

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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TEACHERS' SALARIES

The importance of the teaching profession is nowhere more fittingly recognized than in this Province, where the present Premier is also Minister of Health and Education and was active for many years before his entry into politics, in promoting educational work of all kinds. Indeed, it may be said that a large part of the criticism to which he has been subjected by political opponents is based on the ground that he is too much concerned with health and educational matters, to the alleged unnecessary burdening of the taxpayers. With this criticism we have dealt before, and it has been answered very effectively in the recent legislative debates. We mention it here, merely by way of emphasizing the fact that no government leader in the history of Prince Edward Island has shown more untiring zeal in the cause of education and public health.

The present occasion of the annual convention of the Teachers' Federation should not be allowed to pass without a reminder of this fact, both to the teachers and to the public generally. While joining with our local contemporary in welcoming the teachers to the city, we cannot but regret the obvious attempt which it makes to capitalize for political purposes the question of teachers' salaries.

The teachers owe to the MacMillan Government the fact that all of them earning \$600 or over per year did not receive a salary cut in 1933. When the Estimates were being passed in the Legislature on that occasion, Mr. Lea, leader of the Opposition, seconded by Mr. McIntyre, moved an amendment which, if adopted, would have had this effect: Every Liberal member voted for it; every Conservative member voted against it, with the result that the motion was defeated.

The fact that the Government stood firmly by the teachers in 1933 was used against the administration politically, as was the expenditure made in rebuilding Prince of Wales College in accord with modern and future requirements. At the time, such propaganda was deemed a good "vote-catcher." But the Government, headed by a Premier who really was more concerned about education than political criticism, stood by its policy. Today we hear nothing about reducing teachers' salaries, and very little about the expenditures incurred at Prince of Wales College. An attempt was even made at the last legislative session by the Opposition members and Opposition press, to repudiate their motion of 1933, so far as it concerned the teachers. This attempt failed, because the records of the debate, as published in both newspapers, are on file, and show conclusively that the Liberal intention, at that time, was to cut the salaries of every school teacher and government employee in the Province earning \$500 or over.

The Liberal press is now attempting deliberately to mislead the teachers with regard to its party's attitude on the question of salaries. It says the Conservative platform of 1927 promised an upward revision, conditional upon augmentation of the present revenue of the Province, and that this pledge had not been implemented. It omits to say that the platform in question was turned down by the electors, that the succeeding Liberal Government did nothing to implement any promise it may have made in this connection, and that the present Government assumed no pre-election obligation, and received no mandate from the people, with respect to salary increase.

With nothing whatever to say about the attitude of its own party members, our contemporary seeks to give the impression that the MacMillan Government has been remiss in not increasing the Estimate for teachers' salaries this year. This seems to be the point, and the whole point, of its editorial comment yesterday. And it is, in the circumstances and in view of the Liberal criticism in 1933, as insincere a statement as could conceivably be made.

EDUCATION SPENDING

The Halifax Chronicle, (Liberal) gives editorial prominence to the following information:

"The Bureau of Statistics finds that the expenditure for schools, colleges and universities dropped from the peak of \$178,700,000 in 1931 to \$163,945,000 in 1932. The corresponding figures for the school year ending in 1933 show a still greater drop to \$146,922,000. The fall con-

tinues in 1934. Though its exact extent is not yet known, available data indicate that the total for 1934 was probably not above \$130,000,000. Up to 1933 the percentage drop was much greater in Ontario and the Western Provinces than in Quebec and the Maritimes. Capital expenditures have generally been brought to a very low level, and teachers' salaries, in the provinces for which 1934 records have been received, show a three-year decrease of about one-third. Reductions have been much more severe in rural schools than in towns and cities. A shortage of funds has led some communities to shorten the teaching year by a few weeks, but very few schools have been continuously closed for any considerable time.

"In these abnormal times," concludes the Halifax paper, "such a result might well be anticipated. With the betterment of conditions a reversal of the trend may be expected."

EDITORIAL NOTES

In England not only have they a balanced budget, but have reduced income tax and increased civil service salaries.

