

MAXIMS
OF A
MERCHANT

Courtesy is the expression of the soul refinement in action, one toward another.

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CHARLOTTETOWN, CANADA, SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1926

HON. H. F. MCPHEE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS

Speaking on Budget Debate
Works of His Department so Aply
Carried on During the Past Year.

Speaking during the debate on the Budget in the Legislature on March 26th, Hon. H. F. McPhee, Minister of Public Works, said: "Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to take up the time of the House at any great length in this debate; but as some criticisms have been levelled at the Department over which I have the honor to preside, I wish to deal with those criticisms as briefly as possible. During the last two sessions this House has had the privilege of listening to very able speeches from the Hon. John A. McDonald, my predecessor in office, and I regret—and I am sure this House regrets that he is not in my place this afternoon to bring to my task that experience and wide knowledge and ability of presentation which were so abundantly his. Hon. members have in their possession the report of the Department of Public Works for the year 1925, as well as the report of the Provincial Auditor on the Public Accounts, and a perusal of these will give a very good idea of the scope and nature of the activities of this Department during the past year.

The year 1925 was in some respects one of unusual difficulties. The work of road maintenance and improvement is much affected by the nature of the weather prevailing during the season—a very wet season or a very dry season enhance the difficulties of the work very greatly. Some remarks have been made during the course of this debate, stressing the desirability of having the road work done as early as possible in the Spring. This is a suggestion with which I am in thorough accord, and it is a practice consistently pursued by this Department. Early in April last year instructions were sent out to our road makers in the country, and an appeal was made to them to cooperate in getting the road work done at the earliest possible date. I am glad to be able to state that there was an almost general response to that appeal.

Unusual Conditions
As you are aware, the Spring came in much earlier than is usual, and at a very early date in the Spring practically all of our roads had been dragged and put in good shape generally. Unfortunately the first period of fine weather was followed by a period of very heavy weather; there was a long spell of heavy, protracted rainfall, and this occurred just after the road work had been completed and before the roads had attained that hard surface which is their protection, and before there was sufficient traffic over them to give them a proper surface. The result, of course, was disastrous to the roads. The work which was begun in the early spring was practically undone; it had to be carried out again, and, of course, that meant additional expense. I am not mentioning this as an argument against early work, but I am simply pointing it out as a difficulty which we very often meet in our road work. It is all very well to lay down a general proposition with regard to when the road work should be done, and in which I am in accord, but it must be remembered that our seasons here are variable, and that we have to depend for our road work on the farmers, principally, and we cannot expect to get them to work on the ordinary farming activities when the weather is so unfavorable to their work. That is to say, if our road work coincides with the time when they are commencing their Spring operations, it is very difficult to get the road work done at that particular time.

That was the condition which existed in the Spring of last year, and weather conditions unfavorable to our work prevailed during the remainder of the season. You will recall that we had a period of very dry weather up to about the 1st of August, and then we had a period of weather so wet and broken that until the late Fall our farmers found it almost impossible to save their crops. As a result, road work was much delayed and was done with very great difficulty by those conditions.

I have enumerated these difficulties, not by way of apology for the season's work, because I think that last year's work requires no apology—I think that good work was done, but I have mentioned them because a proper conception of the difficulties must be had before one can judge truly of the quality of the services rendered.

New Highway Projects
The highway work was continued last season, and there were six new projects laid out, about 52 1/2 miles in all. The same policy with

Welcome New Resident From Lowestoft, Eng.

Among the new residents to come to the Province this week were: Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Thacker, of Lowestoft, England, with their family of one son and six daughters, all fine, healthy children, whose ages range from two to fifteen years.

They sailed from England on April 2nd, and arrived at Bradshaw Station on Tuesday evening when they were met by Mr. C. M. Williams, of Charlottetown, Provincial Supervisor of the Land Settlement Branch, Department of the Interior.

