

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

The debate on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne has so far proceeded but a short way beyond the moving and seconding. The always-to-be-expected glorification of the government in its personnel its supreme wisdom, its indefatigable efforts for the amelioration of all the ills incident to a people who are expected to pay for their administrative blessings and who, at any cost in language, must be persuaded that they are getting more than they are paying for, has also been furnished with due and irrelevant eloquence.

Mr. B. W. LePage in a speech which under the circumstances, was fair and moderate, rather "spilled the beans" in his belated confession of the failure of the government in the enforcement of the Prohibition Act.

He had eulogized the government's every act from its birth to the present, extolled its wisdom and its great achievements but with evident symptoms of repentance and contrition confessed that what was once the "Garden of the Gulf" had become a "garden of bootleggers." Mr. LePage had evidently forgotten that the revolution from a garden to be proud of to one to be ashamed of had occurred during the regime which he had so unstintingly eulogized; that during the Arsenal regime no export licenses had been granted, no bootlegger had been heard of and no stills-manufacturing moonshine whiskey. He had forgotten that the remedy for the preservation of the garden from its present disgrace was available to the Bell government had they chosen to use it as it had been used by the governments of our sister provinces. It comes with poor grace for a member of the Bell government at this late date and after the serpent has gained a foothold in the garden, to call for the raising of a plebiscite which should have been taken when that government came into power, as had been arranged for by their predecessors.

Mr. LePage was also somewhat unfortunate in his allusion to the numerical strength of the Opposition which he compared to a ship with a very small crew. This drew from Mr. J. D. Stewart, leader of the opposition the well-merited retort that he would much rather be the captain of a small crew in whom he had absolute confidence than be on board with a large and mutinous crew who were already talking of throwing their captain overboard, the only thing delaying them being their inability to choose his successor.

The retort went home and there were consequent squinnings on the government benches, even the "captain" feeling the cold chill of the premeditated plunage.

Mr. LePage dwelt long on the great work alleged to have been done on the roads during the present regime and foretold the manifold blessings which were to accrue from it. He had forgotten how his party when in opposition had anathematized the federal grant which made this road work possible and predicted all manner of calamities if the then government should take advantage of it. Now they are eloquently blessing what they as eloquently cursed when in opposition. It is however too early in the day to jubilate over the road work of the Bell government; the accounts have not yet been presented nor has the light of enquiry been let in on the modus operandi. This will be done during the session and the people will know whether to praise or to blame.

Mr. J. D. Stewart, leader of the opposition, had only got well started on what promised to be the most brilliant address he had

ever delivered when he was regrettably obliged through illness to discontinue after about an hour's speaking. A report of this part of his speech appears in this issue. We are assured by his physician that he will be able to continue on Tuesday after which the remainder will be published. His trenchant remarks on the government's premature jubilation, his business-like comment on the government's road system and his fair and gentlemanly criticism of his opponents will, we feel assured, be read with interest and pleasure.

CANADA'S BANKING SYSTEM

The address by Mr. Miles, Manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce here, before the Caledonian Club, a report of which was published in yesterday's Guardian, is well worthy of careful perusal and, we trust, will not only be read but preserved for reference for its educative value. Mr. Miles is thoroughly at home on the subject and he succeeded in making an apparently dry subject most interesting and informative. While practically all our readers enjoy the conveniences of banking, not by any means all of them know the history of the evolution of our present banking system. This information they will find in concise and intelligible form in Mr. Miles' excellent address. The Caledonian Club is again to be congratulated on having secured for its admirable series of lectures one of such high educational value as that by Mr. Miles on the Canadian Banking System.

MR. T. A. CRERAR SPEAKS

This third leader in the House of Commons, Mr. T. A. Crerar, leader of the National Progressives, made his maiden speech in his new capacity on the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. If Mr. Crerar is sized up by his speech on this occasion he, will be taken for an extremely honest, unflinchingly patriotic and fearlessly independent man. Whether he is a progressive Liberal, a Liberal Progressive or a Liberal or progressive Conservative, or a compound of all these cannot be inferred from his speech. He is plain, honest, patriotic, independent. He declares bluntly that he will support the government in any and every act which is calculated to benefit the country; he will do the same for the Conservative Opposition; also, he will oppose either party if, in his opinion, they undertake to put "anything over" on the country. As to the species of policy which, in his opinion, would be of the greatest good to the country—he was not as specific as he was in declaring his intention to support it. He was inclined to believe in national control of the railways; he was in favor of customs duties but he was not a protectionist; he was in favor of trading with the United States and of removing the tariff barriers which prevented Canadian goods from going into the United States and touched very gingerly upon the matter of letting down the Canadian bars to let United States goods in; he expressed the opinion that Mr. Fielding's visit to the United States was ill-timed although doubtless well meant and insinuated, that something more must be done than has been done before reciprocity becomes a fact.

