

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

Nowhere has the initiative of the MacMillan Government been shown more effectively than in its contributions to Education and Public Health. The splendidly equipped new Prince of Wales College will remain a monument to the vision and foresight of the present Premier, and an asset of incalculable value to the Province for generations to come.

This year, despite financial difficulties attendant upon diminished revenue and increased uncontrollable expenditures, the Government has seen its way to increase the grant to each of the three Hospitals of the Province by \$1,000. This has been done in recognition of the vital importance of maintaining the hospitals at their present standards of efficiency, and the inability of these institutions to carry on under present financial circumstances.

As Hon. Mr. McNutt pointed out in his remarks on the Budget debate, it was a Conservative Government which in 1926 increased the hospital grants from \$500 to \$2,000, and it is most gratifying to find that they are following their own precedent by increasing the grant by 50 per cent this year, thus giving aid where it is most needed for the sick and afflicted.

The Premier's announcement of the increase in Hospital grants was received with great applause in the Legislature, Liberals as well as Conservatives joining in their expression of their appreciation.

STIFF PENALTIES

Abuse of public charity is one of the basest things committed, yet, says the Montreal Gazette, it is

known to have become all too common during the period of economic depression. It has been practiced often with a cunning that enabled the offenders to cheat their fellow without discovery. In other instances, official vigilance has put a speedy end to the dishonest gain and the offenders have been brought before the courts of justice. Evidence in three cases of this kind was heard before the courts in Montreal recently. The offenders acknowledged that they had obtained relief from city and suburban relief commissions by false pretences and perjury. One man obtained in this way as much as \$126.90, another was paid from time to time \$125, when he had no need for public or indeed of any kind of assistance. A third individual's dishonest gain amounted to \$106.20. Convicted on their own confessions, the defendants were condemned to imprisonment with hard labor, one for a period of twelve months and the two others for nine months. "Not one of them," says the Gazette, "was deserving of pity, least of all of clemency. It is to be hoped that their punishment will bring them lasting remorse and that the exemplary nature of the court's sentences may deter whoever may be tempted to exploit private benevolence and defraud public relief commissions from following their evil example."

A PRETENDED FEAR

It is amusing, says "Canada," London, to see the fear expressed by the Winnipeg Free Press of "losing the British market" because the British minister for Agriculture is endeavoring to protect the British farmer. We are told by the Winnipeg Liberal paper that "at the rate Mr. Elliot is going it would be no time before the landing of a boat load of Canadian grain or meat in Great Britain would be an event to cheer about." To the Free Press, Mr. Elliot must indeed appear the big bad wolf, but there is no need to be alarmed. The 46 million people in the small island of Great Britain are today importing foodstuffs to the value of \$250,000,000, and there is no likelihood—or one might even say, possibility—of reducing these imports by more than 26 per cent within a generation.

MOTOR GUESTS

It has always seemed a bit ridiculous (says Hamilton Spectator) that the owner of a motor car should be held responsible for injuries received by a passenger who was among those present at his own request. There is now a measure before the legal bills committee of the provincial Legislature which, if adopted, will relieve the car owner of this onus, and in the aggregate effect an annual saving of approximately \$400,000 in insurance premiums.

Insurance companies, claiming to have been hard hit by what they term the "guest racket," are advocating the passing of this bill and it is something to note that, at the beginning of the year, the premium for passenger protection was increased from 50 cents to \$2. Those insured motorists who, when involved by accidents, not only lack every assistance to passengers in the prosecution of damage claims, but in many instances suggested that suits be launched, are responsible for this new development, it is charged. In many instances, it is a matter of record, they have admitted negligence knowing themselves to be protected by their insurance policies when their culpability was a matter of considerable doubt.

There is an old adage that you get in this life just what you pay for. Motorists, whose encouragement of friendly actions has provided the insurance companies of the province with a very real problem, will pay through the nose for passenger protection in the future and force other drivers, who have played the game fairly, to do the same or an end will be put to unethical practices by the adoption of the Robertson bill, to which we have made reference.

Notes By The Way

Mr. Morgenstern must have chafed to be interested in others chafing—when he remarked that some of the silver advocates, upon investigation, appeared to be not entirely disinterested. It is not so long since the Roosevelt Administration made its first great gesture to American silver advocates, after the signing of the world agreement at London. The Government agreed to pay 64 1/2 cents an ounce for newly-mined American silver, up to the amount of 24,000,000 ounces a year—the American "quota" to be kept off the world market under the London agreement. That represented a considerable bonus to silver miners, since at that time the white metal was selling at a little above 40 cents an ounce, and even today fetches only about 46 cents in the open market. The silver miner, therefore, was offered about a 50 per cent bonus for his silver. The Government's bonus was to be paid by "issuing currency against silver received at the mint. What happened? Did the silver miners of Colorado, Nevada and Utah over themselves in their rush to ship the stuff to Washington? They did nothing of the sort. Having given three hearty cheers for Roosevelt and the rise in silver prices, they returned to the serious business of mining—and held their stocks of silver for a further rise in price. Very little American silver has been delivered to the mint under the new scheme.

