

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1934

SCATHING EXPOSURE

When it comes to barefaced misrepresentation of the finances of the Province, it must be confessed that the local Liberal organ leaves its party leader and followers in the Legislature far behind. Premier MacMillan last evening in the course of his masterly speech on the Budget, made a scathing exposure of our contemporary in this connection when he quoted the following editorial from its Monday's issue:

"In the year 1930, the last full year of the Saunders-Lea administration the total liabilities as at Dec. 31, 1930 (see page 8 of the Public Accounts) were \$2,793,321.29.

The total liabilities on Dec. 31, 1933 were \$3,911,627.00, or in other words, \$1,118,305.71 more than during the Liberal regime."

The inference in the above statement, is of course that the Conservative Government was responsible for all the expenditures incurred in the year 1931 as well as for the subsequent years 1932-33.

The fact of the matter, as Premier MacMillan pointed out, is that the Lea Government remained in power for eight months of the year 1931 or until the end of August. In November of that year, an external audit was made by Mr. Paul F. Blanchet, C.A., and this is what the auditor found:

"The total liabilities of the Province at August 31, 1931, were \$3,387,405.07."

In other words—taking our contemporary's own figures for 1930—there was an increase of over half a million dollars in the liabilities of the Province in the eight months of the Lea Government regime for the year 1931.

This amount the Liberal organ deliberately misrepresented as having been incurred by the Conservatives!

Altogether, during its four years of power, the Liberal increase in liabilities amounted to \$1,177,901.25, but in its staggering election-year expenditures it went beyond even its own record for the preceding three years. For instance, the Public Works estimate for 1931 provide for \$16,606 of ordinary expenditure and \$9,000 of capital expenditure. The actual expenditure in this department was \$471,944.85 on ordinary account and \$141,576.12 on capital account, or \$203,819.97 more than was authorized by the Legislature.

From the recapitulation of expenditure of the year ending Dec. 31, 1931, the Lea Government actually exceeded their total estimates for 1931 by no less than \$640,390.77.

"No wonder," our contemporary says, "the Boards of Trade of Prince Edward Island, whose membership includes both Liberals and Conservatives, have been protesting strongly against the alarming increase in provincial debt."

It is to be hoped, if this be the case, that our Boards of Trade be equally emphatic in protesting against their name being associated with such crude misstatements as the Liberal organ makes for the purpose of discrediting the MacMillan Government. It is indeed, as Premier MacMillan pointed out, a striking evidence of the essential weakness of the Opposition case, that such efforts should not only be made, but persisted in daily, in the hope of fooling the credulous.

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Notes By The Way

We may be properly envious of the position of creditor countries, but for many years and perhaps for generations to come there can be no escape from the tribute we have to pay to external sources of credit. As a new country, mightily in industrial resources but slim in population and established sources of home credit, it is a national impediment we have to recognize.

The compensating advantages arising from the use of foreign money wisely borrowed and wisely spent are not to be lost sight of even in our more or less rebellious calculation of the penalties involved in being a debtor nation. Canadians fortunately are becoming more and more able and willing to finance Canadian undertakings. American money control of our industries has shown a tendency to weaken during the years of depression. Canadian capital has been indeed supplanting American capital on a sizable scale over a course of years.—Winipeg Tribune.

The Hudson's Bay Company's quarterly magazine says it intends to campaign to revive the old custom of firing the noon gun in western cities. But why confine it to the west? The noon gun is a western tradition wherever pioneers have settled since gun-powder was used in Europe. It is far more distinctive than a whistle and more exact than ringing a bell. One western newspaper recalls the civic debt of Calgary just fifty years ago amounted to \$17.40, owed to the Hudson's Bay Company for powder fired in the celebration of the creation of Calgary's civic government.

It is too much forgotten that our forefathers in similar times craved, as for example, in the early years of the Seventeenth and of the Nineteenth Centuries, organized great settlements in the New World. They did not, as some imagine, leave the populating of those newly-discovered lands to a vagabond class; but sent out well-equipped communities and supported them in their early weakness, with capital and necessities. It is thus that New England and Virginia and New Brunswick and New Zealand were planted, to mention some notable examples, and there still empty and ample spaces for similar development of our nation today would show the same enterprise. But in this matter enthusiasm and expert knowledge must go together, and they must be backed up by the energetic support of the National Government.

In a changing world it is satisfactory to note two Empires standing side by side—Japan and ourselves. We do not, we cannot, forget the services rendered to the allied cause by Japan during the War, and it is no exaggeration to say that the close affinity there existed between the two Empires is still a cherished memory. The Alliance, so powerful in its influence for peace and justice and to which Japan was so truly loyal, has come to wind up, and it is to be noted that it brought it about still recent in both countries. And we are glad indeed to see a continuing effort being made to keep those ties strong and to carry forward the activities of the Japan Society in London, of which the Japanese Ambassador is president, and many Britishers prominent in every walk of life are members.—Empire Review.

The Banking Committee of the House of Commons is to scrutinize the operations of "high finance" in Canada, following acceptance by the Government of the principle laid down in Major C. G. Power's motion. The member for Quebec South was particularly interested in interlocking directorates, advances to the pulp and paper industry, and other needs "touching up" the Pacific Railway, as well as the policies adopted by the banks in meeting the problems of the depression. If these points establish the "principles" involved in the resolution, the investigation promises to be far-reaching, and a logical supplement to the inquiry being conducted by Hon. H. H. Stevens into mass buying and distribution.

