

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1921

THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

The speech placed in the hands of His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor for the opening of the Legislature is apologetic and retrospective rather than prospective.

The usual welcome is extended to the honourable members. He informs them that the "Great War" the war with the capital letters is over, but seems to imply that there may be other wars hanging about.

His Honour informs them that much valuable road work has been done. "It is the policy of my government to take advantage of the financial assistance offered by the federal government and during the present year to undertake a much larger amount of road improvement."

Reference is made to the fact that teachers salaries have been increased during the past year and that "grants to school fairs" inaugurated by the previous government will be continued.

The only reference to the Prince of Wales College and the recent imbroglio is that "elementary music and the art of singing are being taught." This may or may not have reference to the exercises participated in by members of the government and other interested parties to effect a settlement of the prolonged dispute.

Discouragement of agriculture, the establishment of the agricultural and technical school are referred to and the hope is held out that the expenditure for the year has been kept well within the revenue.

No special legislation is anticipated no definite announcement is made except already mentioned, that there is going to be a great amount of work done on the roads.

The speech, while disappointing in its bareness, is of course capable of expansion. It is quite possible to read things into it that were never intended and to misinterpret much that is in it.

"BUSINESS AS USUAL" During the war it was freely predicted that the cessation of hostilities would be followed by Commercial and Industrial depression.

Economy in buying became general and this was the beginning of what has since become known as business depression. Many newspapers, among them the Guardian pointed out that a slowing up in buying and the holding off of buying in the hope of eventually seeing prices fall were the great factors in bringing about the depression.

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CURRENT COMMENT

The Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King has got his answer. By a vote larger than any one anticipated the Commons have told him that his imagination was playing him false, and that the representatives of the people were perfectly satisfied with the Government under its recent brilliant leadership.

Unfortunately an epidemic of so-called economy swept over the country. People slowed up in their buying; they held what they had to sell in the hope of getting bigger prices. The result was that as goods were not being bought the manufacturers slowed up, some of them reduced their staffs and lowered their wages.

Of course, in its wild fancy, it is the Guardian that is responsible for all the ills and sufferings of the people. It wasn't the flooding of the country with hordes of land assessors and tax collectors had nothing to do with it? The populace would never have learned of these things if they hadn't read of them in the Guardian, nor would they have felt their pocket-books relieved of large drafts on their current cash if they had not been apprised of it in these columns?

When the proper time arrives, WE WILL STATE WHAT OUR POLICY IS. The Ottawa Liberal Conference put down in writing, specified in different planks, a something which was declared to be the party policy. Mackenzie King has been travelling out west, talking to different classes of people, and to every different class has had a policy of some special brand to please each particular appetite.

Strong contrasts, as presented by the Guardian, have had a most irritating effect upon the Liberal organ. The brilliant lights which we effected in word picture from the honored memories of Liberalism in the past, both of the living and

Wouldn't it be better for the Government organ to abandon this kind of nonsense, if only by way of an untried experiment, and come face to face with the fact that it is not the Guardian, nor the political opponents of the aggregation, nor their unfortunate victims in the country, BUT THEIR OWN VILE SINS THAT HAVE FOUND THEM OUT, AND IS VISITING A JUST REPRISAL UPON THEM?

THE PEOPLE WILL ONLY WAIT LONG ENOUGH

FORGOTTEN

By Mary L. D. MacFarland

Nary a visitor in the ward this week— Aw they're tired of us now! When we was well and whole And they need us to go across And stop the U-boat on our shores And chase the Hun across the Rhine.

Then every last blamed chump among us Was a "hero" and they couldn't do enough. Now— Well, the war is over, so they say (It looks to me like it wasn't finished yet).

And they're sick of all The whole danged business. So are we! We're sick of this "ere hospital. We're sick of this "ere grub. We never want to see another doctor or a nurse, And they never want to see another wounded cuss.

I don't blame 'em but— Here we are! This buddy next me here he hadn't got Much left to decorate his carcass, And he's blind, too; the Boche Shot out one eye for sure; The doctors thought they'd save the other one!

But yesterday they took the bandage off And he couldn't see a goldarned thing. He's a spirt. He never said a word, But I could see his lips a-shakin. My, ain't it hot! And those danged flies are such a nuisance. I wish that I could hike out to a shady piece

And "cool my fevered brow" as they say. In high-topped stuff, But I can't, you see, until They hitch sumpin' goin' on to These two pretty stumps of mine.

