

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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LEGISLATURE OPENS

With the customary formality the first session of the 42nd general assembly of the Legislature was opened yesterday by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. In his speech he referred to the visit of His Excellency the Governor General and expressed the hope that on his next visit he would be accompanied by Her Excellency the Countess. A cordial expression of hope that the coming Economic Conference at Ottawa would result in renewed prosperity and progress to the Empire was followed by the assurance that we have not suffered to the same degree that other sections have, but that during the past year the strain of depression has been felt in many parts of the Province and want and privation has been seen. The Government, the Lieutenant Governor stated, would not spare any effort to assist in finding an outlet for our crops in Great Britain or elsewhere. Appreciation was expressed of the fact that notwithstanding the sharp decline, silver fox pelts had all been disposed of. Among the other subjects referred to in the speech were the appointment of a Minister of Education and Health, the destruction of Prince of Wales College by fire, and the temporary measures adopted to carry on the work, the opening of the Provincial Sanatorium and the inauguration of a full time Public Health service, and mention was made of the measures adopted for public relief with the assistance of aid from the Federal Government. With regard to Falconwood Hospital disaster by fire it was stated that because of the reconstruction of that institution, as well as Prince of Wales College, it was not the intention of the Government to embark on any elaborate program of public work "but care and attention will be devoted to the highways and bridges of the Province." The only legislation referred to is a bill to provide for Workmen's Compensation but it is stated other measures of importance will be introduced. The estimates, we are told, have been prepared with the utmost regard for necessary retrenchment and economy. The speech provides sufficient scope for an interesting discussion of public affairs by the members.

THE COME BACK

Yesterday's Canadian Press carried the announcement that Great Britain had repaid to 110 United States banks \$150,000,000 lent her at the time of the crisis in August last. Then, it will be recalled, \$200,000,000 of special banking credit was set up at the instance of J. E. Morgan & Company, associated with 109 other financial houses. Repayment of this is not due until August 28th next, but Great Britain has seen fit to pay 75 per cent, six months in advance, leaving 25 per cent to be handed over on due date. This is recognized as a typical instance of the magnificent comeback from recent financial crisis in Great Britain, and is credited, very largely to the substitution of a National Government for a Socialist Government five months ago. Not only has Great Britain repaid 75 per cent, of this loan in advance of the due date, but British Government stocks are enjoying something akin to a boom, and there has been a great demand for British securities on the part of foreigners and foreign institutions. Confidence in the future has been re-established by the astounding efforts of the British tax-payers, and by the new tariff measures, which it is believed will not only insure a balanced budget but may even secure a surplus, which would make possible a reduction in the

rate of the income tax next April. Money, too, is now cheap owing to the recent reduction in the bank rate and a further reduction is expected in the near future. The rush to convert gold jewelry and gold ornaments into bullion is also having its effect in restoring confidence in the financial position of the country. It is expected that \$25,000,000 of gold will be secured in this manner. The British taxpayers have, since the beginning of January, poured \$750,000,000 into the national exchequer in income tax alone, representing approximately \$15.00 per head of the population. It will be easily realized that foreigners have good ground for being optimistic in their purchase of British stocks and other securities, even although Britain may remain off, for a time the gold standard.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

Since inauguration of the Harris Art Gallery in conjunction with the Provincial Library there has been a considerable development in reading by citizens generally. Those interested in a public utility of this kind are disappointed, however, that there is not more accommodation for reading in the library. A good, commodious reading room is an essential adjunct of a public library, and when this is furnished with the leading periodicals from all parts, it is doubly interesting and attractive. In many parts the library reading room is the centre and spring of public opinion. There gather the leading lights and thoughtful members of the community glean information and the latest developments in world affairs, after which in the corridor and in the streets to stop and exchange views with one another.

A much required addition also is a children's library, set apart particularly for the rising hopes. In connection with this a weekly talk to young people on literature, science or art makes the library 100 per cent more valuable and efficient to the community. It is really surprising how eager the young generation is to attend such talks. Of course, the speaker must be an authority on his subject, and have the art and power of being able to impart his knowledge in an interesting, as well as an instructive manner. This seems to be the particular period of the year when such an undertaking would be most appreciated or successful, between winter and summer sports. By the end of this month skating and hockey will be over, and it will be too soon for ball games and cricket. If the library authorities would consult such men as Dr. Robertson, Professor Steele, Hon. Dr. MacMillan, Dr. Coffin, to mention only four leading authorities, we are sure a scheme could be evolved which would become an intellectual asset to the community as a whole.

