

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink"

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1938

Midas In Newspaperdom

There is the fable of the rich man who wanted to lose his surplus wealth, tried in almost every way to do so, but every attempt resulted in an increase instead of a decrease. At last the Devil suggested he should invest his money in a newspaper, with more than the desired effect—not only his surplus, but his entire fortune and credit "went up the flue" almost before he realized he was in business.

A present day Midas, in the person of Mr. W. N. Wright of Toronto, may not possibly emulate his predecessor. But it is almost certain the Government succession duty will be the loser. By the time Mr. Wright is ready "to pass in his checks", there will not be many surplus millions for his heirs to quarrel over or for Premier Hepburn to collect succession duty upon.

The following well deserved tribute to Mr. Wright appeared in the Montreal Gazette, and it will be noted that our cautious contemporary is "inclined to believe that the money he has devoted to this enterprise will return to him an hundred-fold, in happiness, in that sense of a duty done, of service rendered, in which good citizenship finds its best and highest reward."

"Erected at the corner of King and York streets in Toronto, the William H. Wright Building was thrown open for public inspection at the end of last week. It is the new home of The Globe and Mail in design and equipment it expresses the last word in newspaper building construction. It is very solid and substantial, built for service rather than for show, and still magnificent. There is a story behind it, a very good story for young Canadians and perhaps a better one for their elders. Why the name? Who is William H. Wright? The answers are that William Wright is the angel of all this remarkable transformation and development which has overtaken the morning newspaper field in Toronto. He it was who supplied the capital with which the able and energetic C. George McCullagh acquired the old Toronto Globe, becoming president and publisher, subsequently purchased The Mail and Empire, and thereupon proceeded to the construction of an edifice which in its main characteristics is a curiously faithful reflection of the personal qualities of William H. Wright; it is substantial, it is strong, and there are no frills about it. It is built for business and for service.

"William Wright is rich in two respects, in character and in money, and the character comes first. His great wealth comes from the mines in Ontario; his character is in the man, bred in the bone. Modest and unassuming, he is a man of deep-seated convictions and of an unshakable probity. An Englishman born, he is intensely British in thought and outlook, while as a Canadian he is a practical patriot. He followed the flag as a trooper in the South African War. In the World War he was a multi-millionaire fighting in the ranks. As a capitalist he is now serving the country in which fortune smiled upon him, serving it in what he believes to be one of the best of all ways, namely, supporting with his vast resources the publication of a strong, fearless and independent newspaper devoted to one interest and to one interest only, that of the public as individuals and as a nation. William H. Wright did not find this course patterned for him by other men of wealth, men of lesser vision. He found it for himself, as he had found gold in the ground, and we are inclined to believe that the money he has devoted to this enterprise will return to him an hundredfold, in happiness, in that sense of a duty done, of service rendered, in which good citizenship finds its best and highest reward."

Mountainous Labours

Now, asks an exchange, are the members of the Rowell Commission going to avoid getting mental indigestion when they get around to the digesting part of their gargantuan programme? The Commission has now had submitted to it nearly 300 separate briefs, all voluminous, all cram-full of argument and assertions as to what's wrong with the country. And the briefs are still coming in. How can any Commission deal intelligently with such a mass of matter? One commentator suggests that the Commissioners be sent away, under guard, to some secluded spot (Anticosti Island, for instance); that no one be allowed to communicate with them; that they be required to spend, say, six months exclusively in thinking about what they have heard and read, and then maybe another six months in talking it all over among themselves. In due course they would have to present specific recommendations, which the federal government, to deal with intelligently, would have to study with equal care and attention if their judgment in the matter is to be of any value whatever.

The Turgeon Commission report, which deals only with one Canadian industry, runs to 300 pages and we may expect the Rowell Commission report to be at least two or three times as voluminous. What then? We note in this connection that the Ottawa Journal boasts of being "among the one-tenth of one per cent of the inhabitants of Canada who have read, or ever will read," the Turgeon report on the marketing of grain. After performing this labour, the Journal confesses: "There's a lot of information in it, of course, and a lot of opinions, but what we can't help wondering is, why was it necessary to have a Royal Commission to take a year and spend a lot of money to string the opinions and information together. Much of

what is said in this report is controversial, arguable to say the least, and a lot of it is mere repetition of things that have been advanced (and attacked) hundreds of times over the past ten years. We didn't need a Royal Commission, surely, to go over such ground again."

