

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1925

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

The announcement was recently made that Hon. Josiah Wood, Senator and ex-Governor of New Brunswick, had donated the sum of \$14,800 to be placed in the hands of the Board of Regents of Mount Allison University to provide a lectureship on "The Duties and Advantages of Citizenship." The Senator, in making the bequest, said: "As one grows older there is a tendency to look back on the early days and to consider them in comparison much better than the present, but even the optimistic will admit that spiritual and moral progress has not kept pace with material advancement. The aim of the lectureship, which is to be continuous with a regular series of lectures year after year, is to arrest, if possible, this drift from the religious and moral habits of the older days. The Senator deplores the daily record of crime and immorality. "In business" he declares "profit is the first consideration and by it rather than by the moral character of the transaction is success estimated. The condition deplored by Senator Wood has been freely commented upon and as openly deplored by good men and women elsewhere than in New Brunswick and it is openly admitted that the business, social and religious world is going a pace downward which if unchecked must inevitably lead to disaster. It is a significant fact that many of the leading magazines are devoting thoughtful and serious articles to the present status of christianity with doubts freely expressed as to its ability to hold its own against the modern drift. It is known that modern intellectualism is at present in revolt against the religious standards of half a century ago and earlier and the place of the standards is not being filled. A recent writer said, "A civilization to be healthy and significant must be going somewhere. A nation, like an individual man must look forward or, to all intents and appearances, it ceases to live. The tragedy of our century is loss of faith not in God but in man. Humanity is in desperate need of a new synthesis which will give meaning to life." Civilization at present is "going somewhere," but in the direction of materialism and pleasure. And life has or ought to have a higher goal than these. The Wall Street Journal of New York is the official organ voicing the things vital to finance. Occasionally it takes a glance at the things that are more vital than finance and big business. In a recent issue it has this to say: "What America needs more than railway extension, and Western irrigation, and a low tariff, and a bigger wheat crop, and a merchant marine, and a new navy, is a revival of piety, the kind mother and father used to have—a piety that counted it good business to stop for family prayer before breakfast, right in the middle of harvest, that quit field work half an hour earlier Thursday night, so as to get the chores done and go to prayer meeting. "That's what we need now to clean this country of graft, and greed, petty and big; of worship of fine houses and big lands and high office and grand social functions. "What is this thing we worship but a vain repetition of what decayed nations fell down and worshipped just before the lights went out? Read the history of Rome in decay and you will find luxury there that could lay a big dollar over our little doughnuts that look so big to us.

nation substantial or honorable. There is nothing on earth that looks good that is so dangerous for a man or a nation to handle as quick, big easy money. "If you do resist its deadly influences the chances are that it will get your son. It takes greater and finer heroism to dare to be poor in America than to charge an earth-work in Manchuria." And what is true of the United States is equally true of Canada—equally true of Prince Edward Island. A new and significant phase of the modern pace is indicated by a new traffic regulation just enacted by the legislature of Rhode Island. It is enacted that "motorists will be required to travel thirty-five miles an hour on heavily travelled traffic arteries or get off the road." It is rarely that custom becomes so readily crystallized into law as in this case. The recognized custom heretofore has been to set one's pace to the limit of his own capacity, avoid being run over as best he could and not run into anyone else if it could be avoided. Now he must keep up with the pace set by others—or get off the road. He must not interrupt the traffic. He is no longer a solitary traveller on the highway; he is part of a procession and the procession has the right of way. If he cant keep up, he must get off the road. He is no longer permitted the slow man's privilege of being run over; that would take up the time of the procession and the procession cant wait. The modern pace has become an institution, not only on our physical highways but in commerce, industry, in education, even in religion. The restraints which in former days prevented undue and dangerous speed are being removed and the speed fiends now set the pace. Those who cannot keep up with the pace must get off the road; we have no time to pick up the remains and we cannot run the risk of injuring the machine. Whether we shall arise or end in a smash up remains to be seen.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It still rains occasionally, sometimes oftener, and it keeps delightfully cool.

Everybody is talking about the weather but no one seems to be doing anything about it. It was ever thus.

Those who do not like the present Prince Edward Island weather still have "Ole Bills" privilege; if they know of a little "ole let them go to it. So far as we can learn no other part of Canada or the United States has anything on Prince Edward Island.

While serious accidents on our streets have fortunately been avoided so far this season it is not because all the traffic regulations have been scrupulously observed. We still have the full headlights, still have the speed fiends who go at full speed around corners. A few examples now might avert accidents later on.

Senatorial vacancies are a mine of wealth to the Mackenzie King government. There are nine vacancies and there are about 20 more good men and true ready to fill them. Each of the eligibles has a senatorship in his pocket and while it is there the prospective senator will stand true to his party.

