THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (founded 1857) $5.00 per year (in advance) delivered. $4.50 per year (in advance) mailed in Canada and United States.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1925

THE SURPLUS MANIA

A mania for showing a surplus appears to be an exclusive characteristic of the Liberal party. If, by juggling and muddling figures, by addition or subtraction, here a little and there a little, a surplus can be figured out at the end of a fiscal year, the great aim of Liberalism seems to be attained and the party press and orators cackle over it during the remainder of the year. In our own province, not so long ago, we had an experience with this mania and we also had the rude awakening. In Ottawa last Wednesday we had another example. "We have a surplus" was the announcement flashed over the wires and every Liberal newspaper throughout the country placarded the great news in their largest capital letters on their front pages. And the mutual recriminations which have recently been exchanged between the Acting Finance Minister and his $15,000 Auditor General had, even before the budget was presented, given us a good idea that we were about to have a surplus and what kind of a surplus it was going to be.

Of one thing only in the federal budget and in the federal financial situation we are sure, that is, that the finances of Canada are in an exceedingly bad way and that the budget presented by the Acting Finance Minister was intended to deceive, not to enlighten the people.

Sir Henry Drayton, who is an experienced financier and who was finance Minister in the late government, declared in replying to the budget speech that instead of a surplus there was a deficit on the year's work of $16,000,000. Sir Henry also vigorously protested against what he termed "the practice of hiding debts and liabilities." No one, he said, could tell from the figures presented what the real addition to the country's debt had been and Mr. Robb, in attempting to show a prosperous condition of trade, had selected the right kind of statistics. That Mr. Robb had made a bold but transparent attempt to hide debts and liabilities is patent on the face of his speech and the criticism of his own Auditor General of the method of accounting in the finance department, shows very conclusively that the great aim of the department was to show a surplus and not the real condition of affairs at the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Robb, in his showing of a surplus and in the manner of its production, no doubt, acted under instructions, instructions dictated by a desire to make the best of a bad case. But what the people want is specific information as to the actual conditions. They do not want any "hiding of debts and liabilities" or juggling and muddling of figures. Mr. Robb who is only an Acting Minister of Finance has been obliged by the necessities of the party to reverse the fiscal policy of his chief, the Hon. Mr. Fielding who is still the official Minister but neither this reversal, this concession to the Progerssives, nor any misrepresentation to produce a fictitious surplus, will strengthen either him or his party. On the contrary; the confidence of the people, already undermined, has again been shaken. In the statistics presented by Mr. Robb the much acclaimed surplus cuts a sorry figure alongside of the known and admitted growing indebtedness of the country.

EDITORIAL NOTES

No cars on country roads till May 20th.

It is wonderful how well we get along without a City Marshal.

The Dominion Government announces its intention of strengthening the means it possesses for the prevention of smuggling. Wonder if this will include two revenue cutters to guard our coasts from rum runners.

The petition of the Legislature to the Governor-general in connection with the Fraser-Mitchell case should surely bear fruit. The powers-that-be at Ottawa cannot ignore such a constitutional means of seeking to remedy a wrong.

Australia has a sense of humour. It has sent a delegation to Ottawa to try and sell the Canadian Government five of the Australian government steamers because it cost Australia a loss of over a million dollars to operate the fleet in the past year!

Mr. W. L. Cotton's delightful reminescences of sixty years ago were greatly enjoyed at the Caledonian Club last evening, and their publication in today's issue will certainly be appreciated by the many thousands of Mr. Cotton's admirers throughout the Province.

The $30.000 spent last year in advertising for tourists by the Victoria & Island Publicity Bureau, B. C., resulted in an increase of more than 50 per cent. in the number of trippers who visited Victoria Island. It is estimated that these visitors spent $3.000,000 in "the playground of the Pacific Northwest."

