THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

Old Age Pensions

Speaking on the subject of Old Age Pensions before the Rowell Commission, Premier Campbell said that certain promises had been held out in 1931 with regard to pensions payments which had not been implemented, and that the Province, though financially unable to pay 25 per cent, had been forced to do so because it was paying, in taxes, the federal appropriation to other provinces which were taking advantage of the scheme.

The Premier should have taken the Commission more fully into his confidence in this respect. He should have told them that as far back as 1927, when the King Government was paying 50 per cent of the old age pensions fund to the provinces, the Liberal party in this Province incorporated the following plank in their election platform: *Appreciating the action of the Liberal Government at Ottawa in passing the Old Age Pension Act we cautiously establishing it in this Province in a manner consistent with our means.*"

That pledge was completely ignored. Four years later, in the dying hours of the Saunders-Lea Government, an Act was passed establishing the machinery for old age pensions administration but it remained for the incoming Stewart Government to implement the 1927 Liberal promise. The Bennett Government having increased the federal contribution to 75 per cent made it easier for the Province to take advantage of the scheme.

Obviously, if it was unfair to the Province to have to pay 25 per cent of old age pensions as Premier Campbell says, it was still more unfair to have to pay 50 per cent, which was the proposal the Liberal party in this Province indorsed in its election platform in 1927.

The Bennett Government, owing to the depression, was not able to pay the full amount as it desired to do. But the fact that it did actually increase the federal contribution from 50 to 75 per cent was evidence of its good faith. It also enabled this Province, under the Stewart Administration, to meet the obligation which their predecessors, the Saunders-Lea Government, had incurred in their 1927 election but had failed to carry out.

"Intolerable Imposition"

Says the Ottawa Journal: "The municipalities, helpless and more or less innocent parties in a triple partnership, can only await with some anxiety the outcome of Ontario's presentation to the Dominion Government of its views and decisions in the matter of direct relief. Mr. Cross, Ontario Minister of Welfare, told Mr. Rogers, Dominion Minister of Labor, that henceforth the province will pay dollar for dollar with the Dominion for relief up to the entire cost. If the Dominion will pay, 50 per cent Ontario will do the same, and leave the municipalities clear of the load. But if the Dominion maintains its grant at last year's figure, for Ontario, of 23.04 per cent the province will match that grant and do nothing more. The unfortunate municipalities thereupon would have to take up the crushing burden of 53.92 per cent of the total. That would be, as the Mayor of Toronto said, an intolerable imposition. Mr. Rogers promised sympathetic consideration of the case, and there the question rests. The Dominion cannot deny its share of responsibility, because unemployment relief for years has been admitted to be a national problem and nobody has argued seriously that it was an obligation belonging by right to the municipalities."

According to the Charlottetown Trade Board submission to the Rowell Commission, Charlottetown is under a greater handicap than the Ontario municipalities. Last year it had to pay 61 per cent of direct relief costs and the Mayor had practically "to beg on his knees" for the meagre assistance received.

In this connection it is interesting to recall a campaign statement of Mr. Peter Sinclair, M.P. as reported in the Patriot of October 8, 1935:

"Referring to unemployment relief, he said that the Conservatives boasted about what they had secured for this Province, but there was $312,000,000 spent for relief in Canada and if Prince Edward Island had secured her proper proportion she would have gotten some $31,000,000 in the past five years. But our Conservative representatives at Ottawa fell down on the job, said the speaker."

We see nothing of this claim in the brief presented by the Campbell Government to the Rowell Commission, nor have we seen anything in Hansard to indicate that Mr. Sinclair ever opened his mouth on the subject in Parliament.

But Mr. Sinclair was not the only Liberal politician who made promises regarding unemployment relief. According to Premier Campbell himself, in a speech reported in the Patriot of October 3, 1935, "Mr. King presents a practical solution of the problem and will have it dealt with by a thoroughly representative commission or committee, at which the employer and the employee and various organizations will be represented. The advantage of having a Liberal Government returned is quite evident from the fact that Mr. King would have the sympathetic co-operation of eight of the nine provinces of Canada."

On the basis of this assurance our local contemporary coined the election appeal: "Vote Liberal and get back from the Poor-house!"

