

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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A Farmers' Budget

The Budget brought down in Parliament yesterday by Premier Bennett realizes the most optimistic anticipations of the Maritime Provinces and especially of the agricultural community. The tariff has been based on the assumption that the basic industries of Canada must be protected to the hilt, and at the same time the means by which these industries are carried on should be as lightly handicapped as possible.

The particular items in the Budget affecting the farmers on which the duty has been increased are numerous, the more notable being live hogs, fresh meats, hams, chops and shoulders, shell eggs, cheese, hops, powdered milk, peas, Indian corn, hay, root and garden seeds, canned fruit and vegetables. This, it will be seen, covers the bulk of the produce of Prince Edward Island, and all are to be sufficiently protected.

In addition, the farmers' hides receive further protection so far as the leather schedules are concerned, increased rates being provided on kid upper leathers, sole leathers, East Indian kips, belt leather and belting, glove leather and leather garments.

The principal industry of the Maritime Provinces apart from agriculture is coal. Duties of 40 cents and \$1.00 per ton respectively are imposed upon anthracite coal under the general tariff while the rates on bituminous coal and coal screenings are raised to 75 cents, general tariff, and rates on charcoal are set at \$7.50 per ton. In addition, subsidies for the coal industry in the Maritime Provinces and Western Canada to the extent of \$1,800,000 will be provided. The building up of the Maritime coal industry by this means will provide more employment and increased markets for products of all kinds to the farmers of this section of the country.

The tariff changes affecting iron and steel include increases on steel plate, wire netting, machinery, safes and miscellaneous manufactures of iron and steel, with decreases on green saw steel, not rolled rip steel for cold rolling, various kinds of steel wire, and Bessemer steel billets.

Premier Bennett also announced that a new tariff agreement had been arranged with Australia and would be brought down probably this session. He pointed out that the difficulty experienced with New Zealand in recent months was due to the negligence and shortsightedness of the Mackenzie King Government in making it possible for that country to get a strange hold on the butter market in Canada.

The Premier announced that no changes are made in regard to the duty on farm implements, although the items covering repair parts is extended in point of time.

Altogether the tariff changes in the Bennett Budget are enormously in favor of the farmers of this Province and of Maritime industries generally.

Another welcome announcement in the Budget is the proposed contribution of seventy-five percent of Old Age Pensions to the Provinces. This is an advance of fifty per cent on the present contribution made by the Mackenzie King Government, and should make it possible for every Province, including Prince Edward Island, to take advantage of the Old Age Pensions scheme.

These concessions, granted by the Bennett Government, come as a distinct surprise in view of the serious depression that has prevailed for the past year, not only in Canada but throughout the world. The Liberal press was prognosticating heavily increased direct taxation, with poor prospects for the fulfillment of any of Premier Bennett's pre-election promises. The recent announcement of the restoration of the grant for technical and agricultural trainings, followed by the Budget concessions, will be a great disappointment to the Liberal prophets of gloom. Not only has direct taxation on the consumer not been increased to any consid-

erable extent, but the relief granted and the protection vouchsafed to our producers will go a long way towards bettering the present situation and paving the way for more prosperous and greatly developed industries—including the great basic industry of Agriculture—in the days to come.

Ungrateful Recipients

One of the strongest arguments advanced by Ex-Premier Saunders in the 1927 election campaign was the desirability of electing a Provincial Government that would be in line with the administration at Ottawa. This argument, as pointed out at the last session of the Legislature, applies with much greater force today. The Saunders-Lea Government showed itself incapable of profiting by its political affiliation with the Mackenzie King Government, at least so far as the interests of the Province were concerned; but it has shown, under the leadership of Premier Lea, a much greater incapacity to work in harmony with the progressive policies of the Bennett Government. With the King Government the Lea Government had much in common; with the Bennett Government it has nothing in common.

If there was any doubt as to the hostile attitude of Premier Lea and the members and supporters of his Government towards the Conservative administration at Ottawa, that doubt was removed by the uncalculated resolution introduced through the Legislature last session, in which the policies of the Bennett Government were criticised in the most partisan fashion. And this after the Province had received, as Premier Lea admitted, very generous treatment in the matter of unemployment relief, and when a statute was being passed to enable the Province to take advantage of other beneficial measures advocated by Premier Bennett and opposed by Mr. King and his supporters (including members of the Lea Government) in the last federal campaign.

With what face could the Lea Government go to Ottawa for further financial assistance, after showing its ingratitude and its partisanship by a formal resolution introduced into the Legislature for no other reason than to make political capital and distract attention from its own miserable record of incompetency and failure?

