

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Teach Them to Swim

As a precautionary measure for the school holidays, the Vancouver Province newspaper is putting on a campaign with a view to teaching two thousand Vancouver children to swim this summer. The "Province" cites the alarming number of drowning accidents during every holiday season, and it appeals to its readers for active support in the efforts already being put forth by the Royal Life Saving Society. It insists that all school children should be taught to swim, as a matter of course, but, better still, they should all be instructed in the recognized methods of life-saving and resuscitation.

In the Maritime Provinces, as on the Pacific Coast, it is impossible to keep children away from the water in the summer season. The art of swimming is as easily acquired as the art of walking, and it is one of the most valuable requirements which one can possess. Stunt swimming should be discouraged among children, but it should be obvious, even to the most timid parents, that the best way of ensuring the child's safety on the bathing beach is to encourage it to swim. With older children, as the Vancouver paper suggests, a practical knowledge of life-saving and resuscitation methods would be a most valuable acquisition. How many drowning tragedies, even in this Province, might have been averted had the participants been practised swimmers? There is, of course, the danger that comes from too great a reliance upon one's skill or power of endurance in the water. This is a real danger in the case of young children; but it is surely not so great as the danger of allowing them to go through life ignorant of an art which might, on occasion, be of inestimable value to themselves and others.

Australia Doctors Herself

Australia's sorry financial position has attracted world-wide attention and fears have been entertained in some quarters that it would be well-nigh impossible for the country to get out of the dire straits for a long time to come. While the situation, admittedly, is very serious, there are signs that the difficulties will be overcome, perhaps sooner than expected. The hopeful view is taken by John Kirwan, who, writing from the Empire Parliamentary Rooms, Westminster Hall, contributes an article, entitled "Some Aspects of Australian Finance," which is published in the June number of the Empire Review. Mr. Kirwan says that today Australia may be likened to a young business man who has enjoyed several years of ever-increasing prosperity, a prosperity he thought would last forever, but who suddenly meets with financial trouble because of the reduction to one-half of the prices of the main commodities that he produces—wool and wheat. He had borrowed freely, but he felt justified in so doing in order to extend his operations. He has spent more than he should, perhaps, but he had all along honestly paid his debts. The fall in prices had not been foreseen by him, and when that came his bankers added to his embarrassment by refusing him further credit. That is Australia's position, as described.

In the Commonwealth's case the financial interests were justified in halting the borrowing, especially in view of the talk by the extremists of repudiation of debts. Here Mr. Kirwan points out that the extremists do not represent the mass of the people. Of the six states, he says, it is from only one, New South Wales, that the cry for repudiation comes, and, while the extremists are in office there, yet there are evidences that they are in the minority. The Lang Government is in office and it is true, but it is

not in power, according to Mr. Kirwan, who states that the Legislative Council has supplied ample proof that it will not agree to extreme proposals. The Commonwealth, furthermore, would not allow New South Wales to repudiate the state's just debts and the rest of Australia paid what the New South Wales Government failed to pay. The National Government and the five other states upheld Australia's honor. They are engaged to secure balanced budgets and have instituted drastic economies. Salaries of legislators and civil servants have been reduced from 10 to 15 per cent, and railway and other state employees have been similarly treated. Huge cuts have been made in defence and migration expenditure, a Commonwealth sales tax has been imposed and Commonwealth and states income taxes have been increased. Widespread economy is the rule, while at the same time aid is being extended to the 300,000 unemployed.

A Political Paradox

The attitude of the Opposition press toward the Bennett Government, says the Sydney Post, has become the paradox of Canadian politics. Leading Liberal papers welcomed the holding of the September session, approved the \$20,000,000 vote for unemployment relief, but continued to assail the Government which summoned the emergency session. The Opposition press also approved the measures adopted by the Government for relief of the agrarian West, but criticized various details of this policy and assailed the Ministry for its pains. Liberal newspapers also frankly conceded that Premier Bennett had an electoral mandate to give increased tariff protection to Canadian producers, but made the welkin ring with their horrified protests when he proceeded to carry it into effect.

In the House of Commons, the Opposition leader has displayed the same curious inconsistency. Having decried most of his four-hour speech on the Address to a denunciation of Premier Bennett for not having carried out all his pre-election promises within six months of the advent of the new Government, he complained during his oration on the Budget, that the Prime Minister was in too great haste in implementing his pledges, and declared that the best thing he could do, in the interest of the country, was to forget most of them. Obviously it is impossible for a Conservative Government to please a Liberal Opposition, or to satisfy that section of the press which follows Mr. King with enthusiasm in to every segment of the sinuous political course he pursues.

Editorial Notes

The Clark-Tweedy combination is a challenge to the sincerity of every temperance voter in the Province.

