THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1935.

"PETERED OUT"

"The debate on the reply to the Speech from the Throne," says our local contemporary, "has petered out." Which being interpreted means that Liberal ammunition petered out, and the debate went by default to the Government. Mr. Mackenzie King, the only Liberal spokesmen, dared not move an Opposition amendment, as is customary; and his followers found it the better part of wisdom to look wise and say nothing.

The Sydney Post-Record (Independent) remarks in this connection that the proposals Premier Bennett has brought forward suggest the policy a progressive Opposition should have followed if it was not asleep on the job. It was something new under the sun to see such far-reaching reforms brought down by the Government of the day, for the rounding out of its record before appealing to the constituencies. These reforms have received the approval of the leaders of both the independent groups in the House. Mr. King's acquiescence is not given with similar cordiality, but it is sufficiently definite to show that the Opposition Leader realizes how popular these proposals are with the great majority of the Canadian people. If he is well advised he will support this great humanitarian legislation wholeheartedly, placing sound principle above doubtful strategy, forgetting the score he has lost in the political game, and remembering only that the first duty of real statesmanship is service to the country.

THE BURNS CONCERT

A specially attractive program has been arranged this year for the Burns anniversary concert, which takes place this evening in Prince of Wales College Hall. In addition to a fine array of local talent in songs, dancing and instrumental music, there is to be an address on Burns by the Rev. D. M. Sinclair, as well as a selection of Gaelic songs by Mr. J. A. Campbell. The concert, which is under the capable direction of Mrs. Frances Holl Trainor, is being sponsored, as usual, by the Caledonian Club and the proceeds, as in other years, will go to charitable causes. The entertainment promises to be a most enjoyable one. It will be the part of prudence to purchase tickets early, as there is bound to be a large and enthusiastic attendance.

MILK CONTROL ACTS

In view of recent suggestions locally for control measures affecting the milk industry, it is interesting to note, on the authority of the Economic Annalist, a publication issued by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, that such control measures are now operative in five of the nine provinces in Canada. Manitoba was the first province to have such regulation, an act being passed in 1932 to bring the milk supply of Winnipeg under the Public Utilities Commission. In Alberta, similar legislation went into effect in August, 1933, controlling milk in Calgary and Edmonton. A separate body to regulate milk in Quebec was set up in April 1933, and in the winter of 1933-34 a milk commission was appointed to supervise the distribution of milk throughout the whole province. A milk control act was passed in the 1933-34 legislative session of Ontario. A separate body, having jurisdiction over the whole province, was appointed to supervise the act. Legislation for milk control in Saskatchewan was also provided at the 1933-34 session of the legislature of that province.

The regulation of milk supplies in Saskatchewan, to which special reference is made in the Economic Annalist, comes under what is known as the Local Government Board Act. The Act was extended to include this legislation as a result of the recommendations made by the Saskatchewan Milk Enquiry Commission, 1933. The Act gives the Local Government Board jurisdiction upon its own initiative or upon complaint in writing, to enquire into any matter relating to the production, supply, distribution or sale of milk. After such enquiry if the board sees fit it may make such regulations or orders as it deems necessary.

The Board may prescribe the area in which regulations shall have effect and may require all persons who distribute, process, or sell milk in any such area to be authorized to do so. It may classify milk producers, processors and distributors and may establish from time to time temporary schedules of prices at which milk shall be supplied by the respective classes. It may also require distributors to keep adequate records and to report their operations to the Board when asked. To offset the cost of administration of the regulation of milk supplies the Board may assess producers and distributors in any prescribed area for such sums as may be necessary. The Board also has the powers of inspection and examination, and it may refuse, cancel or suspend licenses. Every person who violates any regulations of the board is liable to a fine not exceeding $100 per day for each day during which the offence continues.

A LIFE-LONG SUPPORTER

"Forward," the official paper of the Sons of Temperance of Nova Scotia, and the Maritime Grand Division, contains the following New Year's greetings from Right Hon. R. B. Bennett:

"I take great pleasure in extending to "Forward" and to the Sons of Temperance my very best wishes for a Happy New Year.

