THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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BUDGET TONIGHT

This evening at 8 o'clock in the Legislature, Premier MacMillan will deliver the Budget Speech. Without anticipating the Premier's remarks, it is safe to predict that he will make a convincing and able presentation of the financial position of the Province and that he will be able to show that at no time since Confederation have so many heavy responsibilities been shouldered by the administration in power. A large part of the deficit incurred during the year was in connection with unemployment relief. Had the Government taken the attitude which the Saunders-Lea Government did on one occasion with regard to the support of delinquent children, and repudiated its responsibility, a much better showing would be made in the Public Accounts. Had it neglected, as the Liberal Government did, to implement its pledge respecting Old Age Pensions, the account would look still better on paper. But the Premier and his colleagues were more concerned with the interests of the Province than with making pre-election propaganda; and it will be for the Opposition, if they chose, to criticise the expenditures by which the most needy and deserving sections of our people have so largely benefitted.

It is to be hoped, now that the Opposition members are in possession of all the departmental reports, that their statements will be based less on rumor and surmise, and more on facts and figures, than their utterances in the Draft Address debate. Mr. Lea, in his famous "high-lights" which were subsequently analyzed with amusing results, set a bad example to his followers. His harping on the Government's borrowing at six per cent for the purpose of reducing his own huge overdraft, and the exposure of the fact that he himself had borrowed at that interest rate for a ten year period, when he might, by following his own precept, have made a short term loan, was just one example of the pitfalls which the Opposition members dug for themselves in that long-drawn-out debate. Liberal speakers left so much of their ammunition lying around that it was not difficult for Attorney-General MacPhee, the last speaker, to use it on them with devastating effect.

The fact that Mr. MacPhee made the most effective speech of the debate is not, as our contemporary endeavored to suggest, a reflection on the Premier or any other Government member, or supporter who preceded him. The reflection, if any, is on the Opposition, who made such a sorry showing, and left, such an accumulation of misstatements and illogical arguments in their wake, that it was a comparatively easy task, for one of the Attorney-General's ability, to expose their fallacy and absurdity.

We suggest that there is an object lesson here which the Opposition, during the Budget debate, would do well to take to heart. If they confine their remarks to the questions at issue, and to plain statements of facts, they may find that their three and four hour speeches can be substantially curtailed, with considerable improvement from the standpoint of style and accuracy, and without any loss to the general public.

THE RHODES BUDGET

As was to be expected, the local Liberal press disapproves of the Rhodes Budget. It would be difficult indeed to imagine a condition of affairs in which the Opposition organ would find itself in accord with a budget delivery by the Government in power. It is evident from its criticism, however, that the budget which the Finance Minister presented to Parliament on Friday is having a tremendously favorable reaction.

"Now," says our contemporary, "on the eve of an election, Finance Minister Rhodes brings down a budget which the Conservative press interpret as a poor man's budget, or, in other words, a vote-catching budget."

The fact is that it was not the Conservative press, but the Canadian Press—an independent newsgathering organization of which the local Liberal press is a member—which said the budget was interpreted generally as "a poor man's budget." The reason, of course, is obvious; it redistributes the taxation burden so that additional revenue will be obtained without recourse to additional taxes on those of moderate and small incomes.

The need for such taxation measures is due to the Government's far reaching policies of social and economic reform which are being enacted specifically for the purpose of helping the farmers and other basic producers. This fact, of course, is ignored in the Liberal press. The old bogey of "high taxation" is raised again. This is amusing in view of the revelations made in the Legislature by Hon. H. F. MacPhee, who, in answer to Opposition misstatements showed that in sales tax, customs and other duties the Bennett Government was actually collecting millions of dollars less than were collected in corresponding years under the Mackenzie King regime. Mr. King, despite the larger revenues his Government was obtaining from the taxpayers, had "not a five cent piece" for unemployment relief or other social purposes, and he seems to have imagined that his sole duty as a statesman was performed when he had put his ideas on this subject into a book.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Budget speech by Premier MacMillan tonight.

