

The Charlottetown Guardian

President, Lieut.-Col. W. Chester B. McLure... Secretary, Lieut.-Col. D. A. Mackinnon, D. S. O.

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Politics In Ontario

Occasionally in Ontario newspapers one reads the comment that Maritimers take their politics "too seriously."

The scene which occurred in the Ontario Legislature yesterday during the debate on the amendment to the Securities Act was a disgrace to the Province and the House.

"With a burlesque show of this sort going on, it is no wonder the galleries become packed. It is easy to sympathize with Mr. WILFRID HEIGHINGTON when he says: 'To have to take a statement such as the Prime Minister's makes me wonder why I belong to this House.'"

"If members of the Legislature do not think enough of government institutions to observe parliamentary rules, they at least ought to have enough regard for their constituents to make a pretense of orderliness in the conduct of public business."

"People look for sanity in their Legislatures. If they cannot trust to the fairness and honesty of their representatives, their faith will not last. They do not elect members to create public scenes. But is there any use in pointing out this fact?"

Entertaining Comedy

It is scarcely necessary to enlarge on the splendid public service which the Charlottetown Hospital is performing. This afternoon and evening at the Prince Edward Theatre an entertaining comedy drama is being presented in aid of the Hospital, which it is hoped will be largely attended.

The drama, which has been a popular stage success, is entitled "The Rowdy Gentleman". Specialties between the acts will ensure a continuous evening's entertainment, well worth the admission price apart altogether from the laudable purpose to which the proceeds will be applied.

Honouring The Coronation

Word from Ottawa says that efforts are to be made to close Parliament on April 10, that if the legislative program is not completed before that date some of it may be dropped. The reason for this is the Coronation.

Parliament has considerable business undisposed of. It has not yet voted all the main estimates, and has barely touched the special supplementary estimates. In addition, there remain the Government airways measure, the Government's relief program for the coming year, and other matters. Disposal of all of this between now and April 10, looks like a large order.

"We wonder," says the Ottawa Journal, "if the dropping of public business, or undue haste with public business, is the best way to honor the Coronation. It may be, of course, that Parliament will find it possible to dispose of all essential matters before it in time for the Coronation. If not, would it not be better, more in keeping with the things which underlie the Coronation, to adjourn Parliament, resuming the session when the Coronation is over? The suggestion that Parliament should rush through its business, or abandon some of its business, so that ministers and M.P.'s may get to the Coronation, is not a sensible suggestion. The British monarchy is based on different ideas. Pomp there may be in connection with it, and tradition and ritual, but its more enduring characteristic is public service."

Eel Grass Coming Back?

As previously reported in press, Zostera marina, (Eel-grass to the layman) was in a healthier condition in quite a number of Canada's Atlantic Coast areas in 1936, and hope is entertained that the disease, which has been ravaging the growth since 1930, is being overcome. Whether the 1936 betterment was due to the disappearance of the mysterious organism which caused the disease or to the gradual emergence of a resistance strain is not apparent, says the Fisheries News Bulletin; nor is there any certainty, of course, as to what the 1937 conditions will be. In any case, however, not only did 1936 reveal an improved state of affairs in a number of localities but in a few places the improvement was such that once again some of the eel grass was harvested commercially, though in small quantities only. On the other

hand, there were several areas where, instead of a change for the better taking place, the grass was less abundant than it had been in 1935. Strangely enough, some areas where no improvement could be noticed were close by others where conditions were more satisfactory than they had been previously.

Until a few years ago eel grass was abundant on many parts of the Atlantic Coast, in United States waters as well as those of Canada. Then a mysterious disease came along. Everywhere the grass suffered, in some places it largely disappeared. Birds went hungry and commercial utilization of the grass came necessarily to a standstill. Scientists went to work to study the situation, seeking its cause. They learned that apparently the disease had worked northward from Virginia waters and various possible causes were found. Perhaps the weight of evidence points to one of the lower forms of fungi as the real villain of the piece. But, whatever the cause, its effect has been severe.

