

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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TOO MUCH THRIFT?

London despatches tell how British economists are becoming alarmed lest too much thrift will aggravate depression. The economists, comments an Ottawa exchange, are probably right. Thrift on the part of a Government, especially when a budget has to be balanced, is desirable, even vital. But it is a far different thing, and even harmful, when a people, either individually or collectively, hoard money which they might spend, keeping their dollars unemployed. That, in a word, is the conception of prosperity.

Canada, like England, has too much thrift. All over Canada, there are people whose incomes remain unimpaired. Considering, indeed, the fall in prices, their margin of income over outgo is greater than before. Yet these very people, simply because they are affected by psychological factors, talk fearfully about "hard times," and hoard their money for dear life.

In so doing these people are defeating their own ends. If they had the courage to use their money, to spend it sensibly, to buy things which they require while the buying is good, they would hasten the prosperity which would help everybody.

LEVEL CROSSING GUARD

Anything that will prevent or minimize the number of railroad crossing accidents will be greatly welcomed, by none more than the men who drive the train locomotives. Therefore it is to be hoped the new crossing guard to be operated automatically by an approaching train, as described in Popular Science Magazine, will prove to be practical. According to Popular Science, a model, approved by railway and safety engineers, presents the guard as a steel platform which tilts as it rises from the road on either side of the tracks. The side facing on-coming traffic really is a bumper, equipped with shock-absorbing springs, built to stop an automobile going twenty-five miles an hour without serious damage to car or occupants. By tilting the guard from the inside, a car already on the crossing can drive off, eliminating the hazard of being trapped by the train.

As the elimination or safeguarding of all the level crossings would be an undertaking beyond the ability of the railroads under present conditions, the progress made with the crossing guard as described by Popular Science will be followed with great interest both in Canada and United States.

THE PLIGHT OF CHINA

A million persons are reported to have been drowned in north central Hoonan Province, China, when the Yellow River recently overflowed its banks. The calamity is probably the greatest recorded in history; it is so vast that the average reader simply cannot conceive of it. In addition to the loss of life is the wholesale destruction of property, including, presumably, much of the current year's wheat crop, which was estimated as being in excess of 600,000,000 bushels. This means, for many other millions of Chinese, imminent danger of starvation.

It is evident that relief measures on a large scale must be provided. Unfortunately, it has been found in recent years that where money or goods have been sent to China they have been seized by the war lords and have not reached the people who were in need of them. Some time ago the American Red Cross presented a report recommending that no further money be collected in the United States for

Chinese relief, owing to the difficulty in distributing this money beneficially. The present plight of China, however, is a challenge which modern civilization cannot ignore. Some means must be found of succoring the millions of innocent victims in that unhappy country.

In this connection the Financial Post comes forward with the suggestion that the great wheat-growing countries like Canada, the United States and Australia, do something for the Chinese not only on humanitarian grounds but also from motives of self interest. So far as the first two are concerned there is a great deal of wheat which is essentially the property of the respective governments, wheat that costs the owners money to store. To give some of it away would cost nothing at all, because of the effect of such action on the value of the remainder. The result might well be an increased goodwill on the part of the Chinese toward the people of this continent and might lead to such a change in eating habits as would permanently increase the consumption of wheat. The United States has possibly greater incentive to act just now, since she has a greater surplus of wheat and the quantity under control of her government is far more than the quantity so controlled in Canada. But if it is a sound thing to do there is no need for Canada to wait upon the example of the United States.

SAINT OR SINNER?

"Gandhi—Saint or Sinner," is the title of an article in the Nineteenth Century magazine from the pen of Major-General J. F. C. Fuller. Civilization is to Gandhi the Kali Yug or Dark Ages. His theories may be divided as destructive and constructive, although his whole system is a negative one. He holds that England has ruined India, by changing her from what she was. His quarrel, however, is not so much with England as with western civilization. He has no remedies, General Fuller states, but to out-Bolshevize the Bolsheviks for the whole of the present diabolical order must vanish. Democracy is a snare and a delusion. "Education," to quote Gandhi, "is evil. Medical science is a concentrated essence of black magic. . . Hospitals are the instruments that the devil has been using for his own purpose." His aim is to destroy western civilization in India, and to substitute, as it were, for it, a civilization of entirely separate and self-supporting villages. His economic doctrine can be expressed in one word—spinning wheel—and its resultant—home-spun cloth. To Gandhi this is the panacea of all human ills. It must, of course, be universalized to bring Swaraj (self-government). He also regards free time and leisure as a curse to Indian women.

