to labor.

Canada has abundant stores of native coal in the East and in the West, but with a stretch of 2,000 miles of coalless lands between and it is in this coalless region where the greater portion of the Canadian people live and fuel is most needed. One of the Dominion's big problems has long been how to supply her own people with her own coal. Many hundreds of millions of dollars have in the meantime been expended in the purchase of American coal in even larger quantities from year to year.

It is apparent that even if Maritime coal were carried westward and Alberta coal carried eastward until they met—carried at less than the actual cost of transportation—the Dominion might still be a gainer, by reason of the employment given and wages paid in mining and transport. This is one of several forward steps that may be taken and should be taken at once to help the Maritimes and benefit the big Central Provinces as well.

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D. WASHING THE BLOOD.

You will perhaps wonder what is coming next when you read about the work two Russian physicians have been doing.

As you know, eczema is one of the meanest skin ailments that affect the human race.

Although considered "curable," it breaks out so often that some victims have it practically all the time.

Most of the skin specialists of past days considered eczema as due to "external impressions upon the skin," although they admitted that some skins seemed to be especially prone to contract the trouble.

Disorders of the digestion, liver, kidneys, can cause an outbreak is now acknowledged. Some cases have occurred immediately after a shock or great emotional disturbance of some kind.

These Russian physicians, recognizing that the blood carries everything to all parts, and recognizing further that the red corpuscles of the blood are the food carriers, got the idea that if they could wash these red corpuscles that they could get rid of the acid or other condition that was causing the trouble.

Accordingly they withdrew a small quantity of blood, less than an ounce, treated the red corpuscles with an alkaline solution, and then injected these corpuscles back into the patient again.

These injections were given two or three days apart, and about ten injections in all were given.

They report that the patient felt no ill effects whatever either at the site of the injection, or in the body generally.

They report cases of chronic weeping eczema as being cured by this treatment without any local application whatever.

You will notice that the amount of blood withdrawn and put back was but a small quantity, and yet the effect was most satisfactory.

Just how far these or other research men will go with this blood corpuscle washing is just a question, but the results would seem to show great possibilities.

It will be good news to sufferers with old skin ailments, who have tried all the various ointments, and even X-ray treatments, without avail.

Historical. It has been officially stated at the Capital that previous to the amendment of the egg regulations all shipments of 100 cases or more between provinces were subject to inspection. Following the amendment the quantity subject to inspection was increased to car-loads of 350 cases.

Local or intercolonial inspections are voluntary, simply being made upon request. The increase of 100 per cent in the inspections made under this heading would serve to indicate in some degree the increasing popularity of egg inspection.

In addition to actual inspections tabulated (therewith) under the requirements of the egg regulations, is affecting domestic trading there were made approximately \$30,000 official calls and inspections of the products in the hands of wholesalers and retailers, the wholesalers before delivery to retailers and the retailers before delivery to customers. Further the inspection staff gave demonstrations in the culling and grading of eggs at many exhibitions, school fairs and other public gatherings.

In all thirty-seven prosecutions were undertaken during the year. Of these prosecutions eighteen were wholesalers, fourteen against retailers, and five against peddlers. The department was successful in all instances except one where the court held the case was not proven. Fines were imposed ranging from \$5 to \$250.

Co-operative Marketing and Promotions. "The district poultry promoters and their assistants on the one hand interpret to the department the immediate need of their respective districts in the way of egg and poultry development, and on the other hand interpret to those districts departmental policy devised to meet their needs."

The farmer's problem is largely economic, the obtaining of profitable returns for the product which he grows. More direct and effective marketing of poultry products.

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ITS PROPORTIONS AND PROSPECTS.

SHOULD INTEREST EVERYBODY

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therefore, is one of the major considerations in the promoter's plans. In any program of salesmanship, quality is a vital consideration. In eggs and poultry, particularly the former, quality is paramount. Unfortunately, however, farm eggs as marketed are frequently seriously lacking in quality.

It can be confidently stated that the improvement in quality that has taken place in the last few years can be attributed in no small degree to the activities of the promoter's staff. For instance, co-operative egg and poultry associations are themselves largely the outcome of promoters' activities, and they in turn have given the most effective demonstration of the utility of the sale of a graded product, the basic principles of which are included in the Egg Regulations.

Prince Edward Island continues to stand out prominently in Canada as the best example of successful co-operative egg and poultry marketing, the indications being that the present year (1926) will show by far the largest volume yet handled in any one season.

This testimony coming from the Departmental Report of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, is a tribute to Island effort of which our people may all feel proud. It sets the pace for the present and future years of leadership, which also sets the price in the Home and outside markets and will stand as a standard for years to come in all the avenues of commerce. It will also have a lasting effect on the reputation of other products, which spells success all round.

INTERMEDIATE BOWLING LEAGUE FORMED AT THE "V". An intermediate bowling league has been formed composing of three teams, the Spartans captained by W. MacEwen, the Stars by H. Craig, and the Trojans by G. Mac

Leod. Already two games have been rolled resulting in two victories for the Spartans over the Stars and Trojans. Two games will be rolled each week, on Mondays and Saturdays. Tomorrow the Stars and Trojans meet both confident of victory. As all teams are evenly matched and some good prizes up, it looks like there will be some fun before the league is over.

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