NO "RIGHT" INVOLVED

The action of Mr. A. E. MacLean, M. P., in supporting the attempt of Mr. Woodsworth, Labor leader, to introduce a bill to amend Section 98 of the Criminal Code under which a number of Communists were recently tried, convicted, and sentenced, remains unexplained. It is contended in Mr. MacLean's behalf that he did not support the "principle" of the bill, but merely "the right to introduce it." Just how much "right" there was in the matter may be gathered from the following trenchant editorial which appeared on February 25 in the Toronto Globe, leading Liberal newspaper: "Section 98 was added to the Criminal Code to protect the country from its enemies, and since its friendship or acquaintance.

usefulness has been demonstrated vigorous attempts have been staged to have it repealed. Obviously, the section does not bother the great mass of people who go about their business without trying to make trouble for others. It stands in the way of the irreconcilable minority, however, an obstacle to their revolutionary propaganda, and they do not like it. The point involved in Mr. Woodsworth's bill, which received such short shrift in the House of Commons, was simply whether a law should be maintained for the benefit of the people in general or changed to suit the wishes of the irreconcilables.

"If laws were made to conform with the wishes of every misfit group in a community, it is plain that there would be no protection against murder, arson, theft, and the hundred and one other crimes toward which perverted nature inclines. Doubtless there are men who would conduct an organized campaign in behalf of stealing if they dared and who would ask Parliament to lift the prohibition in the Criminal Code if they could get enough encouragement to make an excuse. Long-established tradition based on the moral law stands in their way. The people of the country have as much right to look for protection against the promotion of communism as against theft and arson.

"Premier Bennett has shown on numerous occasions that he had no patience with those who sympathize with the tenets or practices of the Communists. In this he is upholding the traditions of the country and the rights of the people. Now that Section 98 of the Criminal Code has been found useful and necessary, thought of repealing it should not be considered. It should be enforced as often as necessary to make it effective, as should any other section of the Code. It is time the Communists learned this country is not for them. If they do not like a Criminal Code which suits others, they should go where their views are acceptable to the majority."

MR. SPEAKER

A wise choice has been made by the Legislature in the election to the Speaker's chair of the Hon. Dr. A. A. MacDonald, of Souris. Dr. MacDonald was first elected to the House in 1915. He was re-elected in 1923, 1927 and 1931, and proved himself on every occasion a worthy representative of his constituency. Quiet and unassuming, Dr. MacDonald rarely attempted speech-making. When he did so he spoke with humor, common sense, and brevity, fearlessly expressing the views in which he conscientiously believed. That he will be impartial and capable in his new and responsible position is the conviction of all who know him. Deputy Speaker under a former Conservative administration, his experience in that capacity will be an asset to him and to the House, over which he now presides, a figure genial yet dignified.

A GIFTED LAD

In the death yesterday morning of Mrs. Neil MacLeod, of Summerside, this Province has suffered a distinct loss. Passionately interested in religious and educational work, Mrs. MacLeod possessed the power, by voice and pen, to interest others, and while never a propagandist, her influence for good was continually being manifested in the community. Her literary contributions reflected a mind sensitive and alert, to the beauties of nature and the charm of historic associations. As an authority on early history in Prince Edward Island and a writer of finished style and culture, her name has been a household one for many years. But those with whom she came in contact were aware that this was but one side of Mrs. MacLeod's character. Her interest in church and mission work, in temperance, and in every movement for the welfare and advancement of the community, was unflagging. Her loss, which will be most keenly felt in her home, is shared deeply by all who had the privilege of her acquaintance.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Hon. R. B. Bennett has done much, says an Exchange. He has done as much to provide jobs and to relieve distress as any Government leader anywhere, much more than most leaders. Without his policies, which however costly some of them may have been, have provided work when famine was the alternative, Canada would be infinitely worse off. Mr. Heenan is aware of this; and so is Mr. Mackenzie King. But an Opposition can never resist the temptation to score points, so we have a parade of what Mr. Bennett said here, there and everywhere in the course of last election. Such tactics, we suppose, are harmless. They have been adopted by parties—by all parties—since times immemorial, and nobody now is much impressed. The public is not as dumb as the average politician supposes.

