

# THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1925

### OPENING OF LEGISLATURE

As already announced in The Guardian the Prince Edward Island Legislature opens tomorrow afternoon. The opening will be accompanied by the usual ceremonies civil and military. His Honour Lieutenant Governor Heartz will make his first official appearance in the House in official uniform and it is expected that the occasion will be more than ordinarily elaborate. It is eminently fitting that the formal opening of the legislature of the province should be conducted with dignity as well as decorum. The representative of His Majesty did not make the laws of the province, but the laws of the province are expected to set an example to our people and to invest in their official position with dignity and respect for those over whom they have legislative authority. Our provincial government has always and we trust always shall be worthy of the respect and confidence of our people. An excellent precedent was set in the last session for punctuality and despatch of business. No time was wasted in preliminaries before the opening of the session and the result was most satisfactory to the members as well as to the public. We have no doubt that the coming session will be similarly conducted as neither the members nor the public have any desire to lose time or to unduly prolong the session.

We understand the agenda is not unusually large and it is expected that the session will not be unduly prolonged. We have much pleasure in extending a hearty welcome to our representatives from all over the province. Their temporary citizenship has always added much to the social and civic life and their annual coming has always been looked forward to with pleasant anticipations by all our citizens. We trust their short sojourn this year will be the pleasantest yet.

### THE WAY OUT

The Sydney Post, commenting editorially on the regrettable mine trouble in the Cape Breton collieries says in part: Yesterday's development of interest was the Corporation's offer to pay maintenance men the 1924 wage rates. This definite statement may result in the return of humpmen and service workers to their jobs. It is known that President Lewis stands as strongly as ever on the principle that pumped and protective services must be maintained in any strike that is backed by the International Executive. This was made clear in his message to Premier Armstrong last week, and has doubtless been also communicated to the local U. M. W. officials. The present conflict must end in one of two ways. It will either continue for weeks, or perhaps months, till one side or the other is compelled to capitulate, or it will be brought to an early conclusion by intelligent Government intervention. If it follows the former course, the coal trade of 1925 will be ruined, the Corporation will be subjected to staggering financial losses, which it can ill-afford, and may not be able to survive, and every business interest in the province will be injured to a greater or less extent. Unless this is to be the most disastrous year commercially that Nova Scotia has experienced since the depression of 1920, the Government must cast off its apparent apathy, and adopt remedial measures. The past policy of the British Empire Steel Corporation is directly and indirectly responsible for this year's labor troubles, as well as for those of last year. On the other hand, distrust of the Corporation has carried the U. M. W. executive into

several amazing errors of judgment since the present controversy began. The Mine Workers made a serious mistake in declining to participate in the institution of a Conciliation Board in January. They were equally wrong in rejecting Premier Armstrong's subsequent offer of arbitration. The provocative communications they addressed to the Premier were as ill-advised as President Wolvin's telegram and Mr. McLure's press interview. These circumstances are recalled merely to demonstrate that both sides have made evil contributions to the present tangle of the coal-mining industry of the province. There can be little doubt that both the Corporation and the Mine Workers realize the stupidity of the conflict into which they have allowed themselves to drift. The professions they severally make to those over whom they have legislative authority, and the large element of bluff to which the public have become accustomed in these periodic showdowns between Be-co and its employees. Both sides, we venture to affirm, would heartily welcome Government intervention, which would also be hailed with satisfaction by the people of the province. The moment is opportune for Premier Armstrong to step in, assert his authority, and oblige Corporation and miners either to agree on a voluntary settlement of their differences, or to accept compulsory arbitration.

### EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow the House meets and St. Patrick's celebrations take place.

The official opening of the new Western Union Cable connection to Italy is scheduled to take place at 11 a. m. Atlantic time, today, March 16th. In this new highway of communication to Southern Europe are the first radical improvements since Cyrus Field laid the pioneer Atlantic cable in 1858. As far as the Azores, the magic of the new metal "permalloy" permits messages to be sent five to eight times as fast as the highest speed heretofore obtained. The interesting facts about this super-cable are:—Maximum transmission speed of 1700 characters per minute. Length of cable from New York to Rome—5422 land miles. Length of "permalloy" tape wrapped around the copper core of cable—10,000 miles.

