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THE PAST AND THE FUTURE

It must be confessed that our contemporary has surprised us in the mildness with which it has accepted the announcement of a deficit in the public accounts. We were prepared for a repetition of its pre-election flamboyancy, for a spate of excited invective and irresponsible declamation at the expense of the Government, but we have been agreeably disappointed. It has accepted the fact of a deficit in a somewhat chastened spirit, with a sort of subdued philosophy which does it considerable credit. It seems to realize and recognize that a deficit was inevitable in the past year's transactions, and the only real and substantial exception it takes is to our suggestion that the equinoctial gales of September last had anything to do with the matter. Well, we were not speaking without the book, and if our contemporary will turn to page 12 of the Public Works report it will find the following paragraph from the pen of Professor H. H. Shaw, Provincial Engineer:—

"In regard to the large number of bridges requiring to be rebuilt or repaired, it must be said that on September 26th and 27th, the Province was swept by a violent rainstorm. The wind, blowing at first from the south-west with a velocity of 32 miles per hour as recorded at the Meteorological Office veered to the north-west, blowing with even greater fury. At the same time, a tidal wave of extraordinary height covered the bridges spanning tidal waters, and where they were exposed to a long sweep from wind and sea the greatest damage was done. The effects were most disastrous on the North Shore. Darnley Bridge was almost completely ruined. The bridges at St. Peter's, Clermont, Indian River, Fullerton's Marsh and Stanley suffered very severely. The Pisquid Bridge over the Hillsborough River had its cover lifted completely off the walls, which then fell into the stream. In fact every bridge reached by the tide was damaged in some degree. A fair estimate of the cost of repairing the bridges damaged by this storm would exceed \$50,000.00. Happening as it did at a season of the year when the fall traffic was just beginning, immediate steps had to be taken to put them in sufficient repair to accommodate this traffic. Labour and material, scarce and expensive under most favourable conditions increased in price with the forced demand.

"The Department was compelled to face an unforeseen expenditure far in excess of the year's estimate. Where temporary repairs could be made, these were done; but many of the smaller bridges had to be completely rebuilt and in the case of Darnley Bridge it was necessary to rebuild 800 feet of the structure which was done in a permanent manner."

This brooks no denial, and we do not think our contemporary will attempt to deny it. The Patriot makes no allowance for the effect of the war on the revenue. A reduction of some \$50,000 on the estimated revenue due entirely to war conditions, and an increase of expenditure due to the war and other circumstances over which the Government had, and could have, no control, are entirely responsible for the deficit—which, but for the economical administration in other departments, might have been considerably greater than it is. The Patriot seems to question the correctness of our assertion that the Nova Scotia Government had to meet the House with a deficit of \$120,000. We go farther. With a debt of \$13,410,980, the Province of Nova Scotia is compelled to use more than one-quarter of its income in paying interest. Last year the interest demand was \$510,672 of a total revenue of \$1,953,301. As the total expenditure was \$2,073,671, there was a deficit of \$120,000.

The Liberals have been continuously in office in Nova Scotia for about thirty years, and our contemporary surely will not deny that, with all the resources which that province has at its command, it was in a better position to meet adverse circumstances than we were. Premier Murray in his speech, to which we would refer our contemporary, specifically stated, that in spite of all economies, it was impossible under last year's conditions to make revenue meet expenditure. It may be accepted, however, that we have reached the nadir of our public accounts, and that for the current year the estimates are so framed that we may reasonably anticipate a return to that era of surpluses which the present Government inaugurated. There are wise-aces, of course, who presume to suggest that a government is omniscient and can foresee war's disasters and the destruction wrought by the elements; but these cannot be classed with reasonable mortals, and their opinions are correspondingly to be discounted.

The estimates for the current year as tabled yesterday show a considerable curtailment as compared with those for last year, notably in the Public Works Department, where there is a reduction of over \$51,200, also in grants for telephone extensions a reduction of \$500, in miscellaneous \$7,550, the total reduction being \$39,254 on last year's estimates and \$89,557.49 on the actual expenditure. This alone should wipe out the deficit without taking into consideration any increase in revenue.

MR DALTON'S PHILANTHROP

The Opposition has given currency to a report attempting to discredit the generosity of the Hon. Charles Dalton in connection with his magnificent gift of a Sanatorium to the Province. The report took the form of a series of questions in the name of Mr George E. Hughes, and the inference intended to be drawn was that the Government, and not Mr Dalton was financing the construction and equipping of the institution and paying the salary of the medical superintendent, Dr Garrison. This was just another example of the "mare's nests" discovered by the Opposition during the past twelve months, and the Premier had the pleasure of seeing the visible discomfiture of the triple leaders as he gave his deliberate denial to every insinuation contained in the five questions. The questions and summarized answers were as follows:—

"(1) What money (if any) the Government has expended in connection with the 'Dalton Sanatorium' up to December 31st, 1915, and up to March 31st, 1916?"