In a word Gandhi's philosophy is a narrow, exclusive nationalism of self-supporting and non-co-operating villages; an ethical code which destroys all morality, Christian and universal, and an economic system based on the most primitive instruments of hand labor, the plough and the spinning wheel. "Unlike Christ, one of his spiritual masters," General Fuller says, "he never learned the statesmanship of the words, 'Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's and unto God the things which are God's.' He will pass his way like many another who has trodden his thorny path, a saint who for the love of God has sinned against humanity, and on the tomb of his memory will the words 'Non Pacem Sed Gladium' (not peace but the sword) be inscribed in letters of blood."

NOTES BY THE WAY

The London Daily Express says, it is an ugly thing to admit but there are men in this country today who are actual defeatists. They spread the propaganda of defeat as astiduously as though in the pay of our enemies.

In the war they would have had short shift. But they are just as deadly enemies of the State in these critical days of peace. Each one of us has his human constituency. Each one of us can help to spread the gospel of victory or the infection of defeat. Our troubles are many and our discouragements heavy, but they are nothing compared to the glorious vista of the future.

No matter, says the Boston Transcript, how the extremists of the Labor Party who have deserted MacDonald may now battle and rave, it is they, and not the Government, who will lose ground. The political organizers of the Labor Party may have read MacDonald and Snowden out, but necessarily this means that thousands of moderates will read themselves out likewise, and continue in support of their moderate leader at the expense of the extremists. The world is being made safe for sound government by the united forces of all the most level-headed minds and the greatest financial powers which exist in Europe and in America as well. That is a combination adequate to a complete victory.

British periodicals are not affected by the new tariff regulation this being true of all Empire periodicals, nor is there any obstacle to the entry of magazines, etc., originating in countries which have trade treaties with the Dominion. On the whole, the authority taken by the Government under the budget resolutions seems to have been used with wise discrimination and without harm to the better class of American periodicals, or to their readers in this country.

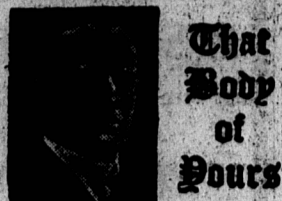
We noted the other day that hundreds of tons of potatoes were destroyed recently in Vancouver under the pretext that they could not be sold with profit, says L'Action Catholique. This was done the morning after the session of the Federal Parliament which gave the Government "carte blanche" to relieve misery. Such action is unbelievable. We believe, therefore that it is time for the Government to vote a ministerial order prohibiting such a kind. It is criminal to destroy food when people are dying of hunger. It will be remembered that the Farm Board of the United States proposed similar action in order to maintain the price of cotton. Its suggestion was that each third row of cotton be destroyed. Such stories of wanton destruction indicate that the crisis is by no means over for people are still losing their heads.

At the opening of the Chocolate and Confectionery Exhibition at Olympia, London, it was announced that the people in the British Isles consume \$50,000,000 worth of sweets in a year and that British manufacturers, in addition, export \$2,000,000 worth annually. Sweetening, it was stated, is on the increase in the Kingdom and the trade is in a state of "encouraging virility," and is prepared to "meet any challenge to their superiority." Such optimistic talk rings sweetly amid the sour gloom of the so-called industrial depression and the cloudy political outlook.

Channel swimmers must ponder sadly on the vicissitude of things. Not long ago, the mere fact to emulate the feat of Captain Webb was sufficient to bring front-page fame to the name of whosoever displayed this courage. Today, as evidenced in the case of the German swimmer, Fraulein Annie Weymer, an English Channel exploit is dismissed in six lines of print in an insignificant corner of the newspaper. Since 1927, aerial feats have extinguished popular interest in human evolutions in the waters underneath.

The national plan now being developed by the Minister of Labor and the Governments of the nine provinces is based on the provision of work in every possible case. The "dole" is not to get a foot-hold—that is agreed. Nevertheless there will be many cases where a family has no member able to labor usefully at such tasks as are available, or where it is more economical to provide direct relief.

