THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE BENNETT LEAD

"It must be rather disappointing for critics of the Government," writes the London (Eng.) correspondent of the Ottawa Journal, "that just at the moment when they have been telling the House of Commons that the country is being led into economic wars by our tariff policy news should come through to the effect that France intends to withdraw the 15 percent surtax she has been levying on British goods.

"The official announcement of this withdrawal may be delayed for some time owing to the insecurity of the existing French Government. I understand, however, that the decision is one that is likely to stand, whatever group may hold office in France. The fact is that it is realized generally in France that the increased duties which the President of the Board of Trade has threatened to impose would be disastrous to French export trade with this country.

"The use of our tariff as a bargaining weapon is, therefore, more than justifying the claims made for it by its creators. The withdrawal of the French surtax will doubtless be made the occasion for further trade negotiations, and if our Government can extend any reciprocal favors to France, the incident, instead of leading to tariff war, should result in a more friendly trade understanding between the two countries."

The foregoing statement furnishes striking evidence of the manner in which Great Britain is following the lead set by Premier Bennett in the use of tariffs as a bargaining weapon. The dire consequences which free traders predicted would follow the introduction of such a policy in the Old Country have failed to materialize. Instead, both in Canada and the Motherland the results are favorable to more friendly international trade relations, based on sound business principles.

C. N. R. TRUSTEES

As intimated in yesterday's Guardian, the appointment has been made of Mr. Justice C. P. Fullerton, Ottawa, Mr. F. K. Morrow, Toronto, and Mr. Edouard Labelle, Montreal, as trustees of the Canadian National Railways, to take effect on the 1st of January. Mr. Justice Fullerton, who is to be chairman, at present occupies the position of chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners, and in that capacity he visited Charlottetown last June and presided at the official inquiry into the circumstances of the train collision which occurred near Tignish on Feb. 21 last. He is a Maritime man, having been born at Amherst and educated at Dalhousie University. He practised law for a time in his native province and in 1906 went to Winnipeg where he was associated with the legal firm headed by Sir James Aikins. In 1917, on his 47th birthday, Mr. Fullerton was appointed to the Manitoba appeal court and later he was made Chief Justice of that Province. In 1931 he went to Ottawa as chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners and has since filled that position with distinction and marked ability. He brings to his new office wide experience in legal and railway matters so requisite in dealing with the important problems facing the railway situation in Canada today.

Mr. Labelle, who is a prominent member of the Canadian Bar, will be the French-speaking representatives on the Board. He is at present a Director of the Canadian National Railways, and, of course, has already had considerable to do with the management of that road. He is a prominent citizen of Montreal.

Mr. Morrow, who is regarded as one of the leading business men of the Dominion, was born in Essa township, Simcoe County, Ont., 47 years ago. He resides in Toronto, and is prominent in the business sphere of Upper Canada. He is a director of numerous companies in Canada and the United States, including bakeries, flour mills, tobacco, industrial works, express, telegraph and transportation. He has especially taken a keen interest in transportation matters, having applied himself energetically during his three years' tenure of office as a director of the National System, and it is announced that he will serve on the C. N. R. Trustee Board without remuneration, expressing a desire to make some direct contribution to the welfare of the Dominion, even though it involves financial sacrifice.

The three Canadian National trustees, appointed under the Act based on the report and recommendations of the Royal Commission that investigated railway transportation in Canada, will replace the present C. N. R. Board of 17 Directors, and are clothed with fairly wide powers, being responsible directly to Parliament.

COLLIERY DISPUTE

All sections of the Maritimes are interested in the welfare of the great coal mining industry of Nova Scotia and in this connection it is gratifying to note that a temporary settlement of the Pictou colliery dispute has been arrived at, with every prospect of a permanent adjustment being reached in the near future. Under a plan suggested by Premier MacDonald, and agreed to by the receiver-liquidators and United Mine Workers, and subsequently (under protest) by the rival organization of Amalgamated Mine Workers, work is to be resumed at the Acadia Company's mines on the old wage scale for a period of thirty days, during which time an investigation will be conducted by a competent mining engineer into operating costs and conditions at the three mines. The difference between the wage schedule proposed by the management and the contract rates is to be made up by a grant from the Provincial Treasury. The amount involved in the case of the United Mine Workers is estimated at $20,000 for the month. This, says the Sydney Post Record, seems to be rather a generous estimate, but none will be disposed to cavil over the expenditure of a few thousand dollars to get the Pictou mines in operation once more. The shutdown has lasted more than two months, and this week will see the return of some 1,288 miners of the Acadia Company to work.

