

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"Expensive" Is Right

"It is becoming the custom for automobile speeders to 'open her wide' on the MacIntyre highway. Some of these indiscreet drivers are having a gleeful time tearing along at anywhere between 60 and 70 miles per hour. There is a thrill in flirting with disaster but when some one comes to grief and transfers to a slow moving ambulance, thence to a wheel chair, perhaps to a hearse, the fun is expensive."—Patrol, June 25.

While the speeders are getting their "fun" on the MacIntyre speedway, our farmers and taxpayers generally are footing the bill. This piece of roadway, less than a mile long, cost nearly \$27,000. Half of this amount was paid under the Federal Government's unemployment scheme; the other half comes out of the pockets of the people of this Province. More work of the same extravagant nature is being done on the already well gravelled St. Peter's road without the approval or assistance of the Federal Government, and every farm in the Province is being mortgaged to pay for it. The speeders get their fun, the taxpayers foot the bill.

So Bennett Was Right!

The local Liberal organ, in its issue of yesterday, gives prominence on its editorial page to the following despatch from Ottawa, showing how, under the spineless trade policy of the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, the United States deliberately set itself to keep out Canadian farm products to the disadvantage of our farming community. No stronger argument could be adduced in favor of the change of policy introduced by the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett:

"OTTAWA, June 22—How the export trade from the farms of Canada to the United States has shrivelled in the past decade is shown in a comparative table issued by the Department of Trade and Commerce. The table shows that in the eleven months ending May 31 last, farm products to the value of only \$21,696,930 went to the United States from Canada whereas for the corresponding eleven months in 1921 the total was \$171,492,982.

"The table also gives the tremendous increases which have been made in the United States tariffs against these products in the past ten years. The table contains 43 commodities under the headings: animals, fruits, grains, grain products, meats, milk and milk products, seeds, vegetables and miscellaneous products. Of the 43 export classes 26 entered United States in 1921 free of duty, now all meet substantial tariffs.

"Live cattle for example went in free then and now the duty is 1-2 cents a pound under 700 lbs. and 3 cents a pound above that weight. Sheep went in free and now the tariff is \$3 a head. Wheat went in free in 1921 and United States bought in the eleven months of that year \$101,059,200 worth. Now the duty is 42 cents a bushel and Canada's exports to United States of this cereal during the past eleven months was \$6,540,424.

"Among the few increases in the past eleven months as compared with 1921 was barley. The duty on this grain was only increased in the decade from 15 cents to 20 cents a bushel and Canada exported \$230,382 in the last period and only \$420 in the 1921 period. On the other hand the export business in rye has almost been wiped out. In the past eleven months Canada only exported \$36 worth with the duty 15 cents whereas in the 1921 period when this cereal went in free the value was \$835,314.

"Another increase has been in the export of bran, shorts and middlings from \$1,506,310 in 1921 to \$2,710,026 this year. In 1921 the duty on this commodity was free if a wheat product but otherwise met a duty of 15 per cent, now the duty is 10 per cent all around."

What It Costs

The one-year moratorium on war debts and reparations proposed by President Hoover will reduce United States income approximately \$246,000,000 in the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Other war debt payments for the fiscal year are: France receives \$201,541,020; pays \$104,784,180. Britain receives \$180,698,520; pays \$159,927,480. Italy receives \$45,448,860; pays \$37,421,220. Other Allies receive \$59,311,800; pay \$17,364,780. Germany pays \$427,164,060.

Playing Politics

Last summer, Mr. Mackenzie King, in office, couldn't see unemployment in Canada at all. He wouldn't admit that unemployment existed; he held that, even if it did exist, it wasn't a problem for his Government, but for the provinces and the municipalities. Now, out of office, he's all the other way. What was a purely municipal problem last year, is a national problem this year; and Mr. King, the gentleman who didn't have a "five cent piece" for the provinces that happened to be Tory, now wants a non-partisan unemployment relief board and an immediate Government policy.

The present Government, as the Ottawa Journal points out, has applied a resolute vigor to the unemployment problem. It is not too much to say, indeed, that its energetic action saved the country from what threatened to become a serious situation. In the circumstances, and remembering the ostrich-like position taken by Mr. King when he had a chance to do something, his present solicitude for the workers is a striking example of the art of playing politics.