The attitude of the Lea Government towards its responsibilities to the electors, as indicated in recent speeches of the Premier and his colleague, is one of the most extraordinary ever assumed by any administration in a democratic country. The Government seems to be under the impression that its election platform of 1927, on which it secured power, has been completely forgotten. It seems to imagine that it has effectively answered criticism of its own disregarded pledges of 1927 by criticising the Bennett Government for not yet implementing all its election promises of 1930. And while it is criticising the Bennett Government on this score, its federal leader, Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, complains that Premier Bennett is implementing too many of his promises in the present financial situation of the country!

NOTES BY THE WAY

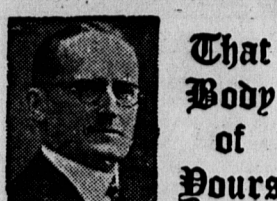
If civilization means anything at all says the London Referee it means peace and security for the nation and the individual; failure to secure these primary necessities of progress renders a relapse into the most hideous barbarism inevitable. And if the nations are to make peace and security safe for their peoples they must be prepared to look upon their old war scars not as incentives to future revenge but as eloquent pleas for friendship in the common cause of civilization.

It may be of interest and a source of pride to Canadians to recall the fact that the eminent financier T. B. Macaulay president of the Sun Life Assurance Company, as long ago as 1920 or earlier suggested the idea of war debt cancellation. In 1922 he published his views on this subject emphasizing the moral obligations of U. S. toward nations whose sacrifices had been made in the lives of their people as well as in gold. He drew attention to the enormous profits gained by the U. S. out of the war. He argued that the position of the U. S. to their European Allies was not that of an ordinary debtor and creditor but of an association in which advances were to be expended for the benefit of all. In these circumstances he contended that the American claims had no basis in equity and if the case were between individuals an American court would reject them. He insisted that the U. S. should bear her just share of the burden of the war, the allies having applied all their resources in men money and materials without stint. The contributions of U. S. he said should not be regarded as loans and that of the other nations as gifts. In the one year moratorium proposed by President Hoover the seed sown by Mr. Macaulay is beginning to bear fruit and may yet result in a harvest that will be of incalculable advantage to the world.

That Mr. Bennett will, says the Financial Post attempt over the term of his occupancy of public office, to strengthen the balance economy of Canada, to enhance our independence of other nations, and to pave the way for the development of sustained prosperity is beyond question. He cannot expect to achieve complete success, nor can he hope that all of his policies will be continued by successive governments, particularly if there should be a change of political party. But in the main essentials his policies are soundly Canadian and they reflect the business experience of many years. By all means let us have intelligent criticism of the policies of the Government, but let us not forget the Prime Minister is doing a good job in a hard time.

Referring to sweepstakes for hospitals the Manchester Guardian says. The exploiting of avarice provides a far surer way of becoming effortlessly rich than the indulgence of avarice; and there has never been any lack of variety in the ways in which the public may pay a little money for a remote chance of winning a lot. Sweepstakes are easy to promote, and collecting for charities is laborious—even collecting taxes is laborious, their payment unpleasant. For this reason the Khedives found it easier to tolerate the slave trade in the Sudan and take a 20 per cent of its profits than to administer the country properly and tax its prosperity. Are we to emulate the Khedives? Are our hospitals to be dependent on the limits of avarice? Must we encourage a vice to find means for looking after our sick? The suggestion is odious.

J. L. Garvin declares that in its domestic record, Labour, after two years in office, has not merely been a failure in the normal sense of the word. It has been of its kind a failure the most complete and calamitous and pregnant with future mischief in the annals of British administration. To allege excuse by parroting eternally about the "world slump" is piteous, maudlin and untrue. . . . After all, a Government, like an individual, is best measured by the presence or absence of capacity to rise to a crisis. . . . We make full allowance for the "world slump," but in face of it throughout eighteen months no possible Government in the world could have made a feebler or more ignominious exhibition. Unemployment is over the 2,500,000 mark. It is not likely to fall below that mark this year. Ministers would not make the least departure from "free imports without free trade." They cling slavishly to the old laissez-faire doctrine. Instead of doing anything to cure unemployment their demagogic finance tends to make



By James W. Barin, M.D. SLEEPLESSNESS ONLY A SYMPTOM

I talk about food more than sleep because more is known about food, and yet sleeplessness, or insomnia as it is called, has very much to do with the illness, weakness, and unhappiness of the world.

Just what causes sleep is still unknown. I have mentioned more than once the different causes that have been set forth, all of which have in turn been proven to be not the real or complete cause or causes of sleep. All sorts of experiments have been tried on animals and on humans being to induce sleep, and to keep them awake in an effort to learn more about sleep, which is so very necessary to health and life.