What a time we shall have when the 19 wake up some fine morning

Notes By The Way

There are now nine vacancies in the Senate and an Ottawa despatch tells that the health of several Senators is so precarious that it will not be surprising if the number of new appointments to the Red Chamber should reach a full dozen before the general election will be called. Sitting members of the Commons always think they have a claim to these plums and at present every one of the Senate seats is being demanded by a Commoner.

Increasing pressure is being made upon Premier King, we are told by his supporters who are seeking these life appointments and he streets has been intensified among members representing Maritime electoral divisions in the Commons, since the Nova Scotian election came off. It is now stated that these appointments are not likely to be made until the Dominion election is close at hand, and when they are announced it may be taken for granted that a dissolution of Parliament will quickly follow.

It is understood that the Quebec Liberal members favor an early appeal to the country on the ground that their chances of re-election are by no means likely to improve and may become less by waiting another year. At least three Cabinet Ministers from Quebec, Hon. Messrs. Murphy, Bureau and Senécal are expected to go to the Senate. Hon. Messrs. Copp and E. M. McDonald are understood to be expectant of Judgeships and there are others—so that an extensive reconstruction of the Government may probably take place.

Reconstruction will be a difficult task partly because of the scarcity of cabinet timber for whom sufficient popular support can be found. And so many constituencies that returned Liberals or Progressives to Parliament in 1921 have since reversed their verdict by sweeping majorities in local elections in Ontario and the Maritimes that along with the number of Liberals who are seeking shelter from the coming storm the Premier's task is rendered doubly hard. And it will take time.

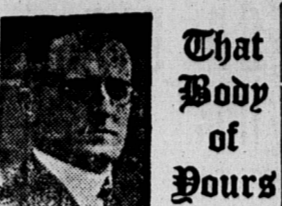
There is continued speculation as to whether the federal election will come this year. There is so much to be done before the Government can get ready to face the people that no decision upon the date is likely to be reached until the provincial election in New Brunswick is held. An adverse decision by the people there would mean another session for the Dominion Parliament almost inevitably. That conviction is now general and it is not likely to help the Veniot Government.

Everything is at sixes and sevens in politics at Ottawa. A member of the Commons who supports the government cannot always get a Senatorship even if he has strong political claims and the vacancy occurs in his own riding. He may be wanted by the Government to run again because there is no one else available who would have any chance of winning the Commons seat. And again if the Senate vacancies are kept open till the eve of a general election "they can be used as profitable baits for the extraction of campaign funds from wealthy aspirants".

The eyes of the politicians as well as those of farmers and speculators are on the crops and especially upon the wheat fields of the west. The early promise was more cheering than any sent out in recent years. Abundant moisture was reported and confident predictions were made of a record-breaking yield of 500,000,000 bushels. Later many were surprised to read an official estimate of 350,000,000 or 124,000,000 less than the crop of 1923. Still more recently the views come that while general conditions are satisfactory, rain is needed in both Saskatchewan and Alberta to fill out the heads of the growing wheat.

The two provinces named are the largest producers of wheat in Canada and much depends upon them in making up the grand total of the year's harvest. Most unfortunately in the month before cutting begins the bulls and bears of the market place begin their operations and send out such contradictory reports that it becomes very difficult for the ordinary reader to know what to believe. Wheat gambling is most reprehensible but no reliable preventive or remedy for it has yet been found.

Hydro-electric development from only an urgent immediate need



James W. Barton, M.D.

THE OTHER FELLOW.

A New York taxi driver carried me between stations at a rapid rate. He was fully in handling his car and avoiding collisions excited my admiration. After swinging out to avoid a driver who was driving in an aimless fashion he remarked, "There isn't anything in the driving of a car. You can be as careful as you can, but just the same you are at the mercy of any and every driver on the road. Most of them are careful and are doing their best, but the careless one, the selfish one, and the thoughtless one, can all cause a lot of trouble and tie up the traffic."

And I just thought how that really typifies most people today in regard to their own and the public health.

Fortunately most people are careful about their own health, and think about the "other fellow." However there is the careless one who never gives a thought. Attacked by an ailment that carries with it some coughing and sneezing, he goes blithely on his way, indifferent to the possibility of infecting his ailment on others. Then there is the selfish person, perhaps a great mother who has the care of a child who is suffering with whooping cough. In a desire to vary things for herself and the youngster, she takes him to a picture show, and despite her efforts the youngster begins to cough, and the tell-tale whoop announces itself to everybody. Sometimes this is thoughtlessness, but oftentimes it is selfishness, because youngsters do not "leave to have whooping cough, diphtheria or any of the childish ailments."