"It is my belief that 1935 will bring increased happiness and well-being to Canada, a belief based not on vain and idle hope but on the evidence that lies to hand of improving conditions. But we do well to remind ourselves that any progress which a nation may achieve involves an increase in moral as well as in material strength. The realization of the objectives of the Sons of Temperance cannot but lead to such an increase in moral and spiritual strength, and as one who has been a life-long believer in your aims and ideals I wish you every success in the New Year."

EDITORIAL NOTES

With pegged prices potatoes should be worth to the farmer at least double their present value.

Citizens should see that their footpaths are shovelled forthwith. If everybody kept his own footpath clean there would be little risk of accidents.

Counsel at the Maritime Commission will probably take ten days to submit their arguments; thereafter the Commissioners may devote three weeks to the preparation of their report.

Ottawa correspondents are unanimous in declaring disappointment of Liberal rank-and-file at the collapse of the debate on the Address and the lack of fight in Mr. Mackenzie King's speech. On his behalf it is claimed he is reserving his fireworks for a silent radio audience.

On the anniversary of Robert Burns it is well to recall that away back in 1786 he was a reformer after Mr. Bennett's own heart:

Then let us pray that come it may—
As come it will for a' that—
That sense and worth, o'er a' the earth,
Shall bear the gree, an' a' that;
For a' that, an' a' that,
It's comin' yet for a' that.
That man to man, the world o'er
Shall brithers be for a' that!

Exports of eggs during December showed a large increase over December 1933. The reported total was 386,040 dozen valued at $97,846 compared with 99,306 at $23,324. The United Kingdom was the largest purchaser with 364,600 dozen. Newfoundland took 18,998 dozen. Butter, cheese, condensed milk, milk powder, evaporated milk showed decreases. The imports of cheese amounted to 72,008 lb. valued at $16,396 in December compared with 64,554 at $19,828. The main supplying countries were the United States, Italy and France. Butter imports also showed an increase over 1933, reported at 12,267 lb. at $2,024. Condensed and powdered milk both showed increases.

Our contemporary misleadingly states, in a front-page heading, that the main estimates brought down in Parliament on Wednesday, "total about a million dollars less than last year." The fact is that they total nearly a million dollars more than last year's main estimates, and about a million dollars less than both the main and supplementary estimates of last year; which means that, as a result of sound governmental economy and increasing revenues reflecting Canada's business recovery, more money is being voted for public services than was available in 1934.

In a letter from the General Managers office of the Bank of Nova Scotia a comparison is made of the state of employment in Canada and the United States between November 1933 and November 1934. From this it appears that conditions in the United States during November, 1934, were only very little better than during November, 1933. The indices of employment in manufactures and of industrial production showed a fractional improvement over this period and the index of revenue carloadings remained unchanged. In Canada, however, the comparison is more favourable. In November, each index was substantially higher than in the corresponding month of the previous year; the expansion varied from 6 1-2 per cent. in the case of revenue carloadings to 15 1-2 per cent in the case of industrial production.

Notes By The Way

The apprehension of the English apple grower can be understood as he is pressed on every side by various forms of competition. He has been very fair to Canada in not insisting on a quota but it is clear enough that Canada, in common with New Zealand and Australia, must give the English producer equitable treatment if the market is to be kept open for them.—Country Life in B.C.

The terms that used to appear on auction sale bills giving so many months' credit on approved joint notes, and a percentage off for cash, are apparently a thing of the past. A more abbreviated form is now in common use and the most of the sales are usually "Terms cash." Numbers of the posters also bear the admonition that nothing is to be taken from the premises "until satisfactorily settled for." It would appear that the farmer has gone on the cash and carry basis also. Can it be that the credit system is about to go from all phases of activity? A few years ago everyone was urged to buy on easy terms. It would seem that the terms were so easy that everyone bought. The paying days are here. They have struck every walk of life, and the sales are apparently just another evidence of the cash basis being established.—Acton Free Press.

Hitler's speech included the statement that Germany has no more territorial claims to make of France. This may be taken as implying that the return of the German colonies will be dropped, since France holds Cameroon, and if Germany claims one she will surely claim all. Does it mean that Germany will claim territory from others: the Polish corridor for example or the city of Danzig? However, Hitler's speech was probably emotional. What else can justify the term "fifteen years of injustice" to the Saar situation, when only by granting to France control of that legion's coal could she be recompensed for the wanton destruction of the mines by Germans? In the matter of reparations Germany got off lightly and the Saar was held on reparations account.

