

The Charlottetown Guardian

President, Lieut.-Col. W. Chester B. McLure. Vice-President, J. H. Burnett, F. J. I. Secretary, Lieut.-Col. D. A. MacKinnon, B. S. O. Editor and Managing Director, J. H. Burnett, F. J. I. Associate Editors, Frank Walker and D. E. Currie. Morning Daily (founded 1887) \$4.00 per year (in advance) delivered in City. \$5.00 per year (in advance) mailed to Province. Island. \$4.50 per year (in advance) Mailed to Canada and United States. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1936

What Did Mr. King Mean?

The Canadian Press quotes Prime Minister KING as having said to the House of Commons:

"Up to the present time members of the Government have been unable to discover a number of commitments to which the country has been obligated. Every now and then we have felt that we have reached a point where we are aware of all outstanding obligations, but to our amazement every few days some new obligations come to the front and we find that in connection therewith the country has been committed to great expenditures."

In the Department of Finance there is a very able Deputy Minister. Also a Comptroller of the Treasury. Is Mr. KING suggesting that at any time or on any day since his coming into office these gentlemen could not have given him a completely accurate picture of the country's obligations? If so, then he is suggesting something which, to anybody with even elementary knowledge, seems impossible.

The implication of Mr. KING's words as he used them, was that the previous Government committed the country to expenditures about which nobody knew anything. That they were secret, or perhaps sinister.

What he must have meant, surely, was that only now, day by day, is his Government coming to realize the seriousness of the obligations it assumed.

Empire Vs. U. S. Trade

Figures of Canada's export trade for January, issued by Mr. EULER last week in Parliament, are an interesting study.

January saw operation of our new trade agreement with the United States. This month, therefore, affords a good basis of comparison of the respective merits of the United States and British markets.

What does the comparison show? It shows that while, in January, the United States was buying \$20,000,000 worth of goods from us, the United Kingdom was buying over \$21,000,000 worth. The United Kingdom alone. The whole of the British Empire bought much more than that.

The Canada-United States trade agreement included cattle. In January our sales of cattle to the United States were 9,445 head—a big gain over last January. On the other hand, our 1935 sales of cattle to the United States totalled 103,000 head, so that unless there be a considerable gain for the rest of the year, our position in this respect will not show any substantial change from what it was just prior to the agreement. Indeed, the quota provision in the agreement, applying to cattle, makes any great gain impossible.

In the matter of other natural products, our exports to the United States in January were lower in value than they were a year ago. Wheat dropped in volume from 565,000 bushels to 87,000 bushels. And this drop occurred in the month when Canada was selling abroad—mostly in the British market—more than \$6,000,000 worth of wheat, this as against about \$4,000,000 worth in January of last year.

With the Canada-United States trade agreement a month old, Britain still remains our best market, with the British Empire far and away our best market.

From these facts the Ottawa Journal concludes:

This coming Summer the Canada-United Kingdom trade agreement comes up for revision. Now it is an admitted fact that when the British delegates were in Ottawa negotiating the United Kingdom agreement, one of the things which influenced them (it was held over them skillfully and subtly) in yielding concessions was their thought of the United States. Always, like a shadow over them, was the belief that if they didn't make an agreement with us, or an agreement that we liked, the United States would be bad. And that, from their standpoint, would be bad.

The position has changed. Next July, when Mr. KING or Mr. KING's ministers arrive in London to revise the Canada-United Kingdom agreement, British statesmen will not be afraid of the United States. They won't need to be. On the contrary, they will be able to say—and they are pretty good bargainers—that our United States argument or weapon has become somewhat blunted.

In other words, our United States card as a trade bargaining thing, is no longer face down. It is turned up, for all to behold it, and the British may now say to us—they undoubtedly will say it to us—"Is that all?"

Britain's Mr. ELLIOTT and Mr. RUNCIMAN will know how to use their advantage. They will ask, and not unreasonably, "Is that all the United States will do for you?" And the question will be pretty potent in a bargain.

In the circumstances, and looking at the matter from a purely bargaining standpoint it might have been a lot better for Canada, so far as future negotiations with the United Kingdom may be concerned, if a trade agreement with the United States had been delayed.

With our neighbors to the south we should always want to trade—it is a geographical necessity—but our greatest market, incomparably, other country tending toward more difficult trade with the British nations is, for Canada, an unfortunate agreement.

