

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Morning Maxims The only depression in beauty is a dimple. FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1933.

FAIT ACCOMPLI

It is fortunate for the Province that we have such an able administration as the Stewart Government in office in this time of stress and trial. It has been characteristic of the Conservative Party in power that they have accomplished things, obtained additional subsidies and increased revenues without additional taxation. It was a Conservative Government that obtained an additional subsidy of \$100,000 per annum from Ottawa, and another that obtained \$40,000 in lieu of taxes from the railway. It was a Conservative Government that obtained a minimum representation for all time of four representatives in the House of Commons; and it was a Conservative government that got for us continuous communication with the mainland by means of the Car Ferry. In line with its predecessors, the second Stewart Government is going after and getting concessions for the benefit of the Province, the latest being the magnificent endowment of a chair of Economics and Sociology and a regional library in connection with Prince of Wales College. To Dr. the Hon. W. J. P. MacMillan, Minister of Education and Health, is primarily due the credit for this magnificent windfall which puts us on a footing with other Maritime Provinces as regards junior college facilities. The doctor, ever since assuming office, has taken a deep and practical interest in the welfare of Prince of Wales, and he seized the opportunity presented by the rebuilding of the College to realize his ambition of having it provided with a four years course. The impression he made on the Carnegie Foundation officials by his presentation of the case was such that today, the Province is richer by endowments totalling \$135,000, besides gifts of \$2,100 for undergraduate libraries at Prince of Wales College and St. Dunstan's.

A SOVIET SETBACK

Sensational accounts have appeared in the London Express of the situation of the farming populations in Soviet Russia. If a fraction of these accounts be true the lot of many of these people would be more tolerable under the worst of the Czars. Thousands of peasants, the Express writer predicts, will die in Russia of starvation this winter. The bread famine is not due to any failure of crops, but because the peasants, fleeced under the collective farm system of the fruits of their labour, refused to plant and reap their fields. In the collectives and on the State farms all the grain is Government property; to hold back even a few handfuls is punishable by death. In the Ukraine, the richest grain belt of the Soviet Union, there is dire famine. The same condition is reported from North Caucasus, from where the Soviets formerly shipped thousands of tons of wheat annually. Throughout Southern Russia there are even tales of cannibalism, unauthenticated, it is true, but possible in view of the situation to which many sections of the country have been reduced. The Express correspondent reports having seen Russian children eating grass. A better authenticated account of the situation appears in the January issue of Current History, published by the New York Times. In this publication it is noted that the one fact of overwhelming importance in retarding the Soviet Five Year Plan has been the failure of the food supply. Despite the success of the programme for a socialized organization of agriculture—two thirds of the peasants and four-fifths of the total cultivated land are now in the collectives—the people are reduced "to conditions

BEATING THE AIR

Surely, comments an exchange, the path of an Opposition leader in times of world depression should lie within the field of real issues. Mr. Mackenzie King, having once drawn blood upon a trumped-up "constitutional issue," dragged the old carcass out of political storage in a recent speech at Quebec. He would have us believe that in subscribing to the Ottawa agreements Mr. Bennett has signed away Canadian sovereignty and tied poor little Canada to an Imperial chariot wheel. Could anything be more fantastic? The Opposition leader gravely misjudges Canada if he thinks that, in the depths of a world depression, when matters of national life and death are uppermost in the minds of Government and people, the electorate can be lured into a political bog, chasing a constitutional Will o' the Wisp.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is to be hoped the unanimous statements of the three Maritime Premiers will have laid, once and for all, the ghost of that long defunct issue, Maritime Union. Our contemporary is still endeavoring to make political capital out of the exploded propaganda of western cattle interests regarding an alleged trade proposal with Russia. It admits that Premier Bennett was reported by Canadian Press as saying that the rumor was without foundation but says The Guardian's statement that the Amtorg Trading Company, commercial representatives of the Soviet Government in New York, have corroborated the Prime Minister's denial is "not in accordance with the facts." The despatch referred to by The Guardian specifically states the Amtorg officials have issued "a positive denial that there had been any discussion of any kind" with the Canadian Government. This sweeping statement effectively disposes of the matter, though to unbiased readers it was quite unnecessary in view of the Prime Minister's previous statement.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Germany was last year relieved of her reparations obligations (except for a sum easily borne) by her creditors, who expected to get similar generous treatment from their joint creditor, the United States, but failed. Relieved of this burden, Germany has taken a new lease of life. Her bonds are rising in value. She has bought back \$5,000,000 pounds of her long-term foreign debts. She has repaid over 30 per cent of her short-term credits which were lent by Britain. She is even repaying some of the loans which the Americans poured into Germany in the early post-war years. If Britain were also released from her foreign war debts and from the obligation to ship huge amounts of gold from her already depleted stores, she would make a more rapid recovery. The German revival is good for Europe and the world. A British revival would be even more helpful.