Our progress "back from the Poor-house" is thus described in the Board of Trade brief: "With regard to direct relief payments from the Federal Government to the end of the fiscal year 1936-37, Prince Edward Island received only 75 cents per capita as against $7.45 for Ontario and $24.75 for Saskatchewan. This makes possible the payment by our Provincial Government to destitute persons in the rural districts of only $3.00 per month."

Editorial Notes

Sir Edward Shackleton, explorer, born this date, 1872.

* * *

For the first time the Vatican has authorized Mass by radio. The Pope last week granted permission for a radio mass to be broadcast every Sunday from Salamanca, headquarters city of Insurgent Spain, for Catholics in Government Spain. The permission was asked by prelates in Insurgent territory, who said most Catholics in Government territory had no other means of hearing mass.

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Mr. J. A. H. Dequoy, 63, notary, of Montreal has been sentenced to eleven months in jail by Judge Jules Demarais in Court of Sessions on 14 charges of obtaining money by false pretences. The fourteen sentences will run concurrently. Dequoy admitted obtaining more than $25,000 by false pretences. Dequoy was sentenced to 11 terms of 11 months in jail and three four-month terms. The offences were committed between 1925 and 1932 when Dequoy admitted defrauding owners of different estates which he handled.

* * * *

According to Mr. W. A. Tucker, Liberal M.P. for Rosthern, locked in the vaults of the Bank of Canada is sufficient gold to permit the federal Government to issue $718,000,000 in cash and still have a 25-per cent currency coverage. The Saskatchewan Liberal was one of several western farmers who brought the plight of the prairies to the attention of the House when continuing the Throne Speech debate. He urged hard-surfacing of the Trans-Canada highway, construction of roads from the American boundary to all national parks and other public works to relieve distress.

* * * *

Unity fusion or co-operation of political parties in reaching agreement on united action in Alberta cannot be achieved at the present time, declares Mr. John I. MacFarland, chairman of the Unity Council of Alberta. Mr. McFarland says the Unity Council will continue its work in seeking to "unite the people" desiring a change in the present administration at Edmonton. He announces a province-wide meeting of representatives from constitutency organizations would be called at an early date. "These will proceed in a democratic way to create their own executive body and adopt a policy of reconstruction for the province," he said.

* * * *

Lord Marley, Labour Peer and Deputy Speaker, who served with the Grand Fleet and in France etc., 1914-18, has been visiting the U.S.A., and Canada. In a speech at Plymouth on his return he stated that in his opinion the United States, if necessary, would protect Canada from invasion by Japan on the west coat. Canada had little fear from a threat by Japanese invasion, he said. The United States was so vitally concerned there should be no foreign foothold in Canada that the Seattle naval base would protect the Canadian coast. The United States was "prepared to co-operate in any movement to ensure world peace," Lord Marley added. That being the case doesn't the King Government's war-scare expenditure appear somewhat unnecessary?

* * * *

Premier Hepburn cannot be accused of being a Prohibition fanatic but he sternly objects to liquor advertising appearing in Ontario publications, though foreign ones, and even Quebec ones, with such advertising circulate freely in the Province. A delegation from the Trades and Labour Congress waited upon him asking him to lift the ban but he was ineluctably opposed. "There will be no liquor advertising in Ontario and that's definite," Mr. Hepburn said. "This Government is trying to control the sale of liquor and we can't do that unless we prevent solicitation as far as possible." Mr. Hepburn said the Ontario Government had no authority to prevent importation of periodicals even if they contained liquor advertising. "But we can and will prevent publication of liquor advertising in Ontario," he added.

* * * *

The election of a Member of Parliament for the Scottish Universities for the seat held previously by the Governor General and the Rt. Hon. Ramsay Macdonald is fixed for 21st to 25th inst. Four candidates have been nominated, viz: Sir John Anderson, former Governor of Bengal, National Government; Dewar Gibbs, Regius Professor of Law in the University of Glasgow, Scottish Nationalist; Sir Peter Mitchell former secretary to the Zoological Society, Independent Progressive; Miss Frances Melville, former mistress of Queen Margaret College, University of Glasgow, Independent, and T. R. Evans, Independent Liberal. Polling at the four universities—Edinburgh, Glasgow, St. Andrews and Aberdeen—will be held on the dates mentioned with the result announced Feb. 28.

