

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24, 1923

THE ROAD PROBLEM

The road problem is undoubtedly one of, if not the most, difficult confronting the Stewart Government and its difficulties are only now revealing themselves. For some time past all the emphasis was placed on road improvement. It was an everyday boast that we had 400 miles of the best road the Province had ever known and during the incipient stages of the road we were assured these roads were not going to cost us a cent. Now it transpires that the 344 1/2 miles of road work done has cost the Province \$648,485.60, or approximately \$1885 a mile and that only 170 miles of this has been completed. The public had been kept in the dark about this until only a few days ago, when the official bulletin issued by the Good Roads Branch of the Department of Railways and Canals was received and The Guardian published the report. The plain, cold official facts are that 344 1/2 miles of road has been torn up at a cost of \$1885 per mile, and that only 170 miles has been completed, the remaining 174 1/2 miles "almost constructed, but not quite complete" is to be finished quite complete" is to be finished easily grow to large proportions, by the present Government in accordance with obligations assumed by the late Government. What the cost of this completion shall be, how much remains of the work done at a cost of \$1885 per mile on this "almost constructed, but not quite complete part" is yet to be ascertained. It will also have to be paid for as both the Dominion grant and the money borrowed have been spent. It is useless now to "cry over spilt milk" and certainly no greater "spill" has ever been known in this Province. The problem has to be faced. No provision was made by the late Government to carry out the obligation they assumed with respect to the maintenance of the improved highways; they spent all the money tearing up the roads leaving the maintenance to take care of itself. This is the situation today so far as the roads are concerned. In addition there are many bridges to be either rebuilt or repaired. Some of these had been fenced off as unsafe before the late Government went out of office, others were wrecked by the October storm. Added to the difficulty is the lateness of the season, the difficulty of procuring labor, and the fact that the bridges must be made passable before anything except absolutely necessary temporary repairing can be undertaken on the roads.

WHAT IT IS WORTH

During the year 1922 American travellers spent about two hundred million dollars in Europe. This estimate was made by the American Express Company which had excellent opportunities for doing so. This company, commenting on the general subject of vacation expenditures, makes the statement that American visitors to Florida during the winter months spend on an average annually three hundred million dollars there. These figures, which are no doubt approximately correct, give some idea of the value to a country or to a city of an established tourist business. Europe is large but even in the whole continent there are favorite tourist resorts and favorite lines of travel; each of them made a favorite by publicity as well as by natural attractions. Florida, a single state, with its undoubted winter attractions, but no greater than those of several

others of the southern states, has boosted its attractions, throughout the continent and has made itself immensely wealthy by its tourist trade. During the past summer there were visitors from Florida in this city. It was their first visit to Canada and they were amazed that they had never heard of Prince Edward Island and its wonderful summer climate. They had spent summers in favorite summer resorts in the United States, but in each of them they had found the heat even more intolerable than in their own Florida. They declared that if the attractions in Prince Edward Island were generally known the country would be filled with visitors every summer. There is no doubt of this; no doubt that with our genial, moderate summer climate, our unexcelled bathing facilities, our ample means of enjoyment, this province could be made the Mecca of American and Canadian vacationists. It is within our reach to make it so. There is one way and one only in which this can be done, that is by a live Tourist Association. Through such an organization at least a modest beginning could be made which could easily grow to large proportions. The first step towards organizing such an association is for a few of those most interested to get together and discuss and agree upon ways and means. The Automobile Association, which has already done excellent work along this line might well make the initial move and get the thing started. Lead on; the province is ready to follow.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Many complaints have recently reached The Guardian of inhuman cruelty to animals, particularly to horses. This Province has long been noted for its splendid horses, a fact which has inspired a stronger love for these animals perhaps than is known elsewhere. It hurts our humane men and women to see horses ill used and more than once on our streets drivers have been severely reprimanded for ill using horses fied beyond their strength. We have no Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, but we have our police court, and it is the duty of any citizen who sees any animal cruelly treated to report the matter at once to the police. The merciful man is merciful to his beast, we are told, but the merciful man deserves no mercy and should either be brought to justice or treated on the spot as he treats his horse. There are but few men in Charlottetown who ill use their horses. This is evidenced by the magnificent horses seen on our streets. The exceptions are rare but they should be rarer still, and this can be brought about by promptly reporting such cases as may occur whether they belong to city or country.

