

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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A LIBERAL REBUKE

"The curious spectacle is witnessed of Opposition members uniting in common accord that the balancing of the Budget is the first and prime necessity -- with which all are in agreement. In strong language they roundly denounced the Government for not balancing the Budget . . . yet when the Minister of Agriculture's estimates were up for discussion, there is complaint that he is not spending enough . . . If the Opposition or anybody else can show how more money can be spent and less money at the same time, they will confer a great benefit not only on this Province but upon the whole world. Up to date no way has been found by which a man can stand on his head and on his feet at the same time."

Thus says the Halifax Liberal press, in defending the policy of the Macdonald Government in curtailing the estimates in the Agricultural Department. It will be recalled that in our own provincial Legislature, when the Agricultural estimates were in committee, Mr. W. M. Lea made precisely the criticism which the Halifax Liberal press denounces in the foregoing quotation. He complained, on the one hand, that the Budget was not being balanced, and, on the other, that "there was no increase for agriculture." Forgetting the fact that a year ago he had urged economy in the agricultural department along the lines taken by the Nova Scotia Government, Mr. Lea this year instanced the large number of officials employed in the New Brunswick agricultural department and suggested that the MacMillan Government was insincere in its farm policies because it was not voting more money for, and employing more officials in, this department!

The Halifax Liberal press regards such criticism as evidence of "bankruptcy in logic." It is not often that we are in accord with the Halifax Liberal press, but in this case it seems to have hit the nail on the head. Or rather it has hit Mr. Lea on the head!

THE BENNETT POLICIES

In his foreword to Mr. Bennett's second January reform address, now published in pamphlet form, Mr. H. E. MacMillan, a well-known Vancouver exporter, notes that the Prime Minister has in mind (1) increasing both national incomes and the number of jobs available by expanding markets for Canadian goods, and (2) making a more widespread distribution of the national income. To many people, he says, the Ottawa Government's greatest achievement has been the expansion of trade accomplished by the Ottawa trade treaties. Mr. MacMillan cites the experience of the British Columbia lumber industry, on which he is an authority, to illustrate his meaning. Without any significant aid from expanding world trade, Mr. Bennett by means of the Ottawa tariff agreements obtained for British Columbia an additional export market in British Empire countries amounting to over four hundred and seventy million feet yearly. Arising from the same tariff arrangements there was a relatively increased volume of lumber exports from Eastern Canada. Other Canadian industries have benefited equally from the Ottawa treaties.

Mr. MacMillan says: "Measured in terms of employment such an accomplishment is not only greater than any conceivable public works programme. It is also capable of greater permanence. It represents an increase and not a decrease of national wealth, and provides a sounder schooling for and constitutes a much more natural function of the population than can arise from any forced draught public works policy of dealing with widespread unemployment such as has been instituted in other countries. The Prime Minister who in a time of deadlock in world trade, forced through the Ottawa series of trade agreements making accessible such great additional markets for Canadian products, may reasonably be expected to bring about treaties providing for greatly increased sales of Canadian goods in important countries outside the Empire." The Government has already concluded highly beneficial trade treaties with France and Germany, and it is negotiating trade arrangements with other European countries as with the United States.

In dealing with the second of the Prime Minister's stated objectives, that of procuring a fair distribution of national wealth, Mr. MacMillan suggests that a large proportion of Canadian farmers, wage-earners, professional and white-collar workers are smarting under a

feeling of injustice concerning past and present inequalities in the division of the national income. He adds: "The policies which Mr. Bennett has announced will, when implemented by legislation, have the immediate effect of distributing the benefits of the Canadian national income more evenly amongst all the people and also of improving the working conditions for a large share of the population." Canada is still fundamentally an export and debtor country. However humane, just, and desirable these reform policies may be, it is essential in the interest of the occupations and industries which alone can give sufficient employment, and of the maintenance of the national income (the benefits of which are henceforth to be distributed more fully to greater numbers of our people) that the policies be inaugurated and give their initial form by a leader such as Mr. Bennett. This, comments the Mail and Empire, because he combines executive ability and courage. His career shows him to be possessed of an unrivalled understanding of the factors governing Canadian trade and industry, and to be imbued with an essential sympathy for the principles of business and constitutional organization which have carried Canada through to this stage.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Your education will cost you more." As the result of declining revenues and depleted class rooms three Ontario Universities, Toronto, Queen's and Western have decided to increase class fees at least \$25 per session. McGill authorities intimate that they will follow suit.