A number of their new neighbors were also there to greet them, with five sleighs, and the family were driven to their new home about a mile from Bradshaw, on the farm formerly occupied by James Milner Stevenson.

The good people of the vicinity had supper waiting and the Thacker family a miscellaneous shower of useful gifts. Wednesday night a reception was also held in their honour at which a large number of people were present, everything being done to make the newcomers thoroughly at home.

The farm on which they are settled consists of about one hundred acres, 85 of which is clear. Mr. Thacker will have a year's farming experience in the neighbourhood of the farm on his own account. He is a splendid type of immigrant, 37 years of age. He has been engaged in engineering, but has had a wide experience in farming and fishing. During the war he served in a trawler patrol in the North Sea.

The Thackers who are a most estimable couple are the vanguard of another group of families, 12 to 15 in all, who are coming out from England, Scotland and Ireland to Prince Edward Island within the next month.

Last year two families arrived, the Thomases, who located near Savage Harbour, and the Coziers near Montague. Both are doing well. Mr. Johnston this spring bought out his own farm, and is now operating it.

He was so well pleased with this province that through his recommendation a family who were his neighbours in the Old Country are coming to Morrell this month.

Fr. Marcotte Tells Attitude Toward Schools

MONTRÉAL, April 16.—At this afternoon's session of the French section of the National Conference on Education, Father F. X. Marcotte, rector of the University of Ottawa, analyzed five principles of education enunciated by the National Council. With the first three he was in agreement, but he took exception to the fourth, which laid down that "education is everybody's business."

"Education should interest everybody, certainly, and the parents primarily. The rights of the parents in education matters—that is, it seems to me, one of the principles which an educational congress should proclaim with the greatest force, a self-evident and fundamental principle of natural right—unfortunately in many countries, to the detriment of national harmony and spiritual temporal happiness of the peoples and individuals.

JOURNALISTIC ROMANCE



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Banish Married Women From Teaching Staffs

TORONTO, Ont., April 16.—According to the Daily Star, Toronto has driven practically all married women off her teaching staff with the exception of widows and those who are the support of ill or disabled husbands. The present practice is that even in the night classes in the colleges and technical and commercial schools the married woman teacher is avoided and solely because of her matrimonial bonds. There are a number of ex-teachers, married women, who are on the occasional staff, and are used at times to take a class when the regular teacher is absent. It is the school authorities to avoid any suspicion of favoring the teaching profession in this respect that here have been complaints that wives of teachers are being discriminated against.

Bobbing Of Nurses Hair Not Offensive

EDMONTON, Alta., April 16.—Interviews with heads of hospitals in the city show that "bobbing" of nurses' hair does not assume the importance given it in one hospital in Calgary. At the University hospitals, the nurses use their own judgment in the matter, and largely that judgment is "bob." However, they are not allowed to indulge in the short bob, they must wear wigs and keep wigs when on duty instead of the usual cap. Under these conditions it does not greatly matter whether the hair is long or short. Sister Wagner, superintendent of nurses in the General Hospital, states that probationers come to the hospital with short hair, but are told that they must not bob it again during their course of training. Her probationers have respected her wishes. After the nurses graduate, she says the matter is one for themselves to decide. The reasons advanced against bobbing are: that the short hair is not sanitary; caps fall off when the nurses are working over their patients; hair comes down over the eyes and when the nurses push it back, they expose themselves to infection. It is also too expensive to keep curled.

Nurses in training are permitted to wear their hair as they wish in the Misericordia Hospital, says the superintendent. She regards the bobbed hair as cleaner, but insists that the nurses wear nets. When so many women have their hair shorn, the nurses can scarcely be expected to resist the temptation. In the kindly attitude of Sister Marie, Nurses in the Royal Alexandra Hospital, who wish to part with their tresses, may do so if they wish, says Miss Guernsey, superintendent. They must, however, keep their "bobs" curled, and wear nets.

