THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1923.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION

The electors, towards whom much of the oratory of the present session has been directed, are now in a position to pretty thoroughly understand the political situation. In addition to the addresses given in the legislature they have the Public Accounts and the official reports of the different departments. These are in cold type and cannot be altered; they speak for themselves. That there are discrepancies has not been denied by the government and efforts have been made to account for them. Whether the public are satisfied with these remains to be seen. Little can be gained by mixing and muddling figures which may be made to prove or disprove anything. The accounts with their discrepancies must stand.

Nor can anything be gained by mutual recrimination. The Bell government has pictured in lurid colors the condition of affairs under the previous regime. Whether the picture is true to life or whether unfair means have been adopted to blacken and to distort it the public will judge. The alleged deficit of $253,000 said to have been found when the Bell government came into power, is a case in point. If the public are satisfied that when the supplies for the year ending December 31, 1919, were purchased and paid for before September 9 of that year and that less than half the revenue had been collected, and are prepared to believe that the difference between these two constituted a deficit at September 9th, then they will accept the oft-repeated story of that $253,000 alleged deficit. Had the previous government not purchased these supplies for the year the incoming Bell government would have had to do so. As it was, the latter took over the supplies bought and paid for by their predecessors and accused the latter of having squandered the money! The bottom has long since dropped out of this so called deficit and the people know it.

The condition of the schools also under the previous regime has furnished the Bell government with a song which they have sung continuously for three and a half years declaring that there were one hundred vacant schools when they came into power. This, notwithstanding the fact that the Superintendent of Education had reported only nine vacant schools for that year! This song, the falsity of which had been proved over and over again, they continued to sing without interruption at the same time vociferously declaring their own great feat in filling these imaginary vacancies.

Instances might be multiplied indefinitely in which actual misrepresentation was made both of the previous regime and that of the Bell government.

A cause or a party that must resort to misrepresentation and fraud to bolster up its case needs watching and we feel quite sure that the Bell government is being watched as never before. They came into power on the strength of promises which they have broken one by one and are going out of power because they have attempted to carry out the fraud by still further deluding the people.

SOME QUOTATIONS

"These roads will not cost the taxpayers of this province a dollar." Premier Bell.

"One of the reasons for increasing the taxes was to make up for the withdrawal of the auto fees from general revenue." Premier Bell.

"One of the reasons for increasing the taxes was that the teachers' salaries must be increased." Premier Bell.

"With the present revenue (1918) the government should be able to carry on the affairs of the province and pay the teachers' increased salaries." Premier Bell.

"The best government the province has ever had." Premier Bell's supporters in chorus.

"The most corrupt government the province has ever had." The people.

"The Premier of many surpluses." The Patriot.

"The Premier of broken promises." The people.

"The Pay as you go government.' The Patriot.

"I can't get a dollar out of the government for work done on the roads last summer." A small contractor.

"I couldn't get a darned cent out of them until after the close of the financial year." A small contractor.

"One hundred schools vacant in the province when the Liberals came into power." The whole Liberal choir.

"Nine schools vacant in the province in 1919." The Chief Superintendent of Education.

"Only the same rate of taxation as under the previous administration." All Liberal members.

"An increase of 100 to 150 per cent. in the land tax." All farmers.

What do the electors think of these various pronouncements on the manner of handling their money?

THE KING CABINET

The leaven that is leavening the Mackenzie King Cabinet and keeping it in continual turmoil appears to be a particularly virulent one. For some months cabinet changes have been announced only to be changed again and others named or presumably appointed. The latest shuffle, as announced in our yesterday's despatches, makes Hon. George P. Graham, Minister of Railways; Hon. E. M. McDonald, Minister of Defence, and George K. Kyte, Solicitor General, provided it will be considered safe to open his constituency. In the meantime Hon. George P. Graham is acting Postmaster General until the return of Hon. Charles Murphy, who found it necessary to get away from his colleagues because of disagreement, preferring the peaceful company of the belligerent and revolutionary Mexicans to that of his friends at Ottawa. It is a turbulent cabinet all right.