The Government has expended no money in connection with the Dalton Sanatorium.

"(2) What obligations (if any) the Government has undertaken with respect to the construction, furnishing, equipment or maintenance of this institution?"

The Government has undertaken no obligations of any kind.

"(3) What agreement (if any) has been entered into between Dr Garrison and the Government with respect to his salary as Superintendent of this Institution, and if employed, when his salary begins?"

The Government has no agreement with Dr Garrison. Dr Garrison is paid by the Trustees of the Sanatorium from funds provided by Mr Dalton.

"(4) What further agreement (if any) has been made between the Government and Mr Dalton other than what is contained in the Statute incorporating this institution?"

None.

"(5) That the Government lay on the table of the House a copy of all minutes of Council, contracts, tenders and correspondence in their possession, relating to the construction, furnishing, equipment and maintenance of this Sanatorium."

The Government has not contracted or received tenders in connection with any of these matters. The only "minute of Council," since cancelled, was an order authorizing the Government to make temporary advances to meet the claims of contractors at the time Mr Dalton was out of the Province, and these were repaid by the Trustees. There has not been any money expended on the Sanatorium that has not been expended by Mr Dalton. The institution as it stands to-day is the result of Mr Dalton's generosity, although the cost has been double what Mr Dalton originally promised to contribute. Dr Garrison has received no money directly or indirectly from the Government, and has been paid solely by Mr Dalton.

This surely should put an end to the ungenerous suggestions reflecting upon the only philanthropic Islander who has ever done anything of the kind for suffering humanity in his native province. If the triple Opposition leaders had not been anxious to spread broadcast a mean, contemptible insinuation, they would have waited until the Public Accounts had been tabled to see whether there were any grounds for their unjust, and uncharitable suspicions.

The rest of the business of the House was of a routine nature, the Tile Drainage Bill engaging the attention of the House in committee. Before the House rose, the Premier tabled the estimates for the current financial year.

BEEHIVE HOSPITAL

Among the vast number of original ideas or inventions produced by this war are many, of course, which are peculiar to the circumstances and will probably never be used again after the war is once over.

One in particular is of interest, as showing how the great number of wounded are taken care of. For many months the whole western battle line has remained substantially unchanged. Consequently, it has been perfectly practicable to construct little narrow gauge railways from various points to bases in the rear. These various short lines are connected up by lines paralleling the trenches. By these lines many supplies are quickly handled. But one of their chief uses is the quick transport of wounded in the field of battle. For this purpose a specially constructed car is provided. It is about five feet from rail to roof and has a horizontal partition, dividing it into upper and lower decks, and a vertical partition which again divides those into two compartments each. This makes a four cell arrangement, each of which is provided with a hinged side opening outwardly, so that a wounded soldier on his stretcher may be set right into one of the cells from the outside.

From its compact arrangement of cells it takes the name "Beehive." As soon as loaded it is started off for the field hospital. This is only one of the many valuable ideas turned to practical use in aiding the wounded. It may justly be said that all that is possible is being done by all branches of science to alleviate and shorten the suffering of the enormous number of wounded in this greatest of all wars.

NOTES

When tempted to feel shocked at the slang of the modern youth or maiden it may modify the jar to be reminded that at least some of the expressions heard nowadays on the street originated with Shakespeare of happy and revered memory. "Beat it," was first spoken by Luciana in "The Comedy of Errors," the quotation being "Fie! Beat it hence!"

LETTER FROM ROADMASTER

Sir—I noticed in Saturday's Guardian that you have found fault about our roads. I am Road Master of Green Road School District, and I consider the roads are in fairly good condition for this time of year. We all have to travel the roads, as well as the mail carriers and do not expect to find January sleighing in the month of April. Now the only piece of Mr. McManus's road that is in my district, is from DeSable east, boundary to the West boundary of Bonshaw School District. A distance of perhaps one mile. Mr. McManus knew the lane was broken the first part of last week, and there has been a considerable lot of hauling done over it, why did he not go where the road is in a fit state for travelling, instead of dragging over a bare field? Now I think by the way the mail carriers are always talking about the Road Act, but if you would get one and turn up page 13 and read section 52 you would then see if we have to go from house to house after a storm and notify each man separately. I am Sir, etc., JOHN E. MCGAUGHEY, Road Master.

Address Presented To Mr G. D. Wright

Following is the address presented to Mr. G. D. Wright by the Brethren of Boyne Lodge, L. O. L. on the occasion of his first official visit as Worshipful Grand Master, referred to in a former issue of the Guardian. G. D. Wright, Esq., C. C., Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of P. E. Island, Right Worshipful Sir:—

We are not without honor in his own country, consequently we approach you on this occasion not as a prophet, but truly as one of the chosen of his own peculiar people.