Editorial Notes

This is Shrove Tuesday with its pancakes and all that sort of thing.

The election campaign in the Fourth District of Prince is going to be a short, and we hope a merry one.

As the sailor may say about the wind, so

may we say of peace and war, you can expect any kind of trouble out of the East.

Butter imports in January amounted to 8,965 pounds, of which 8,456 came from New Zealand and 509 from the United States. The value of the New Zealand product was \$1,814 and of the United States \$171.

The value of imports for Canadian industries from 1933 to 1935 increased 44.7 per cent. and from 1934 to 1935, 8.3 per cent. while the value of imports not for Canadian industries from 1933 to 1935 increased 32.8 per cent. and from 1934 to 1935, 6.4 per cent.

These imports amounted to 67,581 pounds, practically the same as a year ago. The largest quantity came from New Zealand, 19,128 pounds at \$1,881. There were 9,703 at \$3,032 from Switzerland, 8,060 pounds from Italy at \$1,052, 5,888 at \$1,588 from Argentina, \$5,763 at \$720 from Netherlands, with smaller quantities from the United Kingdom, United States, Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, France and Norway.

In Government Controlled Quebec the grocers are agitating to be allowed to sell alcohol by the bottle. In an appeal to the Government they argue that if a moral issue be raised, the grocery section of the Canadian Retail Merchants Association say "it was much better to sell alcoholic beverages by the bottle in groceries rather than tolerate their sale by the glass in a quantity of clubs, hotels, restaurants, etc. It was felt that if such a course were adopted by the law-makers it would do much to reduce bootlegging." So there you are.

The gist of the British Inter-ministerial secret report of 1934 on Ethiopia which was reproduced in *Giornale d'Italia* is that Britain has no particular interests in that country, and would be as well-off if not better with Italians in control. All that is essential is that Britain should secure territorial control over Lake Tana and an adequate corridor joining this lake with the Sudan, and also over other Nile tributaries. It was a confidential document, however, and some one has betrayed the Government in handing a copy to some one in Italy. Naturally the British Government and members of the House of Commons are worried over the matter, not so much about the disclosures, which are really favourable, but over the fact that spies are having access to British data.

Referring to gambling expedients to help hospitals and other charities the London *Specialist* says: "It is a bad argument for voluntary medical services that, to exist, they must share the proceeds of gambling with promoters, croupiers, and punters, and a worse argument for gambling that it flourishes by involving hospitals and charities in its own discredit. It has long been thought one of the advantages of the dependence of hospitals and medical services on voluntary contributions that such a system promoted charity as well as health. It appears now that it promotes gambling also; charity is scarcely the word for a percentage of the gains made at roulette or chemin-de-fer. Nor did the questions which engaged the attention of the court compel the conviction that the sole object of those who engaged in this charitable activity was the alleviation of pain and disease. Indeed, there appear to be more repellent diseases than those which lead to a hospital ward."

Part of the evidence in the Washington enquiry into the purchase of the Canadian Government steamer Margaret was not carried by the Canadian Press, and as it affects the credibility of the witness and the reputation of Canadian Government officials we think it only fair to give it here. It will be recalled that the two alleged grafters being examined were ZIMMERMAN, a ship's broker, and DE FIGUEROA, a Spanish agent representing Brazil revolutionists. ZIMMERMAN accused DE FIGUEROA of misappropriating \$20,000 of the graft, and at the same time alleged he himself had given a Canadian Government official \$1,000 merely to expedite the sale of the S. S. Margaret. Report follows: DE FIGUEROA offered an excited rebuttal, while ZIMMERMAN sat rocking with laughter. He sought to cast doubt on the ship broker's story by contesting dates and names. "He's a grafter," said DE FIGUEROA. "Didn't he say he bribed that Canadian fellow. I think he kept that \$1,000 himself." ZIMMERMAN's jovial assurance was lost for the first time. "Such a brazenness of lying is uncomprehensive to me," he said.

