

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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President Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McClure
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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

Island Rates Unchanged

Increasing frequency and cost of automobile accidents in Canada as evidenced by year-end statistics for 1937, says Canadian Underwriters, has brought about increases in public liability insurance in virtually all parts of the Dominion, and it increases in coverage in certain districts.

Abuse of the facilities for speeding on modern paved roads no doubt accounts for the increasing frequency of accidents and the corresponding jump in car insurance rates recorded in the other provinces. This should be an additional inducement to motorists in this Province to keep the accident rate as low as possible.

We are fortunate in having escaped last year with comparatively few accidents, but there is still room for improvement. As we develop our paved highway system, the need will increase for greater care and vigilance on the part of our motorists, and also of those charged with the enforcement of our traffic laws.

Who "Suggested" It?

"Almost for the first time within the memory of living man," says the Halifax Chronicle, "that old Central Canada will-o'-the-wisp, Maritime Union, was given a semblance of official status in Halifax when out of a clear sky the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial relations asked for a formal expression of opinion on the subject by the Nova Scotia government."

The question was put by Chairman Rowell, who leaned forward in his seat and addressed the provincial representatives facing him: "It has been suggested to us that the problems of provincial finance with which we have been dealing here and in the west could be greatly relieved by the union of the Maritime Provinces and the three prairie provinces."

It would be interesting to know who "suggested" this academic subject to the Commission, which Chairman Rowell brought up in practically the same words at the very first sitting of the Commission at Winnipeg. Whatever the Western Provinces may think of the proposal, it finds no support in the Maritimes. The efforts of the Commission to resurrect this long-dead issue might surely be better directed into other channels. A few years ago, the leaders of the three Maritime governments, meeting at Ottawa for a Dominion-Provincial conference, emphatically declared that there was not the slightest possibility of Maritime Union being considered. Yet there are interests in Central Canada which seem bent on forcing us into such a scheme, and no opportunity is let slip of "educating" us as to the alleged economies it would effect.

The subject, of course, has nothing to do with Dominion-Provincial relations. As the Duncan Commission reported in 1926: "The subject of Maritime Union is one which we do not feel falls strictly without our Terms of Reference, as it is a matter for the provinces themselves to pronounce upon. Their 'separateness' is not, in any sense, an incident of Confederation or a circumstance arising out of Dominion policy or relationship." The Duncan Commission went on to say, however: "We feel bound to express the view that, so far as saving in overhead expenses is concerned, we are not seriously impressed with the argument that any financial saving which would arise could materially affect the present condition of their finances, even if Maritime Union would produce the other advantages which it is alleged would result."

West Indies Viewpoint

The King Government is being urged to implement the assurance which was implied, if not specifically given, by Liberal campaigners in 1935 with regard to obtaining freer entry into Cuba for Maritime potatoes. The Liberal contention at that time, that only the Bennett tariffs stood in the way, has been fully disproved by the inability of the present Government, after three years in office, to make any headway in negotiating with Cuba; the simple reason being that the West Indies agreement, negotiated by the first King Government, has all along been the drawback. Now that this agreement is due to expire, the West Indies, which received the lion's share of the advantages, are naturally anxious for its renewal. An article in the January issue of the Canada-West Indies Magazine seeks to show that Canada would be making a mistake by taking any action calculated to "restrict the free development of the relations between the Dominion and her Empire copartners the West Indies for a trade relationship (with Cuba) the benefits of which are almost entirely problematical."

"We fully sympathize," says our West Indies contemporary, "with the desire of the Maritime Provinces to extend their markets for fish and potatoes but we question seriously whether his optimism of the Cuban market is justifiable. In the case of dried fish for instance, the Assistant Canadian Trade Commissioner in

Cuba pointed out not long ago that the main reason why Canada was not shipping codfish through the port of Havana was that the consumers in this large western territory of the Island demand their fish cured in a particular way, the preparation for which according to the report requires, in the case of codfish, that the product be white in colour, without head bones and inside-lining and thoroughly dry cured to withstand the humid climate and heat. With this knowledge of the requirements before them it seems almost safe to conclude there is some unsurmountable difficulty which prevents the Nova Scotia fish exporters from producing a dried codfish similar to that of Norway as required by this larger market of Western Cuba. Even its most severe critics will be fair enough to agree it is not the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement which stands in the way or is adversely affecting the sale of Nova Scotia codfish to Cuba.

"Turning to the case of potatoes, it is again common knowledge and has been commented on in official reports of commercial intelligence officers that Cuba in recent years has built up a large potato industry of her own, mainly grown from seed potatoes supplied from the Maritime Provinces. Indeed, Cuba now grows 80% of her domestic consumption. Under these conditions it is natural as reported in official Government reports, that while Canada supplied more than 60% of Cuba's consumption of 'table' potatoes in 1925, that trade has declined to 5% in recent years. Is it not illogical to expect that Cuba will grant any tariff concessions to Canadian potatoes that will impair one of her own local industries?"