Certainly it seems to many laymen that it is not economical, that sooner or later there will have to be some measure of reciprocity between the United States and the British Empire. In the post-war years America was willing to support her products and manufactures to the rest of the world. But if the foreigner tried to sell to America he became a tariff wall, bolted and barred by high tariff walls. The financial troubles of the last few years will not have been in vain if they teach all nations that there must be a measure of international trade, that the benefits must be mutual. No one country must seek to have all the gilt on the gingerbread.

For many months past the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation has been in process of disintegration. It began to fall apart shortly after the Regina convention, but was promulgated a platform drawn up by a few radical professors in McGill and Toronto Universities. That platform was in effect a declaration of either East or West in Canada. The Regina meeting was an unavailing effort to organize the Cave of Adullam. The consequences of the disintegration of Italy went down to defeat in successive election tests, both east and west of the Great Lakes.

Mussolini hopes that in 60 years Italy will have the primacy of the world, and is preparing plans to that end. It is not a fantastic idea, for the ruler of the world. But of course, the same was true of Greece and nobody expects Greece to recover the greatness of her golden age.

Unemployment Commission officials, says a Montreal exchange, report that men are walking into their offices daily and giving up their dole cards, with the explanation they are working. The shrinkage in a week is 1,200. This is proof of business improvement. It is testimony to the honesty of many who were compelled by circumstances to seek public assistance.

The Canadian system of government is patterned after that of Great Britain and is perhaps even more democratic, giving to the different provinces a large measure of local affairs to secure which movement now is on foot in Scotland.

The building of a city should be handled as carefully as any big business proposition and in a common-sense way. A city must have healthy growth, for in this respect modern business and development a city must stand up under stress and disappointment, and always go forward. Cooperation on the part of business and industry is essential to the fight for a bigger busier city will discover that never before have they had presented to them a proposition of equal magnitude and attractiveness. All can eventually help the home city if they begin right now to make the coming months one of production and prosperity. It would be difficult to find one citizen who cannot in some manner help to increase the prosperity of all. Everyone can, without detriment, inconvenience or expense, do so. But there is the home city is their city and accordingly to the end that harmony and prosperity may come.

Australia suddenly finds herself caught up in the complicated destinies of Pacific events. That she must co-operate wholeheartedly in the plans of Imperial defence is too obvious to dispute. But there is another responsibility. The peoples who dwell on the margin of the wide Pacific are uniquely different from one another in racial characteristics, in ways of living, in ambitions, and in colour. Yet the advance of science has narrowed the span of the ocean, and the problems of one people become more and more international. Among nations which share a common language and common customs, it is often difficult to promote amity; it is infinitely harder to do so when there is no such common ground for meeting. In the Pacific, Asia and Europe meet.

That the attacks upon the munitions makers may be unjust is conceded within the realm of possibility, though these attacks have come not only from pacifists and radicals, but from conservative journals and magazines, one of which Senator Borah quoted at length in his speech. However, if this criticism is not supported by facts, then the munitions industry obviously has nothing to fear from a

That Body of Yours

By James W. Burton, M.D.

DIET TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY HELPS MOST CASES

What is known as the "ketogenic" diet—an increase of fat in the daily diet—has been able to prevent attacks of epilepsy in one-third to one-half the cases found in young people. It must be admitted that this is a wonderful achievement; that such a simple treatment can give relief from the distressing epileptic attacks. In fact for a long time after the ketogenic diet has been stopped and the patient is on an ordinary diet, there is freedom from attacks. However this diet alone is not sufficient in the other half or two-thirds of the cases and other forms of treatment must be added to the "fat" diet, as it is called.

Dr. Schuyler Purford, Sacramento, California, states that in a number of cases where the ketogenic diet was given, just a small degree of improvement, cutting down on the amount of salt eaten, cutting down on all liquids, and increasing the amount of calcium (lime) has been able to stop the convulsions or epileptic attacks completely. And in those cases where the ketogenic diet was not sufficient, salt, cutting down on liquids, and increasing the lime intake doesn't give complete relief, adding the use of one drug is sufficient to affect a cure.

This drug is phenobarbital (it is sold also under various trade names) given in doses of one to three grains three or four times a day. I write on epilepsy very often, as there is no ailment so distressing, so terrifying at times, as the sight of a loved one in a "fit" as it is called. There are a number of cases of epilepsy known to be due to brain tumor, mental states, and some mechanical condition in the stomach or intestines, but unfortunately in these cases the above treatment by diet is not of much help. While the cause of the epilepsy is of unknown, treatment can prevent attacks.

Mysteries Of Icebergs

Interest in the baychimo, a steamship of the Hudson Bay Company fleet which for three years has been endlessly hiding back and forth with the archipelago of ice cases—were kept free of attack by not being allowed any food or water for eleven days. Food was given in a number of servings and the attacks occurred as usual. The thought then is to try to follow the plan of increasing the fat in the diet, as it is called. The dietetics, were kept under constant observation by the ship's doctor, taking lime (gluconate or lactate) and the use of phenobarbital should be effective.

