

The Charlottetown Guardian

President, Lieut.-Col. W. Chester B. McLure
Vice-President, J. R. Burnett, F. J. L.
Secretary, Lieut.-Col. D. A. Markinson, D. S. O.

B. N. A. And Dictatorship

In reviewing the recent decision of the Privy Council on social legislation and the agitation for the amendment of the B.N.A. Act "The Fortnightly Law Journal" says:

"It must be considered that the present proposals to acquire the power of amending the B.N.A. Act, and to carry out those amendments as soon as the unfettered power can be acquired, is only another sign of the career of Canada towards some non-democratic form of government."

"Already the real legislative power is vested in the executive. The members of legislative majorities have everywhere prostituted their power of independence of action and surrendered themselves to complete subservience to the crack of the executive whip."

"The form of serious debate is still maintained like some puppet show preceding the farce of the foregone conclusion. Even divisions are taken the result of which could be foretold with mathematical accuracy at any time before the event."

"Except in minor details the legislature is a costly pageant staged solely for the purpose of making a mock show of maintaining democratic principles, and only that mockery stands between dictatorship in fact and the public realization of it."

"Already one or more of the Provinces has tried to amend or abolish the B.N.A. Act by legislative methods aimed at subordinating the Courts to the legislative will."

"Now the Dominion has evidently made up its mind to acquire the power of amendment, and no doubt as the price of provincial acquiescence will assure to the Provinces the power of subordinating the Courts to the legislative branch of government."

"Both Dominion and Provinces have found that the free road to dictatorship is blocked by the independence of the Courts, so the subordination of the Courts is the prime objective of both."

"The Dominion therefore stands to lose nothing if it assures to the Provinces the power they wish, to remove the Courts as an obstacle to political progress, and in fact if the Provinces can be persuaded to do so the Dominion may be thus able to achieve an object that it would find legislatively difficult for itself."

"So working hand in glove the Dominion and Provinces will bridge the last gulf between them and absolute legislative freedom which is dictatorship. The mock form of democracy will cease to be even necessary and dictatorship in fact will become one in form."

"The complete disruption of confederation must follow."

"No wonder we distrust the proposal to acquire the power to amend the B.N.A. Act. We only guarantee of Canadian unity, and Canada's continued membership in the Empire."

Education And Culture

A recent issue of the Sydney Post-Record—whose editor, by the way, is a former Islander and Prince of Wales College graduate—contains an interesting editorial on the subject of higher education. We quote:

"In these vigorous days, when utilitarian policies are rampant in educational circles, one hears regrettably little of education for its own sake. The aims of Education have no doubt been exactly tabulated by our pedagogical experts, yet one rather yearns for a return to some of the principles that appeared to animate teacher and pupil before the days of HERBERT SPENCER and the later Pragmatists. Education in those days, we vaguely recall, was not mere learning. It was Ruskin who added that it did not mean teaching people to know what they do not already know. And a further objective was colorfully expressed by a contemporary: 'The aim of education should be to convert the mind into a living fountain, and not a reservoir. That which is filled by merely pumping in, will be emptied by pumping out.'"

"It is objected, of course, that life today demands a more practical orientation; that in order to keep pace with progress we must know how to work and plan. All the more reason, it would justly appear, for an insistence on the cultural aspects of education. Such aspects have really no connection with manual dexterity or administrative skill. The former may or may not exist with the latter. Our age, after all, is not really backward in the art of material accomplishment. We need have no worry about the practical or more acquisitive ends of education."

"Education should give us an awareness of all that has goodness, balance, and sanity. A cultural emphasis will be productive of certain habits of discrimination that are essential if one is to see Life and see it whole. It will have room for books, music and art, for laughter and conversation, and for what LAMB aptly called the 'innocent vanities.' It will make leisure purposeful and satisfying, and it will stimulate a generous susceptibility toward truth and beauty—whenever they are found."

