

THE Charlottetown Guardian

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Head Office at Charlottetown Branch Office at Summerside, Alberton, Souris and Montague.
London Office, Marconi House, Strand, W. C.

PresidentA. A. Bartlett
Managing EditorJ. R. Burnett

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THE PRESENT SESSION

The present session of the Provincial Legislature is in many respects the most important in the history of the province. It is one of the first chapters in the new volume of Prince Edward Island history, which opened with the closing of the era of annual deficits and of practical stagnation. It represents the healthy vigorous progress of a province that has found itself, knows the foundation upon which it is building and has well grounded faith in the future.

The majority of the members have already told their story, reviewed the administration, gone carefully over the history of each department. The figures and the history given, the progress made and the details connected with all the departments are now in black and white before the people in the records of the session. Nothing has been concealed, nothing held back, no apologies offered. Indeed the opposite was the case; the members were justly proud of their record and are not to be blamed if they courted the fullest discussion and invited criticism.

And there was some criticism, but it was more pitiful than effective. The men who had conducted the affairs of the province for twenty years and continuously failed to make ends meet, who with solemn promises "to do better next time" or "never to do it any more," kept up their own and their supporters' hopes until the latter absolutely died a natural death, might perhaps be expected to feel sore and jealous at the success scored by their opponents, but that their criticism would be taken seriously was not to be looked for. Their criticism has been heard and the people will place it side by side with the record they made while they had their opportunity, side by side also with the record of those whom they criticised, and they will judge between the two.

THIS YEAR IN HISTORY

Do we realize that the present year of grace, 1915, will throughout future ages be a red letter year in the history of the world, that for all time to come it will be known as the great divide in the stream of human progress? After this war is over there will be a new map of the world, new histories will be written and a new path marked out on which civilization shall proceed to the next turning point, whatever that turning point may be, whether another world shaking war or a millennium.

We who are living in the midst of this struggle, who are watching its daily progress and who, on account of its nearness, are unable to grasp its tremendous proportions, should not forget that every record, the history of every effort, the names of those who have taken part in it, and in fact everything that can be associated with the greatest war the world has ever seen, will in the years to come be highly prized mementoes. Men and women yet unborn will treasure with pride everything that has been contemporary with the war, and those who are privileged to live in these epoch making days owe it to posterity to preserve everything in any way associated with it.

When the Army Field Service and the Patriotic Funds were being collected it was suggested that the names of all contributors should be printed in book form to be kept as a souvenir; also that the names of all Prince Edward Islanders who had enlisted at home or abroad either for service at the front or for garrison duty at home should be similarly preserved. The suggestion of a correspondent in yesterday's Guardian for an Abstinence Pledge button is also one that should be considered. Files of the newspapers, letters from the front, whether in the original manuscript or as they appear in the newspapers, should all be sacredly preserved for future years. Those stirring years will loom very much larger when regarded from the distance of years, and even of centuries, than they do to us who are standing so near to the horror that we cannot measure it.

CLEANING UP

There is a good deal of satisfaction, when we have done wrong, in finding that others have done as bad or even worse. The satisfaction may be pharisaical, but it is not an unpleasant reflection. The political atmosphere, like the earth's, has a habit of going wrong occasionally. This will be so as long as human nature remains as it is a present. It has gone wrong in Canada more than once and, quite frequently, without much being done to prevent it. Recently, as is well known, some foul streaks have manifested themselves in quarters that came within reach of the Dominion Government and, fortunately for the future of Canada, the Government took active and immediate steps to bring the guilty to book and to ferret out anything that savoured of uncleanness. Where the satisfaction in this case comes in is the fact that the Government has taken such a stand

in the matter that it is not at all probable there shall be any similar attempts while the Borden Government is in power.

An exchange points out, by way of comparison, that in the city of Terre Haute, Indiana, the Mayor of that city has received a sentence of six years in the Federal penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for "conspiracy to defraud the United States by corrupting the election of November 3, 1914."

Twenty other prominent citizens of Terre Haute have also been condemned to terms varying from five years to one year in the Fort Leavenworth penitentiary—all for the same offence of political corruption. Among those sentenced are the chief of police (who pleaded guilty), the judge of the circuit court, the sheriff, the president of the board of public works, the assistant city engineer, the county sealer of weights and measures, the city inspector of weights and measures (a former member of the Indiana Legislature), the street commissioner, the inspector of paving, and an election board clerk.