That "Model" Budget of the Liberals badly "spilled the beans."

Yes, it was a black Wednesday all right for the Liberal opposition when Attorney General MacPhee raked them fore and aft.

Clemenceau was right when he tried to convince Wilson and Lloyd George that the only satisfactory end of the world war would be a march on Berlin.

Finance Minister Rhodes has produced a masterly budget, showing a grasp of detail and vision rarely met with in political heads of the treasury. In too many instances in the past has dependence been placed on deputies; Mr. Rhodes has first hand familiarity with every important detail, and handles them as readily and effectively as Hon. Mr. MacPhee does the record of the Liberal opposition here.

This is an era of deficits. An operating deficit of between $25,000,000 and $27,000,000 for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1934, will, it is understood, be reported by Premier Hepburn when as provincial treasurer he tables the public accounts in the Legislature and brings down his first budget this week. Direct relief charges on the province which are now being charged against ordinary revenue and not being capitalized as was the policy of the former Henry administration figure in the above deficit to the reported extent of approximately $17,000,000. The eight to ten millions in remaining deficit are accountable it is said, to big increase in expenditures and decreases in revenues over and above the forecasts of the former Henry Government in their last session, 1934.

On the top of dental hygiene in schools we may have mental hygiene. The Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, McGill University, and the Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene have called upon Professor Carleton W. Washburne, B.A., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, Winneska, Ill., to lecture to the schoolmasters and educationists of Montreal on "The Organization of the School in the Light of Mental Hygiene." Repression of normal desires causes mental illness, Dr. Washburne declared, and children must be allowed free creative expression; they must be given rich opportunities to find out their own special interests, and given the stimulus to be creative. Such freedom to develop is not possible under the existing system. The traditional school is also anti-social. It must be realized that human beings are not merely individuals but members of a society. There is plenty of time for this development, he showed, if meaningless activities are eliminated. The Winnetka schools give only half the day to academic subjects and have no homework, yet the pupils make a better showing than those under the older systems. Turning to the purely therapeutic side, Dr. Washburne says that the incidence of maladjustment is too great, that one child in 25 would spend some part of his life in an insane asylum, and that bad "character" is often bad adjustment. Winnetka teachers, he went on, are trained in mental hygiene at special summer schools, under a psychiatrist, and they at all times had expert advice in dealing with problem children. In discussing the special arrangements for the study and adjustment of backward children, Dr. Washburne lays great stress on the responsibility of parents giving their co-operation.

Canada's domestic exports to British Empire countries in February, amounting in value to $24,971,000, were an increase of 46 per cent over February, 1934, when the total was $17,027,000. Exports to the United Kingdom at $19,714,000 were also a 46 per cent increase. A year ago the total was $13,478,000. Exports to Empire Countries were 14 per cent greater than the $21,748,000 to foreign countries, and to Great Britain were 26 per cent higher than the $15,573,000 to the United States. The latter, however, was an eight per cent increase over a year ago. There were six other countries to which exports to the value of over half a million dollars went in February, all of them being increases: Australia $1,590,000 or 127 per cent, British South Africa $1,102,000 or 87 per cent, New Zealand $723,000 or 189 per cent, British West Indies $540,000 or 25 per cent, Belgium $626,000 or 16 per cent, Japan $1,247,000 an increase of $6,000.

Mr. Justice Alfred Forest of Montreal Superior Court, Commissioner appointed to investigate the scandal in connection with the erection of the Waterloo, Que., post office, under the Mackenzie King Government, finds that the revelations given by 27 witnesses necessitated proceedings against certain men. The commissioner said he had come to the conclusion that "such public men as M. Ernest Boivin, ex-federal Liberal M.P., and Robert Bachand, notary and provincial M.L.A., deserve to be put under the ban of public opinion and declared unworthy of any function as representatives of the people."

