

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1925

WHY PROTECTION?

British farmers wanted their potato market for themselves, or as much of it as would be left after their importation from Belgium had been absorbed. To put on a duty would have been an indirect blow at free trade and would probably have caused political complications.

Canada, in the unfortunate circumstance of not having a self-sustaining government, having instead a government depending for its existence on a party whose interest is to deal freely with the United States. Canada can move only as that party dictates and whether that move be in the interests of the country or against it the dictate move is made.

The fiscal policy of every growing country in the world today is protection, the home market, the employment, the commercial advantages being reserved as far as possible for the country. This has been Canada's policy under both parties for over forty years until 1921 when by the accident of a general election an opportunity was given to a third party to barter its support for a new policy and to another party an opportunity to get the government by accepting the offer.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Farmers anticipate a busy week in the city. March came in like a lion after all, roaring both above and below. "Our house shook all right on Saturday night," said one philosopher, "but just then daughter admitted her bean and we thought it was the effect of the contact, and said nothing."

Notes By The Way

The Maritime Expedition to Ottawa has gone and returned. Their spokesmen presented to the Government and to Parliament an outline of Maritime conditions as at present existing after fifty-eight years in Confederation. They made it clear that the expectations raised and promises made by the Fathers of Confederation had not been met or kept in fulfillment.

Our people had been led to expect equal prosperity with the other provinces. In the meantime, while Ontario and Quebec had grown fat in added territory, in wealth and population and new provinces had sprung into being beyond the Lakes, twice as populous and wealthy as the Maritimes, our population had remained so stagnant that we had lost one third of our representation in Parliament.

Something was asked for, demanded as rights, on behalf of the Maritimes by their delegates—the use of our ports for Canada's import and export trade via the Atlantic that the customs preference on imports from Britain shall be limited to those coming by Canadian ports, reduced and equalised freight rates that would give Maritime products possible access to the markets of the Central Provinces and generally such remedial measures as would give to the Maritimes an equal right to sit in the sun with other provinces of Canada.

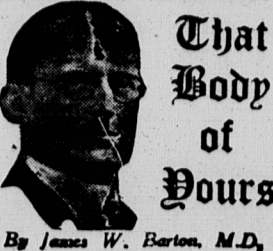
We are told the Maritime delegates received an attentive and sympathetic hearing. That is something, but mere sympathy, even if it extends from Quebec to Vancouver, as we believe it must, is not sufficient to meet the Maritime case. If we turn from that to what the government proposes to do, the situation is more unsatisfactory still.

The better equipment of Maritime ports, will be welcome when it comes, it is long over due. Vast expenditures have been made on Montreal, Quebec and other St. Lawrence ports which are ice-bound during five months of the year, while Maritime ports, open all the year round and really national as termini of our Transcontinental Railways, have been neglected. It can hardly be regarded as a special boon to the Maritimes if the neglect is not longer continued.

The Prime Minister finds obstacles, doubts and dangers of retaliation if the British preference is wholly limited to Canadian ports. He intimates that little if anything would be gained by such action. While nobody wants secession, it is always an alternative when existing conditions become intolerable. It was the great Liberal George Brown who coined the phrase, "the sacred right of rebellion." Secession is a much milder term and the Premier's curt reference to it was more calculated to incite than to pacify any tendency in that direction.

While there is little or nothing in Premier King's words or action to raise Maritime hopes, there is some ground to anticipate favorable results from the efforts of the Maritime Delegation and the St. John newspaper mission which preceded it in awakening business men and corporations to a sense of patriotism and fair play in routing their freights over Canadian lines of transportation to and from Canadian ports. Good results have already materialised from these private efforts and much more may be expected in the future, for which no thanks are due to the government.

Meanwhile the voting of millions of money goes merrily on while Parliament as a body has no real ahead!



By James W. Barton, M.D.

That Body of Hours

As everybody seems to have a "cold" once in a while, and many have them almost continuously, something that offers relief is of interest to the whole community.

At the time President Coolidge was trying out the "Chlorin" cure for colds, everybody was naturally watching the progress, because a great amount of time is lost from employment by these bothersome colds.

