

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1934

SPEECH FROM THRONE

There is substantial material in the speech from the Throne delivered at the opening of the Legislature yesterday by His Honour Lieutenant Governor DeLois. The speech reflects the general feeling of optimism and confidence prevailing throughout Canada at the present time, and substantiated by rising commodity prices, decreasing unemployment, and other unmistakable evidences of economic recovery. As the speech intimates, this improvement is noticeable in Prince Edward Island and the outlook is brighter than for some time past.

Reference is made to the assurance obtained from Ottawa by the three Maritime Premiers of a reconsideration of Maritime claims under the terms of the Duncan Commission report. This assurance has been added to by the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, Prime Minister of Canada, who has indicated on the floor of the House of Commons that prompt action will follow the presentations which the three Provinces will make in this regard to a committee of the Dominion Cabinet.

The various activities of governmental departments are reviewed in the speech. In Agriculture, efforts have properly been directed along educational lines, through Boys' and Girls' Clubs, short course work, school fairs, exhibitions and public meetings. Reference is made to the welcome upturn in farm prices, and to the good average yield from all crops, as justifiable causes for greater optimism.

Educational activities are fittingly given extended reference. The endowment by the Carnegie Foundation of a chair in Economics and Sociology in Prince of Wales College, the addition of a fourth year to the College course, the increase of almost one hundred students at the opening of the term in September, necessitating the appointment of three additional teachers; the establishment of the McGill summer library course; the inauguration of the Provincial library demonstration—these are evidences of a great and far reaching development in education, unprecedented in the history of the Province.

Activities in the departments of Justice, Health and Public Works also find fitting reference in His Honour's speech. Particularly important in connection with the latter department is the announcement that the Government anticipates the undertaking by the Dominion of a highway linking the capital of the Province with the Trans-Canada Highway. This is a project which Premier Bennett has had in mind since 1930, but which, owing to the depression, it was impossible to carry out hitherto. Now, at the first opportunity afforded by reviving economic conditions, the project finds concrete embodiment in the speech from the Throne. Needless to say, such a project will not only be of permanent benefit to the Province, but will provide much additional employment.

The speech intimates that both the Public Accounts and the Estimates will be brought down at an early date in order to expedite the work of the session. This is in accord with the precedent set by the Stewart administration, and deserves unqualified commendation.

TRADE WITH SCOTLAND

Canada's increased livestock, dairy and poultry produce trade with Scotland last year through the operation of the Ottawa agreements is comprehensively summed up by Mr. G. B. Johnson, Canadian Trade Commissioner in Glasgow, in the current issue of the Commercial Intelligence Journal, from which we quote:

The 1933 arrivals of Canadian bacon in Scotland amounted to 10,062 cwts., of which 5,055 cwts. entered at Glasgow and 5,007 at the port of Leith. This represents an increase of about 926 per cent over the preceding year, when the total imports of Canadian bacon into Scotland were 990 cwts.

The Canadian bacon trade has been infused with more life as a result of the foreign quota. It is reported that the prevailing tariff at the beginning of the year was through the excessive use of salt in the bacon. As things are there appears to be a good future for Canadian bacon in larger quantities.

The 1933 arrivals of Canadian hams in Scotland amounted to 10,217 cwts., of which 7,897 cwts. came in at Glasgow and 2,320 at Leith. This represents an increase of about 46 per cent over the preceding year, when a total of 6,983 cwts.

were received from the Dominion. Canadian butter found a ready outlet on the Scottish market in 1933, although the season was far advanced before it made its first appearance. The later parcels came on a quickly falling market. Owing to this and the fact that the price had considerably improved in Canada, some of the butters were actually shipped back to the Dominion in order to take advantage of the difference in price. The butter was of a very desirable quality, and found many friends in the northern market.

