

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1924

THE GAME AT OTTAWA

According to The Guardian's Ottawa despatches yesterday, the branch lines bill, passed by the Commons last year and thrown out by the Senate is to be reintroduced at the coming session.

It will be remembered that this bill was railroaded through last year during the last minutes of the session and with so little preparation, so far as the public or even the members were concerned that the "Solid Four" from our own province knew nothing about its having been passed until they read of it next morning in the newspapers.

In the course of a speech delivered the other day by Sir James Lougheed, leader of the Conservatives in the Senate, before the Liberal Conservative Business Men's Club in Toronto, when referring to the need of a business-like administration at Ottawa, said:

"There was the Branch Lines Bill introduced during the last hours of the last session of the Commons. This bill provided for the construction of 1,100 miles of branch lines by the Canadian National and the sum estimated for the work was \$28,000,000. But the bill provided for the greatest latitude both on the part of mileage and the cost of construction. They estimated it at a cost of \$28,000,000 but on the basis of the cost of the Transcontinental it would have cost at least \$100,000,000. And then they threw it on the Senate in the last hours. They gave no information to the press or the people and so I think the public will approve of the stand of the Senate in rejecting the bill."

The Senate's rejection of the bill was not a Conservative one merely, the majority of the Liberals voted for its rejection. Now the Bill, foredoomed to a second rejection by the Senate, is to be introduced for a second time. Why?

The Progressive members are playing the game, they are forcing the hand of the government and the government is also playing a game. Last year this bill was brought in during the dying hours of the session when there was no time to discuss it. This time it will be brought in early and the Progressives will take their cue from the treatment it receives at the hands of the respective parties. The Liberals in the Commons will support it. The Conservatives are expected to shoulder the onus of opposing it.

On the government support of the bill will depend the Progressive support of the government. All three parties know the bill will be rejected by the Senate but the "achievement" of the Progressives in forcing the government to "build" the branch lines, including the Hudson Bay Railway, will be a lever in the hands of the Progressives to work their constituencies. This is the way the game looks from the outside. It will be a complicated one and the public will watch it with interest.

THE COUVE METHOD

Our Liberal friends, taking a leaf out of Couve's healing method, have been declaring to themselves and others that "we are getting better and better every day in every way." The complaint regarding the unparalleled exodus from Canada in the past two years has been jubilantly met with the Liberal declaration that they are coming back and that the exodus is over.

also how little dependence is to be placed on Liberal boasting as to improving conditions. Conditions evidently are not improving. With all the natural resources Canada has, with all the raw material required in every possible line of manufacture, with manufacturing industries developed by years of stable government to a position in which they could compete with the world's greatest, we have fallen in less than two years to a condition from which our people must escape to another country in order to make a living. What is wrong? Instability and inefficiency and extravagance at Ottawa. Nothing more.

Complaints are now dominion-wide. From every section of the country come pleadings and petitions and suggestions, come advice to the government, come demands that an election be called at the earliest possible moment and the farce at Ottawa be brought to an end. And Ottawa, official Ottawa, is bewildered. Cabinet shuffling, promises of acquiescence in every demand, misleading information as to the actual situation, Royal Commissions investigating real or imaginary grievances — these are Ottawa's answers.

The opinion is rapidly gaining ground that the present session will end the fiasco and with this opinion hope is returning, for it is impossible even for such a government as we have at present to keep a country like Canada down. "Our country still remains," and within a short time, under real government, it will resume the place it occupied a few years ago and go on towards greater progress and prosperity.

VITAL STATISTICS

Vital statistics just issued for the month of July 1923, with pro rata computations for the year, give some interesting figures.

With only one exception Prince Edward Island's birthrate per 1000 population for 1923 was the lowest in Canada, namely 20.3. In 1922 it was 27.9; in 1921 it was 24.8 and in 1920 it was 25.8. We have fallen sadly behind in this important industry.

The 1923 record for highest birthrate is held by Manitoba, the figures being 26.2. New Brunswick second with 25.2.

In infant mortality, we make a better showing comparatively although the figures not only for Prince Edward Island, but for all of Canada are still very much higher than they ought to be. The number of deaths under one year old per 1000 living births, in Prince Edward Island for 1923 was 46.1; British Columbia holds the record at 40.7, while Manitoba with the highest birthrate is also highest in infant mortality, the figures being 97.2, Nova Scotia being next with 77.2.