An analysis of the trade statistics of 1935 indicates that more than one-third of Canada's total imports comprise commodities for use in the various industries of the Dominion. The total value of the sixty-two commodities imported for Canadian industries in 1935 amounted to \$212,820,000, compared with a similar import in 1933 valued at \$147,071,000, and in 1934 at \$196,381,000; the increase in 1935 over 1933 amounting to \$65,749,000, or 44.7 per cent. and over 1934 to \$16,439,000, or 8.3 per cent. Eliminating from the total value of Canada's imports in 1933, 1934 and 1935, the total value of commodities imported for Canadian industries in those years, the total value of the imports of commodities not for Canadian industries in 1933 amounted to \$254,144,000, in 1934 to \$172,209,000, and in 1935 to \$337,494,000; the increase in the value of commodities not for Canadian industries in 1935 compared with 1933 amounting to \$83,350,000, or 32.8 per cent. and with 1934 to \$20,285,000, or 6.4 per cent.

LORD READING, former Viceroy of India, and outstanding lawyer and judge left \$1,450,000, of which \$365,000 has been paid in death dues. He was the personal friend and political adviser of Rt. Hon. D. LLOYD GEORGE who furthered his political career at every opportunity. Lord READING was an eminently successful barrister. He entered law in 1904 and in the same year embarked on his Parliamentary career. As a practitioner before the bar, his brilliance attracted considerable attention, and those who extended their patronage were among the greatest in the land. He appeared as chief counsel in a long series of famous trials for which he received enormous fees.

Notes By The Way

Stanley Baldwin, Prime Minister of Great Britain, was once in the dock of a police court. The Prime Minister mentioned this when he sat on the Stourport bench recently to make a presentation to Stanley Hemingway, who has retired from the office of magistrates' clerk. "I have had a pleasure which was never granted to you," he told Mr. Hemingway. "I have been in the dock during the time your father presided over this court. It was in the time when muzzling orders were about. I had a dog of a very inquisitive turn of mind, and it walked out of the gate to get the early morning air. Then it sat down on the grass verge to tear its muzzle off. Inspector Walker, passing by at the time, saw it was 'insufficiently cased' and it cost me ten shillings. (Laughter.) I often wish in this strange life which I pursue," added Mr. Baldwin, amid further laughter, "that muzzling orders were more common than they are."—London Observer.

It is useless to try to deal with people who base their claims on Historic Missions, Manifest Destinies, or the Glories of Imperial Rome, and dangerous to make concessions to such claims. Not until it is plain that peaceful negotiations offers the only prospect of concessions will it be wise to negotiate, or will claims be stated definitely and exhaustively; and it should be a condition of any concessions that those receiving them should join the collective organization of security.—Toronto University Quarterly.

The mayor of Hamilton says times have changed, and that people used to come at 8 in the evening and go home shortly after 10, while now they do not arrive until 10. For those who enjoy a good night's rest we submit the old plan has more merits than the new one. It is over-looked.—P. J. Berbro Examiner.

Eight German farmers of Rotherbach on the Dutch frontier, have been sentenced to five months imprisonment for making smugglers of their hens. The farmers, whose lands lay on the Dutch frontier, conceived the idea of feeding their hens in Holland, where fodder is cheaper than in Germany, and then driving them over the German frontier to lay their eggs in Germany, where eggs are dearer than in Holland. This ingenious means of making the best of both worlds was at last discovered by the customs authorities, but not before 2,000,000 eggs, according to the authorities' estimate, had been carried into Germany without payment of import duty.—London Times.

A rate war of North Atlantic steamship companies has been avoided by abolishing first-class accommodation altogether. This recalls the old notice on the dining-room tables: "In order to prevent guests from taking fruit from the tables to their rooms, no fruit will be put on the tables."—Mail and Empire.

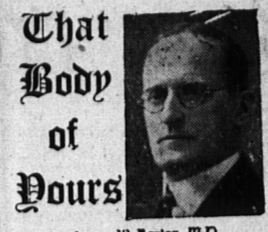
A correspondent of The London (Eng.) Times gives his version of the origin of the saying "wet your whistle." Among the fine collection of silver plate pieces in the Church of St. Andrew, Oxford, there is a tankard with a whistle in the handle. When it is empty all you have to do is to whistle for more.—Windsor Star.

It is no new thing for this country to be without a Prince of Wales. There was a gap of 21 years between the birth of George III and the birth of the late King Edward in 1841. A shorter interval occurred between the accession of George III in 1760 and the birth of his son two years later. But the longest hiatus ended with the change of dynasty in 1714, when George I created the first Prince of Wales ten days after landing. There seems to have been no Prince of Wales since Charles I came to the throne 89 years before; for there seems to be no record of Charles II having borne the title. The new hiatus may be a long one, for the next heirs to the throne are a brother and his two daughters.—London Observer.