"And what of the joy that comes from purely intellectual accomplishment? It is truly spoken that one of the supreme rewards of a cultured life is the inspiration that springs from a voluntary exercise of the intellect. Probably no activity has quite the same fullness as that derived from sources independent of popular fashion or fancy. It represents power in a kingdom which, though often assailed, can never be conquered. It leaves the possessor untouched by all the vagaries of time, place, and cir-

cumstance. And it might do much more than people think to satisfy the urgent need for intellectual enquiry and choice in matters of national and international moment today."

Has The League A Future?

Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, closing debate in the House of Commons on the 400,000,000 pounds (\$2,000,000,000) defense loan, which soon afterward passed first reading by 329 votes to 145, sought to replace the League of Nations as the keystone of British foreign policy.

In doing this Mr. Baldwin was attempting to repair the political damage wrought by Chancellor of the Exchequer Neville Chamberlain, who made the first admission by a member of the Cabinet that the league was dead as a doornail. However, in genuflecting to the league, the Prime Minister showed that he had no faith in it by speaking of the advisability of Great Britain's entering into regional pacts. Of course, these regional pacts are always referred to as "within the framework of the league," but they are in effect a negation of the league. Collective action and by-lateral agreements cannot possibly go hand-in-hand. "I believe that in the immediate future there is a more hopeful prospect of a regional pact. If it is worth anything, it is worth everything. In Europe today, if they could get a feeling of security in one part, that feeling of security might spread to other parts of Europe."

In these last words the Prime Minister reinforced the impression first given by Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden that British had abandoned its insistence that the Soviet Union must be brought into any European settlement. This forecasts yielding to Germany on the point that any pact must be strictly a Western European affair.

"The desire for individuality which is universal among men, can now and should be used as a basis from which to bring about character reform. Fostering a spirit of responsibility by means which are recognized and advocated by such enlightened and progressive officials as Warden Laves of Sing Sing and others is likely to add to the good effects produced. Neither the Rev. C. E. Silcox nor those who think with him are advocating that prisoners be 'coddled,' but only that the penal institution should take on its proper function—the reformation, as well as the punishment, of the criminal—and should not deteriorate into a mere instrument of unremitting revenge.—Globe and Mail, Toronto.

"Manitoba has tried heavy taxation, and many economy measures, but the province and municipalities are both in desperate straits. The other provinces are in an even more desperate condition. They should at least have the opportunity of stating their case before the new commission. Then Parliament should be able to take some intelligent action. Of course, the question of conflicting jurisdiction is bound to arise, and once again the necessity for overhauling our constitution becomes evident, but the crisis is so important that immediate action is essential.—London Free Press.

"Mr. Belloc has something like ninety books listed in the British 'Who's Who.' For a writing career of about forty years this is more than two books a year. Not counting journalistic work and lecturing, Maurice Baring at the age of 63, has more than 60 books listed. Chesterton, the greatest of the trio, died at the age of 62 with something like 65 books to his credit and an immense amount of journalistic work.—New York Times.

"The number of Canadian students in the universities of Paris has been growing considerably for some time. A despatch from the Havas Agency reports on this: 'An increase of twenty per cent in the number of Canadians studying in Paris this year has been estimated. There are 108 of them at the university. Twenty of them are studying medicine and about thirty taking literary courses. Canadians and Frenchmen fraternize at the university and act custom themselves to the manners and the thought of the two countries.'—Ex.

"It was Hamilton, his federalist papers defending the then-debated independence of the judges is equal-ling requisite to guard the constitution and the rights of individuals from the effects of those ill humors, which the arts of designing men . . . sometimes disseminate . . . and which have a tendency to . . . occasion dangerous innovations in the government." — Christian Science Monitor.