Notes By The Way

M. Flandin, premier of France, declared in support of his extended conscription policy, "Forty million Frenchmen will awake with the dawn to learn that this chamber has not two opinions when the security of the country is at stake." That is good oratory. The chamber supported him by 354 votes against 210 which may not exactly rule out a possible second opinion but wa good enough. Probably fewer would have opposed him had they not been confident that he had ample support in any case and it was therefore perfectly safe for them to make the gesture of opposition their constituents expected of them for the glory of the party. Probably none would have voted nay had there really been any question of the immediate safety of France. The French people most emphatically do not want war, but it is very easily stampeded by the gibbering ghosts of past wars and the fear of attack. However, in this France is probably doing well, in fact with material expansion in view, that of personnel had to be tackled.

But at no moment during this changing epoch has the prestige or popularity of the monarchy weakened; rather, it has become stronger as a social influence owing to the tact with which the King and his family have evolved a technique of Royal leadership and service. Characteristically he has asked that on this Jubilee occasion undue expenditure should be avoided, but that reasonable additions should be made to the relief of the needy.—Boston Christian Science Monitor.

The Brockville Recorder shudders to think of the financial condition Hydro would now be in had not the Drury Government refused to sanction Hydro's ambitious scheme for a network of radial railways. Faced with the problem of what to do with surplus power Sir Adam Beck proposed to find a market in that way, but in a few years he was faced with another problem, viz., where to find sufficient power to meet increasing demands. Owing to a four-year slump in business there is again a surplus of power, but in a few years it will be again overtaken by the demand. Many worries would be avoided if we all exercised the gift of confidence.

So long as the Graf Zeppelin continues to sail the air there will remain a doubt about the impracticability of dirigibles. An airship which has made nearly 70 trips across the South Atlantic, seven over the north of that ocean, once over the Pacific and across the Arctic, is a challenge to air-minded inventors and designers. What Germany has done, shall Britain and the United States fail to do?—Hamilton Spectator.

But, though Washington's rights may not be questioned, Washington wisdom may be. Subversive or not, Mr. Strachey's political and economic opinions are no secret. They were written in a book some time ago. If Mr. Strachey is too dangerous to leave in the United States now, he was too dangerous to let in last December. Not its exercise of an undoubted right but its belated and wabbling surrender to Hearst clamor is what makes the Government of the United States look silly in the Strachey affair.—Toronto Globe.

Germany looks at her ring of potential enemies and feels the need of weapons. Russia looks at Japan in Manchuria and feels a similar need. Japan looks at powerful Russia, eyes the United States fleet and speeds up her armament preparations. The United States, with a nervous glance at Japan, builds up her fleet. And so it goes; the upshot being that there is no more expensive emotion in all the world today than this same fear.—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

The Path of Peace

By James W. Barton, M.D.

ACQUIRING MENTAL HEALTH

"Fear is the child of ignorance and the greatest barrier to obtaining happiness. Worry is really fear in a chronic form and fills the days of many unfortunate souls with forebodings and their nights with unrest. As we learn more of the laws of Nature and direct our lives in accordance with them, the rough places become smooth and we learn to combat or put up a successful fight against fear and worry."

"Selfishness is the next barrier to mental health. To acquire unselfishness we must take an eager and kindly interest in other people. I have never encountered a lover of men, nor one with a real sense of humor in a mental hospital or clinic."

I am quoting Dr. G. B. Lake, editor of Clinical Medicine and Surgery, on Psychic Hygiene or mental health as it might be called.

No man or woman can be wholly sound mentally who is not engaged in some form of useful work. The man or woman who is "killing time" is murdering most of life's hope for happiness.

The more we know about the lives and activities of our fellow men, the less will we be looking inward upon ourselves. We learn to see the other person's viewpoint, and that makes us more "understanding" and less selfish. It is this understanding of the viewpoint, the rights and desires of others that makes the playing of team games so helpful to growing children. Thus we find that those who have played the games of childhood and youth are seldom found in our mental hospitals. They have learned to give and take; that is give to the other that to which the other is entitled, and take from others that to which they themselves are entitled.

