

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MONDAY, APRIL 4, 1927

"FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH"

This may well be the most fitting epitaph for Mr. James McIsaac who passed away on Saturday while on journalistic duty at Ottawa. Mr. McIsaac was one of the most conscientious and faithful of men. He knew his duty and did it, often-times at the cost of great self-sacrifice and even personal friendships.

Mr. McIsaac was what is known as a "self-made man," that is, he worked with his hands as a shoemaker in St. Peter's and in the States to earn the money for his university education, passing through St. Dunstan's and Laval with distinction in English and classics.

After his graduation he became apprenticed to the law, but not finding in it his true vocation, drifted into journalism for which he soon discovered he had special aptitude. There was never a more careful or conscientious editor of a weekly newspaper than he. The Herald under his direction was an ideal country home newspaper, full of crisp, newsy items dealing with both local and foreign affairs; while the editorials were distinguished by that lofty tone characteristic of his private life and actions.

Mr. McIsaac was devoted to public life and an accomplished orator. A Conservative and follower of Sir John A. Macdonald by conviction he gave unswerving support to his party, not driven about by any diverting winds; he believed the National Policy was the only practical policy on which to build up Canada, he preached it unceasingly, and loyally supported the cause in days of adversity as well as prosperity.

It was a proud moment in his life when he was elected to represent his native county of King's in Parliament, and a prouder still when his Leader, the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, called upon him to move the address in reply to the Speech in 1920. That he excelled in that effort was universally admitted and he was congratulated by the leaders on both sides of the House.

Perhaps outside of politics and apart from religion Mr. McIsaac was most closely identified with the Caledonian Club. An ardent Scot he was a keen student of Scottish life and literature, and nothing pleased him better than to lecture on these subjects, or to take part in their discussion.

As a member of the Catholic Church he was most devoted and exemplary in the exercise of his religious duties.

When Parliament reassembled, Mr. McIsaac was appointed to represent The Guardian in the Press Gallery at Ottawa, and how well he discharged these duties all who have read our Ottawa despatches will appreciate.

The Guardian regrets the loss of an esteemed and devoted member of its staff, and the public a wise counsellor and friend trained in the highest principles of journalism and public life and devoted to the best interests of his profession. "Faithful unto death."

"STILL IN HARNESS"

"From grave to gay, from lively to severe" is the daily lot of the average newspaper man, but seldom do the two extremes meet in the same office on the same day. That is our experience, however, for we hasten from dropping a tear on the bier of one beloved and respected member of our staff to extend the hand of congratulation and good wishes to another equally beloved and esteemed member in the person of the veteran Mr. J. E. [Name obscured]

upon his eighty-ninth year. Mr. McCready has spent nearly three score years and ten in the chosen profession which he has adorned and can look back over all those years with a mind as clear and incisive as when he first entered the profession, with the additional qualification that his views have gained in value from a ripe experience of life in all its phases. We need say no more, knowing Mr. McCready's retiring disposition but join with his many friends and well wishers in wishing him health and continued happiness in the new year upon which he has just entered.

WHAT THEY MISSED

An island off the coast of Siberia, inhabited by Eskimos and Russians heard, a few weeks ago, for the first time since 1912 news from the outside world. The only communication with the island is by vessels and the difficulties incident to navigation in the Arctic Sea are frequent and numerous.

What did those people miss? Their souls were not harassed by the struggles going on in the big world of which they knew little or nothing. The Great War, of which they had heard nothing until it was all over, gave them no uneasiness. Their Russian Monarchy had been overthrown and the whole Royal family murdered; the German Monarchy was overthrown and its place was taken by a Republic and these happy people knew nothing of it. Were they surprised when they heard of these and other happenings? Were they glad that it was all over and settled before they knew of it? We may imagine that the experience would be somewhat similar to having a surgical operation while under an anaesthetic and awakening to find it was all over.