While the cost of education goes up, the cost of liquor goes down. Manitoba Liquor Control Commission announce that the 40 oz. bottle of whiskey or rum will be cut as much as from \$1.25 to \$2.30 per bottle. Ontario announces similar reductions effective next month.

Lord and Lady Baden Powell are particularly desirous of meeting old Scouts and Guides on their visit here. There are here a good few—especially Scouts—who passed from tenderfoot to first class and are now unconnected with the movement. An opportunity will be given them to shake hands with the Chiefs on their July visit.

Safety first has been the invariable motto and practice of the Jews. The German brand is no exception. The association of patriotic German-Jews sent Der Fuehrer a telegram assuring him of their "unswerving fidelity to the Fatherland." They hoped his Government "will not alter its armament policy despite the narrow-minded Geneva resolutions." No pacifism for Mr. Jew so long as munitions of war orders are involved.

The Paraguay-Bolivia war proceeds apace, but does not seem to attract much attention. The boycott by the League of Nations in the matter of munitions of war has so far proved ineffective, and the peace of Easter was disturbed by a battle costing the Bolivians the loss of 3,000 lives. The same war spirit dominates these South American republics as does the German republic—in the Great War it was scotched but not eradicated.

"The Merchant of Venice" will hold the boards at the Strand tomorrow, the first Shakespearean drama to be produced by local amateurs within memory. Those who appreciate literature, drama and acting will heartily welcome this opportunity to give encouragement to local talent in their ambitious and praiseworthy effort to popularize the classics.

Africa, in the person of the Emperor of Ethiopia, has appealed to Canada "to come over and help us" to open up "our country industrially." And why this thunders? Because the Emperor is satisfied Canada is the only nation in the commercial world which can be trusted to lend its aid without demanding a quid pro quo in territorial concession. Canada has enough territory of her own to develop without seeking to steal Haile Selassie's vineyard.

For some time the world's greatest crooks have had an eye on the King's Jubilee gathering in London as a fruitful field for their operations. But Scotland Yard knew the day and hour of their departure from favorite haunts, and on landing in England they have been politely, but firmly, notified to continue the boat journey, which they did.

Notes By The Way

I can understand party passion; I can understand party bias; for some immediate party bias, for some immediate party conviction of the absolute righteousness of the party cause. But patience and perspective are great goddesses in human affairs—patience and perspective, and especially perspective. If we can keep things in perspective—ourselves, our policies, our party—we shall keep our own heads, and we shall allow the other side to keep their heads on their shoulders. Revolutions come, and heads fall, when patience and perspective have been forgotten.—Ernest Barker in International Affairs.

Two weeks after Mrs. Tsuru Mimya, a janitor's wife of Meguro, Japan, took in a stray dog, the animal repaid her kindness by finding nearly \$500 in bank notes. Seeing the dog playing under the house with a package wrapped in a silk cloth she opened the package and found the money. Its owner has not been found. Despite that it equalled almost his salary for half a year Mimya took the currency to the police.

President Roosevelt is making his greatest play, perhaps his last, for national recovery. He has nearly \$6,000,000,000 in his own hands to spend as he pleases on projects to provide work for the unemployed. His political enemies describe the scheme as an effort to "buy prosperity." His supporters characterize it as the only method not only of reviving trade and industry but of restoring the self-respect of millions who have been forced to subsist on public charity.

Evidence that book-borrowers had no more morals in 700 B.C. than they have today is uncarved at Agora, Greece: "Among the most recent archaeological finds in the Agora excavations is a library regulation of the seventh century B.C. It reads: 'No book shall be taken out of the library.'"

Is not the Soviet dangerously close to a recognition of private property when it proposes to stabilize the collective farm system by guaranteeing to the farmers permanent use of the land? And is not making a distinction between collective property and that of the individual a partial recognition of "Communism"? The truth is that men will not work for an abstract good so diligently as they will work for themselves. The Russian peasant never has become wholly reconciled to a system which leaves him no control of the results of his own industry.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

A grand idea, this. It happened this way. The Loyal Lancashire Regiment helped to defend Kimberley during the siege. Naturally, a comradeship was established between it and the Kimberley Regiment. During the Great War the Loyalists found staunch pals in the Wide Bay Regiment of Queensland, Australia, and the Edmonton Regiment of Alberta, Canada. So now a Quadruple Alliance has been sanctioned by His Majesty the King and the Australian, Canadian, Lancashire and South African Regiments are linked in everlasting goodwill and friendly relations. The regimental and individual shooting competitions arranged to clinch the brotherhood.—The Legionary.