Dr. Lake says further: "Most mental ill-health begins with ignorance, stupidity or selfishness on the part of parents. Parents forget that children are human souls with individualities and characters of their own which must be developed; not jugs into which we are to pour the same muddy brew of misinformation, superstition, prejudice and ill will which has filled our days, at best with boredom; and, at worst, with despair."

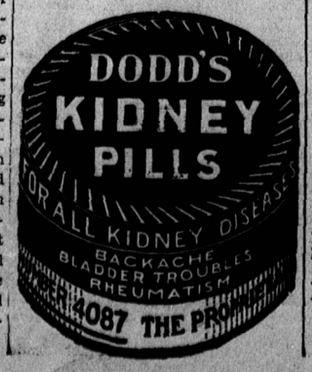
In adults the chief factors in causing ill health are: ignorance, fear, self-pity and other forms of selfishness, idleness and superstition, and overestimating the importance of trivial matters.

Under the new conditions, with everybody seemingly desperately anxious to be graded and controlled, Government has become a vast clearing house for all the ills, follies, hopes and ambitions of society. Rightly or wrongly, paternalism is the order of the day, a form of collectivism that our forefathers never dreamed of, and with it has come a revolution in the character of Government, and additions to the task of Government, for which Government is not equipped.—Ottawa Journal.

The intelligence test is one of the great features of modern life. Sometimes, though, one wishes that those who use it could use a little more intelligence in propounding their questions. A psychiatrist "tested" a Buffalo boy recently. He asked him to tell the similarity between a snake, a cow and a sparrow; the boy replied that none of them could talk. Then he asked the boy what he should do when he found he was going to be late for school; the boy said, "Think up an excuse." Now the funny part about it is that from the psychiatrist's viewpoint both of these answers were wrong—although any ordinary mortal would find them pretty sensible answers to rather peculiar questions. Tests which give the subject zeros for answers as intelligent as these cannot, properly, be called intelligence tests at all.—Ex.

A writer in the Manchester Guardian considers the charge—if it be a charge—made against Victorian writers. Probably the criticism is well-founded as to the too vehement expression of feelings about which many kindhearted people are shy. The Victorian fashion of fainting on slight provocation has been held up to ridicule. The horror of death was aggravated by the studied gloom of funerals and the ostentatious wearing of mourning. But sentiment, when not so exaggerated or made into a pose, is simply the expression of goodness of heart, which is just as essential to normal humanity as soundness of mind.

The public man who receives a threatening letter would be well advised to give it to the police but not to the press. The sender, be he fool, knave or crank, is going to be disappointed if he does not see something about it in the papers. To him it is an acknowledgment of receipt. Without it he could not be sure the letter had reached its objective.



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.

HOG PRICES

Sir,—In the Guardian of Saturday the 16th there appears a lengthy and labored epistle from the Secretary of the Livestock Marketing Board, in reply to a few comments of mine in a previous issue, and in which I said, "If former prices and conditions could be restored, the producer might think himself fortunate indeed," substantiating the statement by quoting prices from the writer's own transactions.

This brief and self evident proposition which is a matter of common knowledge, has not been refuted by the column or two of rejoinder, which contains in addition, much verbiage, not applicable to this writer or his subject.

