

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 1935.

THE ANVIL CHORUS

The "immense success" of Mr. Lea's Lenten banquet, and of the pre-banquet meeting "at which the utmost harmony prevailed," is referred to by our contemporary in its yesterday's issue. This somewhat belated eulogy does not explain, but rather adds to the difficulty of explaining, how the Opposition leader, who according to our contemporary was to have delivered "the platform and policy of the Liberal party" at the function in question, failed to deliver the goods. All that he did, according to our contemporary of the following day, was to "broadly outline some of the features of the Liberal platform which is to be rounded completely into shape after all the provincial candidates are nominated."

In a subsequent editorial comment, our contemporary explained that this was the "democratic" way. Does this mean that the advertised intention of Mr. Lea to announce the party platform before the candidates were nominated, was "undemocratic"? If so, of course, the fact that he was frustrated at the pre-banquet meeting must be what our contemporary had in mind in expressing its satisfaction at the outcome. A bold attempt, apparently, had been made by the Opposition leader to foist his own policies on the party, and the deserving democrats and party stalwarts, rising to the occasion, had put him in his place and made him eat humble pie.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Jam is now under a marketing scheme. The City Council believes that everything comes to him that waits, even clean streets. Everybody apparently approves our marketing legislation, save and except the Lea opposition.

The Federal election is going to take place when the Government thinks it is the best time to win. With potatoes so superabundant it is surprising to learn that cattle and horses are starving in Nova Scotia "because of the shortage of hay."

Mayor Kennedy has set the city's financial situation fairly and squarely before the citizens. It is now up to the city council to take the necessary action—the citizens cannot assume the initiative. What are they going to do?

Premier Ramsay Macdonald replaces Captain Anthony Eden as Sir John Simon's colleague at the Stresa conference. This will probably be Mr. Macdonald's last continental appearance in the capacity of Premier, as it is generally believed he will give place to Mr. Stanley Baldwin in the Fall, though he will still retain a portfolio in the cabinet.

The "King's Silver Jubilee medal" which His Majesty will present as a personal souvenir to persons in the services of the Crown and others in Britain and other parts of the Empire, was issued Monday. The medal is classified as official, to be worn on all occasions on which decorations and medals are worn. A total of 80,000 will be struck.

It is possible to say much more cutting things when one has become cool. Wisdom teaches the best way falls is to say nothing.—Niagara Falls Review.

"War does not come because men want it, or don't want peace, but because they insist on policies that are incompatible with peace, without realizing that they are incompatible."—Norman Angell.

"There never was a time when the legitimate theatre offered so many opportunities for anybody with good play to sell."—Brock Pemberton.

"Washington is now the capital of the world."—H. G. Wells.

Notes By The Way

A Toronto man has won \$143,000 in a sweepstake. Another has won \$72,000. A sweepstake is an arrangement whereby a lot of money is collected from a lot of people and given, part or in whole, to a few people. But what the world needs is just the opposite of that—the taking of great sums from a few and their distribution among the multitude. It is neither necessary nor important that the few should be rich. But it is vital to the world's well-being that the many should have a decent living.—Toronto Star.

The pichard has two main items of diet—minute, free-floating plants, called diatoms, and small relatives of the shrimp, called copepods. The copepods in turn feed on diatoms and other very small plants. By means of their green pigment these microscopic plants make use of the radiant energy of the sun's light to transform the small amounts of carbon dioxide dissolved in the sea water into stores of food, and thus they retain the energy for future use. However, the pichard comes along, eats diatoms and copepods, digests them, and rebuilds them into its own kind of oil and flesh. In this way the energy of the sunlight falling on the ocean is made available to man.

Britain sees the government balance the budget for the second year in succession with a substantial surplus. The sum of £12,000,000 is allocated to debt reduction, and there is prospect of further savings on reduction for the coming year. In April, 1934, income tax was lowered from 5s. in the pound to 4s. 6d., and government workers got back half the salary cut made in 1931. Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, sees the prospect of a year ago come true. "We are finishing 'Bleak House' and going into 'Great Expectations'."—Monitor.

Manchuria sees the colored flag of Manchoukuo hoisted along the Railway. Russia has had no hand in it but Manchoukuo's Ambassador at Tokyo actually hands the Soviet Ambassador 23,000,000 yen. A ceremony occurs at Harbin, Manchoukuo flags go up and Japanese crews take over all trains. About 500 retiring Soviet employees will be pensioned. Russia leaves Manchuria after 40 years; the world sees a trouble source removed.—And Japan adds one more stout chain to its anchor on the mainland of Asia.—Monitor.

