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FRIDAY JANUARY 18, 1924

THE AVAILABLE IMMIGRANTS

While Canada is starving for immigrants and doing very little to procure them, some of the most desirable prospective emigrants in the world are starving for a desirable country to go to. This fact is brought home to Canadians in a "Home Letter to Scottish Exiles" from north of the Tweed, published in a number of Canadian newspapers. The extract given below shows the conditions in the Hebrides and in some parts of Western Scotland and the undoubted ease with which men so circumstanced could be induced to come to a country like Canada. For two years the King government did nothing to encourage immigration to this country. A belated effort is now being made, with what success it is difficult to ascertain as the hallooing of the Liberal press over "improvement" in immigration looks suspiciously like the not uncommon Liberal practice of throwing a cloak over its party's most conspicuous faults.

These brief extracts show us clearly where we could procure immigrants of the most desirable type if we had gone after them. Incidentally they show also that we in Canada have nothing to complain about even in our worst years, as compared with a country which, despite its many drawbacks is still in many respects the greatest country in the world:

"Popular feeling is awakening to the menacing state of affairs in the Hebrides and the Western Highlands... The three churches have issued appeals to their members; the County and Clan Association connected with the district are active; and the government are following the situation with a watchful eye. * * * * The plain truth is that the poulation is too great to be supported in comfort by such a soil and climate and that the money spent in attempting to increase these facts could be more profitably spent in enabling the surplus inhabitants to move elsewhere * * * * In a parish in Banffshire, east coast of Scotland most of the arable land is more than 1000 feet above the sea level; only one farmer has this year lifted more potatoes than he planted as seed; all the oats near the moss and the river were ruined by frost at the beginning of September; about 15 per cent of the grain is still rotting in the fields; the turnips are diseased; peats are bad; the parish has had a month of Alpine weather, during which only one or two provision carts or sleighs could reach it."

COMING EVENTS

"Coming events cast their shadows before." Shadows have been cast thick and fast during the past two years in Canada, in fact there was more of shadow than of substance. The acute stage of the shadowing period dates from the defeat of the federal government forces in the Halifax bye-election. Another shadow was precipitated by a second defeat in Kent County, N.B. Thenceforth the Liberal party was in total eclipse and things began to happen in the dark.

Astute Liberal politicians saw at a glance that the only way by which the government's life could be prolonged over the coming session was by securing enough Progressive supporters to tide them over in case of a division. Seeing this Sir Lomer Gouin, who never could tolerate the Progressives, got out of the cabinet. Sir Lomer out, Mr. MacKenzie King sent post haste for Crerar, the former Progressive leader, and Mr. Dunning, the Liberal premier of Saskatchewan and it is generally understood, offered to take them both into the cabinet. He had figured on Mr. Fielding being out for good and proceeded to fill his seat with a friendly ally from the West. But something happened. Either the terms laid down by the Western men were too stiff or there was another kick in the Liberal ranks against the radical free traders of the West. Anyway the two Western men left their terms, not with Premier King alone but with the public through the newspapers. The terms were stiff but, evidently, they were the price and Mr. King is still thinking them over. They are not such terms as the Quebec Liberals will be ready to accept and Quebec Liberalism still holds a dominating place in parliament. The duty-free importation from the United States of goods which are being manufactured in Quebec does not appeal to the Quebec representatives and a Progressive invasion of Liberalism is not regarded as healthful for Quebec manufacturers.

Parliament is to meet on February 28th. The Liberal party is in a minority of four. Five or six Progressives on the floor of the House may save the situation for the time being and at the same time inspire the hope that an appeal to the people may be staved off for another session and so save some $4000 indemnities which are not likely to survive an election.

This is now the only hope the Liberal party has of holding on to office during the term. Is there any hope beyond the session? Not if there is any honour left in the Liberal ranks. It is unthinkable that honest Liberals will hold on to office by the help of a few deserters from a party whose policies they have denounced, unthinkable that a once great party should consent to the purchase of Progressive support at the price laid down by Mr. Crerar.