* * *

Canadian Federal, Provincial and Municipal financing in January amounted to $158,227,024, including $25,000,000 of Dominion Treasury bills to be sold tomorrow, according to Wood, Gundy & Co., Ltd. This compared with financing of $106,006,500 in January, 1937, and $143,508,314 in January, 1936. Of the total this month, all but $9,456,379 was for refunding. All the financing for the month was done in Canada with the exception of $48,666,666 conversion loan 3 1-4 per cent. registered stock due in 1958-1963 which was marketed in Great Britain. Corporate financing in Canada in January amounted to only $300,000. In January, 1937, the total was $10,225,000; in 1936 and 1935 it was $20,032,800 and $2,000,000, respectively.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Mussolini is said to be withdrawing his men from Spain just when Franco most needs help and it is said that the Ethiopians are making it impossible to bring Italians home thence. Too bad. It is also said that, in exchange for a loan from London, Mussolini is ready to promise all sorts of good behavior and there is this to be said: his pledge would be worth more than Hitler's. Now one of the opportunities for which democracy has been waiting seems to approach. May democracy make the fullest use of it. —Exchange.

Agglomerations of individuals throughout the world are agitating for justice being meted out to China. There is not on record an instance of even one solitary body agitating for placidity being the policy in regard to Japan. It remains therefore, for the peoples of the various nations to assert their wills. Recently we wrote about the Popular Front coming to Asia. But that we did not mean Communism in all its crudeness. What we meant, and we make the explanation in view of the fact that we have been told that our policy is rather inclined toward the "red" policy, is that we stand first and foremost for the pure principles of democracy, which actually means equality in all things national and international. When one considers that throughout the world there are millions of liberally-minded people, one realizes what enormous power is virtually at the back of China. The cause of China is the cause of Democracy. —Honk Kong News.

If Japan is building the 43,000-ton ships on which arguments for a two-to-one American program are largely based, the fact should be possible of proof. Ships big as skyscrapers are not hid under a handkerchief, nor under a kimono. There are few places they can be launched, few shipyards to hold them. If the naval intelligence people do not have evidence, there is little likelihood that there is any to be had. If they do have it, Congress should get it. If they do not have it, asking Tokio a question with no intention of accepting the answer is an insult not only to the Japanese but to the intelligence of every citizen who is asked to believe rumours when facts might be less frightening.—Christian Science Monitor

Everybody knows what the Governor of North Carolina said to the Governor of South Carolina, but what did the Governor of Missouri say to the Governor of Massachusetts? Well, last week he said he would appreciate a state police escort. He wanted the protection because he was carrying around $3,000,000 worth of State of Missouri bonds. Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown. The reason Governor Stark had all these bonds with him was that while vacationing on Cape Cod he planned to sign them, but his Attorney-General advised him that would be illegal if done outside Missouri. So the State of Massachusetts gave him an escort of 50 plainclothesmen, four squad cars and a few extra uniformed state police. It was a gaudy show. —Barron's Financial Weekly.

Vaccination as a preventive of smallpox has been largely forgotten during the past decade or more when emphasis has been placed on the immunization of children against diphtheria, scarlet fever and other diseases. But smallpox can still make its appearance, as recent developments have demonstrated, and should it assume epidemic form, a population which, in general, no longer enjoys the protection of vaccination may fall ready victims to it, and this concerns adults as well as juveniles. The steps which are being taken in different municipalities to resume vaccination are to be commended, for in this way lies keeping smallpox under control. —Broe Roille Recorder and Times.

A Nazi "school for brides" is to be organized in Germany, following the Japanese system of instructing girls how to become perfect spouses. As Japan adopted frightfullness, the present reciprocity of ideas is naturally in order. —Stratford Beacon Herald.

Everybody knows that when a dog bites a man it is not news; but few, however rigid their journalistic standards, will object to the appearance in the newspapers of a story from Austria. In this story a dog bites a man; the dog was a watchdog, the man was a burglar. The whole thing, in fact, would have provided only the most humdrum of anecdotes had not the burglar, on emerging from a well-merited term of imprisonment, sued the owner of the dog and obtained damages. This entirely new development in the strained relations between watchdogs and housebreakers arose primarily from a notice displayed on the violated villa. The notice described the dog as dangerous, and the dog's owner was therefore legally responible for any harm inflicted on members of the public. —London Times.

