The Charlottetown Guardian

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Is There Economic Trouble Ahead?

MR. W. D. HERRIDGE, former Canadian Minister at Washington, spoke before the Canadian Club at Toronto, and his speech is attracting wide attention. In his survey of the national situation as it stands today, he spoke frankly and objectively, and with considerable force throughout. The views expressed by MR. HERRIDGE explained at the outset, are without political significance. "But," he hastened to add, "I shall break with the tradition that only as politicians, and in their natural element, have we the right to speak upon matters of public account." Every man in Canada is free to speak his mind about the policies of state at home and abroad. MR. HERRIDGE does so as a political philosopher possessed of subtle thoughts; as one who has digested his sentences as one who is as sincere as he is earnest in declaring what he believes to be true, what, perhaps, is true in some things—and people today have a big appetite for the truth—and as one who is disinterested in his endeavour to lead his fellow-countrymen to adopt a policy which he is convinced is right.

MR. HERRIDGE'S mind is deeply tinctured with the principles of President Roosevelt's New Deal. The changes he advocates in our political philosophy and in economic methods in Canada he has "attuned" to some of the political philosophy and economic methods that have been put on trial in the U.S. He believes that the "present vaunted improvement" in Canadian business "merely conceals new and greater troubles ahead" and declares that the right sort of national action can alone avert them. The question then would be, what is the right sort of national action? In considering this question when discussing the issue of economic recovery through economic reform, MR. HERRIDGE divides thinking people into two groups. In the first, he includes those who, he says, believe in laissez-faire, in the old internationalism; in the inviolability of the monetary system, in the unregulated conduct of business, in the non-intervention of government, and to whom "the last depression is not, in kind, distinguishable from any other, and so is terminable in the same old way." The second group, he affirms, believe that the futility of laissez-faire has been fully demonstrated, and say that seven years of depression is proof enough for them. They maintain that under the methods of the old economy, the industrial machine cannot effectively operate; that in its rapid development the principle of free competition has been left behind; that concentrations and combinations of business have been too much for it and have destroyed the old checks upon prices, wages, costs. In their judgment, the speaker told his Toronto audience, this means that in the new economy, we must provide the modern counterpart of free competition, which is co-operation by the state.

MR. HERRIDGE places himself definitely in the ranks of the second group, confident that the principle of laissez-faire has served its purpose well, and that with appropriate acknowledgments we should bid it good-bye. Most of us cannot help agreeing with him that in the upheaval of recent years Canada has fared ill in some important ways, and it is equally undeniable that to some extent disturbances in the old, quiet fashions of economic life have left the old sense of security lacking in certain respects.

Change of method may be necessary to bring order where there is economic chaos; but would the radical, far-reaching change that MR. HERRIDGE urges be, as he assures himself it would be, synonymous with progress and prosperity? Would it mean that under the new order for which he pleads, chance and mischance would go and reason take their place? Canada's imperative need, as he sees it, is for a national policy that would follow a direct line to a very positive economic nationalism. This country, he contends, is pre-eminently designed for economic nationalism. His vehement plea is for its achievement through prompt government intervention and sustained government control.

Why be afraid of it? MR. HERRIDGE asks. Government intervention is not new in Canada. It is a long time, we are reminded, since business and industry operated wholly without restraint or aid of Government. For years it has been "the wrecking crew of the economic system." MR. HERRIDGE would make it the pilot engine, confident that only by such means will we escape the Communism and Fascism which he fears are threatening Canada's democracy. He says we have never accepted the principle of government planning or acknowledged the need of it. A plan of this kind was proposed by MR. BENNETT on the eve of the last federal general election, and he did badly at the polls. This may have been because the plan was submitted in "an amateurish and impulsive way." Is MR. HERRIDGE in possession of a political philosophy more practical than that which was propounded from Ottawa more than a year ago? His purpose is commendable. He desires that Canada shall make the best of the political economy she is possessed of.