Sir Robert Houston Dies in England

LIVERPOOL, April 16.—Sir Robert Paterson Houston, ex-M. P., ship owner, head of the Houston Line of steamers, died today. He was 73 years of age. For 32 years Sir Robert was Conservative member of the House of Commons for the West Toxteth division of Liverpool, but he was defeated in the last general election by J. Gibbons, the Labor candidate.

Two years ago Sir Robert Houston married Lucy Lady Byron, who was among the first five women to be created Dames Commanders of the British Empire. Lady Byron, who has always been keenly interested in the advancement and welfare of women, was donor and administratrix of the first rest home for tired war nurses.

Strong Protest Against Sunday Dance Halls

LONDON, Eng., April 16.—"Since the artifice dancing has become a craze, and a large section of the people have been dancing thoughtlessly on our soldiers' graves," was the opinion expressed by one speaker at a meeting attended by sixty ministers of all denominations in Aberdeen to protest against the decision of the city magistrates to sanction the opening of a dance hall on Sunday afternoon and evening for orchestral performances and the sale of light refreshments. A resolution was passed protesting against the decision as raising a grave moral danger, and asking for its withdrawal.

The Rev. A. W. S. Forbes remarked that it was in the highest degree inconsistent and even incredible that men who dealt with the souls of sinners should countenance the inauguration of a movement which many knew from bitter experience as an influence for evil, extravagance, vice, the breaking up of homes, and the besmirching of young minds.

Mr. J. L. Deans, (Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkney) said it was the first step upon the slippery slope which must land them sooner or later into a kind of Sunday which those who were supporting the misguided magistrates would bitterly regret.

Baptist minister, the Rev. E. Hopkins said his people recognized that recreation and amusement had its place in life, but when a hall was opened merely for promiscuous dancing without any registered manager, simply for the sake of a game and where they might be provided with a dancing partner for 6d, it was an unhealthy peril.

A deputation was appointed to confer with the magistrates on the subject.

Hon E. N. Rhodes Interviewed in London

LONDON, April 16.—"Nova Scotia is hardly known here at all," declared Hon. E. N. Rhodes, Premier of Nova Scotia, when he met a gathering of newspaper men today in the Nova Scotia Agent General's Office in London with a view to making the Maritime Provinces better known.

Premier Rhodes mentioned the main points of Nova Scotia's resources. He said the Government hoped to secure an influx of settlers for Nova Scotia farms, but quality not quantity, was desired. The mining situation in Nova Scotia was briefly reviewed by Premier Rhodes and he referred to the recent mining troubles of the Province.

Italy's Music Masters Spurn Jazz in Opera

ROME, April 16.—Italy, the home of grand opera, spurns with horror and contempt the idea that jazz may some day cross the thresholds of the Scala of Milan, the San Carlo of Naples and the Costanzi of Rome as it has already entered the Metropolitan in New York.

"It is jazz-inspired symphonic music sure of a warmer reception in a country which accords jazz dance music and dancing a reluctant tourist's welcome, entertaining them in hotels and public places but barring them unequally from homes."

"I speak for musical Italian musicians and music lovers of the younger generation in declaring that I adore American jazz," said Mario Corti, most celebrated violinist of Italy, professor at the Royal Academy of Santa Cecilia and perhaps the most respected figure in the musical life of present-day Italy.

"We love its vigor, its novelty, its gayety its freshness but it is too much from the path of our traditions to be fused with or into our music. It presents a real danger which we must avoid."

Signor Corti's polite mildness is in distinct contrast with the violence of Pietro Mascagni, author of "Cavalleria Rusticana" and authentic torch-bearer of the Verdian tradition of lyrical grand opera, who abhors jazz music so wholeheartedly that he is soon to go to the United States as an archrival in a holy war against it.

"When I listen to the howling, groaning, brutal noise-making of jazz bands," Signor Mascagni said, "it makes me bitterly ill. Especially the saxophone players who try to imitate the voice of the most ignoble animals."

