THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1935.

KING'S R. O. P.

Like our local contemporary, Mr. Mackenzie King has the habit of inviting odious comparisons. He has undertaken to criticise the Bennett unemployment insurance legislation and to claim credit for having "paved the way" for such reform measures during his own regime. Let us see how these statements compare with his "R.O.P." or record of performance, as recorded in the pages of Hansard.

With regard to aid to the provinces in highway expenditure, by which means the Bennett Government has materially assisted in relieving unemployment, the Liberal leader's stand was emphatic. He voted flatly against continuing the Dominion Highways grant which the Conservatives had initiated and stated that in his opinion for one government to raise grants for another government to spend, as would be the case if federal aid were accorded to provinces for highway purposes, was **"a thoroughly vicious principle."** (Hansard, Feb. 21, 1929.)

With regard to unemployment relief, Mr. King said he might be prepared to go a certain length in meeting one or two of the Western provinces that had Progressive premiers at the head of their governments, but he **"would not give a single cent to any Tory Government."** And when protest was raised he repeated the statement, only changing the phraseology to read "not a five cent piece." (Hansard, April 4, 1930.)

Mr. King now seeks to give the impression that there were constitutional problems and that time was required to surmount the difficulty of "divided authority between the Provinces and the Dominion." This does not coincide with his offer to help the Pregressive premiers but not "any Tory Government;" nor does it correspond with his answer to a question asked in Parliament in 1930 by Mr. I. D. MacDougall. The question was:

Mr. MACDOUGALL: "Is there anything in the British North America Act to prevent the Government giving assistance to the provinces to help relieve unemployment."

MR. MACKENZIE KING: "Nothing that I know of."

MR. MACDOUGALL: "Then why don't you do it?"

MR. MACKENZIE KING: "Because we have other uses for our money."

In practically the same breath, the Liberal leader went on to say: "It might be reasonably argued to be a part of the obligation of the League of Nations that, if a very serious situation should arise in any one country, where there was great distress, the League might well appeal to all other countries to enable some fund to be raised whereby immediate assistance could be given to the particular country affected."

In other words: **"Not a five-cent piece" for Canadians unemployed, but money to the League of Nations for foreign unemployed! That was Mr. King's expressed declaration as laid down April 3, 1930.**

A fortnight before this statement was made, the Liberal Minister of Labour, Hon. Peter Heenan, in a speech at London, Ontario, **definitely admitted the existence of a national unemployment problem in Canada and pledged the King Government to action, including unemployment insurance.**

His statement was allowed to go uncontradicted by Premier King, and was re-affirmed by Mr. Heenan himself in the House of Commons on March 18, 1930, in Mr. King's presence.

The statement stood, like other pledges of the King Government, until it became convenient to ignore it. That time, however, occurred sooner than the government had forseen. On March 31 Mr. A. A. Heaps, Labor member moved, on a motion to go into supply, an amendment **"that in the opinion of this House the government should take immediate action to deal with the question of unemployment."**

The hand of the King government was forced; no longer could the pledge of its minister, publicly made and not repudiated, substitute for action. Faced with the alternative of fulfilling or repudiating a pledge, it exhibited no embarrassment **in straightway disclaiming its obligation.** On April 1—April Fool's Day!—Mr. Heenan made his volte face, declaring: "Unemployment insurance will be enacted in Canada only after public opinion has been educated to the necessity of such legislation . . . Our people have not a true understanding of what unemployment insurance really means."

On the following Thursday Mr. King was forced into the debate. He too repudiated Mr. Heenan's London statement, saying that it was merely intended as a prediction that **"eventually** Canada would have unemployment insurance." "I think that," he said, "a perfectly sound prediction, but it is a very different thing from saying that I was committing the government and parliament to a system of social or unemployment insurance."

The vote on the Heaps resolution was reached April 8, 1930. **Mr. King, the Minister of Labour and their Liberal colleagues voted against it, and thereby against any relief. Every Conservative member voted for the resolution calling for immediate relief.**

So much for Mr. King's attitude and actions with regard to unemployment relief and unemployment insurance, as revealed, **not in the academic treatise which he wrote on the subject twenty years ago, but in the pages of Hansard!**

WHY AN ELECTION ?

