

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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How About It?

"An attempt is being made to give the impression that the Lea Government cannot hope to get an increase of subsidy from the present Federal Government. . . . The Charlottetown Board of Trade is a non-political body, and the members strongly resent the action of the Tory organ in making a political football out of their recent discussion on the subsidy question."—Patriot editorial, March 10, 1931.

Civic Affairs

The civic estimates, brought down by Coun. Foster, chairman of the Finance Committee, at the regular meeting of the City Council on Monday night, appeared in yesterday's Guardian and will have been read with interest by all our citizens. They show a total estimated revenue of \$222,480.76 as against a total estimated expenditure of \$222,071.29, leaving an estimated surplus of \$409.47. Last year, due in large measure to non-payment of tax arrears, there was a considerable deficit, and the need for economy in all departments of civic affairs was emphasized by Coun. Foster and his colleagues. This year it is hoped the expenditures will be kept well within the estimates and that taxes will be more promptly paid.

The appointment of Mr. Angus McEachern as Chief of the City Fire Department, and Mr. Frank Hennessey as Assistant Chief, under the new regulations limiting the age of city firemen to from twenty-one to fifty years, will, we believe, give general satisfaction. Messrs. McEachern and Hennessey are experienced and competent men, and thoroughly understand their new duties and responsibilities.

Mr. Thomas Ranahan, the retiring Chief, and his first lieutenant, Mr. Albert Large, have performed services of great value to the community over a lengthy period of years—services which we trust will not be forgotten by our citizens. The same may be said for the other older members of the Fire Department who will now be retired under the provisions of the new by-law. No city of its size in Canada can boast of a finer volunteer fire fighting brigade than Charlottetown, and the reputation thus achieved is due in considerable measure to the example and experience of the older men. They have built up a tradition and a standard of public service which will endure after them; and to have done this is to have succeeded nobly in life. The Guardian takes this opportunity of saluting, with affection and respect, "the boys of the Old Brigade," and of wishing them good fortune and good health in the years that lie ahead.

What the Tariff is Doing

A remarkable series of articles on the effect of the Bennett tariff policy on business and industry throughout Canada has been published by the Montreal Star. Corroboration of the facts in these articles comes in the form of an analysis by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. It makes plain, even to the most hardened Free Trade zealot, that employment in manufacturing is on the upgrade, especially in the key industries, iron, steel and textiles. There, as the Star points out, are the very industries most neglected by the King Government, which Mr. Bennett set out to rescue from a low-tariff bog.

Admittedly, the Star continues in summing up the situation.

"Admittedly," the Star continues in summing up the situation, "these are times of world-depression. Admittedly the lumber and mining industries are being hit by world prices, just as construction and roadwork is seasonably depressed. Following the Liberal precedent, Mr. Bennett might have lain down and supinely blamed the world depression. But he took action. He saw that the Canadian market, at least, might be saved. And so he struck with lightning speed and lightning force. "The Conservative policy is already justifying itself. Manufacturing is on the upturn. Whatever makes for the employment of our workers raises the national buying power, and benefits Canada as a whole. If Mr. Bennett can foster the seedling of revival in the very winter of depression, what a burgeoning may we not expect when the Spring of Prosperity returns?"

Career of a Statesman

Hon. W. M. Lea, Secretary-Treasurer in the Bell Government, delegated to represent the Government in an interview with the federal authorities in the matter of the Dalton Sanatorium, replies, when asked what cash settlement the Government will accept: "I don't know." He returns empty-handed. Hon. W. M. Lea, Secretary-Treasurer in the Saunders Government, sits so tightly on the money chest that \$100,000 of road machinery is ordered without his knowledge. Hon. Mr. Lea, challenged in the Legislature to explain the publication of a pamphlet claiming a subsidy of over three million dollars per annum, issued under his name as Acting Premier and Provincial Secretary, asks: "What pamphlet is that?" Premier W. M. Lea, elected on the pledge of assuming full responsibility for enforcing the Prohibition Act, tells a Liberal convention in Second Prince: "So far as we could arrange it, enforcement was taken out of the hands of the Government and left to the Commission. . . . Then if the enforcement is not as satisfactory to the people, it is as good as it can be from the Government. Beyond that we are not responsible." Premier Lea, still Provincial Secretary-Treasurer, on being asked to explain the announcement in the Canadian Press that counsel representing Prince Edward Island appeared in the Supreme Court of Canada to contest the right of the Dominion Government to control radio broadcasts, replies: "It's all news to me!"