In agreeing to bridge the wage difference at issue out of the Provincial Treasury, the Premier made it clear that, if this plan did not result ultimately in a satisfactory settlement and the elimination of strikes from the Pictou coal fields, the Government would take no further action in the matter. It is hoped this threat will have the anticipated result, and that the executives of the miners' unions now realize that their feuds have caused wanton loss of time and money, and tend only to alienate public sympathy from the wage earners when industrial disputes arise.

DOMINION FINANCING

News of an increase recently in Dominion reveunes, chiefly from the sales tax, is hailed as a most encouraging omen by the Monetary Times, which predicts that if the increase continues, it will make a big difference in government policy, and in the next budget. "One thing it is very likely to mean," says the Times, "is that there will be no further increase in taxation next session. This will be a great relief to the Canadian business man and it will be a great relief as well to the ministers of state. No government likes to impose taxes but it has been grievously necessary during the past few years and relief now will be as welcome as spring, on Parliament Hill."

Besides affecting the tax features of the budget, an improvement in government revenues will also, it is expected, affect government policy in another important field. Premier Bennett has already been talking of a public works program for next spring. He made it a condition that finances and the business outlook should justify such a course of action, but if the federal revenues go on growing, there will be little doubt about the initiation of new public works. In some of the Prime Minister's speeches there has been implied a suggestion that he might narrow the gold base of our money to secure the necessary funds—he could do so by adopting the 25 per cent. base which was generally approved at the world economic conference. If, however, the general revenues of the country rise steadily, he will not need to have recourse to such an expedient. The public works program in turn, if entered upon, will stimulate business and bigger business will again mean bigger revenues for the federal exchequer.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Premier Henry announces that the Ontario Legislature will open on January 31 next. As this will be the last session of the eighteenth Legislature, the various parties may be expected to engage in some vigorous political skirmishing as a prelude to the general election campaign. As Mr. Mitchell F. Hepburn, Liberal party leader in the province, still has no seat in the Assembly, he will have to continue to

Notes By The Way

There has been an increase in social values, says Henry I. Harriman, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the U.S.A., that it is impossible to estimate in dollars and cents. Child labour is a thing of the past, the sweat shop has become a memory, and the ruthless exploitation of labour by those who place money above morals will never again be a blot upon the record of American industry.

What struck one about this story (of the coal combine in Montreal), was the fact that the combine in question appears to have existed with the co-operation and assistance of British coal exporters. The case, of course, has been appealed; and it may be that further inquiry will show that no combine existed, within meaning of the law. If that happens, well and good. But if it doesn't, if it be definitely determined that British coal exporters were in league with Canadian coal importers to obtain greater profits for both, then it may well be that the growing tendency of the Canadian public to buy British anthracite will receive a considerable check. Canadians wish to buy British coal in preference to American coal, also in preference to Russian coal. But if it be shown that the preference is being used by those benefiting from it for more benefit than they may be entitled to, then that public preference will speedily stop. Empire preferences are not designed to give exploitation rights to anybody.—Ottawa Journal.

The spirit of Empire preference as embodied in the Ottawa agreements of last year is likely to prove of great advantage to Newfoundland. It was understood that Great Britain would take from the Wabana deposits annually some 500,000 tons of iron ore for the manufacture of steel. Little progress was made in that direction until the recent financial collapse of the Newfoundland Government. But the return of the island to the status of Crown Colony will bring it into closer contact with the Home Government, especially as the United Kingdom has promised financial assistance to meet the most pressing obligations.

One of many humorous incidents narrated relates to England's most famous seamen. It is recorded that Mr. Glenny, when Nelson visited his shop in the Strand in 1797, after losing his arm at Santa Cruz, hastened to express regret for the loss. But Nelson cut him short with: "Tut, tut, man; damn lucky for you it was not my leg; I want another dozen pairs of silk stockings."

Further demands are being made on the federal governments for assistance by Western Provinces. Recently a million dollars each was advanced to Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Up to date the Dominion government has loaned the Western Provinces more than $40,000,000 in cash to pay interest, meet payments in American exchange on their bonds held in the United States, and for other purposes. The lenders have now suggested that the Western provinces must in future take care of their own troubles. Unless that policy is carried out, it means that the Dominion treasury will, sooner or later, become bankrupt.