It may be assumed that people living in such conditions are not highly intellectual. Yet they are human, they have their personal griefs and joys and sorrows. They live their little lives concerned only with the limited contacts they have. The world problems do not trouble them. Enough for them is the problem of providing food and shelter, a difficult problem enough in such an inhospitable climate.

Would it be cynical to speculate on what civilization has brought to the so-called civilized world as compared with what the want of it has saved these people from? Civilization has brought comfort and joy and happiness. It has also brought its sorrows and its cares. If it were not for the great factor in civilization, the instinctive desire for mutual helpfulness, these isolated people might almost be envied. And yet they too possess instinct for mutual helpfulness although its scope is confined with in such narrow limits. If ignorance is bliss then surely these people who can skip fifteen years of world history without the quiver of an eyelash must be blessed beyond measure.

If isolation be the summum bonum civilization "cannot go back to it. Those isolated ones could be taught to endure civilization with its cares and anxieties but civilization could not and cannot go back to primitive conditions. This is one of the burdens of civilization; it must keep on going on, whether its progress be accompanied by joy or sorrow, pain or pleasure, war or peace. We of these telegraph, telephone, radio days with our daily news of the world, with our many contacts, pleasant and unpleasant, may pity those who may not hear from the outside world for fifteen years at a time, but perhaps they are not to be pitied as much as we sometimes think.

think. [Text continues with reflections on civilization and isolation]

Notes by the Way

No increase of salaries or commissions to postmasters this year, was the word passed to the Canadian postmasters at their sixth annual convention by Hon. P. J. Veniot, Postmaster General. He had understood that they were expecting an increase but the Government had decided that the change to penny postage recently made must be first tested to learn how it would affect the postal revenue.

The County Court Judges of Nova Scotia have a grievance, and in consequence have organized a Provincial Judges' Association. And at their organization meeting they passed a resolution protesting that too many trial cases are thrown upon the County Court judges. The resolution sets forth that many of these cases should be tried in the Supreme Court, where the judge would have the assistance of a jury. Judge W. E. Wallace was elected president of the Association.

Over the conduct and attitude of the King Government in regard to the Georgian Bay Canal bill now before Parliament, the Toronto Globe, once the Liberal Bible, is pouring out vials of wrath. We quote below some extracts from a recent issue:

"The party whip is still effectual though silent." "Has Mr. King proved that he always lives up to his promises?" "Maybe Mr. King, like Mr. Barnum, thinks the public like to be humbugged." "A private bill, evidently is one in which the rights of the public can be defied."

"Perhaps Premier King thinks he can fool the public more easily than he can fool the Sifton's." "Many a Government has come to grief on a far less vital issue than the Georgian Bay charter bill." "Have the Sifton's more power with the Government than the united peoples of two Provinces?" "Mr. Eider would have been a stronger man today had he voted for his principles and not for his party."

"The Sifton interests seem to be much more influential with the King Government than the public interests." "Those Ontario Ministers and members who voted for the Sifton bill are likely to have to do some tall explaining."

"The vote on the Georgian Bay canal bill shows how a private bill can become a Government bill at the crack of the whip." "Does the Government expect that Ontario and Quebec will sit calmly by and see their power

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FOR THE SCRAP BOOK

A SERIES OF LITERARY QUOTATIONS FOR BOOK LOVERS

Monday, April 4th: Goldsmith died, 1774.

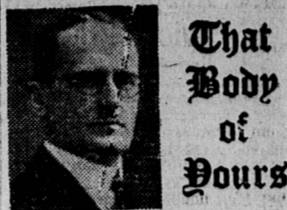
"Every man has a right to utter what he thinks truth, and every other man has a right to knock him down for it."—Dr. Johnson.

When the hounds of Spring are on Winter's traces The mother of months in meadow or plain Pills the shadows and windy places With hisp of leaves and ripple of rain

For winter's rains and ruins are over And all the season of snows and slush The days dividing lover and lover The light that loses, and night that wins; And time remembered is grief forgotten, And frosts are slain and flowers begotten, And in green underwood and cover Blossom by blossom the Spring begins.—Swinnburne.