During the year the quality of Canadian cheese on the Scottish market has been outstanding, but the shipments appear to have been too heavy for such an overcrowded market. The imports of Canadian cheese into Scotland in 1933 amounted to 46,000 cwts. as compared with 32,000 in 1932.

There was some business done in Canadian eggs during the season, and, on the whole, it was quite satisfactory. One firm had a little trouble with one or two shipments owing to the fillers not being large enough to hold the eggs. The eggs met a fairly ready sale, but they are not so popular as the Australian, as the latter are treated by the trade as new-laid, while the Canadian are cold-stored. The prospects seem to be quite bright for business in Canadian eggs in 1934.

In 1933 the shipments from Canada to Scotland amounted to 46,000 great hundreds. There is no record of any shipments from Canada in 1932.

Canadian cattle to the number of 11,238 head were shipped direct to Glasgow during the year 1933 as compared with 4,016 head during the previous year. At the beginning of 1933 they were averaging about 38s. per live cwt. on the Glasgow cattle market. The price fell off during the summer to around 32s., but in December, when it was ascertained that Irish cattle were to be further restricted, it rose again to around 38s. During the last three months of 1933 there was a shortage of Canadian cattle on offer. Early in February the restrictions which had formerly applied to Canadian bulls and females were removed. In practice this means that they can be shipped out to any slaughter-house, market, or farm, provided they are passed by the Ministry of Agriculture officials.

This concession strengthened the demand for Canadian bulls, and they brought from \$1 to \$2 per head more than formerly. There have also been a few cows and heifers included in many of the shipments this season. Canadian farmers should endeavour to send an increasing quantity of their prime quality light, young store animals to this market. Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorn crosses of good class, approaching two years of age, and from 8 to 10 cwts., are preferred, and will always command a premium over other sorts.

MR. SPEAKER

The appointment yesterday of Hon. Heath Strong, K.C., to the Speakership of the Legislature will occasion general satisfaction. On several occasions since his election to the House in 1931 Mr. Strong has shown his ability both as a debater and as chairman of committee of the whole House during the passage of important legislation. As Deputy Speaker he occupied the chair on two or three occasions last season, and the dignity and impartiality with which he performed this duty were commented upon favorably from both sides of the House. Well versed in parliamentary practice, His Honour is particularly qualified for the responsible position to which he has been appointed. That he will be an able successor to the many distinguished occupants of the chair is confidently predicted by all who know him, either personally or by repute.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A summary of construction work in Canada, brought down to the first of March, shows that in spite of the continuance of severe winter weather during February, the value of contracts awarded throughout Canada amounted to \$5,035,100, as compared with \$5,140,300 in February, 1933. The total of \$12,338,000 for the first two months of the year is almost double that for the same period last year.

The average values per head of farm live stock in Canada are estimated by the Bureau of Statistics as follows with the average for 1932, within brackets: Horses \$62 (\$46); milk cows \$31 (\$23); other cattle \$17 (\$17); total cattle \$25 (\$24); sheep \$4 (\$3.50); swine \$8.50 (\$4.75). The average value per pound of wool is estimated at 19 cents as compared with 5 cents in 1932.

Notes By The Way

Premier Dummerque is gathering into himself quite Rooseveltian powers. The times produce many paradoxes. Not long ago the world saw a war that was won a war that was lost. Dummerque is carefully refrained from declaring war on each other. Now it is watching democracies that are most certainly not democracies, but continue to be called because a solemn hush is noticeable when Fascism is mentioned.

The Border Cities Star cites Senator Casgrain as an example of French-Canadian loyalty to the crown. Last Christmas, when King George sent greetings to all parts of the British Empire, Senator Casgrain assembled his family at his home. When the King began to speak, the Senator, who is 77 and a former soldier, called them all to attention. And at attention they stood until the King had finished.

The complexity of the remedies sought to be applied by governments to meet their expenses is well illustrated by the proposed tax of 10 per cent on the earnings of salaried persons. A considerable number of French legislators seek to have imposed. The tax is opposed by the Minister of Finance, the Foreign Office holding that it is incompatible with treaty obligations.

