

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

President—W. Chester S. McLure, M. F. Secretary—Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D. S. O. Editor and Managing Director—J. R. Burnett Associate Editors—Frank Walker and D. K. Currie Morning Daily (founded 1887) \$5.00 per year (in advance) delivered. \$4.50 per year (in advance) mailed in Canada and United States.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1931

The Draft Address Debate

The debate on the Draft Address terminated yesterday with a suddenness which will leave the public speculating. With a Liberal majority in the House outnumbering the Opposition by four to one, it was expected that Premier Lea would be followed by at least one other Liberal member. But none seemed inclined to take the plunge, and the motion to adopt the Address was put and carried, the only speakers in the debate being the mover and second, the Opposition leader, and the Premier.

Mr. H. H. Cox departed from the customary practice in moving the Address by making a partisan political speech. He did more than that; he launched into a discussion of federal politics, an inexcusable faux pas which the Speaker conveniently ignored. However, as the Opposition leader remarked, Mr. Cox is something of a humorist, and as such is given a certain amount of latitude. His remarks, in so far as they dealt with provincial affairs, were answered in the speech of the Opposition leader.

Of weightier import was the considered address of the seconder, Mr. R. H. Gordon. Mr. Gordon confined himself to the paragraphs in the speech from the Throne and exercised admirable restraint in refraining from partisan discussion.

Much was expected of the Hon. J. D. Stewart, leader of the Opposition; and his auditors were not disappointed in the brilliant address which he delivered on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Stewart dealt particularly with Education and the subsidy question. He emphasized the need of maintaining efficiency in the teachers' training department at Prince of Wales College and of co-operating with the other Maritime Provinces in educational matters. He criticised the Government's negligence in failing to carry out the recommendations of the Education Commission, especially with regard to the appointment of a new Board of Education and a Minister of Health and Education. He asked what efforts, if any, the Government had made to advance temperance teaching in the public schools. To none of these matters did Premier Lea, in his subsequent speech of over two hours, vouchsafe any reply.

Provincial subsidy claims came in for discussion by both party leaders. Mr. Stewart exposed the Government's negligence in failing to secure a readjustment of our claims in 1927. Mr. Lea contended that the occasion was inopportune. Now is the time, he argued, to secure a subsidy settlement in almost the same breath he criticised the Bennett Government for promising extravagant expenditures and deplored the financial condition of the country as compared with the situation under the King Government.

A speech from Premier Lea would not be complete without a rehash of the Technical School controversy. He spoke at length on this subject yesterday and again delivered his apology for his failure to secure a cash settlement from the Federal Government on the handing over of the Dalton Sanatorium.

The outstanding feature of the debate was the fact that much of the Opposition leader's criticism of the Government was left completely unanswered. If the same tactics are followed in the budget debate and at the hustings this summer, it will not be difficult for the electors to come to a conclusion which will be anything but favorable to the administration now in power.

"Blumine" Again

The romantic attachment between Thomas Carlyle and Margaret Gordon, grand-daughter of the first English Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island and subsequently the wife of Lieutenant-Governor Bannerman, is well known to our readers. It is one of the colour-ful episodes in the Island's history,

and, as such, is of unflinching interest, especially to literary students. The latest reference to this subject is by Rev. Murdoch MacKinnon, a former Prince Edward Islander in the current issue of Queen's Quarterly. The writer, who has had the privilege of perusing some original letters of Carlyle written to his sister in Canada, cites the passages in "Sartor Resartus" and the "Reminiscences" referring to Miss Gordon, (or rather to Blumine, as she is called in "Sartor") as evidence of Carlyle's ardent attachment to his first—and perhaps his only—true love.