The new note in drama—Rightly looked upon, man in every tragic situation is a Job, incapable and unconscious of any degree of voluntary guilt that can justify a suffering as sharp and constant as his own. Thus in the serene realm of art guilt, and punishment, will be banished definitely to melodrama, where they belong. Tragedy will seek increasingly to understand our failures and our sorrows. It will excite pity for our common fate; the terror it inspires will be a terror lest we wrong our brother or violate his will, not lest we share his guilt and incur his punishment. It will seek its final note of reconciliation not by delivering another victim to an outraged God or an angry tribe, but through a profound sense of that community of human suffering which all forced deprivations and all freedom assure us.—Ludwig Lewisohn.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN



By James W. Barton, M.D. A GOOD APPETITE.

In an illness your doctor is always pleased when he sees the return of your good appetite. In acute digestive disturbances of course he doesn't want you to have an appetite, because food is not only unnecessary, but prolongs the trouble.

However when an acute illness has passed over, and you are lying weak and miserable, the return of your appetite is a favorable sign, and gladly welcomed by the doctor. As you know, you should always have Nature fighting for you, and some one has well said "the loss of appetite is the despair of Nature yielding up her power to the force of the disease."

It is at this time then that tempting foods should be provided. The tray itself, the dishes, the preparation of the food, not too much, and not all together on one plate, should all be studied carefully, if in hospital, where the food though always nutritious is not varied enough. It is wise to ask for special dishes, or if possible have them from the home.

Perhaps some particular dish, prepared in a special way, has always been a favorite article of diet. Just the thought of it is sufficient to start the juices in the mouth and stomach. From this beginning, strength and an interest in life return, and the battle is practically won.

Remember, however that this is the case of a sick individual whose appetite must be coaxed. Having a "poor appetite" or being bothered with attacks of indigestion is really a blessing to many folks. Your insurance examiner will tell you that the thin individual with little or no appetite is usually a good risk insofar as long life is concerned.

This is in contrast to the stout individuals with larger appetites. Dr. Robt. Hutchison of London, England, puts it tersely when he says "Thin people are better lives (insurance lives) than fat, for the more rotund or plump the figure the more rapidly does one roll down the hill of life."

Pale subjects often pester on to a green old age, improving in health as they go, whilst the florid and muscular succumb in middle life to acute ailments, or high blood pressure. My point then is that a good appetite is a valuable asset, and should be a good asset at all times, but it can be a real liability where common sense is not exercised.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

April 4, 1927

MAN'S WISDOM FOLLY.—The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought; he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. Psalm 33:10.

A SIMPLE PICTURE

Strange how a simple picture will remain Photographed or engraven on the mind Out of a thousand more with greater claim On memory.

There was a time I went and journeyed far, Putting the seas between me and my home. I saw the wonders of great cities then;

Bridges of matchless beauty arched above Rivers whose very names are musical. Noble cathedrals raised by pious hands, Castles of kings and queens whose lives are writ Large on the page of history; and I walked Reverently 'neath a gentle English sun

The lanes that Shakespeare trod. Homeward at length I turned my face, content, Rich in my mind with all that I had seen. In the quiet evening hours of coming years I would unlock the gates of memory

And live again through all the happy days Embosomed there.

Strange it is, strange indeed! I know not why, But all is blurred, chaotic, indistinct. Save one small picture on my memory Engraven deep and true. Clear-cut as any cameo it remains: Just an old woman in a cap of lace Tending her fragrant gilly-flowers A sunny garden wall.

—Ernest H. A. Home.

CANADIAN SEA HARVEST

OTTAWA, Ont., April 1.—The total catch of sea fish on both coasts of the Dominion during the month was 26,231,600 pounds, valued at \$467,134, compared with 35,769,500 pounds, valued at \$570,132, during the month of February, 1926. The smaller catch was due to unfavorable weather conditions.