Quebec has the cheapest power in Canada and Prince Edward Island the dearest, the average net reveune per kilowatt hour for all central electric stations having been, in 1923, as follows:

Quebec	.68 cents
Ontario	.72 cents
Yukon	.93 cents
Manitoba	1.06 cents
British Columbia	1.08 cents
Alberta	2.32 cents
New Brunswick	3.58 cents
Saskatchewan	4.43 cents
Nova Scotia	4.98 cents
Prince Edward Island	8.67 cents

Are we degenerating in our tastes and outlook on life? Is the sole purpose of our existence to make a living, be amused, then hurried under sod? These questions occur to one in connection with the seeming neglect of people, especially men, to dress to suit the occasion. Take funerals, for instance. We are becoming very careless in regard to the respect we show to the memory of the departed. Many of us go to a funeral with little or no preparation, put on our hats and coats, hasten to the bereaved home, hurry back to our work, regretting almost the time supposedly lost in paying our last respects. We should be prepared to make some little sacrifice out of regard for the departed, and why not begin by dressing a little differently from usual to mark the special occasion?

The matters in dispute between the Sydney miners and Besco are likely to be submitted to a commission of disinterested men "of admitted ability and integrity." We hope it will cost less than did a similar commission appointed in Toronto to decide what Toronto City Council should pay for its street railroad system, when the Toronto Railway Co's franchise expired. The accounts have just been submitted and the city finds it has to foot a bill for $697,111 for the commissioner's expenses. Prominent in these costs are following amounts—Sir Adam Beck, aribtrator, $45,250; Hume Cronyn, arbitrator $22,625; W. N. Tilley, counsel $76,250; A. C. McMaster, counsel, $54,125. Among the items for "experts' fees" is one of $129,000 for Jackson Moreland, engineering valuator.

No wonder European nations sometimes prefer war to arbitration.

Notes By The Way

The desirability of uniting the Canadian National and the Canadian Pacific Railways in one system has been to some extent discussed in Parliament and and in the newspapers. It is yet only an academic question and however desirable such a result might be there is at present no probability of it being brought about in the near future. In the eighties and nineties of last century an effort was made on behalf of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to acquire possession of the Intercolonial Railway and quite recently a more definite proposal was made by the C. P. R. to unite the management of the two systems on terms that could not be entertained by the government.

The Toronto Globe in a recent issue put forward the question in this form:

"Why should not the two systems pool their advantages for their own benefit and that of Canada? Why not cease wasteful competition and useless duplication and spend money on construction only where it is needed for development? The interests of the C. N. R. and the C. P. R. need not conflict. The bond between them is national service. They can prosper only as the country prospers and grows. A new era for Canada might dawn if the two Transcontinental systems were working heartily together for the common cause."

The Saint John Globe copies the above extract from its Toronto namesake, under the headline, "Good Advice." It is quite a lovely and pleasant suggestion that these two great railway systems should cease their wasteful competitions and duplications, co operate in rendering national service and work heartily for the common good of the country, but the suggestion is neither possible nor practicable while the C. N. R. is under its present control and guided by the policy that has directed its affairs during the past four years. Duplication has gone on and is going on and millions are being spent yearly on construction where it is not needed.

To build more and more railway mileage has been from its first day of power the determined policy of the King Government. Its ministers have been warned again and again by the railway magnate of their own choice and whom they placed at the head of the C. N. R. that its mileage is already overbuilt, far beyond the needs of our present population and ample for a population of twenty millions. They have been reminded of the notorious fact by scores of members of Parliament and Canadian newspapers.

They have been warned by railway deficits of alarming proportions piled up from year to year, but with the mad infatuation of the drunkard for his cups they have refused to heed any warnings and have gone on their reckless course of borrowing and spending to build more railways. Occasionally some Liberal journal makes a harmless and guarded criticism like that above quoted, feebly heard at all amid the chorus of Opposition protests, but all these have passed as unheeded as the whistling winds.

Ministers know full well that the gentle hints and suggestions of the Liberal Globes and Chronicles published today will be followed by love taps, caresses and flatteries tomorrow. And the country knows it all too well. There is a clear understanding between Ministers and their newspaper satellities that permits these seemingly erratic movements on the part of their press supporters. And not more assuredly does the moon revolve about the earth and shine upon it than does its obsequious press follow and circle about and support the government at Ottawa.

If like the waning moon they seem at times to withdraw their light, it is but for a time, only to wax brighter and brighter and shed their rays and their praise in full-orbed splendor upon the Government when these are needed. Hence it is always "full moon" in the Liberal press at election times, as it radiates admiration and adulation upon the Government in terms suggestive of political lunacy. As in the old song, "It's no matter what you do if your heart is "true," so the heart of the Liberal scribe is always true to the party Poll Parrot at Ottawa.