Mr. De Valera has talked of abolishing the oath of allegiance to the King and repudiating the payment of land annuities to the British Government. What if he does? This is the answer according to a London cable to the New York Times: "If by some remote chance the Free State should break her treaty obligations, Britain would not send a single soldier to the country she ruled by force more than 400 years. The Free State would be regarded simply as a seceder from the Empire and be cut off automatically from the tariff privileges she now enjoys with the other British dominions. The British market according to the same despatch, absorbs 90 percent of the Free State's products, and so the economic weapon is "more powerful than an army of Black and Tans." This fact added to probable dependence of Mr. De Valera on his Labor colleagues, is expected to prevent unpleasantness. Mr. De Valera will think twice before he takes steps to quit the Empire, to give up the tariff advantages now enjoyed by the Free State in the British market.

President Cosgrave has been defeated by Eamonn de Valera, and this is what he says: "In the last decade the Labor party and the Fianna Fail have been attacking and blaming us for many things. They blamed us for financial depression and low prices. I propose now to let them work out a plan of prosperity and I will assist them in every way I can in that direction. If they succeed, I will take off my hat to them." Never was defeat accepted more gracefully or in a more public-spirited way. In office Cosgrave and his colleagues showed themselves constructive statesmen, and now the retiring President offers to help those who defeated him. It may be that de Valera will be sobered by the responsibilities of office, and we need not assume that he will seek a quarrel with the British Government. Cosgrave's attitude helps to make a peaceful atmosphere.

Many veterans of the Great War who had a bitter taste of battle were loath to speak of their experiences after the terrible carnage was over. They wanted to forget about it. By the same token they would not be desirous to live through similar years again. Undoubtedly if the declaration of hostilities were left to them, nations would not fly at each others throats on mere pretexts.

Prime Minister R. B. Bennett is appointing a committee to investigate radio broadcasting from Canadian sources. He will have the kind permission from many to strangle 90 percent of copyright owners who give their kind permission.—Winnipeg Free Press.

The consultative committee of the Round-Table Conference met in Delhi recently, only to confess an utter failure to solve the problem of minorities referred to it in London. The committee has been able to make no progress since the London gathering terminated, and the Moslem delegates indicated that they do not propose to make any further efforts toward a settlement. This declaration from the Moham-medans brought an angry rejoinder from the Hindu leaders, and the upshot of the meeting was to refer the whole problem back to Premier Ramsay MacDonald in Great Britain.

An appeal to wealthy people of the United States which would undoubtedly be acted upon forthwith if they, as a class, were as public-spirited as he, has been made by Mr. Arthur H. Fleming, of Pasadena, California. Mr. Fleming asks that pledges to pay \$1,000 a year for 50 years be sent to the United States Treasury by 400,000 Americans, thus enabling the national debt problem immediately.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

TRUE WEALTH

Sir,—In a previous letter advocating economic safety it was stated "production of needed goods for which there is a market, without interference with natural exchange by the price fixing of those fiduciary branches of capital, which have attained a monopolistic character."

In this letter I would like to show how this price fixing occurs. True wealth consists of things consumable by human beings e. g. clothing, food etc.; things usable over long periods, e. g. houses, ships, roads etc.; and things which are usable for production of other goods, e. g. machinery, water power and so on.

The other kind of wealth or riches consists of all the foregoing plus, bonds, mortgages, bank deposits etc.

To the majority of people it is only true wealth that counts since the other kind is merely a claim on true wealth. Riches increase as we become more highly organized and consists of Federal, Provincial, Municipal and individual debts incurred by borrowings by bonds, debentures, mortgages and advances by banks. This form of riches is increasing very fast and every year adds to it. Every new public utility adds to it and most, if not all new industrial enterprises add to it and all these kind of riches constitute a claim on true wealth by way of interest on the money borrowed and repayment of the principal.