Editorial Notes

A famous centre of statecraft and diplomacy passes its second centenary this year. World history has been made in No. 10 Downing Street established in 1731. It may not be generally known that the new Governor General, Lord Bessborough, has a cousin a member of the Labour Government in England. He is Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Labour member for the Brightside division of Sheffield, and son of the late Sir Henry Ponsonby, private secretary to Queen Victoria. This may, in part, account for Lord Bessborough's appointment. Messrs. Tidmarsh, Mutch and Higgs, who interviewed Premier Lea the other day about our subsidy claims, must have been surprised to learn that the delay in securing settlement was due to the failure of the other Maritime Provinces to co-operate. On February 3, 1930, when the same gentlemen interviewed Ex-Premier Saunders on the same subject, the Premier informed the delegation that on his own initiative he had taken the matter up with the late Hon. Mr. Robb "a year ago, and on his recent visit also conferred with the present Minister of Finance, Hon. Mr. Dunning."

Notes by the Way

When Hon. R. B. Bennett, Premier of Canada, appealed to the people of the Dominion last July to support the Conservative policy and return his party to power, it was based on a fundamental principle of creating wherever possible, more employment for Canadian workers and greater production of goods made in Canada. The new tariff schedule is the logical result of that principle and consequently we have the spectacle of American and British firms establishing branch factories in Canada.

The latest "monthly summary" of the League's doings to hand records the election of Frank B. Kellogg in succession to Charles Evans Hughes as a member of the Permanent Court of International Justice. Other events of the month were the signing of a Treaty of Friendship between Sweden and Persia and the settlement of an argument between Germany and Czechoslovakia about the use of the port of Hamburg. Little things, of course; but they help.

It has become fairly evident that the attitude of the government everywhere to this whole matter is increasingly less and less that of the Levite and more and more that of the Samaritan. It would be unfortunate and illogical if our interest took the form of alms or artificial employment only, and did not concern itself with the causes which underlie this increasing phenomenon of modern life. Such widespread conditions as those with which we are this year called upon to cope can no longer be treated as emergencies; they are social and economic maladies, deep-seated and virulent. They must be studied and treated as such.

Among the areas where it would seem likely the supply of gold can be increased there is no doubt that Canada stands in the front rank. The United States output has been declining, while that of Canada has been increasing, till she now stands in second place among the gold producers of the world. She is still a long way behind South Africa in the matter of production, however; but this situation might very easily be changed.

Irene Schroeder, 22-year-old Pennsylvania girl, and Glen Dague, her lover, paid the extreme penalty in the Rockview prison Monday at daybreak for the murder of a state trooper who had attempted to arrest the pair on a robbery charge. Almost simultaneously Mrs. Myrtle A. Bennett, charming woman of 35, went on trial at Kansas City for the slaying of her husband, as the result of a quarrel over a bid in a bridge game. The prosecution announced that it would not seek the death penalty. In Florida Nathan Burton, 24 year old farmer, went to the electric chair for the murder of his 19-year-old wife, Ellen, whom he beat to death after a quarrel. And yet it has been only a few days since a New York jury freed a young man, the son of a bishop, who had beaten to death an aged printer during a drunken frenzy. In still another state a woman who killed her husband was executed, while in another, a woman charged with the same offense went to jail for ten years. And in a third a girl bandit received a sentence of 14 years' imprisonment. Illustrations, these, of what appears on the face to be a glaring lack of uniformity in the punishment of criminals seemingly two widely divergent conceptions of the heinousness of murder exist in different states. Try to reconcile that ten-year sentence for murder and that 14-year penalty for robbery and the conclusion must be that it is a greater crime to rob in some states than to kill husbands in others.

"If, through the League of Nations, the civilized countries of the world come together and say that the question is not the conditions in which the people of Russia live, but that of Communism versus commercialism, the remedy would soon be found in the refusal of the rest of the civilized world to supply the machinery that Russia needs to undercut every other country. Russia pays for her agricultural produce by merely turning a printing press, and she does not need gold. As she will have no dividends to pay on capital when her factories are in full swing, she will have no difficulty in dumping over tariffs into any market, except those in which her goods are prohibited. Meanwhile, every country that has any connection with Russia, and every credit extended to her, including that allowed by the British Government, is helping to bring nearer the day when the products of Communism, if not the creed, will swamp the markets of the world."

A news despatch says an effort will be made at the forthcoming session of the Dominion Parliament to have legislation enacted making



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Hours

FOG AND COLD WEATHER

A few months ago the newspapers carried that intensely interesting story of the "fog of death" which hung over the Meuse river in Belgium. Sixty four people died suddenly, and the inhabitants were terror-stricken. It was suggested at first, that the deaths were due to poison gas, a supply of which must have been uncovered during the great rainstorms that preceded the fog, also that some plague, some communicable disease was the cause.