Two medical officers of the United States Clinical Warfare Service first brought out the method. All sorts of devices for administering the chlorine have been tried out during the past year.

The reports as to the success of the treatment are contradictory, as the New York physicians had little or no success, whilst the Washington physicians felt that the "chlorine" treatment was successful in a number of cases. The fact that the experiments in New York were carried on in July and August the two hottest months, does not seem like a fair trial to those favoring the treatment.

Your family doctor will tell you that he can give a certain dosage of a drug to one patient and there is no perceptible result, whereas the same dose would put another patient to sleep for ten or twelve hours.

Similarly a certain dose of another drug would not prevent a natural sleep in one patient, whereas the same dose would keep another patient awake all night.

The investigation of "colds" is occupying the attention of public health workers, who have discovered that colds are more prevalent the latter end of October and again the latter end of December than at any other time.

During a period of five and one half months, the number of colds averaged about two persons in the districts investigated under supervision.

It will be interesting to see the further results obtained by these investigators. That the beginning cold weather in October caught people without their heavy underwear, and then the overeating at the Christmas season, in the latter end of December, might have something to do with the increase in the number of colds.

To prevent any more "work" going on in the system by abstaining from food for a day or two, and to get rid of the "colds" infection, or whatever else you want to call it by having all the wastes well (arown out by the skin, kidneys, and intestines.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

MARCH 3, 1925 THE WAY TO PEACE.—Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace; thereby good shall come unto thee. Job 22:21

SINNER AND SAINT The March Wind's a Pirate. He sails the sky seas, And swoops to the forests, To twist the tall trees, Ah, Whiff, and Oh, Whiff, And Oh, Whiff, and Oh, Whiff, Whuff! And snap go the branches, The Wind is so rough!

The March Wind's a Pirate. He lands in the town, He rattles the shutters, And shakes a sign down, Oh, Whoo-oo-oo, and Oh, Whoo-oo-oo, And Oh, Whoo-oo-oo, and Oh, Why!

The March Wind's a Pirate. He blows with a will, He sounds his weird whistle, So loud and so shrill, Oh, Whee-ee-ee, and Oh, Whee-ee-ee, And Oh, Whee-ee-ee, and Oh, Whee!

The March Wind's a Pirate. He steals all he can— A sheet from the clothes-line, A scarf from a man, Oh, Whiff, and Oh, Whoo-oo-oo, And Oh, Whee-ee-ee, and Oh, Whiff!

It's only St. Patrick Keeps March on our list! —BLANCHE ELIZABETH WADE.

information as to what the government intends to do with the tariff with immigration, with freight rates on land or sea, or to help the Maritimes to reduce taxation, to give employment to the unemployed or to lessen the cost of living. The blind are leading the blind and apparently the "ditch" is closed

Virmeer Greatest Of Dutch Painters

Every once in so often a cable despatch from Europe announces the more or less romantic discovery of an important addition to the works of this or that old master. It makes a nine days' wonder. If the work is really important it is bought by some American collector, it passes, according to a writer in the New York Herald-Tribune, into his gallery, and then the curtain falls, not to be raised again until the next sensation. Nobody meditates particularly as to the prospect of another painting by the same hand to be fished up from oblivion in the same way. But there is one exceptional figure in this shadowy world of "lost and found." It is that of the exquisite Dutch master, Jan Vermeer, of Delft, The French critic Thore, who, writing under the name of Burger, decisively established him as a salient personage in European art, was wont to call him non sphinx. He has been interrogated for his secret ever since, the secret of just how many pictures he painted and just where they are. To this day there is always a chance of uncovering a new Vermeer. He, as such as any artist in history, keeps alive and potent the enchantment of artistic research. His paintings are the object of an endless quest.