Punctuality too often proves the thief of time to punctual people. They arrive at a meeting, it may be even a devotional service at the appointed hour and are then compelled to wait and wait for the unpunctuals to come. They may have to sit and wait in silence for a quarter or even half an hour, wasting time that to them is valuable, in this way. This sort of thing seems to have become a confirmed bad habit in Charlottetown. The other day we heard a lady remark with distinct emphasis, **"The only meeting that always starts on time is the Movies. There the show always begins o nthe minute."** Truly a compliment to Manager Gallagher and his capable staff and also a perpetual lesson to the hundreds who are never on time for any-

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

CHILDREN'S HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

Many parents worry about the fact that their children seem small and underweight.

It is certainly wise on their part to pay this much attention to the growth and development of the child, but the big thing to remember is that there cannot be really accurate tables of measurement for any age, although they come fairly close to it.

However, in examining the boys in preparatory schools and at the University, where I found one below the average for height and weight I always asked the question, "Which of your parents do you resemble?"

In nearly every case I found that they resemble the parent that was the smaller, taking into consideration the natural differences in height and weight between men and women.

Where they resembled the latter or heavier one, I asked them to find out just what he or she was like at the same age as present age of the boy. The answer almost invariably came back—"father or mother says that at my age he was small and skinny, but that he began to grow and put on weight at a certain age, said age being somewhat older than the age of the present age of the boy."

Now the important thing in the whole matter is not just the height and weight of the boy, but all the other points that show the difference between health and ill health.

If the youngster likes to play outdoors every day, eats well, sleeps well, doesn't tire too easily, carries himself as if it were not an effort to do so, and takes a natural interest in everything about him the matter of the height and weight will take care of itself.

If in addition to being below normal in height and weight, he doesn't want to play, seems tired all the time, doesn't eat and sleep well, is "cranky," then he should be investigated.

Now there may be some underlying cause such as bad teeth, bad tonsils, adenoids, constipation, the changes of puberty, and so forth. If after he has been thoroughly investigated none of above are found, there is likely something wrong with what he eats, how he eats, or what happens to his food after he does eat.

While it is usually unwise to force food on a child that is not hungry, something should be done to make him hungry, such as plenty of the outdoors. Sometimes a little rest before and after meals will give digestion a real chance to get a good start.

The matter of rest, real rest in the nature of say ten hours sleep will make a big difference in putting flesh on this type of child.

Character Reading

Do You Like to Have Your Own Way?

When the first and third fingers are of the same length, their owners will be very fond of "getting their own way," and, if the fourth finger is short in comparison with the rest of the hand, it indicates that they have the power to obtain it.

Pointed finger-tips show the idealist and lover of music.

A large opening between the third and little finger shows independence of thought and originality of action.

If there is a wide distance between the thumb and the fingers it shows a happy-go-lucky, rather reckless nature. On the other hand if the thumb is set closely to the fingers it shows economy, but if it turns back from the centre joint only, it shows generosity.

When the little finger is very long it shows that its possessor will have the capacity for quiet, steady affection.

AT ROTARY

At the Rotary Luncheon yesterday, the speaker was Rotarian Dr. J. A. Allen, who gave a short review of some of the chapters which he intended to incorporate in a book on scientific fox ranching. He first spoke of the general principles of scientific breeding, and of the fundamental facts of biology bearing upon them. He then described how the animal body is built, tracing its growth and development from a single cell. He next discussed the Darwinian theory of evolution, declaring that Darwin was not the originator of the term "evolution," or the idea which it expresses, that long before he made his announcement of the theory of the natural selection the term was in use, and the concept fully appreciated by students of biological science. What Darwin did was to point out incontrovertible facts, and to suggest reasonable explanation for the changes and variations which be observed in living things. The Doctor gave a very interesting review of Darwin's observations, and then proceeded to consider these in relation to fox breeding.

He next took up the problem of heredity, referring to Galtons' Law, Merdel's Law, and the various experiments which have been made by the latter. He said that the relation of the law of heredity to fox breeding has not yet been fully determined.

The Doctor then referred to the common ancestry of the fox, and said that no doubt the variations in colour was the result of the provision which nature had made to adapt the animals to their environment. For example a black fox would have a hard struggle for existence in the Arctic regions where all the environment was of white color. The colour of a red fox naturally blends with the environment in his natural habitat.