The United States had previously had some clean-ups of about the same kind. They were needed.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Henry Clews & Co's financial report for the week ending April 17th, gives the following optimistic review:— Old-time activity has returned to the Stock Exchange and million-share days are no longer a novelty. From time to time the favorable changes in underlying factors in the stock market have been pointed out in these advices. As the business world adjusted itself to new conditions, as the final outcome of the colossal struggle in Europe became more apparent, as fear disappeared and calm judgment realized that on this side of the Atlantic the worst of the storm was over, confidence began to assert itself more and more freely until at last it developed into a surprising outburst of speculation. This characteristic rebound from extreme depression to extraordinary buoyancy may seem remarkable, but is only in accordance with precedent, since one extreme invariably follows another in due course of time. Recent developments connected with the war really started the present rise. The frightful waste of life and wealth which is still going on must of course have a permanently injurious effect upon the social and economic welfare of the world at large.

Nevertheless, there is a sense of relief that the end is now foreshadowed; and the dawn of peace naturally imparts new life, new hope and fresh confidence.

DEMAND FOR CATTLE

In a bulletin recently issued by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, it is pointed out that in the past Great Britain has imported immense quantities of staple foods from Russia, France, Belgium, Germany and Austria-Hungary. The average imports from these countries during the years 1910-13 are given as follows:—

Wheat	Bushels	28,439,609
Oats	"	23,586,304
Barley	"	15,182,268
Corn	"	7,621,374
Peas	"	703,058
Beans	"	639,653
Potatoes	"	4,721,590
Onions	"	271,569
Meat	Lbs.	26,509,766
Eggs	Doz.	121,112,916
Butter and Cheese	Lbs.	91,765,233

The above mentioned sources of supply of staple foods are now, in the main, cut off as a result of the war. Great Britain is looking to Canada to supply a large share of the shortage. Every individual farmer has a duty to perform. The bulletin also points out that in ten years the population of Canada increased 34 per cent, while the number of cattle increased only 17. Moreover, the city and town population, which may be looked upon as essentially the consuming element, increased by 62.2 per cent, while the rural population, or the producing element, increased by only 17 per cent.

In this connection it is interesting to note that the population of France since 1900 increased by two per cent, while during the same period the number of cattle increased by two per cent. The population of Germany, during the same period, increased by 16 per cent, while its cattle increased by four per cent. In the United Kingdom the population increased by ten per cent, and the cattle by four. Austria-Hungary increased its population by ten per cent, and its cattle by two. These are the European countries upon which the United Kingdom has heretofore depended largely for its food supply. There are other sources, of course, including Argentina, which increased its population during the years above mentioned by 40 per cent, but whose cattle declined by 6 per cent. The population of the United States increased by 24 per cent, while its cattle declined 30 per cent.

Only one of the countries tabulated increased its cattle more than its people in the past ten years. And, in it (Australia) in 1914 there was a tremendous loss of live stock through an unprecedented drought—a fact which the table does not show. Is there any stronger argument needed than this that there is bound to be an increasing demand for beef? Add to this condition, the destruction of live stock of all kinds, breeding stock and young stock included, in the several war zones.

Beef is the most important item in the British soldier's rations. He is allowed 1-1/4 pounds of this every day. The daily demand for meat by the British, French and German soldiers is enormous. The war has merely hastened the meat shortage of the world. When it is over, the farmer with live stock will continue to profit in the world's markets, and, in addition to having helped feed our soldiers at the front, will be in a position to reap a further reward for having stayed with the live stock industry.

NOTES

In preparation for the struggle which will be renewed in the spring, the belligerents will be fairly matched. At any rate, Germany will not have many surprises in reserve, and her frantic hatred of Britain is a symbol, not of her consciousness of coming victory, but of coming defeat.

The war stamp taxes are likely to be producers of revenue beyond what many have supposed would be the case. The postal service report for 1913-14 estimates at 753,000,000 the number of letters and post cards passing through the mails in twelve months. All but a small percentage of this great volume of correspondence this year must pay the war levy of a cent on each piece, and may produce well up to \$7,000,000 if maintained for a year. The two cent tax on cheques, bills of exchange, etc., in these days of widespread commerce and many banking accounts will yield a sum that not many can calculate. The railways in 1913-14 carried over 46,000,000 passengers, and long distance passengers will pay from five cents to \$1.50, according to the price of their ticket, while the war is on. The efficiency of a small tax on a large number of people is likely to be well shown in the next few months.

PRAISE NOT CENSURE NOW THE SLOGAN

Mr. Temple McDonald in an Inclusive Speech Goes into the Matter of Finances and Brings out Facts About Roads, and Other Points Ignored by Opposition.

MR. TEMPLE MacDONALD'S speech on the budget dealt almost exclusively with the financial aspect, and he showed clearly and concisely that the Government's financial policy was one deserving the greatest praise instead of censure.

MR. TEMPLE MacDONALD said: Mr. Speaker I was absent for several days and did not hear all that has been said by the speakers who preceded me. For this reason my remarks will be short, as I do not wish to weary the house by repeating what has already been said.