With their bare fists men and women fought a lion in the dark for half an hour in a native hut near Nairobi, Tanganyika, recently. The beast was killed, a native has died from his wounds, and six others are in a hospital. The lion crept into the hut at dead of night. Screams followed as the man-eater started dragging a native through the doorway. The other occupants of the hut, men and women, flung themselves on the animal and beat it with their fists. A terrible battle was fought in the darkness. Eventually one of the natives snatched a blazing log from the fire and killed the intruder.—Ex.

Certainly the motorists of Ontario are bearing their full share of the burden of taxation. Suggestions of a nominal license fee and a reduction in the tax on gasoline were made by the Liberals when they were campaigning for office, but not a whisper has been heard about it since. In opposition the Liberals protested against motor car taxes going into the general revenues of the province, but this has been conveniently forgotten now that they are in office. It is conceivable that improved financial conditions will permit a reduction in taxation one of these days, but it seems only fair that the motorist, who has been carrying the heavy burden, should be one of the first to be accorded relief.—London Free Press.

Miss Babe Ruth, the New York Yankees are reported to have played to 350,000 fewer customers in 1935. This number, it is estimated, would have paid approximately \$100,000 at the gate. The Babe was reported to have had a salary of



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Yours

LACK OF THYROID JUICE CAUSES SYMPTOMS OTHER THAN OVERWEIGHT

It is now known to most of us that the juice of the thyroid gland in the neck regulates the rate at which the body processes work. Thus if there is too much juice the processes work faster, the individual is high strung and nervous, usually thin and very active mentally and physically. If there is not enough juice being manufactured the processes work more slowly, less heat is usually much overweight and is apt to be sluggish mentally, and physically.

Naturally if the youngster is very fat and apparently very lazy it is not difficult for a physician to decide that it is due to a lack of thyroid juice. However Dr. R. G. Hoskins, Boston, in the Journal of the American Medical Association, tells us that there may be a lack of thyroid juice but as the individual has not these outstanding symptoms extreme overweight, with lack of physical and mental development (dwarf) the thyroid gland may not be suspected of being the cause of symptoms that are not so marked as these.

"The picture consists of moderate or slight delay of growth, teething and development of the bones of the body; dry and brittle hair; poor nutrition; rough skin; constipation; emotional disturbances, disturbed sleep; flincky appetite; painful muscles and joints, and as an outstanding symptom, failure of proper diet methods to obtain results; anemia (thin blood); often weakness and weariness; skin eruptions, and a slight degree of forgetfulness, inattentiveness, and a lack of any leadership in the various activities of life."

"In infants, some unsuspected cases of vomiting, colic in the intestine and enlargement of the lower bowel—the large intestine, are due to this lack of thyroid juice."

If two or three of the symptoms mentioned above occur at the same time, the thyroid gland should be suspected.

Dr. Hoskins suggests that in suspected cases an X-ray of the bones of the hands and other tests should be made by which the lack of thyroid juice can be shown.

The Poet's Corner

Spilled downward from the tower-topped clock, from the gusty streets. Blowing across the shadowed docks where the dark voice of water meets

the hulls of ships, the hours fall softly by gulls upon the river-tide. Beneath the tall bridges, a tug cries and is gone.

And halted in our hearts there stands each instant of the early year; strange tenderness invades our hands; our vision of the earth grows clear, and tasting the hidden warmth in winds,

that toss the cool down-slanted wings, we wait with time-enchanted minds the sweetest of a million Springs.

—Frances Frost.

COUGARS ROAM AT LARGE

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE, Alta, Feb. 24.—(C.P.)—Cougars are not the fierce animals of the popular imagination. They are more peaceful than the meagre bounty, farmers state, does not repay them for time spent in tracking the animals.

R.C.M.P. ENTERS FOR LEGAL COURSE

SASKATOON, Feb. 24.—(C.P.)—Constable F. A. Lindsay has enrolled as a law student at the University of Saskatchewan in support of the theory of Sir James MacBrien that legal training will increase the efficiency of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Other constables have applied for entrance at Halifax, Saint John, Montreal and Edmonton Universities.

\$80,000. Simple arithmetic seems to indicate that the management of the Yankees did a poor stroke of business when it decided to get along without the services of Mr. Ruth.—Windsor Star.