The five Canadian localities where the grass was harvested commercially last year were Isle Verte, Quebec, the Pokemouche River and part of Kent County in New Brunswick, and two Nova Scotia districts—St. Margarets Bay and Yarmouth County. Twenty-six out of forty fisheries officers of the Dominion Department of Fisheries who were included among the observers from whom reports were obtained reported that there was improvement in the growth of the grass in their respective districts but fourteen others saw no betterment. One extensive area where there was little or no change was the outer coast of Nova Scotia, from Cole Harbour, Halifax County, to Mira in Cape Breton County. The other was on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, from the Mingan Islands to the Strait of Belle Isle.

In summarizing the year's observations on the growth of the grass, Dr. A. H. Leim, director of the fisheries research station conducted at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, by the Biological Board of Canada, makes the comment that many of the observers noted a relation between the best growth of the plant and the presence of brackish waters, although some improvement, as, for example, at Eastern Passage, Nova Scotia, "is seen in localities where high salinities prevail."

Editorial Notes

Taxation by Order-in-Council got a jolt when a caucus of the Liberal party favoured lowering the rates on auto trucks.

If Lord Strickland's proposal to make peers of Dominion Premiers or Presidents-of-Council become law, we may yet have our Lord Lyon of By-Town, our Lord Thane of Greens Village, and our Lord Brad of Rustico.

The mistake many people make is imagining Spring and Easter are coincident. Spring is the time when we take down our storm-windows and thank goodness there is still a little coal left in the cellar.

The Legion has gone on record as utterly opposed to cash bonusing soldiers who fought for their country and of others who have since gone to the relief of distressed agriculturalists—to give them, according to Mr. Jones, their Latin designation.

Take your pigs for a brisk quarter mile walk every now and then. It makes the tissues more alkaline, thus aiding the curing process and improving the taste of ham. This is one of the discoveries for which England pays \$2,500,000 a year for research. Bread that stays fresh, dental fillings that wear indefinitely and purification of water that saves the milk industry some \$250,000 annually also have been developed as an aftermath of World War studies. The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, which has reported the findings, is supervised by a committee of the Privy Council and was founded in 1917. A score of subsidiary groups do the research. Paying attention to flour storage and making bread of highest grade flour will keep a loaf fresh nearly two weeks, it was found. Improvement of alloys has prolonged the life of dental work.

Australia's part in a scheme to protect British Pacific shipping will probably be determined at the Imperial Conference in London next June. In the meantime preliminary discussions, based on the findings of the Imperial Shipping Committee, will be held between the five Governments concerned—Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Fiji. Building of new ships to compete with the American liners will depend on decisions regarding the British subsidy payments. The proposed vessels of the luxury class—the only kind capable of challenging American Pacific control—are estimated to cost \$72,500,000. During the early years of their operation it is not expected that the ships will produce sufficient revenue to pay interest on the capital invested. Annual losses at the start may aggregate at least \$750,000, but these will be progressively reduced during the first 20 years.

The Supreme Court of Palestine has upheld Moslem "blue laws" prohibiting Moslems from eating, drinking or smoking between sunrise and sunset during the thirty-day holy period known as Ramadan. Shareff El-Shanti, a Moslem, had challenged the validity of the "blue laws." Arrested in Tulkerem for smoking a cigarette while driving his car through the town during Ramadan, he was named in a complaint filed before a civil magistrate, also a Moslem, by the cadi, or religious head of Tulkerem. El-Shanti hired a lawyer and had the case transferred to a British magistrate, who decided that under the religious freedom mandate El-Shanti could not be held guilty. The attorney-general of Palestine appealed to a higher court in the Nablus District, which reversed the lower tribunal, convicted El-Shanti and fined him \$100.