In a discussion before a medical society a few months ago the statement was made that as the causes of sleep were unknown the causes of sleeplessness could not be classified on a scientific basis, but the classes could be put into certain classes from the standpoint of treatment. First, those cases of sleeplessness caused by discomfort from pain, or other body condition; second, those due to emotional states, worry, anger, excitement and so forth; third those due to some serious mental disorder.

In cases of persistent insomnia, the habit of sleep has been broken and the patient had lost confidence; to these were added fears—all powerful factors in maintaining a condition of insomnia. Sleeplessness should be regarded as a symptom and every effort made to find the underlying cause.

The suggestions given by members of the society were that the aim in the treatment was to restore the patient's confidence, and every effort made to get the habit of sleep under way again.

Now there are various drugs that are often used, and there may be times when these are necessary, but the main thought was that if the patient's day can be properly arranged, very often the night with refreshing sleep will come naturally. The three points to be watched are, rest, work and play. This means that the mind and body should be given work for a while, rest for a while, and play for a while during the day. Men and women who work hard or play hard physically are seldom troubled with insomnia.

Town Planning At Ur

In the days of Abraham, it seems nearly four thousand years ago, they didn't go in very much for town planning; at least not in Ur of the Chaldees. Thirteen hundred years later, on similar evidence, it seems they did. Thirteen centuries after Abraham came Nebuchadnezzar, and it seems that he used to run Ur from Babylon. Some of these very interesting statements are given to the London Times by Mr. C. Leonard Woolley, who writes of recent results of the joint expedition to those parts of the British Museum and the University of Pennsylvania.

They have been digging nine seasons at Ur of the Chaldees, and they have gone four thousand years deep. They have dug down through the ages to the time of Nebuchadnezzar, who was a king in Babylon, 600 B. C., and they have reached the time of Abraham the Patriarch, 1900-2000 B. C. In the Patriarchal age, Ur is now discovered to have been something of a boom city, and probably it was an era of good times for the real estate speculators of those far-away days. Anyhow, we are shown Abraham's Ur, disintegrated by the excavators, a "huddle of close-packed houses, built of burnt and crude bricks, two and three stories high," and these, it seems, faced upon narrow winding lanes.

Thirteen hundred years later, it was the imperial age of Babylon. Mr. Woolley is inclined to think that times were harder then in Ur than they had been under the Patriarchs. He says the evidence is of a smaller population and more straitened means. The houses had come down in height to one-storey places, built only of crude, unburnt bricks. On the other hand, the streets of Nebuchadnezzar's Ur were broad and straight, and the one-storey houses for all the cheaper materials, covered a great area. Ur of Nebuchadnezzar, unburnt bricks or not, seems to have lasted into the golden age of the Greeks. It seems that Nebuchadnezzar's

The Public Forum

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

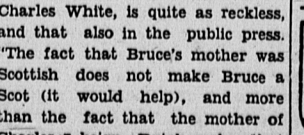
ROAD HOGS

Sir:—Half a century ago one of the great grievances of the farmer was the road hog. His nominal place of abode, except in winter, was the public road. He lived on earth worms and grass supplemented by occasional feeds of grain or potatoes from the farmers' fields. His ears were generally chewed off by the ferocious dogs that had to be kept at each home. He was guilty of all crimes and misdemeanors except perhaps murder. He was the cause of many local feuds and much trouble. The farmer or his wife chased him from their fields were wont to use strong expletives as a complement to sticks and stones. Being built on the principle of the speed boat he was a difficult target to hit. No dog would attack him in front, but knowing that he had no aft defence, they bayed him till he "turned tail." But he is gone! The roadside knows him no more. His picturesque sleeping den is seen no more. He defiles and disfigures no longer, the roadsides. His odour is absent and unregretted. But ah! We have a much worse road hog now. He is a biped of the genus humanus. He drives a machine of the most deadly nature. He drives it without regard to the rights of others. He holds in contempt all rules and regulations made for the welfare and safety of those who must travel. He will risk a "close shave" rather than stop or slow down. Rushing along at 30, 40, or 50 miles an hour he is nothing short of a murderer, for only the strong and nimble can get out of his way. He blinds with dust or spatters with mud all he meets or passes.

Then think of the damage to the road. At great cost the road is built up. The modern road hog destroys it by throwing tons of the material into the fields and woods. What selfishness! What wanton destruction! What government, local or federal, can stand such criminal waste? The question is how to catch those "hogs." I would suggest plain clothes detectives. The owners name in large letters on the car. Heavy fines and cancellation of license. It is an urgent matter.