The real tragedy, however, says the Journal, is that nobody will read it. "A few eccentrics like ourselves may wade through it, but we'd be willing to bet a hat that not three members of the Cabinet will ever do more than glance at it, and not ten members of the House of Commons or Senate. And we won't blame them. There's a limit to what a patriot should be expected to do for his country, and, besides, if our statesmen read all the reports of the Royal Commissions they appoint for us, they'd have no time for anything else."

This is a rather discouraging thought for the Rowell Commission members to ponder in their peregrinations across the country. But it will be still more discouraging for the taxpayers, who have to foot the bill.

Home Market Neglected

Liberal governments are proverbially indifferent to encouraging the home market, their eyes being fixed on farther horizons. This may account for the fact that for the six months ending Sept. 1937, Canada imported, among other things, fresh apples to the value of \$333,000; fresh cherries, \$110,400; fresh strawberries, \$378,600. As pointed out by a writer in "Canadian Business," we have fruit growing areas in the Maritimes, Niagara Peninsula, in some sections of the West and on the Pacific Coast, and yet we imported, in the six months period referred to, over \$10,000,000 of fresh fruits. We also spent over \$370,000 on imported milled products, \$110,000 on imported sweetened biscuits, \$69,300 on no-sweetened biscuits, \$29,600 on cereal foods, \$39,700 on confectionery, \$339,400 on sugar candy and other confectionery.

Perhaps the greatest anomaly, however, is to be found in our imports of fishery products. With our Liberal governments apparently unable to find outlets for Maritime fisheries, we imported \$160,000 of fresh salmon and \$97,000 of salted, dried, smoked or pickled fish. We also imported meats to the value of \$628,000, and milk and milk products to the value of \$207,000.

In view of the failure to provide those wider markets for our basic industries promised in the last federal election campaign, would it not be a good idea to resume the Bennett Government's policy of developing the home market. It would seem, from the foregoing figures and others that could be quoted, that some such policy is just as necessary now as it was in the so-called depression years. When we look at the other side of the picture—of 752,700 Canadians receiving unemployment or agricultural aid, as of September 1937, can there be any doubt that there is something radically wrong with our boasted trade expansion?

Editorial Notes

Falleyrand died this date, 1838. Now is the time for unemployment truck gardening to start if it is to fulfil anticipations.

The Board of Trade delegates to Ottawa seem to have made an impression, whether it lasts and results beneficially remains to be seen.

In addition to Sir Frances and Lady Flood we are to have with us next week Mr. Graham T. Towers, Governor of the Bank of Canada—the advance guard, may we hope, of many tourists in the coming season.

Many in Ontario petitioned the Prime Minister to change Victoria Day this year from May 24 to May 23 which is Monday, but Mr. King replied it could not be done, the date being fixed by act of Parliament. The ancient half-timbered cottage at Shallowford, near Stafford, where Izaak Walton lived three centuries ago, has been destroyed by fire which started in the thatched roof. Situated on the banks of the River Sowe, where Walton fished, the cottage has been used as a museum of relics associated with his life. Most of these have been destroyed. On two previous occasions the cottage has been damaged by fire, but was restored by public subscriptions.

At the coming National Conservative convention, at which there will be many youth delegates the party leader will be host to the younger element at a special dinner on the first evening of the conclave with a view to inaugurating what will amount to a National Conservative Youth Movement. The post of "Youth Organizer for the Dominion" will be created, as well as a national organizer for the Women's Associations of the party.

A survey of existing facilities for medical research in Canada is to be made under the auspices of the Associate Committee on Medical Research established in March last by the National Research Council, it was announced at the close of the organization meeting of the committee which has just been held in Ottawa. Sir Frederick Banting, chairman of the committee, will personally conduct the survey, visiting each of the principal centres to learn at first hand of the work that is in progress. An assistant secretary is to be appointed to aid Sir Frederick in the conduct of the survey and to carry on the routine work of the committee.

Evidently members of the Rowell Commission are too much given to speaking when not called upon to do so. Mr. Rowell himself got into trouble through forcing to the front the question of provincial union, now the Congress of Canadian Organizations has protested reported remarks of Professor H. F. Angus of the University of British Columbia in an address at Toronto before the Ontario Medical Association. Speaking of extension of the franchise to Orientals in British Columbia, Prof. Angus, a member of the Rowell Commission, was quoted as saying that he favored granting full nationality rights to Orientals in Canada. The organizations sent their protest by wire to Prime Minister Mackenzie King.