Editorial Notes

The early market for fox pelts shows a gratifying advance in price. What with good prices for all agricultural products as well, the money in circulation this season should be the greatest since 1928.

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The Mackenzie King Government has gone to the extraordinary anti-Christian extent of deciding that from now forward postmen must work on Christmas Day. Is it to be wondered at that the Letter Carriers Association has gone on record against such a reactionary move on the part of what pretends to be a Christian Government in a Christian country?

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That $50,000 which has mysteriously disappeared from the Government's accounting is still worrying the electorate, who must foot the bill to the extent of $3 per family by way of taxation.

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From all appearances it is going to be a tragic Christmas for the Spaniards, especially in Madrid. It seems like fate that a country which did not consider it worth while to show its colours in the Great War should, in turn, be rent asunder by internal strife and bloodshed.

* * *

As anticipated, the Globe and Mail and Empire have amalgamated and from Monday, will be published as one paper under the name of Globe and Mail. The cost of running a metropolitan daily these days is enormous, and it was reliably stated sometime ago that the Globe was running at a loss of $60,000 per annum and the Mail and Empire at $40,000. As one daily there is every prospect of the gold mine millionaire proprietor making ends meet.

* * *

Italian columns are on the move again in Ethiopia. Six months after troops occupied that Capital City and Premier Mussolini proclaimed the annexation of Ethiopia, the war still is in progress against unconquered chieftains. With the end of the rainy season, Italian columns are pushing westward toward the Sudanese border and Gore, reputed seat of what remains of an autonomous Ethiopian Government, and southward through the Galla and Sidamo regions toward the Kenya frontier. The territory which the Italians have not yet occupied represents approximately one-fourth of all Ethiopia.

* * *

Major Lester Gardiner, Secretary of the U.S.A. Institute of Aeronautical Science has just returned to New York from Europe where he was the guest for one month of officials of the Soviet Union, Italy, France, England and Germany, and studied the progress in the aeronautic industries. He cited Germany as being scientifically ahead of all nations in the development of aviation. One German aviation factory employs more men than all the aircraft plants in the United States, he said. The Soviet Union is developing huge heavier-than-air crafts for future service between Moscow and New York, he announced.

* * *

King Edward VIII will take at least a formal interest in horse racing this season after the lease of the royal stables to the Earl of Derby expires, it is announced. The racing calendar shows that the first race in which the King's colors will be carried was the Hampshire hurdle race at Newbury on December 2. The King has entered Fairlead and Marconi in his own name. Fairlead won four times under Lord Derby's colors this season. Other entries by the King include Fairlight, in the Queen Mary stakes at Ascot next year; Blare License, in the Prince of Wales stakes in 1938, and Hatton Garden and John Peel, in the King Edward stakes in 1938.

* * *

"In death not divided" may aptly epitomise the funeral of Mayor Sam McBride of Toronto who had the following among his honorary pallbearers: Hon. Mitchell Hepburn, Premier.; Hon. W. Earle Rowe, Conservative Leader; Mr. W. D. Robbins, Acting Mayor; Judge Emerson Coatsworth, ex-Mayor; Lieut. Col. G. R. Geary, ex-Mayor; Senator H. C. Hocken, ex-Mayor; Mr. F. L. Church, M.P., ex-Mayor; Mr. C. A. Maguire, ex-Mayor; Mr. Thomas L. Fisher, ex-Mayor; Mr. Bert S. Wemp, ex-Mayor; Mr. William J. Stewart, ex-Mayor; Mr. James Simpson, ex-Mayor; Mr. Joseph E. Atkinson, Editor of the Star; Mr. C. George McCullagh, Editor of the Globe; Mr. John Scott, Editor of the Mail and Empire; Mr. C. O. Knowles, Editor of the Telegram.