There seems to be a too pro-nounced toleration of motor offences in the Province of Quebec. One must not forget that the motor car has no mind of its own, since it responds to the will of the driver. If it travels at an excessive speed it is because the driver has stepped on the gas, intending to do so. It is zigzags over the street, it is because the driver has turned the wheel with the intent of changing its course. If accidents result through excessive speed or erratic driving, it is because the intent of the driver has eliminated the precautions to safety. Thus the absurdity of the argument that motor offenders are not criminals in the ordinary sense and that when they kill or main other people there is lacking that intent which is necessary to establish a crime.—LePetit Journa.

General Goering has issued an order according to which Jewish names must disappear from German economic life. Jewish firms taken over by Aryans must change their names. A number of establishments to Germany formerly owned by Jews have already complied with the decree. The publishing house of Ullstein has become the Deutscher Verlag. Werheim's department store and others will have to forego the prestige that lay in old names. A new and anti-Semitic drive is directed against Jewish landlords. No official, member of a defence force or person exercising public of semi-public function may henceforward live in a Jewish-owned house. The state will pay the moving bill. Another order forbids Jews to enter ministries or other public buildings. Signs to this effect are already displayed in Berlin offices. —Victoria Times.

Winnipeg Journalist Trails Commission To Island Province

One of the newspaper men accompanying the Rowell Commission to Charlottetown was Mr. J. B. McGeachy, of the Winnipeg Free Press (Liberal) whose editor-in-chief, Dr. Dafoe, is a member of the Commission. Mr. McGeachy's account of the first day's sitting in Charlottetown follows:

CHARLOTTETOWN, Feb. 10—After a trip on a ferry which did a lot more icebreaking than plain sailing, the Rowell Commission last night landed on Prince Edward Island. The feeling that the party is with Admiral Byrd on a dash to the Antarctic is confirmed today by a blizzard more lively than Winnipeg could produce. A freezing gale from the ocean is blowing tons of snow around the streets. No wonder the silver foxes grow good pelts.

As this is where Confederation started, it was to be expected the Commission would sit in an old curiosity shop with creaky floors and portraits. In fact, the sittings are being held in a renovated court room, once dilapidated but now shiny with indirect lighting, clean walls and new desks. Only antiques are the chairs the Fathers of Confederation filled in 1864. The Fathers were comfortable.

Premier of this pocket-size Province, with a population equal to Calgary's, is Thane Campbell. The Thane is boyish and friendly, with rosy cheeks and dark hair. He leaves the Province's case mainly to J. O. C. Campbell, his brother. In P. E. I., the Campbell's are coming up. J. O. C., Government Counsel, has a faintly piratical look, a sense of humor and an oratorical style which would make any audience shout or roll in the aisles.

First day here was the jolliest to date at the inquiry. The keynote of innocent merriment was struck when the Charlottetown Board of Trade, batting first, put in a brief. Col. Elliott Full, an expansive and cheery man, read it. He brought the Board of Trade with him. "You can see them, my lord, in the jury box," he said, waving his arm. They looked, though shrewd enough, less predatory and worried than board of trade members usually do. They looked as if they would be good company in the town pub and not unlikely to be found there. One of them called "Hear, hear," and clapped his hands when Col. Full made a point.

Col. Full, who did an able job, was heard by a large audience of citizens in the back pews, also exuberant-looking people. They laughed out loud when Chief Justice Rowell made a joke as did the Colonel in a full-throated gusty way. It was a pleasant occasion all round. In spite of their tendency to beef, these islanders are the happiest-looking Canadians yet seen on this official odyssey.

The demands of Charlottetown are simple enough. Two trains a day traverse the mainland maritimes. The P. E. I., ferry, run by the C. N. R., meets one of them on week days, neither on Sunday. The only way to get off the island on Sunday is to swim or hire a plane. Ferry service meeting all trains is wanted by the Board of Trade. It seems that when the island came into Confederation "Upper Canada", as everybody calls it here, promised "continuous" transport connections with the mainland.

On larger questions, the Board has views the West would endorse. Relief and old age pensions, in the Charlottetown opinion, should be federal. The argument used here is that these benefits should be, with allowance for local differences, uniform through Canada. As a pastoral community with a small money income, Prince Edward Island cannot raise large revenues by taxes, therefore can't afford social services on the scale maintained in the "spendthrift" provinces. But its federal grant for that purpose is measured by its own outlay.