The recommendations of the Price Spread Committee have already boosted prices of pedigreed live stock in the West.

The centre of attraction for agriculturists and financiers tonight will be the Board Room of the City Hall, where Mr. M. A. MacPherson, K.C., Ottawa, will discuss the Farmers' Creditors' Arrangement Act.

Mr. Hon. R. B. Bennett is like a certain gentleman who shall be nameless. If once he gets "a foot" out of bed nothing in Heaven above or in the earth beneath can prevent him emerging in the full glory and vigor of his accustomed good health and aggressiveness.

Dr. L. P. Roy, president of the Association Catholique de la Jeunesse Canadienne, Quebec, has issued a report of a study conducted by members of the association on conditions of youth in the city of Quebec and neighboring towns. The report showed that 45 per cent of young men were out of work at present. Of 6,972 who had left school recently, 3,678 were working with 2,994 out of work.

The following is a newspaper price-list furnished from Richmond, Va., 85 years ago to an enquirer: "The market for slaves is rather dull the last few days and prices perhaps a little lower, but it will be only for a few days. No. 1 men, \$800 to \$850; boys, 15 to 18, \$700 to \$800; boys, 12 to 14, \$550 to \$650; No. 1 girls, 16 to 21, \$675 to \$700; girls, 13, 14 and 15, \$625 to \$660; girls, 10 to 12, \$400 to \$475; No. 1 women and one child, \$725 to \$750; No. 1 women and two children, \$850 to \$900."

Canadian bacon is making rapid gains in the British market: there was an increase of 76 per cent in the quantity imported in 1934 over the previous year, with a value of roughly \$17,250,000, and 393 per cent as compared with 1932. Canada tops the list for apple imports, approximately 50 per cent of the apples entering the United Kingdom market during 1934 being of Canadian origin. Approximately two thirds of the oat imports came from Canada. Canadian canned salmon is also meeting with the favor of Britishers, there being an increase of 27 per cent in imports of this commodity 1934 as compared with 1933. Imports of frozen Canadian salmon increased 8 per cent, for the same period. Outside of mahogany, walnut, oak and teak, Canada made substantial strides in sawn hardwoods, being the largest individual supplier for the year 1934; the quantity was nearly double the previous year. Gains were also made in sawn soft-woods, there being an increase of 79 per cent in imports from Canada 1934 over 1933. In the matter of wooden railway ties, there was an increase of 156.6 per cent. The recent visit of two British railway experts to Maritime Provinces during the past year seeking sources of supply for railway ties should augment this considerably. Canada has practically a monopoly on the aluminum trade in ingots and blocks as 1934 figures show, according to the Industrial Department of the Canadian National Railways, and is a leader in raw copper. Imports of pig lead and crude zinc from Canada show good gains.

Notes By The Way

South Africa's minister of the Interior has added to the various explanations of British citizenship. He said: "As citizens of South Africa we are Union nationalists, but we also have the common status of British subjects. Because of that status," the minister continued, "we cannot be regarded as aliens anywhere in the King's dominions. Because of that status we may expect outside those dominions the enhancement of prestige which is accepted as due to a British subject. That common status is a high status."

It was with a curious air of satisfaction, and even triumph that the State Department announced the other day diplomatic agreement with Canada. It was of the most preliminary kind. Both countries simply agreed to start negotiations for a reciprocal trade treaty. Since such a diplomatic parley has been the strong desire of our State Department for more than a year, it might seem as if the business were advancing pretty slowly, if we have only got so far as to say that it might now be discussed. In one respect it may prove that no great amount of time has really been lost, inasmuch as there has been opportunity to study the trade transactions going on between the United States and Canada under existing tariffs. If we are going to modify them, it is just as well to see why their operation makes a change seem more than ever desirable.—New York Times.