British manufacturers of bicycles and tricycles report a boom in their business comparable to that in the wheel-mad '90's. One manufacturer says that 15 months ago he and others in that industry were faced with ruin. Of a sudden the cycle boom appeared and within three months they were employing 30 per cent more wheelmakers than at any other period during the last 25 years.

Investigation has proved that a violent outbreak in the penitentiary at Ocaña, near Madrid, was instigated by fourteen anarchists, who forced their fellow-prisoners to join in a general riot, during which guards were dismayed and beaten. Fires were also set. The origin of the Spanish trouble leads to the thought that somewhat similar influences may have been responsible for recent disturbances in Canadian penitentiaries.

The United States Senate has received a petition from 200 prominent citizens appealing for support of a measure to ban war by international law. The motive of the petitioners is eminently worthy, but it is feared that such a prohibition would be as ineffective as the dry law of the country they live in. What could be done with a nation that resorted to warfare? It could not very well be put in jail.

Sir Harold Bowden, an English cycle manufacturer, has lately been telling his fellow countrymen that "we can not afford in this crisis to reject any suggestion merely because it is unorthodox according to the old canons"; and the London Times, agreeing with him, calls for the examination of the "criticisms of our present economic system which are now widely current."

That irrepressible dowager, Queen Marie of Rumania, has torn things loose again with the announcement that she will shortly publish a novel which will deal with the love life of King Carol. King Carol, it appears, objects strenuously. But Marie will go ahead in spite of his objections. Thus is another act to be added to the rather vulgar comédie opera of Rumanian public life. King Carol, as all the world knows, is a particularly unpleasant libertine. One would think that Queen Marie, his mother, would be more or less anxious to keep his exploits hidden and seek to have them forgotten. But so great, apparently, is the propensity of this family for mischief that even scandals must be raked up to satisfy it. Queen Marie is retired. She seemingly has nothing to do. And the old saw about Satan finding mischief for idle hands is justified.

No immediate developments in the Anglo-Persian dispute need be looked for now that our case has been formally presented before the Council of the League of Nations. Some time is likely to elapse before the next public move is made. As the Persian Government has given an undertaking to preserve the status quo pending the decision of the League, and as on our part everything will be done to preserve such amicable relations as will keep business going as usual, this lull in the proceedings may provide just the right atmosphere in which to find a compromise.

British shipping, says the London Daily Mail, is excluded by many foreign countries from their coastal trade. Thus British ships may not carry cargo or passengers from New York to Charleston or San Francisco. American shipping is not treated by us in this manner. It can ply from port to port in the British Isles and engage in inter-Empire trade. The day has come to end this one-sided and unfair position. If a nation discriminates against our shipping, similar discrimination should be applied to that nation's vessels in our ports.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

HOW FOOD AFFECTS ILLMENTS

Sometimes readers wonder why health writers talk about food so much. Of course everybody knows that the food we eat furnishes the energy that enables us to work, it gives the tissues the materials with which to rebuild worn parts, it supplies the juices for digestion, it keeps the body warm and does many other useful services. Some time ago it was found that some of the most helpful foods do not agree with some people and give attacks of indigestion, of diarrhoea or constipation when eaten. Lately it has been clearly shown that certain foods are responsible for a great many ailments besides indigestion. For instance asthma, hay fever, hives, and eczema have all been traced to such nourishing foods as eggs, meats, cereals, and milk,—all of which are foods needed by the body. And now observant physicians are noting that some ailments, particularly old or chronic conditions are greatly influenced favorably or unfavorably by certain foods.

Dr. Egon V. Ullmann, Portland, Oregon, a number of months ago outlined a regular diet list of the foods that favorably or unfavorably affect chronic sinusitis, that infection of the little sinuses or caverns that adjoin the nose. He states that a sudden change of diet has been found beneficial in most old or chronic conditions. In these cases the patient gets only fresh fruit and vegetables for one day, which practically amounts to a hunger day. On the following day he is allowed to drink 1 1/2 pints of milk with 1 to 1 1/2 ounces of sweet butter (free of salt), and some starchy food.

Most patients lose about four pounds during the first week no because they are not getting enough food, but because so much water is lost from the system owing to less salt being taken. Half of this loss of weight however is regained the following two weeks, and thereafter the weight remains normal. In addition to using this method in the treatment of sinusitis it should prove helpful also in any or all chronic inflammatory conditions of the nose, throat and chest.

When Doctors Disagree

(Exchange) There has been a continued cycle of good and bad times. As Mr. Meighen recently showed—it is an old story with economists—good times usually follow greater gold production. Each attack of this economic disorder, the lack of gold, the lifeblood of commerce, develops symptoms of its own. The symptoms on this occasion are so strange, so devastating and so stubborn, despite dosages of increased gold production, that many declare civilization has been stricken with a new illness. Manifestly the old restorative is not proving efficient. While doctors disagree there is a danger that their patient, civilization, will die.