I believe that the world could be divided into two classes, and that would just about take in everybody. I would divide it into the lifters and the leaners! The lifters are the workers, the dreamers, the savers, and the encouragers. The leaners are the shiftless, the wasters, the borrowers and the complainers. Perhaps there are streaks of each in all, so that the task of life is for each of us to get as far as possible from the leaner type. Not until we do become independent and self-reliant, do we gain our real self-respect. When we lean, we acknowledge our own weakness and lack of courage. Do we ever hear of the hardworking, the thrifty, the prudent and painstaking complaining of their lot? Rarely. Even in misfortune they are usually brave and lift themselves back after a fall—hardly before anyone is aware that they have encountered ill luck.—Ex.

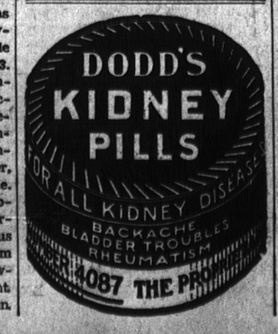
At no time since the Peace of Versailles was signed has the prestige of the League stood so high. Nor has the world entered the threshold of any year since the guns ceased firing on November 11, 1918, with fewer war clouds on the horizon. There is a positive sentiment in favor of peace. There is a feeling abroad for co-operation. We are one step further along the road towards "the parliament of war, the federation of the world" of which Tennyson sang in "Locksley Hall."—London Free Press.

Today, just as much as any time in the past, the North-West Frontier of India is not a terrain where risks can be taken. In fact, with the constitutional innovations that may be expected after the passage of the new Government of India Act and in order to give the Constitution the fairest chance of working peacefully, there is the greater necessity that the military forces guarding India should be as efficient in their training and up-to-date in their equipment as at any period in their history.

I sometimes wonder if the desire to "get on" is as widespread as it is supposed to be. Not all progress is the result of striving for mere gain. If you think it is, how will you explain such men as Lister, Newton, Rembrandt, Beethoven, Faraday and Lincoln, not to speak of your family doctor, the pastor of your church, or the teachers of your children? If one looks carefully about him at the humble lives of those who do the work of the world, he is likely to be astonished at how many of them find their greatest satisfaction in the knowledge of a job well done. I remember being once so dead to shame as to use an alligator wrench on a nickel-plated cap screw; and how disgusted with me a mechanic was. It was nothing to him, financially. The cap screw belonged to me. But he just couldn't bear to see its polished surface marred. I think that the spirit of good workmanship is much commoner than the cynics would have us believe.—Valve World.

Gerardo Machado, perhaps the best-hated man on earth, becomes briefly and dimly visible. A German tramp steamer has been conveying him from Santo Demingo to Hamburg. It has required 18 days to cross the Atlantic, and the man who once ruled Cuba with a despotic ruthlessness seldom paralleled was wretchedly seasick every hour of 432 . . . Does Machado ever wonder why he was such a fool? Does he realize that his greed for power drove him to insane lengths? Does he perhaps think at times of the friends who upheld him? They are dead—all dead except those who are, like imself, hopeless exiles. The ruthless tyrant has become a pitiful figure of despair. Those whom he wronged most cruelly could scarcely wish for him a worse punishment.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Property is the fruit of labor; property is desirable; is a positive good in the world. That some should be rich shows that others may become rich, and hence is an encouragement to industry and enterprise. Let not him who is houseless pull down the house of another, but let him work diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built.—Abraham Lincoln.



That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE CAUSE OF PAIN IN ANGINA PECTORIS

As so many individuals have died from angina pectoris while engaged in such a "safe" exercise as golf, it might be well for us to ask why this small amount of work or exercise should cause the severe pain under the breast bone that is known as angina pectoris.

As a matter of fact, any sudden emotional disturbance, particularly anger, can bring on the same pain even if the individual is sitting or lying down.