At Phillipsburg, Ohio, the janitor swept five hundred pounds of dirt out of the eight rooms in the Agra High School. Cincinnati had a rain of mud and there were similar stories from elsewhere as the March winds blew across Kansas plains. Turkey is blanketed with a red snow blanket, presumably from the North African deserts, but the winds in the high altitudes can play some curious tricks. When the Krakatoa volcano in the Dutch East Indies, exploded in 1883, remarkably red sunsets due to volcanic dust in the atmosphere were noted for several years.

The London County Council, which has a Socialist majority, recently proposed to discontinue cadet training in its secondary schools, and now has under consideration the question of the attendance of school children at military displays, which it thinks are demoralizing for the young people. The L. C. C. members in question should go a step further and condemn toy soldiers as Christmas presents. That would be almost as "logical" as forbidding children to listen to military bands.—Montreal Gazette.

It should not be forgotten that the average man in Canadian penitentiaries is there because he tried to kill someone, or rob him, or burn down his house, or defraud him, or swindle him or to perform some other outrage. These are blunt facts but they are facts nevertheless. When an individual or a newspaper proceeds to pity the prisoner and belabor the penitentiary officials about the merits of the case, the performance is manifestly lacking in fairness.—Winnipeg Tribune.

Not to be outdone in courage and resourcefulness by Toronto policemen, a member of the fire brigade leaped from the running-board of an auto to the back of a runaway horse and checked its wild career along city streets. The circus does not provide more thrilling illustrations than this of skill and courage; and the firefighter did not perform for money—merely to prevent a possible tragedy. Well done, Fireman Harold Sargent!—Globe.

Science used to think oysters fed on detritus larvae and similar forms of marine plant life and growers have expended much energy in surrounding them with proper food. Professor Kincaid, of Seattle, who is the University of Washington's zoology chief and the man who introduced the giant Japanese oyster to American waters, believes he has finally disproved the old belief about oyster food, because fifty oysters kept for weeks in a sealed tank equipped with strainers to keep out anything that would even approximate a light lunch, obviously fattened. "Perhaps they eat bacteria," he suggests.

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What Body of Hours

By James W. Barlow, M.D.

REMOVING THE THYROID GLAND TO HELP HOPELESS HEART CASES

A group of seventy-five patients with chronic heart disease were selected as suitable cases in which to remove the entire thyroid gland in the neck in an attempt to rid them of their heart symptoms. Most of the patients were chronic invalids confined to bed or to chair existence. Others of the seventy-five patients suffered congestive heart failure when they undertook any effort, or showed signs of angina pectoris (breast pang, or tightness under the breast bone) when they were at rest or on slight exertion. All the patients had been absolute invalids for long periods in spite of having received all available medical treatment.

You can readily see that these were practically all hopeless cases in which everything possible from the rest and medical standpoint had been done without success. It was therefore decided by Drs. H. L. Blumgart, D. D., Berlin, David Davis, J. E. P. Risenman, and A. A. Weinstein of the Beth Israel Hospital to remove the whole of the thyroid gland as a means of quieting or resting these hearts, as the juice of the thyroid increases the rate of the heart beat. The results were recently recorded in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

As these were all cases with very severe symptoms it was not hard to notice any improvement in their condition, such as less swelling of the feet, disappearance of breathlessness, able to walk a few light steps, and other symptoms denoting heart failure. Twenty-four of these patients have so far recovered that for the first time in months to years they are up and about the entire day without discomfort and without rest. Most of the signs and symptoms of congestive heart failure. Of the seventy-five patients with chronic heart disease, angina pectoris was quite pronounced in twenty-five. Since the operation eight of these patients have had no return of angina pectoris in spite of being around on their feet, five have had great relief, and five were entirely free of angina pectoris before the attacks returned.

This is a wonderful achievement when we think of the hopelessness of the patients before operation, but these physicians state the patients must be carefully selected, must have normal thyroid glands, must be carefully supervised before, during, and after operation if the risks of operation are to be reduced and the patients to receive the fullest possible benefit.

