

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SAURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1932

LEADERSHIP

It cannot now be said that Premier Bennett has refused to put his cards on the Imperial Conference table, or that he has placed them there face downwards. The explicitness of his statement as to the tariff concessions Canada is prepared to make to encourage reciprocal trade with Great Britain leaves nothing to be desired. Moreover, these concessions are greater and more far-reaching than any one had anticipated. They involve changes in one-quarter of Canada's eight hundred tariff items, and, it is estimated, will increase by between \$100,000,000 and \$200,000,000 Britain's market for goods now imported into Canada from foreign countries.

The fact that there would be no Imperial Economic Conference sitting at Ottawa today if it were not for the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, should also be kept in mind. If, as is hoped, the conference will be crowned with success, Canadians may take legitimate pride in the reflection that it will have been due, in very large measure, to the brilliant leadership shown by the man whom they themselves elected to power in this country.

THE BEETLE BOGEY

Whatever attitude the British delegates at the Imperial Economic Conference may take on the subject of the removal of the British embargo against Canadian potatoes, it is to be hoped they will adopt a less biased viewpoint than is apparent in a comment by a spokesman of the Empire Farmers' Party now touring Canada. According to the Canadian Press, this gentleman, speaking on behalf of the English members of the visiting party, said he had seen evidence of the Colorado beetle in Canada, that the pest must be guarded against in England and that for this reason he would do his utmost "to move the National Farmers Union of England to object to the import of potatoes from Canada under any Empire trade scheme."

Since practically the whole opposition to the importation of Canadian potatoes into England comes from the National Farmers Union, it should not be difficult to persuade them that a continuation of the embargo would be desirable!

The point, however, is not the existence of the Colorado beetle in Canada, but the fact that there is no evidence whatever that the beetle has ever been carried in shipments of Canadian potatoes overseas.

Canada for many years has done an extensive potato business with Newfoundland. Newfoundland is free from Colorado beetle, nor has the ever found it necessary to put an embargo on Canadian tubers to maintain her freedom from this pest. Moreover, Britain has not hesitated to import potatoes from France, where the Colorado beetle exists. The real reason for opposition to the removal of the embargo against Canadian tubers on the part of the National Farmers Board, it is believed by producers here, is simply that competition from Canada is not wanted by British potato producers. It would clarify the situation if those opposing the entry of Canadian potatoes into England would come out frankly and state their real objection. Then the delegates at the Imperial Economic Conference could deal intelligently with the question.

The situation was put fully before the British Department of Agriculture some months ago by the

Hon. Robert Weir, Federal Minister of Agriculture, assisted by officials of his department and backed up by a delegation from the Maritime Provinces. The negotiations then were unsuccessful, as were previous negotiations under the Mackenzie King Government. It was hoped, however, that a consideration of the case at the Imperial Economic Conference would achieve more satisfactory results. That expectation may yet be fulfilled; but it is evident, from the attitude of the British potato producers as voiced by the spokesman of the Empire Farmers' party now visiting Canada, that there is still a determined opposition to any suggestion of a removal of the embargo.

CROP PROSPECTS

Reviewing the agricultural situation, the Economic Annalist, issued by the Agricultural Economics Branch of the Federal Department of Agriculture, reports that crop conditions continue to be satisfactory, with the possible exception of Quebec where growth has been below normal. Some lodging of grain is reported and a few districts in the West have been visited by hail.

The preliminary estimate of the commercial apple crop issued by the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture indicates a production equal to 90 per cent of the 1931 crop. British Columbia will have a large crop estimated to be 25 per cent above that of a year ago. Nova Scotia reports production equal to 80 per cent of 1931, while Ontario will be 64 per cent of last year. The total crop is estimated to be 3,411,000 barrels as compared with 3,793,052 in 1931.

The peach crop in Ontario is estimated to be 8 per cent below 1931 and a large crop is reported in British Columbia. The proportion of the total supplied by the latter is however not large. In regard to pears, Ontario will have a 16 per cent larger output than in 1931. The British Columbia crop is estimated at 87 per cent of last year's crop. In Nova Scotia where this crop is not of major importance, the production this year is estimated to be 54 per cent of 1931. Plums will be more plentiful than a year ago.

Present indications are that the Ontario grape crop will be larger than a year ago and this province produces the bulk of the supply.

Prospects are for reduced acreages of tomatoes; canners' stocks are high. The acreage of potatoes planted in 1932 is placed at 543,700 as compared with 583,926 in 1931.

The report emphasizes particularly the need of strict attention to the preparation of goods for market and close study of the distribution of supplies.