The Origins Of The War

1. Ich Suche die Wahrheit! Ein Buch zur Kriegsschuldfrage. Von Wilhelm Kronprinz. Stuttgart und Berlin: Cotta, 1925.

2. Isovlsky and the World War, based on the Documents recently published by the German Foreign Office. By Friedrich Steve. Translated by E. W. Dickes. Allen & Unwin, 1926.

3. The Case for the Central Powers; an Appraisal of the Versailles Treaty. By Count Max Montellus. Translated by Constance Vesey. Allen & Unwin, 1925.

4. The Genesis of the World War, an Introduction to the Problem of War Guilt. By Harry Elmer Barnes. New York: Knopf, 1925.

5. Les Criminelles. By Victor Marguerite. Paris: Flammarion, 1926.

And other books. Leaving these words aside and turning to the more purely propaganda literature, we notice how easy it is to give the required impression to the general and uncritical reader by varying the proportion and emphasis with which the different parts of the story are treated.

The real case against Germany of course is that, from the beginning of July, the German Emperor definitely adopted the position that he would give Austria carte blanche in her dealings with Serbia, and assured her that she could rely on the full support of Germany even if war with Serbia resulted, as it quite probably might do, in war with Russia. This view he first expressed in his celebrated marginal note on a telegram from Tschirsky, and he personally gave the assurance to Count Szogeny and Count Hoyos in an interview of July 5. This attitude was explained by the Chancellor in an official telegram to Schebeko and personally explained on July 6 to Count Szogeny. The result was that the Austrians, having received the full assurance of support, at once went ahead and made all their plans after deliberately adopting the view, as shown by the records of the meeting of the Council on July 7, that the matter at issue was one of such importance that it was worth a war with Russia, and after Conrad, the Chief of the Staff, had explained that on the whole, from the military point of view there would be more prospect of success in an immediate war with Russia than if it were postponed, say, for two years. It is true enough that the German Emperor expressed the opinion that quite probably Russia might not resort to war, but he knew that the danger was very serious and he deliberately incurred it.

Now, if we turn to the Crown Prince's book, we find that he dismisses the whole of this topic; he says it is not worth while to discuss exactly what the Germans did; obviously they did not and could not really desire war; and, therefore, what is the use of troubling about the details of what they did? And then he hurries on to full account of the last stages of the negotiations when, as we know, the German Government attempted at the last moment to get out of the impossible situation in which by their own blunders they had been placed; but he omits to explain that this change of attitude was caused by the knowledge, first, that, as all the information from London showed, in the case of a general war England would be found on the side of France and Russia; and, secondly, that both Italy and Roumania could not be depended upon. He makes it appear that throughout, and not only at the last stage, Germany was definitely opposed to a European war and concentrates the whole attention of his readers on the mobilisation of Russia, without giving the reasons which made mobilisation imperative. Even Montellus, who is a writer on a different plane from the Crown Prince, though more subtly, forewarns the reader that he never quotes the Emperor's marginal note in which he rebuked Tschirsky for warning the Austrians against hasty and ill-considered action, although it was this which was undoubtedly taken as formal instructions in the German Foreign Office. He relegates to an appendix the discussion of Szogeny's reports, and even there leaves out the cardinal passage in which the Austrian Ambassador relates his conversation with Bethmann Hollweg:

"As regards our relations to Serbia, the German government adopted the point of view that we must determine what is to happen in order to clear up the situation; in doing so... whatever our decision might be, we could depend that Germany would stand behind the Monarchy as an Ally and friend."

"These words could have no other meaning than that Austria had complete carte blanche to deal with Serbia as she wished, and even if her action led to war with Russia, she could depend on full military support from Germany. Not a word of warning that, of course, they would take every reasonable precaution to avoid Russian opposition and would adopt the measures necessary to make it easy to come to an agreement with Russia. Nothing but the bare and unqualified assurance of German support as an Ally."