"The shadow of the gallows not only causes reluctance on the part of juries to convict, but also arouses much maudlin sentiment for a murderer after conviction. Human sympathy should be with the victim, not the murderer. But once the victim is buried and the accused is in the dock fighting for his life, sympathy frequently swings round to the man in danger of the gallows. It is not uncommon at such times for a great wave of popular emotion to sweep over a country, and thousands of persons will sign petitions of mercy for persons under sentence of death who know nothing about the details of the crime and trial.—Winnipeg Tribune.

"Public apathy in the past has been largely to blame for the unchecked growth of the beggar nuisance, but there has recently been a strong stirring of opinion on the subject and a demand for something more than procrastinating committees, pious resolutions and above meetings. It is intolerable that the present state of affairs should be allowed to continue. While Bombay, Lahore, Madras and other cities by constructive policy have gone a long way towards clearing their streets of the diseased mendicant, careful estimates show that over 4,000 beggars continue to infest the highways and byways and markets of India's commercial capital, of whom 1,000 are lepers, 400 blind, and 600 sufferers from various other diseases and infirmities.—Calcutta Statesman.

"Miss Agnes Macphail speaks significantly of the British officers in the Canadian forces. Would she sooner see them German-trained or Russian-trained? And anyway, are

Notes By The Way

Criticism of expenditures upon Canadian legations in other countries (the expenditures have been far from heavy) seem uncalled for. If we are going to have legations in foreign capitals then we should maintain them with dignity as are the foreign legations in Ottawa. "Shirts-sleeves" diplomacy never got any country very far.—Ottawa Journal.

"Business, be it noted, can bear no more taxation. In some cases the law of diminishing returns is already in operation. The taxation will have to be direct taxation. That will be painful. It will be unpopular. We shall all complain and probably blame the wrong people. Shall we try to avoid the burden as Germany and to a lesser degree France did, or shall we, like the people of the Old Country, on the occasion when the national government first challenged them to pull themselves out of the morass, line up in queues a mile long to get into the tax office and pay up?—St. John Telegraph Journal.

"Science has come to the defence of the woman driver. If she is not so efficient as the men it is not because of her sex or innate abilities, but merely because she lacks the driving experience necessary for greatest skill. This is shown by tests of more than 2,000 persons on vision, reaction, time and other essential abilities for the automobile driver made by an American expert.—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

"The desire for individuality which is universal among men, can now and should be used as a basis from which to bring about character reform. Fostering a spirit of responsibility by means which are recognized and advocated by such enlightened and progressive officials as Warden Laves of Sing Sing and others is likely to add to the good effects produced. Neither the Rev. C. E. Silcox nor those who think with him are advocating that prisoners be 'coddled,' but only that the penal institution should take on its proper function—the reformation, as well as the punishment, of the criminal—and should not deteriorate into a mere instrument of unremitting revenge.—Globe and Mail, Toronto.

"Manitoba has tried heavy taxation, and many economy measures, but the province and municipalities are both in desperate straits. The other provinces are in an even more desperate condition. They should at least have the opportunity of stating their case before the new commission. Then Parliament should be able to take some intelligent action. Of course, the question of conflicting jurisdiction is bound to arise, and once again the necessity for overhauling our constitution becomes evident, but the crisis is so important that immediate action is essential.—London Free Press.

"Mr. Belloc has something like ninety books listed in the British 'Who's Who.' For a writing career of about forty years this is more than two books a year. Not counting journalistic work and lecturing, Maurice Baring at the age of 63, has more than 60 books listed. Chesterton, the greatest of the trio, died at the age of 62 with something like 65 books to his credit and an immense amount of journalistic work.—New York Times.

"The number of Canadian students in the universities of Paris has been growing considerably for some time. A despatch from the Havas Agency reports on this: 'An increase of twenty per cent in the number of Canadians studying in Paris this year has been estimated. There are 108 of them at the university. Twenty of them are studying medicine and about thirty taking literary courses. Canadians and Frenchmen fraternize at the university and act custom themselves to the manners and the thought of the two countries.'—Ex.