Why A Commissioner

(Ottawa Journal) The Canadian Chamber of Commerce, with headquarters in Montreal, is worried over an increase in the Dominion's ordinary expenditures, would have a Royal Commission to tell the Government where and how to economize. Such a commission, they have no hesitation in saying, would be a costly utility, wouldn't make a difference of difference to next year's budget.

Why? Simply because whatever increase there has been in ordinary expenditures has been under head entirely uncontrollable. The present Government has cut ordinary expenditure, where it could, but it is necessary to glance over the public accounts. Only necessary to note that while uncontrollable ordinary expenditure, such as interest on the public debt, has been increasing steadily the total of all ordinary expenditure last year was \$26,000,000 less than in 1931. What that means is that where control was exercised ruthlessly.

In 1931 interest on the public debt was \$121,000,000. Last year it was \$138,000,000—an increase of \$17,000,000. In 1931 the outlay for Old Age Pension was \$5,658,000. Last year it was \$14,900,000. Thus, under these two headings, alone, both uncontrollable, there was an increase of \$26,000,000. If controllable outlays had not been slashed—there have been cuts, in practically every department ordinary expenditures last year have been at least \$28,000,000 greater than in 1931. It was \$26,000,000 less. It was that much less because more than \$50,000,000 was saved elsewhere.

Last year the Government spent \$60,000,000 for relief. It spent \$14,900,000 for Old Age Pensions. These outlays, unavoidable, increase the public debt, increase its service charges. That is why, refunding operations notwithstanding debt interest charges grow.

What could a Royal Commission do? It could say, of course, that we should pay out less for relief, let our people go hungry and shelterless; or that we could abandon Old Age Pensions; or that we should scrap the National Railways; or that we should close down post offices, deprive our people of vital services start a general retreat.

It is saying so would make no difference. No Government in its senses, Conservative, Liberal, or National, could adopt any such policy. It would be a policy of surrender, a policy of black failure; hopeless, faithless and foolish.

"What is the matter with the poor is Poverty? What is the matter with the rich is Uselessness."—George Bernard Shaw.

The Party Game

Sydney Post-Record, (Independent)

The three budget divisions in the Commons on Wednesday were interesting in the disclosure they made of the attitude of the various parliamentary groups toward certain national questions of outstanding importance. There were three divisions in all, the first being on the Progressive amendment favoring the adoption of a social credit system under the sponsorship of the Government. This proposal differed only in degree from the wildcat schemes of Major Douglas and Gerry McGeer. Its aim was to scatter plenty over a smiling land without money and without price, charging everything up against the National Treasury without providing any possible source of supply. It was defeated by a majority of 150 out of a total of 174 votes recorded on the division. Conservatives and Liberals united solidly in rejecting this absurd proposal.

The second amendment, moved by the Liberal opposition, was in the nature of a vote of confidence resolution and called for an immediate dissolution of Parliament with a view to the earliest possible appeal to the constituencies. This proposal was negated by a vote of 104 to 73, the Government's majority of 31 comprising not only the Conservative members of the House, but 6 Farmer members including the leader of the Progressives, Mr. Gardiner of Alberta. The Independents, who lined up with the Opposition were Mr. Woodsworth and Mr. Heaps, Miss McPhail, Mr. Cooke, Mr. Mitchell and Mr. McInnis. Four of the Independents, Messrs. Mitchell, McInnis, Woodsworth and Heaps represent the Labor interests in Parliament. When the motion for the rejection of the budget was put to the test it was adopted by a majority of 23, 11 Progressives voting with the Liberal Opposition, while one of this group, Mr. Campbell of Saskatchewan, supported the Government.

The approval of the budget by the House of Commons was of course a foregone conclusion from the outset. Its defeat, which would have precipitated the Government's resignation, was anticipated by the Opposition at once for the purpose of bringing on the general election a few weeks earlier than would be necessary for the completion of its work and the enactment of these important measures. The leader of the Progressives and a majority of the Independents declared by their vote that they were against any such premature abandonment of Parliament's work. The only Farmer members who voted for this stoppage of the session, programme in order to hasten an appeal to the constituencies were Mr. Cooke and Miss McPhail, the other Independents, as has been noted, being identified with some aspect or other of the political Labor movement. The inference is obvious enough. The Progressive leader and most of his followers are more anxious for early social reform than an early election campaign.