Recent Discoveries

One of them was restored to light as recently as 1906, when Dr. Bredius came upon the "Young Girl With Flute," which the Knoodlers brought to the United States. Another rose into view only last Summer, the "Portrait of a Youth," which Dr. Hofstede de Groot identified in the collection of M. Yves Perdoux, of Paris, who sold it to the Duveens. Still another new Vermeer has appeared, or at all events a painting hopefully attributed to him. It is a portrait which Mr. E. W. Savory, of Bristol, in England, acquired at a London sale, all unsuspecting of its origin. After the removal of a number of repaintings, Vermeer's monogram was revealed in the background, and later a fortunate turn of coincidence brought the owner an early engraving not only reproducing the portrait, but also the monogram and all, but bearing an inscription to the effect that the person represented was one Simon Decker, a functionary of Delft in the painter's time. Dr. De Groot, who is really one of Adrian Van de Velde, by himself; but, on the other hand, there are distinguished commentators who believe in its authenticity.

Raphael of Dutch Genre

The riddle is not unlikely to be solved by internal evidence. That ought to be conclusive, for Vermeer is one of those rare miracles in painting whose names cannot be mistaken and highly individualized perfection. He is the Raphael of Dutch genre. Once you have grasped the essential charm of his art you are bound to recognize it anywhere, or to note its absence from the work that pretends to be his. The question is hard to answer, constituting, indeed, one of the oddities in the annals of art, like the well-known periods of obscurity which have overtaken such men as Velasquez and Hals in the past. Burger, when he wrote the chapters in the "Gazette des Beaux-Arts" from which the renaissance of Vermeer may be said to date, found little enough to quote from his predecessors. The expert Lebrun had signalled a picture by Vermeer as early as 1809 and called him "a very great painter," but, strangely, he added the dubious phrase, "in the manner of Metsu." Vermeer has the same relation to Metsu that a man of genius has to a man of talent.

"The Pearly Dutchman."

Maxime du Camp noticed the pearly Dutchman in 1857, and Theophile Gautier in the following year showed that he was aware of his fascination. But it was not until 1866 that Burger, who had long been studying the subject, printed the papers in the "Gazette" to which we have referred. Since then there has been much writing about him in periodicals, and there have been several monographs by the French Havard, the Dutch Hofstede de Groot, the Belgian Van Zype and the American Philip Hale. Yet the definite catalogue remains to be compiled. That is what, we repeat, will always keep the artistic archaeologist going. He will burrow, and burrow, and burrow, forever confident that some day one more Vermeer jewel will turn up.

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest to the Charlottetown Guardian. The editor does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

OUR RAILWAY PROBLEM

Sir,—I learn from the Guardian that the representatives of the people in the House of Commons have been denied information concerning those officials of the C. N. R. Company who receive \$10,000 a year and upwards. No doubt the fact that the C. N. R. Company is incorporated and is not, therefore, directly accountable to the House of Commons is at the bottom of this denial. The C. N. R. Company seems now to be in the happy position of being able to draw on the Government for all the money it expends over and above its ordinary receipts and to snap its fingers at the representatives of the taxpayers out of whose pockets the money is drawn. That happy condition—for the Company—ought not in the interests of the taxpayers of Canada, to be continued. The C. N. R. Company Incorporation Act should be amended to the end that the shareholders of the Company—the people of Canada—should be enabled—as the shareholders of other companies are—to obtain information such as that which has lately been denied. If, as in the case of other companies an Annual Meeting of the C. N. R. Company were held at a certain date each year, and if the officials were required to report to that meeting, as the officials of other companies are, the information which shareholders are entitled to receive would be available. It is to be hoped that the C. N. R. Company Incorporation Act will be so amended that the shareholders' representatives in Parliament shall meet as a body corporate every year—not as parliamentarians but as members of business intent on promoting the business of the Corporation and that the dismissal of extraneous and inefficient officials may be ordered and other dispositions made. There would then be an incentive to economy and care on the part of C. N. R. officials, and better results of C. N. R. management would, in all probability, appear.