The continuing growth of this kind of wealth has become dangerous to the world's economic and social structure in that the producing classes are becoming discouraged because their reward for labour, when they can sell it, whether in the form of wages, salaries—is being effected by the claims of borrowed money.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the individualistic or capitalistic system can be maintained because it is better suited to the temperament of the majority of the peoples of the world than the Russian system of Communism now being tried out. But, as I have pointed out in a previous letter, if the capitalistic system is to function properly every one, Governments national, local, municipal and individuals must exercise drastic economy and cease borrowing except under the most urgent necessity and then stem the flood of debt that is now swamping the true wealth of mankind by way of unduly reducing the earning power and therefore the purchasing power of the majority of people and thus unduly restricting the production of true wealth, which leads to undue unemployment, which further reduces purchasing power until the balance between production and consumption is upset—thus causing economic chaos.

THE PLOUGH

Above you sombre swell of land / Thou see'st the dawn's grave orange hue, / With one pale streak like yellow sand, / And over that a vein of blue. / The air is cold above the woods; / All silent is the earth and sky, / Except with his own lonely moods / The blackbird holds a colloquy.

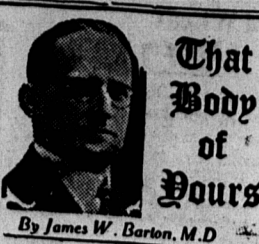
I am Sir, etc. ECONOMIST

A NEW SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

Sir,—In regard to the present situation in education in Prince Edward Island as an old teacher, I wish to say I think the whole province is indebted to Mr. R. H. Rogers, for his clear and comprehensive statement of the system now in vogue in this province and his equally clear and comprehensive statement of the new system which he proposes; a change which we believe all those intimately connected with the work of education in P. E. Island will consider as timely and necessary, for certainly the work required of the teachers in our one-roomed country schools is absurdly too great. "That man's the best conservative who lops the mouldered branch away," and to longer delay a change in our time-honored system is only to invite a more radical and destructive change later on. The system proposed by Mr. Rogers which is largely the system of Ontario and the other provinces is the one I myself had in mind, with the exception that I believe the old standard in Eng-

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Treasury to wipe out the foreign loans. He would call the pledges George Washington Birthday Gifts. We fear that there are not enough Arthur H. Flemings in the United States to make the appeal very effective. If it were done, though, it would certainly solve the Inter-American, thus enabling the national debt problem immediately.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND DENTAL DECAY

One of the gratifying things to the medical profession is to see how faithfully many people are not only visiting their dentists regularly once or twice a year but are having an X ray examination every two or three years. It means that much suffering, much medical and surgical illness will be avoided.

Twenty-five years ago, Oeler, the greatest physician of modern times advised his fellow physicians that the teeth were a great source of infection. Twenty years later Lord Moylhan the great surgeon, added his testimony in advising that infections of the teeth were responsible for many surgical conditions.

The Mayo clinic has added its quota of evidence, medical and surgical, as to the great damage to the vital organs of the body from infected teeth.

Sir William Wilcox, a few years ago, gave a clear exposition or explanation of the whole subject of infected teeth, from facts gleaned from several hundred clinical cases and supplied conclusive evidence that, as he said, "leads one irresistibly to the conclusion that a very large amount of disease is due to poisoning from infected teeth."

Although the infection in the teeth is due to organisms of the same family, some organisms are more virulent, more poisonous than others, and affect organs of the body in different ways. One group of organisms for instance by poisoning the blood actually destroy the red corpuscles, so that the individual's blood becomes thin, and he is said to be suffering from anaemia.

Another group of organisms in infected teeth are associated with rheumatic infections. They cause a general poisoning of the system, and may give rise to arthritis-inflammation of the joints, and even inflammation of the lining of the heart. Another point is that the intestine itself may be affected by the poisons causing intestinal complications.

From these organisms may follow eye complications, nervous diseases, and other altered or diseased states of the system.

These warnings are from the leaders of the medical profession in Great Britain and the United States, and should be worth our serious consideration.

The Poet's Corner

Over the broad hill creeps a beam, / Like hope that glids a good man's brow; / And now ascends the nostril-stream / Of stalwart horses come to plough. / Ye rigid Ploughman, bear in mind / Your labor is for future hours: / Advance—spare not—nor look behind— / Plough deep and straight with your powers. —Richard Henshaw Horn.

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