What was really the cause of all these deaths. According to the French and Belgian authorities, after investigation, the deaths were not due to any communicable disease; neither were they due to any poison gas. The sixty four deaths that occurred were mostly among old people. There were five deaths in one village, two of them of people who had long been sufferers of heart disease, one from tuberculosis, one from asthma, and one from obesity or overweight. "Apparently the deaths were due to nothing else but a sudden severe spell of fog and cold."

We are informed that the valley of the Meuse where the deaths occurred is deep and sheltered, and that cold air settles at the bottom of such a valley. A fog itself will not increase greatly the rate of deaths from tuberculosis but if with fog there is cold or low temperature there is a sudden increase in the death rate in adults from bronchial, and lung diseases.

Health authorities of Great Britain, which is well used to fogs, tell us that during the cold season every city is in danger of an increased death rate from a combination of fog, cold air, and air that is still.

Now what can we do to prevent this increased death rate, as we cannot change the weather? Just keep ourselves in the best possible condition; by remembering that only three things enter into this matter—food, rest and exercise.

From the food standpoint—a little more fat, butter and milk, with enough rough foods to keep intestine active. Our rest should be somewhat increased even to the extent of a little rest during the day, is possible. We should take our regular bending exercises to keep the liver active thus keeping the blood rich and pure, and able to resist disease, and continue our daily walks, to keep heart muscle in good condition.

The underweight who has been dieting thus lessening his resisting powers, and the overweight individual who has been overtaxing heart and lungs by this overweight, are not going to be as good risks during foggy, cold, still weather, as the individual of normal weight.

The Poet's Corner

IMMORTALITY We must pass like smoke or live within the spirit's fire; For we can no more than smoke into the flame return If our thought has changed to dream, our will unto desire, As smoke we vanish though the fire may burn.

Lights of infinite pity star the gray dusk of our days; Surely here is soul: with it we have eternal breath: In the fire of love we live, or pass by many ways, By unnumbered ways of dream to death.

—G. W. Russell ("A. E.") We are impressed with the broad sameness of the human lot, which never alters in the main headings of its history—hunger and labor, seed-time and harvest, love and death.—George Elliot.

Egyptian Arts

(Montreal Gazette)

Once more there is considerable stir amongst archaeologists the world over consequent upon the news that Professor Selim Bey Hassan, of the Egyptian University, has recently unearthed from the Ghizeh Pyramid the complete sarcophagus of an unknown Egyptian woman. The mummy so discovered is evidently the funeral relic of some prominent personage, judging by the number and variety of artistic objects found within the crypt where the sarcophagus has for many centuries of silence reposed. Great importance is attached to this find in that it is the first unearthing of an Egyptian tomb wherein everything deposited in connection with the ancient rites and practices of these people is still intact. Most of the tombs have either been robbed of their spoils or have crumbled to decay. But this specimen of ancient sepulture appears to be in a state of almost perfect preservation, and the many materials brought to light are likely to produce some such emotional stir as was occasioned when the tomb of Tutankhamen was reopened by Howard Carter some eight years ago, when the famous explorer of Theban relics caught his first glimpse of the passageway into the antechamber beyond, a spectacle that, we are told, left him almost speechless with amazement. For, heaped about the room he saw furniture, couches, chariots, caskets, chairs, statures, weapons, vases of alabaster, multi-colored glass and stones, things of ivory and things covered with gold overlay, carved figures of the lion, the cow and hippopotamus, with rare faience work, unguents and funeral bouquets—a collection of rich and splendid treasures excelling any previous find ever made within the Theban territory.

It appears that the recent discovery made by Professor Hassan will go far towards confirming the impression that our modern world, with all its scientific researches and mechanical appliances, has no reason to boast of artistry anywise superior to the sedate skill of the ancient Egyptians, even if it can vie with the ingenuity and beautiful finish of the work perfected by their hands. And many savants consider that this is doubtful. They opine that the civilization to which the Bible refers as "the wisdom of the Egyptians" attained a greater height some four thousand years ago than at any other period of the world's history.

