

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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The Subsidy Hearing

The preliminary investigation by the Dominion Audit Board into the question of Maritime subsidy claims recalls the suggestion of Senator Hughes before the Charlottetown Board of Trade last winter that a Royal Commission be appointed to adjudicate on our claims. It recalls too, the fact that Hon. John E. Sinclair, who was present at that meeting, opposed this idea on the ground that a Commission was not necessary and might do harm. Mr. Sinclair also stated that our case was then before the Federal Government and was well advanced, and that we might expect a settlement shortly. Furthermore, he contended that any Commission would mean a year's delay and Prince Edward Island could not afford such delay.

Naturally, the statements of a parliamentary representative and former cabinet minister carried considerable weight with the Board of Trade. A few days afterwards, Premier Saunders returned from Ottawa and in an interview with the local Liberal organ agreed with everything Mr. Sinclair had said, adding that he was surprised that anyone would advocate the appointment of a Royal Commission in view of the progress that the Federal Government was then making in the matter.

Three months later, the Hon. Charles Stewart, Minister of the Interior, standing in his place in Parliament declared in effect that the Maritime Provinces had presented no case to the Federal Government for increased subsidies; therefore the Government was giving no consideration to the matter. His exact words were:

"If it can be shown that the present subsidies to the Maritime Provinces are insufficient the Government will consider the matter." "There, in a few words, is emphatic repudiation of the assurances given last winter by Premier Saunders and Hon. Mr. Sinclair. Surely, in the circumstances, the Premier should take the people into his confidence and explain just why it was that the Minister of the Interior found it necessary to make that statement! If the question of the subsidy claims of any or all of the Maritime Provinces was before the Audit Board at the time, as we have been led to believe, why was Hon. Mr. Stewart's statement to the contrary allowed to pass unchallenged in Parliament?"

Now that the Audit Board has actually got to work, its first consideration will no doubt be directed to the "pamphlet" prepared by the Provincial Government and published in the Patriot on the 21st of January under the express authority of the Hon. W. M. Lea, Provincial Secretary and Acting Premier. This statement sets forth claims to an additional yearly subsidy of more than three and a quarter million dollars. Premier Saunders, speaking on the Budget last session, endorsed the "pamphlet" and declared that the only fault he could find in it was that it erred on the side of modesty. Yet on the very day on which it appeared in the Patriot he fled at Ottawa a "memorial" claiming only a sixth or a seventh of the amount mentioned in the "pamphlet." What can even an Audit Board do with such documents or with the men who issue such documents? The Board doubtless has before it the two statements, and it will not fail to note that at the time Hon. Mr. Lea issued his "pamphlet" claiming an additional subsidy of three and a quarter millions he signed, with Premier Saunders and Mr. J. O. C. Campbell—introduced to the Audit Board as "Hon. Mr. Campbell, Attorney General"—another document called a "memorial" claiming only a sixth or a seventh of the amount.

Which of these documents the Audit Board will take as authentic remains to be seen. There can be no question that if the larger claim—as Premier Saunders said, "on the side of modesty," it was his du-

ty, on his appearance before the Board last week, to present a case which would do full justice to the claims of the Province. If he succeeds in securing three and a half or four million dollars of additional subsidy for the province, he can write "Finis" to his political career with the feeling that he has done something, after all, to advance the interests of his Province.

Teaching the Blind

An interesting and constructive article on the Halifax School of the Blind, from the pen of Mr. E. Chesley Allen, Superintendent, appears in the current issue of "Social Welfare" a Toronto publication. Mr. Allen reviews the steps leading up to the establishment of the School on its present lines, and gives some valuable information regarding the scope of the work. Particularly interesting are the concluding paragraphs which deal with the primary stages of teaching, and we reproduce them as the remarks apply with equal force to teaching children generally as well as the blind particularly.

Like any individual or organization engaged in a worth-while enterprise, writes Mr. Allen, we have our problems. Our greatest is one in which readers of this page could probably be of material assistance. There is a tendency on the part of many parents of blind or partially blind children to keep them at home until, to use their own expression, "they are old enough to leave home." This too often means that boys or girls do not begin their training until twelve or even fifteen years of age.

While we can do much for such children, it is obvious to anyone familiar with pedagogical principles that the best years have been lost, and that the pupil, in addition to his physical handicap of defective vision, has now been burdened with the handicap of a late start in the race for training. During the past two summers the writer, with Mrs. Allen, has visited many homes of blind or partially blind children, and these visits have had a marked effect in reducing the average age at which children enter the school. A secondary, though scarcely less important effect of these personal contacts with homes is the establishment of that feeling between home and school which is so helpful in what are often problem cases.