It is a matter of considerable satisfaction that the officers and members of Boyne Lodge, L. O. L. No. 614—over which you were recently unanimously elected to preside—have such an occasion as this present to you our congratulations on the elevation to the highest office in the gift of your brothers in this Province.

Such a rapid rise as has been yours from the rank and file is, we believe, without precedent in this jurisdiction, and we doubt if it has had a parallel in Orangemen. To a lesser man it would be a dangerous precedent to establish, but your brethren have requirements of a leader of great magnetism and strength at this particular time in the history of our Association was apparent,—hence the selection.

That to Boyne Lodge should fall the honor of producing such a person is, we repeat, a matter of very great satisfaction to us; therefore, while we congratulate you on being chosen, the honor has fallen, we congratulate the Grand Lodge on its happy, popular, and we believe—wise election.

If Orangemen is to take her place in the councils of our country and society we must admit there must be a general awakening to the conditions which surround us, and a thorough purging of all obstacles that might impede a healthy progress.

With the constant infusion of new blood in the various Lodges throughout the jurisdiction, and a grand executive whose highest ambition will doubtless be to govern righteously, we cannot but believe there is already an awakening, and the future progress of the Association as a whole is assured by no bickerings or family quarrels, but being sown in the head, from that source a warmth and fulness of brotherly love will permeate into every Lodge, proclaiming the brotherhood of man, which, rekindled in our hearts will prove beyond peradventure "how good a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Yours, Right Worshipful Sir, is an exalted position, and the task which lies before you is equally great. Full of responsibilities as is your high office, we feel that you will meet every contingency, and in the performance of your duties you have the satisfaction of knowing that an almost undivided brotherhood lends a loyal support.

Order is one of the first great laws of nature; it is necessary to the successful government of all bodies. The power vested in you at the present is two fold. Grand Master and Worshipful Master.

As the Gavel is the emblem of authority, we ask you on behalf of Boyne Lodge, L. O. L. No. 614 to accept this specially made token symbolizing in a dual sense your position officially, the greatness of the Grand Lodge over the subordinate, your nobleness of heart as well as your humility.

That you may long live to remember this occasion, and that your tenure of office may be surrounded by such things

DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

Furnished by W. S. LOUSON.

"MY SHEEP."

As my sheep was feeding one Summer's day In a Belgium pasture far away, There came to the fold a wolf to slay, And said to my sheep, The right of way, Is for me and my cubs today— So move you along give place to the strong.

We stand at bay, we shall have our way, The Shepherd then called for His brave Young men to slay the wolf and his cubs in their den For the lambs of the fold I gave my life, And I shall fight for them Through this strife, The race is not to the swift said He For the strong shall fall and humbled be And I shall show to the world at large That the lamb shall be my especial charge.

In my arms shall I carry them as of old, And gather them all within the fold. M. L. B. Charlottetown, 1916.

that make life useful and happy is the earnest wish of the officers and members of

Boyne Lodge, L. O. L. No. 614. Signed on behalf of Lodge, W. W. McPHEE, Secretary. Charlottetown, P. E. I., April 6th, 1916.

Soldiers Enjoy Sunshine in France

Mrs. Samuel Johnston of Victoria Cross has received the following letter from her son. The Lester referred to is Lester C. Johnston, now a prisoner in Germany.

France, March 17, 1916.

Dear Mother:—Just a few lines to-day have been intended writing sooner, but kept putting off with expectation of receiving a letter from home, but have been disappointed. We have not received any Canadian mail for over three weeks, what the trouble is I do not know.

We are having lovely weather here for the last week the ground is all drying up nice. I guess we may look forward to some nice fine weather soon. It is lovely today. I am sitting here in a dugout along side of our guns writing, the only light I have is what penetrates between the top of the sand-bags and the roof. I just feel like going out and sitting in the sun which is nice and warm to finish this letter and if it was not for aeroplanes over head I could, as we are out of sight of the Germans behind a hill and they cannot locate our position, lucky for us they cannot.

We moved up here into this position over a week ago which is rather north along the line from where we were and not very far from where (Lester Johnston) was captured last spring.

You know about where that was. There is not much mud up here owing to the country been more hilly. Everything is going fine with us if it only continues so we will have no kick coming.

I am enjoying the best of health I had a card from Lester last night he had no news with the exception that he was well and had received a parcel of clothing I sent him here from England; I would like to be able to write to him from here, but I do not think it would be of any use. I suppose he is tired of his place of residence long before this. It may not be so very long now before he will be free again or at least I hope so. Well mother I will have to draw to a close as we have to go into action in a few minutes, one of our guns are firing now. Hoping you will have a speedy recovery from your illness.