Alexander Gordon, Margaret's father, was a Scotsman who had served as a medical officer with the "Guards" during the American Revolutionary War and was appointed Hospital Mate of the 42nd Regiment, Black Watch, then stationed in Charlottetown, where Margaret was born on August 24, 1798. He became involved in difficulties here and later in Halifax, and in 1803 was reduced to half pay. In the hope of improving his circumstances by selling some property in the old land he sailed for England and died suddenly on board ship, leaving Mrs. Gordon and her four little children in distressing circumstances. After the remarriage of their mother the two sisters, Mary and Margaret, were placed under the care and guardianship of their aunt, a Mrs. Usher of Kirkcaldy, Scotland. It was here that Margaret Gordon and Thomas Carlyle met years later, an acquaintanceship which was terminated by Mrs. Usher's prudence, Carlyle being then unknown to the world and with little apparent prospects of success. Margaret went to London and was married there on January 4, 1824, to Alexander Bannerman, banker, wine merchant and manufacturer, of Aberdeen. She was twenty-five and he ten years her senior.

It is quite apparent, Mr. MacKinnon writes, that Bannerman was intellectually not the equal of his wife. But he had his gifts. He was a political reformer, agreeable to all who came his way. From 1832 to 1841 he represented the city of Aberdeen in the House of Commons and in recognition of public services rendered he was knighted in 1851 and at the same time appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Prince Edward Island.

On the night of Lady Bannerman's return to Prince Edward Island there was a general illumination in her honour. Entering the harbour by the steamer "Rose," which was neither a "car ferry" nor an "icebreaker," she could see on the left a beautiful stretch of farm and woodland where her grandfather had lived and her mother was born. Near the mouth of the York River there stood the house where she and her sister and brother had played as children. St. Paul's Anglican Church where she was baptized and where she subsequently worshipped, reared its steeple in the distance and St. James Presbyterian Church stood on ground once owned by her father. Three happy years were spent by the Bannermans in Prince Edward Island. Scenes immortalized by L. M. Montgomery, including her beloved Cavendish, were visited by them and in every instance they were heartily received by the people. They filled a similar position in the Bahamas from 1854 to 1864, when they returned to London.

Carlyle knew of Bannerman's appointment on this side of the water but he was not impressed, nor was he very accurate in his reference to the Maritimes. There is apparent a conscious inexactness born of pride and pique, which is not a characteristic of the great historian of the French Revolution; for in his "Reminiscences" he speaks of Miss Gordon's marriage to "some rich insignificant Mr. Something who afterwards got into Parliament, thence out to Nova Scotia—or so—as Governor." Carlyle should have known his geography better.

Notes by the Way

Evidence is accumulating that the universal peace era so fondly looked for by good men and women the world over and the program of which is in process of preparation by the League of Nations is not found in the fact that the German Reichstag budget committee has approved the first instalment of \$2,500,000 toward construction of Vest Pocket Cruiser "B". The "A" ship of this class, the Ersatz Preussen, cost about \$20,000,000 and represented Germany's answer to the Treaty of Versailles requirements that Germany can have only six battleships, none to exceed 10,000 tons. This 9,000-ton cruiser, driven by internal combustion motors of 50,000 horse-power, has been described as a naval wonder capable of putting most 10,000-ton cruisers out of commission or even offering stiff argument to a 35,000-ton battleship.

The Select Committee, we have no doubt, says the Durbar Natal advertiser, will be able to devise machinery for steadily restoring the Bantu to his one-time tribal environment. But not all the Select Committees in the world can unroot what the native has learned of good and evil during his half a century and more of industrialized association with the white man; and it is midsummer madness to imagine that you can plan a future for him which will afford to him the most vivid and trenchant period of self-consciousness he has so far experienced.

Premier Bennett, is doing his best, is making heroic efforts to cut his estimates; but the responsibility is not his alone. Unless the public gets behind him, and unless there comes a fairly generous recognition that this problem is bigger than financial gain for one party, or political gain for another, then expenditures will go on, and Canada will suffer.

Stirring times in both British and industrial circles in Great Britain would seem to be looming in the very near future. The rumor that Lloyd George may take a seat in the Labor cabinet has been growing in strength in spite of the serious obstacles which it is recognized lie in the way of such a step, and the answer of Lloyd George to persistent questions that he knew nothing of it. Were such an event to take place, Sir John Simon and his ten or so Liberal followers would in all probability go over to the Conservatives, and the future for the Liberal party, thus deprived of its heads, would be vague indeed. Meanwhile, whether or not the cabinet offer proves more than a rumor, it is plain that there is a considerable struggle shaping within the Liberal Party itself between these leaders.

