

The Charlottetown Guardian

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Public Statistics

The indoor game of viewing with alarm, pointing with satisfaction to, or otherwise commenting on, our municipal balance-sheet...

Deputy Provincial Secretary Fielding and City Clerk Nicholson are both in attendance at the conference...

For example there is that vexed question of a balanced budget. What does it mean? The former Lea Government claimed three "surpluses" in its four years of administration...

Notwithstanding, therefore, the hopes entertained by the Ottawa Journal as to the outcome of the present Conference, we fear that to "the average man" Public Finance will remain what it was before, a more or less irritating mystery.

Who's To Pay?

Canadians generally, and the business and financial interests of Canada particularly, says the Monetary Times, would like to know about a closer accord between Great Britain and the United States.

Talk of a scaling down in the duties under the Ottawa agreements in the interests of greater trade between Britain and the United States will, it is predicted, meet with opposition.

There is also the case of the Maritimes, which have benefited materially by the sale of agricultural products in the Old Country under the Empire Agreements.

Women in Parliament

When the women were given the franchise in Canada pictures were painted of a Federal Parliament dominated by women and it was even predicted that we would have some day a lady

Prime Minister, says the London Free Press. That day may come, but it is still far in the distance. Curiously we are much more conservative in Canada and in the United States than in Great Britain or Europe.

Women have had the franchise in Canada for nearly 20 years and in every province they have the right to vote, except Quebec, and yet the number of women who have been elected to Parliament or to the Legislatures is comparatively small.

So far not a woman has ever been elected from Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia or New Brunswick to the Legislature.

Even the radical Western Provinces do not enthuse over women candidates. Manitoba today has only one woman member, Miss Salome Halldorson, of Icelandic descent.

So in the whole of Canada there are not more than a half-dozen in the seats of the mighty and not one today occupying a Cabinet position.

Editorial Notes

Sir William Ramsay died this date 1916.

July weather so far has suited both farmer and holiday-maker alike.

Prince Edward Island is being held up to Cape Bretoners as an example of the benefits to be derived from a rural free library system.

The cars are telling against summer cottages for city people; so many find it more convenient to sleep at home and go to the shore during the day by auto.

A report issued by the Department of Finance at Ottawa shows that loans made under the Dominion Housing Act up to June 30 totalled \$8,799,266.

One almost thought one was listening to Mr. Chamberlain was listening to Mr. King the other night.

Dr. Alice Salomon, noted Christian sociologist, has been exiled from Germany because her numerous friendships and acquaintances abroad resulting from her international activities in the Women's Movements "make it desirable that she leave Germany permanently."

Prime Minister King practically invited a coalition the other night. He did not do so in so many words, but he deprecated criticism and invited co-operation; where there are loaves and fishes and patronage at stake you cannot suppress criticism or obtain co-operation unless at the price of 50-50 government control.

At a World Conference on Church, Community and State being held this week in Oxford; and taken part in by Viscount Cecil of Chetwood, the Marquis of Lothian, the Archbishop of York, Sir Alfred Zimmern, noted historian of Oxford, Rev. Justin Wroe Nixon, Rochester, N. J., Prof. Reinhold Niebuhr and Dr. John Juster Dallas, New York, as well as other noted religious authorities in Europe and Asia, it was advocated that active work to create Christian fellowship that would allay nationalistic feeling was the surest road to peace.

There is also the case of the Maritimes, which have benefited materially by the sale of agricultural products in the Old Country under the Empire Agreements. The Monetary Times does not say so, but the King Government can be assured that any effort to tamper with these important preferences will be strongly resented in this section of Canada.

Notes By The Way

It is not open to ministers who serve a high ideal to employ weapons used by others to exact a living wage. Since they have to live, re-quit opportunity for study and the means to provide for their families and to enjoy the modest pleasures of life, the responsibility for their welfare lies upon the church in which they work.

There is a charm and restfulness about driving on the back roads that it is impossible to get on the main highways, where one spends most of his or her time keeping clear of other cars. There is no time for sight-seeing, no time for relaxation. Our advice for those who enjoy motoring for the sake of motoring is to shun the busy avenues of traffic and get out onto the back roads.—EX.

Earl Baldwin of Bewdley has just publicly paid a tribute to the fine judgment of his wife. When he had feeling that his service was of no use, he declared that he was going to "throw this game up and go home to the country where I can be of some use." Whereupon Mrs. Baldwin reminded her husband that he had said he would stick to it for ten years and added: "Do this, and if you still think it is no good, then I will agree to your going and living in the country where I can be of some use." Whereupon Mrs. Baldwin reminded her husband that he had said he would stick to it for ten years and added: "Do this, and if you still think it is no good, then I will agree to your going and living in the country where I can be of some use."—Montreal Gazette.