Astonishment has been expressed in Toronto at the shyness of Paavo Nurmi, the Finnish wonder-runner of all ages, who has been visiting there after a short sojourn in the States. He refused point blank to receive an ovation or even a formal reception. He declined to live at the King Edward Hotel as being too public and extravagant. He refused to patronize taxi's or have anyone carry his grip. Wherever he went, he went on his own legs, and positively objected to be slapped on the back by enthusiastic admirers. The Finnish Consul, Mr. Saarimaki, felt called upon to explain Nurmi's behaviour to the Toronto Press, which he did thus: "The Finns are not a demonstrative people. They never kiss one another in public. They do not like a fuss to be made over them. Nurmi's reserve was further due not only to national temperament but to the natural timidity of a stranger in a strange country, the language of which he could not understand."

Nurmi brightened up considerably when he was told that Canadians are less demonstrative than their American cousins and would not pester him by gaping at him as a 9-days' wonder. He observed evening prayers daily and retires at 10 p. m. This has been another surprise to Toronto the

### Notes By The Way

A discussion of prohibition in the New Brunswick Legislature is anticipated during the session just now opened. It is regarded as significant that Mr. Scully, one of the members representing St. John was selected to move the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, and in the course of his speech he expressed his opinion that the present prohibitory law is unsatisfactory and that government control of the liquor traffic on the general lines now in force in Quebec with some modifications, would be in the best interests of the province.

There is a fairly general impression that the views expressed by Mr. Scully are shared privately by Premier Venier and most of the representatives of the seven counties of the province while have a large French Acadian population. More provincial revenue is badly needed and provincial taxation has about reached its limit, so that there is a powerful urge behind the move to get the budget balanced and the treasury filled without resort to further direct taxes. Prohibition will be discussed as a feeder and test of public sentiment before further definite action is taken, but a plebiscite in the near future is not improbable.

New Brunswick was the first province in British America to enact a prohibitory liquor law. That was in 1855. The law was scheduled to take effect on the first of January, 1856, but the enactment was premature. Violations were so general and the law so openly defied that before the year was out a special session of the Legislature was called to repeal it and only two of the 41 members voted to oppose the repeal. The license law was restored. Some twenty years later local option voting brought county after county under local prohibition, but opposition remained strong in St. John City for years before the province was brought again under the prohibition banner.

A plebiscite may be taken, but we do not believe it can result in a majority for repeal of prohibition in New Brunswick. The province has no large breweries or distilleries such as are strongholds of the liquor traffic in Ontario and Quebec. There are no vineyards and native wine as there is in the Lakes region, and practically no foreign-born population such as made up a large share of the "wet" vote in the Prairie Provinces. Non-enforcement of the prohibitory law and the temptation of larger revenues are the chief moving causes toward repeal.

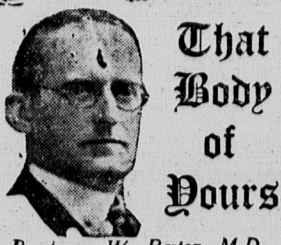
Better enforcement is easily attained where the temperance people are organized and active. And rum revenues have proved delusive in every province that has adopted government control. They have not served in a single instance to lighten the burden of taxation. As a rule they have been squandered spent as a gambler's winnings are usually spent, after the manner of the homely old proverb that "what comes over the Devil's back must pass under his belly." Revenue thus obtained is gained at the cost of increased drunkenness, vice and crime, a terrible price to pay.

Auditor General Gonthier was severely rebuked by acting Finance Minister Robb, but he deserves the thanks of the country for the light he has thrown on the Dominion finances. His searchlight has revealed that at least one hundred and fifty millions of the so-called active assets which go toward making up the difference between the gross and the net public debt are very doubtful assets indeed, that they have not come under any audit for years past and are probably very little better than worthless. We can well understand why Mr. Robb did not relish the exposure, but the people have a right to know the facts.

It is a matter of long over-due and non-collectable accounts that have been carried for years without investigation or audit. \$168,000,000 in all. What says Mr. Robb himself in his letter to the Auditor? He says this:

"One hundred and forty-six million dollars of the above amount is for outstanding interest on large amounts loaned to railways forming a part of the National Railway system. Such interest is not charged up in our accounts against the railways, as it is not expected to be paid until the railways may in the future be in a position to help out with their earnings."

That is 146 millions, uncollectable, not expected ever to be collected, but counted as a good asset! Then there is \$7,700,000 due by the Quebec Harbor Commission and on which the Harbor Commission say they are unable to pay the interest as they have said for twenty years past, and have apparently no intention of ever paying.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

### TRUNK LENGTH VITAL

In former days in giving students physical examination, it was customary to take a great number of measurements and also a number of strength tests. This idea has passed out and properly so, because many of the measurements were not important, and "strength tests" were uncertain, because just how much of his "lift" could never be ascertained. Further the idea of a "green" student being allowed, encouraged rather, to put his last ounce into a test at the very beginning of his school career, did not seem to be a wise procedure.