* * *

According to Major General Smedlay D. Butler of the U.S.A. army, Hawaii should be abandoned to the planters and the Panama Canal internationalized. He said at Kansas: "We are protecting the rich men who own sugar plantations. I say give them the value of their investments and bring home the Army and Navy. If the sugar men want to stay it is their own concern. They shouldn't ask the United States to defend them." General Butler urged the Panama Canal be made international as is the Suez Canal. "It is false security to depend on the Panama Canal in case of war," he said. "The canal cannot be defended. The United States should not depend on the Panama Canal for the movement of its fleet from the Atlantic to the Pacific. What it should have is a larger navy with fleets in both the Atlantic and Pacific large enough to defend both shores."

* * *

Lord Cobham, who is hobnobbing with our Hon. W. H. Dennis at the Toronto Winter Fair, is stated by the Globe to be a regular "broth of a boy" to be aristocrat. In appearance he is like Lord Bessborough, and told the reporters the two of them were in the same House at Eton, and they had a devil of a time making Bessborough laugh. Asked if it was true Britain was not prepared for war, his lordship replied with a wise (note, not "merry") twinkle in his eye: "Two years ago—that would perhaps have been true. Today—not so true. Next year—even less." What did England think of Canada as an ally in a tight pinch? Why there wasn't the least bit of doubt but that the Dominion would come to the aid of the Motherland at the drop of the hat. When the conversation finally got around to educational systems by some queer twist, Lord Cobham was asked about the 'public' and secondary schools of England. "There's still a certain amount of snobbery in England," said his Lordship, "and it is considered that the public schools give the best education for the richer people." "And that," concludes the democratic Globe, "was Lord Cobham, a truly democratic gentleman from a land where gentlemen are really gentlemen." We'll have Mr. Dennis's verdict when he gets back home.

Notes by the Way

The trouble with the construction industry today is that it is not attractive as an investment, hardly so by a home-owner, let alone by those who have surplus funds to put to work. The trend has been almost entirely in Government and other gilt-edge securities, which are taxed only for the income they produce. Taxes on real estate frequently eat up much more than the income derived therefrom, and thus real estate becomes a liability.—St. Catherines Standard.

Duck-proof windshields for aircraft are the latest concern of the Plastics Division, U. S., Bureau of Standards, according to the division chief, Dr. Gordon M. Kline, who says that a four-pound duck will strike an aeroplane with a force of 10,000 foot pounds, something like the force developed by a 20-pound weight dropping from the top of the Washington monument. Another problem of the bureau is lightening coffee cups used by the guests of our penal institutions. It appears that a guard's head is no match for the present china mug.—Business Week.

A study made by one American company of 23,000 loans shows that the chief reason for borrowing is to consolidate debts. Next in importance are sickness, and necessary seasonal purchases such as coal, also taxes and household expenses. In short, the purposes are all worthwhile Since 1930 this company has made such loans to a total amount of more than $475,000,000 and experience has shown that the people thus given temporary financial assistance have deserved the opportunity to stand on their own feet.—Chronicle-Telegraph.

What happened in the United States on Wednesday. Roosevelt, the "Communist," was back in the White House, and Landon, the saviour against Communism, was back in Kansas, but instead of wringing their hands over it or fleeing the country with their cash, good substantial Americans called up Wall Street and bought themselves more stocks. The market, instead of crashing, as Mr. Hearst's experts and many others had predicted actually turned round and soared.—Ottawa Journal.

When Prime Minister Baldwin uttered the warning that the inevitable result of another war would be world revolution, his pledge that the government would try to save Europe through disarmament and lowered trade barriers shows that he is aware of the only real remedies for the situation. At the same time Britain is forced to join in the armaments race, although Mr. Baldwin admits being conscious all the time of the folly of "all of us."

"I feel like a youngster at a wonderful party, sitting on the floor with all my games spread out before me. When you tell me I am seventy, it is as if my nurse were coming to me to say: 'It is getting late—time to put those toys away.' I don't want to put my toys away. So few of my games are finished."—H. G. Wells.