Yet a little consideration shows why the old medicine has lost its power. When the modern world felt a growing lack of gold, it created an auxiliary medium of exchange in credit dollars. Bad times were averted and good times retained by more and more credit dollars, until they formed a ratio of fifteen to one of gold, an unstable structure, an inverted pyramid. Under the strain of the war debt payments too many tried to turn these credit dollars into gold, but the gold simply was not there. The return of the old credit would be worth a dozen gold mines, but man finds it impossible to recreate that golden superstructure. Increased gold production is a mere drop in the bucket.

We busy ourselves with the symptoms. Admittedly there is over-production. Over production, especially by the machine, is a problem of the near future but it presses on us prematurely not because we are over-supplied but because we have no money. Some say: "Curtail production and do business hereafter within the narrow confines of gold." It is like cutting the dog to fit the kennel. Cutting wages is a solution for any one industry until the other industries immediately follow and the problem grows bigger than ever. Some wider visioned say to abolish gold, admitting that it is mere convention, a fetish even, there is nothing to take its place. Some would monetize silver, thus making our money subject to the vagaries of two metals instead of one. Some say tie to sterling but

That Body of Hours

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The Poet's Corner

HUMAN FRAILTY

Weak and irresolute is man; The purpose of today, Woven with pains into his plan, Tomorrow rends away.

The bow well bent, and smart the spring, Vice seems already slain: But Passion rudely snaps the string, And it revives again.

Some foe to his upright intent Finds out his weaker part; Virtue engages his assent, But Pleasure wins his heart.

'Tis here the folly of the wise Through all his art we view, And while his tongue the charge denies, His conscience owns it true.

Bound on a voyage of awful length And dangers little known, A stranger to superior strength, Man vainly trusts his own.

But oars alone can ne'er prevail To reach the distant coast; The breath of Heaven must swell the sail, Or all the toil is lost.

—William Cowper.

The Austrian Debacle

(Montreal Gazette)

Quite outside German political circles, or any centres dominated by German thought, it has long been the considered opinion of many competent observers that the dismemberment of the Austrian Empire and its replacement by a melange of succession states, after the Great War, was a colossal blunder and one which would produce reactions of a most unpleasant complexion. The last had not been heard of Vienna. The so-called buffer states, created to be shock absorbers in Mittel Europe, would, it was felt, come into a conflict of interests. The re-mapping of Mittel Europe, accompanied by

sterling, however commendable, is not an international medium of exchange. Will it stay tied? Our money would fluctuate in sterling according to whether our trade balance be favorable or adverse. If there be any doubt, study the quotations of the Australian and the South African pound.

A possible remedy might be to make, by world consent, the present gold too twice or treble the present work by arbitrarily increasing its value in paper money, which we accept ordinarily as the medium of exchange, and consequently twice or thrice its value in commodities. Such a suggestion would seem almost like treason to Great Britain, which has parted with its gold, although obviously such an action would scale down the war debt payments, so far as their redeemable value in commodities is concerned.

Mr. J. M. Keynes, noted British economist, offers a similar and probably better solution. To be effective, he says, the remedy must be universal and spectacular, for "if we all begin purchasing again we shall all have the means to do so." He would have the Bank of International Settlements, or a body created for the purpose, print gold certificates for (say) five billion dollars and have all nations pass laws that these certificates are, to all intents and purposes, gold and these should be loaned to the various nations and gradually called in if and when new credit dollars take their place.

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the Wilsonian self-definition theory, was haled with a great fanfare of trumpets and it was thought then that the genius of statesmanship might give to a much-mixed assortment of peoples something like the same kind of unity that marked the Swiss federation. Unfortunately, nothing of this belauded programme has actually come to pass. In point of fact, for the past decade the Succession States have been a chaotic ferment of treason, stratagems and spoils, and have fatuously embarked upon an intereclectic political and economic warfare against each other, with disastrous results ranging all the way from the Polish Corridor to the mouth of the Danube. The unification scheme has utterly collapsed and ever anon the whisper goes through the chancelleries of Europe that the volcanic crack still lies in the region of the Balkans. Rich enough in natural resources, the Succession States form no garden of delights, but rather a sorry thicket of briars and thorns. Matters have steadily gone from bad to worse, and just now many onlookers are wondering whether the effort of the League of Nations is any sort of improvement upon the "house of bad bricks," the phrase whereby Bismarck long ago described the condition of Austria. The Austrian debacle is a menace to the peace not only of the Succession States replacing the Hapsburg dynasty, but also to the whole of Europe. Many reasons might be given for this tragic denouement. The depreciation of the kronen, the fall in prices, the severe contraction of exports and imports—these factors, doubtless, have told their tale and would have done so had the attitude of the Transylvanian peoples been more mutually friendly and co-operative than it is. But the deplorable truth cannot be ignored that these Succession States have themselves greatly aggravated the difficulties they now con-

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