"Those dancers who, instead of making the strange steps which would be compatible with the pseudo-noble, dignified, and graceful dance slowly and lugubriously. They become more funereal as the music becomes more frenzied."

"Let's get rid of it and get back to John Strauss who knew how to write dance music full of charm and good conditions."

HON. H. D. MCGEVEN SPEAKS ON BUDGET DEBATE

Replies to Comment on West Indies Visit and Reviews Work of Government During the Past Year.

Speaking during the debate on the Budget in the Legislature on March 26, Hon. H. D. McEwen said: "Mr. Speaker, the Budget is generally considered in debate as a kind of 'free-for-all'; we can talk over nearly any subject we like. Before going into the main question, then, I want to refer to a little personal matter. My hon. friend the member for the second district of Prince County, who spoke this afternoon, (Mr. Dennis) said that any man worth while generally gets knocked, if that is the case I think I am worth while, for I don't know of anybody that has got more knocks than I have had during the past two or three months—that is, behind my back. I am told on pretty good authority that the Liberal candidate for the Federal election in King's County, during a provincial bye-elections, had a lot of fun, or what he considered fun, at my expense, when I was absent. If I were here he would not have had quite so much fun; and we may meet yet and have a little real fun over this thing; I was pictured as lolling under a royal palm tree down South, fanning myself with a palm. I was described in an acrobatic feat of climbing a banana tree. (Laughter.) I was even described by my genial friend the quill driver of the patriot as 'bathing my fevered brow in the limpid waters of the Atlantic.' In fact, when an hon. gentleman whom I thought was my particular friend was asked at a certain meeting if I was coming back, he said, 'Yes, if the nigger girls don't get him!' (Laughter.)"

Here is what the Leader of the Opposition said about me at Cardigan: "One of the greatest comedies of the Conservative comedy farce was sending Mr. H. D. McEwen down to the West Indies. It was the most unconstitutional thing that he could imagine. They had no more right to send a man there than to Russia or Japan. That was a matter for the Federal Government. If they had wanted first-hand information of the West Indies markets they could have sent over to Amherst for Mr. Hance J. Logan, and he would have told them more in a night than Mr. McEwen could find out in ten years of his life. The electors tolerated this conduct of affairs, electing Mr. McPhee and didn't elect Mr. Peck; they would condone this act."

Now I wonder if my hon. friend was responsible when he made that statement. I had no idea I was so dense that it would take me ten years to find what Mr. Hance J. Logan knew. It seems I am not in the right place. I should be in the Opposition. (Laughter and applause.)

Innuenduos Denied.
I am told that the statement was made in this House that I "packed" the meeting of the Charlottetown Board of Trade to get the recommendation approving of my visit to the West Indies for the purpose of investigating trade conditions. I will just leave that to the people of Charlottetown and the Charlottetown Board of Trade to answer. It is an absolute, unqualified falsehood. And I take the whole business of this personal reference I won't say abuse—as the political fog that usually hangs round election time, when everything that can be used that will catch a vote, will be said.

It was also said that I wanted a certain job and didn't get it. I am very thankful that I can get along the province of Quebec on behalf of their work in Canton. Their mission is in charge of 16 Canadian agents who are divided between the creche in Canton and the leper colony at Shek-Lung, located at some distance from the city. The two nuns, Sister Marie Collina and Sister Marie Immaculate, who left China on February 6th, report that their school, which was erected 100 years ago, has been almost demolished by white ants, the roof having been eaten away, while the inferior portions are seriously menaced.

Over 5,000 Chinese babies were taken into the creche at Canton by the sisters in charge during the past year, most of these being found abandoned and brought to the sisters by coolies, who exact a fee equivalent to 25 cents for each baby. Sometimes, the sisters declare, as many as 10, 15 or 20 babies per day are brought to the creche, many being in a dying condition when found by the coolies. Only girls are abandoned in China, and boys are only brought to the creche when seriously ill as the death of a boy is regarded as a portent of bad luck to the home.