And an attack of angina pectoris often follows the eating of a heavy meal. There has been some controversy recently as to whether or not a lack of oxygen in the blood causes the pain in angina pectoris. However it has been learned that in testing individuals for the air service, when the artificial process is used which renders the blood deficient in oxygen(as would occur at great heights), there is the same picture on the electrocardiogram as is found with angina pectoris. As further proof that lack of oxygen causes the pain in angina pectoris is that attacks of angina pectoris can be brought on in those who are subject to them by having them breathe air that is deficient in oxygen.

Thus a deficiency of oxygen in the heart muscle has been shown to be the cause of the pain in angina pectoris.

The little blood vessel that supplies the heart muscle itself with blood is about the size of a goose quill and anything that narrows this vessel or partially blocks it will cause less blood to go to the heart muscle and pain results.

The main cause that leads to a narrowing of this blood vessel and thus to a lessening of the amount of oxygen to the heart muscle is a hardening or thickening of the muscular or elastic walls of the artery; hardening of the arteries as it is called.

Emotion may cause a spasm in this blood vessel and thus cut down the blood supply with its oxygen, and also cause pain.

Any effort—exercise or work—uses up oxygen and thus effort can bring on the attack.

"It is evident, therefore, that coming to a complete standstill on the street is the most suitable treatment in the event of an attack of angina pectoris, since such action, by not using up any oxygen gives the heart a chance to accustom itself to the deficiency in oxygen."

The Poets' Corner

MOON COMPASSES

I stole forth dimly in the dripping pause
Between two downpours to see what there was,
And a masked moon had spread down compass rays
To a cone mountain in the midnight haze,
As if the final estimate were hers,
And as it measured in her calipers,
The mountain stood exalted in its place.
So love will take between the hands a face.

—Robert Frost in the Yale Review.

Was Burns The Sweetest Singer?

It would not be healthy if all the speeches during the Burns Festival were in terms of uniform eulogy, although it might be assumed that by this time of day the poet's lapses in his art should have been past the need of being mentioned. An article by a Scottish critic, however, is in rather a different category. It is chiefly an expression of individual taste; and for the more sweeping part of it—the assertion that Burns was not the sweetest singer in Scottish literature—the critic in question might with profit ponder over the fact that "sweetest" is by no means synonymous with "best." He cites as sweeter songs than any that Burns wrote four lyrics:—"The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond," "Helen of Kirkconnell Lea," Lady Nairne's "Land o' the Leal," and Hogg's "Skylark." Personally, I demur to "Loch Lomond" and "The Skylark." The former, considered apart from the air to which it is sung, is of excellent but average merit, and I fear the tune has been the making of the song; "The Skylark" is a gallop and the language artificial, and the poem, to me, cannot be compared to other lyrics by its author, like his version of "My love she's but a lassie yet," "When the kye come hame," and "Donald Macgillivray." "The Land o' the Leal" is one of the supreme masterpieces of song, so near perfection that when it first appeared anonymously it was accepted as Burns's last farewell to his wife, and the "John" was altered to "Jean" to correspond with the assumption. As for "Fair Helen," I wonder if by the irony of circumstances the critic had in his mind when he spoke Burns's version of that beautiful and pathetic dirge, or if he was basing his estimate on the second part of Scott's record. Burns thought the original version "silly to contemptibility" and his own "not much better," but what this original version was cannot be reliably stated, unless it was a ribald song, the existence of which is suspected, though not known. Burns's song is very slightly altered from a lyric published in 1776 (the date of Burns's was 1788), and Scott's record is practically that of 1776 again. This latter is on the whole superior to Burns's—

O Helen fair, beyond compare!
I'll mak a garland o' thy hair,
Shall bind my heart for ever mair,
Until the day I dee!

Burns's Choice

Had the critic put his proposition to the poet himself, I am sure Burns would have asserted. But when they come to catalogue the best Scottish songs, then would, I am equally sure, have been a mighty difference of opinion. Of the critic's four favourites, Burns probably knew only one, "Fair Helen." Burns's own preferences are on record in his writings, and to those who have not grasped the essential character of all song, they will seem an astonishing selection. Yet I am convinced that Burns's test of lyric genius was fundamentally sound.

