

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1934.

KING'S SORRY RECORD

Continuing his comment on the Federal Liberal leader's "fair trade" promises from which we quoted yesterday, the Mail and Empire says:

"We have already shown that in his latest statement from Ottawa Mr. Mackenzie King put forward untenable claims as to what the Liberal party has done and will do in obtaining freer trade relations with other countries. We have shown that it was during his nine-year regime that the markets of the world were more and more closed to Canadian exports and that he was unable to do anything about it. We have shown beyond peradventure that between 1921 and 1930, while he was in office, successive increases in the United States tariff were enacted, with the result that Canada's exports of farm products and manufactures of farm products dropped from \$174,000,000 to less than \$40,000,000 per annum. In the light of these indubitable facts, Mr. King's optimistic generalizations about freer trade are misleading to the extent of being absurd.

The Opposition leader is in an equally undefensible situation when he presumes to talk about trade relations with Great Britain. He and his colleagues, while they were in office, tried very hard to obtain some return from Great Britain for Canada's 30-year-old preference to the Mother Country. In that effort they miserably failed. The Bennett administration has achieved what the preceding Liberal Government could not accomplish. Mr. Bennett has been accused of dominating the Imperial Conference which he summoned at Ottawa, and if he did, he dominated it to good effect, and Canadians have reason to be proud of the fact. It was after his intervention at the previous Imperial Conference of 1930 in London, and after his proposal for reciprocal preferential trade between all parts of the Empire, that the British people turned from three generations of free trade to protection.

The negotiation of the Ottawa trade treaties naturally followed, and already the possession of a preferred sheltered position in the greatest consuming market in the world has increased Canada's exports by tens of millions of dollars. The Mother Country and the other parts of the Empire have likewise benefited materially as a result of the Imperial Conference of 1932. Mr. King says that if returned to power the Liberal party "will continue the Liberal policy of British preference." That policy was a one-sided affair without any concession from the Mother Country.

The Opposition is, indeed, out to tear up the Ottawa trade agreements which in the last two years have saved Canada from insolvency. Mr. King is quoted as saying: "The protective tariff has fostered the formation of combines, monopolies and trusts." It is astonishing that he should have the audacity to put forward such a statement. He knows as well as anybody else that nearly all of the combines and trusts and monopolies formed in this country were established either under his own Government or that of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The Opposition leader fulminates against the "exploitation of the public through the sale of unsound and worthless securities, namely watered stocks."

In making this assertion Mr. King is indicting his own administration which was defeated in 1930. It was while he was in supreme control at Ottawa for nine years that the alleged pirates of finance succeeded in merging group after group of industries, in recapitalizing and overcapitalizing them and in unleashing a mass of newly-created and largely worthless issues on the long-suffering public.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES

Noting evidence before the Royal Commission on Mass Buying touching upon short weights, people have asked why the Weights and Measures Act hasn't been enforced. If short weights are a criminal offense, and inspectors find short

weights, why aren't the criminals dealt with?

The problem, says the Ottawa Journal, isn't quite so simple. Weights and measures are dealt with by two Federal statutes. The Criminal Code deals with false weights and measures under fraud. But the difficulty there is in the fact that no prosecution can succeed unless "intent" is shown. And that isn't easy. At any rate it hasn't been found easy in cases where prosecutions have been tried. Scales may get out of order by themselves. In 1918 Parliament strengthened the law by amendment of the Weights and Measures Act as follows:

"Notwithstanding any of the provisions of the Criminal Code, any person who sells, delivers or causes to be sold or delivered anything by weight, measure or number, short of the quantity ordered or purchased, shall be guilty of an offense and liable to a fine not exceeding \$100 for every subsequent offense. No proceedings shall be taken under the provisions of this section except with the consent of the minister."

This, of course, was to be enforced by the provinces and municipalities.

But the trouble here is to get adequate supervision. The Federal inspectors of weights and measures are not policemen. They are inspectors, concerned with the accuracy of measures. Inasmuch as their number is necessarily limited, they can't be everywhere at the same time, can't visit more than once or twice a year the thousands of stores throughout the country.

Inspection, to be effective, would have to be constant. And constant inspection would require an army of inspectors, would cost perhaps \$1,000,000 a year. That, for one Government activity out of a multiplicity, is a lot of money.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Today we enter upon the last lap for Christmas shopping. From now on it will be all hustle and bustle.

No doubt every intelligent farmer realizes the significance of the opposition to the Marketing Act being fomented by an admittedly disgruntled potato broker.

The local Liberals must be feeling dreadfully depressed when they allowed the Province to be practically unrepresented at the Ottawa Liberal Convention.

Both Japan and U.S.A. having ignored overtures to cease navy expansion, Great Britain has at length determined not to be caught napping. Keels will be laid, it is said, for four 10,000 ton cruisers, two 7,000 ton cruisers, two 5,200 ton cruisers, 22 destroyers, six submarines and one 10,000 ton aircraft carrier. Including sloops and other auxiliaries the new ships will represent a total of upwards of 150,000 tons. Thus 1936, the end of the Washington and London agreements will not see Britain lagging among the "also rans."