Notes By The Way

The Scottish people were noted for their under-statement. They were not given to over-enthusiastic language. Their superlatives they saved up for the grand occasion. When somebody said, "It was a fine day," the usual reply was "no so bad." When something was "pretty good"; it "might have been waur." In point of fact when the ordinary Scotsman found somebody using superlatives at every turn, he waxed a bit uneasy and described him as "unco glib."

It was about 1929 that the word "hike" came into common use in this country to describe cross-country expeditions on foot. In 1930 the Youth Hostels Association was founded. Oxford became interested in it almost at once, and the Y.H.A. college secretaries were added to the corps of amateur hucksters and recruiting agents whose visits enliven every freshman's first term. Through their activities, between 400 and 500 undergraduate members of the University join the Y.H.A. each year—a number for which neither persuasive salesmanship nor intimidation can be entirely responsible.—"Oxford".

James Aiken, C.C.F.-Labor member in the Manitoba legislature, is a firm believer in the co-operative movement. Mr. Aiken is Scotch. To illustrate the benefits humanity can derive from mutual effort, he told a Scotch story to the legislators last week. The 900 employees of an Aberdeen firm, said Mr. Aiken, decided to give a present to the retiring manager, and found out he wanted a radio. They subscribed a shilling each. The committee then bought 900 shilling packs of cigarettes and got a radio with the coupons. At the presentation the manager got the radio, each man got cigarettes and the freshmen were provided with the dividend from the co-operative store where the money was spent.—Western Producer.

The recent opening of the new B.B.C. station in Wales has helped to remind British listeners that there are nearly a million who continue to prefer the Welsh language for ordinary social intercourse. The last census figures recorded the total population of Wales to be 2,472,377. It is hardly surprising to learn that more than half the population speak only English.—Ottawa Citizen.

History is full of charmers who excited attention by arts which some men and some women probably resented. It is likely that Cleopatra had not only tinted fingernails but tinted toenails as well, and she won both the frowning Anthony and the sobriquet-minded Caesar. It is within the right of any man to say he does not like tinted nails, or lipstick, or rouge, or permanent waves or whatever he dislikes; but when he speaks for all men he is in error. No man can speak for all men because no man knows all men, and the man who judges all men by himself is the man who knows no men but himself. The more a man knows men, or women, the more he realizes that tastes differ, and the less ready he is to generalize. This is one of the first lessons life has to teach—it begins at the breakfast tables of childhood—but it is a lesson we often omit to learn.—Toronto Telegram.

There is a feature of the Home Improvement Plan that has already come into evidence in and that is that the enthusiasm that has been created by the campaign has inspired several citizens who had no need of making loans to go ahead with home improvement work. That has been the experience in the United States, where for several years a scheme much similar to the Canadian plan has been in successful operation.

Damp walls on mass building projects in Moscow, Russia, are to be dried rapidly by a process which an electrician has invented. Plaster on new walls requires a long time to dry in winter, but now builders will dry it quickly by electricity. Rows of fine wire are placed under the plaster at distances of about six inches. A current from the city power lines, lowered in voltage by a transformer, is transmitted through the wires. Water is a conductor of electricity and the plaster shares in the warmth imparted by the current, drying in less than a day.—Chronicle Telegraph.

In an age when proper diction and clear enunciation of the English language are submerged in a flood of coined words and colloquialisms, a revival of the old-fashioned spelling seems anomalous. A series of spelling contests are now being aired over the radio where, we always believed, spelling of words really mattered. Very little if it was clearly and correctly pronounced. The speaking vocabulary of the average American is estimated to be between three and four hundred words, most of them of two and three syllable construction. Simple words like "believe," "seize" and "occurred" are a problem for most of us. Confronted with such stumbling blocks as "phthisis," "asafetida," "pseudonym" and "pauzine," "pauze" is inclined to doubt the existence of any such word in the American language. What confuses us is the broadcasting of the fact that the majority of Americans, holding university and college degrees, supposedly intelligent and well-read, are shockingly poor spellers. So it seems to us that the radio spelling bee is an attempt to revive an art that has long ago outlived its usefulness.—San Francisco Argonaut.