Premier Campbell did his best to pull a long face, his natural countenance being round and sanguine. The Island, he testifies, is poor. Its smiling fields smile only for the tourists' delectation. It has made ends meet by frugality, by yielding not to temptation to be prodigal (prodigal, one witness called it) like the West. The Island, like Nova Scotia, is a little smug about its saving ways. Chief Justice Rowell reminded the Premier of the West's special difficulties as a new country and of the fact that most eastern farms, unlike the western farms growing one crop for export, can be self-sufficient even if they show little or no money income.

A merry afternoon was supplied by J. O. C. Campbell with a discourse on the Island's history. Mr. Campbell's court room manner is dashing, his mind is quick and his histrionics were the most effective at the inquiry so far. It seems P. E. I. is the Ireland of the new world, with a history of absentee landlordism ended by buying out the landlords when their possession was threatened by violence. Nearest approach to a movie scenario in the Commission's record will be Mr. Campbell's account of rent collectors and bailiffs being pursued with sticks, stones and derisive tin whistles.

The story led up to a complicated discussion about the financial terms on which the Island entered the Dominion, terms involving a loan to buy out the landlords. Mr. Campbell spoke like a lawyer putting a damage claim to a jury, though he insisted the real basis of the Island's argument is not a legal claim but "fiscal need," which is a nice phrase for shortage of cash. The gist of the case is that P. E. I. needs more money than it can conveniently raise by taxes to run its provincial services, especially schools, in the style to which all Canadians should be accustomed.

With a view of getting the needed extra revenue, the Island endorses Manitoba's plan for capitalization of its subsidy from the Dominion. It suggests three per cent as the rate. That is, it is willing to take thirty-three times its subsidy in a lump sum and call it square with Ottawa. As this lump sum would pay off the Island's debt of five million and leave it fifteen million to the good, the proposition looks good to the Campbells and others who run the government here. Details of the argument will be examined tomorrow. Meantime Chief Justice Rowell has warned the spokesmen against raking up old quarrels. It doesn't make for domestic peace, he says, to keep telling your wife you made a mistake back about the time you got married.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

EXIT THE FREE TRADE BOGEY

Sir: For half a century the Liberal party has posed as Free Traders and the greater part of that time they have done so deliberately under false pretense. In the days of honest Alexander MacKenzie, Premier from 1873 to 1878, and up to the leadership of Hon. Edward Blake, they were sincere in that belief. When Blake, in his great Malvern speech, challenged the fallacy, and resigned his leadership, succeeded by Hon. Wilfred Laurier, the sincerity of beliefs ended, and new policies, more changeable than the seasons, wobbling from Dan to Beer Sheba, were trimmed from time to time to catch electoral breezes and in the immortal words of Hon. Premier Lea, "their policies were only made to get in on."

It is a fixed law of responsible government that when a portfolio member declares a fiscal policy, then such policy has the full endorsement of his executive colleagues, and if not, he must withdraw from his responsible position.

On the platform in the election campaign Hon. Mr. Rogers admits he preached free trade, as "a platform to get in on". In his speech on the floor of parliament he has declared protection, the Conservative policy of half a century, as the only policy for public government.

It further looks as if Hon. Charles Dunning, the power behind, i also completely tarred with the same stick, whilst other departmental heads are out Heroding Herod in the severity of their exactions.

It should be now well borne in mind hereafter, by the intelligent electors, that when mountebanks trot out their worn out free trade bogies as catch vote schemes to deceive them that free trade now and forever, as in practice it has been in the past, a ghost of party delusion, buried under the debris of party humbugs, beyond the reach of the Liberal resurrection trump.

I am Sir etc.
PROTECTIONIST

POULTRY ORGANIZATION

Sir,—I notice in the Guardian on the morning of Feb. 14th a notice wanting anyone interested in starting a new Poultry Association to apply to Mr. Herbert Carr. There is something I would like the public to know in regard to this Association. What is the aim and object of the Association; is it in the interests of the poultry raisers of P. E. Island, or is it just a case of spite that this new Association is being formed? It seems too bad that when there is one good Association in progress that an attempt should be made to wreck it.