As this as it may, the sarcophagus now unearthed is said to have been surrounded by seventy-eight vases of polished alabaster, forty pottery vases, gilded dishes, bracelets, anklets, necklaces of exquisite workmanship, cones of glass and faience work, gold discs and jewels and precious stones and flowers wrought into a golden crown, described as a masterpiece of art. And beside the mummy were found clay fingers and toes, artifices placed there in the belief that the deceased would use them in the after life. This is one of the great marvels of the ancient Egyptian mind. The people who made the Nile Delta a vast and splendid mausoleum of the dead, who erected the Pyramid which has been called a miracle in stone, and who framed the royal symbol signifying that the throne of Egypt was built upon the reeds, consummated their artistic genius in these funeral vestiges which amply record their profound belief in immortality. It is quite understandable that some objection should be raised against the rifling of these ancient monuments and the chambers of the dead. Such feeling deserves to be respected and it is to be hoped the just sentiment so expressed will meet with due and proper consideration. But the discoveries so made throw a vast amount of light upon the beliefs, customs, habits, government and artistic attainments of the folk who, millenniums ago, played flute and lyre at their social gatherings and dipped their golden jars into the waters of the Nile. And a wonderful folk they were.

From Gladstone to Macdonald

(Ottawa Journal) Alexander MacKintosh, political writer for the Liverpool Daily Post and the British Weekly, has completed half a century in the press gallery at Westminster. His record promises to rival that of the late Sir Henry W. Lucy, popularly known as "Toby M. P." of Funch, who rounded out his career by a volume of reminiscences, "Sixty Years in the Wilderness." In the British Weekly Mr. MacKintosh contrasts the present House of Commons with that upon which he looked down in January, 1881, when the press gallery was first opened to the provincial newspapers. Mr. MacKintosh notes a revolution

in the matter of dress. He attributes this to various causes, such as "the modern informality of manners," the influx of the members who care nothing for the "dictates of society," and perhaps, the motor car. The frock-coat of half a century ago is worn by few now, "except on high occasions," and the lounge suit has been adopted even by leaders of parties," he declares.

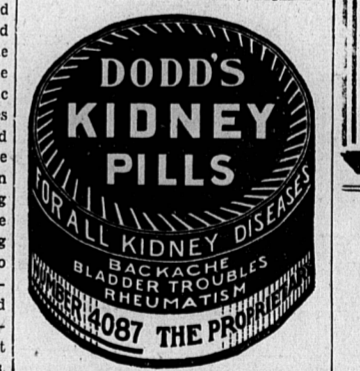
And with the frock-coat has gone the silk topper. "When I entered the Lobby, everyone except the Whigs wore a silk hat. Now almost everyone is bareheaded. Hats are left in the cloak room." The hours of the House have changed. They have improved, though some modern members consider them still too late. In the "Eighties" it was customary to sit until two or three in the morning. Indeed, sittings might go on indefinitely. In 1888 the closing hour was fixed at 1 a. m. Now, except when the rule is suspended, the House rises at 11.30 p. m., only half an hour later than in Ottawa.

"There is no distinction of class in the devotion to the week-end habit," says Mr. Macintosh. "The short sittings used to be on Wednesday (as in Ottawa), but now it is on Friday so that members may have a full week-end for business or recreation." Important speeches used to be delivered very late, and in critical debates the leaders would wind up in the small hours. Mr. Macintosh says that would not be tolerated now and even when the closing rule is suspended the winding up speeches are expected to close at eleven. The prudent practice of important debaters is to get their speeches delivered before the dinner hour so that they may be fully reported and described in the early editions of the newspapers.

E. T. Raymond, in his critical volume on Lloyd George, commended the Liberal leader in this respect and for the wisdom he displayed in accommodating himself to the exigencies of press time. He said that other members used to sneer at Mr. Lloyd George's "good press," while they failed to emulate his good judgment in recognizing considerations of "time and space" which dominate newspapers, and particularly those with huge circulations. Some of our own parliamentary leaders might take some hints in these respects.

Among the few old things that remain with Parliament, says Mr. Macintosh, are the stilted phrases: "I venture to say," and "I am free to confess," and there are still members who "fall to see." But ornate oratory is no longer in demand. "I am afraid the swelling period would cause a titter nowadays," he declares. Classical quotations have long since become rare and "even rarer than the apt literary allusion is the phrase which runs through the country and is kept alive in controversy."

Lloyd George is now the "Father of the House of Commons." Yet his advent was nine years away when Mr. Macintosh first entered the press gallery. Bqaconsfield then was still alive; Gladstone was Prime Minister, and John Bright a member of his Government. The great split in the Liberal party was some years off, Labor was not in sight, and the women had 40 years to wait for their votes, says Mr. Macintosh. Parnell



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was leading the Irishmen, and Lord Randolph Churchill and the Fourth Party were much in evidence. There is not a solitary survivor among those who were in the House at that time. But Mr. Mackintosh holds there has been no change in the spirit of the House. "It may not be quite so tolerant, but it is not more disorderly. The unwritten rules of etiquette are still observed. From generation to generation the House has the same reverence for itself. Every class breathing its atmosphere inhales its tradition. "Governments come and go, but in

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