WATER POWER

The increasing utilization of water power in Canada is one of the great features of industrial expansion. At present the capacity of all the plants in Canada is 2,973,759 horse power. The known available water power in Canada from all sources is 41,700,000 horse power and the total capacity at present of all the water wheels and turbines in Canada is only seven per cent of these resources. The existing installation represents 338 horse power per thousand of population which places Canada in the position of being second only to Norway in the per capita utilization of water power.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It may be that out of the political dishonesty of the past three and a half years there shall grow a more general desire for political honesty. Whether because of the transparent trickery of the present regime or through the ordinary evolution of civilization there demand for political honesty or a more pronounced denunciation of political fraud than at present.

Notes by the Way

The boy who rushed into his home and told his father, "There are a thousand cats in the yard!" and afterward admitted on being questioned that there may have been only "our cat and another one" was not entirely accurate. He can hardly be regarded as a thoroughly reliable statistician. The percentage of error was too large for that. But, morally speaking there is this much in his favor, that on a careful review of the facts he conceded a margin of inaccuracy. That was much better than if he had persisted in his story of the thousand.

Those hundred vacant schools seem to come in the same category as the thousand cats, but with minor differences here and there. Somebody started the story that one hundred schools were vacant at the time the Arsenault Government was defeated in 1919. It turns out on the published statement of the then Superintendent of Education, who must have known the facts, that there were just nine schools vacant at the time. Here again there was a large percentage of error, amounting to 91 per cent. And yet the author of the yarn had some vacant schools for its foundation, just as the boy had some cats as a foundation for his story. A very few, and not enough!

Just here the parallel ends and the contrast begins. The boy admitted his error about the number of cats, but the Bell Government and its supporters have a thousand times repeated the fabrication about the hundred vacant schools. For years the newspapers supporting the Government have blazoned it abroad throughout the province. Members of the Government have repeated it session after session in the Legislature, and a score of their supporters have parroted it after them there. It was broadcasted by them in scores of political meetings during the by-elections of last summer. And yet it was 91 per cent. untrue!

Confronted with the facts as stated by the Superintendent of Schools, we have yet to learn that any of them will yet admit the truth. The presumption is that they may go on repeating it. The Hundred Vacant Schools was such a mouth-filling slogan, they are so wholly committed to it, they have all so often repeated it and relied upon it as a staple argument, it has held so large a place in the Sing Song of self-praise and in their condemnation of the late government that it will be hard to drop it now on the eve of a general election! And yet they know full well that the fabrication is as lacking in the important element of truth as was the story of the thousand cats.

The gross deception and betrayal of 1919 has been exposed; the tangled web then woven has been a hundred times torn to shreds. But the old deceptions are ignored no longer even denied. New webs are woven to replace the old, new fictions, to deceive the credulous, new and incredible exaggerations are set up and **twenty of the Deceivers of three years ago rise one after another in the House to affirm that they are gospel truth.** And again we hear the polite invitation of the spider to the fly! School fictions, road fabrications, debt and deficit thimble rigs, and mirages of Richmond Bay mud take the place of the economy, retrenchment and reduced taxes promised in 1919.

What is it all but shoddy from the same old fiction mill? It will not bear inspection. It will not wear. **It is only stitched together and dyed in Liberal colors to allure and again deceive good party men. Like the reckless political gamesters who spun and wove, dyed and labelled the rotten fabric and who pretend it is all wool, it is but plain, shoddy, tailored to sell and serve the desperate political needs of the hour.** The stubborn lie of 1919 needs new deception to gloss it over and bolter it up! It was ever thus with those who practice to deceive.

Christians Again Forced to Flee From Turkey

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 18—Christians are fleeing from Alexandretta owing to strained relations between France and Turkey, according to official reports from the Anatolian News Agency.