Up on the Maine border recently a poacher was operating with considerable skill. He shined from one side of the international boundary to the other. Time and time again he eluded the Maine game warden and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. A rivalry grew between these two forces. Each wanted to be the first to get their man. Despite the tradition of the Mounties, the Maine warden went out and arrested the fellow. Were the Mounties jealous of their success? On the contrary, they offered congratulations and a willing to send witnesses to aid the warden at the trial. They showed themselves good sports.

The people of the western provinces middle income class. They are not as extravagant there are others. They find an illustration in the rich province of Ontario. In that province seventeen municipalities are in default on their bond payments and are operated by supervisors. The money has been applied for like treatment. We are told at least seven more are in default but not under supervision. Four cities are in one or another of these classes.

The Toronto Star finds that the dealers in the bird and animal trade in the immediate vicinity of Toronto owe \$37,061,200, and in other areas \$41,410,283 and The Financial Post says that if the list for the whole province were complete the total debt would be much higher. Apparently the present situation has been brought about by the municipalities spending money beyond their means. The western provinces have not been alone therefore in failure to cut their garments according to the cloth.

In his broadcast appeal for further recruits for voluntary social service, the Prince of Wales declared that there is no sovereign remedy for unemployment, and that the only way to make obsolete the way of fellowship. He has seen for himself during the past two years how several occupational centres for the unemployed have grown into clubs which are an incentive to many of the workers themselves, but also to their families. Good fellowship has been the mainspring of those organizations and the Prince's recommendation will, it may be hoped, lead to a wide extension of the club idea in places where the need still exists.

Gasoline "bootlegging" is a profitable "racket" in certain of the United States. Paul E. Hadlock, secretary of the marketing section of the Government Planning and Coordinating Committee of the oil industry, says: "Since the average tax on gasoline is larger than the average retail profit, organized racketeers have gone to business on a scale as wide as the profitable, and far less perilous than racketeering in liquor." In 1933 taxes were paid by motorists on more than sixteen and a half billion gallons of gas in the United States. It is conservatively estimated that more than two and a half billion gallons were smuggled into the market tax free. At an average tax of four cents a gallon, that means that tax-paying motorists handed over \$100,000,000 last year to gasoline racketeers. That is a measure of the growth of this new racket.

There are, says an exchange, two clouds on the horizon which hold a possible threat for the progressive economic recovery which has been under way in Canada and Great Britain for nearly a year. One of these clouds is the situation in Europe growing out of the extreme national jealousies which prevail on that continent. The other is the uncertainty as to the outcome of the gargantuan experiment which is being carried on by the Roosevelt Government.

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

SALT CAUSES SOME SKIN AILMENTS

Now that it has been found that salt (but not all cases of certain ailments are due to various foods, the study of the effects of foods and other substances on the body is being carried on throughout the entire world.

Many skin ailments are due to foods and other substances and while the various lotions and ointments help cure the condition for the time being it soon breaks out again causing itching, pain, and often much embarrassment.

Dr. Joseph Jordan and Charles Robert Rein, in the New York State Journal of Medicine record their own experience and that of others in treating various skin ailments by simply cutting down the amount of salt used with the food either in cooking or at the table.

It would seem that certain skin ailments are "sensitive" to salt. For instance, when patients with eczema and hives (urticaria) were given large doses of salt by the mouth, after having been kept off salt for several days, they nearly always showed a marked increase in the symptoms.

These investigators found that by using table salt mixed with other salts—potassium, calcium, and magnesium which overcome the harmful part of common salt, the sodium—there was no increase in the symptoms.

This combination is known as an "equilibrated" salt mixture and was found to be helpful in a variety of skin ailments including eczema, acne (pimples), hives (urticaria) and tuberculosis.