It cannot be denied that a greatly improved railway service and somewhat better financial results have followed the withdrawal of the C. N. R. management from the influence of the Government Party politicians particularly since Sir Henry Thornton was given charge; and it is evident that if the railway problem is to be satisfactorily solved the C. N. R. Company must be kept as far as possible out of the control of party politicians and a party government. It must be managed upon business principles in the interests of the people of Canada at large. If not so managed it will sooner or later, evolute a "railway disaster" that will reflect disgracefully upon the nation and its private company officials. Immense losses have been sustained by the public. Then, the people of Canada, in every section, will be subjected to the "big interests" of Montreal and Toronto. All the branches that "don't pay" will then be closed—unless indeed the private company shall be guaranteed by the government the full amount of its losses.

AN UNPATRIOTIC "PATRIOT"

Sir,—A few evenings ago, The Patriot published the reason why a certain "one of the brightest young farmers in this Province left for the United States." The first and chief of these reasons was "the lack of a sure market." Why is there not in Canada a sure market for P. E. Island produce? If there were?

Vermeer by Himself

He is like the bibliomaniacs who never dives into an Italian bookshop without a quickening of the pulse, due to the possibility that he may dig from under some heap of rubbish a copy of that incomparable elegy which was "Printed at Pisa with the Types of Didot." There is a delightful symbolism about that beautiful portrait of "The Artist in His Studio" which hangs in the Czernin gallery at Vienna. In it legend would have it that Vermeer painted himself at work. He sits with his back to the beholder, again the sphinx of Burger's phrase. Thus he maintains his proud aloofness, mysterious, tantalizing, a problem still to be solved. All that we know of him is that the two score paintings we have from his hand are among the choicest possessions of mankind. Metsu, De Hooghe, all the brilliant interpreters of Dutch domestic life are but consummate journeymen beside him. He is the master magician of the group, the faultless draftsman and colorist the wizard of the purest light that gleams in the art of any epoch. And that a new page in history may be turned by the fates at any moment gives the last touch to his baffling distinction.

Advertisement for Chase & Sanborn's Seal Brand Coffee. Text: "You'll agree that Chase & Sanborn's SEAL BRAND Coffee is more Delicious than any other."

Advertisement for The Support of the Widow. Text: "With the debts cleared off, the last bills paid and the mortgage settled, the widow faces her problem of her life and earning for the children—alone. Will her financial resources be nil, a lump sum of money whose investment and preservation will add to her worries, or an unfailing monthly income such as she has been accustomed to depend upon?"

Advertisement for Windsor Meat Scraps. Text: "WINDSOR MEAT SCRAPS FOR POULTRY AND HOGS. Made from fresh meat trimmings. It carries from 40% to 50% Protein. No combination of grains carries sufficient protein for maximum production of eggs. Supplement your grain with one fifth part of Windsor Meat Scraps and note the increase in eggs."

Advertisement for Colonial Fertilizer Co. Text: "COLONIAL FERTILIZER CO. WINDSOR, N. S. It is not a sure market, the cause is not! I was therefore not surprised that there are not large nearby priced—not to say skyrocketing—cities, with large consuming populations as there are in the United States and how is it that there are of 'one of her brightest young farmers in this Province left for the United States' is it not clear that 'These are the reasons why a certain 'one of the brightest young farmers in this Province left for the United States.' The first and chief of these reasons was 'the lack of a sure market.' Why is there not in Canada a sure market for P. E. Island produce? If there were?' 'One of the brightest young farmers who never dives into an Italian bookshop without a quickening of the pulse, due to the possibility that he may dig from under some heap of rubbish a copy of that incomparable elegy which was 'Printed at Pisa with the Types of Didot.' There is a delightful symbolism about that beautiful portrait of 'The Artist in His Studio' which hangs in the Czernin gallery at Vienna. In it legend would have it that Vermeer painted himself at work. He sits with his back to the beholder, again the sphinx of Burger's phrase. Thus he maintains his proud aloofness, mysterious, tantalizing, a problem still to be solved. All that we know of him is that the two score paintings we have from his hand are among the choicest possessions of mankind. Metsu, De Hooghe, all the brilliant interpreters of Dutch domestic life are but consummate journeymen beside him. He is the master magician of the group, the faultless draftsman and colorist the wizard of the purest light that gleams in the art of any epoch. And that a new page in history may be turned by the fates at any moment gives the last touch to his baffling distinction."