"It was Hamilton, his federalist papers defending the then-debated independence of the judges is equal-ling requisite to guard the constitution and the rights of individuals from the effects of those ill humors, which the arts of designing men . . . sometimes disseminate . . . and which have a tendency to . . . occasion dangerous innovations in the government." — Christian Science Monitor.

"The shadow of the gallows not only causes reluctance on the part of juries to convict, but also arouses much maudlin sentiment for a murderer after conviction. Human sympathy should be with the victim, not the murderer. But once the victim is buried and the accused is in the dock fighting for his life, sympathy frequently swings round to the man in danger of the gallows. It is not uncommon at such times for a great wave of popular emotion to sweep over a country, and thousands of persons will sign petitions of mercy for persons under sentence of death who know nothing about the details of the crime and trial.—Winnipeg Tribune.

"Public apathy in the past has been largely to blame for the unchecked growth of the beggar nuisance, but there has recently been a strong stirring of opinion on the subject and a demand for something more than procrastinating committees, pious resolutions and above meetings. It is intolerable that the present state of affairs should be allowed to continue. While Bombay, Lahore, Madras and other cities by constructive policy have gone a long way towards clearing their streets of the diseased mendicant, careful estimates show that over 4,000 beggars continue to infest the highways and byways and markets of India's commercial capital, of whom 1,000 are lepers, 400 blind, and 600 sufferers from various other diseases and infirmities.—Calcutta Statesman.

"Miss Agnes Macphail speaks significantly of the British officers in the Canadian forces. Would she sooner see them German-trained or Russian-trained? And anyway, are

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.

CHICKEN CANNING

Sir—Some statements have been published, by Mr. F. M. Nash and others, which, while true in fact, are liable to be misunderstood to throw a wet blanket over the canning factory project. To dispel those ghostly shadows let us view the whole subject in the light of fact. Poultry could probably be raised in quantity at a price to permit canning, but not to make it reasonably remunerative, of itself, to justify specializing exclusively for that purpose.

If we review the modes and processes we will learn that in very few products the raw material is produced solely with the canning in view. In the great fruit areas enormous quantities are grown of plums, pears, cherries, peaches and ground vegetables such as tomatoes, beans, peas, beets, etc., vastly in excess of the demand for immediate consumption. This is true of practically everything used in the canning factories. The produce, after being all the selects that the canning market will absorb, sells the surplus to the canners, from whom he must be satisfied with the canning value. With this outlet for his surplus the grower has no worry over heavy production or glutted markets, and can get top prices for his fancy stock with the splendid luck of at least cost price or his surplus.

Without this outlet fruit farming on a large scale would not pay, while with this advantage it is highly remunerative. Today you have to pay 20c for lb. of fresh tomatoes, a profitable price to the grower, yet you can buy a 2 lb. can of last year's surplus for 16c, but if you glutted the market with the medium quality down would be the price of 12c beef.

Being at all times of the year a reasonable price for the very heavy table demand at remunerative prices. Fastidious tastes require the finest and most fancy stock. But even this market is limited, and who can estimate demand and supply. But with the canner ready to absorb the surplus there will be no unsold stock to send to the dump, or to glut the market into prices less profitable than the canning price which you are inclined to grumble over. Too many have eyes to see the bare cost price of canning stock, where they are blind to its stimulant force in giving fancy returns on their bulk of sales.

Then the larger production the lower the average cost to produce, and the less number to select from for table marketing sales. With a canner at hand to absorb the surplus the farmer may produce in greater quantity without fear of exceeding the demand limit. But without the canner he must limit his production and that with fear and trembling.

And the canner cannot live without raw material. If our producers want this boon they must prepare to give it a working chance, and that is by insuring a supply of whatever is needed, without the greed for table stock profits.

And by canning all medium and third class material, retaining the cream of our products for the epicurean markets, we elevate the name and character of our goods, securing higher prices, and greater average profits.