The general opinion even among Liberals is that the coming session will be an unusually short one, that the Redistribution Bill will be disposed of and supply voted and then dissolution and a general election for next summer.

This is what the lengthening shadows indicate, lengthening and deepening in the twilight and sunset of the Liberal party. It will be the part of prudence to make the necessary preparation for next summer's general election.

TRADE FIGURES

According to the Canadian Bank of Commerce monthly letter for January imports for the twelve months ending October last, amounted in value to $912,459,278, as compared with $740,261,771 for the corresponding period in the previous year. This increase of imports, which amounted to 25 per cent. in the case of those from the United States and 18 per cent. in those from the United Kingdom, is largely due to importations of iron and its products and of non-metallic minerals. The value of exports during the same period was $994,436,069, of which 41 per cent. represents exports to the United States, 36 per cent. to the United Kingdom and 23 per cent. to other countries.

During the month of November the value of exports was $133,087,873, as compared with $130,796,673 in November, 1922.

Notes By the Way

It seems surprising that less than one per cent of Canada's coal resources is found in the Maritime Provinces, but such is the statement made and published by J. McLeish, Director of the Mines Branch. The remaining 99 per cent is found westward of Winnipeg. Bituminous coal is being mined in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and of all the coal produced in Canada in 1922, 39 per cent came from these two Provinces. Thus while owning but one per cent of the coal, the Maritimes produced nearly 40 per cent of all that was mined in that year. The Maritime output is mined in five areas, or fields, the Sydney and Inverness fields in Cape Breton, the Pictou and Cumberland fields in Nova Scotia proper and the Minto fields in New Brunswick.

Last year Sydney produced 70 per cent of the entire Maritime production, Cumberland 11.8 per cent. Pictou 9.7 per cent, Inverness 3.4 per cent and 8,050,000 short tons of coal, and in 1922 only 5,850,000 tons. The output is largely used for locomotive fuel, and for bunkering ships. It is used by the industrial power plants and in the manufacture of coke to supply the iron and steel furnaces at Sydney. It is also used to a large extent asa domestic fuel throughout the Maritime Provinces, although many consumers in the cities pay much higher prices for anthracite imported from Pennsylvania and Wales.

It is worthy of note that in 1914 two million tons of Nova Scotia coal was marketed in Quebec Province. During the war this market was almost entirely lost owing to high freight rates and other causes, but by the end of 1922 it had been half regained. All the Maritime coal mines have been busy of late, and notwithstanding the heavy loss from the strike in July last and a shortage of labor since that trouble, it is believed that the tonnage produced and sold in 1923 will be found to exceed that of any one of the past six years. Just now, how ever trouble is renewed by a cut of 25 per cent in wages at all the mines of the British Empire Steel Corporation.

It is very hard to keep the National Railways out of politics and Sir Henry Thornton evidently realises the fact. His recent speech at Brockville as reported in a news despatch to The Guardian, contains a warning to some political party not named, to keep their hands off. There can be no reduction in the gross revenue of the railways, he says, which means that the rates cannot be cut. He is not going to be moved by criticisms, assaults or sectional demands, a good resolve. But there were some big sectional demand from the West last year, which were granted. And just now the Premier has been in conference with Messrs Crerar and Dunning. Were they not making such demands which included railway rates? Anyway, Sir Henry insists on having a free hand and full control. Otherwise he "will have nothing more to do with the property."

It is not the first time Sir Henry has hinted that he will resign if interfered with by the bad politicians. and no blame to him for that. But when he repeats the intimation that under such and such conditions he will resign the statement implies that further attempts have been made to interfere with and hamper, or control his action. "The Railway belongs to the people of Canada, and not to any one political party," he says, and that is the plain truth. But what political party claims that the Railway belongs to them? The Conservative party make no such claim, in fact how could they hope to influence the partisan Board of Railway Directors? Sir Henry obviously referred to the Liberal party, or the Progressive party, or both of them acting together who have attempted to control his action.