King Edward, as a boy, was delicate, but has hardened himself through athletics. He is up every morning at six, does setting up exercises, bathes and has a rub-down and then later plays squash or golf, swims or trims roses in the garden. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

This country guards the system of democratic government, and it has to show itself capable of distributing the coming wealth. If the wealth is not distributed you can be sure that the boom will pretty quickly blow itself out. The most rapid, flexible and just method of distributing wealth is through rewards paid for work done. That is why the Daily Express has fought for years and fights on for High Wages.—London Daily Express.

An official of the Agricultural Department at Washington, who has risen every morning at dawn for seven months to study the awakening habits of birds, reports that the man who starts the morning with a rush to the shower and a quick burst of song, has his counterpart in the blue jay, which gets up early and warbles hurriedly. So the bath-singing man is a jay, too!—Montreal Gazette.

We don't know anything about the "dumping" charges levelled against Canadian canners by English manufacturers, but we do know that goods produced in Canada are frequently available in distant countries at lower prices than Canadian consumers are required to pay for them.—Record and Times.

It is good to note that the Dominion Government has granted an appreciable concession to West Indies exporters trading with this country that will, it is hoped, partially at least, compensate them for the loss occasioned to their citrus fruit industry by the treaty agreement which allows United States oranges to enter our market duty free for the first four months of each year.—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

More and more we perceive that the danger of the dictator is that he must command, exhort, inflame. The world is shaken because men are in power who can not speak calmly or move except with an effect of violence.—New York Times.

We hear complaints about high taxation, about extravagance, about the State having become a veritable maw for the substance of thrift and enterprise. Such complaints are futile; futile unless backed up by sustained and sensible effort and sacrifice by citizens to see to it that those to whom they commit their government know something about government and the responsibilities of citizenship.—Ottawa Journal.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

WASTES IN LOWER BOWEL SHOULD BE KEPT MOVING

When food is eaten Nature intends that it should spend a little time in the mouth getting broken up into small pieces so that the digestive juice of the mouth—the saliva—can get well mixed with it before it goes down to the stomach. During its stay in the mouth it also gets moistened and softened so that it is more easily handled by the stomach.

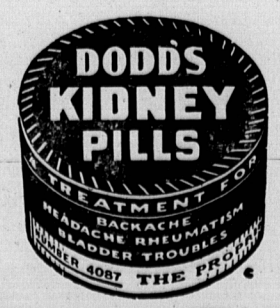
During its stay in the stomach—2 to 4 hours—it is intended that a certain type of food, the proteins—meat, eggs, fish, cereals—shall be changed into peptones which can be absorbed by the blood. After it leaves the stomach and enters small intestine the food gets well mixed with digestive juices and is absorbed in to the blood through the walls of the small intestine. As the small intestine is 20 feet long it has a real chance to absorb the nourishing materials from the food as it passes along. The time taken to pass along this 20 feet may be 6 to 12 hours.

There is little or no nourishment left in the food as it leaves the small intestine and enters the large intestine. The large intestine is only six feet long—smaller in length but larger in size or calibre than the small intestine.

Now Nature intends that these wastes be kept moving along and so out of the body. If anything interfers with the movement of these wastes in the large intestine it is called constipation.

It so happens that there are certain points in the large intestine where the waste has to move around very sharp corners just as we speak of a road having a hairpin curve, and, when there are two curves in succession, we speak of it as an S curve. Thus there is an S curve where the small intestine joins the large intestine at lower right side of abdomen in the appendix region, and S curve at about the same place on the left side where the large intestine, after going down the left side of the abdomen, has to make this double turn to enter the rectum—the last six inches of the large intestine. A hairpin curve is located under the liver on right side as the large intestine goes straight across under the stomach to left side; another hairpin curve is on this left side where the large intestine turns sharply down the left side from whence it ends at rectum. Wastes are likely to be slow in moving around these curves.

To prevent delay at any of these curves liquids and fats which soften and lubricate this waste should be eaten, as also should rough foods which irritate and so stimulate the muscles of the walls of the intestine to "squeeze" the wastes along.