Our public health organizations have justified the value of their "rules" a thousand times over. They have still lots to learn of the right to vote. The result to admit it, but a thoughtful person will admit that they have made this a safer place in which to live. Think of the taxi driver, and remember that everybody has to be careful to make things safe for all.

Character Reading

A Memory for Dates

A suggestion of fulness in the centre of the forehead immediately above the nose is generally regarded as evidence of a powerful personality. When the fulness is appreciable nearer the brain than the nose, which you will find the subject possesses an excellent memory, particularly as regards dates and facts. Someone has said that the face is the epitome of the body—a canvas on which the last life and feelings are visibly portrayed, and just as joy and hope illumine the plainest features, and make them almost beautiful at times, so sadness plunges deep furrows on the face, and makes it look long and cadaverous. Love mellows the features in a wonderful and transfiguring fashion, while selfishness hardens, meanness contracts, and disappointment ruffles.

Daily Selections

FOR Guardian Readers

July 8, 1925

THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT: Thou shalt not commit adultery. Exodus 20:14.

PRAYER:—Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew within us right spirits.

A DAY WORSE THAN LAST

If you sit down at set of sun And count the acts that you have done, And counting, find One self-denying deed, one word, That ead d the heart of him that hears, One glance most kind, That fell like sunshine where it went— Then you may count that day well spent. But if through all the living day, You've cheered no heart, by yea or nay— If through it all You've nothing done that you can trace, That brought the sunshine to some face— No act most small That helped some soul and nothing Then count that day as worse than last.

Brunswick. At this distance it looks a very risky business for a province whose debt has been doubled within a few years and is now about \$33,000,000 to borrow and spend nine millions more on a water power in the back lands, distant from any populous towns, and dependent for the sale of the product to industries yet to be created.

Chapters In Our Island Story

(W. L. Cotton)

THE THIRD CHAPTER — THE STRUGGLE FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

Before the year 1850. Responsible Government had been conceded to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Canada, the latter comprising parts of the Province now known as Ontario and Quebec; and before that year, Responsible Government had been demanded for Prince Edward Island. Fresh from the struggle for Responsible Government in Nova Scotia, Edward Wheelwright arrived here in the year 1843. Encouraged by the Liberal Party, of which George Coles was then one of the leading spirits, he soon after began the publication of a journal named "The Palladium" and an agitation for recognition of the peoples civil, political and religious rights. Among these rights was that of Responsible Government to the people for its acts. To the extension of this right there was a strong opposition. Men appointed by the government of the Mother Country to rule the Island could not see any need for the change proposed. The influences of the landed proprietors, their agents, and their relatives and friends, were all arrayed against the movement; for if it should prove to be successful their friends at court, in England would intercede for them with greatly lessened power. Many persons could see no good reason why, in a colony so small as Prince Edward Island, the people should be permitted to govern themselves, as in other and larger communities. The wealthy and social circles of the colony were opposed to the idea of placing the government in a position of responsibility to the common people of the country. But in spite of all opposing influences, the struggle for Responsible Government was maintained. Throughout a series of years the promoters of the movement increased in numbers and in strength. An election of Members of the House of Assembly was held early in the year 1850. Advantage was taken of this opportunity to submit the question to those who then possessed the right to vote. The result was that of the twenty-four members who at that time comprised the Assembly, eighteen of those elected were favorable to the introduction of Responsible Government.

The Legislature was called for the despatch of business on the 5th of March 1850. On the eighth of the same month the House of Assembly adopted an amendment to the original resolution, which was that of the twenty-four members who at that time comprised the Assembly, eighteen of those elected were favorable to the introduction of Responsible Government.

The resolutions of the Assembly, here set forth in part, were followed by the passage, on the 23rd of March, of an address to the Queen. In the address there were re-stated the principal reasons why supplies for the public service had been refused. It was further stated that the people's representatives in the Legislature had no confidence in Her Majesty's Executive Council, because that Executive Council is composed of gentlemen whose political principles are believed to be inimical to the advancement of the Island's prosperity; because several departments of Government under their control have in several instances been grossly mismanaged; because it has been their policy to perpetuate a system of patronage, by dispensing with the services of the Crown among their own immediate dependents and relatives; the manifest dissatisfaction of the great majority of Your Majesty's subjects in this colony; because offices of confidence have been sold under the irresponsible system of Government which it has been the policy of the Executive Council to perpetuate; because the resources of the Colony have not been judiciously expended in developing its resources and encouraging industry; but rather too often squandered in speculation and extravagance; 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