Spring is in the air; and spring has a way of making things appear tawdry. Everything about a city, home, or place of business in need of a new coat of paint, or a severe winter, with prolonged and heavy frosts, has been hard on painted woodwork; and the strengthening sunshine is merciless in directing attention toward scaling paint and an accumulation of dirt. The thrifty housewife is preparing to renovate—or "renovize"—the interior of her home; but man has to be prodded into doing something for the outside. This work "will not only be of distinct financial advantage to property owners, banks and financial institutions, but it will also stimulate business and provide employment at a time when it is most needed. Dollars spent today will do more good and pay greater dividends than at any time during the last fifteen years."

Some significance is attached by foreign observers to an article in Contemporary Japan, an influential Japanese quarterly, by Mr. Katsujir Fuse, a writer who has long studied relations between Japan and Russia, and has hitherto regarded the outlook for peace between the two countries as hopeful. In his latest article Mr. Fuse, who had lately visited Moscow, says: "My deep impression was that the optimistic view which Lenin had expressed to me thirteen years before as to future Soviet-Japanese relations could no longer be held by any realistic observer of the situation."

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That Body of Ours

Dr. Allen H. Moore, in Medical Journal and Record, reminds us that the outstanding and important symptom in appendicitis is continued pain in the abdomen with a rising pulse rate. If the abdominal pain persists, the surgeon should be consulted.

No one has yet been able to give a cause for appendicitis that has been accepted by the medical profession. It is thought to be due to some infection but how the infection gets started is unknown.

The fact that many of the cases show a slow or actual stoppage in the movement of the intestine would tend to show that this delay or stoppage had something to do with causing appendicitis.

What may be causing the delay? The delay may be due to faulty habits—irregular eating, eating when tired or excited, not observing a call from the intestine, constipation, a low position of the abdominal organs.

When these conditions may cause the intestine to have a sort of spasm which so contracts or lessens its size that food or waste cannot pass for various periods of time.

Appendicitis seems to "run" in some families and it has been noted that it is in the nervous, high strung individuals that these "spasms" often occur.

All that can be done to avoid serious consequences from appendicitis is not to neglect watching any abdominal pain. Most pains in the stomach are not due to appendicitis and should therefore cause no alarm.

When the pain persists, even if it doesn't go down to the region of the appendix, no food or drug should be given, because a "persistent" pain may be due to appendicitis, ulcer of the stomach or intestine, or to inflammation of gall bladder; all surgical conditions.

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THE CAUSE OF APPENDICITIS IS UNKNOWN

Death from appendicitis should be a "rarity", it is not. Why? The main reason is that the patient thinks he has a simple stomach ache due to something he has eaten. He may try to induce vomiting but more often he takes a dose of castor oil or Epsom salts which of course is the cause of most of the deaths from appendicitis.

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Sir John Simon's Confesses

(Mail and Empire) A few antiquated newspapers in this country continue to publish paragraphs from Gobbett's textbooks as up-to-date arguments against the Ottawa Government's trade policy. Which certainly has saved the country from the full effects of the world-wide depression now drawing to a close. These backward journals should consider what has happened and is today happening in Great Britain, the original home for three generations of a now outworn free trade program. Take, for instance Sir John Simon's confession of his conversion to tariff protection made at the National Liberal Club in London on Wednesday last.

As a prominent Liberal, and still leader of one section of the Liberal party, Sir John spoke to his cheering fellow-Liberals in these words: "I have completely changed my point of view that tariffs are of no value for purposes of negotiating. We have already succeeded in negotiating agreements with a number of foreign countries and were enabled to do so because of your own import duties. You must have some terms to bargain with. It is a crude, harsh method, but appears under the circumstances to be the only method and it is effective." Could there be a clearer justification of the Canadian Prime Minister's attitude towards tariffs and markets for Canadian products.

According to the New York Times cable, to which we are indebted for Sir John's speech, Sir John confessed that when it was enacted he had many expected the new British tariff system to work out satisfactorily. "But I am bound to admit that it is producing remarkable results. It has not raised the cost of living or the price of raw materials but has increased the price of our exports. Three years ago Great Britain had dropped to third place in the list of exporting countries, but today she again stands first."

Had it not been for Britain's adoption of a protective tariff two years ago the system of preferential Empire trade agreements brought into being at Ottawa in 1932 could not have been obtained. These agreements have gone far to save Great Britain and Canada and the rest of the Empire. And what is equally important, both the Mother Country and the Dominions have now a bargaining weapon in their hands, by means of which they can treat more successfully for trade concessions with foreign countries.

After all big wars—high prices prevailed in the United States, and Canada derived much benefit from the reciprocity treaty of the fifties in the last century. Following the abrogation of that treaty there was an agitation in Canada—especially in the Maritimes—for another treaty and some newspapers and public men went so far as to advocate annexation with the United States. But that was a movement for commercial union and in 1910-11 the Liberal Government of Canada sent delegates to Washington and agreed to a measure of reciprocity which was so one-sided that many Liberals declared against it and the Government was overwhelmingly defeated in the general election of 1911.

Now there is a growing feeling in the United States that the administration at Washington has gone too far in exacting high tariffs, the effect being to turn Great Britain as well as other countries against the neighboring republic. It remains to be seen what terms Washington will offer for trade on fair terms.

Soft corns and warts are ugly, painful and irritating. Remove them quickly and surely with Douglas' Egyptian Liniment.

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