"All these cries and threats of ruin if the tariff were reduced or removed on various American products have been heard for years. And in 1930 they resulted in new duties for tariff protection, which surely ought to have revived American industry, if anything would. The historical fact is that the tariff to which Mr. Hoover consented against his better judgment was the immediate predecessor, if not the cause, of the great depression.—Baltimore Sun.

Compromise is the cousin of cooperation. We get along by seeking clear vision, by weighing all sides, and by agreeing to work together for the highest good to all. Each of us, with our fellowmen, of adjustment with our fellowmen, and with all the circumstances of our experience. We cannot hope to travel over smooth roads all the time. We must not only become schooled in the knowledge of obstacles but in courage that we may overcome them as we meet them. To gain our objectives, compromises are not only essential but natural. We step aside from tasks which we know are unequal to, until we have learned the manner of their fulfillment, through a series of compromises with ourselves. Compromises are not always pleasant. Usually they are not. It's the sum total of good to be accomplished that gives to all compromises its worth.

Although Southern Alberta will have to continue its fight against the grasshopper this year, especially in a strip of country running in an arc from Lethbridge north-east to Coronation and Provost, Government entomologists declare infestation is only about two-thirds as bad as last year. In Saskatchewan the infestation is about one-third, while in Manitoba it remains about the same as last year. Given a wet spring, the menace will be further diminished.—Edmonton Journal.

Peace to be possessed, acquired, or retained must sometimes be fought for, sometimes purchased by war, or preserved by armed defence. In the same way, liberty, as Rousseau reminded us, is possessed only if it is defended. Thus we have the two blessings existing or brought into existence by an apparent sacrifice of them. There is no inconsistency here, no paradox.—Ex.

We have made considerable progress in our efforts to understand and to solve the vexing problems of our time if we have come to the place where we are ready to admit, without any reserve, that they root themselves back in unworthy ideals and bad morals. If we haven't come to that place there is nothing

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE OXYGEN INTERFERERS WITH CLEAR THINKING

At the Olympic Games held at Los Angeles there was considerable interest and discussion about the methods of the Japanese athletes whose efforts were said to be reinforced by the use of oxygen. There isn't any question, of course, but that we all of us do better work if we are outdoors or in a well-ventilated room where we are getting a good supply of oxygen. We are very tired the blood is likely to be a little short of oxygen; if we rest for a while thus not using so much oxygen, the blood gradually gets back its usual amount of oxygen. So also if we eat a great amount of food, a considerable portion of the oxygen of the blood is needed to burn up this food and so the blood and tissues will, for an hour or two anyway, be a little short of their usual amount of oxygen.

And now according to studies completed by Dr. Ernest Gellhorn and Edwin G. Spissman of the University of Illinois, a slight decrease in the oxygen supply of the body, such as aviators experience, profoundly influences hearing, seeing, and the sense of balance.

"Persons who breathe air containing only half as much oxygen as exists in the ordinary air at sea level, suffer so great a loss in the power of critical judgment that adults—unusually intelligent ones too—will argue whether four times four is sixteen, and will become most annoyed with one another because of their inability to agree. A professor in a university, under the influence of air deprived of some of its oxygen, insisted that four times four is twelve.

Thus also an individual, usually mild-mannered and of gentle disposition, may pull the trigger of the "big gun" provocation while under the influence of air deprived of some of its oxygen.

Two methods of administering this air with its lessened amount of oxygen are used. Some persons are taken into a chamber in which the oxygen of the air has been reduced; others breathe through a tube connected with a tank filled with "thin" air—air with less than the usual amount of oxygen. The effects of this thin air often continue as long as fifteen or twenty minutes. And then, you and I want to do some clear thinking we should not try to do it in an unventilated room, nor should we try to do constructive mental work while tired or after a heavy meal.

Hamlet's Grave

(Gunnar Mickelson in the Milwaukee Journal)

There may still be a thing or two rotten in Denmark, but this much at least has been taken care of: The Danes have at last properly buried Hamlet. After 300 years of talk and speculative head-pulling the matter has satisfied themselves that Shakespeare was wrong about Elsinore Castle. It was not there that Hamlet loved, hated and took revenge; but on the heath of Jutland, a couple of lerry jumps and two or three days of steady bicycling away, he died. And there, on a windy, heather-covered mound, the careful Danes have marked them down their ancient Prince with a ceremony and a 12.00-pound granite stone over his already heavy head.