The total death rate per 1000 population in Prince Edward Island was 9.0; Alberta 5.7, being the lowest and Nova Scotia 10.0, the highest.

SEES GENERAL ELECTION

La Presse, the big Liberal news paper in Montreal, foresees a general election at an early date. Discussing the political situation at Ottawa, La Presse concludes that whatever may be the ability of the Prime Minister, it does not appear to be probable that he will succeed in conciliating the acute difference between his party and the Progressives. "So far as we are concerned of this," says La Presse, "that, without professing to play the part of a prophet, we foresee that the Honorable Mr. Mackenzie King will before long be so driven that, in order to find a way out of a situation without apparent issue, he will be compelled to dissolve Parliament and appeal to the people."

Notes by the Way

Is the world going crazy? An exchange asks the question and answers it with an array of figures. W. W. Dunlop, Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities for Ontario, is quoted as an official authority. According to his statement the population of Ontario in 1891 was 2,114,321 and the number of inmates in its mental hospitals 3,468, or 1.64 per 1,000 of population. In 1921 the population of the province was 2,933,662, the number of inmates 8,156, or 2.74 per 1,000 of population. The population had increased 38 per cent and in the same period the number of insane had increased 135 per cent! And we are told that this was about the same as the average for the entire Dominion.

The official figures for the United States are even more startling. In forty states, while the general population increased in thirty years 100.3 per cent the insane population increased 468 per cent. What is it that causes this alarming growth in the number of unbalanced minds? The National Council for Mental Hygiene in the United States points out the conditions that tend to mental and moral collapse. Among these may be mentioned "the mania for wealth, the craze for publicity, the loss of confidence in spiritual leadership, the wild enthusiasm for sport, the disregard of the Golden Rule as a working principle in life." There can be little doubt that similar conditions in lesser degree exist in Canada. The war no doubt increased the volume of insanity during its active period but there was a general increase before the war and a more rapid advance since the war ended.

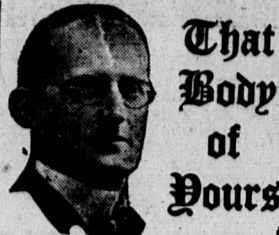
The Sentinel of Toronto tells that there are six Bolshevik schools operating in that city, where the children of the foreign colony go after their regular public school hours. In those schools, the same journal states, the children are taught that the Christian's God is a devil who is trying to keep them satisfied with the existing social and industrial order. Horrible as such teaching is, we are further informed that the authorities have been notified of what is going on, that the places where these schools are located are well known to the police, but nothing has so far been done to reform them or root them out.

Astrologists tell us that much depends upon what particular sign of the Zodiac one is born under. There are twelve of these signs, which is also the number of months in the year. If we assume that each sign dominates a corresponding month in the calendar, it becomes astrologically important to know in what month our rulers and would-be rulers were born. The date of birth of most of our Parliament men is told in the Parliamentary Guide, although a number of them for reasons of their own do not supply that information. Of 224 members of the House of Commons whose birth-dates are recorded in the Guide, 21 were born in January, 14 in February, 15 in March, 21 in April, 20 in May, 15 in June, 20 in July, 26 in August, 16 in September, 26 in October, 16 in November and 13 in December. Premier King was born December 17, 1874. Ex-Premier Meighen had his birth six months earlier, on June 16, 1874.

Two of the most eminent of Canadian political leaders of the past, Sir John Macdonald and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, had their birth during the time of short days and long nights in January and November. Sir John was born January 11, 1815 and Sir Wilfrid, November 20, 1841. Washington and Lincoln, foremost Presidents of the Great Republic, were both born in February. Milton had his birth in December and Shakespeare in April. Without citing further notable names and dates of birth we conclude that one month is quite as auspicious as another in which to be born, that many insignificant and some notable persons have been born on every day in the past and that history will continue to repeat itself in that regard. And that being so only very credulous persons can have faith in astrology or horoscopes.

Modern invention has produced so many wonders that when a new one is announced we hesitate to discredit the story. Just now a cable from Paris tells that one Melot has invented an aeroplane that has no motor and no revolving propeller, but is capable of flying 400 miles in an hour. The driving force is said to be an explosive mixture of gas and air. This mixture is fed into a chamber and there exploded. After that the machine works automatically and

themselves immune to attack.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

DO YOUR FEET HURT YOU?