He created somewhat of a mild sensation when referring to the overtures made to induce him to enter the cabinet. The Prime Minister in his speech on the address had stated that he had asked him, Mr. Crerar, to enter the cabinet, only as a Liberal member, "I certainly did not so understand it," said Mr. Crerar, which would lead the man on the street to infer that

both of them.

Notes By The Way

(From The Examiner.)

Another Liberal government tumbled down! It's Manitoba this time. Last time it was Alberta. If the pace keeps up—about one a month—they will soon be all down. After all Premier Norris, never had a majority in the Manitoba House; he was only the leader of the largest group. He tripped over a vote of censure, carried by 27 to 23 and down he went.

Any day the like may happen to Premier King at Ottawa, who, like Norris, is a leader of the largest group, but without a reliable majority. Premier Foster in New Brunswick is also a largest group leader, with a big deficit in the treasury that endangers his small and uncertain preponderance in the House. As for the other provinces, has not the magniloquent Mr. Hession told us that only Quebec and Prince Edward Island (which he has lately discovered is entirely surrounded by water) are financially sound? Some lands are so peculiar!

There has been another caucus at which Premier Bell was present, nor the Commissioner of Agriculture, whose illness we regret in the month me, what with the Attorney General's failure to adjourn the court, and the farmers, "dealing with selling to and stealing from their brother farmers," according to Mr. Hession and Crerar opposing our undoubted claim of sixty-six million dollars from the Northwest Lands, surely the state totters politically, notwithstanding the surplus already cooked and ready to be served.

It would seem probable that it was during the Premier's absence from the caucus that the mover and the seconder of the address were chosen for their arduous duties, in which the mover prespires so copiously while alternately lauding the government and chanting the requiem of his "venerable" leader. Twice in his discourse, at the beginning and the end, his thought was amplified, the early departure of the glory that was leadership and the grandeur that was Bell.

A King of Macdonald as we are told employed a man to stand behind his chair as he sat at a dinner and from day to day to utter "in reminder, 'Think, remember and that art mortal.' The like service was performed for the Premier as it was apparently a labor of love. Parting with his leader would be such sweet sorrow. Loving nearness would gladly see him wanted to the skies. Cheerfully would they point out to him the shining way and bid him anticipate the angelic welcome there, if only he would stay not on the order of his going but go at once!

The Premier has no need to question his own inter or spirit for premonitions of his early departure, no need to sadly sing his own sweet swan song. The stormy caucus of the other night was eloquent with dolorous warnings as the House was later vocal with dirgelike notes. "Going, going—gentlemen are you all done?—third and last time"—shouts the voluble auctioneer from Montague and then a pause before the final word and the fall of the hammer.

there was more truth than poetry in the comments of the Conservative press at the time.

He expressed very grave doubts regarding the government's sincerity on the question of protection. He had read the report of a speech delivered by Sir Lomer Gouin in which that gentleman was quoted as saying that "it was easy to understand why Canadian manufacturers insisted upon a reasonable measure of protection."

"That," said Mr. Crerar, "is as fine a protectionist doctrine as I ever heard preached in this country."

Mr. Crerar spoke at considerable length, browsing quietly among the various viands spread along the course of the Speech from the Throne, expressing no definite opinion as to the merits of any of them but implying that he had his suspicions regarding them all. It was a sort of good "Lord, good Devil" speech, its evident purpose being to conciliate rather than antagonize either the Liberals or the Conservatives but carrying a veiled threat that he might at any moment become a dangerous antagonist to either or both of them.

Happenings Of The Week

We cannot kindle when we will The fires that in the heart reside; The spirit bloweth and is still— In mystery the soul abides; But tasks in hours of insight filled Can be through hours of gloom fulfilled. —Matthew Arnold.