Now as almost everybody needs table salt in the body, and while some in and on their food, the combination mixture mentioned above should be of help in preventing or lessening the severity of the attacks of these various ailments.

Baldwin On British Freedom

(Mail and Empire)

Since so many countries in the world today are ruled either in name or fact by a dictator, it is heartening for those who still have faith in democracy to read the words of that sturdy patriot, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, at his meeting in the National Government's platform campaign, he said that two and a half years ago the country had placed a tremendous responsibility in the hands of the government and that their members, it would not try to render the service to which the nation called them in the hour of need.

Mr. Baldwin went on to say that he wanted to speak of another danger which faces us—a threat not, this time, to our money values, but to what is much more important, our spiritual values. There are things which we in England, though we have been called a "land of shopkeepers," esteem far more than money, and these are freedom of speech and liberty of conscience.

Without these things life to an Englishman is not worth having. If our efforts had not succeeded so quickly as they did in the financial realm, I am convinced that the people of this country would have tightened their belts and set their teeth against the wind. But if we once lose our democratic liberties for which our forefathers fought and suffered, we lose our character and we lose our souls.

Many countries whose liberties have simply cut down the amount of salt used with the food either in cooking or at the table. It would seem that certain skin ailments are "sensitive" to salt. For instance, when patients with eczema and hives (urticaria) were given large doses of salt by the mouth, after having been kept off salt for several days, they nearly always showed a marked increase in the symptoms.

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The Poet's Corner

TO A SEAGULL

Stammering hither on listless wings Careless-vagabond of the sea, Little thou heedest the surt that sings, The far that thunders, the shales that rings— Give me to keep thy company. . . . All of thy wanderings far and near, Bring thee at last to shore and me; All of my wanderings end them here. This our tether must be our cheer— I on the shore, and thou on the sea.

—Bret Harie, Poems.

Politics And Central Banks

(Exchange)

Whether "the Bank of Canada" should be Government-owned or its capital contributed by private investors, seems to be the major question that is looming up between the King, the Liberal leader, has come out unreservedly for public ownership. The bill as prepared and presented by the Minister of Finance, Hon. E. N. Rhodes, provides for private ownership coupled with Government control.

This being the case, it is interesting to note that the Winnipeg Free Press, ablest and most influential of Western Liberal newspapers, favors the Government's plan and fears that public ownership, as advocated by Mr. King, would subject the Bank to political manipulation.

The common sense of the public ought to second the first assertion that it is not desirable in the public interest that the Central Bank should be subject to the dictation at will of the Government of the day, which is, after all, the executive committee of the political party which for the moment is dominant. It ought to be equally evident that it would be most dangerous to the party in power to have this power of intervention. In a matter of such vital interest as to the expansion or the contraction of credit, it is obvious that the ultimate public interest might differ very radically from the immediate interests of the party in control, for the time being, of the Government. Yet a party, if it has the power, will be tempted to exercise it for no higher purpose than winning the next election, which is about as far as any party can see; or alternatively, if it has the power and does not use it, it might gravely prejudice its case with the electors. Consider for instance, the situation that, under these conditions, would arise if in the opinion of the Central Bank, a stiff policy of credit contraction and higher discount rates should be necessary in election year. It would be better not to have a Central Bank that is to have one subject to direct political manipulation.

The Prison Report

(Exchange)

The annual report of Canadian penitentiaries shows that the prison population does not vary much, being fixed at about 4,000. On March 31 last there were 4,877 persons confined in the eight institutions as compared with 4,164 a year earlier. Of the larger total, however, 570 were Doukhobors held in British Columbia for nuclear parades. Without this colony of incorrigible sun-bathers the total for the latest year was 4,017, a reduction of 147. Kingston was eight down; St. Vincent de Paul two up, Dorchester two up, Manitoba 58 down, British Columbia 21 down, Saskatchewan 66 down, Collins Bay stationary at 200.

