

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink". TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 1938

A Liberal Prophecy Recalled

Is it to offset the criticism of its own party members in the Legislature that our contemporary is devoting so much space to boosting the Campbell Government's road-paving projects? One notable point about these projects is that notwithstanding the extra taxation which has been imposed to finance them, contrary to Liberal election pledges, there is no evidence of the economy that should result from the saving in road maintenance charges. The Government budgeted this year for an unprecedented expenditure over and above its road-paving projects.

The eulogy our contemporary devotes to the benefits of hard-surfaced roads from the tourist standpoint applies more particularly, of course, to the finished projects, namely those undertaken by the Bennett-MacMillan Governments. Also to the MacMillan Government is due the credit for developing the local gravel pits, in preference to the former Liberal policy of importing gravel at exorbitant cost to the Province.

Even as late as the last election campaign, what was the Liberal policy in this matter? We quote from the Patriot, July 22, 1935: "When the problem of dealing with the roads was under discussion, the Provincial Engineer was asked his opinion as to the value of the gravel available in this Province, and he said 'We must remember that when we import this screened gravel we receive the pure material, whereas if we are using the gravel from the pits, it is often 50 per cent clay, and that is no better than the road surface we are covering.'"

"There are roads in this Province covered with imported gravel that will last longer than any paved highways the Conservatives are building, and they will be there when their roads crumble to dust."

This statement was made at a time when the Borden-Charlottetown highway, including the stretch of solid concrete highway at the ferry terminal, was being constructed. It is not likely to crumble to dust for many years to come, and where are the imported gravel roads that were to outlast it? They have been dug up and sub-graded with Island gravel, by Mr. McIntyre, in preparation for hard-surfacing!

All of which proves, according to the Liberal organ, that "Good Roads Campbell" and "Good Roads McIntyre" ought to have some kind of statue erected in their honour. Janus, two-faced divinity of ancient Roman highways, would, we suggest, suit excellently.

The Sales Tax

Just before the House of Commons rose for the Easter recess, one of the King Government's supporters, Mr. Deachman, put forward a suggestion on a subject that must have been troubling the conscience of many of his fellow members. In view of the improvements in the Dominion's trade and commerce and indicated further betterments, said Mr. Deachman, the sales tax—now standing at the unprecedented figure of eight per cent—should be reduced to five per cent.

Whether or not the Government will follow this suggestion, says an Ottawa exchange, is open to conjecture, but perhaps it will accept a broad hint and do something toward the alleviation of this levy. It is hoped that as time for consideration of the budget draws near, it will at least give very serious consideration to the matter.

Finance Minister Dunning himself is no doubt aware of the fact that in this Province, and particularly in his own constituency of Queens, the sales tax was one of the big issues of the 1935 dominion election campaign. At that time the tax stood at six per cent and no opportunity was lost by the Liberal candidates and their supporters denouncing it. Even in the Provincial Legislature, at the session which preceded the dominion and provincial campaigns, the six per cent sales tax was cited by Liberal members as evidence of the greed and rapacity of the Bennett administration. Our farmers were pictured as coming to town with a few dollars to spend, and being mulcted six cents on every dollar by Mr. Bennett. It is not an exaggeration to say that every supporter of the Liberal candidates in this Province voted on the expectation of seeing this tax reduced substantially. They were promptly disillusioned when Mr. Dunning in his 1936 budget speech, announced this tax had been hoisted to eight per cent.

A new broom sweep clean and perhaps when Mr. Dunning's new colleague for Queens takes his seat at Ottawa he will rise and support the Deachman suggestion of a reduction of this "nuisance tax" to at least 5 per cent.

The Business Index

Business in both Canada and the United States continued to decline during February, according to the Bank of Nova Scotia Report recently issued. Although the recession in Canadian business in the Dominion from January to February figures was exactly the same—1.1 points, in employment in manufactures, such was not the case in industrial production, which dropped 2.6 points in Canada, and .9 points in the United States. The statistics issued in the Bank's report are based on 100 monthly averages of the period of 1925-29, and each series has been corrected for seasonal variation.

While the indices for employment, industrial production, and revenue loadings, showed a decline in both countries, the contraction in the

United States was less pronounced than in any of the preceding five months. As compared with conditions of a year ago, however, the recession has been much more marked in the United States in the past twelve months than was the case in Canada. In February of 1937, the index for employment in Canada was 105.4, and for the same month this year rose to 109.4, whereas in the United States the employment index dropped from 99.1 in February, 1937, to 82.6 this February. In industrial production, the indices for the two countries registered declines, falling from 108.9 to 99.4 in Canada, and from 105.8 to 72.1 in the United States for the twelve-month period. In revenue loadings for the same period, Canada registered a drop of only 2.7 points while the United States registered 78.6 in February, 1937, and 59.4 in February, 1938.