A motorist who drove his car into a M.C.R. train at Welland had to pay the company's counter claim for damages. His own claim being dismissed. That man learned two lessons—one that you can't push a railway train out of the way with a motor car and the other, it's a poor rule that doesn't work both ways.—St. Thomas Times Journal.

An item is going the rounds of the press to the effect that bachelors and spinsters form half Great Britain's population. They do it babes in arms are bachelors and spinsters. In England and Wales just over half the population, of all ages, is unmarried. But that is true of Canada as well.—Toronto Star.

The Provincial Minister of Mines has decided to take the necessary measures to establish a mining school in Quebec. It is a very happy idea. During the last several years the mining industry of Quebec has made great progress. Unfortunately for one reason or another, very few of our people have profited from the advance. There can be no question of throwing the blame on anyone else outside of ourselves. Unprepared for this work, we have had to send the places to experts from other provinces.—L'Information, Montreal.

"In this Germany," grows Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, Minister of Propaganda and Number Three Man in the Nazi group, "it is we who govern, and every German must obey our laws." People who talk as Goebbels talks are usually riding a "fall" notice the words of people are not going to stand for this sort of thing forever.—Windsor Star.

We must admit that democratic forms of government have their weakness as well as their advantages. When important decisions in Government of a country have to be approved in advance by a majority in a democratically-elected Legislature, it is clear that quick decisions are difficult to make. A dictator, after his wisdom, or perhaps after his departmental chief, or perhaps a decree affecting the lives of the people in the closest manner. If he makes a mistake he can correct it by another decree issued with the same rapidity and ease. It must be admitted that in cases of sudden emergency a dictator can rise to the occasion more rapidly than a democracy. The Government of a country where democracy rules—Belfast Telegraph.

"The United States," declares Alexander Carrillo, Mexican delegate to the International Federation of Trades Union Congress in Warsaw, "are the Germany of the Americas continent." Will Mr. Carrillo please go a step further and advise us who is playing the role of Adolf Hitler on this continent? Is it Roosevelt, Mr. Lewis? No Germany, we need Hitler? No, is complete without a Hitler.—Windsor Star.

The Russians have been at the North Pole for some time now, putting the territory to their own use, and as yet no one has charged them with trespassing. There are the United States, which could claim discovery through Dr. Cook or Captain Perry, or both; Canada, which claims everything north of the forty-ninth parallel—would that mean the Pole?—Italians who flew over in a dirigible, and others—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

New York city's police department includes, among other policemen, Detective Mary Shanley, who certainly knows the tricks of her trade. The other night, in a subway station, she spotted two crooks (with 81 arrests and 43 convictions between them) acting suspiciously. They fled on a train when they noticed her, but she overtook them. One submitted meekly to arrest, the other scooted. He halted when bullets from her 32-calibre service revolver whistled by his ear. Once before she used her weapon in arresting two men who were afterwards convicted of attempted burglary. Detective Shanley looks more like a well-to-do housewife than "one of the finest."—Toronto Telegram.

That Body of Pours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE EYES OF CHILDREN SHOULD BE EXAMINED BEFORE THE SCHOOL AGE

Boys and girls in our cities and towns now have the advantages of the school medical and dental inspection. A youngster going to school for the first time brings back a report on his heart, lungs, spine, feet, eyes, nose, throat, and teeth.

Naturally we think that for youngsters to get this complete examination when they first attend school is a great step forward in education, and when we compare this with conditions when we were children it certainly is a great step forward.

However it comes as a shock that, insofar as the eyes and the eyesight is concerned, waiting until a youngster is five or six years old (school age) may be too late to repair or correct certain eye defects; that an eye examination should be given long before the child reaches school age.

Dr. Albert Frost, Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, Ohio State University in an address to the Ohio State Nurses Association at Columbus, Ohio, last year stated: "I want to speak particularly about what can be done to preserve and conserve (save) vision from birth up to school age because this is a very important period. It seems to me that there should be some effort made to have periodic eye examinations, or, at least, one examination, of every child reaches age. Fortunately most children have normal eyes and need no treatment. An examination of their eyes will happily show this; but many may show a degree of blindness in one or both eyes of which the parents have no knowledge. In many of these cases the parents are surprised to discover on examination that the children have defective vision, which, if given early attention, may be improved."

"Sometimes, of course, nothing can be done, but it is a source of satisfaction to know that every opportunity has been provided for their care. It is surprising that parents will say, 'Well, I never knew you could examine a child's eyes before he could read the letters.' Without any outward appearance of defect we may discover such defects as, farsightedness where no matter how hard the child tries he is unable to get a clear picture."

Similarly when there is a squint or cross-eyes. The eye which is straight is the eye which is used. These children, if the condition is discovered early, will be enabled by the use of glasses to get a clear image and thus develop normal vision. The family doctor, a nurse, or even a parent can make simple tests with objects or illustrations long before the youngster learns his letters.