It has been suggested that the coming Federal election be conceded to the Conservatives; and no doubt many people are wondering why the country should go to the expense of holding a general election now that all parties are agreed that Mr. Bennett is pursuing the right and only policy commensurate with the present needs of the people of Canada.

Although the conceding of a general election is without precedent we think it is worthy of the most careful consideration of the more sincere members of the erstwhile opposition, and now supporting parties.

After the first bitter realization of another four years in the cold Mr. King should not mind it, fortified as he would be with the peace of mind that comes to one who has acted according to the dictates of his own conscience, for it must, indeed, be worrying work decrying a man for carrying out what he himself "put in a book."

The Liberal press would hail the glad tidings with the greatest joy. No longer would they have to make bricks without straw trumping up a defense for their bewildered leader, facing as they do the terrifying prospect of fighting a campaign with a policy of "not a five cent piece to any Tory Government."

Alone of all the Liberal press in Canada would stand our local contemporary, with the determination of the would-be sailor who was drowned when he refused to let go the anchor his captain ordered overboard.

NOT SO SIMPLE

The London, England, Stock Exchange has removed from its board all listings of Vancouver bonds. This action followed upon the arbitrary statement of Vancouver's Mayor Gerry McGeer that the London holders of the city's bonds must accept a lower interest rate than the bonds call for. London's interpretation of Mayor McGeer's attitude is that it is a "threat of partial default."

Mr. McGeer, in his crusade for lower interest rates, is not likely to be alarmed. Indeed, he had already anticipated London's action, dismissing it lightly with the statement that Vancouver hasn't sold any bonds in the London market since the war, is not likely to sell any there, or to try to sell any, for some time to come.

The matter, however, suggests the Ottawa Journal, is not quite as simple as that. Vancouver may be contemptuous of all London money markets. And what Vancouver, or Mr. McGeer, has got to consider is that other money markets are pretty sure to note well and remember what Vancouver is now doing in the London market. They may decide, and very reasonably, that a city which defaults with one set of investors is not unlikely to do the same thing with some other set of investors.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Following the example of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia has decided to open its Legislature this year on March 5.

The mysterious Maxime Albert, Felicite, Quebec, seems to have been an ever present help to the bootlegging fraternity here—with four shiploads landed in one season and one seized.

Well, well, things are coming to a pretty pass when a great organization like the Associated Press sends all the way to Germany to ask the grief-stricken mother of an accused murderer whether she thinks he will be convicted.

A "corner" in white pepper is nothing to sneeze at. An Armenian wholesale grocer tried it in London, tying up 23,500 tons valued at $10,000,000. Now his firm has gone broke, and more than half the $10,000,000 will be a total loss.

To read Mr. Mackenzie King's tirade against the Bennett government for its social and industrial reform program, one would imagine he had gone out of his mind. Imagine any person in his senses claiming, as Mr. King did, that "We paved the way for them," and almost in the same breath alleging that these reforms partook of the nature of a "stone" and "serpent." The leader of the opposition must have been screeching mad.

What are the Prime Minister's plans for handling the present unemployed? According to an Ottawa correspondent they are involved in a huge building scheme such as has been in operation in Great Britain during the past three years, and which is to be further extended this year. Such plans would be doubly welcome here, for they would get rid of a lot of insanitary, unhealthy property, and provide profitable employment by substituting modern, up-to-date housing accomodation.

Premier "Mitch" Hepburn is not popular with the good people of Toronto. The Gospel Witness of February has this (besides a great deal more along the same lines) to say of him: "Ontario will survive—even though such survival necessitates the use of smoked glasses—Ontario will survive the daring, dazzling, unprecedented, unparalleled, incomparable, incomprehensible, superlative, political brilliance of Hepburn! She must suffer this for her sins? Perhaps. For her discipline and deeper humility? Very probably. To let patience have her perfect work? Yes. To test her temper, and her qualities of endurance? Almost certainly. But surely with equal certainty, that she may learn, and never forget, how not to do it!"