Princess Mary and Viscount Lascelles left this week for Italy and will spend an extended honeymoon in Florence.

Mrs. G. W. Cook, of Montreal who has been spending the past four months in Scotland, where she visited her daughter, the Countess of Minto, and in England where she stayed with the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and Lady Violet Astor, is sailing on March 17th for home. Miss Dorothy Cook, who has been staying with her sister, the Countess of Minto, for six months is returning to Canada with Mrs. Cook.

Mrs. Freeman, wife of Rev. C. R. Freeman, was at home yesterday at her residence, 274 Tower St. St. John. Since moving to her new home Mrs. Freeman is quickly making friends among her husband's congregation.

The Charlottetown Rotarians are having a delightful holiday in Moncton where visitors from Halifax, St. John, Sydney and St. John's Nfld have gone to attend the annual conference of International Rotary. The program planned was very complete including the civic welcome from Mayor (Rotarian) Edgett, the usual addresses, luncheon in the Baptist Church hall, closing with an informal dinner, reception and dance in the Pythian Hall. The delegates are to arrive home tonight as the convention closed last evening.

An ominous pause, a fateful moment, tragic words are those to the veteran who lags superfluous on the stage.

Mr. LePage, the seconder of the motion, is not a mere windbag nor a stilled windmill, perched on high to beat the air. He is a party man, of course, and supports his party with such reasoned arguments as are available, plausible if partisan. He does not want to give offence to any one needlessly. He deplores as we all must the want of respect and old-time reverence for government and legislature now apparent on every hand. He should remember, however, that ability, integrity, a dignified and faithful public course in any government or legislature always command respect. Where these qualities are wanting respect is also wanting. Those bodies are the custodians of their own honor, and equally the public regard and respect are in their keeping if they deserve it.

What Mr. LePage fails to realize is what a funny and ridiculous Executive and Assembly we really have, how unbecomingly quarrelsome and recriminations, how crude and absurd are the utterances of their leader, how laughable are their mistakes and how frequent their blunders, how wanting in saving common sense are many of the measures and their attempts to expound and defend them. We do not laugh at a cripple unless he attempts to dance—a horripile.

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

From the W. R. Louson collection.

YET THE KINGDOM DRAWETH NIGHER

Ye that follow the vision Of the world's weal afar; Have yet met with derision And the red laugh of war; Yet the thunder shall not hurt you Nor the battlements dismay; Tho' the sun in heaven desert you, LOVE WILL FIND OUT THE WAY.

When the pulse of hope falters, When the fire flickers low On your faith's crumbling altars, And the faithless gods go; When the fond hope ye cherished Cometh, kissing, to betray; When the last star hath perished, LOVE WILL FIND OUT THE WAY.

Your dreamers may dream it The shadow of a dream, Your sages may deem it A bubble on the stream, Yet our kingdom draweth nigher With each dawn and every day, Through the earthquake and the fire, LOVE WILL FIND OUT THE WAY.

Alfred Noyes

Mrs. A. A. McLean of Ottawa entertained within the week in honor of Miss Beatrice McKinnon who is visiting in the Capital.

Miss Louise Lyons has been spending a very pleasant holiday with her cousin, Miss Gladys McDonald of Georgetown.

At the annual meeting of the D. C. S. held Wednesday night Major T. Edgar MacNutt was elected secretary in place of Mr. Noel H. DeBlais, resigned. The annual meetings were brought to a close Thursday by a splendid luncheon in St. Paul's Parish Hall which was provided by the branches of the Women's Auxiliary of St. Paul's Church and St. Peter's Cathedral.

Mrs. W. H. Prowse made an agreeable hostess at a small tea on Thursday afternoon at her home on Upper Prince Street.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the G. W. V. A. gave one of the prettiest teas of the season in the G. W. V. A. rooms yesterday which reflected with credit on the president, Mrs. W. S. Stewart and her capable staff of officers and assistants. In honor of St. Patrick's day the color scheme was artistically carried out in white and green. A dainty tea was pleasingly served by a bevy of young people and with the ready sale of fancy articles, the afternoon was very profitably ended with quite a nice financial sum to help along the G. W. V. A.

Among the prominent visitors here this week was Col. John Sharples of Halifax who was accompanied by Mr. Harvey, law student of Dalhousie.