I am your loving son, RAULSTON. Gr. R. A. Johnston No. 301022, 2nd Battery C. F. A., 8th Howitzer Brigade, 2nd Can. Div. Artillery, British Exp. Force, France.

WORRIED AND SLEEPLESS?

NERVES ARE RACKED. VITALITY IS LOWERED. BRAIN IS CONGESTED. HEALTH UNDERMINED.

Opium, Sedatives, Narcotics, Worse Than Useless. Produce No Permanent Good.

Worry, overwork, over-study and indigestion cause Insomnia. Healthy, natural sleep can't be produced by drugs.

First, the blood circulation must be improved. Congestion of blood in the head must be removed. Irritation in the brain must be relieved.

because Ferrozone equalizes circulation, because it soothes the irritation, because it removes congestion that it does not cure insomnia.

For building blood and nerve, for instilling force and life into over-worked organs, for establishing strength and vitality, where can you find anything so sure as Ferrozone?

Remember, sleep is just as important as food. You must sleep, or break down. You can if you'll use Ferrozone and thereby remove the conditions which now keep you from sleep.

Ferrozone is not a narcotic, not a dope; it is a health-giving tonic that any child or delicate woman can use. Absolutely safe in Ferrozone. Take it for a month, take it for a year—no harm, but immeasurable good will result.

To sleep well, look well, feel well, to be free from depression, nervousness or blues—use Ferrozone. It's a food tonic, a healer to the weak and wretched, a boon to the sleepless—sold everywhere in 50c boxes.

IMPORTANT

Relatives of soldiers returning from the front are asked to communicate with the Secretary of the Provincial Committee of Wounded Soldiers' Commission, Miss Nellie Gillespie, Charlottetown, intimating the date of expected arrival, cause of return and any other particulars, in order that preparation may be made for a fitting reception.

Prepare for Sloppy Walking RUBBERS RUBBERS

Buy the best "The Merchants Brand." To fit all kinds of boots. Rubbers to wear well must fit well. Ladies ask for our red heel Rubbers.

Job lot of Men's Rubbers 60c. Women's 2-1-2, 3, 4-1-2 7 at 50c. Infant's size 6-1-2 only 29c.

Notes from the Furniture Sale

100 Baby Carriages and Go Carts from \$2.00 to \$27.50—all the new kinds are here. Office Furniture, five Desks, also Revolving Chairs, four Typewriter Desks and Office Filing Cases, (Shanon Files) also four Office and Library Tables, three only Brass Beds, ten Round Extension Tables, four China Cabinets and twelve sets of Dining Room Chairs, all on sale this week at clearance prices.

Couches and Lounges at clearance prices at PATON'S Office Furniture at clearance prices, also Side Boards and Buffets and Refrigerators at bargain prices—PATON'S Hall Furniture and other odd pieces at Money Saving Prices—PATON'S Rich Parlor Suites at the Furniture Sale—PATON'S

PATON'S

As the days get warmer, do you find your heavy overcoat a bit uncomfortable.

Your Spring Overcoat

Let us make you a nice dressy Spring Overcoat. We have all the best and most fashionable cloths in Blacks, Greys and Browns. We will make you an overcoat that will stand the test of wear, because the materials we use are the best, and our workmanship is first class. Come in to-day and select the cloth and have us make you a stylish overcoat.

MacLellan Bros.

Charlottetown's Best Tailors 8101-4-5Mtt.

MONUMENTS

In Granite and Marble

In our show room 117 Kent St. Revere Hotel Block. We have a large number of finished Monuments which the public are invited to inspect.

Call or write before purchasing. Special attention will be given to lettering on monuments already set in all cemeteries.

P. C. BROWN & CO.

8067-4-2M1mo.

PERMANENT AND ARTISTIC

wall decorations come from using Alabastine. Moreover, insect pests and germs carrying contagious diseases cannot exist upon Alabastine coated walls. Your walls will actually breathe and remain sweet and clean when coated with

Alabastine

Not only are the mellow tones of Alabastine more dainty than other wall decorations, but a room can be redecorated with one-half the work necessary for paper or kalsomine, and at much less cost, inasmuch as the first coat does not have to be removed before renewing. Let us tell you more about Alabastine. Come in and we will show you tint cards and booklet.

Victoria Row Fennell & Chandler Richmond Street

Prepare for Sloppy Walking RUBBERS RUBBERS

Buy the best "The Merchants Brand." To fit all kinds of boots. Rubbers to wear well must fit well. Ladies ask for our red heel Rubbers.

GOFF BROS

To make room for new stock Ladies' \$3 & \$4 boot going at 2.25. See our counters for other bargains.