Japan And China

(Halifax Chronicle)

It is forty-three years since Japan first began her inroads on China. In 1894-95 Japan won the Sino-Japanese war. Formosa was ceded to her, she renounced her suzerainty over Korea which Japan annexed later in 1910. In 1900 was the Boxer uprising, which Japan along with other powers put down and certain foreign troops were allowed to remain in the country to protect their nationals. Under this Boxer agreement, Japan maintained a garrison at or near Peking, a bigger one than all other powers put together.

In 1904-5 Japan fought Russia on Chinese soil and China granted Japan railway concessions which Russia had formerly held and confirmed Japan in possession of the leased territory of Kwantung. In 1914, when the great war broke out, Japan sent an army into Shantung province and captured Tsingtau from Germany, remaining in possession of it and other territory until 1922. In 1915, when the attention of the rest of the world was taken up with the great war, Japan made her "21 demands" on China, to which China yielded in the face of superior force.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

"OPEN CONFESSIONS"

Sir,—Has the donkey a soul? Illiteracy often leads to great issues. The Patriot's apparent ignorance of simple English and the rules of punctuation raises this question in theology.

Trying to be humorous it depicts an imaginary donkey as making a "confession"! Baalam's Ass is reported in an attempt but that Ass was less illiterate than the Patriot's. It knew a period from a comma. Per the Patriot, the donkey has a "soul."

As ignorant of punctuation as it is of the price of butter fat, it declines my sensible advice: "Don't be a donkey," and in "open confession" admits its affinity. The poor donkey cannot be complimented upon its family connections.

I am, Sir, etc., VOTER

THE FARMERS' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT.

Sir,—There are two persons on this Island who write to the newspapers over the name "Fair Play". One of them writes on school questions, and the other writes in defence of the administration of the F. C. A. Act. Many persons, myself among the number, think the chairman of the Board of Review and the same person. At all events, if they are not the same person, they have identical views on the administration of the above mentioned Act, and one declares the official actions of the other, whether in word or deed, to be above criticism or reproach. Therefore, they can, for general purposes, be taken as one.

As I see it, my "Fair Play" must be subnormal, because he does not understand the meaning of ordinary words and phrases in the English language. For instance, in his letter published in the Patriot of the 17th, instant, he says that I stated in the Senate that if the per capita cost of administering the Act in this Province had been maintained all over the Dominion it would have amounted to more than six millions of dollars. Yes, I said so. Then he declares my statement to be "a gross misrepresentation." Well, it is not a gross misrepresentation, or a misrepresentation of any kind. It is and was a simple statement of fact. But "Fair Play's" declaration clearly shows that he has no conception of what "cost per capita" means, and therefore, that he is subnormal, and not entirely responsible for what he says and does.

Further on in his letter he says the Central Farmers' Institute endorsed the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act at its meeting last winter. So did I endorse it in Parliament, and I did more than that. I helped to pass it through Parliament, and I helped to provide the machinery to carry it out, but in doing that I never thought its administration in this Province would become a racket. The Central Farmers' Institute had not many facts before it when it passed its resolution last winter. It likely has still more when it meets again next winter. I hope it will make a pronouncement on the matter. But even in the resolution passed last winter the Institute took care to endorse the Act "properly administered." Now "Fair Play" does not like the words "properly administered"; he says it is just "quibbling" to use them. If you doubt this look again at his letter of the 17th. If "Fair Play" were a boy in his early teens his statement, that the people of the land be properly administered, are only "quibbling," might possibly be overlooked and regarded as the babbling of irresponsibility itself; but if "Fair Play" is a judge of any of our courts, his statement is serious indeed. It is more than serious, it is appalling.

"Fair Play" says that I was rebuked in the Senate by Senators Dandurand and Sinclair when discussing this question. That statement is correct, though "Fair Play" is rather a strong word to use, nevertheless I shall let it go. I freely admit that when I tried to get this matter before the Senate I received no assistance, but rather opposition from Messrs. Dandurand and Sinclair. Many obstacles were put in my way, but I persisted and I succeeded. This is one of the reasons why I should like to have the full discussion of this question published in the newspapers. The people would then get at least an inkling of what went on. I know of no other way to reach the public.

Senator Dandurand intimated that Judges should not be criticized in Parliament. I think he is wrong in this, and the matter cannot be left where it now stands. Free speech and a free press are the very foundations of democracy, and I feel sure that no man or body of men can be above criticism in a Free State, and where is the criticism to be made if not in Parliament?

When I spoke last in the Senate on the administration of the F. C. A. Act Senator Sinclair replied and complained that I had not raised the question earlier in the session, though he knew well that he had done everything in his power to prevent me from bringing it up at all. He then said, and "Fair Play" now

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