"There are in the world today many so-called 'Youth Movements,'" (says His Excellency the Governor General), but of all those of which I have any knowlege the one for boys that appeals to me most is the Boy Scout Movement. In my opinion, this organisation which lays such stress on honour, on loyalty, on neighbourliness, and on 'playing the game' is the one that is the finest and is best suited to Canada. Naturally, its emphasis on loyalty appeals to me, for is not life made up of loyalties, loyalty to one's friends; loyalty to those things that are beautiful and good; loyalty to one's country; loyalty to our King; and above all, and most important of all, loyalty to God."

Last Friday was a rollicking one for farmers in Chicago Produce Exchange when peak prices were obtained for various farm products. The surge in prices lifted hogs to the best level since July, 1931, butter to the peak since mid 1930, and eggs to the highest in four years. Cattle, selling at a nominal top of $14.00 a hundredweight, were quoted at the highest price in five years.

Germany is fast reducing humanity to the status of ordinary animal life. Its latest project is the publication of several millions of a "pedigree" book, in an endeavour to make their dream of an Aryan Utopia come true. Their goal is an Aryan, blond and prolific Germany, without Jews, criminals, childless couples or anti-Nazis; their methods, encouragement of German families to have more offspring, and insistent emphasis on the virtues of true Germanness, Nazi-ism and eugenics. Health centres are to be opened April 1 in all cities and rural communities. These will contain complete files of inhabitants' well-being, showing, for example, family trees, results of physical examination and vaccinations. Their most important function, however, will be to give advice "on an individual's heritage and the care of the race," on whether individual men and women are fit to marry—this on the basis of the health cards—and regarding the selection of mates. Altogether, it means the love god is to be entirely excluded; and it is to be hoped that when a degree of perfection is reached the authorities will not recommend the killing off of the "prize winners" as it recommended here in the case of prize poultry.

Notes By The Way

The re-armament of Germany is a cause of uneasiness to the other nations of Europe and the rest of the world. There is no doubt that the process is under way. Notwithstanding the inhibitions of the Treaty of Versailles Germany has in secret been building up the material for a great army. Her confidence in arms was shown within a week by threats to Belgium on the west and to Lithuania on the east. Shepard Stone gives in The New York Times the facts about German preparations of all kinds, and adds; "What is going on today in Germany is only a beginning. The foundations of a vast military edifice have been laid. But now the time has come when the real construction job can be done only in the open."

Come to think of it, the medical profession is about the only one that is doing its best to reduce its own income. Its members are constantly advocating the prevention, rather than the cure, of disease. Yet the general acceptance of his advice can only mean fewer patients and thus lower professional revenue.—Brockville Recorder.

To interest people as they become enthusiastic in support of any public service, they must make contributions to it. There fore community libraries in towns and villages requiring local aid are found to be the most efficient means of placing books within reach of everybody, without which there can be no organized study of nature, which Dr. Tory head of the National Research Council, states is the basis of all progress.—Maritime Library Association:

Great is science. Great is efficiency. Nonetheless we seem to stride along these paths reckless of adjustment in the old order and so bringing a curse on men out of what should be nothing but a blessing. Look at the motor car, the trawler. Here are prominent examples of science and efficiency applied with promise—and, to a great extent, performance—of benefit to mankind in general. Yet they present problems of grave importance to many.

A new paradise is being opened up to motor cars by means of one of the most remarkable road-engineering feats of modern times. Plans are now being carried through for completing the all-weather highway through the heart of the Alberta Rockies from Jasper to Lake Louise. It will have a total length of 147 miles, 58 miles of which are already complete, and will enable the motorist to reach the heart of the Rockies. It skirts great glaciers and penetrates to the cradle of the rivers that water the great plains of Western Canada.—Empire Review, London.

Meafords jeweller, M H. Huss, who had stirred his community by such feats of handicraft at drilling a hole through a common pin from end to end, and writing words and figures on a grain of rice, has scored again. He had built a steam engine no bigger than a house fly.

Actually this working engine is somewhat smaller than the common fly. Huss made it of brass, including the cylinder and flywheel. The engine works, he said. The steam-pipe hole is about twice the thickness of a hair on your head.—Wingham Advance-Times.