Are we progressing? Ordinary revenue of the Dominion Government for the first eight months of the present fiscal year ending November 30, was more than \$28,000,000 ahead of the same period last year and for the month of November receipts exceeded those of November, 1933, by nearly \$1,500,000, according to a statement just issued by the Comptroller of the Treasury. For the first eight months of the year the Dominion Treasury has a surplus of \$1,604,449 on ordinary account, expenditures totalling \$243,468,091 and receipts \$245,072,540.

Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin remains the undisputed leader of the Conservative Party in Great Britain. Ever since Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill and one or two of his friends were excluded from the National Government, a determined effort has been made to oust Mr. Baldwin from leadership. His Waterloo was to be the Government of India Committee's Report, and gigantic efforts were made by the "Die Hards" to bring about its defeat in the House of Commons.

Mr. Churchill's supporters even welcomed the antagonism, for diametrically opposite reasons, of such strange political bedfellows as the malcontents of the Labour Party. But in this "Waterloo," Baldwin proved to be Wellington, leaving Mr. Churchill with such consolation as he could derive from his position of Napoleon.

Mr. Mackenzie King opposed the Marketing Act at Ottawa, and Premier Tachereau and Hepburn were

Notes By The Way

Synthetic silk yarn from southern pine trees, the first ever made, is being shown in New York with the announcement of the discovery of a process through which the pine forests of the United States south can be made into cloth. The making of artificial yarns from southern pine has been a goal of chemists and a commercial dream for years. The supply in southern forests is inexhaustible.

The public little realizes the extent of the contribution which is being made by members of the medical profession to the relief of distress in these days of financial stringency. However hard up to be, it is always possible to say, "Thank you and to express a proper appreciation of the skilled services so ungrudgingly given. It is an inspiring tribute to the self-sacrificing spirit of the profession that the extraordinary needs have been met so adequately."—Hamilton Spectator.

At a cross-roads in a German forest, as the latest story goes, a young German Jew recently saw two cars approaching at right angles. With great presence of mind he raised his hand and enable one of them to stop. It contained Fuehrer. Beckoning the young man forward, Herr Hitler said: "By your presence of mind you have saved the life of the Chancellor. What would you like me to do for you?" The Jew thought for a moment. Then he added: "Don't tell father."

The pendulum of literature, which in the post-war days swung to the "smart to be dirty" side is due for a return to wholesome decency, thinks Channing Pollock, distinguished author and dramatist. In recent years, says Mr. Pollock in the December Rotarian Magazine, authors have not been slow to learn their lessons—"that the preference, praise, and prizes and honors should be given to the writer who has written with the nakedness of the secret of bedroom and bathroom. 'Dirty' has become genius, modernity, sophistication, and the employment of longer evidence of an immature mind, but the very contrary. What had been surreptitious smut in our youth, at last flowed from the presses of our best publishers, handsomely bound, fearlessly advertised, widely acclaimed, and to find itself unshamed on library shelves and smart throughout the land. It was able to be dirty, and it was also easy. Much easier than being clever."

In the happy relationship between the home and school, we see real possibilities for the promotion of service, since the demands made upon our schools have never been greater than at the present time. They must do more than train our children to make a livelihood, they must help them to make a proper adjustment to the needs of community and state. The selection of teachers should be made with great care, for the teacher is as important as their training in the subjects they teach. Their influence should not undermine what parents regard in the home as righteous forces of character. The serious rendering of teachers has been of great value, yet we have laid too great emphasis on qualities of mind, and not paid sufficient attention to their qualities of temperament, personality and character. Those who have not these qualities should be denied admission to the profession.—Professor Duncan McArthur.

Napoleon nearly succeeded in the control of half the world at one time, but when he failed in his last ambition, and was banished to a bleak rock, far from the coast of England, he was practically a deserted man—he who had made and unmade kings, shaped and reshaped empires, and whose restless nature and genius had changed the entire course of history. Only one of his faithful servants, however, remained with him to the last—and in Napoleon's will he was the only one whom he addressed as a friend.—Exchange.

It is sitting lightly to moral obligations and refusing to follow the honorable and upright way of living at all costs that has brought most of the confusion and catastrophes upon the world today. Too often men and nations have used words, not for the expression, but for the concealment and distortion of thought. During the war, the plea was to a means for keeping dishonestly from corrupting the business life of the country and destroying the confidence on which it must rest.

It is rather startling to think that British subjects from all parts of the Empire, whatever their race or colour, are entitled to come to this country and remain here, no matter how undesirable their presence.

The first to appeal to Premier Bennett for its practical application in the case of the pulp industry, Mr. Mackenzie King opposed the good government and peace and order legislation at Ottawa. And the same Messrs Tachereau and Hepburn were the first to seek its aid on behalf of the newsprint industry. Mr. Mackenzie King opposed the Ottawa agreements, and now announces that in the event of his being returned to power the agreements would remain in effect until he sought better trade relations between the Empire and the rest of the world. Well, that's that. The mountain was in travail and brought forth a puny, squeaky little mouse.—Hong Kong Press

That Body of Yours. By James W. Burns, M.D.