He gave no undue preference to sentimentality, but judged on a broader basis including other qualities essential to the production of quality as apart from mere sweetnes. "O gin my love"—a fragrant fragment—is the only one of his choice that could be termed "sweet"—

O gin my love were yon red rose,
That grows upon the castle wa',
And I mysel' a drap o' dew,
Into her bonnie breast to fa'.

The other four are overflowing with humour, judiciously blended with the wisdom of the world or of philosophers, emphasising the gaiety of life and ignoring its sorrows. Every one of the five is perfectly adapted to achieve the purposes for which it was written, from which I conclude that Burns's test of lyric excellence had the utilitarian quality fully developed. What more delicate expression of passion could be imagined than "O gin my love"? Is there any finer song than "Tullochgorum," any song that more happily radiates cheerfulness and the pleasures of social intercourse? For a sparkling tavern song "Andro and his cutty gun" is difficult to match—

Blythe, blythe, and merry was she,
Blythe was she but and ben,
And weel she lo'ed a Hawick gill,
And leuch to see a tappit hen—

(a Hawick gill being a double gill and a tappit hen a quart stoup.) I cannot recall a more delicious example of feminine afterthought than the last two lines of "Saw ye Johnnie"—

O fee him, father, fee him, quo' she,
Fee him, father, fee him;
He'll haud the pleugh, thresh in the barn,
And crack wi' me at e'en, quo' she,
And crack wi' me at e'en.

Burns himself can stand security for "There's nae luck." The two lines,

And will I see his face again,
And will I hear him speak?

as well as the two preceding ones, are unequalled almost by anything I ever heard or read; and the lines,

The present moment is our ain,
The neist we never saw,

are worthy of the first poet.

It is a critical mistake to make pathos the criterion of great poetry. Sweetness is not the end or the spirit of song. "Scots Wha Hae" is every whit as fine as "The Land o' the Leal." "Willie Brewed" has nothing to fear in comparison with "Mary Morison," and "Blue Bonnets over the Border" deserves our admiration equally with "To Mary in Heaven." The genius of song is not bounded by a single subject, or compassed about by any single attitude of mind. By each song's art (or artlessness), by its sincerity, and by its fulfilment of the purpose for which it was written, each song must be judged. Were I asked to choose what I considered the supremest example of Scottish song, I should unhesitatingly quote these four lines, though they break off in the middle of a stanza and a sentence:—

When o'er the hill the e'ening star
Tells buchtin' time is near, my jo,
And owsen frae the furrow'd field
Return sae dowf and weary, O . . .

That has nothing to do with love, or conviviality, or grief, or any of the things usually associated with the idea of song, but it is perfection without flaw.

The Selkirk Settlers

Excerpts from the Earl of Selkirk's own account of the Settlement formed at Belfast, Prince Edward Island, in 1803; its Difficulties, Progress and Final Success.

II

After our first meeting, I had to occupy myself in examining the lands, and laying them out in small lots for the settlers. In this business I soon began to feel the inconvenience of not having arrived at the time I had intended. The plans which had formerly been made of the land, were too inaccurate to be of much use; a new survey could not be completed sufficiently soon; but some measurements were indispensable; and even this little took up time that could ill be spared. From this cause, combined with some of those errors from a first experiment is rarely exempt, it happened that three or four weeks elapsed before the settlers could have their individual allotments pointed out to them; and during all this time they were under the necessity of remaining in their first encampment.

These hardy people thought little of the inconvenience they felt from the slightness of the shelter they had put up for themselves; but in other respects the delay was of very pernicious tendency. There are few parts of America where there are not people ready to practise on the ignorance of new-comers, and by representations, true or false, to entice them to fix on some place where the officious adviser has an interest to promote. Some attempts of this kind were made, and, though not ultimately successful, gave much trouble. The confidence of the settlers seemed to be shaken; and from their absolute ignorance of the country, argument had no effect in removing any unreasonable fancy. The terms upon which lands were offered to them were scarcely equivalent to one-half of the current rate of the island; yet they acceded to them with much hesitation, and a long time elapsed before they became sensible of the uncommon degree of favor they had experienced.