NOTES BY THE WAY

How many Europeans besides myself, I wonder, decided not to entrust their linen to the Chinese laundries whose vans used to play the streets of Singapore a few days ago bearing the legend, "We Do Our Best?"—E. C. Farnwell in London Times.

I am inclined to agree with what a friend of mine is never tired of declaring, that the horse is the basis of civilization, that the speed of a horse is the maximum speed for a civilized man, and that anything beyond that is barbarism. Lord Tweedsmuir in the Rotarian.

The Chief Constable of Brighton has been having trouble with Mr. Arthur Chick, who owns and refuses to suppress a cock that crows in the morning and wakes the whole South Coast. The London Times has referred to the cock as "a rooster," and Dean Inge, late of Saint Paul's, has written in the "Times" that the cock of the Potomac, it is the Dean's dark conviction, has indeed flown into the gable end of the house in London begins calling cocks roosters. And the editor of the Times can find no dictionary to cover his claims with an early reference to the cock, but is forced to confess editorially that a transatlanticism has been committed in his news columns—Globe and Mail.

Pennsylvania has the first glass-bottle dairy heretofore in the United States. It houses fifty head of Guernsey cattle on the 3,000-acre farm of a former State Senator in Luzerne County.

The Official Gazette announces that the state of overcrowding in Gibraltar due to the influx of Spanish refugees, continues to be a grave concern. There is evident danger of epidemic, which is not only a menace to the civil community but if it spreads to the garrison would impair the defense forces. A special committee has been appointed to investigate the number of aliens in Gibraltar, threatening severe penalties for illegal harboring of aliens. When the Spanish war broke out nearly 20,000 Spaniards took refuge in Gibraltar.

Parents who teach children that they have a right to be happy teach them to be happy, and a current falsehood," Dr. Foster Kennedy, Cornell University nerve specialist, said in an address prepared in connection with the 13th annual meeting of the Medical Society of the State of New York. Youngsters should be made to face whatever may come. "But the advice occurred only one real right—the right to die; and what lies between of death is hardy, but with laughter, by ourselves.

Mr. G. H. Vansell, the federal specialist in bee culture at the Davis Experimental Station, reports on the use of electric fences to keep bees away from apiaries in the vicinity of the station. He reports that a bear once shocked from contact with the fence never returns. The fence erected for this purpose has of course, more strands of wire than for ordinary farm stock. Instead of one or two wires three or four are recommended so that the bear cannot jump under or jump over without being shocked. One wonders how a fence like this would work with two-legged marauders.—Western Producer.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, having gone back to their breath after the dash of realism which President Roosevelt tossed them, and recently are reported to be downright indignant. The President, speaking at their annual congress in Washington, gave them a lesson in realism, reminding them that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists. The Daughters, it is reported, are somewhat perturbed by how long a time it is back to the Revolution that they've entered into, and that their ancestors were revolutionists.—New York World-Telegraph.

German long-pled automobiles are being dumped on the British market in the face of a high duty, it was stated in the House of Commons that this is a matter being considered by government pools to subsidize German exports. Like every other country, Germany is anxious to build up a favorable balance of trade by exporting more than she imports. And there is no denying that Germany in some ways has prospered the rest of the world in her surplus of export values over import values. She has exported a Thomas Mann, and she has imported a Joseph Conrad. She has exported an Einstein, and she has imported a Freud. She has exported a Gobiensu, and she has imported a Gobiensu. She has exported thousands of scholars and scientists trained in the pursuit of truth, and she has imported a university system dedicated to the philosophy of Joseph Goebbels and Adolf Hitler. Of course, our motto breaks down at the vital point. When a nation has an excess of exports over imports the result is to make the nation that must import. But this peculiar excess of exports over imports in Germany's recent activities is not enriching the country.—New York Times.

"It's a question of the lesser of two evils," R. B. Smith, director of the civic work department, St. John, N. B. "Either we don't put oil on the unpaved streets, and have the complaint about dust, or we do put oil on, and have complaints about it being tracked into the houses." Kicks have already started to track into the houses, and so oil will be brought into play. It is anticipated that about 30,000 gallons of oil will be used this year. The oil has an asphaltic base, which leaves a firm, dust-proof film on the road surface.