EDITORIAL NOTES

As all intelligent people in the Province know no Act of the legislature can be repealed except by the legislature in regular session. The Taxation Act which among other things provides for the collection of a poll tax cannot be repealed until the legislature meets and therefore the Act is still in force. The poll tax will therefore be collected, as the legislature which passed the Act intended it should be collected. The Stewart Government will, as Premier Stewart promised, repeal the Act; meanwhile it must collect the tax, and, judging by the financial burden left to it by its predecessors, it will need every dollar of it.

Notes By the Way

Some elections have taken place and others will occur this week in the Dominion. These include a federal bye-election in Winnipeg, four provincial contests in Quebec and one in Ontario. Not much political significance attaches to any of them. In Ontario there was an election in Lennox, at which a Conservative was returned, and four contests in rural districts of Quebec, where four Liberals were returned. These were expected results, apparently. Outside of the Montreal district the Taschereau government is still strong in Quebec, just as the Ferguson administration is in Ontario.

In Winnipeg the election is a federal one, caused by Hon. Mr. McMurray, sitting member for one of the city divisions, having resigned his seat to accept a portfolio in the Mackenzie King government. He is seeking re-election and is being opposed by two independent candidates the stronger of whom apparently also asks the support of the Labor party. No official Conservative nominee is in the field, and Mr. McMurray's re-election is expected, although the Labor party candidate may probably receive a pretty strong support. The labor element in Winnipeg is pretty numerous and ready for a fight.

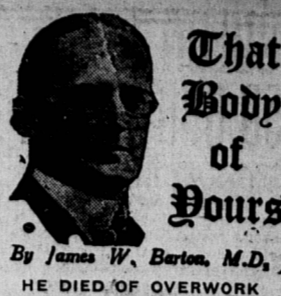
Russian agriculture is being tardily restored and is slowly recovering from the consequences of war and famine, according to an official report from L. D. Wilgress, Canadian Trade Commissioner. He tells that the present cultivated area is about 70 per cent of what it was in 1913 and 18 per cent better than in 1922 when the lowest acreage was planted. The chief recovery in the cultivated area has been in the middle and lower Volga regions which were especially affected by the famine of 1921. From this resulted the great shortage of seed grain for 1922.

Public expectations raised by the report that Dr. Banting would presently announce a new discovery for surpassing that of insulin in importance seem likely to be disappointed. Dr. V. E. Henderson, of the Research Department of the Faculty of Medicine of Toronto University, says: "Dr. Banting's work has nothing to do with anaemia or any known disease, but it opens up points of interest to physiologists. It is unwise for the public to expect a new discovery of the type of insulin in any period of time under two years." Apparently somebody blundered when the first announcement of Dr. Banting's latest discovery was made. It was not made by Dr. Banting himself and we are left to infer that it was not authorized by him.

Saint John is all agog in preparation for the official opening of its new dry dock, which will take place on Monday next. It will be an event in the history of the port. The dock is one of the largest in the world and an eminent engineer who has seen most of the other big ones says that he does not know of any that is so well equipped. It is located at Courtney Bay at the east side of the city. Shipbuilding will be carried on as well as repairing and the dock is expected to give a new impetus alike to the shipping trade and other industries of New Brunswick's winter port and chief commercial centre.

Lloyd George, speaking at Louisville, Kentucky, repeats his prediction of a year ago that the former German empire, now a republic, will presently break up. The Bavarians are in revolt, and he believes the separatist movement there will spread to all Germany. For this the ex-Premier blames France, and goes on to say: "There are no reparations for anybody in that sort of thing. French money is behind it." This is a gloomy picture, truly. For with the break up of Germany there would be no government for the Allied Powers to deal with. This may happen as predicted, but many will continue to hope for better things. In this troubled world it is sometimes darkest just before the dawn.