Dining The Doctor

A novel suggestion was made at a meeting sponsored by the United Parents' association in New York, to the effect that if doctors were given an opportunity of studying prospective patients in the latter's homes, especially during meal time, it would greatly improve the health status of the nation. The proposal came from the medical director of a large American hospital, who spoke to the following effect: "A doctor needs to know the background of a family. He must know its morals, its fads and its temperamental foibles. Inviting the doctor around to a meal gives him a chance to find out what the home is like."

"We must confess," says the Hamilton Spectator, "the idea fails to appeal, and we doubt very much if it would appeal to the majority of medical practitioners. For some of them, no doubt, the meal, whatever its gastronomic quality might be, is about all they can expect in settlement of fees. But the bill-dodgers are not the kind of people who would invite the medico, in any case. Busy doctors, too, can hardly be expected to get excited at the prospect of a round of meals at the homes of their clients. However beneficial it would be for the clients, it might prove disastrous for the doctors."

Hungry Larvae

Although the larvae of the common clothes moth may give trouble all the year around, they are the liveliest, and hungriest, in the spring. So now is the time, suggests an exchange, to get rid of them. The chemists have evolved some tongue-twisting delicacies, such as naphthalene and paradichlorobenzene and pyrethrum spray, which when laid out as a feast for the foraging larvae soon send them to happier hunting grounds. Therefore the industrious housewife will take a moment now to save an hour of grief next fall. She will store all her valuable winter furs, woollens and other fabrics of animal origin, in the special commercial vaults for that purpose, or will liberally sprinkle them with naphthalene and wrap them in brown paper and store in fairly tight boxes. And she will spray all places that can harbor dust and lint, for it is in such elysium fields that the moths lay their eggs, the larvae hatch, and later take off to hunt for further neglected clothing and rugs and upholstery in which to lay more eggs from which larvae can hatch and so on and so on, until the mystified housewife shrieks with despair.

Editorial Notes

A forgotten issue in the Legislature this year was Prohibition enforcement. Two Government Control advocates were heard from; the rest were silent.

Congratulations to the Rev. Dr. Raymond, whose well merited honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him yesterday at Wycliffe College, Toronto.

Our Liberal legislators were so much concerned about the mismanagement at Falconwood Farm that they forgot even to inquire about the accommodation for the patients. Yet they all agreed that public health was the most important responsibility of government! That, at any rate, marks an improvement in their pre-election attitude.

Remember how our Liberal members used to complain about the high income tax collections under the Bennett Government? The National Revenue Review for April, 1938, gives the following figures under Dominion Income Tax Collections by Districts: "Charlottetown, 1936-37, \$872,984.54; 1937-38, \$979,278.58" — an increase last year of 300 per cent over the 1935 figure.

The travelling public and especially the people of Cross Roads and vicinity are being greatly inconvenienced by the delay in launching the Grand River Ferry. Mr. Wm. Mills who has had the job of launching and beaching the boat every year for the past 30 years was relieved of his duties last spring, and repair work and painting, which should have been completed in plenty of time to allow the ferry to be put in use at the earliest possible moment, is still being done.

Eight Canadian airplane companies are now manufacturing for the Canadian Government a total of about 75 planes of service type. The understanding is that these are comparable to types now being manufactured in Britain for the British services and that the Canadian companies are quite capable of turning out almost anything that would be wanted on the other side of the Atlantic. It is believed that Canadian authorities would be well pleased if companies in this country received some British contracts as that would expand facilities for a possible emergency. A desirable feature in manufacturing warplanes is conceded to be that they would be less liable to destruction by bombing planes in case of conflict.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Reptile House staff is awaiting with some dread the return of the filers to the park. In some years a filer was found the hollow metal cap of the Reptile House roof a wonderful sounding board for his courtship factor, and has filled the building, for days at a time, with a noise that could hardly be rivaled except by rivers. Driven away from one side of the roof, the bird simply hopped over the ridge and started to work on the opposite side. — New York Zoological Society.

Sir Robert Vansittart, who is the "big name" (on the Civil Service side) where foreign affairs are concerned, and who is now Britain's Propaganda Expert No. 1, seems to find his "escape" from every-day life in writing. The next comedy at the Embassy, in London, will be from his pen. Actually, he has written quite a number of plays, and has also turned out some solid years of fiction. His new comedy is described as a political farce. Let's hope it doesn't raise an "international situation." — Glasgow Bulletin.

The age-old trick of the "Spanish prisoner" letter, of course, still swindles the gullible, but the glamour of the game is gone, due to the fact that in the civil war the French police have been busy trying to run down forgeries of paintings and other art objects supposed to have come out of the Spanish churches. Most of the fakes are the work of picture forgers and copyists. It never saw the inside of a church in Spain or anywhere else. — Brandon Sun.