When you're feeling top-hole and just a bit above par, admiring

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.

PAVED ROADS, ETC.

Sir,—It sometimes happens that children, served at a table, if they are demonstrative and noisy, are served last and so it is that the first shall be last and the last first. I would not wonder then if both the north and south camps east of Charlottetown, who were making so much noise lately, as to which party should be served with cement roads, would be served last. Things which are first in principle, however, are often last in fact and whereas Charlottetown is our capital city and the point to which the tourist would look, I think most people will agree that all roads, which form the near approaches to the city, should be hard-surfaced first. The citizens too would appreciate the idea of putting these roads just outside into a condition in keeping with the greater progress of the city. Further, there are greater reasons that the road from Charlottetown westward should be attended to first. We have no railway, while east of Charlottetown they have two main lines. We have therefore contributed more taxes to the Government in the shape of gasoline tax than any other locality. We also are the part of the country where we pay land taxes. Anyone viewing this road, in its present condition, caused by heavy traffic, would say that it is in need of "first attention." There is a part just near that splendid structure, known as North River bridge which seems to be bottomless. The ears are cutting down to old timbers, which were designed to form a foundation in early times of the preceding century, and there is danger of a car falling through and finding its course "on the road to Mandalay."

We are good children here and have been patient for a long time and we look to our Government for fair play. It is for fair play that we elect representatives to our Government and as we now have two able men in the Government, we are hopeful. I think a Premier of any Government should be, to some extent, a dictator, so that he may not be too easy with leg-pullers, or be influenced too much by those who call meetings and pass resolutions.

With regard to the proposed tax on trucks, I think that such a tax would be, indirectly, a tax on production. The land tax therefore should be taken off. It should be enough to pay land tax in the municipality or district. The taxes of twenty farmers, for example, in a district would be about \$100.00. The taxes on a truck (if it would move 20 tons each for these twenty farmers) would be 25 cents a ton, amount to the same, i.e. \$100, but others, merchants, fishermen, doctors, etc. would also contribute their share. I am, Sir, etc. M. M. N.

ASSISTING YOUNG FARMERS

Sir,—I would like to say a few words further, in regard to financial assistance being given to our young men who would be farmers if they had the means to make a successful beginning, but are canny, and not to be beguiled by stories of what a grand and noble profession this is, oldest and most universally useful of all professions.

To show that there are others besides those like myself, who belong to the laboring class, who are aware of the drift at the present time, I have here quotations from members of the House of Commons at Ottawa, and also from our Premier in the Assembly last week. Norman J. M. Lockhart (Lincoln): "People talk of immigration, when we blow out the lives of most of our Canadians who have a right to a place in Canadian life."

I don't know the Mr. Lockhart referred to, but I believe if we do not give our young people a chance we do nullify, and blot out a useful life. And Mr. W. A. Tucker (Rosyth): "I submit that the government should set aside a certain sum of money from which a young man working to start up for himself and establish a home, should be able to apply for a reasonable loan, etc. Seeing that Canadian governments have spent millions in bringing in immigrants from other countries, today we should, I submit, have enough vision and imagination to spend some money to settle and give a start to young people who were born in this country."

"When it is suggested that we spend money on co-operative schemes to bring strangers to our shores from other countries, I care not where they come from—I say that before we fetch anybody in from outside we should look after our boys and girls who want to make a start in this country." Now I believe the above is in line with the proposal to set farms to young farmers on a commodity basis, for a loan on such a basis is fair enough, the government takes the risk of any depreciation in your own goodness, perhaps, or when you're feeling satisfied with your own conduct and mode of life and treatment of other people, you may be able to pick up a bit of pep from the old jingle which runs something like this: There's a little bit of bad in the best of us, and a little bit of good in the worst of us, so it'll behoove the most of us to talk about the rest of us. Which means, without being translated, that none of us are perfect, that the best of us have some quality not altogether agreeable to those with whom we come in contact, perhaps, and that when we are discussing the frailties and faults of others—perhaps they are doing the same thing about us. So, more power to them and may the best tongue win. —EX.