In 1904, when the rate-war between British, American, and German steamship companies was at its height, an English journalist decided to see what could be done in the way of exploiting that rivalry. He made the trip from Liverpool to New York, by way of Grimsby and Hamburg, including rail-fare to



That Body of Yours

By James W. Berlin, M.D. PRACTICE AND THEORY

Some years ago I was having lunch at a boy's preparatory school, and when lunch was over I saw a number of the boys go to a table on which were a number of bottles. Each boy apparently had his own bottle and spoon and helped himself to one or more spoonfuls from the bottle.

On enquiry I learned that these boys were a little pale, a little underweight, needed a little building up, and were getting regular doses of cod liver oil. Now this was some years before there was any knowledge of vitamins, and yet the experience of mothers, nurses, and doctors has shown that cod liver oil was a builder.

You have read of Captain Cook the famous navigator who sailed the seas, one hundred and fifty years ago. He found out for himself that vegetables and fruits would prevent scurvy. He knew nothing of vitamins.

During the winter the Islanders of Newfoundland had to live on salt pork, flour, margarine and preserved vegetables, and in the spring many of them suffered with a form of night blindness the popular cure for which was bird's liver, raw or cooked. These Islanders likewise knew nothing about vitamins. Since the discovery of vitamin science has explained all these cures. In other words experience was away ahead of science.

Quinine, digitalis, arsenic, opium and many of the most useful drugs have been brought into use as the result, not of scientific inquiry, but of chance discovery.

Sir Arthur Keith, London, tells us that science is truth, but scientists sometimes forget that science is never the whole truth, it is only by practical experience that many of the truths of science can really be proven. This means that progress can only be obtained through the most sympathetic co-operation between those who are spending most of their time in the practice of medicine, dentistry and other departments of general surgery and medicine, and those who are spending most of their time in research work in the laboratory. There is no question but that if more men and money were available for laboratory research work, that these research physicians would have more truths ready for the practical men to try out.



FROM "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM"

I never may believe These antique fables, nor these fairy toys. Lovers and madmen have such seething brains, Such shaping fantasies, that apprehend More than cool reason ever comprehends. The lunatic, the lover, and the poet, Are of imagination all compact: One sees more devils than vast hell can hold, That is, the madman; the lover, all as frantic; Sees Helen's beauty in a brow of Egypt; The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling, Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven; And, as imagination bodies forth The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen Turns them to shapes, and gives to airy nothing A local habitation and a name. Such tricks hath strong imagination, That, if it would but apprehend some joy, It comprehends some bringer of that joy; Or in the night, imagining some fear, How easy is a bush supposed a bear! —William Shakespeare.

Grimsby, boat to Hamburg, 36 hours' board and lodging in the Hamburg American compound, and passage across the Atlantic in the Graf Waldersee, all for the sum of \$2. Coming back he took passage on the White Star liner Cederic, reaching London via Liverpool for \$3. The round trip of about 7,000 miles by land and sea, with 75 meals and 13 days' sleeping accommodation, cost exactly \$5. Will anyone ever obtain such value for money again?

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.

"A YANKEE DUCK SANCTUARY"

Sir,—Canadian's recent letter to the Public Forum concerning the duck crisis and the Migratory Bird Treaty in general contains some flagrant misstatements and betrays such ignorance on the part of the writer, concerning the situation under discussion, that I feel compelled to reply with a view to correcting the erroneous impression which his letter might convey to your readers.

Concerning the so-called "duck crisis," if we may take, at face value, the reports which are issued by our own authorities at Ottawa, there is certainly a serious state of affairs on the vast wild fowl breeding areas of the western provinces. These reports tell us that approximately 90% of this year's increase has perished due to climatic conditions which are beyond the control of man. It is quite true that the situation in the Maritimes with regard to the duck supply is more favorable but "Canadian," willfully or through ignorance, fails to grasp the real significance of the situation. It is a matter of common knowledge that a large portion of our black ducks migrate southward along the eastern seaboard going even as far as Florida. The birds from the extensive breeding grounds of the western plains in their southward flight mingle with ours south of the State of New York, so we are told, and are compelled to "run the gauntlet" of several million sportsmen who annually pursue them.

"Canadian" goes on to say that a great many ducks winter in our Province and hence are not migratory. I think the sportsmen of Prince Edward Island will support me when I state that probably not over 1% of the black ducks which are found here during the early part of the open season remain throughout the winter, and I would here point out that all ducks, whether they are found in Canada or in the United States during the winter months, are migratory and are so classified by the law which protects them.