"There is magic in the choice of a phrase or a word," said Mr. Henry St. John Raikes, Recorder of King's Lynn, in London. "A friend of mine on the Bench had a man brought before him on a charge of being drunk. "Asked how he pleaded. the man said, 'No, certainly I was not drunk, I was intoxicated.' "'Oh," said the magistrate, 'I see the difference. The usual fine in such cases is half a crown. You will be fined 2s. 6d.'"—London Mirror.

This much is certain. One company in Great Britain and one company in Germany are now in a position to provide a service of "high-definition television" of real entertainment value. The features and movements of speakers or of one or more artists in a studio, events of the days or other film subjects-matter, and certain indoor and outdoor events can now be transmitted either instantaneously or within a few seconds (depending on the subject matter) for clear and faithful reproduction in the home on a screen about a foot square, accompanied by sound on the same receiver.—London Spectator.

Newspaper censorship in time of war is bad enough, though sometimes necessary. But when censorship is carried into days of peace, it becomes highly injurious to the public interest. Britain is the most powerful nation in Europe today and one of the chief secrets of her greatness lies in the fact that her newspapers are unfettered, that the press may say what it likes and that citizens generally have the complete right to their opinions and to the public expression of them.—Border Cities Star:

The deadliest enemies of nations are not their foreign foes; they always dwell within their borders. And from these internal enemies civilization is always in need of being saved. The nation blest above all nations is she in when the civic genius of the people does the saving day by day acts without external picturesqueness; by speaking, writing voting reasonably; by smiting corruption swiftly; by good temper between parties; by the people knowing true men when they see them, and preferring them as leaders to rabid partisans or empty quacks.—William James.

Pictou-Ch'town Boat

(New Glasgow Evening News)

The Pictou Advocate in a recent issue, carries the following interesting information, on which we are moved to comment:

"We had a visit the other day from Capt. V. O. Peardon, well-known Pictou master mariner, who has recently been in New York and Sydney in connection with the S. S. Farnorth, owned by the Margaree Steamship Company. We asked Captain Peardon what they intended to do with this steamer and he said they were in hopes that they could get her on the route between Pictou and Charlottetown, tenders for which route for quite a period are, we understand, to be asked for shortly. The Farnorth, a picture of which the captain showed us, is quite a steamer. Her length is 256.7 feet, breadth 35.5 ft. and depth 14.4 ft. She has a gross tonnage of 1712 tons and a net tonnage of 975. She was built on the Tyne, Gt. Britain, is 350 horsepower with a speed of 14 knots. She was last running between Prince Edward Island, New York, Newfoundland and Montreal. She has sleeping accommodation for 170. She is large enough to offer her guests every ocean luxury, while still maintaining the atmosphere of a private yacht. She is a fast mail and express steamship of sturdy construction, furnished throughout and completely equipped with modern lifesaving devices."

What is wanted in our humble opinion is a boat capable of carrying a number of autos at a trip, which will be operated as a link in the C. N. R. service. If that were done and tourists taken on the Island via Sackville and off via Pictou it would bring a lot of business to Pictou Lodge and thence on to Halifax or Cape Breton, and it would at the same time, with modern equipment, furnish a much quicker service as regards perishable products than is now the case. Get away from the subsidized service and make it 100 percent C. N. R. This line of action was first promulgated by Mr. John O. Hyndman in an address to the Charlottetown Board of Trade some months ago, and met with ready endorsation there. The Boards of Trade at Pictou and Charlottetown should also use their influence along those lines. The cost to Ottawa would be no greater than is now the case but the service would be definitely better. Pictou town would be the gainer in a substantial way as we see it.

The Farmer And His Debts

Address by
M. A. MacPHERSON, K. C.
(Dominion Department of Finance)

To date almost 450 applications have been received by the office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy and the operation of the Farmers' Auditors' Arrangement Act has hardly started. In the Province of Saskatchewan alone, reports from the Official Receivers to the end of October would indicate that they had interviewed over 1,500 farmers, the majority of whom are likely to make proposals under the Act, and bear in mind that the operation of the Act has but commenced. Now you are interested in our experiences to date. Are they encouraging or are they discouraging? They are both. Let us take the discouraging features first. When you find one of the parties, either debtor or creditor, taking the attitude of refusing to see any merit in the contention of the other side, refusing to concede and inch, refusing to make concessions, refusing to make counter proposals, then you will agree that it is discouraging, and we have those cases. The attitude adopted by some creditors in this connection is distinctly improving and I would point out that success for the legislation must come from co-operation on the part of the creditors just to the extent it depends on co-operation on the part of the debtors.