Five hundred Armenian families have already departed and an outbreak is feared as a result of disagreements, including that of the Chester concession of the United States against which France protested to Turkey.

The Public Forum

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

The Hog Resolution

Sir,—I notice an article in the Patriot of Monday last signed by "Voter" dealing with the resolution now before the Legislative with reference to the Tariff on American pork products, etc.

"Voter" takes exception to the statement that we require a higher duty on these meats, and cites a long list of different articles showing the duties on same, and according to his judgment the present duties should be sufficient protection to our farmers.

Would like Mr. "Voter" to explain how a 2 cent duty on pork is going to keep out American products when live hogs can be bought in the United States from 2½ to 3 cents per pound less than selling price of hogs in Canada. Also does he consider it is a fair deal to ask our farmers to pay 8 cents per doz. duty on eggs going from here to the American market which is the present U. S. tariff when the United States producer can ship into Canada by paying a duty of only 3 cents per dozen. Will Mr. "Voter" say this is fair to Canadian producers? He also states we are further protected by the Dumping Clause Act, but would ask him to explain how such an Act is going to help our producers when goods are sold at market value in the American market. We are also asked to take note of the difference in prices paid for American and Canadian bacon which certainly does not help matters. Does he think any Canadian dealer would go to the trouble of importing into Canada American bacon paying duty charges to say nothing of the cost of handling and additional freight charges for the sake of exporting it to Great Britain to be sold there as American bacon. Don't you think this would be poor business? It is hardly fair to quote lowest Canadian bacon when giving the average price paid for American as there is only a very limited quantity of Canadian bacon that classes leanest.

Mr. "Voter" states that Great Britain imported in the year 1919 from Canada bacon to the amount of ninety-two million dollars, but forgets to mention what percentage of this was U. S. product. He takes the most favorable years, namely 1919 and 1920, for comparing our exports from Canada to the United States; besides, we think the quantities named by him are misleading. In the year 1918 our total export of bacon, hams, shoulders and sides was valued at less than one quarter of a million dollars, a very mean showing indeed when one considers large quantities of such goods we have for export. In 1919 the most favorable year the amount was less than a million dollars, and in 1920 less than half a million, and still less in 1921. Last year the amount came near the vanishing point, as it was less than fifty thousand dollars.

It is just possible Mr. "Voter" is the same person who gave the farmer some valuable advice through the press some months ago. At that time farmers were advised not to fear United States competition on pork products, as the American farmer was supposed to produce only very large hogs, weighing from 350 to 600 pounds, but our farmers by experience know what it is to meet unfair competition from the United States. Farmers do not take kindly to advice from such persons as Mr. "Voter," who would like, no doubt, to pose as an "expert" in matters pertaining to agricultural interests, etc.

I am, Sir, etc.,

PETER BRODIE.

A Way Out

Sir,—One cannot but recognize the ability and earnest spirit behind Dr. Drummond's suggestion as a way out. Its fundamental weakness is found in his own words on Page 2: "In my thought, the units would retain their identity and autonomy." According to this there is to be no union at all. This is nothing more than co-operation, with a more elaborate machine and a new name.

First.—I am sensitive about the honor of the Presbyterian Church. She has pledged herself again and again to Union—not only the Assembly, but the Presbyteries and the people. On the basis of that pledge the other denominations have made large sacrifices and changed their policy to meet the new conditions which Union would bring in. Thousands of our own people have taken our Church at her word and given up their denominational identity, believing that their church would follow them. We cannot betray their trust. It would be giving a stone to those who were promised bread. In the British House of Commons, where a system of fairness has been developed superior to any other on earth, any motion may be reconsidered except where action has been taken on it, and then it cannot be reconsidered at all. This rule binds us now. If the Presbyterian Church is not now pledged to Union, no Church can ever be pledged to anything by the action of its authorities and by a policy built on that action.