Blueberry Exports

Blue berries have long been praised as the basis for pies and puddings, but they seem to have another quality hitherto unsuspected. Statistics indicate that the taste for them is lasting. Early crops do not lessen the demand for later arrivals. The Providence, R. I., Journal says that in 1929 dealers in the United States paid approximately \$850,000 for a little more than nine million pounds of blueberries shipped in from Canada and Newfoundland. How much the consumers paid for these imports is not stated, but it must have been well over a million dollars—possibly as much as a million and a half.

New England and the Middle Atlantic States are copiously sprinkled with blueberry patches, but the explanation of these large imports is simple enough, according to the Providence Journal. The domestic supply is abundant for all demands throughout July and nearly to mid-August, but many persons have noted that the market supply continues long after the local patches are denuded. That is due to the activity of the exporters in the north. The Canadian berries begin to arrive about the time the U. S. crops are exhausted, and the season continues until late September. For the most part the Canadian berries are taken in chilled or frozen. The Journal adds that there is a distinct improvement in the quality of these imported berries because of the modern methods of handling and preserving fresh fruit in transit.

Notes by the Way

The British Government today says the Birmingham Weekly Post is legislating for the benefit of Soviet Russia, rather than for that of their own country. The position becomes even worse when we consider that the present British Government, by granting large credits to the Soviet, is actually helping that Government to cut out our own producers both at home and abroad. The situation is so grotesque that it is almost incredible. It is a further proof of the extraordinary spirit of apathy and indifference to its own welfare that seems to have overtaken a large portion of the population of this country.

The possibility of an increased trade with the Central American Republics may be inferred from the fact that the average import trade of these countries amounts to about fifteen billion dollars a year. Of this amount Canada now contributes not more than \$40,000. Clearly there is room for expansion and Canada stands to gain enormously if it provided good-business like arrangements are effected. This was the object of the recent trade commission who visited those countries and from the reports so far received there are many evidences of mutual satisfaction.

The Dominion Government says the Sydney Post asked for subscriptions of at least \$250,000,000 to the Conversion Loan, and more than \$60,000,000 has been forthcoming. It is the largest and most successful domestic loan ever floated in Canada. Such a record at the acme of a world wide business depression is amazing. When the tide turns, Canada's come-back will be swift and sweeping.

The craze to get something for nothing creates the stock gambling the crook, and the swindler. It upsets the money market, brings poverty and fills the penitentiaries.

The Calgary Herald, in a recent issue, declares that Spring seeding proceeds vigorously throughout Southern Alberta; that the farmers of that region are not pessimistic; that they are not blaming governments for all their troubles; that they are not looking for financial relief from the public treasury, and that they are determined to work out their own salvation in spite of the present hard times.

The Herald charges the western oppositionist members directly with overdoing the calamity cry for their own political purposes. In like manner, the Edmonton Journal, published in Central Alberta, which is one of the best agricultural districts in Western Canada, condemns the Liberal blue-ruin campaign in the House of Commons as wholly unwarranted and as extremely dangerous to the prairie country. It picks out the wild statements of such Liberals as Mr. MacMillan, the Liberal member from Huron County. The Journal credits the Hon. Robert Weir, the young Minister of Agriculture from Saskatchewan, with effecting meeting the mischievous statements of Liberal calamity howlers.

A wayward person indifferent to the safety of people who cannot protect themselves from him says an exchange is as dangerous as the criminal with a gun and not as respectable. He should be subjected to the punishment given the criminals. One of the greatest outrages society can permit is that innocent people keeping within the law and usage of the road should be smashed into the grave or the hospital, killed or crippled for life and injured financially by the wanton act of a driver who made them the victims of his own indifference and recklessness.

Gandhi appears to be hedging again. In declining to attend the preliminary meeting in London, the Mahatma says that he does not intend to leave India until the Hindu-Muslim communal problem is solved and all of the Indian Government's obligations under the agreement between Lord Irwin and himself are fulfilled. The latter are certain to be settled quickly. The former has been a problem for a number of centuries and if Gandhi does not leave India until it is settled he will never leave India.

A contemporary version of the old barter method of trade says the Gloucester Gleaner occurred recently when an automobile dealer wanted to sell a car to a real estate man who hadn't any cash, but did have some empty apartments in a good building in a good neighborhood. The car was exchanged for the leasing rights to two apartments. The car dealer promptly reduced the rent on those two flats \$30 a month and advertised them in a daily newspaper. Applicants flocked to the apartment. The auto dealer signed up with two tenants with 14-month leases, and \$45 a month. Everybody was satisfied. The driver got his car. The dealer is assured \$90 a month for 14 months, which will pay for the car about as well as any other



By James W. Barton, M.D.