What are the encouraging features? Each day I am getting reports from every part of the country as to settlements that have been effected. To indicate what is being done in this connection, I would refer for insance to two letters I have here from an Official Receiver in the Province of Saskatchewan. It was possible in the one case to secure the realease of a farmer from an obligation of ten thousand dollars, in the other to secure the realease of a farmer from an obligation of eighteen thousand dollars. Neither of the obligations could the farmer every possibly hope to pay.

The farmer retains his chattels included in each sale price and is now able in each instance to carry on his farm operations with some hope of success. I can give you the case of a meeting held in the Province of Ontario on Friday. Let me indicate to you the reaction of that meeting in the language of an unexpected visitor I had on Saturday morning. This man called on me at my office in Ottawa. He asked if I could see him and I told him I would be glad to see him. He came up and told me he had repersented a secured creditor at a meeting of a farmer's creditor's in Eastern Ontario the day before. He stated that nothing had stimulated him so much as the understanding that developed between debtor and creditor at that meeting as the meeting progressed. When the meeting opened, the farmer was dispirited the creditors were inclined to be suspicious. Before the meeting had concluded, they had unanimously agreed to two alternative proposals of settlement. The farmer went home to discuss the matter with his wife as to which he would accept, as my visitor told me, and to use his language, "the farmer went out with his tail over the dashboard." He was satisfied beyond measure. The creditors, secured and unsecured, were all satisfied. This settlement indicates that where reason is applied, arrangement can be arrived at, and it also indicates the basically in the Province of Ontario the law of the jungle is not what our people subscribe to. May I be permitted to read to you from a letter from the local Manager of a loaning institution in Western Canada to his Assistant General Manager here in Toronto. The writer of the letter never thought I would see the copy. The letter goes on to indicate that the farmer's proposal was impossible. It discusses the discussion one way and another at the meeting and then indicates a settlement having been arrived at, and then let me read one of the concluding paragraphs: "While the debtor has received nothing like what he had proposed, he was at the end of the meeting entirely satisfied, indeed thankful for the concession proposed by the bank and ourselves and went away in a much better frame of mind." I could go on and give many other encouraging cases, but time does not permit.

(To be Continued.)

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S. A. McDonald's

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

EVERYBODY NEEDS IRON EVERY DAY

You may wonder why so much iron is used by physicians either in pill form or injected into the skin, because you know that a number of common foods are very rich in iron.

Perhaps the commonest food rich in iron you read about and which is often joked about is spinach. Spinach is unusually rich in iron but is not as inviting as some other foods. Other foods rich in iron are dandelion greens, turnip tops, beet tops, cabbage, Brussel sprouts, lettuce, cauliflower, asparagus, celery, beans, peas, white potato, sweet potato, carrot, turnip, parsnip, tomato, corn, red meats, egg yolk, whole wheat.

You can thus see that there is sufficient variety of foodstuffs, rich in iron, if we are willing to use them. Unfortunately about 40 per cent of our total food supply is in the form of refined cereals—bread and other flour products, and the various ready-to-eat or cereals requiring a short cooking time. These cereals, although "refined" are all good "energy" foods, but lack somewhat in iron.

Iron is required by every cell in the body. Not a great amount is needed daily and in the great majority of cases about 25 per cent more than is needed is supplied by the average everyday diet.

However there are some individuals who do not seem able to absorb enough iron from the everyday diet—rich as it may be in iron—and it is these individuals who must be given iron pills or iron injections in order to give the blood the iron it needs with which to build and maintain the cells.

Dr. E. V. McCollum, Baltimore, tells us that the normal bloom of the youthful skin is due to blood rich in haemoglobin or iron, the pale and anemic person has thin blood.