The Mail and Empire, under the captain "King and Crerar cannot Hyphenate," points out that although Sir. Lomer Gouin has resigned from the Government he still retains his seat in the House, that the Quebec members still look to him as a leader; that both he and they are still as protectionist as before and want no dealing, with Mr. Crerar, who is committed to reciprocity with the United States. For these and other reasons it concludes that "Mr. Crerar has made a finish of his political career". Mr. Fielding also has his views on the tariff and is aware of the stump in the Maritime Provinces. He could not be blamed if he felt there was a certain touch of brutality and indecency about the haste of Mr. King in re-organising his Cabinet as if there were two seats vacant when there was but one. Mr. King should not have forgotten that Mr. Fielding is still Finance Minister.

It may be doubted whether Progressives and Liberals have been drawn nearer together by the recent dicker. Mr. Forke, the Progressive leader appears not to have been consulted. Some think he was insulted by the omission. He and his brother farmer may resent it. And that handy implement, the fork, is capable of being used as a weapon of self defence, if the farmer finds himself insulted or wronged.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

THERE IS A LONELINESS IN LOVELY THINGS

There is a loneliness in lovely things
Or seen or heard;
The flutter and the flash of darting wings,
The rapture of a bird;

The beauty of white clouds hung high and far
Wind-borne along;
Beneath the glamour of the evening star
The river's silvern song;

In a remote and dim deep forest aisle.
A blossom's grace;
A whispered parting word, a tremulous smile.
On a beloved face.

—Clinton Scollard.

The Public Forum

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

THIS MAN OR BARABBAS

Sir,—The writer was present at a meeting recently addressed by a "Sky Pilot" who mapped out a certain line of conduct for Christians something like this: Speechless mediocres going about with some sort of a jellyfish passivity doing menial things interspersed with some almsgiving but were not to mention their "religion" to anyone. "We all HATE" said he "the man that is always talking about his religion."

Now Sir, Jesus gave his disciples an unerring mark of discipleship when he said: "Ye shall be hated of all men for my namesake." In the light of His other deliverances it means this: because men HATE me and because I shall dwell in you as the "vine" feeding you, the branches "ye shall be hated of all men." Again Jesus said: "he that hateth his brother is a murderer and "no murderers can enter the kingdom of Heaven." Jesus claimed to be God's son possessing all authority and power both in heaven and earth but here is a modern Barabbas who would rob Him of His authority and reduce discipleship to a mere mockery and yet he is on the pay roll of a Christian denomination presuming to exalt the Christ of the New Testament. Which do we prefer, the genuine love pictured in the Bible or the doctrine of HATE, which this same book describes as issuing forth from hell, promulgated by this man as a Christian virtue. Think of it ye Saints in Israel.

I am Sir, etc.,
JERUSALEM

MR. CHRISTIE AND THE "PETITION"

Sir,—Mr. Christie has become greatly alarmed because a "petition" is being circulated "among Presbyterians." He professes to believe it meaningless but still is constrained to issue a warning to all Presbyterians not to sign it, "but strenuously resist it."

To ordinary persons the "petition" is quite clear and meaningfull, and it is this: A little over 25% of the Presbyterians—which includes Mr. Christie—have voted to acquaint the Presbyterian Church and to unite themselves with the Methodist and Congregational bodies to form a new denomination to be known as "the United Church of Canada" Note well! "The United Church of Canada"! "When did Christ's Church—His Bride—become divided? In keeping with others who want to go out but are afraid to take the plunge in a manly way Mr. Christie fails to disclose in any manner intelligible to the rank and file of the membership the doctrinal statement or basis of union proposed, but he says: "Now, Mr. Editor, no one has any intention of abolishing the Presbyterian Church. But that church has decided (?) to merge itself with two other churches to form the 'United Church of Canada' and the thing cannot be abolished and merged." The word merged which he has so sagely used appears to mean 'sunken' or 'swallowed up' so he would emit to all good Presbyterians a choice as between "abolished" and "swallowed up" neither of which would seem to presage a very desirable future.