"Taint what we have, But what we give; Taint what we are, But how we live; Taint what we do, But how we do it— That makes this life Worth gain' through it."

—The Log (U. S. Naval Academy.)

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.

ANTI-LIQUOR LAWS

Sir—I am sure that everyone interested in the liquor situation as it is today must feel that we are very much indebted to Mr. W. E. Bentley for the series of excellent and instructive letters he has recently published in the Guardian. It is a complete and masterly summing up of the progress of liquor legislation since its inception in 1873 up to the present time. Having so this would it not now in view of the present interest being displayed in the question be well to sum up the results obtained by the continued and extensive legislation.

In order to do this intelligently I think it would be well to go back with Mr. Bentley to the year 1873 and to quote from his letter dealing with the conditions prevailing at that time. It may be best to quote his letter at some length in order that readers may thoroughly understand and realize the progress that has been made under this legislation. I therefore quote Mr. Bentley's describing conditions in 1873. "Before 1873 there was no law in this Province prohibiting the sale of liquor, not even a license law. There were no restrictions upon the sale of liquor subject to any tax or duty. All was free. Free of taxes and free to sell, free of all restrictions. Any person might sell, might sell in any quantity, at any price, at any time of the day or night and at any price he could get for his product. Possibly there was some brew, more probably the imported article was so cheap and so pure that there was no need to make the 'bootleggers' for there was no law to violate; everything was legal. So far as the law was concerned there was none. Nary a tax, nary a duty, nary a bootlegger, and liquor cheap beyond bargaining and cheap and good. The pure liquor of the modernization. And still quoting Mr. Bentley, "In those halcyon days of the conditions of absence of legal restraint and of the existence of personal liberty and perfect freedom. Hear the tale of the legislature at its first session in 1873, Chapter 12.

"The practice of drinking rum, or other distillery spirituous liquors has become very prevalent and has become a very serious evil, especially among artificers, servants, labourers, soldiers and sailors, sojourning in and belonging to, this island; the constant and excessive use whereof tends greatly to the prejudice of their health, renders the duties of their respective occupations, debauches their morals and incites them to the practice of various other vices."

And now having carefully followed Mr. Bentley's excellent letter giving details of the continued and extensive legislation from 1873 up to the present time it is only to be expected that thinking and reasoning people will look at the results obtained by all this legislation and see how they compare with conditions as they were in 1873 when there was no restriction of any kind. To avoid any charge of exaggeration or of being in the charge of personal interest in the liquor interests I shall quote what should be an official authority. I quote from the brief recently presented by the Executive of the Temperance Federation. "Our observations lead us to the conclusion that strong drink is becoming more and more consumed in much greater quantities than a few years ago. On all hands there are evidences of increasing indulgence, particularly among young people. 'Bootlegging' from being an occasional violation of the law has become a great industry, in fact too many cases undisturbed by the officers of the law. 'As is ever the case where there is excessive use of strong drink immoral living flourishes and that evil and unsocial conditions that attend the consumption of liquor are becoming more and more prevalent. In the 'At the Government Hospital for Mental Diseases the physician in charge has attributed the rapid increase in male patients to be in excess of alcoholicism. 'In our Court it is, too often, the case that the evidence offered savors of perjury. 'We are of the opinion that the situation which we bring before you is one which has grown before you is one which has grown and is growing steadily worse. And quoting from another official source as to present day conditions, from the Kensington address of the Educational Secretary of the Temperance Alliance: 'A great smuggling and bootlegging industry exists in this Province. Summerville alone has thirty illicit 'joints,' eight of which he knows personally to be doing business as openly and as well equipped as any retail store."

So there you have the picture. The description of conditions in 1873 when liquor was absolutely unrestricted, no laws regulating its sale and consequently, no law enforcement officers, and the official statement as to conditions as they are in 1936 after one hundred and sixty three years of legislation seeking to stop drinking altogether, with the existence of the greatest law enforcement machine the Province has ever known. With a law which new teeth have been added by every government in power during the last 35 years until today, a law enforcement officer has more power under the Prohibition law than he has under any laws pertaining to any other crime except murder.