The Opposition, who supported the resolution, are manifestly out to play the political game. At the same time it is right to remark that it is doubtful whether any of these members would have lined up with the Opposition, if they had anticipated the possibility whatever of the resolution they supported being adopted by the House. What is the cause of this suddenly declared desire of the Opposition members of the House of Commons for an early appeal to the constituencies? Till quite recently they showed no wish to bring forward the resolution. This session has indeed been marked by extraordinary apathy on the part of the Opposition with respect to the business of the House. The reason for their change of front is not far to seek. The Government has definitely disclosed its purpose of seeking a recess at Easter to attend the Prime Minister to attend the King's Jubilee in England. Once it became certain that the Government did not intend to dissolve Parliament suddenly with a view to getting a snap verdict of the constituencies, the programme of social reform, the Opposition was quickly thrown off, a militant attitude assumed, and a demand for an early election put forward with seeming seriousness. To the average Canadian the whole show has an aspect of unreality. Few persons outside of the House of Commons are greatly concerned over these sham moves in the political game, the overwhelming majority of the people desiring completion of the important legislative programme with which Parliament is engaged. It may be stated with tolerable confidence that the will of the majority of the Government's programme of social legislation will be enacted to the last letter before dissolution, and that the appeal to the constituencies will not take place till late summer or early autumn.

Hepburn's Repudiation

The London Financial Times, greatest financial journal in England, speaks of British alarm over Premier Hepburn's act of repudiation. It quotes a London financial authority as saying: "It there is to be an element of doubt thrown on contracts merely because there is a change of Government, what can we rely upon?" Within the next eighteen months says the Ottawa Journal Ontario will require financing in connection with refunding and for other purposes to the extent of about \$100,000,000. Part of this may be done with the banks but assuming that all of it is done through public issues, what will be the consequences? Almost inevitably there will be failure to reduce interest charges, with resulting loss to the provincial treasury of millions of dollars.

Rules of Courtesy

(Kingston Whig-Standard) Efficiency experts have discovered that courtesy is an asset of importance in the conduct of any business. It requires no citation of cases to prove that politeness pays. The rules of business courtesy and its effects upon customers ought to be incorporated in every school program and in the mode of business courtesy are wrapped up in five favorable actions of customers. Customers are chiefly influenced by interest of the employees in their needs, the quality of information given, the mode of address of the employee, politeness and courtesy in act and word, and neat attire, which is a form of politeness. While courtesy is said to be its own reward, legion are the instances where it has won recognition in promotions, gifts and legacies. But it is feared that this courtesy is the more often recognized.

How much of this grace is conferred upon the youth of today by their parents and home surroundings? If it is true that modern youth is without reverence and respect, where does the fault lie? "All doors are open to courtesy," goes an old German proverb. Is there a better business motto?

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The Poet's Corner

THE BELLS OF HEAVEN

'Twould ring the bells of Heaven The wildest peal of years, If Parson lost his senses, And people came to theirs, And he and they together Kneel down with angry prayers For faded and shabby tigers And dancing dogs and bears, And wretched, blind pit ponies, And little hunted hares.

—Ralph Hodgson.

Conference At Stresa

(Exchange) As the eyes of the world turn toward Stresa, in northern Italy, where foreign ministers of Great Britain, France and Italy meet next week to weigh the international situation, and possibly establish a new instrument for the preservation of peace, suggestions are being made that the existing pact and accord structure would be sufficient if some real teeth were put in it.

The best known juridical safeguards against war are the Covenant of the League of Nations, the Locarno Treaty and the Briand-Kellogg Anti-War Pact. But there are many other agreements, regional for the most part, such as the German-Polish 10-year non-aggression pact; the Franco-Russian agreement and the agreement between France and the Little Entente. So far as agreements not to start hostilities are concerned, the League Covenant includes sweeping provisions. The best known juridical safeguards against war are the Covenant of the League of Nations, the Locarno Treaty and the Briand-Kellogg Anti-War Pact. But there are many other agreements, regional for the most part, such as the German-Polish 10-year non-aggression pact; the Franco-Russian agreement and the agreement between France and the Little Entente. So far as agreements not to start hostilities are concerned, the League Covenant includes sweeping provisions. The best known juridical safeguards against war are the Covenant of the League of Nations, the Locarno Treaty and the Briand-Kellogg Anti-War Pact. But there are many other agreements, regional for the most part, such as the German-Polish 10-year non-aggression pact; the Franco-Russian agreement and the agreement between France and the Little Entente. So far as agreements not to start hostilities are concerned, the League Covenant includes sweeping provisions.

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