When an actor becomes so good his work evokes the honest admiration of other actors, we call him an actor's actor. It's the highest praise we can bestow. When a writer becomes so good that other writers read him with sheer joy, we call him a writer's writer. Well, I have just met a salesman's salesman. He has everything. His personality is so magnetic, his sales talk so inspiring, convincing and finished that listening to him is just like hearing a symphony. There is the same perfection. What a salesman he is! I asked him how he had developed such finish and effectiveness. He said it was simple enough—merely a matter of practice. I admired him all the more for it. He followed me to the office, and followed in reaching his mastery. On his first three selling jobs he failed completely. This almost convinced him he wasn't cut out to be a salesman, but he'd set his mind on it anyway. He set to work practicing. "I practiced for hours in front of a mirror," he told me. "In front of a mirror," he said, "I talked myself into a salesman. I talked myself into his prospects, doesn't he? How is he going to know how he looks unless he sees himself. I looked pretty good. Then I checked upon the way I sounded to my prospects. "How" "The boss had one of those dictating machines in the office. I took my sales talk over and over into the thing. Then I listened back to how it sounded. Pretty rough. I smoothed it up." There's a salesman for you! He didn't depend upon nature's gifts. He merely developed the gifts that every man has.—Canadian Business.

Canada as the heart of a remoulded, consolidated British Empire, her vast spaces peopled by millions of new settlers, the fullest measure of prosperity and security, is the plan envisaged by R. A. Piddington, English author-economist, as a means of saving the Anglo-Saxon race from ultimate extermination. Mr. Piddington suggests the migration flow might be extended over a period of fifteen years, with an average of about 1,000,000 annually. The chief effect of the proposed migration plan would be to bring Canada's second-best customer right into her shop. New industries planned and located in advance would demand fresh labor already there and the enlarged population would swell the output of every factory in Canada and Great Britain for at least twenty years. Rapid stimulus of business activity and ever-expanding demand would make the new seat of Empire, the envy of the world, the economist argues. The Piddington proposal was labelled "poppycock" by John G. Buckley, Secretary of the Trades and Labor Council, who migrated from England to this country in 1906. C. H. Carlisle, President of the Dominion Bank, Chairman of the Executive and Financial Committee of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company of Canada, Ltd., was equally skeptical of the suggestion. "It is hardly worthwhile to comment on it," he said. "Such a dream is a long way off," said Right Hon. R. B. Bennett, Premier of the Dominion. "and from a purely economic standpoint I can't possibly conceive of anything wilder or more impossible." — Globe and Mail.

Chorley Park, Toronto the picturesque official residence of the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario is to be advertised for sale and presumably disposed of to the highest bidder. This Premier Henry Birney is taking active steps to carry out one of his pre-election pledges, even if it is not the most important or most popular one. He will, however, be commended by two classes of persons, namely those who think it an unnecessary feature of a Lieutenant-Governor's office, and those who regard the office itself as obsolete. The economy to be achieved is negligible. Nevertheless the closing of Government-House will surely be a talking point at the next election. Ontario's singular Provincial Government seems to have the knack of getting the crowd excited over nothing, and hypnotized into indifference over real issues. — Sydney Post Record.

The modern Navy is increasingly what may be called "space-ward" in its tendency. It is certainly exemplified in the formation of a photographic training school at Whale Island. This summer with a camera, which has been the hobby of big game hunters in the hours of their leisure, the noble new for W. M. S. Excellent but not the less likely to serve and increase the complete efficiency of the Royal Navy.

That Body of Hours By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE OINTMENT PATCH TEST FOR TUBERCULOSIS

Since 1907 research workers in tuberculosis have been trying to get a skin or patch test for tuberculosis that would be easier on patient and physician than the present method of injecting old tuberculin. Dr. Ernest Wolff, San Francisco, in the American Journal of Diseases of Children, about three years ago reported his results with the use of the tuberculin ointment patch test in 800 cases. More recently, in the Journal of the American Medical Association Dr. Wolff and Dr. Samuel Hurwitz report 1000 new cases treated by this method; that is a total of 1800 cases.

In order that the true value of the test could be learned two ointments were vividly red in exactly the same manner, one ointment containing tubercle organisms and one without the organisms. The ointment is applied to the inner surface of the chest wall. The skin is cleansed with benzine or ether and dried. A pea-sized drop of the tuberculin ointment is applied on the right side and a similar sized drop of the control ointment (without tuberculin) is placed on the left side. Each of these drops is covered tightly with a one and a half inch square of ordinary adhesive plaster, which is removed in 48 hours.