Rights of Pedestrians

Of great importance to motorists, as well as pedestrians, is the judgment of Mr. Justice Martineau, of the Superior Court in Montreal, in awarding a woman \$850 in an action taken against the driver of an automobile who ran her down at a street intersection. The plaintiff had left a street car and had started to cross the street when the defendant's car entered into the intersection. Afraid of being hit, the woman hesitated to continue from the middle of the road, stepping back, and then forward. She was knocked down and had a leg broken. The defendant, the judge pointed out, had seen the woman and should have stopped. He did not, so he is condemned to pay damages.

For Disarmament

In a message to the Toronto conference of the Women's International League of Peace and Freedom, Sir Robert Borden recently said:

"I have said before and I repeat that in future centuries the spirit that insists upon resort to war for the settlement of international disputes will be regarded as no higher than the instinct that animates the head hunters of Borneo."

Action will need to be taken in many directions to eliminate the menace of war. One supreme effort is to be made through the League of Nations next year, when the powers are to be called upon to take real steps toward disarmament.

Editorial Notes

The State of Georgia has substituted the electric chair for the gallows. Lynch mobs, comments the Vancouver Province drily, will continue to use the rope.

According to a popular novel, "gentlemen prefer blondes." An eminent entomologist is authority for the statement that mosquitoes have the same preference. "They will pass up a brunette nine times in ten when there is a blond in sight," adds the bugologist.

NOTES BY THE WAY

No matter how much education or even how much intelligence—or how much character—one may have if he hasn't poise he is without one of the vital parts of successful personality. Something is wrong with the arch because an important stone is missing. So many people of the best intentions, the finest character, are fluttry, uncertain, unsure of themselves. They lack ease in the presence of others. They have everything but poise. Without poise the impression is imperfect.

A forceful illustration of the democratic nature of the British monarchy found recent illustration in the fact that on behalf of King George some rare colonial stamps were recently purchased from a New York dealer, as His Majesty hopes to have the best and biggest British collection. Time was when a British monarch did not go into the market for anything he desired.

What is it that impels men to risk their lives upon a hazardous adventure. The thrill of the experience alone does not explain the attempt. Something far bigger, far more stimulating, far more inspiring than the mere prospect of a thrill must lie behind the impulse. Men say it is the call of the unknown, the lure of adventure, the irresistible urge to conquer nature, to wrest her secrets from her, to challenge her dominion. That was the magnet which drew the explorers of old set forth upon uncharted seas in their frail little ships, in which no seaman of today would risk his life.

The spirit of adventure is perhaps the strongest influence motivating mankind today. It endures indomitable and unconquerable in the hearts of humanity, and without it this world would be but a sorry place in which to live. The steady flame of its beckoning light has burned from time immemorial to indicate the way, and the greathearted among the leaders of men have never been able to resist its appeal.

With all the care possible drownings will occur. We must therefore, be on our guard at all time in order to prevent accidents which are likely to happen unexpectedly when we are bathing on the beaches or going out in canoes. It is important in every case to practice strict sobriety. The abuse of alcoholic liquor leads to the gravest dangers, as much on the beaches as it does on the public roads.

The American Geographical Union has just announced that very shortly weather forecasters may be enabled to forecast droughts and wet spells as much as twenty-five years ahead. That would seem to give them a sufficient margin of safety from the indictment of the most irate holiday-maker whose week-end is spoiled by rain. The idea, has its disadvantages, however. To know so far ahead what the weather is going to be like would tend to take a good deal of the glorious uncertainty out of life. It would effect trade, and it might even have an influence upon the stock market.

There may be something to be said for the long shot in weather forecasts, just as there is on the race course, but the long shots come in so infrequently that it would perhaps be indulging in too great an optimism to expect anything better from Mr. Probs. After all, he has his resources. He can at any time postpone criticism by the simple announcement: "Further outlook unsettled." What can anybody do about that?

It is strange that an ordinary farmer who will finish the year with a hundred dollars, with a bigger establishment than he had the year before, with improvements made to his farm, after having paid all his debts and filled his cellar and barn with provisions, will envy the lot of a commercial traveler in the town who earns \$125 a month. He loses sight of the progress accomplished to compare the number of dollars which the townsman can handle. Yet what a difference between the lot of each of them, even if the farmer has not put a penny aside.