TO EVEREST BY AIR

According to an Associated Press despatch, plans to conquer Mount Everest by air are being made by an American aviator, who has had considerable experience of flying conditions over Asia. This is about the sole major achievement in mountaineering remaining to be accomplished. Mount Everest, which rises to a height of 29,145 feet, has never been scaled. At least, there is no record of the fact. In 1924, with an organized expedition sponsored by the Royal Geographical Society, two noted alpine climbers, Mallory and Irvine, made an heroic attempt to reach the summit. Equipped with oxygen tanks, they set forth from their advanced base on the mountain side on their final effort. Their progress upwards was watched by observers until they had reached to within six hundred feet of the summit. Then a mist obscured the view of the party below; when it passed the climbers had disappeared and they were never seen afterwards.

Captain John Noel, who accompanied the 1924 expedition as official photographer, gives an interesting account of the attempts to scale the world's highest mountain

NOTES BY THE WAY

Directness, says the Border Cities Star, (Independent), is Mr. Bennett's outstanding characteristic. It is safe to say that Canada has had few public men, if any, with a greater capacity for getting immediately to the root of any subject, stripping away the unessentials and dealing frankly and vigorously with the problem. There are times, of course, when Mr. Bennett's directness, not to say bluntness, has led him into difficulties. On the whole, however, his to-the-point style must have aided materially in his long and successful public career. One of the great faults of international conferences in the past has been found in the fact that the conferences were inclined to toy with the subject, instead of getting down to brass tacks. If the present Conference at Ottawa succeeds, the result will have been due in no small measure, we think, to the bold and vigorous leadership given it by Mr. Bennett. On the other hand, if it fails to reach our expectations, no one can say that failure was due to any lack of zeal, leadership or frank and above board dealing on the part of the Canadian Prime Minister.

Ottawa, it seems to us, is the occasion and the place to re-endow the at present paralyzed body of the Commonwealth of British Nations with a brain which can revitalize and co-ordinate it. Falling this opportunity, it may never recur again in this age of unexpected turmoil. Today we possess but one piece of Imperial machinery, an heirloom of the War—the Imperial War Graves Commission, a cynical reminder of the fate that awaits this greatest of the Great Empires, unless we also establish an Imperial Commission for the living.—Everyman, London.

After a period of comparative silence General Smuts has been found giving vigorous battle to the Natal secessionists within his South African Party. From being a vigorous and resourceful foe of the Empire, this brilliant Boer becomes one of its staunchest upholders. That is a general result of British administration.

It matters ultimately to everyone, says the Spectator, London, that the citizens of the country we live in should, in the broadest sense, seek earnestly the best things and cultivate increasingly a taste responsive to what makes life worth while, not to what makes it mean and squalid. The sordid squalor of life cannot be concealed. A generation ignorant of facts will be incapable of facing facts. But there is all the difference in the world between a plain record framed in the service of objective truth and the deliberate stirring up of mud to be displayed spadeful by spadeful lest any drop or goblet of it should be overlooked.

The United States came out of the War enormously aggrandized, having supplied the Allies through its entire course at their own war prices; then they washed their hands of the rest of the world, put up fences about their markets, and let the cash come in—and it came. For ten years all went like a fairy tale, and then the diseases of a stricken civilization began to spread in this land of plenty. Is there a country today more dangerously disorganized, or one which seems less able to cope with its own disorganization? It feels indeed no menace from outside, but unless its own organs of publicity mislead the world, it has good reason to fear internal disorder, resulting from the prodigal advertisement of untold wealth, and then the sudden drying up of all the channels for distribution of these millions. The plain fact is that the United States thought it could do without the rest of civilization; and it cannot; yet it will not readjust itself to this fact. Fortnightly Review, London.

Goethe the German poet completed "Faust" at the age of eighty. Henry Clay the United States politician was active at seventy-five. Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote "Crossing the Bar" at the age of eighty-three. Von Hindenberg at eighty-eight is still head of the German nation. At the same age John Wesley could preach each Sunday and as often in addition as there was opportunity. Anstole France was unknown until he was more than seventy. It would need only a few more citations to show that age is something which is indefinable. In the case of some it means decay but in others it means experience which can be put to the benefit of others.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A "seeds across the sea" movement is reported in Ottawa. Canberra, capital of the Australian Commonwealth, has presented the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa with a gift of 18,000 seeds for rare Australian trees or shrubs. The main varieties are eucalyptus, acacias and casuarinas. Canadian trees and shrubs at Canberra have taken so well that there is every reason to expect growth of the Australian product here.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

SOLDIER'S PENSIONS

Sir:—May I take the liberty of thanking you for having published such full details of the resolutions adopted at the Provincial Convention of the Canadian Legion held yesterday at Mount Stewart.

May I also for the benefit of the many returned men who were not present at the Convention make a few remarks of explanation regarding the resolution bearing on the Appeal Court.