My contention, in brief, is this, that the free competitive system of buying then followed, necessarily made for higher prices to the producer, in favorable contrast to the present situation, where prices are controlled absolutely by the packer's combine and further, that in bringing about this latter condition, the Livestock Marketing Board, whether intentionally or not, materially assisted. Conducting an incessant campaign against the marketing of dressed hogs, which were the source of supply for the small operator and packer, the latter were forced out of business as their supply fell off. With all competition thus removed, the way was clear for a packers' combine which dominates the whole industry, fixes prices, restricts buyers to a very few in number, and leaves the farmer today "the prey of the speculator" as he never was before. The place of the Livestock Marketing Board in this set up is, simply that of an agency taking delivery of livestock, and relieving the packer of what he would otherwise have to do for himself. Then turning them over to him, taking his price, and returning it, less expenses and commission charges, to the producer, the man below, the beast of burden, who takes what is handed to him, and is usually too dumb to ask any questions. Our esteemed Secretary has evidently become an admirer of Big Business, and affects to sneer at the small packer, who erstwhile played such an important part in our business life. After the manner of his kind, our Caesar too has grown large! A characteristic part of his effusion is a harrowing description of former marketing conditions in Charlottetown, "when strings of teams extended for blocks away, with patient men and shivering horses waiting for hours and buyers holding back to make a strike. If the writer of this description was a humorist of the burlesque type, such a grossly perverted description as this might pass; but is much out of place where accuracy of statement is required, and throws discredit on all his statements by its exaggeration. The writer for years sold dressed hogs on that market and never once met with anything of the kind.

But elsewhere I have seen and experienced something even worse, and that in recent years. A string of teams at a railway station, for hours out under a cold, drenching rain; men and horses soaked and shivering, in the act of delivering livestock at a set time and place. The owner of each lot waiting several weeks for his returns; not knowing where his product went, or who bought it, or at what price, or what were the expenses of shipment and handling charges. Enough for him that at last he should get his little cheque and be thankful! Even though he realizes that "in the scheme of things" he has now shrunk so small that to compare him to a little cog in the wheel, would be to enlarge his importance.

Every system has its defects. The great advantage of this one is that even in a time of great financial distress, it has provided comfortable places, for some of those, whose zeal for the farmers' interests can be explained by that fact.

I am, Sir, etc.,

PRODUCER.

The Poets' Corner

PRAYER BY THE FOUNDER OF "TOC H."

Father, take Thou this hour into Thy hands,
For Thy Name's sake.
Pour down Thy power on our bewintered lands
Where brave hearts break.
Men that are men go mourning, and confess
No resurrection into righteousness.

Prince of True Peace, re-crucified in wars,
Fierce are men's fears,
Summon the saints whose souls are lit like stars,
Take Thou their tears:
Teach the new world the new world-neighbour needs;
Dethrone despair, transmute good dreams to deeds.

—Rev. P. T. B. Clayton.

DOUBLE FUNERAL SERVICE

(C. P. By Guardian's Special Wire)

CLYDE RIVER, N. S., March 22.—A double funeral was held at Roseway today for Mr. and Mrs. Thomas MacKenney, who died within a few hours of each other on the night of March 19th. Mr. MacKenney, 80, was a victim of paralysis, while his wife, 75, died from pneumonia. They had been married 50 years. Mrs. William Bugnay of Dorchester, Mass., is a daughter.

Western Opinion On Subsidy Readjustment

(Vancouver Province)

The royal commission which has been investigating the claims of the Maritime Provinces to better treatment from the Dminion has recommended that the annual subsidies paid the three Maritime Provinces be substantially increased. It has urged that Nova Scotia get $1,300,000 more a year, that New Brunswick get $900,000 more and that Prince Edward Island get $275,000 more.

This royal commission is a supplementary one. It will be remembered that about eight years ago the Duncan Commission made a report on Maritime claims and suggested, among other things, that the subsidies be increased. The Duncan Commission did not attempt to assign the additional sums that should be paid. It did, however, recommend that, pending a final decision, annual increases should be made as follows: To Nova Scotia, $875,000; to New Brunswick, $600,000, and to Prince Edward Island, $125,000. These interim increases have been paid since 1927. So the actual increases to the Maritime Provinces, if the report of the latest royal commission is adopted, will not really be as large as they seem at first.