In a sweeping article in The Magazine of Wall Street, Mr. John C. Cresswill goes over the whole list of possible Russian exports and finds no warrant for assuming that profitable barter can be developed. The only alternative is to lend money to Russia to buy United States goods. He concludes a striking articles as follows: "There is no other way than long-time loans, if the windy enthusiasm stirred by recognition is to be translated into substantial trade. With eleven billions of political debts gone glimmering, with our German loans vanishing in repudiation or endlessly impounding, with South America plastered with worthless bonds, will we fall again for the device of giving hopeless creditors cash with which to buy our goods.

In this confusing period of economic transition, Canada's monthly trade and revenue returns, being the records of one of the few countries achieving business recovery without artificial remedies, may be accepted as reasonably accurate indications of the world's upward progress from the depression. It is therefore encouraging to note that Canada's customs and excise receipts last month exceeded those of November 1932 by 13 per cent., the increase being from $17,896,354 a year ago to $20,364,435 this November. The gain for the month was $2459,081, being at the rate of approximately $30,000,000 per annum,—a substantial and surely satisfying movement in the right direction.

"Isolation," in the age of the aeroplane and the submarine, says the London News Chronicle, is a dream. The Atlantic was not broad enough to keep United States out of the Great War, evidently as she desired to keep out. What is the use of even discussing whether the Channel and the North Sea will suffice? The only way of keeping out of the next war is to stop it before it begins.

Present evidence suggests that President Roosevelt believes he will be able, by holding to the present general course, to continue his direct control of monetary policies even after Congress meets. But if he is to do so he will have to keep his gold buying scheme in use moderately to placate the inflationists, and with sufficient caution to quiet the "sound money" legislators—an enterprise almost as delicate as the money juggling itself. If he succeeds in keeping Congress satisfactorily divided, experts now believe, he will be able to organize a monetary coalition which will swing to whatever permanent or semi-permanent policy he may favour. This is likely to call for definite revaluation of gold on a basis which will give the resulting profit of from two to four billion dollars to the United States Treasury, rather than to the privately-owned Federal Reserve System, as would be the case if the step were taken at once.

The British Government put its hand to the Ottawa Agreement, in which it undertook by Article 21) to prohibit the entry of foreign State-aided goods sold at prices with which the Dominions could not profitably compete. It may officially be said that the merchants concerned are making the deal at their own risk, and that the Article may be applied, even if the deal be concluded. But it is obvious that, once the merchants spread this business over the whole country, interests are created which would make it difficult for the Board of Trade to apply any such prohibition, Canada had to swallow the injury last year, and may have to again . . . Mr. Bennett, not unreasonable, asks only for a fair deal which, we are bound to say, he does not appear to be getting from our Government. — London Morning Post.

The new Jewish law which Herr Hitler is preparing is characteristic of the crazy doctrine upon which Nazism is based. The conception of a German race is a grotesque one. The German people is a medley and a mixture of races—Teutonic and Latin and Slav and Jewish. Only in a crazy society could men of the physical types of Hitler and Goebbels claim to be "Nordics" without their claim being swept away in ridicule.

::Asthma Cannot Last when the greatest of all asthma specifics is used. Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Asthma Remedy assuredly deserves this exalted title. It has to its credit thousands of cases which other preparations had failed to benefit. It brings help, to even the most severe cases and brings the patient to a condition of blessed relief. Surely suffering from asthma is needless when a remedy like this is so easily secured.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

ACIDOSIS

You see the word acidosis very often now and you may have the impression that it means that the blood or the tissues are in an acid condition.

As a matter of fact you would not be far wrong in thinking of the tissues and blood being in an acid condition, because acidosis means that the blood and tissues are approaching or getting near to an acid condition—so near that if they reached an acid condition death would follow.

There are certain conditions or diseases which cause the blood and tissues to become less alkaline or approaching an acid condition. These are starvation, diabetes, heart disease, and practically any condition where there is a rise in the body temperature.

However you do not need to have any of the above conditions to have acidosis, because when you do hard physical work or take vigorous exercise, you manufacture a great deal of acid and for some time after taking the exercise you have an acidosis; a form of poisoning that causes you to feel tired.