The P. E. Island Poultry Association has always been the backbone of the poultry industry to improve the breeding of first-class poultry, and was always helped by our merchants and Government at any time, which I am sure that the poultry raisers of P.E.I. appreciate beyond words. People should not believe all they hear. A lot of rumors have no foundation. When it comes down to brass tacks the one that is up to date always comes out on top. Being a member of the P.E. Island Poultry Association Inc., I know and defy any one to say this Association does not carry on their business any other way but up to the minute.

I am, Sir, etc.,
CHARLES E. WORTH.

HOW TO DO IT

Sir,—To balance the Civic, or any other budget, cannot be done by increased taxation. Every past experience scouts the idea. There has never yet been an instance where more tax revenue has been applied to reduction of debt, or of expenditure. No matter how much revenue is increased, whether by taxes or in any other method, the spenders always found a way to dissipate it, and too often the gilt (or guilt) has been found in their own pockets to a liberal extent.

There is a right way, however, of working out the problem. Let me suggest a few, and with the accounts before them, if they sincerely wish to do it, they will discover many more. And perhaps more easily than governing bodies are now finding it is to explore for new means of exploiting the meagre pockets of taxpayers.

(1) To those wanting fancy concrete walled swan ponds at their back doors, just give the answer;—Yes; we will accomodate you, but you must find the money to pay for it.

(2) When sports are after boat harbors and docks and quarters for their aquatic pleasures, likewise give the answer as above. Have it well stereotyped.

(3) When business men ask for concrete parking fronts to accomodate their trade and custom, just tell them that a large number of their confreres, in days gone by, did this work at their own expense, paying the entire cost in full.—Go thou and do likewise. After building our own concrete landings, as many have done, by what right should we be taxed again to build or pay for half or more of the fronts of our neighbors?

(4) When property, real or personal, refuses to pay the taxes due, just get busy, apply the law, and compel payment. And here let me say, I would protest against those barbarous methods, contrived either by law compilers with a minimum (if not a total absence) of brains, or else by legal sharks with a design to drain the small property owner of his last dollar. That was the old system, still a statute law, by which a $100 costs may be piled on to collect a $5. tax.

There has been some later common sense additions to the tax collecting laws, enabling the City to collect by suit in a small debt court, or to collect from tenants to extent of rents which are payable, and by garnishee, as in the case of ordinary merchantile business. Why not by using these methods get after and wipe up that vast amount of uncollected arrears? Why talk of asking those who pay their taxes to come up to the execution block and pay more and more while defaulters of this type are patted on the back by indulgent Councils?

In matter of relief, I think it was Hon. R. B. Bennett who said in substance.—While I am Prime Minister no person in Canada shall go hungry and without bread. With that I am in full agreement; we are our brother's keepers, and any other view of relief would be revolting. But I know, and it is commonly known, that thousands of dollars of public money has been scattered under this head, which never passed through the portals of needful and legitimate charity. Persons who earn good pay in summer, who, before relief became the style, always laid aside a sum for winter's living, should be compelled to revert back to that old system, and not expect hardworking neighbors to feed them in winter.

I am, Sir, etc
BALANCE THE BUDGET.

THE NATIONAL POLICY AND THE MARITIMES

Sir,—Setting aside party interests as of minor importance also the question of the completeness or otherwise of the report of the Duncan Commission, as referred to in your editorial in Saturday's Guardian, it seems to me that this whole question of the incidence of the Canadian customs tariff upon the commerce of the Maritimes is one that calls for a much better and clearer understanding by the leading minds of Ontario and Quebec than has been the case at any time since Confederation.

No one who studies economic conditions, both past and present, in the Maritime Provinces, and particularly in Prince Edward Island, will contend that the people of Eastern Canada have received anything approaching their share of the great wealth that has accrued to practically all classes in the two Central Provinces from the growth of their protected industries. Apart from the coal and iron industries of Nova Scotia, there are but few manufacturers holding their own today east of Quebec City, while many that were well established prior to Confederation have long since been forced out of business by their stronger competitors in Ontario and Quebec, assisted as the latter have been by the heavy rail freight charges westward into Canada.

In contending on lines such as the above before the Jones Commission, Professor Norman MacLeod Rogers was but pointing to an incontrovertible academic truth. On the other hand, when the Honorable Norman MacLeod Rogers, Minister of Labor, admitted in Parliament last week that "to abolish the Protective Tariff would disrupt Confederation" he again spoke the truth, and from an all Canada standpoint, a truth comparatively of far greater significance.