THE PUBLIC FORUM

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

COLES AND WHELAN

Sir,—The very interesting article in the Guardian of March 3, concerning the late Hon. George Coles recalls a period in the history of the province of more than ordinary interest. There are many living I suppose, who remember George Coles, but that, ruthless enemy of the "Coles" was not an "educated" man as the term was considered in his day. That is, he did not have the benefit of a classic schooling. Neither was Edward Whelan an educated man in the strict sense of the word. Coles came from England, Whelan from Ireland. The latter learned the printing business and in this way was able to polish up what little education he was enabled to acquire in a day or two. He came to this country as an "educated" man and was generally accepted as such. Coles was a business man and as such was denied the opportunity to improve his meagre schooling. Coles was not a fluent or eloquent speaker for the same reason. He spoke well and convincingly, Whelan was a fluent and very eloquent speaker. He read his Whelan's speeches today one would be inclined to call them verbiage. You see I am limiting the names of Coles and Whelan, I am doing that because in their day, their names were generally linked together. It was the party of Coles and Whelan. They fought side by side; fought and won, fought and lost. Social lines were closely drawn in their day. They fought an aristocracy, a family compact. They fought for responsible government, for free schools, for the franchise. On the question of confederation they disagreed. Whelan was an ardent confederatist, Coles was the opposite. Whelan and D'Arcy McGee—the one on Prince Edward Island and the other in Upper Canada—both Irishmen and Roman Catholics, fought for the consummation of the great idea. I remember as a small boy hearing Whelan reading letters from McGee on this very question. The Islanders did not take very kindly to the idea. It was a very unpopular subject for a politician to advocate, so that his political fortune was not bright. The late Frederick W. Hughes, who was private secretary for Whelan, undertook to circulate a petition in favor of confederation at Whelan's suggestion and bearing the latter's endorsement. Only nine teen persons in the whole Island were found willing to put their signatures to the document. That was the end of the matter. Whelan's idea of the popularity of confederation when Whelan first attempted to bring it before the people. Whelan represented St. Peter's district for some 21 years. My memory is a little faulty as to the district represented by Coles, but I do remember his being opposed on the occasion by John Ross, printer, publisher of Ross' Weekly. Whelan went down to defeat and a broken heart on the confederation issue. And strange to say his only son met his death in a boating accident on the Island's first anniversary of its entrance to confederation.

As I have already said, Whelan was a Roman Catholic. Coles was a Protestant. They had more than aristocracy to contend with, more than a deep rooted family compact to overcome—religious animosity. Whelan never became the acknowledged leader of his party, never became president of the house when his party was in power, simply because he was not of the dominant religious persuasion. It was "Coles and Whelan" but never "Whelan and Coles." Yet Whelan fought for free schools. Whelan really gave the province its free schools. He fought—and I think he died for the welding together of the scattered provinces of British North America into one grand confederacy. He was a man with vision. Coles was a man with vision. When he came to Canada he entered the printing office of Hon. Joseph B. Howe, at Halifax. He saw with Howe, with McGee and with the other master minds in Canada. I do not think I am exaggerating

ness of Mr. John T. Frizgi whose rejoinder it will carry with it in striking remembrance as long as it lives. Yes, we leave personalities entirely to the Patriot.

It talks of being "reluctant to enter into a personal controversy with any man." So far as we are concerned it had better wait till it is asked, or opportunity is offered. We talk politics and deal with political actions, and actors, and have always left the personality end of it together with the fish-wife arguments, the corner loafers oratory and the nick-name methods of the whipped street urchin, to the Patriot, which is always at home and never fails in doing justice to this practice in its warfare. With public men, in their public acts, we deal, without eternally poking in their private lives and personal concerns that style of argument that appears to be the whole stock in trade of the Government organ. It often gets a rude jolt in these methods, as for instance when it "BY THE COURTESY OF HON. W. M. LEA" commenced to pry into the private tax concerns of the signers to the Stanchel petition, the speakers at the Peakes and other meetings, and in the private bus-

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when I say that to these two Irish Roman Catholics, more than to any other two or perhaps a dozen, men, the British Empire is truly indebted for the consummation of the great idea which made this dominion possible. I am, Sir, etc. W. D. Taunton. Halifax, March 7, 1921.