A regular airship service from England to Egypt and India is now being discussed and likely to be adopted. The announcement is made by Sir Samuel Hoare, British Air Minister, addressing the Imperial Economic Conference. It contemplates a weekly service, first to Egypt and later to India, the longer journey to be made in 100 flying hours. It is hoped to further extend the service to bi-weekly trips, with an outfit of six large airships, making the trip to Egypt in two days and to India in five days compared with the present steamship service which covers six days in the one case and 14 1/2 days in the other. A trans-Atlantic air-cruiser as a later development, all under governmental control and service, England to Canada, is anti-direction.



By James W. Barton, M.D. HE DIED OF OVERWORK

It would be amusing if it were not so tragic when you read about a man working so hard at his regular employment that he simply dropped dead. "He died of heart disease from overwork." Now this is just the one thing that is certain. He did not die from overworking his heart. Of what then did he die? From underworking his heart. The last thing many intelligent people seem to realize is that the heart is made of muscle very similar to the other muscles of the body. Of course it is not under the control of the will to the same extent, but it depends for its strength exactly upon the same thing as any other muscle. You know what that is—exercise or work. Now a man may be in apparently good health, eat well, sleep well, and have no serious illnesses. He applies himself to his business, sitting in his office all day and often into the night. He rides to and from his office in his car, often driven by a chauffeur. You know what you come to think about it, how much real work he has given his heart—Very little indeed. Some emergency arises. He runs for a car, tries a game of tennis, perhaps a tug of war contest. Or more frequently some illness comes along, perhaps an acute attack of indigestion, and he collapses. Now what am I trying to prove? That your heart muscle will be soft and flabby just like the other muscles of the body if it be not exercised. You say how can I definitely exercise my heart and know that I'm giving it the proper exercise? I've talked long and often about the benefits of slow running, so much used by every footballer, boxer, and athlete. There is nothing better known. But the next best and simplest exercise is just ordinary walking. Try and walk a mile or two every day at a fair pace, and you'll ask your heart to pump a little harder, sending the blood to the most important point of your body. This will put your heart right and keep it right. Remember there is no royal road to strengthen a heart. Stimulants may be necessary to tide you over an illness. That's true enough. But exercise—work—as in simple walking is the only real way you can develop the heart muscle.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

THE MAN WITHIN YOU 'Tis not the man behind you, sir; But one within your character; Who counts and acts and acts for you; Nor is it how his words may fly and buzz; But what you do and do and do. Not what you do a time or two— The act that's counted with the few; But how you hold and what you own; 'Till you are ready to defend. And carry through unto the end; The things you put upon your throne. 'Tis not the fellow down the street Who makes his track with wobbly feet; But how you walk and where you go; And what your purpose is, and why, And where you stop, and what you pass by; And how you live by what you know. The decent man is decent still, Though he may walk beyond the hill; And where the darkened shadows lie; Or down the alley in the dirt, Where purer life so oft is hurt, If he remembers God is nigh. 'Tis not the other but 'tis you, Who marks your way as false or true; And in thy life stand thou upright; And those who try to do thee wrong, Will fall at last where they belong, Into oblivion and night. By Edmund J. Bristow

NOT FAR TO GO

A distinguished lawyer and politician was traveling on the train, when an Irishwoman came into one car with a big basket bundle, etc., and sat down near him. When the conductor came around to collect fares the woman paid her money, and the conductor passed by the lawyer without collecting anything. The good woman thereupon said to the lawyer: "An faith an' why is it that the conductor takes the money of a poor Irishwoman an' don't ask ye, who same to be a rich man, for anything?" The lawyer (who had a pass) replied: "My dear madam, I'm travelling on my beauty." The woman looked at him for a moment and then quickly answered: "An' is that so? Thin ye must be very near yer journey's end."

The Truth About Monkey Glands

(By Dominion News Service)

LONDON Oct. 23.—Monkey gland treatment may make an old man seem younger for a time. But Nature has a way of taking her revenge.

The whole question has been raised again by the death of Mr. Liardet, the "star" patient of Voronoff.

The death of Mr. Arthur Liardet last week is a notable event in the history of science. Yet many people may have failed to remember his name. He was a gentleman who became world famous partly by reason of his career having been seemingly closed. Mr. Liardet, who had been an actor and theatre manager, came to Dr. Serge Voronoff for treatment in 1921. Dr. Voronoff, a man of Russian descent, but holding an official position in France, had already made some public stir by his experiments with the monkey gland, and certainly Mr. Liardet, who was then 74 years of age seemed a favourable subject for experiment. He had been a strong active man, but Voronoff described him at that time as old, obese, bent, haggard in countenance, wrinkled and bald—and hobbling along with a stick. Voronoff performed upon him the operation of transplanting a monkey gland.