However, there is one measurement that may come back into use, and that is the length of the trunk, or the height of the body in a sitting posture. Candidates for the French air service have three measurements taken that are considered vital. They are the length of the trunk, the capacity of the lungs, and the weight of the body.

Now why is the length of the trunk vital? Because that is where you live. Your legs and arms are simply servants of the trunk, the legs to propel you along, and the arms to bend to your body anything and everything it needs. From this length of the body, as compared with the legs, has come a unit of measurement known as the trunk to leg ratio, which is a measure of health and strength is concerned.

The ideal type is where the length of the legs as compared with the trunk is in good proportion. The next type is where the legs are short as compared with the body. The third type is where the body is short and the legs are long.

You can thus see that our tables of weight as compared to height should take these different types into consideration. As yet the insurance companies have not done this. The resistance of those different types toward certain ailments is being investigated.

As most of your organs are in the trunk, the size of your trunk is certainly important. For instance if your trunk is short and your legs long a few pounds below the average weight for your height would be alright. On the other hand a long trunk with short legs should mean a few pounds over the stated weight for your height.

### Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

MARCH 16, 1925

THEY KEEPER:—The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is thy shield upon thy right hand. Psalm 121:5.

PRAYER:—O Lord, Thou hast made us glad through Thy work; we will triumph in the works of Thy hands.

EARLY SPRING IN CANADA  
The snow in patches lies,  
The trees, all gaunt and thin  
Beneath the pallor of the skies,  
Give us no hint of Spring.

No flowers in the wood,  
No violet's tender blue,  
No white of dainty snowdrop,  
Doth cheer the passer's view.

But Spring, oh, Spring is coming!  
It surges in the sap,  
And in the little running stream  
That wakes from Winter's nap.

And soon, like Moses' rod,  
Those trees, all gaunt and bare,  
Will burgeon forth in lively green,  
And take us unaware.

It even is like this  
With Britain's a sprightly daughter—  
She loves to Spring a swift surprise,  
And fill our ways with laughter.

—Frank Call.

### Character Reading

Small limp-looking hands denote weakness of character; their owners always want someone to lean on, someone who will protect them on all occasions. Women with these hands often attract men very much, for they awaken the instinct to protect which every nice man possesses. But if the man wants a real helpmate in the journey of life he should think twice before proposing.

Other uncollectable accounts are the Three Rivers Harbor Commission "in arrears \$379,457" as Mr. Robb admits, and enough more uncollectables to make up the \$168,000,000 uncovered by the Auditor general and all palmed off as good active assets. This sort of thing appears to be about the limit in accounting. All of which shows that nobody knows how much Canada owes.

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### Fever For Gambling Is World Wide

Speculation in wheat is said to have lured many people to their financial doom, in the past few days. They had the bad luck to take hold just when others were letting go, and they remained in the uncomfortable position of "holding the bag." The Chicago speculator, born in Guelph, who is mainly responsible for the sensational rise in wheat got out of the market some time ago. Had he remained in he might have added some millions to his huge winnings. If he had quit at the precisely proper moment, but few people know this moment when it arrives, so the next best thing is to quit before it comes. To do that is to play the game safe. On the whole, taken big and large, day in, day out, the gamblers lose. Whether they are gambling with dice or on the race track or the stock exchange, it is the "little bit percentage" in favor of those who are putting their wits against the wits of the public that tells the tale.

### The Only Winner.

"Honest John" Kelly a noted New York gambler, once remarked:—"The big players that we were after got a run for their money and frequently wallowed the house. It was our percentage that won for us, the cold, unfeeling, mathematical percentage in our favor. The players came as much for the excitement of the thing as to win a handful of money."

And Tom Jolly said:—"In the old days gambling was a real business. The big gamblers only wanted the men to play who could afford to lose, whatever they passed out over the tables. We never minded when some plunger made a killing. He'd go out and spread the news of the luck he'd had and it would be the best possible advertisement. That is what we checked our losses off to—advertisement. If you want the real dope, the man who gambles is a fool. The only winner, in the end, is the man who runs the game."