For the sake of argument let us suppose that the entire duck population of the great middle west, both old and young, is entirely obliterated. Consider then, what would happen if the American sportsmen, being allowed the usual period for shooting, were thus compelled to concentrate their activities on the diminutive stock of eastern-bred birds. I think it is fair to assume that under such conditions very few would survive to come back to their breeding grounds next spring, and from the foregoing I think the most casual observer will agree that the present so-called "duck crisis" has considerable to do with the Prince Edward Island sportsman. Apparently "Canadian" would like to see all shooting in the United States banned without having to give up any such privileges himself, thus exposing himself to a just charge of extreme selfishness.

In stating that "the United States put it over Canada" when this Treaty was negotiated, "Canadian" is merely repeating, parrot fashion, a phrase which, it seems, is more or less popular among the more unenlightened sportsmen and one which he is not able to substantiate. I would like to go into this in more detail but time and space forbids. It is probably true that shooting conditions in the United States, generally speaking, are better than in Canada but this is not because of the Treaty. It is because of climatic and geographical conditions which have existed there since the beginning of time. Please consider the following facts which I have verified by reading the respective regulations issued by Ottawa and Washington and then decide for yourselves whether the United States is "putting it over Canada." The longest season for wild fowl shooting in the United States is 3 months while in many of the States it is 2 1/2 months and in Florida, one month and 20 days. In

I am, Sir, etc., ISLANDER

HOSPITAL FUNDS

Sir,—A few subscribers, to the Hospital Campaign Fund, have intimated that they are averse to paying the instalments on their pledges, until the actual construction of the building is commenced. On reflection, I feel that subscribers will realize that this is not a sympathetic attitude to take. The Building Committee, before commencing the construction of the Hospital, which will necessarily involve a large expenditure, should be assured of a substantial amount to its credit. If all subscribers declined to pay their instalments until building operations commenced, there would be no funds to start the work.

The sight for the New Hospital has been bought and paid for, and a drawing of the Hospital Building, and Nurses' Home, as they will appear when completed, together with the plot plan may now be seen in the window of Moore & McLeod's Store, on Queen St., which should be sufficient guarantee that the Building Committee is proceeding with the work. As soon as specifications are received from the Architects, tenders will be called for and it is hoped that the basement will be completed this fall.

I am, Sir, etc., W. F. TIDMARSH, Executive Chairman, P. E. Island Hospital Committee

Export

It is said that things have been so quiet of late that the Mexicans contemplate making a few revolutions for the export trade.—Punch

Advertisement for 'Bad Blood' pills, featuring a circular logo with the text 'DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS' and 'Bad Blood' written across it.

Canada we have 3 1/2 months. Since the duck crisis in the west has arisen, the United States has gone even farther and reduced the season on geese, ducks, and brant all over the nation to one month only without even requesting that Canada do likewise. Consider for a minute daily bag limits. In the country to the south of us you are allowed to kill 4 woodcock only per day, while here 3 is the limit. With us the limit on geese and brant is 15 o. each species per day, while they may take only 4 of each. On the opening day they may not start wild fowl shooting until noon, while with us, we may start one hour before sunrise. In no place are the American sportsmen allowed to shoot earlier or later than the period between sunrise and sunset. Furthermore, the United States have recently voted eight million dollars for bird sanctuary purposes, the program to be carried out in the next few years, and this will mean that vast feeding areas will be set aside where no shooting will ever be allowed.

The truth of the matter is simply this. The migratory birds of this continent belong to the people of both nations and under this Treaty arrangement, an effort is being made to afford them the protection they need to insure their ranks from becoming unduly depleted. Doubtless much illegal shooting takes place in the United States. We Islanders know that many violations go unchecked not only in the rest of Canada but also on our own fair Island as well, in spite of the efforts of the wardens.

Canadian states that the Treaty has now expired. This is not true. The Treaty was signed in 1916 for a period of 15 years with a proviso, however, that it should remain in force continuously thereafter until one nation notified the other of its desire to have the Treaty discontinued one year in advance. To date no such notice has been given by Canada to the United States or vice versa.

Let us try to be just, reasonable, and constructive in our criticisms, thereby assisting rather than obstructing the authorities, who are doing their best to protect our valuable water fowl supply so that we may have better shooting now and for all time.

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