One prisoner escaped during the year—from Saskatchewan. Only 15 die—a death rate of about four per thousand. Of the 4,877 convicted 2,976 were born in Canada. Those serving two-year sentences numbered 1,250, and 183 were in life. Under 20 years of age were 467, and the group from 20 to 30 was largest at 2,053. Only 210 were aged 80. The majority were single men, and 139 were listed as of non-Christian creeds.

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Lord Beaverbrook On Bonar Law

(Speech by Lord Beaverbrook at annual meeting of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain, London, Feb. 15, as reported in "Canada.")

I have discovered, as I have gone through the world, that opportunities do not make the man. It is influences of birth or fortune, but influences which we receive in our lives. The eyes see big, if taught to look. I have personally been fortunate because in my early days I fell in with John F. Stairs, of Halifax, a man not well known, perhaps, outside his native Nova Scotia. But John Stairs taught me to look. Later I went to Montreal, and there I fell in with a man of splendid courage, fine character and high judgment, Sir Herbert Holt. He taught me to see big. Then I came to Britain, and fell in with the greatest of all Canadians, I mean Bonar Law.

Bonar Law, in the House of Commons, when war broke out, speaking of men of German extraction in the Civil Service, said that if, by some strange perversion of history, Canada should be at war with Britain, he knew where he would stand. He said that his heart and hand would be with Canada.

Bonar Law was the most splendid character—a man of fixed views who was immovable when he made up his mind. In small things he was selfish. The best chair in the room he would always take, and the biggest cigar in the box, I remember when he became Prime Minister, writing an article in the newspapers in which I used his words. The next day I went to his house, and there I saw that the best chair in the room had disappeared and in its place were two beautiful new chairs of exactly the same size. It struck me as remarkable for Bonar Law did not like change. His sister, Mary Law, explained it to me. She had read the article in the newspapers and should never be able to say again that Bonar Law took the best chair; so she ordered two chairs exactly alike.

In big events, Bonar Law was a most generous man. When he died he left to me, by his will, his papers—letters with which I had been so familiar because I had written many of them as his secretary. In the file I found an endless number of letters written to him in criticism of the Government, but he had never known so that I should not have known the censure which had been directed against me. It is not that I dominated this great Canadian. Believe me, this great Canadian dominated me.

When he was a dying man he decided to resign. He was in great pain, so I said I would write out his resignation for him. I sat down at the desk and wrote it out, and said to him, "Sign." This man in great pain, read the resignation which I had prepared for him, put it aside and wrote out a resignation for himself, which was so much finer than the document that I had produced that it was plain that even though dying the man dominated me.

He had a strong sense of duty, and we owe to him our triumph in the war and to no other man. I am not unconscious of the great services of Sir Lloyd George. I know full well that man led the Empire to victory in its darkest days. I do not undervalue his services. But the influence of Bonar Law was indelible from the great achievements of Lloyd George himself. It is my proud boast that in the days of war Lloyd George placed some little trust in me, and that I can claim from him some measure of friendship now. It is as though I had lived 200 years ago, and could say with the poet of Washington: I was a helper of Pitt. But Lloyd George without Bonar Law would not have triumphed in the war. That is the high place that a great Canadian takes in the annals of the Empire in our most critical period of history.

Bonar Law was a wise man. He could see into the future with peering eyes. He would have brought truthly that gathering

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E. A. FOSTER

CENTRAL DRUGSTORE

Canada will play a leading part in these changes. Canada is a dominating factor amongst the nations of the world. Canada is progressing so rapidly in independence of thought and in political aptitude that the Dominion must play an increasing part in determining world policy. That is the burden that rests upon our generation; and, like Bonar Law, I make it my duty to say, "I give myself to the Dominion," and though I fall, even if I fall, Canada will not believe that I am false.

To prevent young grasshoppers from reaching the surface, farmers in U. S. grasshopper infested areas have been asked to plough in and flax stubble before May 15.

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