THAT TURKEY FARM

Believing that there are many in the Province who do not realize our possibilities, I decided to write you of a visit I made to the farm of Mr. H. Turner, of O'Leary, during the past autumn. After being shown Mr. Turner's incubator and his breeder equipment, we went out to see the turkeys; over 100 in all, all being hatched in spring. Enquiring regarding care and feed, we found that housing is not expensive, as the breeding stock live in a cold, rough building and wander out in the open in all kinds of weather. The young must, however, be protected from dampness and cold, and should have some feed, either tender grass or something of the nature of turnip tops.

Mr. Turner had given over to the turkeys about a half of a half of turnips. Feed consist largely of corn meal and middlings. Incidentally he mentioned having bought four tons at one time, thereby securing a better price. His breeding stock is eagerly sought for by the best breeders and much of his mail is addressed "Turkey Farm, O'Leary."

We then visited the stables and were shown Mr. Turner's pure bred Holstein cattle. One cow just finishing her test on two milkings per day had given 20,000 lbs. milk, 622 lbs. fat; another 16,124 lbs. milk, 612 lbs. fat. His herd size is from the first mentioned cow and is a magnificent type of the breed.

After a pleasant chat with Mrs. Turner, we returned to the farm. Mr. Turner had given over to the turkeys about a half of a half of turnips. Feed consist largely of corn meal and middlings. Incidentally he mentioned having bought four tons at one time, thereby securing a better price. His breeding stock is eagerly sought for by the best breeders and much of his mail is addressed "Turkey Farm, O'Leary."

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest to the Charlottetown Guardian and the province of correspondence.

LOSING A LEADER

Mr. Lea preparing the way to decamp from his Party? There are signs and omens to gently hint at secession. He has made progress towards the political penitent bench. He has commenced to admit some truths. This is open hostility to latter-day Liberalism. Truth in politics is to them worse than the red rag to the bull. To tolerate it in a leader would be party heresy of rank type. Confession of ignorance too is anathema. He was elected in 1919 without knowing his party platform; so he says. When no tax increase was referred to he innocently asks—"Was that in the Platform?" Brought to book he lies to the core with the boy's familiar excuse. How appealing to sympathy? "I was not going to run this country at that time. I was only a very junior member of the party—quite a boy at that time—and I was not consulted in the building of platforms at all. I was not an architect at that time, I was not considered worthy of employment then."

What a wholesome confession! Who, outside of the Liberal camp would refuse sympathetic attention in face of so pathetic an appeal? Then his self-give-away of his party practice—"My experience of platforms in this Province was that they were something to be feared." His experience, in Liberal environments, is another innocent admission—"It is hardly necessary for me, at the moment, to have a platform." Of course not. He is now in time enough to improvise a platform when he wants to get in again.

Then Hon. Mr. Lea wanders into the field of honorable admissions. He is under pressure of exposed facts, but anything to make them. That is inconsistent with latter-day Liberal doctrine. If you misrepresent never take it back. Better cover it up with another twist. His statement comparing the Government's ordinary expenditure with that of 1930 he admitted was his "error in looking at the item in the two accounts." Did it last year, "got away with it" but failed to get away with it this time.

In a spurt of generous honesty he conceded—"We admit that \$50,000 was for re-funding, and they built Falconwood Hospital and the Prince of Wales College." What a breach from the principles of his party?

I am not citing these to belittle Hon. Mr. Lea. They are rather to his credit. To err is human. To confess and make restitution is in the codes of honor of the right kind of man, but unfortunately abortive to the Opposition.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

By right of sign, and calendar and Moon, Today is Spring! Constant Nature wakes the sleepy daffodil— Sends song-birds on the wing. Sweet-breathed Daffodils, so faithful to the season, are the heralds of the spring. In variant mood, showers gifts of sun and rain, for reasons, Not understood. By those to whom her fugitive surprise is hid from their unseeing eyes.

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The Original Story (Ottawa Journal) There died the other day in a little South Dakota town in her eighty-fifth year Fanny Wentworth, an actress of the last century, who created the role of Topsy in the original production of Uncle Tom's Cabin nearly seventy years ago. There have been many later Topsy's, thousands of them—perhaps even better Topsy's, but Fanny Wentworth was first and that was the fact they featured when they came to write her obituary. Children who think the week utterly ruined if they haven't seen the latest Hollywood film, brought up in the bliss pseudo-sophistication of modern youngsters, can have no idea of the thrill Uncle Tom's Cabin used to give their fathers and mothers in a day when we termed "wet feet." This man's overcame by placing a few inches of gravel or an inverted saucer in the bottom for the pot to rest on. Then the jardiniere should be examined from time to time.

INSURED SAVINGS In Life Insurance you are not spending the money—you are simply depositing a certain sum each year to be drawn at accrued profits when it is most needed. A Life or Endowment policy is an insured savings plan with guaranteed values for retirement. The Great-West Life is the Champion of Thrift and the Guardian of Thousands of Canadian Homes. Consult your nearest Agent or write Prince Edward Island Branch Office.

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