Positive reaction (tuberculosis present in the patient) show up as follows: a weak test—light case of tuberculosis—shows a few single small papules or pimples of a pale rose color; a medium reaction consists of many vividly red pimples with redness of the surrounding skin, while a marked positive reaction shows the papules with redness and hardening of the whole surface of the skin covered by the patch; that is about one and a half inches square.

As this test is about 98 per cent correct as compared with the inspection of tuberculin method, it makes a very simple method of testing for tuberculosis. The ease and speed of application lend the test to general use in private practice and public health work. It overcomes the objection of the mental shock and pain by the use of the hypodermic needle. The ointment is comparatively easy to prepare, is relatively inexpensive, and has been found to retain its strength for at least four years.

The Poet's Corner IN APRIL

All the old Aprils pierce my heart tonight, I hear them sobbing, singing down at the gold blade of a da. fod. I Run through me like a flame. I hear the slight, Impalpable slow roots invoke the sod. Of bygone fields. Young leaves, tall flowering grass, Are golden in the valley. And I pass Caressed and smitten by a willow rod. The sharp blue shadows of a year of Spring Are stabbing me tonight. The twany Are of meadow-sweet, the splendid hush Of henlock boughs and birds that dare not sing. Shatter me with their silence. Ah! and soon I shall be utterly broken by a thrush. —Barbara Young.

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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.

WIDOWS' PENSION Sir—I see a lot about old age pensions and pension for the blind but I never see anything about the widows' pension. Our sister Province has widows' pension and I think something along that line would be a great thing to some young widows of P. E. I. I know some young widows with young children some in arms, running in age from one year to 15 and 16, and in some cases there are eight or ten or even twelve children all left with nothing but a morgaged farm and a few cattle. The oldest children must leave school and try to get work at small wages to help feed their younger brothers and sisters. The oldest boy if any will have to strive hard to make enough to pay interest and other expenses until he is 30 or 35 years old before he can ever think of getting married, and then he will have to bring his wife in with his mother which sometimes isn't always the best policy. His mother is there. She cannot post a letter without asking for a few pennies and very often broken down in health after such a hard struggle. Whereas if she had a little money coming in of her own she would be made so much more welcome and could have enough to buy something to work with and help her pass her weary hours. She wouldn't have to ask her poverty stricken son to provide her with money to work with. I think it could be managed very easily if all married women on P. E. I. would pay \$1.00 or 1.50 a year to go against this pension and all children up to 18 years pay a penny a week to go for their support until they are 18 years old. I know they spend a lot more than that on candy and it is not getting them anywhere. I think this collection could be easily made through the school secretary of each district and it would not be calling on the Government as they have a lot to pay now I hope Premier Campbell will see this and consider it before the condition of the orphaned children in P. E. I. has gone too far. I hope to hear from other widows on this subject. I am, Sir, etc. WIDOW WITH LARGE FAMILY Cardigan, P. E. I.

GOLDWYN QUIET SOUTHAMPTON, England—(CP)—Questioned whether he was investing one million sterling in British film industry Sam Goldwyn, the American movie magnate, said smiling: "silence is Goldwyn."

DUGOUTS FOR PARKS LONDON—(CP)—Bomb-proof shelters and trenches in parks of London are featured of a general scheme in case of war—in which the borough council would co-operate with the government.

SHOWING PRESENTS LONDON—(CP)—Among Coronation gifts from Dominions and colonies to the King and Queen, on show here, is a whale's tooth necklace from a Fiji chief.

LONDON—(CP)—Ernst H. R. Pownall who has been made director of military operations and intelligence has been promoted to major-general.

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The Non-Smoking Alliance (Manchester Guardian) The Pipe of Peace, it appears, is shunned (in more senses than one) by the men who menace the peace of the world. The heads of the Berlin-Rome alliance are both, in fact, non-smokers. Hitler, indeed detests tobacco so much that he cannot bear anybody near him smoking. In this too, he follows the apostolic path. Although a snuff-taker, Napoleon loathed tobacco and was revolted by the tobacco smoke of his pipe-puffing marshals. Ranged against the non-smoking dictators are the heavily smoked democratic statesmen. Mr Chamberlain, like the rest of his Cabinet, is fond of a smoke. M. Blum, the French Premier, is the cigarette-smoking chief of a Cabinet of cigarette-smokers. Far away in the White House Mr. Roosevelt puffs at his cigarette, and in the Kremlin Stalin smokes his curly pipe and hopes for peace. Pacific policies and tobacco apparently go together. In that happier, more hopeful are both M. Briand and Herr Stresemann were heavy smokers, as was Mr. Eden with his cigarette. But now that non-smoking dictators are in the saddle it seems the pipe of peace is shattered. Well might Robert Louis Stevenson confess he trusted no man who did not smoke!

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