Sometimes various diseases—malaria, old or chronic infections (teeth, tonsils) cause destruction of blood.

Fortunately it is not possible to eat too much of these foods containing iron, where it is possible to eat too much meat or too much starch foods.

On the other hand in order to yet enough iron it is not necessary to eat "all" of the foods rich in iron every day. All that is necessary to get your daily ration of iron is to eat liberal amounts of one or two of the foods mentioned above every day.

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.

RIGHT ABOUT FACE

Sir, — Tuesday's Guardian announced,—"Unemployment Scheme Launched. Liberal Leader Favors Scheme."

If Hon. Mackenzie King favored the scheme, for how long did he stay put? Within at least three hours he jumped the fence with his usual elastic spring, and, after claiming,—"We paved the way", he started his customary tirade to damn the measure in these words: "They are crying for bread and he is giving them a stone. They are crying for bread and he is giving them a serpent because, in addition to their distress and suffering, there will be, when this legislation is found to be ultra vires, the sting of bitter disappointment."

And King has promised to vote for what he calls this "Serpent", if he doesn't change his mind again.

I am, Sir, etc.,
TWO-FACED.

OUR LIGHT BILL

Sir,—The scheme of public ownership of our lighting and power system as suggested by the Mayor and Council, is, in the writers' opinion, the best solution of the problem yet advanced. It is deserving of the fullest enquiry, and citizens should lose no time in reaching a decision so that necessary legislation can be passed at the present session of the Legislature.

There are hundreds of reasons for public ownership. It is a matter of interest to the whole Province. Thousands of householders through the country are in need of modern electric facilities for which they would gladly pay the cost. And the more patrons the lower the unit cost to users.

Invention is bringing home and store utilities to the front with increasing rapidity. Irons, washing machines, cooking and heating ranges and stoves, motor power for mechanics, radio, etc. A greater use of these utilities would stimulate trade by increased sales, provide extensive employment in the building and installation of extension lines, and an added and continued line of work to maintain and keep in repair these added improvements.

As to the cost, the taxpayer gets the benefit of the profit whatever it may be, instead of remitting it to bondholders in the United States.

I am, Sir, etc.,
ECONOMIST.

"INCREASE IN CRIME"

Sir,—Under black heading the Halifax Herald misrepresents our City, declaring, our "Chief of Police Reports Increase of Crime Under Laws of Prohibition."

Chief Birtwistle reported nothing of the kind. In fact court statistics show a decrease in the Province, apart from offences under the Prohibition Act, which are only quasi-criminal as violations of a law.

What the Chief's report did show was a decidedly greater and more creditable activity against violators of this law. Never in the history of the Province has there been a more concentrated drive to clean up this illicit traffic, and never for the same reasons, so many convictions of offenders.

Commendable in this respect is the splendid cooperation of the City police with the work of the R. C. M. P. Without prejudice to the whole Council, who for the first time in many years have whole heartedly stood for law enforcement, we must give honorable mention to Councillor Hennessy, chairman of the police commitee, whose interest and sound judgment is worthy of appreciation.

Lovers of sobriety throughout the Province should be prompt to give all due credit to our governments, Federal and Provincial, our City Council, their police force and the active body of the R. C. M. P. for the best effort at enforcement that we have ever had.

And whoever is responsible for that Halifax Herald libel on our Island and City, should be called upon to retract.

I am, Sir, etc.,
PROHIBITION.

The Poets' Corner

INTERVIEW

Deceive the mind whatever way you will;
Distort stark facts you do not choose to face;
Warm truth till it has lost its power to chill;
Supply reality such saving grace
Out of imagination's boundlessness
As may conceal its sternness for an hour
And cover its sharp edge with kindliness;
Swear evil must succumb to goodness' power;
Practise these sweet deceptions if you must,
But never seek to hide the lie you tell,
For in the end the body that you trust
To bear the mind's hard burden will rebel.
Then, broken, it will take to bed and cry
For liberation from the mind's long lie.

—Althea Bass,
in "American Poetry Journal."

for RHEUMATISM
Pour Minard's into a warm dish. Rub liniment gently in; then apply it according to directions and soon you'll get relief!
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