ADULTS NEED THE SAME CARE AS BABIES

A study of 9000 families showed that about 7 out of each ten normal infants are examined at intervals by physicians in order to prevent illness, but less than 1 in each 200 people over twenty years of age undergo this examination.

This may explain to a considerable extent why the illness and death rate among infants and children has been reduced by more than one-half since 1918, while chronic ailments and the death rate have actually increased in older people, beginning at 40.

"Recent studies have shown that about one in every three people over 40 years of age is suffering from some form of chronic illness. A very large share of this illness could be prevented, cured, or relieved if the present medical knowledge were used.

The way to get this knowledge used to the best advantage and in good season is to follow the example of the baby in having a physical examination every year after the age of twenty."

I am quoting from the Illinois Health Messenger. Naturally a number of babies who would have died in the days when there was not such knowledge as to their care, now live to reach the adult stage, and some of them although they are alive are not really rugged and are fortunate to reach middle age. Of these more are likely to be ill or to pass away than those who have always been rugged.

However, notwithstanding that they swell the number that reach middle age there are a great many who could have avoided it had they undergone regular physical examinations. And even though they have some ailment—heart, blood vessels, kidneys—an examination by the family doctor would enable them to know just how to live with comfort and safety.

The biggest asset in life is good health. With it work can be done, problems solved, difficulties faced. Without health even small troubles loom large and the take small pleasures which every human being possesses to some degree.

So spend an hour with your family doctor, not forgetting your dentist also. Learn to know yourself physically, for as mentioned before, you can only go as far in life as that body of yours will take you.

The Poet's Corner. CITY PIGEONS. The city pigeon, I insist, is an egregious egotist.

Only the stallet perch will do. This I find I have shown a few. Against the whole, pestiferous brood!

My window ledge, at least, won't lead To rank indulgences of greed. Go, post your silly chest and eye on some feathered passerby.

Who doesn't see how plump and sleek You are, who doesn't mind your cheek!

I won't be fooled by wiles like yours Or pamper feathered epicures. His energies are wholly bent On taking, with complete aplomb, The gift of anybody's crumb;

And when he wants a bird's-eye view Only the stallet perch will do. This I find I have shown a few. Against the whole, pestiferous brood!

Mr. Newbywed: Is the steak ready now dear? Mr. Newbywed: I'm sorry, I'm so long. George, but it looked hopeless, grilled, and it doesn't look much better fried, but if you'll be patient a little longer, I'll see what holding does to it.

once may be so far as the Dominion concerns are concerned. I referred a short time ago to the one-sided arrangement which enables them to send home unwanted immigrants from the United Kingdom—as is sometimes done—but denies us any corresponding right of self-protection. This difficulty in the case of immigrants from the Dominions exists also in the case of those from the Colonies.—Truth, (London).

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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.

MR. MALLINSON EXPLAINS

Sir,—There is nothing to justify the publication in your today's issue of part of a private letter sent by me to one of my associates, with the glaring prominence and misleading heading used.

I do not think there were half a dozen people out of the 100 odd who attended the Cornwall meeting, there through my influence. On Friday last I found that three large shippers had organized their leading men to attend the Cornwall meeting and vote in favor of the scheme. When I heard this I wrote only four of my associates the letter you publish in part. Anyone who attended that meeting will admit that if these three shippers and their leading men and members of the Provincial Marketing Board had not voted at all, the scheme would have been defeated by an overwhelming majority. I recognize only five of those who voted against the scheme, the rest were strangers to me.

I have been opposed to the scheme from the first although I would support any scheme which would change the price to the producer to a higher level and fix the profit spread of the dealer to a reasonable basis. It has been charged that I am the only one opposing the scheme but a false interpretation of my remarks. If you are not politically or otherwise biased in favor of the scheme, as your Mr. Walker told the meeting on Monday night, then why do you not adopt some measure of fair play and decency towards those who conscientiously object to it. It is not the privilege and duty of your paper in dealing with a matter so important to every farmer and citizen of this province to present both sides of this problem fairly and without prejudiced propaganda?

You published the scheme as presented at the Prince of Wales College and failed to publish the full details of the scheme now being presented. It was a very important new item that Quebec has abandoned the scheme, yet you failed to publish this, and now you put a false interpretation on a private letter in order to discredit me and bolster up this miserably misrepresented political scheme.

Do you think that Ottawa will be misled by this sort of thing? I am, Sir, CHARLES MALLINSON, Charlottetown, P. E. I., December 13, 1934.

(If all Mr. Mallinson's statements are as misleading as his explanation of his part in the Cornwall letter, no reliance need be placed on them. The letter we reproduced yesterday is on file and may be seen by anyone interested. It was published in full in the Cornwall letter, and the name and address of the party for whom it was intended.—Ed. G.)

Belated Economists

(News and Sentinel) Another voice from the central provinces urges the union of the Maritime Provinces as one group and that of the Prairie Provinces another, in the interests of administrative economy. This business man seems to be appalled at the mounting debt in the provinces and the multiplicity and finds that the debts of all the governmental departments in Canada is over seven billion dollars. He does not estimate how much could be saved by these unions, but evidently he considers it would be a considerable item.

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