It will be necessary for our potato shippers and all concerned in promoting a Cuban treaty to prove that this contention is erroneous.

Editorial Notes

Wilkie Collins born this date, 1824.

Civic election tomorrow; vote early and once.

When the Rowell Commission come here they will have the newly repaired law courts in which to hold their sittings.

New Jersey is boasting of having had a record number of twins born last year; and now comes Virginia with the boast that Mr. and Mrs. Bud Chafin of Logan have had nine children in five years—four sets of twins and a single.

The National Employment Commission has submitted its final report to the Government and has been dissolved. Thus, comments the Sydney Post-Record, one of Premier King's major pre-election proposals has been adopted, tried, disproved and discarded, all within the space of two and a quarter years. In the circumstances the question naturally rises whether this particular pre-election pledge has been honored by the breach or dishonored by the observance.

Should the rumoured Judges Retirement Bill pass and go into effect this year, Premier Campbell is marked out for the Supreme Court, Mr. Lucas Allan for the Premiership, Mr. Mark McGuigan for the Kings County Court Judgeship in succession to Judge Fraser who is due to retire, Mr. Prowse or Mr. LePage for Governor in December should His Honour not accept an extension. This would leave the Attorney-Generalship for Mr. Hessian or Mr. Trainor.

Here our complaint is that oysters do not breed and develop speedily enough, down in Charleston, S.C. the complaint is the reverse, and oyster birth control is advocated. "The Eastern oyster is very likely the most prolific of any marine invertebrate," says Dr. Paul S. Galtsoff of the United States Bureau of Fisheries. For instance, a four-inch oyster might produce a half-billion eggs in a season, but out of all these probably not more than three or four reach the adult stage. He urges means to prevent too many spats from becoming oysters. An adult oyster needs twenty-six quarts of water an hour—or about 500 times as much as a human being requires to maintain health. When oyster clusters become too dense, there is not sufficient nourishment to enable them to grow to a desirable size.

Among the Scottish curlers at present touring Canada is the Earl of Stair, K.T., D.S.O., who, as President of the Franco-Scottish Society, has been entertained by the Quebec branch of the organization. In a brief talk with reporters the visiting Scot, a Knight of the Thistle, answered questions on the post Lord High Commissioner of the Church of Scotland which he occupied in 1927 and 1928. It was, he admitted, the highest office under the crown in Scotland—making its holder the King's representative to the session of the Church Assembly. The commissioner during his occupancy of the post lives in the famous old Scottish castle of Holyrood. In connection with Franco-Scottish friendship, the Earl of Stair thought such sentiments should thrive here in Canada where settlers of French and Scottish origin live so close together.

Who would have imagined collecting old paint cans from the rubbish dump, would realize an income of \$7,000 in 18 months? Yet that is the disclosure made in a prosecution in Montreal of five men on dole frauds. Sentences ranging from six months to one year in jail were imposed by Judge Desmarais in Arraignment Court on the five men who pleaded guilty to obtaining more than \$5,000 from the Montreal Relief Commission by false pretences. Operators of a "second hand" paint business, the five accused earned more than \$7,000 during the past 18 months and according to city officials drew nearly \$5,000 from the city in direct relief. According to Relief Commission officials, the five accused gathered discarded paint cans from the city dump at Pointe St. Charles and by means of a solution of coloring and water manufactured a kind of paint which they sold at an average price of 40 to 60 cents a gallon. Police said they had earned more than \$7,000 during the past 18 months through this method.

NOTE: BY THE WAY

"Notwithstanding the foregoing, our tax payments are still high; in 1937 we paid over \$1,000,000 in taxes in Canada \$1,013,000, and in other countries \$134,000, so that our total tax bill was \$1,147,000. Comparison of this with the dividends paid, namely, \$1,440,000, gives an indication of the extent of the burden of taxes on the earnings of the shareholders. We are mentioning this not in a complaining mood but merely for the information of our shareholders."

Scotland has exported whisky since the sixteenth century, and in principle the methods are changing have not been changed since then, although there are some at first sight to be seen. A recent case between a modern 4,000-gallon copper still and an old-fashioned pot. Considerable improvements have been made, however, in the quality of the whisky, partly by better selection and regulation of raw materials, and partly by the elimination of just oil, which used to be a chief impurity. These improvements have been effected, however, in the final process of blending and maturing. Blending is now carried out intensively that 2,000 different brands are available.—Scottish Trade Review.

The condition known as "temporary insanity" is a hypothesis brought to the law by lawyers and is a term which has no standing in the medical profession. In criminal cases that involve charges of homicide it lends itself to outrageous abuses, and it is a miscarriage of justice.—Detroit News.