Premier Hepburn seems to be "agitating" everything relating to an overhaul and modernization of the Constitution. He is against the extension of broader powers to the Dominion, against the investigation of Dominion-Provincial relations by an appointed Commission, and particularly against the claims and views of Western Provinces. Which is neither very surprising nor very encouraging. What would be surprising, and equally encouraging, would be that Premier Duplessis should take the opposite stand. Of that there is little prospect. The two have been consorting with a pretty general understanding that they were preparing to "gang up" against the West, and against the Dominion-Provincial relations which would restore the undiminished authority of the National Parliament. Mr. Duplessis can be depended on to supply the "mild" echo of Mr. Hepburn's unhelpful presentation. If he doesn't, his popularity in the rest of Canada will go up.—Edmonton Bulletin.

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

TREATMENT OF GALL BLADDER TROUBLE MAY REQUIRE SURGERY, MEDICINE, OR DIET ONLY.

You may wonder why a physician in treating gall bladder trouble sends some cases into hospital for treatment, treats others by medicine, and still others by outlining a diet to be followed strictly. You have perhaps thought of the gall bladder as a small bag, which should be removed if it contains any stones; whereas if all cases of gall stones underwent operation, all surgeons could be kept busy.

As a matter of fact the gall bladder is removed only when there is a new growth (cancer), excessive stone formation causing frequent attacks of colic, or when the symptoms—make life hardly worth living. And the results from these operations when the patient follows diet and other instructions afterwards, are, in most cases, very satisfactory.

However, there are some borderline cases, that is when the physician would like to use medical and diet treatment or diet treatment alone, and thus try to avoid operation, and there are other cases that are severe enough to require operation but for various reasons the surgeon does not generally poor condition of the patient, unwillingness to undergo operation—in which diet treatment offers the only help.

The usual symptoms of gall bladder trouble are, "belching, gas pressure, distress in the upper part of the abdomen coming on after the taking of food, biliousness, sometimes nausea and vomiting, occasionally headaches, constipation, and loss of appetite. To prescribe a diet to prevent or lessen these symptoms requires much thought and knowledge, not only about food but about the patient himself, his surroundings and his likes and dislikes.

The foods to be used are the non-irritating foods—fruits, some of the leafy vegetables, meat and fish once a day—never fried, very little butter, no spiced or smoked meat or fish, plenty of water, dilute coffee, milk, buttermilk, and weak tea.

The foods to be avoided are: cream, salted, canned and preserved meats, and fish, cheese, except cottage cheese, corn, cabbage, cauliflower, onions, raw vegetables, gravies, pie, nuts, alcoholics, pastry.

AGRICULTURE IN P. W. C. Sir,—There appeared in your issue of May 14 a statement made by Mr. Wm. Reddin to the effect that the students taking agriculture under his instruction in Prince of Wales College are the best judges as to the effectiveness of the course. In support of this, I, for one, and I am not the only one, can truly say that I value the instruction which I have acquired through the text and discussions in class. Much of what we learned in the course was in connection with teaching on a farm in Prince Edward Island, and fundamental principles in the different phases of agriculture. As I recall all that has been taught in the course and in so short a time, I am more and more convinced that it has been worthwhile. Of course, we all realize that knowledge in agriculture as well as in anything else, increases with experience, but for a good foundation for youths' start in life, the course in agriculture for Prince of Wales College is as good as any that could be wished for. And the only valuable factor in the course, for our instructor has not only a wide knowledge of his own subject, but he has a keen eye for the third term of college, I can sincerely say that I shall always

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

One Fact (St. John Telegraph Journal) Exactly what concentrated essence of Canadian opinion will drip from the Rowell Commission still none dare yet say. The ingredients have been and still are being rammed into the report, and a pretty mixed mash it makes. Nobody wants to do the commission's work for them, and the reports of commission are incidents of political life now so frequently recurring that by the time this one is all bottled and labeled most of Canada will probably be interested in something quite different. However, watching the stuff assembled, there is one conclusion none can escape: the Maritimes, once regarded with a shrug as too clamorous claimants of exaggerated provincial powers, are not the only ones who, coming down to brass tacks, offer strong opposition to centralism—not by a very long shaft.

It happens that the central provinces of the Dominion, who previously appeared less able to grasp the meaning than others, are championing provincial privileges with a vigor and to an extent we Maritimers never attempted. Hepburn has hit very straight from the shoulder and Duplessis has parried cleverly and scored a distinct triumph. The surrender of provincial powers and privacy, it is perfectly evident that the people of Canada have come to feel just as the Maritimes have always felt over passing authority to the central government, strengthening Ottawa at

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value the course in agriculture at Prince of Wales College and the effective manner in which it was taught. I am, Sir, etc. STUDENT OF AGRICULTURE Charlottetown, May 16, 1938.

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