You can also have an acidosis by eating too much of the foods which are acid forming in their effect—meat, eggs, cereals,—all good and necessary foods but acid forming just the same.

Another cause of acidosis is trying to cut down on all foods as many overweight individuals do when reducing weght. Further, eating too much food will leave an excess of wastes in the body and also cause acidosis.

How can you tell whether your body is approaching an acid condition or acidosis?

The first symptom is usually an increase in the depth of the breathing. You find yourself taking one or more long breaths every few minutes.

Another sign, and it is also the first sign in true heart disease, is getting out of breath easily on slight exercise.

Another symptom often noticed is a general pain (not severe) over all the muscles of the body; a tired feeling.

If this is an "acid" condition, then the natural treatment is the use ofan alkali like soda and thus ordinary baking soda in half teaspoonful doses, three times a day, helps to bring the blood and tissues back to a more alkaline condition.

Eating acid foods—meat, eggs, cereals.—is necessary to health, but alkaline foods—milk, nuts, fruits and vegetables—should also be eaten to prevent acidosis.

The Poet's Corner

EX TENEBRIS

Out of the dark, forbidding soil
The pure white lilies grow:
Out of the black and murky clouds
Descends the stainless snow!

Out of the crawling, earthbound worm,
A butterfly is born—
Out of the sombre, shrouded night,
Behold! A golden morn!

Out of the pain and stress of life,
The peace of God pours down—
Out of the nails—the spear—the cross—
Redemption and . . . a crown!

—Mary Martin.

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.

"SHABBY AND DUSTY"

Sir,—These are the words applied to McGill Professors by Stephen Leacock, himself a McGill professor of parts. I have met a few professors in my time. I was well acquainted with Professor Caven and Professor T. A. LePage, the latter of whom, however, disclaimed the title,—in modesty doubtless. He may not have excelled in learning Professors Caven and Anderson, but he was by far the most cherished teacher I ever had, kind, conscientious, and thorough. Prof. Anderson I knew, but never quite understood. He was lofty and whatever he taught he managed to impart to it a certain heroism, extending this quality as far as the pons asinorum. When it was the classics he became elated but hardly excited. All these men have passed to their reward. I have a reverence for their memory which will never leave me. They were however, "not shabby and dusty." All were remarkably well dressed, not to say neat and natty and I never remarked that they were grimy, dusty or greasy. They were in much better case than Mr. Leacock's professors whose chief need seems to be bath tubs, soap and warm water.

Strange to say none of my professors had any degrees, nor can I show satisfactorily that shabbiness and dustiness are the usual concomitants of degrees. There is Prof. S. N. Robertson now, LL. D. Who will have the temerity to say of him that he is "shabby and dusty"? I might mention one other, Prof. H. H. Shaw, now Supt. of Education. Does not the toga virilis sit well on him? They both know Roman history well and know well enough the uses and purposes of the atrium and impluvium. But do these gentlemen research, for Gen. Sir Arthur Currie had serious doubts about the researching of his professors, and perhaps our professors may be a little wanting in this respect. However, if they go into that they need not be afraid of becoming "Shabby and dusty" because the McGill professors are shabby and dusty and they do not research. Perhaps indeed it is research that keeps our men fit and neat. Research I always connecected with dusty folios and no'some laboratories but methods may have changed and everything in the avenues of research may be cleansed and sterilized to such an extent as to be sweet and wholesome. This is all I purpose to say on the matter. I leave the discussion open to the freshest and fullest discussion, laying down no dogmas. I leave the professors to come to their own defence and after they have delivered themselves, I shall, in a meek and kindly spirit venture to state my own opinion. But the stigma that has been put upon them by one of their number should not be tamely tolerated.

I am, Sir, etc.,
C. S. MACDONALD.

CREDIT AND DISCREDIT

Sir,—Good credit culminating in unwieldy debt is the big curse of the world today. Nations and corporations are hastening to get unmanageable liabilities into the melting pot to purge the dross and bring staggering incumbrances into some form of control. By dishonest repudiation Russia swept the barrier out of action but not from conscience. British honour refuses crooked expedients.

What is the individual doing as the unit of the masses? Too familiar with the luxury of prosperous years it is only under the compulsion of a scant purse that he cuts out the frills and kudos of flighty living and so is laboring to keep alive the bane of now more doubtful credits.