Then, there is the problem of discovering these children who need our help. There are still parents who have a tendency to conceal the fact that they have a child who is in any way "different." This is where doctors, nurses, teachers, clergymen, and social workers, official or unofficial, can be of invaluable assistance in reporting such children, wherever known, to proper authorities.

Editorial Notes

The King Government budget is said to have assisted in electing Sir Cyril Cobb, Conservative, in an English by-election last Tuesday. It is expected that it will be equally effective in electing Conservatives in this country.

The graduation exercises last evening of the nurses of the Prince Edward Island Hospital, is a reminder of the splendid service which this excellent institution has given to the Province during the many years of its existence, both in the care of the sick and injured and in the equally important matter of training nurses to carry on the work.

The critical situation in India is thus summed up by Lord Derby: "There are some people who believe that we are holding down a poverty stricken country by force of arms. We are doing nothing of the kind; we are standing between two forces of opposing natives who are ready to fly at each other's throat if we were not there."

How true is the reflection of the Liberal Toronto Globe that "the political ways of a newspaper organ are tortuous and confusing when it tries to keep step with the expediency movements of the bosses." Why couldn't some kind friend have warned our contemporary of this fact when it launched its campaign against raising the tariffs on American steel and New Zealand butter!

Notes By The Way

There are a multitude of grave reasons for firmly believing that though the Egyptians regularly express, through their press columns and in their social attitude, the most cordial feelings for the British, there is an undercurrent of definite hostility in their actions.

Twenty years ago cancer stood eighth in the list of death causes. Today it has advanced to second place. The total number of deaths caused each year in the United States by cancer is estimated at 120,000. The disease is responsible for 10 per cent of the deaths from all causes. In a large per centage from all cases—at least 30—the disease is hopeless from the onset.

It is remarkable that while there is complaint of overcrowding in United States prisons there is no overcrowding in England and no less than twenty-five local prisons have been closed and sold in England for other purposes since 1914. Why there no longer is any use for so many prisons is another matter, but it is understood, according to a report from London, that the Government will close others as rapidly as there ceases to be a need for them.

The alternate extremes of pessimism and optimism over the outcome of the London Naval Conference remind one of the man who wished to sell his car. He had hopes of receiving \$400 for it, he did not actually expect to get more than \$100, but he finally received \$200. Not so much as he hoped, but more than he expected.

The King Government has spent more than twenty-two million dollars in bringing immigrants into the country. The government keeps a record of the people coming in but failed to enumerate those who leave, but Senator Beaubien of Quebec, in a recent speech quoted official statistics of the United States showing the number of Canadians entering that country for permanent residence. This number, as Senator Beaubien pointed out, was some thousands in excess of the number of immigrants entering Canada.

Mr. Richard C. Patterson, Commissioner of Corrections of New York City, in his annual report recommends that criminal drug addicts be confined in prison for life, holding that reform of this class is a well-nigh hopeless task. As the addicts are said to be increasing in number, his advice is not likely to be put into practice. "The prisons are overcrowded now with liquor offenders, and if the army of drug addicts were added there would be no room whatever for the killers, armed robbers and other genuine bad men."

Advices from overseas indicate that the banking representatives of nine nations have agreed upon the flotation of a loan in behalf of Germany amounting to a total of about three hundred million dollars. This is said to be the largest international fiscal transaction which has taken place since the close of the war. Whilst, as yet, the expert bankers have not fully planned the details of the scheme, such as the date of bond issue, the price to be charged for bond investments, and the rate of interest to be paid upon these holdings, it is reported that most of the financiers favor a high rate as possible and five or five and a half per cent, is mentioned as the probable figure, the ultimate decision depending upon further inquiry as to conditions in the world markets. Of course, whatever fiscal scheme the fiscal bankers adopt, it will not become operative until the representatives of the treasury departments of the various countries to share in the proceeds have met and sanctioned the plan.

Seldom has there been such an ambitious enterprise launched as that which was recently announced in France. A group of engineers believes that the Mediterranean can be made a fresh water lake by dams at Gibraltar and the Dardanelles and that 430,000 square miles of territory can be added to the countries bordering on that sea by lowering its level 500 to 600 feet by the use of the same dams. And further benefit would be gained by pumping the fresh water into the Sahara for irrigation purposes. It is a fabulous scheme and one that is not likely to materialize, but it serves to illustrate the difference in outlook between Europe and newer countries.