"How easy it is by the turn of a phrase, by the slight misuse of a word, to bias the whole narrative! Speaking of the Russian decision for mobilisation on July 29, Montellus says 'it discloses that the Russian Minister from the morning of July 29 wanted war, as the first signing of the order for general mobilisation on this day shows.' Of course it shows nothing of the kind. It does not show that Sazonov

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The 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.

NOW CLOSED

Sir,—You still persist in evading the points of discussion, and labor to bolster up your defense by unfounded assertion and attempted personal thrusts which deceives no one.

You assert that my statement re the Quebec enquiry "was not true," and you immediately confirm it's truth by saying "it was the consequence of a report on the vice conditions in Montreal." This is exactly what I claimed it to be, under government control. (The vice conditions were not under Government control.) Ed. G.

You next evade my answer to your claim re \$1,925,193 reduced liquor receipts by saying—"Our figures are official and may be seen at our office." I did not question correctness of the figures. It was your interpretation that I called to account. You stated that it was due to the Commission "encouraging the consumption of lighter grades in place of spirits." I showed you that it was due to the Brewers supplying four million gallons more of beer which extra quantity went into drinks for \$100,334 less money than they charged for the lesser quantity in 1922. (See footnote Ed. G.)

You say "Mr. Tanton writes at random without much regard to accuracy." You have tried very hard to do it, but up to the present, can you point to a single statement of mine (which did not conform to strict accuracy?) Is that a manly way to meet argument? (The correspondence is before our readers and speaks for itself.—Ed. G.)

You then add that—after deducting four years of restrictive laws which you specify—there was "unrestricted sale of wine and beer, and 11 years were under general unrestricted business." In this you are careful to exclude spirits, and in this apart, you are again in error. ("General" includes spirits.—Ed. G.)

During the eleven years there was the Scott Act, considerably in force, and several Local Option laws which were more effective than the present Control laws. (But Mr. Tanton's whole contention has been that Cardinal Bégin's pastoral did not refer to the Scott Act and Local Option Municipalities.—Ed. G.)

You finish up with your customary personal diatribe speaking of "Mr. Tanton's wobbling and four-flushing." Slur and abuse will not land you in your haven of release. I do not want to be personal, but you

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Prohibition

The Prohibition Situation. The Department of Research and Education of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. New York, 1925.

The Treasury Department's figures are included in this condemnation; but so also is some of the propaganda on the other side.

The Research Department of the Council, thus dissatisfied with existing statistics, has made its own inquiries. Among the most interesting were the inquiries addressed to charitable societies as to the relative size of the intemperance factor as a cause of poverty in pre-prohibition and in subsequent days. Unfortunately, the figures furnished do not go back far enough. The Bulletin notes that the years immediately preceding national prohibition—1916-18—do not offer a fair basis of comparison, because that period "represents the crest of a wave of intemperance as a cause of dependency."

Yet in only two cases do the comparisons go as far back as 1914. These two cases reveal remarkable results. In one, the Family Welfare Association of Milwaukee reports that whereas in 1914 intemperance was a factor in dependency in 3.39 per cent. of the cases handled in 1924, after five years of prohibition, the percentage was 7.9. In the other case, a society called Richmond House, at Stamford, Conn., reported corresponding figures of 9.21 per cent in 1914, and of 19.66 per cent. in 1924.

It is said that the effect of prohibition is to derive the poor, but not the rich, of access to fermented beverages. These figures indicate that, even among the poor, those who want to drink can get it, and they want, and are doing it to an increasing extent, so far as financial embarrassment is a reflexion. As the Bulletin, dealing with another inquiry, remarks, "It is interesting to note that in most of these cases no attempt was made by the visitor to deal with the problem in a legal way. It was taken for granted that liquor was available and would continue to be. The visitor, like the client, seemed oblivious to the fact that a law was in existence which was designed effectually to keep men and liquor apart." (p. 21.)