With regard to that trip to the West Indies, it is something that has been talked about, as a matter of fact, for quite a while. It was talked about by the Liberal party and made quite a slogan of. One of the first speeches I ever made in the Legislature, under the Matheson administration, was on the West Indies affairs. It has been rather a hobby of mine for some years. This went on until the last general election, when there was considerable talk about trade opportunities. It was my hon. friend the Minister of Agri-

culture who asked me to go down because he was anxious to get a wider market for the produce of the farmers of this Province. I met the Charlottetown Board of Trade, and you know what took place there. I may tell you this: if every I tried to keep clear of party politics it was on that trip for I felt that parties might come and parties might go, but the trade of the country must go on forever. We should be big enough on both sides of the House to eliminate party feelings when it comes to a question of the betterment of conditions of this Province. (Applause.)

It was described as a "pleasant holiday trip." I want to tell you that the man who says that knows absolutely nothing about conditions in the tropics. It was no holiday trip. I worked hard and travelled over 9,000 miles—just as far as Mr. Hance J. Logan did. I have nothing to say about Mr. Logan. I give him credit for being absolutely sincere and desirous of furthering trade with the West Indies. I would like to meet him to compare notes, because I was on his track most of the way. I went places where he did not go, and he went places where I did not go; altogether I travelled to more places than he did. When my report comes out it will be submitted to the House, I understand, and when you read that report, and the people of the Province read it, I will let them decide whether there is more information in my report or in Mr. Logan's. I cannot say anything fairer than that. That, I think, will be sufficient answer to the assertion of Mr. Logan that the Opposition that it would take me ten years to find out what Mr. Logan could tell us in one night. (Applause.)

Perhaps I had some advantage over Mr. Logan. In the first place I didn't attend any social functions; my time was taken up absolutely and entirely with business men, acquiring information and statistics at the different points. Of course, a Minister of the Federal Government could not do just as I did. He had to get his information some other way; his information is all right as far as it goes, but I think when you compare his report with mine you will find that there is some difference.

The people of the North, as a rule, have very little idea of conditions in the tropics. I had not. My dreams became a nightmare when I got down there, things were so different. We have no idea of distances. In the first place, when you figure on the map, it is about 800 or 900 miles from Halifax to Bermuda, and from Bermuda to St. Kitts, the nearest stopping place, about 1,000 railway miles; then on to the Windward or Leeward Islands, and you will find yourself very close to 3,000 miles from Halifax when you reach Trinidad.

Then you go to Jamaica, about 1,200 miles further, as the crow flies. But you can't go that way; you must take the trade route. When you get to Jamaica, and you want to go to another British possession, you must go over 700 railway miles to strike British Honduras, and 700 or 800 miles further until you reach the Bahamas. So you see it is a very large country, and in my opinion I would say that any trade Canada does undertake there should not be confined to the British West Indies islands alone, because there are only about 2,000,000 people in the British West Indies islands. I have seen a statement in the Toronto Saturday Night, has undertaken making a speech somewhere that there are 8,000,000 or 9,000,000 British subjects there. I don't know where they were; I didn't find that many. There are about 2,000,000 British subjects in those islands; but in that same circuit, including independent islands—the republics, the Dutch and French islands and the coast towns of Venezuela, Columbia and Panama, there are over 20,000,000 people of different nationalities; and they all want certain kinds of goods.

We seem to have the idea that we are the only people who produce certain things. You might be surprised were you to find French, Dutch and German steamship lines going there regularly, as well as ships coming from the Argentine Republic. Nearly all those countries raise products similar to what Canada produces, and the competition is very keen. The only way to get business in the West Indies is to have someone on the spot, to keep in close touch with the buyers. Some large dealers have several of these offices in various places. That is the only way to keep in touch with the business.

(Continued on page 4)