Your feet are beginning to give you a little trouble and you immediately come to the conclusion that the arches are giving away, and that flat feet will soon be yours. Before doing anything about it, take a look at your shoes. I'm not going to talk much at this time about narrow pointed shoes and high heels. If just want you to take a look at the soles of your shoes and where they are worn most. I heard a speaker years ago say that a good honest man would wear the heels of his shoes out evenly at the heels, and not on either the outside, nor the inside of the centre.

What do your shoes say? No exercise and them out on the outer side of the heel, and not at the back of the heel. What does this mean? It is a good sign, that's all. Further, as you look at the soles of the shoes, you again find that you have not worn them out evenly but the outer side is worn down a bit more than the inner side. Just another good sign that you have good feet, even if they are paining you somewhat. Now what should be done about it?

Well what kind of shoes are you wearing? Are they wide enough with a sensible heel?

If so, what about your weight? Perhaps you are living well, taking no exercise and putting on weight. You see you have the same feet that used to carry you around, when you were younger and lighter.

Further, when you were younger and lighter you were taking more exercise, and the muscles of the feet and legs were much stronger than at present. If you are not overweight perhaps you have some slight infection from the teeth, tonsils, or intestine, and that has got down in to the joints of the feet, and is giving you the pain.

In any case get busy with your feet, and practise the three simple exercises mentioned once before: walking on the toes, walking on the heels, and walking on the outside of the feet. Five minutes of these, twice a day, will keep your arches up in their proper position.

Lest We Forget

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26.

SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Noted prelate in the Greek Church, referred to as "the last of the Christian Sophists who came forth from the schools of heathen rhetoric," was elected Bishop of Constantinople on February 26, 398.

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT

Distinguished American naval hero, who, after a series of successful operations against Confederate ships and strongholds on the Mississippi near New Orleans, began the bombardment of Fort Powell, near Mobile, Ala., on February 26, 1864.

RICHARD J. GATLING

Inventor of the repeating gun which bears his name, a weapon that first came into use during the Civil War, died on February 26, 1903.

SIR JOHN TENNIEL

Famous English illustrator and cartoonist for "Punch," who drew the pictures for "Alice in Wonderland" and "Alice through the Looking Glass," died on February 26, 1914.

LOUIS HEBERT

Canada's first farmer was a chemist, named Louis Hebert, who came with his wife and family to Quebec in 1617 and choose a home site on the cliffs of Quebec, high above the little settlement which clustered below Cape Diamond. Here he labored to grow the first corn, grapes, apples and vegetables which were such rare treats for the men in the little town below. His daughter was the first bride in Canada, and his home, built of stone, 38 feet by 19 feet, was the first seigneurial home, for on this day in 1616 he received the patent which named him a seigneur. Louis Hebert was a friend of Champlain, and had been one of the group who had previously spent several years in Acadia with de Monts.

the burnt gases escaping through a series of valves drive the machine forward. It is said the French Air Minister has accepted the new invention for the Government and has ordered twelve more. But we have our doubts. The mode of operation doesn't seem workable.

It will Prevent Ulcerated Throat—At the first symptoms of sore throat, which presages ulceration and inflammation, take a spoonful of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. Add a little sugar to it, to make it palatable. It will allay the irritation and prevent the ulceration, and swelling that are so painful. Those who were periodically subject to quinsy have thus made themselves immune to attack.

LABOR GOVT. LIKELY TO HOLD POWER FOR SOME TIME YET

MacDonald Cabinet Turns Out Not to be "Red" But Only a Little Pink-Man on the Street is Satisfied.

(United Press) LONDON, Feb. 25.—Ramsay Macdonald's Labor-Socialist government has been in power for a month now, yet the British empire has not collapsed, nor is there any indication that its foundations are seriously undermined. This despite gloomy prognostications of political "diehards" a few months ago.

In fact, the ordinary visitor would have to stay in England quite a while to determine whether the country was being governed by an old-fashioned re-actionary Tory Cabinet, or an allegedly advanced Liberal administration. He would certainly never suspect that England was under the control of a so-called "Red" government.

The average citizen hasn't noticed it to any great extent. The reason is that "Macdonald's Reds" are ordinary, sane folk whose only desire is to carry on the business of government to the best of their ability, and who promptly recognized that whatever their own views on national systems of government, the institutions and precedents of a thousand years could not be swept aside without turning the country upside down, which was far from their intention.

The Macdonald Cabinet contains as peaceful a collection of alleged "Reds" as could be found anywhere, consequently they have the support (or at least neutrality) of the great mass of British public opinion.