The statement of Public Accounts as laid before the House has been very satisfactory and I feel sure everyone was agreeably surprised to find that in spite of shrinkage in revenue, caused by the war and notwithstanding the extra expenditures made for war purposes—none of which I am glad to see have been criticized—the Government has managed to come out with an excess of receipts over expenditures.

The reduction of debt since the Government has come into power cannot be denied by any person who has regard for the truth or has been endowed with ordinary common sense so I will not dwell on it. The external audit made by Messrs. Dench and Rossborough at time this Government came into power has not been disputed as to its accuracy but attempts have been made to draw a red herring across the trail by advancing the plea that the auditors did not make a complete statement and left out all mention of the assets left by former Governments. Assets represented by a College and Insane Asylum on which I think there was a builders lien and some unpainted and rusting steel bridges.

RECKLESS LIBERAL FINANCE. An effort has apparently been made to fool the public into thinking that it has been customary to take such systems into consideration when figuring out the financial standing of the Province. We observe, however, that no direct statement has been made that making a list of assets of this kind has usually been employed in figuring the financial standing of this or any other Province. The system I take it has always been to find out and make a statement of the debt or liabilities of the Province. That it is what the taxpayers have to make good and it is useless to talk about assets such as have been mentioned because they are not and cannot very well be made available towards repaying the money borrowed for their erection. Let us follow out this system advanced by our political opponents to its logical conclusion and we find they would endorse the reckless expenditure of money for building of all kinds of permanent and semi permanent public utilities as good Government, even if the revenue was insufficient to meet more than a small portion of the expenditure and the taxpayers of the country would have to pay interest on the money so expended for all time to come.

THEIR argument means that they would be prepared to build all kinds of expensive public buildings, establish provincial electric light plants, by the P. E. I. R., and make goodness knows what extravagant expenditures running the Province into debt even worse than they have done—if they could only get someone to lend them the money.

A WILD ACCUSATION DENIED. The statement that this Government doubled the taxes is too wild to be answered. It is quite true that there has been a dog tax levied. This was recommended by the present leader of the Opposition a few years ago and was placed in the statute books by the present Government at the request of the farmers of P. E. I., themselves through their various institutions. But what has been done with it? There has been very little cash collected. It has been expended for the improvement of the Public Roads.

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR READERS OF THE GUARDIAN

Furnished by W. S. Louson.

THE REAL TEST.

Did you ever fall in the deal that you tackled?
Were you beaten—as hard as you tried?
Did you have to give up and acknowledge
You were worsted and whipped on each side
Did you quit the grim struggle, dejected
In the face of defeat did you quail,
Or else, did you try all the harder,
Each time that you happened to fall?
It isn't the times you were beaten
That counts in the game—not a bit!
Providing you didn't go whining,
And grumbling each time you were hit
Defeat may have downed you, my brother,
But did you keep hitting the nail
Did you rise to your feet with fresh courage
Each time that you happened to fall?
It matters but little how often
You fall in the fight of the day,
Providing you weren't a quitter
Each time you were downed in the fray
The glory you get in the conquest,
Is not the times that you quit,
But in fighting the things all the bolder
Each time that it gave you a foe.

and generally in the very same district in which it was collected. The increase in horse tax has been similarly expended and whilst the rate of taxation has been in this case raised the remuneration for labor has been more than correspondingly increased so that the farmer and laboring man who is willing to work on the roads gets from 50 p. c. to 100 p. c. more for his labor than was formerly allowed, and here, Mr. Speaker, let me say that in this first point there is a vast difference between the policy of this and former Governments for Road money was formerly expended in a few favored localities and distributed to a few political friends. But this Government expends the money where it is collected and all who are willing to work can commute their taxes by improving the roads in their own immediate vicinity.

The district that the Premier and I have the honor to represent was very badly treated by the last administration, because it persisted in sending two Liberal Conservative members to this House it was continually ignored and the public works were allowed to fall into the worst kind of repair. True there were lots of places wanting repair when election times came over the house and the faithful and waverers could be found trying to put them into sufficient repair to keep them up for another four years. Since the present Government came into power great changes have been made and important public works completed, besides improving roads and bridges all over the district. There have been two important steel bridges erected, two wharves practically rebuilt, several ferries improved and another bridge which the late Government allowed to fall down and be wasted away is now in progress of erection.

Considering the short time the present Government has been in power and the amount of re-organization that has been accomplished I feel sure that the Government has done as well as could be expected.