Scots Wham Bruce

(Mantoba Free Press) One, E. Burton, has a grievance. He is an Englishman who has feelings about Robert the Bruce. He has written to his favorite paper, the London Daily Telegraph, about it. "My contention is that the popular Scottish idea of the origin and character of Bruce is incorrect," says Mr. Burton, "and that any rectification of this put forward by recent historians is deliberately ignored by people north of the Tweed." "Apparently Normans, when domiciled in England for over 200 years, remain Normans," discourses Mr. Burton. "When domiciled in Scotland, they forthwith became Scots; and taking root in that more genial soil, put out the appropriate flowers of treachery and murder." Mr. Burton should look out. If he is not careful he will not be asked to speak on St. Andrew's night nor get a look in at the Burns banquet. It may be that he has destroyed his chances already. His fellow countryman, Mr. Charles White, is quite as reckless, and that also in the public press. "The fact that Bruce's mother was Scottish does not make Bruce a Scot (it would help), and more than the fact that the mother of Charles I beign Dutch makes that sovereign a Dane. Bruce was a lineal descendant of a Norman who came over with the Conqueror. I term him an unscrupulous Anglo-Saxon baron." So all this being "deliberately ignored" north of the Tweed, Bannockburn being what it was north of the Tweed, Bannockburn being what it was, north of the Tweed can afford to



BALLAD OF TREES AND THE MASTER

Into the woods my Master went, Clean forspent, forspent, Into the woods my Master came, Forspent with love and shame. But the olives they were not blind to Him; The little gray leaves were kind to Him; The thorn-tree had a mind to Him When into the woods He came. Out of the woods my Master went, And He was well content. Out of the woods my Master came, Content with death and shame. When Death and Shame would woo Him last, From under the trees they drew Him last; 'Twas on a tree they slew Him—last When out of the woods He came. —Sidney Lanier.

Dull Ears

(Ottawa Journal) Somehow or other Mr. Bernard Shaw keeps on the front pages. His latest ruse, eminently successful, is an assertion (duly carried by the cables) that "music is the brandy of the damned."

Bernard Shaw's antipathy to music is well known. It is recorded that on one occasion a friend begged him to hear a string quartette from Italy. Finding him bored the friend tried to write a word of praise from the dramatist. "Mr. Shaw, these men have been playing together for twelve years," remarked the friend. "Surely we've been here longer than that," yawned Shaw.

It is said that David Hume, Dr. Samuel Johnson, Sir Walter Scott, Lord Byron, and Sir Robert Peel had no ear for music, and neither vocal nor instrumental music gave them the slightest pleasure. The poet Rogers suffered actual discomfort from it, according to the historians. Whether Bernard Shaw should be ranked in such distinguished company, posterity may determine. He might at least be fit companion for the recently-deceased Earl of Birkhead, who not very long before he died declared that he would rather pay fifty pounds than attend the finest classical music concert.

Congre the poet, in "The Mourning Bride," was the author of the well-known saying that "music hath charms to soothe the stubborn breast." His sentiment was borrowed, probably, from the Biblical story of King Saul's melancholy, and the effect of David's harping. "And it came to pass when the evil spirit was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand. So Saul was refreshed, and was well and the evil spirit departed from him." But, apparently, even Shakespeare was not always so sure. "If music be the food of love, play on; Give me excess of it," he makes the Duke of Illyria say in "Twelfth Night."

Judging by Bernard Shaw the effect of music may develop in some people something akin to malignant hatred. And as to the ways of the "damned," we do not profess to be so conversant as Mr. Bernard Shaw. But ever since the days of Jubal—the father of the harp and the organ—(Genesis 4-21), music has been a recognized method of expressing joy and happiness. When the prodigal son returned to his father's home we are told there was music and dancing. And the Apostle John in his apocalyptic vision "heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps, and they sung as if it were a new song before the throne." But perhaps the key to Mr. Bernard Shaw's outburst was afforded by his preceding sentence. "Hell is full of musical amateurs. Music is reported to have declared. So, perhaps, it is the amateur against whom his wrath is vented. And it must be admitted that the piano next door, or in the apartment above, can be pretty exasperating at times.

But didn't even the most expert musician have to make a beginning some time? And, to say the least of it, Mr. Shaw is a little ungrateful. It is on record that when his father, an ex-civil servant in Dublin, invested his money in flour-milling—"and a most surprising failure he made of it," according to his distinguished son, young Bernard Shaw was earning at the time about ninety dollars a year as a clerk. So his mother "kept the pot boiling by teaching music."

Bernard Shaw's mother was not averse to amateurs in music in those days. And Bernard himself would have come pretty badly off but for them, apparently. Perhaps one has to become a successful dramatist to be licensed to say things stupid and nasty.

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GOVERNOR PINCHOT WILL ATTEND FOOTBALL GAME PITTSBURGH, June 29—Governor Gifford Pinchot will be the hon or guest at the Pitt-Army football game to be played at Pitt Stadium November 14. Pinchot and his staff will review the cadet corps of the military institution. It will be the first appearance of the corps in Pittsburgh or any other city west of the Alleghenies, with the exception of Chicago.

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