Mr. F. T. Watkis, many friends hope to hear of his speedy recovery to renewed strength. Mr. Watkis is at present in the P. E. I. Hospital.

This week has been quiet socially, though there have been a number of teas and bridges, as well as the theatre, where Jimmy Evans and his popular young people keep up a gale of laughter which grows rather than lessens, as the nights go on. The B. I. S. society also staged "Civil Service" one of the cleverest three act dramas ever produced and on both occasions large audiences showed their approval by exceptionally hearty encores.

Mrs. McAvity, the Canadian painter who was recently commissioned by the Nova Scotia Government to paint a portrait of the Prince of Wales, has broken her habit of wintering in Bermuda in favor of London. She is now at work on several portraits and has just finished one of Admiral Sir William Nicholson. Among Mrs. McAvity's recent sitters have been Colonel English, formerly A. P. M. for London, and Mrs. Henegau.

Mrs. W. S. Louson is leaving to-day on a visit to her sister in Montreal.

The tens of thousands who have read or are reading "If Winter Comes" will be keenly interested to learn that the author, Mr. A. S. M. Hutchinson, is even now at work on another novel, entitled, "This Freedom." It will be published in the late summer or early autumn, which means probably that Mr. Hutchinson has just begun his book. He is described as an agreeably "unsidey" person.

The ladies were much in evidence on Wednesday, when the Governor with a full guard of honor arrived to open the Provincial Legislature. This session is particularly interesting to them as the Women's Franchise Bill comes before the House and its adoption is eagerly anticipated.

Horsehair bids fair to play a prominent part in the make-up of the season's hats, but many other materials will not be neglected. Among them is the new novelty, braid interwoven with wool, tinsel and silver and gold threads. Wide use is predicted for the new healthier braids, the new crinolaine fabric and the chrysanthemum straw. Quills will probably be widely used as ornaments, and bows of red cellophane will not be uncommon. Other decorations that will probably be favored are pleated wheels of silk braid, clipped pom-poms of ostrich, jet ornaments, pleated rosettes, embroidered novelties and ribbon bows. Flowers and fruit will probably be widely used, and flimsy veiling will be extensively employed for over-draping crowns bearing a profusion of fruits and flowers. Ear-rings, either harmonizing or contrasting with the brilliant colors of the hats, promise to be important. Pearl and jade ear-rings will go well with many of the styles shown

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A world at peace and committed to future peace.

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Others' View Points

Useless Fault-Finding. (Toronto Globe)

Addressing women of the Montreal Reform Club, Mr. E. M. Macdonald M. P. for Pictou, N. S., accused Ontario of narrowness of outlook. He said: "For Ontario, Canada is bounded by the river Ottawa, on the one side and by Saint Ste. Marie on the other. Everything outside that territory does not count in the estimation of that Province. It is an indication of a narrowness of mind unworthy of anyone living in Canada."

Mr. Macdonald does not know Ontario at first hand. He is building a wide accusation on a narrow basis, the sayings of a few narrow minded newspapers. We have broad and narrow people here, as they have in Nova Scotia. In any case, nothing is to be gained by Nova Scotia making such accusations against Ontario, or Ontario against Nova Scotia. Mr. Macdonald should go up against the Philistines at home.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. ALL KIDNEY DISEASES. RHEUMATISM, BRIGHT'S DISEASE, DIABETES, GRAVEL, CALCULI. NUMBER 4087, THE PROPRIETARY.

A thought for today BY HYNDMAN'S THINKER. NOT GUARANTEED YOUR LIFE. YOUR LIFE IS NOT GUARANTEED—BUT OUR INSURANCE POLICY IS.

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Words That Breathe. (Los Angeles Times) Language is the trumpet voice of the soul. Let children be taught to study words, the simple words of the English tongue and their effects upon the speaker and the listener. Let the child be told that when he speaks a word he paints a picture upon his own and his hearer's mind that life to him will be good or evil, beautiful or ugly, happy or miserable, according to the pictures he paints. Such teaching would help to give the boy and girl a greater sense of responsibility. Before the wage commission in Emporia, Kan., recently a witness testified that "a girl can dress decently on \$90 a year. But who wants to dress decently? It's fashion that costs."

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Beer & Weeks See our new Carpets!

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White Turk Towels, each ..... 29c
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