Past District Governor Walter S. Grant presided.

The visitors present were Rotarian Roy Pidgeon, of Halifax, Manager of the Imperial Oil Company, and Alfred T. Eaton, Fruit Grower, of Nova Scotia.

The Chairman and Rotarian G.S. Inman, another Past District Governor, had been appointed a committee to revise the constitution and by-laws. Their report was submitted today, and was adopted. The committee were heartily thanked by the club.

The success of "Ladies' Night" was referred to, and on motion of Rotarian MacKee, seconded by Rotarian Col. MacKinnon, supported by President Rowe, a vote of thanks was extended the committee.

The Yarmouth District Conference was referred to, and a show of hands taken as to how many delegates proposed to attend.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

March 27, 1925

GOD IS LOVE:—Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. I John 4.7.

PRAYER:—O merciful God, may the love of God be shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit given unto us.

THE DAYS THAT ARE PAST

We will not deplore them, the days that are past;
The gloom of misfortune is over them cast;
They are lengthened by sorrow and sullied by care;
Their griefs were too many, their joys were too rare;
Yet, now that their shadows are on us no more,
Let us welcome the prospect that brightens before!

We have cherished fair hopes, we have plotted brave schemes,
We have lived till we find them illusive as dreams;
Wealth has melted like snow that is grasped in the hand,
And the steps we have climbed have departed like sand;
Yet, shall we despond while of health unbereft,
And honor, bright honor, and freedom are left!

O Shall we despond while the ages of time
Yet open before us their records sublime!
While ennobled by treasures more precious than gold
We can walk with the martyrs and heroes of old;
While humanity whispers such truths in the ear,
As it softens the heart like sweet music to hear?

O! shall we despond while, with the visions still free,
We can gaze on the sky, and the earth and the sea;
While the sunshine can waken a burst of delight,
And the stars are a joy and a glory by night;
While each harmony, running through nature, can raise
In our spirits the impulse of gladness and praise?

O! let us no longer then vainly lament
Over scenes that are faded and days that are spent;
But, by faith unforsaken, unawed by mischance,
On hope's waving banner still fixed be our glance;
And should fortune prove cruel and false to the last,
Let us look to the future and not to the past!

What Place Is This?

SIGNS SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO INFORM TRAVELLERS OF LOCAL ADVANTAGES

Very soon now the tourist traffic for 1925 season will commence. We should make things as interesting and attractive as possible for our visitors and also for the many travelling Canadians who are going to explore our highways and byways, says the Natural Resources Intelligence Service of the Department of the Interior.

How often when motoring into a cozily situated town or hamlet, we look around the various buildings for some indication of the name of the place. It is probably a very interesting spot to the passer-by and he might like to remember it particularly. No signs are in evidence anywhere except those advertising motor-car tires and patent medicines, and the interest aroused is apt to die for want of stimulation. There are many ways in which we might welcome our tourist friends and make them aware of our hospitality. Place-signs, prominently posted at the approaches of the villages, with a few concrete facts about the nature o fthe locality and its commercial and industrial possibilities will add greatly to the interest and enjoyment of the tourist and perhaps very materially to our country's development eventually. The wayside market is useful to the tourist, here he can purchase, direct from the farmer, dairy produce, fresh fruits and vegetables on the cash and carry system. What is better than a cool glass of buttermilk, too, on a hot thirsty drive! The lovely orchards by our roadsides could be converted into attractive open-air tea rooms, where plain but tempting refreshments could be served at small cost and ample profit by the women and children in their spare moments. Camping spots, where tents could be pitched for a night's sojourn might be provided, rustic tables and chairs with legs sunk in the ground, an open-air fireplace and a lean-to for a garage, make ample accommodation. The Edmonton Auto and Good Roads Association is making arrangements to place direction signs along the Edmonton-Cold Lake route in readiness for the season's tourist traffic. This road passes through a famous trout-fishing district which is visited yearly by large numbers of visitors from Chicago and the Eastern States. All towns along this route are being asked to assist in signing he main highway and the local organization is to do its share in view of the large amount of tourist traffic expected along the road during the 1925 season. There are many scenic spots, splendid lakes and fishing streams just off our beaten trails that could be admired by many a visitor if directed thither by a well placed sign. From coast to coast within our borders we possess unexcelled scenery and climate. Let us make the most of this, for ourselves and for our visitors.