Clothes made in Russia are being imported to Canada as British goods. If the word "dumping" means anything at all, it should be applied, in its fullest sense of fraud and malpractice, to this disloyal manoeuvre. With the majority of newspapers in the Province of Quebec we protest against this kind of commerce, which is calculated to damage industry and workers in this Province. If the Federal Government discovers, by its agents, that this abuse is widespread, it will be its duty to withdraw from British commerce what remains of tariff protection for its exports to Canada.—Quebec Evening.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Hours

DIFFERENT CAUSE FOR LOW BACK PAIN

The question that confronts a physician when a patient comes in with pain in the lower back is whether the pain is due to injury or to some poisoning in the system.

Some years ago all these pains were thought to be due to infection, rheumatism it was called. A little later these pains were thought to be due to a sprain of the joint between the last bone in the spinal column and the hip bone.

Now, as Dr. R. McE. Schaeffer, Kansas City points out, the truth of the matter is that sometimes the pain is due to infection, sometimes to an injury. Sometimes the pain is due at first to an injury but later some infection in the system goes to that spot, and the pain is thus due to both injury and infection.

Sometimes there will be no apparent injury, no history of having hurt the joint, and there will likewise be no infection that is causing the trouble. In a number of these cases it is because of the way the individual stands or sits. A slouching attitude may throw a strain on the ligaments holding the bones together. Very often the individual will put on a lot of weight, the abdomen will protrude, and this extra weight out in front of the body pulls the last bone of the spinal column forward, thus putting a strain on the ligaments in the small of the back.

Therefore before treatment is started the cause of the pain should be located.

It has been my privilege to see a great number of these cases of lower back pain, and at least three out of every four can be traced to infection from teeth or tonsils. The quick relief after removal of infected teeth and tonsils has been most remarkable.

The other cases are usually due to some mechanical cause, a protruding abdomen, or more frequently a sprain of some kind. Stepping downward when you thought you were walking on the level; lifting a weight, swinging hard at a golf ball, as among the common causes of this sprain.

The treatment is rest in bed for a week or two, then strapping the joint as with any sprain, and finally the adjustment of a supporting belt which may have to be worn for some months.

Don't suffer with backache; there is always a cause, and it will be found if searched for long enough.

Dickens Fame Secure

(Montreal Gazette)

Sixty-one years have elapsed since Charles Dickens laid down the pen, and the chair at Gad's Hill became empty. Recently, representatives of the Dickens Fellowship from all parts of the North American continent met to unveil a tablet in Montreal, signaling the visit he paid to this city, and to unite in lauding the great gifts of the man who is acclaimed the world over as the master of humor and pathos. This event itself goes very far towards answering the question as to the position and fame of Charles Dickens, who expressed himself as desiring no other monument but his own works to perpetuate his name. Sixty years is a good test as to their significance, quality and influence. By what special marks is a great writer to be judged? When this question is asked, we usually fall upon the discussion of his style, his purpose and his temperament. Surely the best of all tests is whether his works retain their hold upon the public imagination and whether his spirit still lives in them, surviving the changes of fashion and thought and all the shifts of circumstance. Assuredly, at a time when the paraphernalia of coaching days and coaching ways seem as far removed from us as the feudal period; when it is the habit in some quarters to speak of the Victorian writers as prim pedlars of moralist sentimentality, and when the novelist craftsmanship seeks to escape the

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. This Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

TAXPAYERS RIGHTS

Sir—While in the city recently I called at the office of the Provincial Auditor to get a copy of the "Public Accounts." The official there seemed reluctant to act, so I asked him if they had any. He said: "Yes, but I am not to give any out unless given orders to do so by the Premier, except in certain cases (candidates, etc.)" So I had to leave without a copy.

Now I supposed the public were entitled to those documents, if they so desired.

I am a taxpayer, can read, and would like to know the state of the finances of our province—to peruse over at my leisure.

Perhaps, sir, you can enlighten me on this dark matter.

I am sir, etc.

ELECTOR

(Every taxpayer is entitled by right to a copy of the Public Accounts.—Ed. G.)

court of chancery by recourse to some form of literary sensationalism, the fact that the work of Charles Dickens still exercises its spell is a first-rate evidence of its quality, and especially considering how swiftly in these days the idols of the literary temple have their brief day and cease to be.