The organs of Lord Rothermere, Conservative, for weeks painted hair-raising pictures of the appalling consequences which might be looked for on the advent of a "Red Socialist" Cabinet, theoretically under the influence of the Amsterdam Internationale, but nothing has happened. Macdonald and his colleagues have resigned from the Internationale, and have taken over the government of Britain in almost commonplace manner.

No Stunts Attempted

The Labor Government attempted no "stunts". There were some newspaper articles about Labor ministers being at their desks at unusually early hours, and of a stampede of government employees to reach Whitehall before 11 a. m.—but these were the hours for government officials to start work—but actually there has been little change in procedure. The Labor ministers are not so early, after all, except those with arrears of work or a desire to learn their job thoroughly.

The predicted "flight of capital" from England under a "Red" government did not materialize. There was, it is true, some realigning of investments by timid folk; some foreign money was sent abroad; but the movement had no support from the leaders of industry, banking and commerce, and the timid have promptly brought their money back, while even "nervous" foreign money is returning to London.

Reginald McKenna, former chancellor of the exchequer and leading English banker, did not hesitate to accept nomination on the "Experts Committee" of the Reparations under the auspices of a Labor government and other big bankers did not allow personal political preferences to prevent them carrying on business as usual.

It is a significant sign of the times—and guarantee of the "sanity" of the Macdonald government—that Lord Bledisloe, great landowner and agricultural expert, has consented to support the Labor minister of agriculture. In the House of Lords, Bledisloe was regarded as a reactionary of the reactionaries and a stalwart champion of the "vested interests". Yet this "reactionary" decided that British agriculture and the landowning class were in no great danger under the present "Red" regime.

Public Reassured

The presence of men like Lords Haldane and Parmoor in the cabinet has also been reassuring to the public at large. Idealists, their political opponents call them, but they are recognized as sane, patriotic noblemen who would lend no support to "revolutionary" theories.

The Labor cabinet, on taking office, attempted no "funny tricks" likely to outrage British property holders. The sturdiest Socialist in Macdonald's cabinet, John Wheatley, made no bones about being sworn into the Privy Council, an essential preliminary to accepting cabinet office, and taking the solemn oath to reveal unto His Majesty "all manner of treason," etc, which might come to his notice.

Real "Reds" may rage solo and chorus, but it is clear that they will have little influence in the Macdonald cabinet, and their numbers are insufficient to embarrass the premier and his colleagues seriously. The main criticism of the Macdonald cabinet, from its political opponents, is that it is "not Red enough."

Liberals who helped to overthrow the Baldwin Conservative government are somewhat chagrined over the trend of events. They expected the Labor leader to form a cabinet of extremists whom it would be easy to vote down in Commons, with the aid of the conservatives, at Macdonald declined to oblige them.

al reason for turning out Labor until they feel assured of their own return. In any event, they would rather have a minority Labor government than a minority Liberal government, since Labor is more likely to make political blunders at the tactical moment, than their more, experienced rivals. They have no desire to help liberalism to rehabilitate itself in the eyes of the electors.

May Keep Power Years

In a word, if Ramsay Macdonald pursues his present non-provocative and orthodox policy, there is no reason why the Labor government should not stay in power for several years; in fact, for the remainder of the present Parliament's life—five years. Ardent conservatives will doubtless try to force an election this summer, but the average Britisher dislikes elections, and unless Macdonald and his colleagues make some glaring mistake during the next few months, Mr. J. E. Bull will strongly resent being thrown into the turmoil of another general election this year for mere party purposes. Such resentment is likely to take the form of giving an obviously willing Labor government a clear majority in Commons. Which is what all good conservatives and liberals wish to avoid.

Labor's policy is to lay low for a while and by doing so they can only increase their prestige—except perhaps amongst the extremists. The man in the street realized that Labor Ministers recognized their responsibilities and would not be stampeded into ill thought out schemes however estimable their object.

The budget will provide the Labor government with a splendid chance to consolidate. As three-quarters of the financial year had gone by before Philip Snowden assumed office, he incurs no blame for the unpalatable parts of the next budget, but with a little astuteness he can reap a large amount of kudos for small concession. There will be no reduction in income tax. This will please the "proletariat," while the income taxpayers cannot blame Snowden, who was not responsible for the expenditure already incurred.

Duties Off Foodstuffs

But, it is said, all duties are to be taken off tea, sugar, and such foodstuffs. No liberal will dare vote against the abolition of these taxes, and few conservatives will risk popular odium by voting for their retention.