That Body of Yours By James W. Barber, M.D.

THE DENTAL PROBLEM OF THE TODDLER

When as youngsters we lost some of the front teeth of the first or milk set, it did not bother our parents, and youngsters thought it clever to see how far they could exorcise through the opening caused by the loss of one or more teeth.

Some months ago the Dental Record published an article by Dr. C. Peyton Baly on the "Dental Problem of the Toddler", in which it was pointed out that the first or milk set of teeth were important not only from the standpoint of present health, but from the standpoint of future health and the proper growth of the permanent teeth.

As the modern dentist realizes, the care of the milk teeth is just as important as the care of the permanent teeth. Parents cannot be urged too early to begin a system of regular dental examinations for the children so that any necessary treatment can be carried out before great harm has been caused. This dental examination should begin not later than the age of two and a half years, and preferably earlier. Treatment consists of (a) treating fissures and filling even the smallest cavities, and (b) instructing the parents to use the foods rich in minerals and vitamins; that is fruit and vegetables.

Dr. Baly suggests that these dental inspections be started at the age of two and a half years, but children do not begin school until they reach the age of five or six. Besides the schools may have no dental inspection. This means that parents should have the teeth of these "toddlers" inspected regularly. A most interesting sight is that

commodity values, and the farmer takes the risk of loss of crop, and other losses incurred by sickness of himself, or animals. Premier Campbell said on Thursday last that there are a considerable number of lands advertised for unpaid taxes in the three counties. Is anything being done to settle our own young people on these farms, and make it possible for them to be sure of making a living there? Of course some of the farms which are advertised for taxes may not be worth very much as producing farms, but if the government sold farms to young men on a commodity basis, I think the government would be careful to ascertain just what the farm would produce normally.

The only people who possibly might suffer from this plan as I see it would be the money lenders, and they would more than make up their possible loss at some future date. Are we drifting back to the old days of absentee owners? I am, Sir, etc. NIX GAMBLE

COULDN'T SLEEP COULDN'T WORK What a relief to settle down to a real night's rest, and awake fully refreshed, ready for the day's duties. Was tortured by fretful night-tossing turns—never comfortable. Half awake days—over-tired, driving body and mind to work when they needed rest. "Try Dodd's Kidney Pills," said a friend—"It may be your kidneys." I'm glad I followed his advice as now I'm sleeping like a top—thanks to |||

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The Poet's Corner FROM "THE TASK"

Knowledge and wisdom, far from being one, Have oft-times no connection. Knowledge dwells In heads replete with thoughts of other men; Wisdom in minds attentive to their own. Knowledge, a rude unprofitable mass, The mere materials with which wisdom builds, Till smooth'd and squar'd and fitted to its place, Does but encumber whom it seems to enrich. Knowledge is proud that he has learn'd so much; Wisdom is humble that he knows no more. Books are not seldom talismans and spells, By which the magic art of shrewd-er wits Holds an unthinking multitude enthral'd. Some to the fascination of a name Surrender judgment, hood-wink'd. Some the style Infatuates, and through labyrinths and wilds Of error leads them by a time entranc'd. While sloth seduces more, too weak to bear Insupportable fatigue of thought, And swallowing, therefore, without pause or choice, The total grist unsifted, husks and all. William Cowper.

of an X-ray film showing the milk or first set of teeth, and immediately above them the permanent set ready to come down and take the places of the milk set when the milk set are lost or removed. Your dentist can explain to you the importance to health and appearance of keeping the milk set till it is time for the permanent set to come down and fit into the places left vacant by the milk teeth.

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