CANDY NOT ALTOGETHER TO BLAME FOR BAD TEETH

It is unfortunate that sugar and candy have been blamed to such a large extent for the decay of the teeth in youngsters. There is no question but that if you took a group of youngsters who ate a lot of candy and sugar, and a group who did not that there would be more cases of decay of the teeth in the sugar and candy eaters.

Now this might be taken as proof that it was the candy and sugar that caused the decay but the real truth of the matter is that youngsters that eat a lot of candy and sugar are not likely to eat enough of other foods, and of course will not eat enough of the kind of foods that make good teeth and prevent decay, that is plenty of milk and green vegetables.

Further, it must be admitted that candy and sugar will cling about the teeth more than other foods and will thus give more opportunity for acid formation there.

Thus if there is not the lime and other mineral salts built into the teeth from the eating of green vegetables and milk and the deposits are going to be left on the enamel of the teeth which favor the growth of little organisms, then the teeth are going to be undermined on the inside, and will have organisms attacking the enamel covering on the outside.

However youngsters, and adults also should eat an all round diet—meat, potatoes, bread and fruits to which should be added milk and green vegetables. In adults who do not like milk or who find it constipating, the green vegetables should always be added to the diet anyway.

Candy or sugar should not be condemned or avoided as there is no food that gives energy to the body as quickly as candy or sugar. A youngster can go out after school and play for an hour on the strength and nourishment he gets from a stick of candy.

If the parent will see that the youngster gets sugar or candy half way between meals instead of just before meals, he will have the appetite for milk and green vegetables. In fact many youngsters have actually learned to like spinach because they were kept hungry instead of being allowed to eat candy or pastry before meals.

The thought then is that youngsters should not be deprived of candy, as it gives them strength and pep for play.

THE TENT OF NOON

Behold, now, where the pageant of high June Halts in the glowing noon! The trailing shadows rest on plain and hills; The banners hosts are still, While over forest crown and mountain head The azure tent is spread.

The song is hushed in every woodland throat; Moveless the lilies float; Even the ancient ever-murmuring sea Signs only fitfully: The cattle drowse in the field-corners shade; Peace on the world is laid.

It is the hour when Nature's caravan, That bears the pilgrim Man Across the desert of uncharted time To his far hope sublime, Rests in the green oasis of the year, As if the end drew near.

Ah, traveller, hast thou naught of thanks or praise, For these feet halcyon days?— No courage to uplift thee from despair Born with the breath of prayer? Then turn thee to the lilled field once more. God stands in his tent door.

—Bliss Carman.

MORE MOTORBOATS

MEMPHIS, June 1.—(U. P.)—An increase in registration of pleasure boats has been noted here despite the depression. It was announced by Memphis Outboard Boat Club officials, who said more than 40 new boats had been purchased since the first of the year.

financing arrangement. The renters are pleased with their bargain in good flats at low rents. Ingenuity and enterprise accomplish much.

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.

BEAUTIFYING THE CITY

Sir,—Quite frequently tourists and visitors call Charlottetown, a beautiful little city. We, who know the place better, hesitate to say Charlottetown the Beautiful. We would like to be able to say it conscientiously, just as we would like to be able to say Charlottetown the moral, the sober, the sanitary.

Who knows but all those nice things may yet be said of our city? In the meantime, it will be necessary to progress, avoiding everything that smacks of retrogression. The objective should be the elimination to a great extent as possible of intemperance, crime and sloth, drawbacks which have no affinity with all that is true and noble and beautiful. Ugly objects must be removed as soon as possible. Old dilapidated buildings must give place to tastefully if not elegant structures. Those ugly flashily pictures posted on buildings and walls are a reproach.

Beautiful buildings, in many cases are reduced in value by reason of adjoining rookeries. Up against one of our beautiful churches is a tumbled down broken window contraption with a glaring poster "Smoke" facing the church.

Yes, I think there is work ahead for the "city fathers," if Charlottetown is to be called "The Beautiful." I am Sir, etc.

CITIZEN

LATE MR. J. P. HOOD

Sir,—I should like to supplement the information in your recent notices on the career and passing of the late John P. Hood; as the predecessor of Mr. Hood as business manager, it is perhaps fitting that I should make them.

First, however, allow me in the most kindly manner, to suggest that your metaphor of the Guardian being "at ebb tide" was ill-chosen. The Guardian has never been "at ebb tide." A better metaphor would have been "Great oaks from little acorns grow" and that at that time the Guardian was a tiny acorn.

Mr. Henry Lawson never had any connection with the Presbyterian newspaper. His journalistic endeavors were with the Patriot. It was Rev. Stephen G. Lawson who ran the Presbyterian up to the late '80s; whereas, Mr. Henry Lawson had cut away from the Patriot and was in charge of the Summerside Progress as early as 1872, when my acquaintance with the family started, how much earlier he had the Progress, I cannot say. Rev. Mr. Lawson did not sell to Mr. E. D. Higgs. The "low ebb" comes in at this point, but it was in the Presbyterian. Mr. Lawson sold to a company headed by a Captain Evans from Newfoundland, who changed the name to Protestant Union, and attempted to run it as an Orange organ, but with limited results and signal failure.