In view of the advent of the atomic age in the farm tractor, it may seem surprising to find that there are even now some 5,000 Jacksmith shops still operating in the Dominion, but such is the case. The village boy still has an advantage over his less-favored city cousin. In the cities of over 30,000 population there are only 300 of these shops, while there are more than 4,000 in the rural areas, and over 1,000 in the villages and small places.—Kitchener Record.

It was an Englishman, William Dampier, and not a Japanese who made the famous comment on the nature of the people of the tractable race of savages who, when fired upon, did not scruple to retaliate. But the Japanese Ministers in London, in their explanation of their policy towards China would surely recognize in Dampier a close spiritual affinity. "The Government is not appreciating the true intentions of the Japanese," says the Manchester Guardian.

For nearly eight hundred years Leipzig has been celebrated for its fairs. For two hundred years it has been one of the world's great book-publishing centres. It is longer. Its presses still rumble, but few persons outside of Germany, unless they happen to be in the neighbourhood of Leipzig, are aware of its existence. Its presses still rumble, but few persons outside of Germany, unless they happen to be in the neighbourhood of Leipzig, are aware of its existence. Its presses still rumble, but few persons outside of Germany, unless they happen to be in the neighbourhood of Leipzig, are aware of its existence.

The influx of citrus fruits at the beginning of the year has slowed down the sale of Canadian apples. No doubt some snappy advertising would help to move a considerable volume of the apples now in storage.—Farmers Advocate.

Eating in a German restaurant, one can never be sure of the diet served has not been snuffed at and rejected by an earlier diner, for by government decree, restaurants are ordered to serve everything set before them, wondering if the food is making its first appearance.—Niagara Falls Review.

One big reason why the Scandinavian peoples tackle their labor troubles in a moderate spirit is that they have had a taste of the other side of the coin. Everbody knows about the British General Strike of 1926. Before that the biggest affair of its kind in Western Europe was the Swedish General Strike of 1929. At its peak it embraced nearly three-fourths of all the industrial wage-earners, which is a very formidable figure indeed. The strike was broken by a nation-wide system of volunteer organizations for operating the essential services.—The Toronto Star.

Holland was a notable pioneer in commercial flying and its K. L. M. (Koninklijke Luchtvaart Maatschappij) is now the unquestioned dean of the world's air companies. Having been organized the year after the Armistice, its central booking office in the Lelischeplein of Amsterdam is the oldest in the world and its chief airport, Schiphol, is definitely better equipped than any other on this air-minded planet.—Christian Science Monitor.

Frontiers are fragile things, but if there are some the displacement of which causes much ink to run, there are others which disappear without notice. The case of Australia has been published in a book on the Little States of Europe, and he consecrates a chapter to the former neutral territory of Moravia, which the map before the War, placed between Germany, Holland and Belgium. It was with the Republic of Andorra, the principality of Monaco and Liechtenstein and the Republic of San Marino, one of the last miniature States, where life flowed on so calmly. The territory of Moravia with its 300 inhabitants and 350 hectares, would perhaps not have awakened any lust had it not included the zinc mine of Velle Montagne. The Treaty of Versailles put an end to its privileged position, rendered paradoxical by the fact that the neutral Moravia was governed by a condominium composed of the Netherlands, Prussia and Belgium. Moravia is today entirely Belgian.—La Presse (Montreal).

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barlow, M.D.

MORE ABOUT THE INSUFFICIENT LIVER

Some months ago in discussing the importance of the liver it was pointed out that a correct diagnosis from all over the world were meeting at Vichy, the European health resort, and would spend three days on the subject, "The Insufficient Liver." The congress met in September 1937 and 1600 physicians were in attendance. A part of the program is reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The various tests to learn how well the liver was doing its work were discussed and how the insufficient liver could interfere with the condition of the blood and this in turn could cause certain skin eruptions and irritations. Thus a liver that is not doing its work properly would be the direct cause of pruritis (itching), urticaria (hives), eczema, and that other common skin ailment—impetigo. In impetigo there are little blisters on the skin which fill with pus, break down and leave yellowish scabs. There is no redness about these scabs and they "lock as if they were stuck on the skin with gum."

Another body disturbance due to an "insufficient" liver is oedema or swelling. This swelling being due to the liver not removing certain poisons from the blood. As you know, one of the most important parts of the work done by the liver is to remove poisons and harmful substances from the blood; if these substances are not removed they set up trouble in various parts of the body.

Another disturbance caused by the insufficient liver is in the nervous system. It disturbs the proper balance and many of the changes in the disposition and actions of our friends and acquaintances may be due to the fact that they are "liverish."

Altogether, abstracts of 130 papers on this one subject—the insufficient liver—were presented during the three-day session.