SCHOOL SUPPLY. I have heard considerable commendation of Government for its action in reducing cost of school books. The establishment of the Government School Supply has been more satisfactory in its working than many of us thought and it has been a great step towards lessening the cost of education and I have no doubt that further improvements along that line can be made.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH. I note with pleasure that an effort is being made to preserve the health of the school children and prevent the spread of that dread disease tuberculosis by having our school buildings inspected by competent medical men and I hope that the ratepayers will follow up the suggestions made by these inspectors. The preservation of the health of the young generation has always been a very important thing, often somewhat neglected duty, but the present war has made it, if possible, a more urgent and imperative duty. If we wish to survive as we have always been a hardy race it is absolutely necessary that we should take care to preserve the rising generation free from contagious diseases and fit to fill the places of the pick of our vigorous young manhood which has gone forth to do battle for the Empire perhaps never to return.

FOX TAX NOT NEW. The Fox Tax is simply the Income Tax passed by the former Government being properly collected and is not a new tax. Incomes were taxed from one of the greatest sources of income in the Province, and being allowed to go practically untaxed. What just that the man who worked hard for six days in the week for 52 weeks in the year and earned an income of 1000 or so should pay a tax on it while the fox man who with very little labor was getting a large income which could not be properly estimated under the old system of collecting income tax should get off by paying tax on a very small portion of his real income.

PRAISE DESERVED—NOT CENSURE. Instead of being censured for legislation which corrected such unfairness which provided for expenditure if taxes were collected, which allowed the man who found it inconvenient to pay his taxes in cash to commute them by labor, which increased the rate of wages paid to the labouring man at least 50 p. c., which made it possible to collect income tax from those who were receiving large incomes of which the Government had no knowledge as the parties receiving these incomes were often not working for the living. Instead of being censured for such legislation and for collecting taxes impartially I think Mr. Speaker that this Government should be commended by the Opposition as I am sure it is appreciated and commended by the people as a whole. (Applause.)

Material and Linings thrown in Ladies Tailored Suits and Skirts—See Paton's Window

For Less Money than they can be Tailored—Material and Lining thrown in

If prices and values speak loud in printers ink, Paton's ought to have a rush with these Tailor Made Suits that they are putting on sale to-day at \$9.48. This price is below the Cost of Material. Most of these Suits are in Blue and Black with about a dozen Fancy colors and Checks, the sizes range 16, 18, 34 and 36 Black's only running up to 40. Styles while not exact are still stylish. The coats are silk lined, Suits strictly Men Tailored and finished with Hair cloth bust forms. Samples to be seen in the Eastern Window.

The regular prices of these suits run up to \$25.00 and are one of the best bargains that Paton & Co. ever offered.

\$9.48 PATON'S \$9.48

JOHN C. WEST WILL BE HANGED TODAY

SYDNEY, April 19.—All the arrangements for the execution of John West, (colored) for the murder of Miss K. C. Dunn, at North Sydney, last December, are completed and the hanging takes place at the county jail here shortly after daybreak this morning. Holmes, the hangman, has been here since Saturday, supervising the arrangements.

West lost much sympathy when he tried to involve an apparently innocent man after he had himself given a frank confession of the circumstances of the crime, in which he accused nobody other than himself. During his confinement he has been of a very morose and sulky disposition. During his confinement in the condemned prisoner's cage, West's spiritual requirements have been in the hands of a colored pastor from Halifax.

Delicious Jams and Jellies—Preserves and Marmalades

There is nothing cleaner, purer or more delicious in the line of jams and jellies than the products of the world-famed firm Cross & Blackwell. The products of this firm is a standard by which good jams and jellies are judged—they are recognized by particular housewives as a pinnacle of jam and jelly perfection.

Right now we have a nice new line of Cross & Blackwell's Raspberry, Strawberry, Plum, Apricot, Gooseberry, Red Currant and Black Currant Jams and Jellies. These are put up in dainty one pound glass bottles. Also a good supply of Raspberry and Strawberry jams are here in 7 pound tins. Try a one pound bottle and you'll buy a large tin. The deliciousness of these jams will delight you.

We have Duerr's Brand of Raspberry, Strawberry, Peach, Green Gage, Damsel and Cherry Jams. These are put up in nice 2 pound glass bottles. You'll want a supply of Cross and Blackwell's Orange Marmalade, it is put up in one and two pound glass bottles—also in 7 pound tins. We have them in syrup, 2 pound bottles.

There's quality, purity and wholesomeness in every item listed above. Every article was selected with the utmost care—the most palate pleasing jams, jellies possible preserves and marmalades to procure at our price or any other.

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Fennell & Chandler

Victoria Row

The Newest In Ladies' Spring Boots

GOFF BROS

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See our Ladies Pat. Blucher—GOFF BROS—We sell Hosiery 6 months wear Guaranteed

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