### Easy to Gamble.

These authorities were speaking of the old days when such gambling places as Canfield's flourished in New York, with the police politely looking the other way. But the fact that gambling is illegal has not abolished the vice. A Chicago real estate dealer testified in court not long ago that he had lost \$32,500, shooting craps, and a woman tourist from Boston complained to the Mayor of St. Petersburg, Florida, that she had dropped \$50,000 spinning the tiddle-top in a tea-room. The paraphernalia for games of chance can be carried in a vest pocket, and a telephone booth is commodious enough for rolling the dice. No gaudy scenery is necessary; no Deauville or Monte Carlo surroundings are required if the gambling instinct is present. And it seems to be pretty generally present in the human race if we can believe the evidence given before various bodies which have been looking into the matter. The select committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider the imposition of a tax on betting, reported that from £75,000,000 to £500,000,000 is staked each year in Great Britain with professional bookmakers on horse races, football matches, dog races, prize fights, golf tournaments and other contests.

### Big Betting

George MacAdam, writing in the New York Times Magazine gives it on the authority of a veteran book maker that about \$3,000,000 is ven-

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tured in New York every day the horses run, and of course horse racing is only one of several sports which supply the means of gambling—a fact which our reformers too frequently leave out of consideration. More than half a billion francs were wagered on French race tracks in the first six months of 1924, while \$29,000,000 lire represented the profits of the Italian Government on the national lottery for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1923. The Prince of Wales is reported to have lost 92,000 francs in a single night's bacarat at Deauville, and most of the \$800,000 that Gen. Leonard Wood's son was supposed to have made in Wall Street is said to have been left in a gambling club in Paris. The writer already mentioned says that one night at Deauville the King of Spain played roulette until dawn and won 1,200,000 francs. Then Alfonso gave a royal signal and everybody in the place was invited to have a drink with him. There were four hundred people present and they all drank champagne.

### Winners and Losers.

Another wild night at Deauville was when M. Vagliano, the Greek plunger who plays bacarat the year round, lost two million francs. On the same night M. Citroen, the French automobile maker, dropped most of the 750,000 francs he had won the evening before, and such noted players as James Hennessey and Jefferson Davis Cohn were big losers. An American named Herman Dietz dropped only 150,000 and was the object of general congratulations. "There was another exciting night when a visitor from Wichita, who knew no more about gambling than the Riviera knows about Wichita dropped into a municipal gambling room and rose with a profit of 700,000. The great gambling resorts of Europe have their regular customers who spend most of their lives coaxing Lady Luck. In the end they drop out, most of them because they have exhausted their resources. Now and then one of them signalizes his retirement by a notable coup, and of course this fact is widely advertised by the keepers of the resorts. The losses they prefer to keep as quiet as they can, and in this they have the cooperation of most of their customers. But every now and then they find a customer who would rather have the world know that he lost half a million francs than that it should know nothing at all about him.

### SINGING SCHOOL AT LITTLE SANDS

The singing school which Mr. C. J. Jordan has been conducting at Little Sands for the past few months closed on Friday evening last just before closing. Mr. M. A. MacNeill on behalf of the school read the following address, and Mrs. Harold A. MacLean made the presentation of a unenvelope containing a sum of money.

Mr. C. J. Jordan:—Dear Mr. Jordan: For the past few months you have been conducting a singing school in this district, and now that the school is closing we feel we cannot let you depart without expressing to you our high appreciation of your service. You have been a very faithful in imparting your knowledge of vocal music and your instruction has left some of us able to now read music by note and to take part in public singing with more confidence. Apart from the instruction we have spent very pleasant evenings together enjoying the music on the organ, violin and harp provided by yourself and others. We sincerely hope we may at some future time be able to again secure your service as singing-master. (Please accept this gift not for its worth but as a small remembrance of your pupils. Wishing you every success and assuring you of a welcome back again. We remain,

Your Singing School Friends,  
Mr. Jordan though taken by surprise replied thanking them for their kindness. The hall being packed Mr. Jordan then led in a short sing-song in which all engaged and the school was declared closed for the season.



### On Guard

Not that they fear any foe, but they must have their daily dozen. Here are four Canadian and American young ladies taking morning exercise aboard the Canadian Pacific S.S. Empress of Scotland on cruise of the Mediterranean.

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in the garden was an apple tree and father had forbidden Betty to touch the apples until they were ripe.

One day father came into the nursery looking very stern. "Somebody has been at the apple tree. I have found three cores on the grass."

Betty tried her best to look as if she had had never seen an apple. At last she blurted out: "Well, it wasn't me, 'cause I ate my cores."

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