Second.—This scheme does not take into account the action of the Presbyteries. There are 79 Presbyteries in the Church, and 53 have already pronounced on Union. Out of these, 50 have declared in favor of immediate action, and more will follow. The majorities by which the action was taken are even more striking than the number acting. These pronouncements demand consideration. For years Unionists have held back out of deference to the opposition of their brethren, but now their convictions demand action, and the state of affairs throughout the country force it. If Union should be blocked now, the whole of newer Canada will go into Union anyway, and a far greater schism will result than can possibly follow action by Unionists. Compromise now means playing with fire.

Third.—This scheme provides no relief for the difficulties of co-operating charges. In thousands of congregations members of different denominations are grouped under one leader. Economic difficulty is thereby settled, but other difficulties often arise. Presbyterians are conscious that they are still Presbyterians, Methodists that they are still Methodists. There cannot be the authority in leadership and the unity of spirit and aim that there would be if the parent churches were united. A minister of one denomination cannot have the place in the hearts of the members of other denominations that he has in his own—at least, it is much harder to gain. Let Union come with the enthusiasm it would generate for the United Church of Canada, and these difficulties would be fused in the fire of a new zeal for the cause.

Fourth.—This scheme does not recognize that co-operation has reached its limit. It has done much in newer Canada, but there are still hundreds of points in older Canada where wasteful rivalry persists between these denominations, who hold the same faith, and, while men and money are being poured in there, vast districts in the North and West go without religious ordinances. The writer has just had a letter from a Presbytery which has tried to bring a number of congregations into the system of co-operation. In instance after instance the reply has been given that they will wait until after the Assembly, and if the Assembly decided on Union, they will open negotiations with the other denominations with a view to co-operation, pending Union, but with Union as the condition. The members of our churches here will not be driven into unions into which the Church herself refuses to go. The only way to solve these local problems is for the Church as a whole to do what the claimant needs of the country demand—form one united evangelical Church to meet the people's religious needs.

Fifth.—Apart altogether from these practical considerations, Dr. Drummond's own reasons for the proposals are self-destructive. The scheme is ably wrought out, but it is simply a desperate effort to evade an issue. It is born of fear as he himself states in the close of his recent letter, and no child of that parentage can live. He conjures up a picture of great numbers of Presbyterians leaving the Church of their fathers if Union goes through. I can see no grounds for such fears. Some will go. But many who now oppose will stay with their Church. One of the strongest opponent of Church Union in Toronto Presbytery said some time ago: "I do not like this Union, but if my Church goes into it, I do not intend to be left out." There are many like him, and a number of them can be named. It is a Presbytery's right to oppose action that he deems unwise and still remain loyal to his Church when she decides against him. When the Church's decision is finally reaced, a few will leave—much fewer, proportionately, than in 1875—but the great majority will go with their Church. Further, the idea underlying the new scheme is wrong. Its author says: "We are discovering afresh that human nature is what it is, and not what it isn't, and that wise men try to content themselves with what may be in the world that is." Everyone who has studied human nature in these last fateful years knows that no greater mistakes could be made than to assume that human nature has no higher capacity than appears on the surface. Call men and women to a great ideal, and they will respond. There is the noblest ideal behind this Union movement. It is nothing less than to do our part to restore the dismembered body of Christ. It is the desire to give the Christianity of this new nation a form that will express adequately its own nature and bring together under one name and for one end people who belong to one another in spirit. There is no difficulty in the way of this enterprise which courage and faith cannot cast into the sea.

I am, Sir, etc.,

GEO. C. PIDGEON.