We next hear of Mr. Liardet on October 5, 1922, when Dr. Voronoff wished to present him as an example of successful operation at a meeting of French surgeons at the rooms of the Faculty of Medicine. Voronoff had, it was asserted, given an interview to the Press, and the surgeons, regarding this as unprofessional, shouted him down.

A violent scene occurred, and the gland doctor again had recourse to the Press in order to give expression to his opinions and claims. He said that Mr. Liardet now walked with his upright carriage and easy step, that he had a luxuriant growth of hair, and had in every way become rejuvenated. Yes, but if a man becomes rejuvenated that should mean that he has a new lease of life, and the discouraging point about many of the wonderful restorative operations is that the subject succumbs. One is reminded of the optimistic patient died. There is always the resource in these cases of blaming the patient.

There was another case where, some two years ago, an American gentleman advertised a lecture at the Albert Hall with the attractive title: "How I Was Made Twenty Years Younger by the Method of Dr. Steinhach, of Vienna," but he died on the very day on which the lecture was to have been given. In this case a post-mortem examination was held, and it is remarkable that no trace of operation was found at all.

Here we face to face with the possibilities of fraud, or the suggestion always arises in such cases of a certain spice of quackery and humbug. There is also a very large and growing commercial side to the question.

There are in the body a number of glands the functions of which were almost entirely unknown not more than two generations ago. These were mostly glands devoid of ducts, and medical men of a former day, not understanding how they could work, described them as remnant bodies.

A great advance was made when, in the year 1849, Berthold, of Göttingen, discovered what is known as the "internal secretion," he demonstrated that these glands, so far from being inactive, continually poured into the blood substances of the greatest importance to our physical development and general well-being, and even to our mental condition.

Dr. Voronoff's earlier experiments were concerned with the transplantation of one such gland, the thyroid in the neck.

The first to suggest actual transplantation was a French surgeon, Forel, who put forth his ideas in 1899, but as far as can be discovered the actual pioneer case stands to the credit of two Americans, Hammond and Sutton, in 1912.

Then we hear of the famous Dr. Steinhach, of Vienna, whose enthusiasm carried him so far that he wanted a law passed making it possible to use the glands of every man who had died by accident. It is only after a fairly long series of experiments and operations that we first meet with the name of Voronoff in this connection.

What has made Voronoff famous has been not anything novel, either in his ideas or methods, but rather a certain forceful personality. He is a man now wearing on to fifty, tall vigorous, and thinks with the broad brow of the Slav, but displaying the heavy moustache of the cavalry leader and the hustling spirit of a Yankee. Moreover, to do him justice, he is a thoroughly convinced believer in the value and importance of his own methods.

It was not until the year 1920 that he performed his first transplantation of the monkey gland on men. His patients were not old men in the first instance; they were two who had lost their vitality through tuberculosis. A few months later, however, he carried out an experiment on a man of fifty-nine, and then on a famous literary man, who, though only sixty, had brought himself to a state of senile decay by over-work. Since then he has performed some fifty operations on subjects whose ages range from twenty-two to seventy-seven, including six physicians and at least one eminent statesman.

Dr. Voronoff gave a demonstration in London not long ago which greatly interested Harley-street, and which led to the usual out-

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crop of foolish suggestions and exaggerated hopes. Whatever be the final verdict, science is certainly indebted to Voronoff for his long continued and patient experiments, not only with human beings, but with animals. An interesting development during the conference was the good feeling of the German and the French delegates, who brought their individual problems before the conference—brothers in need. The official language of the meeting was German, which was immediately translated into French. The Chairman commented openly on the good feeling and hoped the French and German could work together in other conferences as they had worked in Berne. With increasing knowledge of hygiene, old age has been delayed, and this will be carried out in future to a far higher degree than at present; but the sudden stimulation of the body by the secretions of the monkey gland may produce results which, though as wonderful, may also at length be as deceptive as those of alcohol.

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