Merchants are at their wits end, some on the verge of despair, to cope with credit and bad debt difficulties. Those who give credit are up against the business complex of "strictly cash" stores in an aggressive competition. The merchant who must pay interest on his overload and write off uncollectable accounts is handicapped in his effort to meet "cash sale" prices.

This drawback is the greater when his customer takes his cash to economize on the cheaper purchases, but when cash is scarce he seeks credit from the regular dealer. The cream for the cash on delivery seller and the skim milk for those giving accommodation to patrons. All the "bad eggs" "never pay's" dumped on the credit seller's doorstep.

In good business the cash system is soundest But if there was no credit, into what a chaotic abyss would community living be hurled Credit is an evil, but one that must be at least tolerated. The problem is to scorch out its evils and stabilize whatever benefits it may possess.

With scarcer money and cash sales more difficult credit is an expedient resolved to to increase sales. Ambition to "keep up with the Jones's" survives the depression, and the lure of polished surface illuminated by a polished tongue entices the cash scarce buyer to buy something not immediately a necessity, even though shrouded with a doubt that he can ever pay for it. What matter? we can dance to the music in the present; the merchant may do the dancing on pay day.

This however does not always work out as the buyer imagines. The seller is not the plum darn fool of his estimate. Following the law of averages a sum sufficient is added to the price to make good the loss incurred on the article never paid for. Interest is always included in selling price. To cover these overhead costs and charges from sixty to one hundred percent is added to cost which the long credit buyer, if he ever pays, contributes as the price of accommodation.

It is true that big fish of the sea and animals of the wilds subsist upon the flesh and life blood of their weaker kind. But why should nobler man crave to despoil the less fortunate brother and fatten on his privations? Why compel Tom wearing his five year old felt to pay for a new derby for his neighbor Bill? And yet that is one of the evils of a credit system, the frugal and diligent hard worker paying his account with its portion of the non-pay credit jumper added. Yet that is mercantile credit as we have it. It is hard to get away from it; in fact impossible, but can be minimised and brought under better control by suffering merchants and the upright class of buyers in co-operation. The word "Blacklisted" is harsh. but if the never-pay shut out from one store where he was in default could find no olive branch of credit in any other store it would educate and enforce honesty upon him. "Whitelisted,"—the diploma of character after which all buyers should aspire —would be the biggest factor in eliminating the canker and the curse from the credit system.

I am, Sir, etc.,
MERCHANT.

A Precious Manuscript

(Ottawa Journal)

By the purchase of the Sinaitic Codex from the Soviet Government in Russia at a cost of half a million dollars, announcement of which was made by Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald in the House of Commons on Wednesday, Britain is now in possession of two of the oldest Biblical manuscripts in the world.

Britain's other treasured manuscript in this respect is the Alexandrine Codex which was presented to King Charles I. by Cyril Lucar, patriarch of Constantinople, in the year 1628. As the Authorized version of the Englih Bible was published in 1611 A. D., the Alexandrian manuscript was seventeen years too late to be of use to the English translators in preparing the King James Version.

The third famous Biblical manuscript is the Vatican Codex, which was the first of the three to come into the possession of Europe. How it was acquired by the Vatican Library is not known. It appeared in the first catalogue of that collection dating from the year 1475.

The transfer of the Sinaitic Codex to Britain just at this season of the year adds another chapter to its romantic history. It was discovered oringinally by Constantine Tischendorf, the famous German scholar, in the years 1844 and 1859. In his introduction to the Tauchnitz Edition of the New Testament, which formed the 1,000th volume of the famous German publisher's collection of British authors, and was issued in celebration of the completion of that collection and edition, Tischendorf, writing from Leipsig, Germany, under date of "Christmas, 1868," gives some of the story of his famous find. He said:

"The Sinaitic Codex I was myself so happy to discover in 1844 and 1859, at the Convent of St. Catherine, on Mount Sinai, in the latter of which years I brought it to Russia to the Emperor Alexander the Second, at whose instance my second journey to the East was undertaken."

Tischendorf in his description of the manuscript said it was written "in four columns to a page and contains both Old and New Testament—the latter perfect, without the loss of a single leaf. In addition it contains the entire Epistle of Barnabas, and a portion of the 'Shepherd' of Hermas, two books which down to the beginning of the fourth century were looked upon by many as Scripture."