British Liberals are eagerly watching Chancellor Snowden's efforts to reduce a rampaging financial elephant to a stately walk, and Mr. Lloyd George, described as the "best entertainer" in British Politics, has much advice to give the driver, meanwhile confining his own exertions to a rather lame endeavor to compel the elephant to kneel. British liabilities exceed seven-and-a-half billion dollars. Taxation is estimated at seventy dollars annually per head, and national exports at sixty dollars per head. Current expenditures are ten per cent. higher than national income, and unless prompt measures are taken to moderate this borrowing on credit, the prospects are that the budget will slump still further upon the wrong side. Mr. Amery is responsible for the statement that there exists now an overhead charge upon British products amounting to close upon five billion dollars, including taxes, rates, insurance levies, and the like.

The average Briton's ability to rise above national troubles was demonstrated at the English cup football match between Everton and West Bromwich, played at Manchester. A crowd of 70,000 saw the match, 20,000 who were shut out of the grounds stormed the gates in their determination to see it too. Extra police had to be called out to get the multitudes of excited enthusiasts restored to order before the play started. West Bromwich won the game by the only goal scored. Various critics have looked sourly at demonstrations of this sort in the past, and declared that they were indications of national slackness, but this view does not allow for the real explanation, which is the excellent balance of the British people.

A total of 504 persons have reported incomes of \$1,000,000 or more to Washington, which number is not so large when it is considered that there are more than 122,000,000 persons in the continental United States according to the 1930 census. The million-dollar incomes continue to be greatly outnumbered by the thousand-dollar ones.

You appreciate play twice as much when you have earned it with work. —Constance Bennett.



That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

LIME IS NECESSARY FOR THE BODY'S NEEDS

I often speak about lime and of its importance to the health of the body; every cell needs lime.

While 99 per cent of all the lime in the body is found in the bones, it has recently been learned that this lime in the bones may be used by the other tissues in the body when the need arises.

As you know the liver stores up sugar from the bread, vegetables, and sugars eaten, and when the system is deprived of vegetables for any time, the liver gives up some of its sugar to keep the body tissues and the processes of the body in good working order.

Similarly the bones are a storehouse for lime and give up some of their lime to the body when the need arises.

Now you can see that in growing children and even adults that if insufficient lime is being taken into the system in the foods eaten, that some of the lime from the bones and teeth will have to be used to make up this need. Thus a few years ago you saw many youngsters with bow legs, pigeon chests, and a gangling walk, all due to a lack of lime in the system. Now these cases are not seen so often, because research physicians discovered that it was lack of lime and lack of sunlight that was responsible for rickets or rickets as it is called.

As milk is the simplest and most effective method of getting lime into the body, the drinking regularly of a considerable quantity of milk has been the means of lessening greatly the number of "rickety" children. It has also been discovered that lime is just as necessary to the soft tissues of the body as it is to the bones and teeth.

Small quantities of soluble lime salts have been found to increase the energy of the heart. Small quantities also have been found to stimulate and strengthen the action of the muscles and nerves of the body.

When the blood is not "sticky" enough, bleeding easily starts, and is often hard to stop. It has been found that small regular doses of the lime salts increases the "viscosity" or stickiness of the blood, and prevents the tendency toward bleeding.

I've spoken before about the wonderful results obtained in some hospitals in treating old varicose vein ulcers, by chloride of lime taken internally well protected by syrup. Sajows recommends about 7½ grains to the dose—always well diluted. If youngsters, and adults also, would drink plenty of milk, they would get all the lime necessary. However as adults grow tired of milk, meat, vegetables, and ordinary drinking water will supply the necessary amount.

Remember the body needs a daily supply of lime.