The Natural Resources Intelligence Service will gladly supply maps and special information regarding touring conditions in any part of Canada to those who may be interested.

ISLAND MAKES SHOWING AT THE ROYAL WINTER FAIR

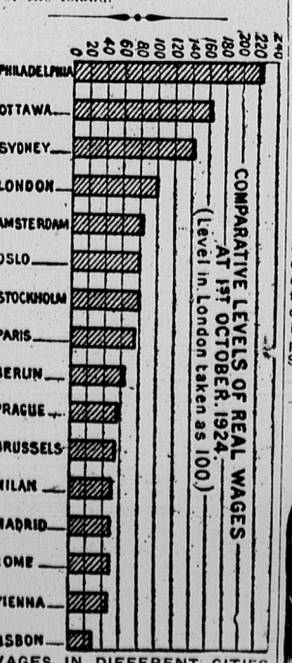
At a meeting of the Royal Winter Fair, held recently at Toronto the annual report submitted showed the Royal to be the largest show of its nature in the world, excelling even the National Show at Chicago or the Royal Show in London, England.

It is of more than passing interest to note that at this Fair Prince Edward Island was the third largest exhibitor—Ontario being first and Quebec second.

The Island also won first in the exhibit of creamery butter; first and other prizes for potatoes, several prizes in the cattle section and won practically all prizes in silver foxes.

In addition to this P. E. Island contributed financially the 5th largest contribution.

When it is considered that exhibits came from every province of Canada and practically every State of the United States, and that the Island had more than one half as many entries as all the United States, it is a matter of which all Islanders should justly feel proud. It not only encourages local exhibitors but is excellent advertising for the Island.



WAGES IN DIFFERENT CITIES OF WORLD

The above chart taken from the supplement to the Ministry of Labor Gazette (England), shows at a glance the comparative levels of "real" wages in thirteen European cities, one United States, one Canadian, and one Australian. The London workman is in a better position than any of the workmen in other European cities, but his earnings are strikingly less than those paid in Philadelphia, Ottawa, or Sydney.

R. C. MACDONALD APPOINTED CROWN LIFE SUPERINTENDENT

Well Known Halifax Man Takes Charge of Agencies for Maritimes

THE promotion of R. C. Macdonald, LL.B., of the Crown Life Insurance Company, to be Superintendent for the Maritime Provinces places a native of Halifax who is well known in Eastern Canadian business circles in charge of the Maritime business of this Company.

R. C. MACDONALD, LL.B.

Mr. Macdonald has for the past three years been District Agent for the Crown Life in Halifax, with offices in the Roy Building. He will in future have his headquarters in Moncton.

Mr. Macdonald is a graduate in Law of Dalhousie University. He received the degree of LL.B. in 1922, and was shortly afterwards called to the Nova Scotia Bar. During the winter of 1921-22 he was manager of the Dalhousie Hockey Team.

His Arts course at Dalhousie was interrupted by the outbreak of war. He served as lieutenant in the 63rd Regiment Halifax Rifles on duty at Lawlor's and McNab's Islands, and went overseas in 1916 with the first draft from the Halifax Rifles. He served in France as bombing officer of the 25th Battalion on the Somme and at Courcellette and later as adjutant of the 2nd Canadian Divisional School. On his return to Canada he served as Captain with the 1st Depot Battalion, Nova Scotia Regiment, engaged in training recruits called up under the Military Service Act. At present he holds the rank of Major in the 1st Battalion Halifax Rifles, being senior company commander.

Under Mr. Macdonald's administration, the Crown Life's business in the Halifax district has shown notable growth His promotion comes as a recognition of signal ability in his chosen sphere, and will be received with gratification by a wide circle of friends and business associates.

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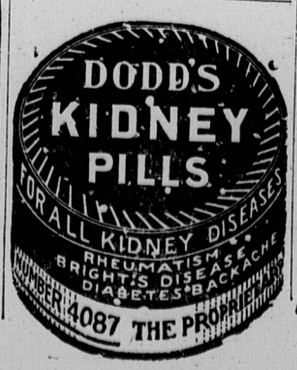

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