With the new addition, however, Nova Scotia will be receiving a per capita grant of $3.78 from the Dominion, New Brunswick $3.88, and Prince Edward Island $7.55. These figures make the grant of $1.25 per capita, which British Columbia receives, look pretty small, and even the $750,000 extra, which is regarded as an interim payment, pending the investigation of our own better terms demand, will only bring the per capita figure up a trifle over $1.00.

The British Columbia argument is very much the same as the one which has prevailed in the case of the Maritimes—that the benefits of Confederation have gone largely to the central provinces while the disabilities have gone to the provinces on the fringes, and that the balance ought to be adjusted.

Judges And Promotion

(Toronto Star)

Bench and Bar, a periodical devoted to the interests of the legal profession, has been discussing the promotion of Judges, and has thrown upon this important subject a great deal of new light. The general public is not well informed as to the methods of advancing Judges to the higher courts, and has been under the impression that all members of the judiciary are eager for the higher positions. However, as Bench and Bar points out, this is not always the case. "Many members of the judiciary," it claims, "do not desire promotion from the court in which they now serve. To some Judges there is a great attraction in the actual contact of the trial court, or the local Judge, with the lives of the people whom he serves. This may be lost in Appellate Court, where tedious counsel and dry-as-dust records of things done and said intervene between the court and actuality."

The impression has been that the larger salaries in higher courts would make strong appeal. But, again, this is not always the case. As Bench and Bar puts it: "Another reason discouraging the desire for promotion is the small difference in salary. The remuneration of Judges of the County and District Courts is often supplemented by remuneration received for other duties of judicial and quasi-judicial character which approximate, in the aggerate, the remuneration of Superior Court Judges, and the difference is inadequate to induce Judges to leave the familiar environment of the County or District Courts for the wider authority of the Superior Courts."

Then, in the Supreme ourt of Canada there is the necessity for bilingualism, in which few Judges are sufficiently proficient, "and a laborious course of study must be undertaken, after appointment, if the Provincial Judge is to be of real value in the Supreme Court." The view expressed is that no Judge who is not already bilingual should be appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada after the age of 50 years. In view of this, even the most capable Judges might well hesitate to accept promotion to the Supreme Court.

On the general subject, of promotion Bench and Bar is convinced this should not be only or chiefly on the basis of seniority in appointment or political service previously renderd. "Sound scholarship in the law, joined with sound judgment in apprehending facts and relating them to legal principals; these are the qualities that deserve and should secure promotion."

Looking over the Canadian judiciary generally, there is ample evidence that, in the main, this method of promotion has been followed; with the consequence that pocedure in Canadian courts has won the admiration of jurists in other lands, who also see in it strong resemblance to the administraion of justice in Great Britain.

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To the Citizens of Prince Edward Island

It is my privilege to bring to your attention the "King George V. Silver Jubilee Cancer Fund for Canada" inaugurated a few weeks ago by His Excellency The Governor General.

I believe the people of this Province and throughout Canada will welcome the opportunity afforded by this Campaign of giving expression to that deep-seated feeling of love, loyalty and devotion which we hold for our Beloved Sovereign King George and Her Gracious Majesty Queen Mary.

There is no more practical way of offering our thanks to Almighty God for twenty-five years reign of His Majesty the King than by sharing in the great work of bringing relief and assistance to those suffering from the dread disease of Cancer.

Any individual, or any family, subscribing one dollar or upwards to the Fund, will receive from Lady Bessborough a personal acknowledgement on a card bearing portraits of Their Majesties the King and Queen.

All letters containing subscriptions to the Fund should be addressed to Lady Bessborough, Ottawa, and the envelope should be marked "Cancer Fund"; cheques should be made payable to Lady Bessborough; in every case the name and address of the donor should be carefully stated.

Every dollar given to the King George V. Silver Jubilee Cancer Fund for Canada will be spent on Cancer control in Canada; no costs in connection with the inauguration of the Fund will be charged against the contributions made to it.

I ask you to kindly send your contributions direct to Ottawa without delay.

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Lieutenant Governor.

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