Housing is one of the most vital questions of the moment in Britain, and recently it was announced that the government proposed to build 120,000 houses this year. The greatest number of houses ever built in England in a single year was 105,000, as far back as 1905. The average citizen realized at once that the Labor government was dealing with actualities and not theories. Minister of Health John Wheatley, a pronounced "Red," would like to build two million houses, but he realizes his limitations, and the man in the street is ready to give him a chance to build his 120,000 houses.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

THE WORLD'S BOOK-KEEPING

THERE would be but little fretting and out few sad faces here, if we didn't keep forgetting. When our little woes appear, All the sweetness, all the gladness We have had and still may gain— If we set against the sadness All the joys our books contain.

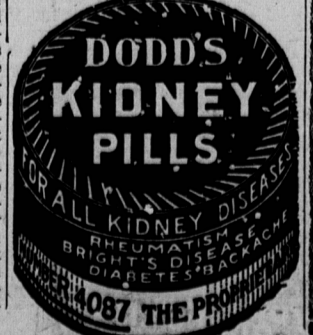
Public Reassured

THERE would be more joy to borrow And less woe to clear away, If the sorrows due to morrow Were not entered up to-day; There would be a small amount of idle fretting and less care, If we kept a full account of All the joys we have to share.

—S. E. KISER

"Only a fit of ill-temper." May as well say "Only a box of dynamite."

Bad temper wrecks and poisons more lives than prussic acid ever did.



CLARK'S BEANS. A delicious health-giving, truly economical food ready to heat and serve. Choice of Tomato, Chili or Plain Sauces. Well stocked stores carry an assortment of many excellent Clark prepared foods. The Clark label is a guarantee of quality. W. CLARK Limited MONTREAL. "LET THE CLARK KITCHENS HELP YOU"

Phone Girl Goes To Jail In China As She Is "Sassy". CANTON, Feb. 26.—Gen. Chen Wu, Commissioner of Police, put an operator in jail for slowness in making connections. The General tried to telephone his office on urgent business. The operator was slow and "sassed" him for being too hasty. The General sent for her, delivered a lecture on courtesy and put her in jail for a few days as punishment. Every fit of anger injures most the soul that indulges in it.

Low Cost and High Profits. combined with absolute security are the outstanding features of Great-West Life Insurance policies. If you are not already acquainted with the Great-West contracts it will pay you to investigate. Our representatives are always at your service. Phone or write us. Hyndman & Co., Ltd. Branch Managers THE GREAT-WEST LIFE ASSURANCE CO. 61 Queen Street Charlottetown

THE FOX FEEDING PROBLEM. Testimony of an Experienced Rancher. Mr. J. R. Dennis, Mt. Edward Rd., Charlottetown, is one of the most experienced fox feeders on the island, having been associated with the Daltons, Rayners, Gordons and Hudsons, pioneers of the Fox business. His wisdom and kindly advice have been helpful to many a young fox rancher in starting out in the business. Mr. Dennis says that after fifteen years close study of the fox and its food requirements, he has decided to feed Imperial Cod-Liver-Oil Fox Biscuits in his ranch all the year round. He had excellent results from feeding them last year. His method is to feed them with milk to the young puppies and as the foxes grow older he favors dry feeding. He finds dogs and foxes are much of the same nature and are provided with sharp teeth for grinding their food. A hard Biscuit serves the double purpose of helping them shed their teeth and a good food. He feeds the Biscuits in winter, in order to balance the ration and believes that the wren should be well nourished at this season of the year and kept up in vitality. Mr. Dennis considers that Cod-Liver-Oil has a very marked effect in producing good pups. This secret has been known to the early successful fox feeders, such as Sir Charles Dalton. There is a reason for the demand for a good Cod-Liver-Oil Biscuit wherever foxes are fed." Mr. Dennis is well known as the president of the John R. Dennis Pedigree Foxes Ltd., a Company which includes the names of some of our most prominent Canadian men, such as Dr. Borden. Mr. Dennis is also making a success as an expert feeder of milk cattle at his beautiful farm near the city. Imperial Biscuit Co. Ltd. Charlottetown, P. E. I.

C. M. LAMPSON & CO. 44 Queen Street London Public Auction Sales of RAW FURS Sales are held January, April and October Represented by ALFRED FRASER 212 Fifth Avenue, New York Silver Fox and Cross Fox should be shipped direct to London to avoid the payment of the 50 per cent duty imposed by the United States Government.