One of the Branches sent in a resolution asking that the Appeal Court be abolished and that the decision of the Tribunal be final. The Resolution Committee bearing in mind recommendation No. 4 of the Legislative Proposals submitted to the Dominion Government in January last by the five Associated Veterans Organizations, decided that it would not be well to place before the Convention this resolution asking for the abatement of the Appeal Court, but that it would be better to endorse the recommendation made by the Associated Veterans. This recommendation was therefore read to the Convention, and after discussion the resolution of endorsement was adopted.

As the Dominion President said last night no one just knows which of the several bodies dealing with the award of pensions is wrong. It is known however without a doubt that the machinery is not working right. Major Roper said also last night that he expected that within a few days a commission of five would be appointed by the Government to inquire into the whole trouble, and that the recommendations of this commission would be followed.

Attached hereto is Recommendation No. 4 above referred to.

I am, Sir, etc.

CHAIRMAN, Convention Resolutions Committee

Charlottetown 5-8-32.

"That the Pension Act be amended so as to provide that the existing Pension Appeal Court and the Pension Tribunals be combined into one Court, the present Chairman to be the head of the Court, and to permanently reside in Ottawa, and have the direction of the whole Court, and to provide for an Appellate Division consisting of the Chairman and two members of the Court, such two members to be changed every three months; the balance of the Court to be divided into Trial Tribunals and to sit at such times and places as may be ordered. In the event of the number of appeals being very large, the Chairman to have the power to set up a second court, to be constituted of any two members of the Court, with a Judge as Chairman, such Judge to be co-opted as provided by existing legislation in case of sickness or absence of any member of the Pension Appeal Court.

The fact that there would be a difference in salaries among members doing the same work might appear to create some difficulty. It is felt, however, that this cannot be avoided. The gentleman in question were appointed for a specific period, at a specific salary, and should be continued accordingly. No suggestion is made to increase the salaries of the other members."

That Body of Hours

By James W. Baston, M.D.

DON'T TRY TO REDUCE TEMPERATURE IN AILMENTS

It is not so very many years ago since a physician after taking the patient's temperature and finding it even two or three degrees above normal, immediately prescribed some drug to reduce the temperature. Thus it came about that patients purchased thermometers for themselves, and when they felt a little sick or out of sorts, and had a slight rise in temperature, would send to the drug store for some medicine to reduce the fever or temperature.

Physicians know now however that a little rise in temperature, a little 'fever', is simply Nature's way of fighting off ailments, that the fight causes the heat. They know that within certain limits—even four or more degrees above normal—that the patient is putting up a good fight, is showing good resistance to the ailment.

Heat, as you know, is life; and physicians are now actually increasing the temperature of the body by various means in an effort to make the tissues put up such a fight that old chronic ailments may be driven out of the system.

I have spoken before about the cases of paralysis which were cured following an attack of malaria. This gave the physicians the idea of inoculating paralytics with malaria and in a certain percentage of cases when the malaria was finally cured by quinine, it was found that the patient was cured of his paralysis.

After some time it occurred to some physicians that it might be the heat caused by the attack of malaria that cured the paralysis rather than the malaria.

This was proven to be true and so safer methods of creating heat in the system are now being used, not only for cases of paralysis, but for old cases of rheumatism or arthritis and also asthma.

Thus the high frequency, electrostatic or radio wave is being used, which is as yet cumbersome and expensive. Hot baths, which may be given anywhere have helped some cases, but they take a long time to raise the temperature of the patient to 102 degrees F., which is hardly as high as is required to get good results. Severe headaches almost always occur after these hot baths.

The best method at present is by diathermy—electricity—putting heat into the tissues of the body, without injuring or burning the skin.

Heat is Nature's great aid in ailments, if kept within safe limits.

Feet Tell Fortune

Orthopedic surgeons now tell fortunes by studying feet in Chicago. In the case of a woman: Short, thick toes denote lethargy and lack of imagination. Long toes and long feet mean temperament. High arches mean the subject is aristocratic; low ones that she works for a living. The bigger the feet, the prettier the woman.

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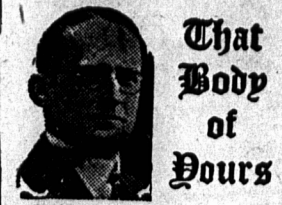
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By James W. Baston, M.D.

Self Government In P. E. Island

(Prof. D. C. Harvey in the Canadian Historical Review.)

(Recent reference was made in The Guardian to a monograph on "Responsible Government in Prince Edward Island: A Triumph of Self-Government under the Crown," by W. Ross Livingston, published by the University of Iowa as one of a series of studies in the Social Sciences. In the following article in the Canadian Historical Review Prof. D. C. Harvey reviews Mr. Livingston's essay, and points out certain discrepancies which will be of interest to all students of Island history.)