There is no sign that the Dickensian influence is waning. The verdict which appeared in Blackwood, sixty years ago, might at this hour be quoted with a relevancy equal to the moment it was first put into print: "Were all his books swept by some intellectual catastrophe out of the world, there would still exist, in the world, some score at least of his people with whose ways and sayings we are more intimately acquainted than those of our brothers and sisters." To the Dickens reader they are real persons. We cannot bring ourselves to think of them as fictitious creations of some literary artist's imagination. The illusion is so strong that we never attempt to jerk ourselves out of it. Paradoxical as it sounds, the Dickensian oddities are types, and no comment upon his work is more commonly heard than that we have met somebody in the street so like a Dickens "character" the remembrance only evokes regret that the author of "Pickwick" and "Copperfield" is no longer on the spot to produce the portrait, large as life, and illustration of "what a go" human nature really is!

What is this but to say that Charles Dickens struck the common chord and enabled us all to read more clearly and with sympathetic gaze the infinite variety and richness of life, making all allowance for human foibles, and catching up afresh the golden threads of good cheer and good companionship, the controlling factors of progressive human relationships? Dickens cherished a purpose. In "Sketches by Boz" we may discern the prelude of that descriptive quality which enables him to pick up so rapidly images and resemblances that, once spoken, stick in the mind, and touch the springs of tears and laughter. In "Bleak House" we may descry the dramatic element which dominates all his novels. "David Copperfield" has been pronounced by many the best specimen of Dickens' literary art. He knew nothing of neutral tints. He mixed sunshine with the colors upon his palette. He never dipped his pencil in gall. What he had to say about Coketown and standardization and Gradgrind and stiff conventions, he said very plainly. Yet his strictures never sank into acrid cynicism. He preserved his good humor, became the apostle of good cheer and, without ever writing a prurient paragraph, or an unclean page, Dickens produced books which have stimulated, and this in spite of all faults and failings, our confidence in the essential good of human nature and those amenities cultured around the domestic hearth and within the home. The verdict of Thackeray about Charles Dickens is a just estimate and still stands true: "I may quarrel with Mr. Dickens' art a thousand times, and a thousand times I delight and wonder at his genius. Thankfully I take my share of the feast of love and kindness which this noble and generous and charitable soul has contributed to the happiness of the world. I take and enjoy my share and say a benediction for the meal."

Stock Men

Look Forward

(Montreal Gazette)

What appears to be a practical method for increasing Canadian livestock exports to the British market was discussed by Manitoba

cattle men at Brandon recently. This plan, outlined by Mr. H. S. A. Kell, former Livestock Commissioner in the Federal Department of Agriculture and Superintendent of the Canadian Livestock Co-operative Association, is based upon an agreement to be made between this association and the Co-operative Wholesale Society of England. The Canadian Co-operative is the selling Agency for the Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta Co-operative Livestock Producers, the United Farmers Co-operative Company Limited, Ontario, the Co-operative Federée de Quebec, and the Maritime Livestock Board. The English Co-operative serves 5,000 butcher shops and, as stated by Mr. Arkel, is prepared to popularize Canadian beef as far as possible by distributing it among these shops, under an arrangement by which the society becomes the sole overseas representative of the Canadian Co-operative so far as sales to co-operative stores are concerned. Direct selling will be the principal feature of this arrangement and will, it is believed ensure to the producer a fair price for his stock. The British Society is already taking 75 head of cattle weekly and it is hoped that under the proposed agreement the number will reach 400 or 500.

Should this scheme be adopted, a further definite reduction in expense will be necessary and the English organization is prepared to absorb one-half the loss while accepting half the profit from any market changes during the shipment. The Canadian Association will have to place itself in a position to do this same thing, or something like it, and to provide improved facilities as well, including packing plants. One of these plants is under construction now in Saskatoon and one is suggested for Montreal. This will involve financial arrangements between the Canadian Co-operative Association and the provincial organizations which it represents, the central association making advances when

necessary upon the security of local equipment. While the delegates at Brandon were unanimous in approval of an agreement between the Canadian and British societies, there was evidence of some difference of opinion in regard to the methods of financing, and in this regard it is probable that further conferences will be necessary. In any event, sanction of all the provincial bodies must be obtained if the plan is to be adopted upon the comprehensive scale now contemplated.

There should be little objection to a workable arrangement involving no very heavy financial commitments. A plan such as this would assure the Canadian live-

stock industry of a certain volume of export trade which could be depended upon, and this would be decidedly advantageous and helpful. Together with the other measures which have been taken under the direction of the present Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Robert Weir, the plan outlined by Mr. Arkel is likely to commend itself to Canadian producers and shippers. There exists already a very promising outlook for the restoration of Canada's export cattle trade with Britain, and the realization of this prospect will be an important contribution to the Welfare of Canadian agriculture.

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