But sir, the Presbyterian Church has not yet DECIDED to either 'abolish' or 'merge' itself, only a minority have so decided and so voted and this minority may have leave to depart in peace if they behave themselves decently. But no sir! This minority through their "Union Committee"—sustained by the way at the expense of the whole Church, have caused to be prepared a bill for presentation to the several Provincial Legislatures and the Parliament of Canada having the preposterous purpose of wresting from the dear, old Presbyterian Church all her property wealth and to vest the same in this new creation—Church by Act of Parliament. The bill further provides for coercing all and sundry Presbyterians into this new denomination unless they have recourse to a humiliating procedure to prevent it. One would think such a measure incapable of being proposed among a semi-civilized people, but Sir, it is the actual and cool proposal of persons who profess allegiance to Him who came to give life, light and liberty to all.

If this bill should by some miscarriage become law then the descendants of all devout Presbyterians shall witness the ruthless destruction of the cherished hope of their forbears; the uprooting and annulling of glorious traditions; the use put to another and opposite purpose of all sacred bequests made for the propagation of the Presbyterian Church. What Presbyterian who reveres the saintly departed and within whose breast radiates the love which streams from the up-lifted cross of Calvary can meekly witness the destruction of all this, not to speak of stooping to be a party to it? Now, sir, it is to offset this attempt to 'abolish' or 'swallow up' the Presbyterian Church without her consent that it has become necessary to circulate a 'petition' among her members calling those responsible for legislative enactment—Federal and Provincial—to withold their votes from the passing of such an "Act."

No one questions Mr. Christie's right, or the right of any number of its members for that matter, to leave the Presbyterian Church and to unite with another, or to form a new denomination if it is desired. Exception only is taken when with unpardonable presumption they constitute themselves "The Presbyterian Church" and attempt to force upon the people that which years of agitation and debate has not made possible, or desirable, as a means of furthering the gospel. A consecrated ministry, lowering of salaries, dispensing with useless organs, organists and the permission of the incoming of the Great Power of God would speedily bring about the aim professed to be sought "a move forward for the redemption of souls."

I am Sir, etc.
ANOTHER PRESBYTERIAN

ARE MISSIONS WORTH WHILE?

Sir,—I do not know as to whether or not you will remember me but on one or two occasions I have had interviews with members of your editorial staff. Some months ago the enclosed articles appeared in the columns of your paper and were sent to me for persual and comment.

At the time I would have replied myself but I knew that Professor Yohan Masih, one of the leading Indian Christian of Hindustan, was coming to Canada shortly and I decided to wait and ask him to reply to the articles which had been referred to me by friends on Prince Edward Island.

Professor Yohan Masih's reply, which I enclose herewith, for publication, requires no comment from me, except that I feel that I should at least let your readers know that Prof. Yohan Masih, who speaks English as well, if not better than the average Canadian, is a real leader in India, a man who held 33 executive positions in connection with Christian and philanthropic organizations in that country and a man who is an intellectual giant, being the author of many outstanding books in Hindi.

Prof. Masih, with typical Indian modesty, does not say all that he might say—he might have written of that spiritually of Indian Christians, of lives devoted to their Master to such an extent as to put some western Christians to shame and again why should a man become a Christian to get a Government position when thousands and thousands of non-Christians are in Government service. The position taken by Major Genge in this connection is untenable. I wonder if Major Genge ever heard of Rajah Harnam Singh or K. T. Paul, two of the many influential Christians that might be named, the former being an Indian Rajah or king, and the latter General Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in India, having charge of all the Europeans, Indians and Americans engaged by that organization in India?