Tischendorf declared that all the considerations tending to "date" manuscripts lead to the conclusion that the Sinaitic Codex belongs to the middle of the fourth century. He said it was not improbable that it was one of the fifty copies of the Scriptures which the Emperor Constantine in the year 331 directed to be made by Byzantium, under the care of Eusebius of Caesarea. "In this case," Tischendorf declared, "it is a natural inference that it was sent from Byzantium to the monks of St. Catherine by the Emperor Justinian, founder of the convent."

The famous German scholar claimed for his find "the first place among the three great Manuscripts, both for age and extent." But Dr. J. Paterson Smyth, in his little book: "How We Got Our Bible," declares that the Vatican Manuscript, "it is generally agreed, is the most ancient."

HISTORIC DISCOVERY

It is to Dr. Paterson Smyth that we are indebted for fuller details of Tischendorf's historic discovery. He says that the latter's whole life was given up to the discovery and study of ancient manuscripts of the Bible, and he travelled all over the East searching every old library he could get into for the purpose. But it was quite unexpectedly in St. Catherine's Convent, at the foot of Mount Sinai, that Tischendorf discovered what he himself described at "the pearl" of all his researches.

It was in May, 1844, that Tischendorf first visited the convent. He saw in the middle of the great hall a basket full of old parchments. The librarian told Tischendorf that two heaps of similar old documents had been used for fires.

Looking through the basket, Tischendorf was astonished to find a number of sheets of a copy of the Septuagint Old Testament, the oldest looking manuscript he had ever seen. He was given permission by the authorities of the Convent to take away about forty sheets, as they had been intended only for the fire. Tischendorf's satisfaction at such a gift roused the suspicions of the monks as to the value of the manuscripts. And they refused to give him any more.

Returning to Germany with his precious sheets, Tischendorf became a sensation in the literary world. But he did not disclose where he got the sheets. He still had hopes of getting the remainder.

Soon he had good reason to be glad of his caution. For the English Government immediately sent out a scholar to buy up any valuable Greek manuscripts he could lay hands on. Tischendorf was almost in terror lest the Englishman should stumble upon the old basket in the convent on Mount Sinai. His relief came when the Englishman's report was published telling of his failure and stating: "After the visit of such a critic as Dr. Tischendorf I could not, of course expect any success."

Through an influential friend at the Court of Egypt, Tischendorf endeavored to secure the remainder of the manuscript. He was unsuccessful. The friend wrote him that the monks of the convent, since his departure, had learned the value of the parchments and would not part with them at any price.

EMPEROR'S COMMISSION

It was fifteen years later, in 1859, that Tischendorf was found again at the Convent of St. Catherine, bearing a commission direct from the Emperor of Russia himself. According to Dr. Paterson Smyth the great German scholar had found very little of any value and had made his arrangements to leave without accomplishing his mission. But a quite unexpected event brought about the fulfilment of his best wishes. Here is the story as related by Dr. Smyth:

"The very evening before he was to leave, Tischendorf was walking in the grounds with the steward of the Convent. As they were returning the monk asked him into his cell to take refreshment. Scarcely had they entered when, in resuming his former conversation, the monk said: 'I too have read a copy of that Septuagint.' And so saying he took down a bulky bundle wrapped in red cloth, and laid it on the table. Tischendorf opened the parcel, and to his great surprise, found not only those very fragments that he had seen fifteen years before, but also other parts of the Old Testament, the New Testament complete, and some of the Apocryphal Books. Full of joy, which this time he had the self-command to conceal, Tischendorf asked in a careless way, for permission to look over it in his bedroom. 'And there by myself I gave way to my transports of joy,' recorded Tischendorf. 'I knew that I held in my hand one of the most precious Biblical treasures in existence, a document whose age and importance exceeded that of any I had ever seen after twenty years' study of the subject.'"

The Manuscript was transferred to the Library of St. Petersburg and, under the regimes which preceded Sovietism in Russia was regarded as the greatest treasure which the Eastern Church possessed.

Half a million dollars may seem a heavy price in these days to pay for such a treasure. Premier Ramsay MacDonald said that appeal would be made to the public for funds to cover the price, "by far the greatest ever paid by the British Museum for a manuscript." Mr. MacDonald said that the Government of Great Britain would contribute an equal amount to that given by the public.

By the response of the British people to this appeal some indication, at least, will be given of the extent to which the nation approves the action of the Government, and of their pride in the acquisition of so valuable a treasure of the Christian Church.

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