We have a force of about 30 R.C.M.P. who have at their disposal all the fast automobiles they require, two sea planes in the summer, fast motor boats for inshore work, deep sea armed cruisers for outside or off shore work. And let me add a little to present day conditions that the Temperance Federation

has overlooked. Not so very long ago we had the thirteenth death in three years directly caused by drinking back liquor or by violence during drunken revels. A few weeks ago the foreman of the Grand Jury of Queens County, when he visited the Jail we found 26 prisoners confined there for violation of different sections of the Prohibition Act, nine of them women. They were all snoring and locking them up and out the slightest effect. It did not close a single eye for each one left someone at home to carry on.

So there you have the picture, no exaggerations, no misrepresentations, just the plain unvarnished facts. The official statement as to conditions in 1873 when there was no law to be "nary a drink."

And we have many of the very best, the most moral people of the Province, supporting this law and asking that it be retained on the statute books. I think we have the strong organized liquor interests of this Province asking for the same thing, they even going so far as to enter this discussion in the press and present arguments in favor of retaining the Prohibition Law. Why shouldn't they? And should we who are asking that something be done towards making some improvement in these terrible conditions be classed as antagonists to the cause of Temperance and good Government? In December I published a letter in the *Guardian* in which I said "Prohibition or what have you" and as I said in that letter "That's the rub, what can we do about it?" Surely the Government of the day must see that the people are aroused as never before over the terrible conditions existing here at present and that it is not necessary to some extent about it at once. It is not an easy job.

In a former letter I suggested that the Government call together say half a dozen men and women from the Temperance and Federation or other recognized bodies supporting the Prohibition Law. I suggested that they should be asked to do some work towards making some improvement in these terrible conditions be classed as antagonists to the cause of Temperance and good Government? In December I published a letter in the *Guardian* in which I said "Prohibition or what have you" and as I said in that letter "That's the rub, what can we do about it?" Surely the Government of the day must see that the people are aroused as never before over the terrible conditions existing here at present and that it is not necessary to some extent about it at once. It is not an easy job.

It is all very well and good to raise our minds above our surroundings, but, in the case of those copious writers, it has made a constructive suggestion, or explained how any local government, whatever its political creed, can possibly in the year of grace 1936, find about \$30,000 annually, I'm rightly informed, for the purpose of taking over this institution, however much that government may desire to do so. Is not this government, like its predecessor, grappling with the poverty problem, arising from unemployment, one of the few, who seem to be unaware that this, at the present time, is our most urgent problem? Is he unaware, that during these very weeks, some needy people have had to forego, with regret, the assistance they had received for a while?

Now, Sir, all this literary eloquence, not only fights shy of all that, but, it fights shy also, of mentioning why the people who receive these benefits, are not better off. I suggest that these writers, and find some scheme of their own for the time being, at least. One writer, stated, that there were about one thousand members on the list of his particular branch, and he seemed to favor of government assistance. Great Jeosophat! Is not that just a big reason, why they could well support their own branch, and more? No, but, something "for nothing."

The question of the Borden correspondent of one of the few, who seem to be unaware that this, at the present time, is our most urgent problem? Is he unaware, that during these very weeks, some needy people have had to forego, with regret, the assistance they had received for a while?

Now, Sir, all this literary eloquence, not only fights shy of all that, but, it fights shy also, of mentioning why the people who receive these benefits, are not better off. I suggest that these writers, and find some scheme of their own for the time being, at least. One writer, stated, that there were about one thousand members on the list of his particular branch, and he seemed to favor of government assistance. Great Jeosophat! Is not that just a big reason, why they could well support their own branch, and more? No, but, something "for nothing."

The question of the Borden correspondent of one of the few, who seem to be unaware that this, at the present time, is our most urgent problem? Is he unaware, that during these very weeks, some needy people have had to forego, with regret, the assistance they had received for a while?

some, among our population, in P. E. I. who are in "good circumstances," even in rural districts, and, if they are among the multitude who claim receiving the benefits of the respective branches, will they not assist in finishing some scheme, by which the proceeds of a vote may contribute a "little more" to make up for the "little less" of those in poverty? That, after all, is the "acid test" of sincerity, when we commit ourselves so much, in writing of the blessings received, over and over again. "Ad lib."

Why is it, Sir, that no one has yet replied to the question of a writer who suggested, that a full inquiry be made, into the affairs of each branch, and that, in view of what ways and means, they have been kept going until now, and discover, what is the average amount per member contributed voluntarily towards the expenses, by those whom your correspondent, calls "prosperous." That much, in any case, is essential as a start.

And once again, this question of numbers. How many of the signatories of these petitions of what we hear, are simply "kiddies," who have no idea of the significance of what they place their names to?