The Bond Market

(March Letter, Royal Bank of Canada)

In recent months the statement has been frequently reiterated that cheap and plentiful credit is creating those adjustments which tend to rehabilitate business activity. Low rates for call and shorter term money are cited as examples of cheap credit and their influence is undoubtedly constructive. What is perhaps the chief feature of the present money situation, however, seems to have been overlooked; that the price level of the highest grade of bonds is somewhat below that prevailing in 1926, 1927 and 1928, and that the yield obtainable is disproportionately high. Credit can hardly be considered plentiful when governments, municipalities and sound corporations are unable to finance their requirements because the bond market is unable to absorb a normal volume of issues. While many corporations have been able to borrow from banks to meet their current needs, they are still waiting for a bond market in order to finance on a reasonably permanent basis. Issues amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars are practically overhanging the market. As Mr. Gates W. McGarrath, the President of the Bank of International Settlements, has stated, the outstanding need of the moment is a transfer of funds from the short money market into intermediate and long-term credits and the necessity for a greater volume of investment in long credits. Substantial revival in business activity waits upon an improvement in the investors' attitude toward the bond market.

I am sir, etc. FARMER

That observation which is called knowledge of the world will be found much more frequently to make men cunning than good.—Dr. Johnson.

No man or woman who listens to good music can hate his neighbor or bemoan the fate this life metes out. —Loring A. Schuler.

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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.

The Poet's Corner

THE SERF'S SECRET

I know a secret, such a one
The hawthorn blossoms spiderspun,
The dew-damp daisies in the grass
Laugh up to greet me as I pass
To meet the upland sun.

EDUCATING POTATO GROWERS

ST.—As a potato grower from the back-townships I would like to discuss this flood of advice being handed out to potato growers by public meeting and radio and all dealing with production.

I have concluded that it is a waste of energy on the part of those lecturing and a waste of time on the part of those lectured. There is no production problem confronting potato growers. There is a serious marketing problem. We can with certainty produce almost unlimited quantities of the best potatoes if we can only sell them.

Those disease organisms are only minor factors and will not, and can not, prevent the production of an immense quantity of excellent potatoes. Growing conditions such as excessive drought, frost or abnormal rains are major factors, but are not controllable. It will be argued that "disease control" will increase our yield and thus increase our "profits" and lower our production costs. They forget that all this intensive cultivation and interminable processes and abnormal efforts will add as much to the cost of production on one hand as it can save on the other. The alleged increased yield would probably upset our un-stable market and give us a lower price for the whole production.

We have men employed at large salaries to solve our marketing problems. Those problems have not been solved. Why should those men desert this field and engage in lecturing us on production? We do not want production talks. We want marketing action. If we cannot have more stable and more profitable markets we cannot continue. If, at any time, need production information, our highly paid professors and laboratory researchers and Latin scholars are all on tip-toe to deluge us with technical stuff. The most obscure disease organism will be analyzed and have his life cycles ruthlessly exposed. The predatory parasites will be finger-printed and their genealogy depicted in purest Latin. The fungus family will be given attention. They will be called by their first names and their Latin surnames, and their various life phases clearly depicted. We are amply provided for on the production end! Our need is marketing. With your permission I would like in a future contribution to discuss the marketing question.

It is that I would rather be
The little page on bended knee,
Who stoops to gather up her train
Beneath the porch-lamp's ruby rain
Than hold a realm in fee.

I know a secret, such a one
The hawthorn blossoms spiderspun,
The dew-damp daisies in the grass
Laugh up to me as I pass
To meet the upland sun.

—William Vaughn Moody.

A solution of many of our present problems and of our unrest lies in getting away from cramped living conditions.—Mrs. Thomas A. Edison.

Comprehensive talkers are apt to be tiresome when we are not athirst for information, but, to be quite fair, we must admit that superior reticence is a good deal due to the lack of matter. Speech is often barren; but silence also does not necessarily brood over a full nest. Your still fowl, blinking at you without remark, may all the while be sitting on one added nest-egg; and when it takes to cackling, will have nothing to announce but that added deduction.—George Elliot.

It is not the goods that grow cheaper; it is gold that grows dearer. —Cuglielmo Ferrero.

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