The Poets' Corner

THE ROAD

Thou art the friendliest of all friendly things
For places that are severed far and wide
Are linked by thee; thou dost to clowns and kings
Alike thy freedom, land, and air, provide.

Trouble by thee is aided in its flight;
By thee the young adventurer may roam;
Thou dost the prodigal's return invite,
For thou dost find the door of every home.

Thou, witness art, alas! to happenings sad
Yea, tragic scenes thy curves and hills have known;
But gala days are thine, too; thou art glad
When pilgrims to each other help have shown.

Sometimes a tired traveller thou dost take
To some Elysian quiet, out of sight
Thou wilt then in his heart subdue thoughts awake
As need no words, but are their own delight.

Wind on, O road! and hand us, unimpaired
Unto that kindred way we all must wend;
Watch over those who at thy bidding fared,
And at the starting counted thee a friend.

—Alexander Louis Fraser.

Triumph After Ethopia

(The Berliner Tageblatt quoted in World Review London)

The King of Italy has become—by the grace of God and the will of the nation—the bearer of an Emperor's crown. Marshal Badoglio has received the title and rank of a Duke. General Graziani is now Marshal and Viceroy. The War Office's list of titles and promotion shows a growing list of names. All who worked for this victory will participate in the honor and glory according to their deserts, while others are making an all the more determined effort to secure a share in it. D'Annunzio and Marinetti, inspired by the breath of the Muses, reach for their lyres. But what has happened to the creator of the war, to the driving force behind it? Mussolini has become "M". He has added nothing to his name, he has taken something away from it. The placards on the walls of Rome, bearing his last two proclamations, are signed only with this one strong, unmistakable letter. Only a sign, but nevertheless a sign of great significance for the change in the historical situation. There are no more decorations for him to win. With a sure instinct he refused a ducal title, which is alleged to have been offered him. With the historical title of "Founder of the Empire," given him by the Grand Fascist Council, the limit is reached. The claim to be an historical figure, the maker of an epoch, can only be expressed in a name. Who can fail to be reminded by this "M" of the other letter adorning the Louvre—that "N" in a wreath of slender laurels, symbol of an epoch in French history also called an "Empire"?

Excalibur Is Stolen

From Stirling, Scotland, comes news of the mysterious theft by four masked men of the famous two handed sword once owned by the Lion of Scotland, Sir William Wallace, the blade concerning which the Poet Campbell wrote:

The sword that seemed fit for archangel to wield
Was light in his terrible hand.

The thieves who broke into the National Wallace Museum to secure their booty, are said to have declared themselves members of the Scottish Nationalist Party, an assertion which was denied indignantly by the Secretary of that organization.

Why Scotsmen should seek to steal the historic sword is not clear. Wallace used it to drive the English out of Scotland, a feat which he accomplished with remarkable completeness at Stirling on Sept. 11, 1297; but there is no need today to repeat this process. In fact, any one who has noticed the prevalance of Scotsmen in England—or in any other country, for that matter—might look for a reversal of Wallace's exploit.

Moreover, the sword is five feet six inches in length, rather more than the modern swordsmen can manage. This, however, may account for the fact that four men were concerned in the robbery, but four men trying to wield a single sword would not be likely to impress even a timid foe.

It may be that the miscreants are, not members of the Nationalist Party, but holders of extreme views on the subject, with an ambition to separate Scotland from the rest of the United Kingdom. Wallace's sword might seem to them a good weapon with which to perform the operation, for history asserts that, single-handed, the Lion cut down an English rider and his horse with one stroke of the mighty blade.

WILL BOOST EXPORTS

SYDNEY, N.S., Nov. 19—(CP) — The annual export of gypsum from Nova Scotia is expected to take a sharp upward swing with the completion of the Victoria Gypsum Company plant at Little Narrows. The final organization of the enterprise, which entailed an expense of $1,000,000, was completed after eight years of investigation into the deposits, cost of production for market, cost of transportation to market, and demands for the product.

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