Benjamin Darby, Higgs, a reporter with the Patriot, withdrew from the position to take a journalistic course at Dalhousie College, Halifax. After one year of the course, he spent the summer in Summerside lifting the Pioneer out of the mud, (ebb tide was up there too), and in the autumn, returned to Halifax to complete his course. On his return the following Spring, he formed a company, purchased the "floatsum and jetsum" of the Protestant Union, persuaded me to take the business end of the project, and changing the metaphor, planted an acorn, calling it the Island Guardian, a weekly paper as it had been under the names of Presbyterian and Protestant Union. About this time, or shortly after John P. Hood joined the Pioneer forces, and we frequently met and travelled together through the country, having been acquainted from boyhood days. It was to him I first confided my intention to go back to the furniture work. He asked me to put in a word to Mr. Higgs for him to be my successor, which I did, and stayed on the job an extra month to suit his convenience in coming from the Pioneer. No need of further detail.

Mr. McCready of course followed Mr. Higgs, but not immediately. There intervened Rev. W. R. Frame, Harry Woodworth, Duncan Marshall and one or two others whose names escape my memory at present.

Yet, the Guardian growth has been constant, persistent, insistent. "Great oaks from little acorns grow." I am, Sir, etc., W. P. DOULL

June 1, 1931.

EYES TESTED AND GLASSES FITTED BY E. W. TAYLOR, J. S. TAYLOR, Optometrists, 148 Richmond Street

Good Intentions

(The Editor and Publisher) The best story Charles M. Schwob told at the recent meeting of newspaper publishers in New York was on himself. He was explaining how easy he falls when anyone asks him to make a public speech, and illustrated the point by telling of a farmer neighbor who wanted to sell him a cow.

"I've got a cow I want to sell to you, Charlie," the neighbor said. "Yes, would she fit into my Guernsey herd?"

"No, I dunno as she would."

"Has she got anything to recommend her?"

"Wal, I dunno as he has."

"Does she give lots of milk?"

"No, I can't say as she gives lots of milk, but, Charlie, I can tell you this: She's a kind, gentle, good dispositioned old cow and if she's got any milk she'll give it to you."

The Great Auk

(The London Times) There is a common belief that when the thinkers of the Middle Ages were not debating the number of angels who could stand on the point of a needle, they were posing for each other the problem—Which came first, the hen or the egg? The question has increased in difficulty since the rise of evolutionary theories, for the schoolmen could posit the special creation of an egg or a hen containing the whole chicken world in embryo, and they had only to decide whether the hen or the egg should be singled out for the honor. That facile solution is denied to modern biologists, who envisage a long succession of hens and eggs going back to something that was neither hen nor egg. The problem is among the most baffling in philosophy, demanding a richly endowed Chair of Pulullology for its study. But an allied question—Which remains last, the Great Auk or the Great Auk's egg?—restores our philosophic self-respect, and we are able to reply confidently: The Great Auk's egg. In fact it—or rather one of seventy-two extant specimens—lies in a London auction room waiting to be sold, thus beginning another chapter in its chequered history. Long ago, without doubt, some Great Auk deposited this egg in her nest and proudly called her mate to see what she had found. By what device it was wrested from their possession we know not. It next appears in a collection of ten discovered in the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1861. Four years later it was put up for auction at the very rooms where it is sold again; and in the interval it has passed by private treaty to two other owners. It sold for \$29 in 1865 and by now may possibly have become worth \$300. Killing the Auk has made its eggs golden.

It is sad to contemplate this six inches of egg, and to reflect that the vast potentialities of life therein can never be brought to fruition. For the Great Auk, or Garefowl, is one of the few things of which it can appropriately be said that it is as dead as the Dodo. About a century ago Nature and man seemed to conspire in the campaign against this defenceless and almost wingless bird, one of whose main homes was fifty,

she made with her ridiculous little It had committed no known wings and wounded amour propre or wrong. It had not robbed the world of a great poet, as did that misguided eagle that is supposed to have dropped a tortoise on the bald head of Aeschylus under the impression that it was a stone. One of the chief breeding places of the species in Icelandic waters disappeared in volcanic action. The birds who could or designed to escape took refuge in Eldery, where they were persistently hunted down by man because of what Sir Richard Bonnycastle described as "the ruthless trade in its eggs and skin." Those of us who were good little land babies were introduced by Charles Kingsley to the last of the Garefowl; and a pathetic spectacle give it a good home.

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