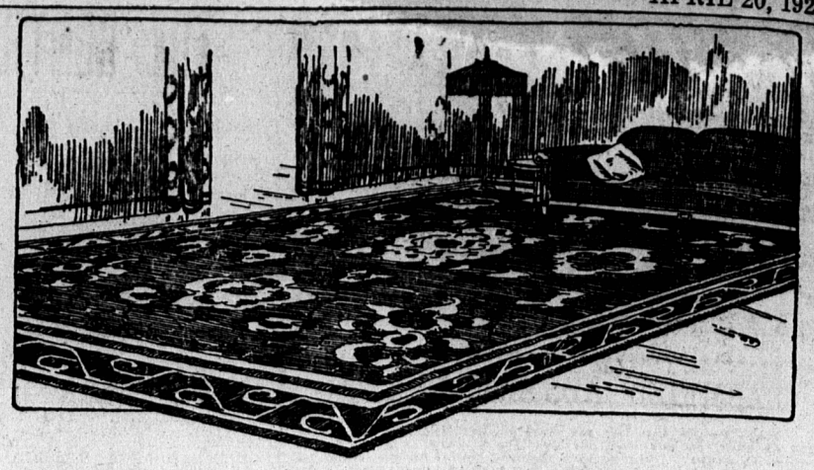
EX-KAISER'S YOUNG SON IS DEVELOPING INSANITY

LONDON, April 18—Former German Crown Prince Frederick of Germany is suffering from a progressive form of insanity, according to a Wieringen despatch, which quotes as authority two noted alienists of Berlin.

"The prince has turned to religion for comfort," adds the despatch. "His exhausted nerves are forced to listen for hours to revival services conducted by him on an organ, and is subject to alternate fits of garrulity and taciturnity."

GREAT BRITAIN PAID TO CANAD MORE THAN $300,000,000 DURING YEAR

LONDON, April 19.—Referring to the recent difference of view in regard to the size of Great Britain's debt to Canada, Stanley Baldwin, Chancellor of the Exchequor, in his burget speech in the House of Commons today warmly and sincerely thanked ex-Premier H. H. Asquith "for his great service rendered in arbitrating a very difficult and technical point. We repaid to Canada during the year £62,000,000," continued the Chancellor, "and for all practical purposes we might regard our Canadian debt as settled." Mr. Asquith, who accepted by both sides for the rile of arbitrator, reduced appearing to the reasoning powers Canada's claim by £24,000,000. of the indivdual.



House Cleaning Time Is Now On

You may want a new **Carpet Square, Stair Carpet,** or **a New Oil Cloth for your Hall.**

We are now showing a splendid assortment of new Squares in Wilton, Brussels and Tapestry, in popular sizes from 2 1-4x3 to 3x4. Prices from **$20.00 to $100.00**

FLOOR OIL CLOTHS
In a variety of colors. New patterns at .... **50c Per Yard**

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Come in tiles and conventional designs at.... ..... **90c and $1.00 Per Yard**

For the windows of your home we have **New Scrim Marquisetts, Netts and Madras.** Priced at **18c, 22c, 25c to $1.00.**

Window Curtains come in Scrim, Marquisetts in a large variety of patterns, priced from **$1.75 to $10. Pair**

Kirsch Curtain Rods in all the popular **styles.**

We are showing a splendid line of Baby Carriages and Go-Carts.

PATONS LTD.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

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THE HYSTERICAL PERSON

We had a patient admitted to the hospital one day who was said to be taking "fits" regularly.

The day he arrived I was sent for hurriedly and told that a sergant and about eight men were holding him down in his special room.

As I was on my way to see him the consulting nerve specialist came in the door and I took him along with me.

Sure enough, lying on a mattress on the floor struggling with seven or eight men was the patient.

The specialist took one look at him and ordered the men away from his.

They hesitated for a moment and the sergent quite respectfully stated that the man would throw himself against the radiator or do some damage to himself, if freed from restraint.

The specialist said "Oh No, he'll not hurt himself."

The men retired to one side. Ascertaining the man's name spoke to him about as follows:—

What's the idea S—just trying to create a little excitement round here.

You shouldn't be doing that you know because these men should be about their duty, looking after the real sick people here.

It was said quietly but firmly, and our patient, a fighting maniac apparently a moment before, was now quite docile.

We had no further trouble with him.

He had one or two light attacks but there was never more than one attendant necessary.