Europe is land hungry and water surfeited. She could spare some of her seaboard and other waterways if making the sacrifice would give her more land for colonization by her crowded people.

A tree found on the banks of the River Amazon in South America, has a sweet edible resin with the consistency of real sugar in the bark. Airplanes are being used in battles against insect pests in Peru.



By James W. Barten, M.D.

That Body of Yours

PROOF OF VALUE OF LIVER

When a new treatment for any ailment comes along, immediately three classes are formed among physicians. One class takes up the new treatment enthusiastically and one often thinks they see favorable results where there are none.

The second class, who have been advocating another form of treatment for this same ailment, immediately attack the new method and do all in their power to show its defects and failures.

And the third class sit back and watch the new method and express no opinion either way. They are waiting to be shown.

Thus when the liver diet came out for the treatment of pernicious anaemia, immediately all over the world came reports of its tremendous success.

Many physicians working along other lines of treatment denied its value and still maintained that transfusions of blood from a healthy person, and injections of iron into the veins, was the only method of prolonging life in these cases.

However we are now getting the evidence of what is really happening. Dr. P. L. McKinley in the Lancet, London, England has analyzed the death returns for pernicious anaemia for the six years previous to the introduction of the liver treatment.

For the entire six years, the death rate was practically the same, as regards age and sex.

In 1927 however there was a definite decrease in the death rate there being almost one thousand less deaths than in any of the previous six years before 1927. This was, more particularly in the young and middle ages, of both sexes.

The rate of decrease toward the end of 1928 was greater than at the beginning, thus showing the actual efficiency of this treatment as its value became known.

As conditions have been actually the same for many years past no other factor entered into the matter. The liver diet alone is responsible for this wonderful saving of lives.

Thus we read "It would seem safe to predict that the extension of this treatment to a larger proportion of patients suffering with this disease will show an even greater decrease in the number of deaths annually."

Since calf's liver was the kind used by Drs. Ninot and Murphy, it was natural that everybody should try to use that kind.

It has been found by testing that satisfactory results can be secured from young beef, beef, pig and chicken livers, which are less expensive.

There are now hundreds of ways of preparing liver so as to make it appetizing. The whole point to remember is that it should not be overcooked or have too much salt or other condiments used while it is cooking which may harden and toughen it.

There are fried, boiled, custard, creamed, and other forms of liver preparations.



FROM "AUGUST, 1914"

These homes, this valley spread below me here. The rooks, the tilted stacks, the beasts in pen, Have been the heartfelt things past-speaking dear To unknown generations of dead men.

Who, century after century, held these farms, And looking out to watch the changing sky, Heard, as we hear, the rumours and alarms Of war at hand and danger pressing nigh.

And knew, as we know, that the message meant The breaking off of ties, the loss of friends, Death, like a miser getting in his rent, And no new stones laid where the trackway ends.

The harvest not yet won, the empty bin, The friendly horses taken from the stalls, The fallow on the hill not yet brought in, The cracks unplastered in the leaking walls.

Yet heard the news, and went discouraged home, And brooded by the fire with heavy mind, With such dumb loving of the Berk-

Canada's Mica Resources

There has been issued at the instance of the Deputy Minister of Mines, Ottawa, a comprehensive report by H. S. Spence, of the Mines Branch, on "Mica" of which Canada possesses important resources. There are two commercial varieties of mica, termed by the trade amber mica and white mica, the deposits of the former being the more valuable. The occurrences of the amber variety are to be found, chiefly in those parts of Ontario and Quebec contiguous to Ottawa, and within a radius of one hundred miles. This district was formerly the seat of an important mica industry, furnishing the bulk of the world's supply of amber mica. In the last few years, however, foreign competition and the utilization of substitutes have resulted in what the report states is a rather serious falling-off in Canadian production. Madagascar is the chief competitor, the amber splittings from that country being laid down and duty paid, at from 15 to 20 cents per pound less than the prices asked by Canadian dealers for comparable grades.

In London, also, the Madagascar mica is selling lower than the Canadian article. There it is stated that the quality and grading of the Madagascar article are superior to the Canadian. This, Mr. Spence is informed, is due to the fact that the Indian system of sickle-trimming is practised in Madagascar, while Canadian mica is mostly sold thumb-trimmed. The latter yields a considerable proportion of waste, whereas sickle-trimmed mica sheet yields little or none. Native labor also is cheap, which makes Canadian competition a difficult proposition.