Impartial students of Canadian history all admit that, had it not been for the imposition of the Protection Tariff upon British, European and American manufactures, Canada would have faced national disaster in the early 80's.

When Alexander McKenzie, in 1875, told the then few existing manufacturers of Ontario and Quebec that Canada was a pastoral country and that manufacturing industries were not essential, the leading merchants of Montreal met in the old Mechanics Institute on St. James Street and passed unanimously a resolution in favour of the annexation of Canada to the United States. Then it was that Sir John MacDonald, Tupper, Tilly and others with a strong British instinct placed the matter squarely before the people of the Dominion who, in 1879 gave an overwhelming verdict in favour of the National Policy as a means of maintaining Canada's independence under the British Crown.

There have been many electoral contests since 1879 and free trade has not been without its advocates, but every Federal Government, Liberal or Conservative, has realized that the people of those days were right, just as the Minister of Labor is right today when he says that Confederation would go to pieces if the industries of the country were sacrificed; and, so long as we in the Maritimes wish to call ourselves Canadians, we must make up our minds to support the National Policy. On the other hand, while doing so, there is no reason on earth why we should not use every possible fair endeavour to make the people of Ontario and Quebec realize what our patriotism has cost us in the past and is costing us today; and that, as they have made almost all the gains and as we have suffered almost all the losses, it is their prime duty to do whatever may be required to assist us, their fellow Canadians, to obtain standards of living as nearly as possible equal to their own.

There are two distinct ways in which Central Canada can play their part in this important connection:

First: they can, with their capital and financial and industrial experience, establish such manufacturing industries in these Eastern Provinces as can be carried on successfully and profitably, particularly those the products of which can be exported to the outside world.

Second: they can second the demand for a higher proportionate subsidy from the central government in order that we may be enabled to grant our people a higher grade of education, better health protection, a full quota of old age pensions and other social services, including practical assistance to our farmers and fishermen, also better and cheaper transportation facilities both by land and sea.

These are view points that are not understood by one in a thousand of our fellow citizens of Central Canada. I know whereof I speak, having lived most of my life in Quebec, Montreal and Toronto. Furthermore, in my opinion, the day for the stressing of Maritime "Rights" is over and, if we wish to gain the sympathy and assistance of the financiers, the captains of industry and the parliamentarians at Ottawa, we must point to Maritime "Needs" and place the whole matter on the basis of British fair play. On lines such as these we are bound to succeed.

I am, Sir, etc.,
H. K. S. HEMMING

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Streamlining

(Baltimore Sun.)

Not long ago I heard a man describe the terrain over which Spanish armies have been struggling as "streamlined scenery." Recently I saw a picture of a ski-er equipped with a streamline body device. A few days ago Mr. Roosevelt spoke of "streamlined" anti-trust laws. Then the president of the Americans Bar Association publicly urged the "streamlining" of Federal and State court procedure. Just yesterday I read that the War Department was considering plans for a reorganization that would introduce "streamlied divisions." And these examples have been chosen at random.

Is there no defence against this streamlining terror? Is there not at least some way of escaping the word? I seem to remember having been told that the essence of streamlining is the approximation through engineering skill of the form of the natural teardrop. Consider me, then, as shedding one swift, glistening and finely designed tear in genuine streamlined grief over the violet infection of this new two-syllable plague.

The Poets' Corner

SONNET

Were shadows dark upon my eyes to fall,
Veiling forevermore the world from me,
Its seas, its valleys and its mountains tall,
I could not, like brave Milton patient be.
To smell the apple blossoms fresh with rain,
To hear the singing of the brooklet gay,
To touch the woodbine and the lilac spray,
Remembering their loveliness, would pain
My heart so much that it would break I know,
I'd tell the seasons but by scent and sound,
Should wonder if the grass made green the ground,
I who through life have worshipped beauty so
With my glad eyes, O fair, sweet world, may I
Forever see your hills, your fields your sky.

—E. Colleton Graves in the York Sun.

TRIPLE WINNER

BALTIMORE, Feb. 14—Germain G. Glidden of New York became the second man in history today to capture three consecutive United States squash rackets championship by defeating Leroy Weir of Detroit, 15-13, 18-15, 13-15, 15-9.

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