The general tendency of population in all Western civilized States is to reproduce itself much more slowly, and almost everywhere birth rates are declining. According to statisticians, the British population will begin to fall in 1942, that of France in 1937, that of Germany in 1946, and that of the United States about 1960. This tendency should be kept in view in planning social legislation. It has an important bearing in such directions as housing policy—for twenty-five years hence the number of children will be half what it is today.—London Daily Mail.

What a vast number of failures are strewn throughout life because of the lack of just a little more effort upon their part! Thousands of us have been pushed to the breaking point in our nerves, in our patience, and in our work. But that is just the moment that we should refuse to give up! "The line between failure and success," wrote Elbert Hubbard, "is so fine that we scarcely know when we pass it; so fine that we are often on the line and do not know it." A little more courage, a little more will, a little more effort would have saved the day for many a man who gave up just this side of winning.

A few days ago the great Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes went to his long sleep. He was in his 94th year. But several years ago, upon his retirement from the Supreme Court of the United States, he remarked that he was then "living on his momentum!" A grand example of a glorious character, he never knew when the turn will come in our discouragement, so we should ever be expecting it, and believing in it. We are always defeated within our heart. That man is never defeated who refuses to acknowledge it. He who merely strives—wins!

There will be old-timers who will enjoy handling a good, old-fashioned "cart-wheel." There is something pleasing in the feel of a silver dollar. In the hand it gives a generous impression of being "real money." But two or three of them will weigh a man down and play havoc with a trouser pocket. The odd silver dollar will be interesting to have, perhaps to keep as a memento, though there is no likelihood of these coins permanently replacing dollar notes to any large degree.—Montreal Star.

According to Professor G. B. Henry of the Royal College of Surgeons, wisdom teeth are responsible for many human ills. He cited cases of delusions, asthma, and moral turpitude being cured by the extraction of wisdom teeth; but he did not try to establish the old wives' connection between the offending molars and wisdom. That connection doubtless grew up from the fact that wisdom teeth are incident to maturity. But few people with any knowledge of the world would connect the two. Maturity too often merely confirms ignorance. If the knowledge that comes with maturity brought wisdom, the world would be an earthly paradise.—Ex.

The mind that has been trained to be calm has already fortified itself against petty worries and irritating trifles. It is almost impossible for any of us to pass through a day without these pesky trifles facing us—but at the close of day they should be dismissed as of no more avail than when the worthwhile affairs of the day consumed our time.

"London is the centre of the world for wool and for finance. That does not seem to be understood. It is the centre not only for British purchases, but for the whole of the Continental and American transactions financed in London. The bulk of the Australian wool, although it may be sold in Australia, goes to the London wool sales. The world's buyers are there with unlimited resources."—Post of London Monthly.

Not even the French—for all their avowed interest in the constitution of an international police force—appear to have grasped the full significance of the experiment which closes with the departure of the British, Italian, Swedish and Dutch troops from the East. That force formed to police the Star was a marked success is recognized. But what does not appear to have been realized is that this precedent of an "international army" contains an idea which might well be utilized to produce a permanent

That Body of Ours

By James W. Baynes, M.D.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FLUIDS SURROUNDING BODY TISSUES.

Physiologists liken the cells of the body to tiny fish, these cells, like the fish, are only able to act when their surroundings—the fluids in which they exist—are of the right temperature, are alkaline, have the proper amounts of oxygen and other substances within them. The blood is part of this fluid or water system. The brain centre surrounding happens to this fluid or liquid surrounding the cells then Nature exerts certain forces within the body which tend to preserve the amount and the quality of this fluid. For instance with severe sweating from hard work, an attack of diarrhoea or dysentery, or the loss of blood from an injury could all make a difference to this fluid if Nature did not so control the fluids that the body cells are kept well supplied with this life giving liquid.

Prof. W. B. Cannon, Harvard, in his book "The Wisdom of the Body," says, "A noteworthy prime assurance against extensive shifts of this fluid is the provision made of sensitive automatic indicators or sentinels whose special work is to set corrective processes in motion to prevent the loss of this fluid immediately there is any slight disturbance in the amount or quality of the fluid."

If water is needed thirst warns us before any change in the blood has occurred and we immediately drink some water.