At one period, indeed, there seemed to be a probability of the settlement breaking up entirely. As long as the people remained together in their encampment, they partook in some degree of the versatility of a mob. It was not till they had dispersed to their separate lots, till by working upon them they had begun to form a local attachment, and to view their property with a sort of paternal fondness, that I could reckon the settlement as fairly begun.

In this interval an alarming contagious fever broke out, and gave me no small degree of anxiety, by its progress among the settlers. My apprehensions, however, were relieved by the presence and assistance of a medical gentleman, whom I was fortunate enough to have as my companion, and whose professional skill was equalled only by his amiable and humane attention to every class of patients. Through his assiduous and unremitted exertions, the disease was soon alleviated; and few fatal cases occurred. There were not many of the settlers, however, that escaped the contagion altogether: it was difficult to intercept it among people living in such close vicinity, and in a continual intercourse, which no means could be found for preventing. This fever had been occasioned by some accidental importation and certainly not by the climate, which is remarkably healthy. The disease was nearly eradicated, when the people began to disperse to their separate lots, upon which they had all begun to work before the middle of September.

I could not but regret the time which had been lost; but I had satisfaction in reflecting, that the settlers had begun the cultivation of their farms, with their little capitals unimpaired. The principal expense they had to incur was for provisions to support them during the winter and ensuing season; besides which, all the more opulent purchased milch cows, and some other cattle.

(To be continued)

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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.

OPEN LETTER TO MR. JUSTICE ARSENAULT FROM R. H. STERNS

Beach Grove Hotel,
January 22, 1935

Mr. Justice A. E. Arsenault,
78 School Street,
Charlottetown.

My Dear Judge Arsenault:—

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st inst. I have also read a copy of the same.

You have (perhaps intentionally) allowed me very little time., I now with to advise that just as soon as I am able to get in touch with parties in some Upper Canadian and American cities, you will be accommodated.

I most heartily agree with you that it is time we had a "show down" and thus bring to an end a controversy which should be absolutely unnecessary, and to say the least is anything but pleasant.

Not interfering in your affairs unnecessarily Sir, I may tell you that I consider that you were ill-advised, to become interested financially or otherwise in any hotel, so long as you held office, or had anything whatever to do with the Tourist Association. Some of us are of course of the opinion that we are like Caesar's wife "above reproach" and therefore can get away with most anything.

It is quite true that I received absolutely no support at either of the two meetings which I attended, and I may here tell you that I expected none, and therefore was not in the least disappointed, as I was perfectly well aware that these meetings were made up of persons who would not be interested in anything that I might say.

Now as you seem anxious that the general public should know exactly what is going on, and therefore be in a position to judge for themselves, and in order to accommodate your own good self, I will here relate one incident among the many which came up at that first meeting and which you treated like you did the others "as quite a joke"; here it is:

Mr. McIntyre, the Commissioner of Public Works was instrumental in having the "Good Roads Convention" of 1929 held in Charlottetown. Arrangements were made with me the previous Fall by Mr. McIntyre to handle this Convention. I feel quite sure that up to this time the "Tourist Association" was entirely out of the picture. When this convention started, you, Mr. President were away but before it was over you returned. The weather was very bad and also the roads as it had rained heavily and constantly during the early part of the week, consequently the itinerary as planned could not be carried out. If you will remember on Thursday an automobile drive to Cavendish was arranged and a picnic was to take place there, but on account of weather conditions this arrangement had to be cancelled. I was then approached by Mr. McIntyre and requested to allow them the use of our dining rooms, kitchens and ballroom together without hotel staff, so as to enable them to entertain the delegates.

All the delegates and others interested were perfectly satisfied and happy, and were having a good time. They had a good tight roof over their heads, and had made up their minds to remain until after the storm had subsided. In the ballroom they were holding an important meeting when you, Mr. President, without consulting me or making known in any way what you intended doing made your way to this room, and mounting the platform told those present to get down to the station as quickly as possible that you had made arrangements with the Railway to have them all taken to Borden on Flat Cars. Think of it. Coming to Prince Edward Island to be present at a "Good Roads Convention" and have to be hauled away on "Flat Cars when it would only have been a matter of 24 hours at most after the weather cleared (and any person with common sense should know that it could not rain forever) when they could have driven all over the Island with perfect safety, and have gone away with a much more favorable impression of the Island in general.