In studying the origin and nature of the British Commonwealth, Professor Livingston has interested himself in the first two colonies in British North America to have representative government, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island; and he has written monographs on these, prior to his investigation of the Australian colonies to the same end. Of necessity, his studies in the Canadian field have been hurried; and while this may have contributed to the vigor of his narrative, it also has made for inaccuracy in detail and has diminished the strength of his conclusions.

This statement is particularly true of "Responsible Government in Prince Edward Island," which Mr. Livingston has been the first to attempt in a detailed manner. Relying, as he has done, on a very inadequate secondary authority for the setting of his story, he has made many errors of fact and missed many sidelights of interpretation, in spite of the freshness of his approach and his background of comparative ideas.

To save space, some of these errors may be indicated as follows: Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island were not "established" by the United Empire Loyalists," but by the pre-loyalist Americans, Scottish, English, and Irish immigrants; Prince Edward Island was not allotted to "sixty seven Scotch proprietors; but to ninety-eight proprietors, all of whom were not Scots; the Island was made a separate colony not in 1770 but in 1769; the first newspaper was not the "Prince Edward Island Register" of 1823 but the "Royal American Gazette and Weekly Intelligence" of the Island of St. John of 1787; and between that year and 1823 five other newspapers had lived and died; the assembly was not "from the start the forum of the popular cause" but during the first thirty years of its apprenticeship it was the tool of factious, unscrupulous, Fanning, and Desbarres, alike, for their own ends; the petitions and plans of the assembly were not "spurned by the government in London" but were examined, discussed, modified, and, sometimes, but not always denied; and the British parliament did not enact "a law allowing the tenant farmers to buy the land on reasonable terms;" the local legislature enacted a law compelling the proprietors to sell their lands to the government and this took place not in 1873 but in 1875. As other examples of haste it may be noted that William Cooper, Edward Thornton, and Andrew Dunlop can appear simply as Cooper, Thornton, and Duncan; that Desjardins is written as Des Brey; Thomas Heath Haviland Jr., as T. H. Haviland; and the F. Longworth is credited with the original Longworth amendment which was

revealed.

Both the power of the purse and the question of land tenure were vital elements in the Island's history; and, until their influence relative to the political and personal elements in the struggle has been weighed and indicated, the unique character of responsible government in Prince Edward Island cannot be revealed.

Further, in considering this volume as a whole, one feels that its movement towards responsible government cannot be interpreted by a minute investigation of political activity in the decade of achievement alone. One must look before and after. For the period 1841-51 Mr. Livingston, by liberal quotation from official correspondence succeeds in describing quite well the events enacted on the public stage but as to what is going on behind the scenes he is less aware. Though he asserts that the economic question of the land and the interpretation of the local constitution were intertwined, he does not attempt to trace these inter-relationships; nor does he show by any but the vaguest references to proprietary influence that he has considered the problem. No proprietor is dealt with, nor is any specific instance of proprietary influence given, although side by side with the political despatches and petitions signed by the few active proprietors could have been seen, Likewise, although Mr. Livingston thinks that "the power of the purse" was important in the Island's story, he gives no evidence of having noted the significant fact that in 1785 and 1795 respectively, the local assembly had passed two revenue acts, which, by putting the proceeds into the hands of the governor and Council, forfeited the power of the purse; that from 1821 to 1849 successive assemblies had repeatedly failed to get these acts repealed; and that, during this interval, the British Government had more than once discussed the possibility of placing upon the local assembly full responsibility for the civil list. In the light of these facts Lord Grey's action in 1849 was but the logical outcome of twenty five years' negotiations and, therefore, was neither Machiavellian nor far sighted.

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moved by his brother John. Further, in considering this volume as a whole, one feels that its movement towards responsible government cannot be interpreted by a minute investigation of political activity in the decade of achievement alone. One must look before and after. For the period 1841-51 Mr. Livingston, by liberal quotation from official correspondence succeeds in describing quite well the events enacted on the public stage but as to what is going on behind the scenes he is less aware. Though he asserts that the economic question of the land and the interpretation of the local constitution were intertwined, he does not attempt to trace these inter-relationships; nor does he show by any but the vaguest references to proprietary influence that he has considered the problem. No proprietor is dealt with, nor is any specific instance of proprietary influence given, although side by side with the political despatches and petitions signed by the few active proprietors could have been seen, Likewise, although Mr. Livingston thinks that "the power of the purse" was important in the Island's story, he gives no evidence of having noted the significant fact that in 1785 and 1795 respectively, the local assembly had passed two revenue acts, which, by putting the proceeds into the hands of the governor and Council, forfeited the power of the purse; that from 1821 to 1849 successive assemblies had repeatedly failed to get these acts repealed; and that, during this interval, the British Government had more than once discussed the possibility of placing upon the local assembly full responsibility for the civil list. In the light of these facts Lord Grey's action in 1849 was but the logical outcome of twenty five years' negotiations and, therefore, was neither Machiavellian nor far sighted.