Financial embarrassment is not the only development. In reporting upon an investigation in Chicago the investigator is quoted as saying that "the drinking of 'moonshine' appeared to have a decidedly bad effect on the mental condition of the individual which was not present to such a striking degree before prohibition." (p. 22.) There is a point here which anti-prohibitionists should also heed. The increasing amount of disease

The Value of Drugs

Should be measured by their quality not by their price. Good drugs are sometimes expensive. Cheap apt to be still more expensive because poor drugs are worse than worthless—they are often harmful. Good drugs—the kind we sell—are an effective aid in curing sickness and disease. The quality of all our drugs, is what it should be—the best we can buy. Our prices are always as low as good drugs can be sold for.

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and death from alcoholism does not prove an equivalent increase in the heavy drinking; the bad liquor consumed under prohibition produces an undue proportion of illness. There is an indirect result of prohibition of which account must be taken. The restriction of the law, in other directions follows the forcible stoppage of drinking.

"The forcible suppression of an activity creates new problems and the nature and extent of these problems are among the subjects that need to be studied now. Furthermore, there are doubtless many individuals who have been cured of the liquor habit by the intervention of the law, in whom personality defects which formerly showed themselves in the form of indulgence in stimulants are now expressed in other ways." (p. 23.)

An indication of what one of the other ways may be is to be found in the report of the Health Commissioner of St. Louis, where it is shown that the treatments in the Venereal Clinic rose from 18,708 in 1911 to 125,374 in 1923. This figure of the converted drunkard's home which adorns teetotal placards is also not always a realistic drawing.

The argument upon which the supporters of Prohibition chiefly rely is the alleged improvement of economic conditions. Upon this point the Bulletin comments in such illuminating and judicial fashion that its statement is worth repetition in fullness.

"Probably no careful observer will say that the abolition of the saloon has not effected a very substantial amelioration of large numbers of the working class. The virtual stoppage of beer drinking alone on the part of millions of working men might be assumed, ever without and considerable evidence, to have had a profound effect on the economic status of their families. At the same time, the appeal to specific economic data—increased business activity, growing bank deposits, etc.—to prove the effects of prohibition must be made very guardedly. All attempts to measure this increase in quantitative terms and fraught with danger because of the great increase in prosperity since 1921 due to other causes. The argument that the continuing increase of savings bank deposits in 1920-21 as compared, e.g., with 1913-14, the next preceding period of depression, indicates a marked increase in saving due to prohibition. The outlaying of these liquor traffic funds indeed have been an influential factor here, but the fact remains that savings deposits as reported by the American Bankers' Association show a fairly continuous movement since 1918; while, if allowance be made for war advances in 1920 and 1921 on account of the increased cost of living, it is doubtful if any great change can be shown statistically.

"In addition to the increase in money wages we must consider the extensive thrift campaigns resulting in larger savings and a larger number of savers; the population of conservative investments and the tendency in periods of depression to put money in the bank rather than to buy securities on a falling market; the release of savings for deposits when the Liberty Loan campaigns ceased; increase in money circulation during the 'inflation' period; and other, more technical considerations. But it may be doubted whether the assumption that prohibition has been a factor, and an important one, in keeping savings deposits on a high level. Improvement in premium collections from industrial life insurance policy

holders points in the same direction. The disappearance of the saloon and the 'treating habit' has undoubtedly been a great material boon to the American working man." (p. 30.)

(To be continued...)

DAILY LESSONS IN ENGLISH

By W. L. Gordon

WORDS OFTEN MISUSED: Don't say "did you ever go?" Say "have you ever gone?"

OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED: steacur. Pronounce "stee-kur," as in "signs," e stressed, u as in "unit," accent first syllable.

OFTEN MISPELLED: imaterial; two m's. SYNONYMS: loud, noisy, deafening, thundering, making great noise and tumult.

WORD STUDY: "Use a word three times and it is yours." Let us increase our vocabulary by mastering one word each day. Today's word: TACHY; implied but not expressed verbally. "He did not promise to come, but it was a tacit understanding."

Keep the baseburner fire on for while yet, don't run the risk of taking gold. We can supply Hard Coal of Besco Coke in any quantity. A. Pickard & Co. PHONE 240

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