If the blood pressure falls and the necessary oxygen supply may thus be interfered with, delicate nerve endings in a portion of the blood system send messages to the brain centre controlling blood pressure and the pressure is raised.

If by vigorous muscular movements blood comes back to the heart in great volume so that the heart action might be embarrassed and the circulation checked, again delicate nerve endings are affected and a call goes to the right auricle of the heart, resulting in a contraction of this extra amount of used blood, that results in speeding up the heart rate and thus hastening the blood flow.

If the blood becomes less alkaline than it should be and is altered ever so slightly towards an acid condition the sensitive part of the nervous system which controls breathing is at once made active, rapid breathing follows and the lungs quickly pump out the carbonic acid and bring the blood back to an alkaline condition."



ON HIS BOOKS

By sucking you the wise, like bees, do grow Healing and rich, though this they do most slow. Because most choicely; for as great a store Have we of books as bees of herbs, And the great task to try, then know, the good, to discern weeds, and judge of wholesome food. Is a rare scant performance. For oft ere 'tis done, while the bee feeds and flies. But you were all choice flowers; all set and dressed; by old sage florists, who well knew the best. —Henry Vaughan (1622-95).

Canada's Forest Production

(Moncton Times) It has been estimated that our total forest production in 1933 involved the cutting of 2,027,714,000 cubic feet of standing timber. This constitutes only the annual depletion for use and to it must be added the volume of material annually destroyed by fire, which exceeds 200,000,000 cubic feet of merchantable timber, and the young growth on 550,000 acres. Insects, fungi and windfall destroy annually at least 700,000,000 cubic feet so that the annual drain on our forest resources in 1933 was considerably more than 2,900,000,000 cubic feet.

The latest available estimate places Canada's forest resources at 266,844 million cubic feet of standing timber which is capable of yielding 448,355 million feet board measure of sawn timber and 1,521,908 thousand cords of pulpwood, ties, poles and other small materials.

An average annual depletion of three billion cubic feet per annum would not necessarily imply that our total resources of 266,844,000,000 cubic feet were reduced by that amount every year and that the supply would therefore be exhausted in about 89 years. Estimating the probable duration of our supply of forest products is not a matter of simple arithmetic. The rate of utilization is far from constant. It tends to increase with the discovery of new uses for wood, the increase in our population, and the increase in the demand for forest products from international police force.—Boston Christian Science Monitor.

And now they are planning a new plan to control Canadian wheat and feed grains. If only they could plan to control the sun and the rain, drought, floods, grasshoppers, hail and nature generally, how happy the farmers should be.—Telegraph-Journal.

Changing Landmarks

(Ottawa Journal)

In the minds of most men today there must be one thought or hope. The hope that they live to see how the world emerges from the tribulations of these years. Our whole outlook upon things, our attitude toward life, has changed almost incredibly. Hardly a day now but sees the adoption of some new policy or creed or proposal, the creation of some new agency, which, only a few years ago, would have been unthinkable. A nation of professed individualists, we embark upon a career of paternalism, set up boards, bureaus and commissions with an adventurous abandon. What the cost of it all is to be, or the consequences, no one seems to know, or to greatly care.

For centuries men have believed that certain biological laws governed life. They held that certain natural forces and laws could not be defied, that specific economic action, sequences followed economic action, that such things as trade and prices and employment depended upon supply and demand. What is believed now, or what seems to be believed, is the opposite. It has come to be thought, or thought by a majority, that there can be such a thing as a planned economy, that natural laws and forces may be controlled, that existence can be charted and card-indexed, that society can be graded and regimented into better living. Whether the new thought is right, with all of history wrong, only those who live in coming generations will know.

There are those who confess skepticism. They believe, and with something of reason, that natural forces must continue to operate, that not all of man's wit nor resolution can overcome nor much change the biological rules which have seemed to govern existence. Planned economy, so much on the lips of reformers these days, they regard as a delusion. Pointing to the truth that the basic needs of life depend almost entirely upon natural forces—upon such things as sun and rain—they hold up this as the answer to their plans, as the certainty of their failure. In all efforts towards control they see little but futility.