There are other questions also which need to be asked and answered, but, for this time, I have taken too much of your valuable space already.

Probably the government know its business best, or, so, we would imagine, but, as petitions sometimes do not amount to much, it may be better, for the government, for its health, to take a vote on the question, on this question, before it makes any move at all.

This is not a party issue. And, it may be in order also, to remind some of your scribblers, that those of us who, by facing circumstances as they are, and that as we would like them to be, that we are as great in our appreciation of the privileges referred to as they are, and quite as familiar with books. But facts are facts, and, those things mentioned cannot be ignored. As for some of the suggestions of your Borden correspondent, there is this much to be said; that libraries, or no libraries, unless our churches wake up, and function spiritually, determined by the power of God to throw our sympathy, the matter he refers to, will never be settled. It is truer than that. The masses he touches upon, are more spiritual than intellectual, so it is not a question of seeing libraries. This opens up a large subject, however, and may be dealt with later.

I am, Sir, etc.

W. K. ROGERS

CARNEGIE LIBRARIES

Sir—I've been rummaging through after looking over that whole page of letters in Saturday's *Guardian* have naturally concluded that a lot of people on Prince Edward Island in January and Feb. 1936 haven't much more to do than throw their names in the lawyer's hat and the ministers seem put to it to fill in their day.

And then on Saturday evening I was reading a paper called the *Financial Post*, from Toronto, which told how the farmers of Prince Edward Island are now helping to pay the doctors in Montreal for tending on the people there who are on relief; and paying the big electric light company houses for electricity to the same. And what seemed to me to be even more queer that they had decided to pay the landlords in Montreal a bit higher rent for the houses that were occupied by the unemployed in Montreal.

It seemed to me funny that there wasn't anything in the whole page of letters in the *Guardian*

(Continued on Page 7)

some, among our population, in P. E. I. who are in "good circumstances," even in rural districts, and, if they are among the multitude who claim receiving the benefits of the respective branches, will they not assist in finishing some scheme, by which the proceeds of a vote may contribute a "little more" to make up for the "little less" of those in poverty? That, after all, is the "acid test" of sincerity, when we commit ourselves so much, in writing of the blessings received, over and over again. "Ad lib."

Why is it, Sir, that no one has yet replied to the question of a writer who suggested, that a full inquiry be made, into the affairs of each branch, and that, in view of what ways and means, they have been kept going until now, and discover, what is the average amount per member contributed voluntarily towards the expenses, by those whom your correspondent, calls "prosperous." That much, in any case, is essential as a start.

And once again, this question of numbers. How many of the signatories of these petitions of what we hear, are simply "kiddies," who have no idea of the significance of what they place their names to?

There are other questions also which need to be asked and answered, but, for this time, I have taken too much of your valuable space already.

Probably the government know its business best, or, so, we would imagine, but, as petitions sometimes do not amount to much, it may be better, for the government, for its health, to take a vote on the question, on this question, before it makes any move at all.

This is not a party issue. And, it may be in order also, to remind some of your scribblers, that those of us who, by facing circumstances as they are, and that as we would like them to be, that we are as great in our appreciation of the privileges referred to as they are, and quite as familiar with books. But facts are facts, and, those things mentioned cannot be ignored. As for some of the suggestions of your Borden correspondent, there is this much to be said; that libraries, or no libraries, unless our churches wake up, and function spiritually, determined by the power of God to throw our sympathy, the matter he refers to, will never be settled. It is truer than that. The masses he touches upon, are more spiritual than intellectual, so it is not a question of seeing libraries. This opens up a large subject, however, and may be dealt with later.

I am, Sir, etc.

W. K. ROGERS

CARNEGIE LIBRARIES

Sir—I've been rummaging through after looking over that whole page of letters in Saturday's *Guardian* have naturally concluded that a lot of people on Prince Edward Island in January and Feb. 1936 haven't much more to do than throw their names in the lawyer's hat and the ministers seem put to it to fill in their day.

And then on Saturday evening I was reading a paper called the *Financial Post*, from Toronto, which told how the farmers of Prince Edward Island are now helping to pay the doctors in Montreal for tending on the people there who are on relief; and paying the big electric light company houses for electricity to the same. And what seemed to me to be even more queer that they had decided to pay the landlords in Montreal a bit higher rent for the houses