I am, Sir, etc., E. J. HEMMING

ECONOMIST

CANNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sir—The reprint in Saturday's Guardian of an article in the Financial Post, telling of the proposed husbanding in Great Britain of canned and other foods, as a precautionary measure in anticipation of war, is of special interest to the people of Prince Edward Island and should be the means of allaying the fear regarding the risk of developing a modern canning factory, as evidenced by those who apparently are unaware of the immensity of the Empire market for food and feed of the kinds that can be produced by our farmers and fishermen. Moreover, the fact that the British Government is already formulating its plans for the storage of the food should stress the need for immediate action.

In peace time the demand for canned goods in the Mother Country is much greater for fruits than for vegetables, because the British people do not yet realize the superiority from a health-giving standpoint of canned vegetables, cooked in a vacuum, over those prepared in the home kitchen. For war time purposes the reverse would be the case, and this is a matter of special significance to us, for during the coming summer our farmers could produce large quantities of vegetables. This would not be the case with fruits, for their trees and bushes have still to be planted, after which there would be a lapse of from two to six years before they would bear. Strawberries would be ahead of all other fruits, for there is already a fair acreage on the Island and this could be increased very largely by planting out all the 127 stringers and possibly by importing others from Nova Scotia. A carrying out of this plan should result in an important strawberry crop in 1938.

The canned vegetables that probably would be required for storage purposes would be beets, carrots, parsnips, turnips, potatoes, string beans, broad beans, cabbage, cauliflower, brussel sprouts, spinach, chard, celery, pumpkin and such, all of which can be grown to advantage on this Island.

In this connection it is well to we Canadians not as British as those who live in the British Isles? Let her tell the electors we are not, and see what happens.—Hamilton Spectator.

Advertisement for The Great-West Life Assurance Company. Includes an illustration of a man sitting at a desk with a lamp, and a large policy document. Text: 'A Policy for Every Person and Every Purse'.

Advertisement for The Great-West Life Assurance Company. Text: 'UNMARRIED . . . but with a widowed mother and two younger brothers dependent upon his aid! A responsibility that worried him, until he learned that The Great-West Life could provide the insurance programme to meet his needs. Now he has the satisfaction of knowing that he has started out on the right path to future security—that he has protected his loved ones during the present—and that, as new needs arise, they can be filled by this great Canadian company. "A policy for every person and every purse." Get to know a Great-West man.'

Advertisement for The Poet's Corner. Text: 'The Poet's Corner. HERE AND NOW! When the first bird cries out to the dawn, When the white star of evening shines a ear, When the rose spills its scent on the lawn, It is here, it is here, it is here! When the jungle grows soft with the night, When the camp fire unfolds as a flower, In the flash of the wild peacock's flight, It is now—the intangible hour! When the lover of love is aware, When the singer is matched with the song, When the Pilgrim bows down to his prayer (Ah, Pilgrim, why seek it so long?) Not in mirage or phantoms that pass, Not in vanishing visions of bliss, But while the sands run through the glass, It is this, it is this, it is this! —Elliott Lewis in "The Sunday Times." "If there is a paradise on the face of the earth, it is this. Oh, it is this. Oh it is this!"—Persian inscription at Old Delhi.'

Advertisement for Books and Germs. Text: '(Continued on page 7) BOOKS AND GERMS (St. John Telegraph-Journal) Charlottetown newspapers have recently been publishing opinions regarding the danger (sic) of infection or contagion through books from public libraries. Some people have evidently been disturbed, even startled, by the idea, and the health authorities of Prince Edward Island have felt it necessary to issue a statement on the subject, quoting authorities. The matter is one that has been given serious consideration by health authorities almost everywhere throughout the world. Investigation has proved that the risk is negligible.'

Advertisement for Mr. Tea Pott Says. Text: 'Mr. Tea Pott Says: For a Delicious Cup of Full Flavoured Tea Use BRAHMIN Orange Pekoe Tea'. Includes an illustration of a teapot.