Whether these skeptics be right or wrong, this must be said; that, the world being what it is today, or government what it is, their fatalism must be ignored. For while many may believe that the speediest and most effective cure of the present depression would be in society's abandonment of its chief vices, such a policy is unthinkable. To be better or for worse, we have adopted the creed that we are our brother's keeper, that the old doctrine of the survival of the fittest must be put away. And whatever history may tell of these times, whatever errors of mind it may point to, it will surely be able to show that the humanity in these years lacked in good intentions, or in a spirit of brotherhood. All of these things we are trying, the boards and bureaus we are setting up, the agencies we tax ourselves for, the plans and charts and graphs that rise up to regulate our living—all evidence one thing. They evidence a more humane spirit among men, a groping for more of justice, a greater compassion and pity for our kind.

Therefore, while many among us may be sceptical of the wisdom of much that is being tried, or frankly dislike what is being tried, let none of us become embittered or too pessimistic. If life at best be a hard campaign with some lost battles, and if Utopia be but a dream, that should not mean refusal to strive for betterment, nor refusal to strive for fresh hopes with a spirit of tolerant inquiry. It may all end in futility and failure, in defeat and disillusionment, but, if so, what of it? Even in failure, where there has been great effort, there is something fine and gallant.

Other countries whose supplies have been reduced to a greater extent than our own. The rate of destruction from fires and other agencies is also very uncertain. The fire hazard tends to increase with the increase of population and the extension of settlement unless measures are taken to prevent this tendency. During the last few years, forest fire damage in Canada has been materially reduced owing to favorable weather conditions and improved methods of detecting and fighting forest fires. Credit is also due to the general public for a greater measure of co-operation in the prevention of fire and to the various organizations which have carried on educational campaigns for forest conservation.

With about 670,000 square miles of accessible timber in a growing condition, an average annual increment of 10 to 11 cubic feet per acre would be quite possible under forest management and would cover the present annual average depletion. In view of the destruction of young growth which occurs and the deterioration of the forests and the soil caused by repeated fires and by insect and fungus damage, there is little evidence that this increment is being produced at the present time in particular areas are producing in excess to this quantity.

No Gag For Dons

(Sydney Post Record) Hector Charlesworth, Chairman of the Canadian Broadcasting Commission, has promised to "look into" a speech delivered by Professor H. L. Stewart of Dalhousie University, said to have been critical of the Hepburn Government's action in cancelling the Ontario Hydro power contracts Mr. Charlesworth takes the position that Professor Stewart, as a member of the Dalhousie staff, must not make partisan comments.

This criticism of the Dalhousie does not please the Hamilton Herald, which says: "It is difficult to see how anybody can comment on such an issue as the cancellation of Hydro power contracts in an intelligent manner and remain non-

Advertisement for S. A. McDonald's Easter suits. Text: 'DRESS UP FOR EASTER NOW', 'MAKE THIS SUIT YOUR EASTER SUIT', 'YOUR clothing budget limited? Then you want a suit that will give you the greatest wear, that you can wear on all occasions. That's why we suggest you make the single breasted, semi-drape, your Easter suit. It's as smart as can be, yet there's nothing "tricky" about it. Fine long-wearing fabrics, plain or patterned. \$20. WITH TWO TROUSERS. S. A. McDONALD'S THE ISLAND'S LEADING STORE.'

Advertisement for Brahmin Orange Pekoe tea. Text: 'Mr. Tea Pot says: Use Best Quality TEA BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE is EMPIRE TEA. Sold only in red airtight pkgs.'

Advertisement for Hickey & Nicholson's pipe tobacco. Text: 'AN HONEST PIPE TOBACCO!', 'H&N's BRIGHT CUT', 'The Smoothest Smoke', 'HICKEY & NICHOLSON'S TOBACCO CO., LTD. Charlottetown'. Includes 'TEACHERS!' and 'The Two Macs' sub-sections.