One prominent American firm which maintained splitting shops in Quebec for many years has permanently closed down. Another factor responsible for the dullness in Canadian mica business is that there is less insistence now on the use of amber mica in electrical insulation. Amber mica was for a long time preferred and specified for use in commutators, but now undercutting of the mica segments permits the use of the harder and cheaper muscovite.

Mica is an essential part of practically all electrical equipment on account of its superiority as an insulating material. It is employed in most of the electrical household appliances, such as telephones, radios, light sockets, fuse plugs, toasters, irons and heaters, and large quantities are used in the commutators of dynamos and motors, and also in

shire loam As breaks the dumb hearts of the English kind,

Then sadly rose and left the well-loved Downs, And so by ship to sea, and knew no more.

The fields of home, the byres, the market towns, Nor the dear outline of the English shore.

But knew the misery of the soaking trench, The freezing in the rigging, the despair

In the revolting second of the wrench When the blind soul is flung upon the air.

And died (uncouthly, most) in foreign lands For some idea but dimly understood Of an English city never built by hands

Which love of England prompted and made good. —John Masefeld

THE LAND WE LOVE

By FRANK LEIGH

GOVERNOR MURRAY

Q. Who was Governor Murray? A. General James Murray is a famous name in British-Canadian history. When the Treaty of Paris came into force in 1763 and the Government of Canada was changed from a military to a civil one, General Murray was appointed Governor-General of Canada, making the nineteenth, counting from the eighteen under French rule. He operated under an executive or advisory council and proved to be an able and wise administrator. Murray Bay and River preserves his name in Topography.

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condensers. The value of the industry in the Ottawa district of Quebec and Ontario is therefore apparent. It is to be hoped that improved methods of working mica may be found and that other means of meeting the Madagascar mica competition may be developed. The satisfactory feature of the situation is that the Canadian deposits are capable of supplying large quantities of mica should the present unhappy economic situation in the industry be readjusted.

AMAZING RESULTS FOLLOW GIRL'S HOAX

(Canadian Press)

CAPE TOWN, S. Africa, May 12.—Twelve thousand mail articles, letters, post cards, illustrated papers and parcels have arrived during one fortnight from England in response to a short letter inserted by a South African girl in the "Daily Mail." The letter read:

Sir—For the last 19 years my sister and I have been living on a lonely, God-forsaken farm in a forgotten corner of South Africa, and would be grateful to any one who would be kind enough to write us a letter or a post card once in a while.

(Miss) Kathleen Punt, Mud River, P. O. Malmesbury, S. A.

When the first batch of letters arrived at the one mail post office at Mamre the work of the postmaster was disorganized. Three men had to be called in to work for three and a half hours sorting the mail matter. The following week the mail was still heavier, and it was quite beyond the capacity of the Mamre men to handle so many bags.

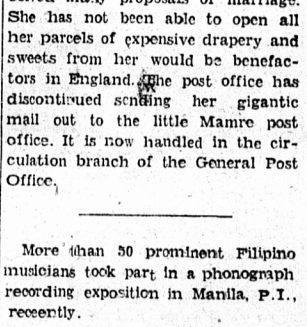
The lonely "South African girl" turns out to be Kathleen Punt, whose parents are well known in Malmesbury, where they do much entertaining. Kathleen, so far from being a lonely girl, has hundreds of company for she is sent to school at Eilerslie, Sea Point. She is a popular and vivacious girl of 17.

She wrote the letter as a prank and was delighted with the huge number of people she "look in" by her hoax. But when the second week's mail arrived she was overwhelmed and rather frightened. It appalled her to think that so many earnest people had spent time and money writing to a girl who was not deserving of their sympathy. She has received many proposals of marriage. She has not been able to open all her parcels of expensive drapery and sweets from her would be benefactors in England. The post office has discontinued sending her gigantic mail out to the little Mamre post office. It is now handled in the circulation branch of the General Post Office.

More than 50 prominent Filipino musicians took part in a phonograph recording exposition in Manila, P. I., recently.

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The attention of those interested in directed to the fact that The Charlottetown Fox Breeders Protective Association is in a more favorable position than ever to prosecute any who trespass on the property of the under-mentioned members:

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A Booster Feature

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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