I have written enough, and I trust that this letter, together with

(Continued on Page Five)

PRESIDENT HYNDMAN'S LETTER

Sir,—The intervention of the Christmas season is my excuse for noticing at this late date the published letter of Mr. J. O. Hyndman President of the P. E. Island Associated Boards of Trade nor would I refer to it at all were it not that the writer found it necessary in a somewhat patronising manner to speak slightingly of those "resorting to endless newspaper discussions that arrive nowhere" I can tell Mr. Hyndman that the result of the recent newspaper discussion on the transportation question has been most beneficial and that that discussion has already produced substantial results.

The grievances that have resulted in serious loss and detriment to this Province and for the removal of which I have made some effort are first the slowness and dilatoriness of the express train hands all the way from Sackville to Charlottetown and more particularly from Tormentine to Charlottetown and secondly the severance of the connection between the Car Ferry Steamer and the Ocean Limited from Montreal and the train from Boston for practically seven months of the year.

I have shown that the false propaganda and subtle devices of Captain Read are largely responsible for the inception and continuance of the latter grievance. The members of the Board of Trade are fully aware of the vexatious annoyances and great injury which these grievances have entailed and of the causes thereof yet not one of them has publicly called in question those whose acts and influence have brought them about and who left to themselves and slackness. At Emerald Junction on several recent occasions I have noted the time occupied in transferring mails baggage and express matter from one train to another and gladly bear testimony that this work is now being done with an expeditiousness deserving of all praise—that where half an hour, three quarters of an hour and sometimes longer were usually consumed; this service is now performed with the departure of the train in ten or twelve minutes. The change is most commendable and highly appreciated by the travelling public. The men engaged in our railway train service have a good a natural capacity and a great an inborn alertness as the best in Canada. But in this Island we all have got more or less accustomed to the idea that time or the waste of time is not after all of much consequence. It is not surprising therefore, that our train hands not yet having acquired the action and methods of a more advanced

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That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

HOW MANY HOURS A DAY DO YOU WORK?.

I heard a man say that he was working fourteen to sixteen hours a day, every day in the week.

I think he honestly believes that he works this long.

As a matter of fact he is "on the go" from morning till night, but he has so many "rests" so many "changes" throughout that time, that I think ten hours would be nearer his exact working hours.

I don't think it possible to tell any person exactly how long he should work each day.

There are two points to be considered—the man and the job itself.

There are some men that can stand almost any amount of hard muscular work, that would be worn out in a few weeks if in addition to the hard work, they had to assume some responsibility along with that work.

Others could take the responsibility without much wearing on the system.

Some folks point to the old days when a man worked from six in the morning until six at night. The same workman now would work from eight until five.

In addition to this he gets a weekly half holiday on Wednesday or Saturday.

Is this lessening of the hours in the interest of the work and the man?.

I think so.

In these days the machines travel faster, and there is more hustle about the factory than when hand work was in vogue.

Everything and everybody is "on the jump" and so fatigue comes on sooner.

These efficiency fellows find that most of the accidents occur just before the noon hour, are not so frequent early in the afternoon, and then become more frequent as the working day nears its close.

Further, where a machine or job has to be watched to the exact detail, and to the exact minute, the nervous tension brings on fatigue much sooner.

Where the machine "runs itself," requires no attention, unless due to accident, fatigue is much slower in its onset.

Now what am I trying to prove?.

Well, you've only got the body that was given you, which you have either improved or impaired.

If you have a job that calls for exactness and attention to the very last detail, then you should not work more than your strength will stand.

Eight hours of this is harder than twelve hours of labour where the brain is not used. You need nourishing food and plenty of rest with an extra holiday occasionally. And during your rest periods be sure that it is really "rest" you are getting.

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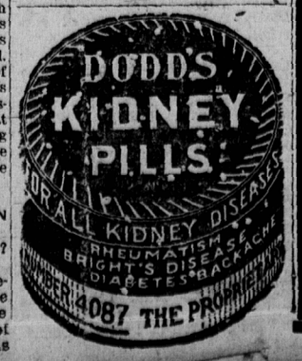
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