To an American, Denmark may be so small a spot that any place between Copenhagen, or Elsinore, or Jutland heath—may be accurate enough for the scene of "Hamlet." But it must be remembered that for two or three centuries the school children and the college boys and girls and the theatre-goers and the newspaper writers who take Shakespeare at his word and fondly believed that Hamlet was resting eternally just off-stage there behind the Castle of Elsinore.

And now out of a clear sky, you are reliably told that the moody hero at no time was buried at Elsinore, but rests (supposedly) in the middle of Herr Farm-crowner Munch's heavy-odored beet field over yonder in Jutland. On a brisk September afternoon some 5,000 persons streamed out over the Jutland heath, known as Amlid Heide, and with flags flying, bands booming, speakers rising over poetry, and the coffee steaming fragrantly, put Hamlet where he belongs.

There were silk hats; there were aggressively dignified burgomasters and magistrates and representatives of one sort or another of his Majesty, King Christian X; there were bicycles and bulging smorobrod baskets. There were lasses sweet with Paris perfume and there were red-checked lads redolent of cow-barn smells.

Most important of the speakers was Herr Journalist Anker Kirkeby. Though a Copenhagen native, he had listened to the growing rumble of Jutland discontent over Hamlet's placing at Elsinore. Twenty years ago he began a systematic search of the provinces.

Nosing about the smiling Danish countryside, year after year, he discovered not one but twenty-four "authentic Hamlet graves." By a process, the scientific correctness of which one dares not question, he winnowed out all but the heather mound in the middle of Farmer Munch's field. He told how he had first found the spot. Roaming over Amlid heath, he met an old woman named Sine. Did she know where Hamlet lay buried? She pulled back the shawl from her forehead, squinted her old eyes and pointed, "To, yo; he lies ponder in the middle of me neighbor's swede." Herr Munch was able to tell Journalist Kirkeby that the Amlid saga had come down through 1,300 years and forty generations, and that the real Hamlet had lived and died.

Order In Charge

(Vancouver Province)

A recent magazine writer about Soviet Russia—by no means an unkindly one—has this to say: "There is order today in the U. S. S. R. The traveller feels this, and that a stable government is in charge." He says this rather by the way, in passing on to a serious and intelligent appraisal of what sort of order has been established in Russia but we suggest that that statement about the feeling of an established order in Russia possesses in itself a profound significance. That is a great thing to feel, a very great thing indeed.

The fact that we take it for granted in Canada, in the countries under the British flag, in the countries of our speech and our kindred, does not make it less significant, but really more so. It is of course (and if you stay to reflect for a moment, you realize that it must be so), because the idea of order, the idea of discipline, a directing intelligence, is inherent in the nature of man. You can't maintain the idea and the scheme of a civilization without order and a stable government in charge. It is axiomatic, but we have most of us a way sometimes of forgetting what is axiomatic. Just as you can be tremendously critical of the institution of marriage, for instance (not that it is axiomatic) until you come to the proposition of a workable substitute for marriage, so we can be tremendously critical of the maintenance of a civilization. We have had it so long as a tradition in Canada—and beyond Canada as a part of our inheritance in the older tradition of the English-speaking peoples—that we find it hard to imagine anything else.

With us the idea of law and order goes always together. We pay tribute to that idea in most of our specific criticism of government in office. We do not stay to argue this thing in any particular grievance we have against a government in office. The valid basis of our grievance, if it has validity at all, is precisely the idea of law and order. The office is doing wrong because what it is doing, that we object to, is somehow derogatory or subversive of good government.

We have bound up these ideas together among the English-speaking peoples—the ideas of law and order of stable government which is stable because it maintains law and order, of government which is good government because it rests upon our recognition of its intention to be good government. That is the significance, which we say is a profound significance, of a "feeling" that a stable government is in charge.

And now after all this—which is worth while if it leads truly, as it should, to a useful reflection upon the present discontents—to a point we should like to make. The traveller today, said our magazine writer, felt that a stable government was in charge in Russia. It may be so; we are not travellers in Russia and we can not say. But we are travellers, and sojourners and citizens too, of our own state and our own institution, and we have an instinct, beyond all argument, that law and order are good in themselves, and that the genius of mankind in the making of the civilization is dependent upon their making ad keeping, fire, and last.