What was the trouble?.

Simply Hysteria.

In a true fit such as Epilepsy the patient is really unconscious and is not aware of what is going on about him and will injure himself if not watched.

In Hysteria, there will be all kinds of movements resembling often real nervous disorder, but the patient never hurts himself. He watches out for that.

Now what causes people to do this?.

Well physicians have been expounding theories for many years, but have only got far enough to be able to say that the hysterical person usually does a lot of thinking about himself. Some repressed emotion some fright or dream may be the cause of his losing some of his stability of mind.

It is more common among women than among men.

The successful treatment has not been harsh measures not by being too sympathetic, but by appealing to the reasoning powers of the individual.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

From the W. S. Louson collection.

THE RETURN

Though snowy drifts are white upon the fields,
And shadows wander in the freezing skies,
I know that happy Spring will come again,
Bringing a promise in her smilling eyes;
On emerald garments bordered with the gold
Of buttercups, and here and there the sheen
Of dewy violet and lavender,
And over all a veil of sheerest green.
I know that joyous birds will stir again
Among the branches of the barren thorn,
And mists that gather in the starless eve
Will rise and vanish in the living morn.
The violet and pale anemone,
And such as lay their blossoms at the feet
Of winter, in the far enchanting years
Shall live again in beauty as complete.
If what is lovely does not really die,
Heart's-ease, and fragrant lily and the mild
Forget-me-not are the departed loves
Of other days, in garden paths grown wild.
And mourning melodies from all the hills
Will on the air their swelling voices bring
To knowing heart, for they who go in tears
Shall come again, rejoicing as the Spring.

ANNA S. HARLAN.

Organization Among Farmers Needed Says Prof. Jackman

OTTAWA, April 18.—"Present conditions in agriculture were clearly due to lack of organization among farmers as other industries are highly organized," was the declaration today of Prof. L.T. Jackman. The Witness said deflation of prices in the agricultural industry had been very rapid while in other industries there had been very little deflation.

Prof. Jackman believed that while farmers by organization could never affect work prices, they could secure better prices in the home market for their products. Among the remedies suggested for present agricultural conditions was the need that farmers should become fully organized that they might take advantage of various conditions.

Conferences between all interests in the country including banking transportation and consumers was also needed. One interest could not prosper at the expense of another.

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Buy the Great-West Life Policy the most popular "made in Canada."

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The Oldest Insurance Agency in P. E. Island

Amherst Amateurs Must Take Affidavits

AMHERST, April 17—At the semi-annual meeting of the Amherst Amateur Athletic Association held last night, it was decided that every athlete must be in possession of an amateur card before he will be permitted to play with an Amherst team. Affidavits are now being circulated among the local athletes, and after being signed in the presence of a local lawyer will be presented to A. W. Covey, at the semi-annual meeting of the M. P. B. A. A. U. of C. which meets here on Thursday.

At last night's meeting the following committees were named:

Baseball—John J. Power, C. D. Shipley, D. R. Morrison.

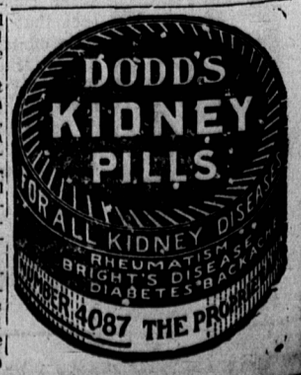
Ground—A. D. Smith, John S. Smiley, C. H. Carter.

Track and Field—Fred MacDonald, A. C. Dennis, D. W. Fraser.

Membership—A. A. Barker, C. D Dennis, C. H. Carter.

M.B.A.A.U.C. Delegates — James A. Hanway, J. J. Power, R. M. Ross.

County League Delegate—J. J. Power.

The sum of $50 was voted to the Ground Committee for work on the athletic field this summer.

L. F. Ross, Treasurer, announced that there was a balance of $282 to the credit of the Association, although a number of bills were still outstanding.