Now is it any wonder that the part you played in this matter was resented by me, and that I took advantage of the first opportunity at my disposal to tell you of it?

You ignored me altogether, although I was the person directly interested, and was out of pocket in direct revenue to the extent of over $500.00 to say nothing of the large amount of perishable supplies which were left on my hands to become a total loss, as it was the end of our season, and we had only kept the hotel open so late in order to take care of this Convention. Is it therefore any wonder that I mentioned this matter at the meeting you referred to?

Now Sir, this is one of the many so called charges which you claim were refuted to the satisfaction of all present at said meeting. I believe candidly that you would have considered more than once before you would have taken the same notion had it been a hotel in which you or any of your friends were interested. The harm done the Island at this particular time will take years to rectify.

This matter I did not intend to mention in this letter, and certainly would not have done so had you not referred to the proceedings of that meeting yourself. But imagine what your feelings would have been towards me if things had been reversed and I was the direct means of taking out of your pocket eight or nine hundred dollars.

The other matters which were brought up at the first meeting I will not make mention of unless asked to do so at some future time, when it may be necessary. There was the McLean episode together with several others.

With reference to my letter of the 17th inst. and also my attendance at your association meeting, I may say that I had a visit from Mr. George McKinnon of the Highlands last summer, and he complained to me at that time that he had received no support whatever from the Tourist Association, as did also Captain Dicks of Dalvay. That was why I made mention of these two persons in my letter.

Wherever you had an opportunity to speak, you stressed the need of more Tourist accommodation, like Henry Thornton you seemed to become hotel obssessed. If then it was on your account that these gentlemen were induced to invest their money in expensive hotels, it would seem only fair that you should use whatever influence you possess with the Tourist Association to try at least to put some business their way.

Until the summer 1933 we had not registered one guest that we could trace to have come to us through the Tourist Association. I ask no favors, I expect none, but I am a great believer in fair play, and as I am interested in the welfare of Prince Edward Island to a sufficient extent to want to see it go ahead, I make this one more suggestion. Be a good salesman, offer your best.

Now Judge Arsenault, I want you to realize that this letter is written without any malice whatever, but it seems to be that we should understand each other better and know exactly where we fit.

And now wishing you, Mrs. Arsenault and family the very best for 1935, and trusting that you may have a good Tourist season, I remain,

I am, Sir, etc.,
R. H. STERNS.

To Save Venice

(Vancouver Province)

"Let it last forever," said Paul Sarpi, hero and patriot of Venice, and he said it of his beloved city, "throned on her hundred isles," and it has become a proverb there. But Venice, it seems, is in danger. The Milan correspondent of the London Times says that the beautiful palaces of the Grand Canal are in some cases threatened with collapse. There has been a commission of inquiry, and a report is in the hands of Mussolini, not the least of whose virtues as a despot has been a care for the preservation of the historic architecture of Italy.

It was Wordsworth, in his sonnet-lament for the extinction of the Venetian republic by Napleon, who wrote:

"She was a maiden city, bright and free;
No gulle seduced, no force could violate;
And when she took unto herself a mate
She must espouse the everlasting sea."

And it is the sea which has undermined the great palaces. Their foundations are in the water, and damp and salt have corroded wood and iron and stone, and "the high tide sweeps the sea into the cracks between the stones, and then sucks it out again."

Already there has been a certain amount of the needed restoration carried out, among the palaces famous in history and literature so preserved being the Palazzo dei Camerlenghi, and the Ca' D'Oro, with its marvellous facade of marble and gold. It is an expensive job—repairs to these foundations frequently necessitate the use of caissons to keep out the sea—and the report made to Mussolini suggests that if Venice is to be preserved, the state must assist.

The report to Mussolini recommends a scheme of public assistance, premiums for repairs, temporary exemptions from building taxation, abolition of the tax on building material, an attempt to keep Venetians in Venice. The measures necessary for the preservation of the city "which once did hold the gorgeous East in fee," the fabled city which was once a state and mistress of the seas, sound in this recitation very like a typical building program of the New Deal.