The Buying Of Books

(Exchange)

St. John Ervine, noted author, has an article in the London Spectator on the buying of books. He thinks that people ought to buy more books, and that the old ambition to possess some sort of a library should be revived. He repeats the suggestion that any book is too dear to be bought, but that old articles of entertainment and illumination may be bought, no matter what they cost. He is right as to the facts. Money is freely spent on candy, cigarettes, meals in restaurants, theatrical entertainments, ornamental dress, travel, etc., by people who would shudder at the thought of spending five dollars or even two dollars on a book. One can hardly avoid the conclusion that there is a stronger demand for these luxuries than for books. There is probably also a vague notion that serious thought ought to be given without money—without price, and that there is a certain merit in receiving these terms. Children have a similar notion about the instruction offered to them in school. Instead of being grateful for the free gift, they consider that are almost conferring a favor on the teacher by close attention to their studies.

Another thing that militates against the book is, strange to say, its permanence. The candies, the luxurious meals, are eaten and forgotten. The cigars and cigarettes are smoked and the cost passes into oblivion in the same way. The costly dress wears out. But the book remains on the shelf year after year, a mute witness to supposed extravagance. We doubt whether the case is any worse today than in former periods. The bookless people have always been in the majority. But St. John Ervine is right in pleading for more buying of books. Borrowed ones are good in their way, but there are some that ought to be our companions and friends for life.

That we need to do more imperative-ly than to make a real effort to get there. When we say "bad morals" we mean bad morals in the widest use of the term. If we had greater honesty, a truer sense of justice, a finer appreciation of human rights and human obligations; if our society, and we who make it up, were not so selfish; so inhuman, so forgetful of the amenities of decent human relationships, we would be well started on our way to a recovery which would be altogether worth while, and to a solution of most of the problems that harass and worry us and that seem so insoluble today.

The Poets' Corner

TREES AND THE MASTER

Into the woods my Master went, Clean forested, forspent. Into the woods my Master came, Forspent with love and shame. But the olives they were not blind to Him, The little grey leaves were kind to Him: The thorn-tree had a mind to Him When into the woods He came.

Out of the woods my Master went, And He was well content. Out of the woods my Master came, Content with death and shame. When death and shame would woo Him last, From under the trees they drew Him last: 'Twas on a tree they slew Him—last. When out of the woods He came.

—Sidney Lanier.

A Jubilee Celebration

(Vancouver Province)

We take from the eminent London Observer what it is pleased to call "an interesting contribution to jubilee psychology as reported from Bedford." We think we should rather call it a contribution to the psychology of Bedford jubilee celebration committees, in that ancient English county town which keeps the immortal memory of John Bunyan, "A thinker out of Bedford, a vagrant out in quod". Anyhow, with some sympathy for the Bedford committee in the trouble it got itself into, we think it should be noted that it did really bring that trouble upon itself, and probably will not be out of it for some time to come.

The Bedford committee, charged with the duty of arranging suitable celebrations of the twenty-fifth year of the reign of King George, had the happy—or unhappy—idea of consulting some of its public school children. One of the children was asked what they would like for their part of the celebration, and certain alternatives were presented. This was the result of the poll:

- Free fun fair 153
- Tea and sports 27
- Medals and mugs 26
- Free library for town 8
- New town hall 3
- Riverside shelter for old folk 0

The committee, says the Observer, "with that dreadful common sense of committees, has decided on souvenirs." The Observer is afraid that this means a mug for the school children after all. The Observer, entering the mind of the committee, could say that the committee would feel that a keepsake mug would be the thing, and it says that tea and fun at fairs are not good at keeping. But memories are just for nothing else but keeping, and there must still be people who remember the great tea which Queen Victoria gave to thousands of school children at her Golden Jubilee in Hyde Park. We have heard that there were Jubilee mugs too, for that occasion, but we would wager that the memory which the survivors of that celebration held of it is the memory of the tea party, and we're pretty sure that most of the mugs got broken long ago.

The last question, says the Observer, severely, "was too severe a test of virtue, and should not have been put." We should say so. But if we imagine asking those children if they would like a free fair, and would be the thing, and they answer then, when by an overwhelming majority they said that they would give them a mug instead. But perhaps that Bedford committee, which at least had the inkings of the right thing in them when they even suggested a fair of fun, intends to give the Bedford children their fair as well. If we had any influence with the Bedford committee, we should suggest that to them.

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