Thus as we think of the liver—the king of the organs—and of all the different kinds of work it has to do—store sugar, make bile, filter the blood, help to supply material for the blood—we are not surprised that it does not always work properly.

It fails to work properly in most cases because we eat too much fat in the form of fat and starch foods, and take little or no exercise to stimulate the circulation of the blood through the liver.

The Poet's Corner

THE "LIBERAL"

The sinews of his mind were muscle bound from balancing the hypothetical; he outmanoeuvred Bonaparte, out-sailed Columbus, with toy soldiers and a globe.

in retrospect a wizard, in the prosody a know-it-all, but in this actual storm a funk-infected sailor on a ship astonished at the insult of events, demanding "free speech" from the sneering who, when at last rough-handled out of the way by angry hands, his neck-veins thick to bursting, cries out "abandon ship!" and furls the ropes and carries tales against the hard-eyed captain.

—Keweenaw in The Extension Bulletin, St. Francis Xavier University.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian will not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

RURAL MAIL COURIERS

Sir—As Parliament is now under way at Ottawa, it should be an appropriate time to remind our Federal Members of our Mail Couriers as without them our Rural Mail Couriers is the poorest paid employee in our Government today.

Is it any wonder Hon. F. B. Bennett speaking in the House of Commons on the Throne Speech criticised the Government for inadequate incomes paid to a large number of our people.

Why should our Rural Mail Couriers be the only Government employees asked to work under the contract system? Should they not be entitled to a system that would give them a living wage?

Now since the Post Office Department has increased the weight of Parcel Post from 15 to 25 lbs. the Post Master General should be fair enough to allow those employees a wage that would permit them to handle this service, as on some of those long routes they almost need an auto truck.

Why should they be asked to work under the Contract System while their brothers in the city are on permanent salary, and with no equipment to find, even their clothing being furnished by the Government? Should not the man who is called to go over the snow banks in winter and through mud and slush in Spring be entitled to some consideration at Ottawa? Our Rural Mail Couriers have no two weeks holiday, like other Government employees. They have even taken the few holidays that those men used to enjoy. They have to travel six days per week.

They have no pension at 65 year of age like our Railway employees. They are not asking for an exorbitant salary, just a system that would permit a living wage? There is not a member occupying a Seat in the House of Commons from our rural districts but has benefited from those Couriers in his district. Those members know the conditions of our Rural Mail Couriers and the system under which they work. Should it not be their duty to try and obtain a living wage for those faithful employees? I am, Sir, etc. A READER

A LITTLE LATIN AND THE FUN OF IT

Sir—What is this? Will New Teacher yet preach the faith she once sought to destroy? Will she now be the cause that every man and pa-in short, every man, woman and child on "the island" will study a little Latin just for the fun of it? One day, Sir, New Teacher did not disguise the fact that a little Latin was her chief aversion. Today however, she does not hesitate to say that she would teach a little Latin in the common schools, but she would teach it in the simplest of ways, namely, by the "bare-word method" as follows: For example, trans means across; hence trans-Canada, trans-Atlantic, translate and trans everything. Again, porto means carry; hence export, import, important, etc. This is all very well so far as this system goes. But it may be seriously questioned, if this bare-word association of ideas is by any means as complete and effective from a psychological point of view as the association of ideas in a complete sentence is; to say nothing of the fact that in using the bare-word method the teacher is depriving the pupil of an insight into the marvelous structure of a highly inflected and beautiful language from which our so-called Anglo-Saxon tongue is largely derived.

And again, why should New Teacher wish to deprive boys and girls of the fun there is in a little Latin grammar? Why deprive them of the musical and sentimental delights of amo, amas, amat, amamus, amatis, amantur? New Teacher speaks rather scornfully of this sort of music as being a monotonous intonation. Tut, constituted that a little intonation is the "open sesame" into their minds for things that are solemn and beautiful. The last word has not yet been said on the mystery and magic of intonation. And then again speaking of poetry, what youthful Virgil was it who composed the following lines:

"Amo, Amo, Amas— A pretty little lass; Amo, amas, alas! She's in your Latin Class." And what about this which I clearly recollect overhearing at recess from the opposite sex?—"Amicitia, amicitiam!—I'm a kitty I ah, I'm a kitty I ah, et cetera."

And finally what about this from a boys' college situated in a region where Latin was taught without the aid of Latin grammar?

Professor: (Reading a Latin sentence for translation): Haec in Galliam Romanam important. Boy Student translates: Hike into Gall, oh Romans, it is important. I am Sir, etc. OLD TEACHER.

CARE OF THE HANDS

Prevent chapped hands in the cold weather by giving them a daily salad dressing. After washing up rub a little olive oil in and then a spoonful of fine granulated or castor sugar and a small piece of lemon rind. Rinse with cold water and the hands will be soft and white.

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