Kronstadt Food Shortage Acute

LONDON, March 10—A wireless message from Moscow today says the food and fuel situation in Kronstadt is hopeless and that dissolution among the Insurgents is increasing hourly. The conflict between the rebels and those desiring to negotiate with Finland for assistance is becoming more acute, the message asserts.

Watching the Rebels

The leaders of the rebels are taking the severest measures to prevent the sailors deserting to the Soviet army from Kronstadt, according to the message. The Krasnoya Gorko fortress is directing its fire against the Moscow-Petrograd railway line, says a despatch to the Central News from Helsinki.

May Blow up Kronstadt

RIGA, March 10—The fortress of Krasnoya Gorko, which is reported to have joined the revolutionaries, was relied on by the Soviet Government to quell the Kronstadt uprising. The Soviet had threatened to blow up Kronstadt from Krasnoya Gorko if the rebels in Kronstadt did not surrender.

Petrograd Workmen

LONDON, March 10—The Petrograd workmen are revolting against forced mobilization and have attacked the Soviet troops,

The Utter Daintiness and cleanliness of every operation from the picking to the packing of Seal Brand Tea, and the freshness and beauty of the surroundings, are a combination which play an important part in the exclusive flavor of the tea itself. In

SEAL BRAND TEA you will find your affinity, a tea that you will stay with, a rare and precious beverage that will scatter a thine, renew your energy, stimulate and cheer—a champagne amongst teas in all its native purity. In pound and half-pound cartons. CHASE & SANBORN, Montreal, Que.

says a Helsinki despatch to the London Times. The Soviets, after street fighting, took possession of the greater part of the city. The revolutionary leader, Koslovski, is completely victorious, the despatch says. He has issued a proclamation to the effect that he is in a hurry to save the population from the oppression of a tyrannous clique.

U. S. Republican Govt Will Not Aid Germans

BERLIN, March 10—The German people are warned that they are doomed to disappointment if they expect the new republican government of the United States to exert any great effort in their behalf by Count Radvanyi, one of the leaders of the Pan-German party.

He points out to those who have been expecting President Harding to work miracles for Germany that America first is the keynote of the platform of the new administration and that the Japanese and Mexican questions are of more immediate importance than Germany's difficulties. He declares, but in so doing does not voice the sentiment of rank and file, that Germany is not counting on an early German-American friendship, but only asks the establishment of peace and a trade agreement and that the new policy be American and not British.

Balkan Refugees

NEW YORK, Mar. 10—The desperate plight of thousands of refugees from Russia, a large proportion of them children, who are flocking from the Balkans, and the urgent need for assistance is described in messages from the European Relief Council.

GRAY DORT CARS AND GRAY DORT SERVICE When buying a car there are two vital points to consider. FIRST the buying expense and SECOND the running expense and service. In the GRAY DORT CAR you get a medium priced car—but a car which has all the essentials of comfort and appearance. You're not paying for a lot of stuff you don't need. You are not paying a large amount of duty and expense. The GRAY DORT is MADE IN CANADA, by CANADIAN WORKMEN and with CANADIAN MONEY. Then as to the COST of use and UPKEEP. The average cost per Gray Dort Car on Prince Edward Island last season was less than \$10.00 for replacement parts—this included accidents. A larger number of GRAY DORT CARS were in constant use on which not one cent was required for repairs. We can give the owners' names. THIS IS WHAT COUNTS— WE GIVE A PERFECT SERVICE. ALL PARTS KEPT ON HAND IN CASE OF NEED —BUT SELDOM NEEDED. The GRAY DORT CAR very seldom requires the service of a mechanic—when it does we are always ready. Not ONE GRAY DORT CAR was tied up 24 hours last season for want of PARTS or SERVICE. It will be the same this year. IS THIS THE KIND OF CAR YOU WANT? LET US SHOW YOU. R. E. WHITE Distributor for Prince Edward Island MACNUTT & WHITE, 189 Queen Street, Ch' Town WRIGHT & MANSON, Summerside E. A. McRAE, Alberton N. J. NICHOLSON, Montague SELLING AGENTS

