

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FROM DOWN SOUTH

It will be recalled that when the Australian Goodwill Ship came to Canada last October Charlottetown was visited by Mr. P. B. Jenkin, Editor of the Herald, Melbourne, Australia, and Mrs. Jenkin. He subsequently gave the Island a splendid writeup in his newspaper. In a recent letter to Mr. F. R. Sayer, Publicity Representative of the Canadian National Railways, Moncton, Mr. Jenkin writes: "We often think of our brief but enjoyable stay at Moncton and find that people here are most interested in the Maritime Provinces about which they hear very little. An Australian tourist party is coming across next year and on my recommendation they intend to spend several days in your delightful Eastern Provinces."

635,000 last year. In the first six months of this year there has been a further falling off as compared with last year, exports for the half year being down to \$842,000,000 as against \$1,321,000,000 and imports down to \$756,000,000 as against \$1,040,000,000. Pessimism is not good at any time and it is very wrong, almost criminal, in fact, to encourage it by inaccurate statements and conclusions in regard to trade and other conditions in the country, more especially at a time like the present, when so many people are disposed to look on the dark side of everything.

MORE PRUSSIA

Germany is vie'ing with Ottawa for the front pages of the newspapers, due to the recent coup d'etat and the anticipated consequences. In an interesting and informative article, the Toronto Globe states that the promulgation of a dictatorship ten days before the general elections which decide the fate of the German Republic, means the destruction of the last vestige of democracy in the Teuton land. If Hitler obtains a clear-cut victory at the polls, President Von Hindenburg will neither have the power nor the inclination to block the Brown-Shirt leader's road to absolute power. If Hitler fails to obtain such a victory, a continuation of the present von Papen regime is certain. In either event Germany will be ruled by arch-nationalists of the extreme Right—nationalists who frankly believe in the right of the mailed fist, and who scorn the principles of constitutional democracy.

CHEAP POLITICS

It seems part of the propaganda of the Liberal Party at the present time to preach blue ruin simply because Mr. Mackenzie King is not at the helm. In discussing this question the Moncton Times notes that a number of Liberal journals are alleging that the decline in the dollar value of Canada's export trade is due to the Bennett Government's tariff policy. This is pretty cheap politics. Canada's fiscal year ends on the 31st of March and for the twelve months ending on that date in 1922 with a Liberal Government in power, exports amounted to \$753,927,000. At the peak in 1929, exports were \$1,388,896,000. In the next two fiscal years, before the Bennett Government had changed a single item in the tariff, the value of exports had fallen to \$817,028,000. In the year ended 31st March last it had fallen to \$537,565,000. So much for the measurement of Canada's exports on the dollar basis. But every person knows that values of all commodities have fallen immensely since 1929, when all prices were the highest and the world was money mad. A measurement of Canada's exports by quantities would make a vastly different showing. Wheat is one of Canada's largest exports and the price of wheat has fallen to little more than a third of what it was in 1929. The same casualty list of the previous eight months is more or less true of all commodities, produced or manufactured. Because of the depression, which has been more severe in every part of the world than in Canada, all countries are buying less of everything and because of existing conditions buying has been from hand to mouth and stocks are greatly reduced, a fact which will be of great advantage when better times come. Canada's trade really makes a good showing in comparison with that of other countries. The Times had not at the moment the figures as is now approaching. They expect of Great Britain's trade but it has fallen enormously. Factories are closed or working on short time, with the result that two million people have been in receipt of the dole. Statistics of the import and export trade of the United States brought down to the end of last month, have just been issued by the Commerce Department at Washington. These show that exports have declined from \$5,240,995,000 in 1929 to \$4,224,289,000 last year while imports have fallen from \$4,399,261,000 in 1929 to \$2,000,000,000 last year.

NOTES BY THE WAY

When goods are displayed in a European store with the label "Made in England" prominently in evidence, buyers are attracted. The fact has been proved recently in Spain.

Different firms in Barcelona conceived the idea of sticking large "Made in England" labels on packing cases and on goods of their own manufacture. There is no law in Spain compelling merchants to have the correct marking to show where merchandise is actually made. Sales increased right away. The people were anxious to buy the "English" goods.

Another company manufacturing a soft drink found its volume dropping. They took the Spanish name for the drink off, substituted the English name and labelled it "Bottled in London." Immediately sales picked up and lost ground was recovered.

These Spanish activities are a great compliment to the English goods. They indicate the splendid reputation built up by the English people.

According to the London Times the Greater London area, included roughly in a circle of fifteen miles around Charing Cross is 8,305,942, an increase of 723,741 since the previous census in 1921. That the population of Greater London, equal to more than double that of all the cities in Canada, or to more than three-fourths the total of this Dominion, should be able to live with any degree of comfort within such an area is one of the wonders of the world.

That curious British genius which, half carelessly, threw up a Wolfe at Quebec or a Rhodes in South Africa, will surely inform a Bennett, a Baldwin and their confederates at Ottawa. And it is the glory of the new British Empire that the descendants of those who followed Montcalm now join with the descendants of Wolfe's followers in welcoming to a united Canada the successors of Paul Kruger as well as Rhodes, together with representatives of the whole Commonwealth, to take part in a great conclave of Imperial equals.

A recovery in our export trade is vital to us, and, even if the Dominions and all the rest of the Empire purchased from us everything that they wanted from outside, we should still need markets in other countries. We cannot afford to enter into agreements, however favourable they might otherwise be, at Ottawa which will cut us off from our foreign trade, and we must not in our discussions there forget that we have a great farming industry to take care of at home—J.H. Thomas.

If the only result of the Conference were an agreement between the Empire countries to consult each other, without in any way tying their hands, before they make any major changes in their tariff policies, Ottawa would be more than worth while. Inside the British Empire, the attack on economic nationalism can be made on a wide front, and one of the most fruitful results of the Imperial economic co-operation now being discussed, would be an inevitable and continuous process of lowering of tariff barriers—J. H. Cootman in The Fortnightly Review.

The growing tariff barriers in foreign countries have played havoc with British trade and it is one of the hopes underlying the British fiscal policy since the National Government came into power that Britain's tardy entry into the tariff war, primarily in self-defence, may induce a general lowering of tariff barriers in foreign countries.—Singapore Free Press.

For our own part, says the Colombo Times of Ceylon, we think that, apart from restrictions of output, which is immediately necessary, the salvation of the British tea industry may be found at Ottawa. If, as is hoped, arrangements can be made whereby British-grown teas will receive preferential treatment throughout the British Empire, thereby enabling Ceylon to recapture the Australian market, our worries should be at an end. The situation is frankly depressing, but it will not be improved by becoming downhearted to the point of being panic-stricken.

The Colonial Empire, in the past, says the Trinidad Guardian, has been overshadowed by the Dominions. The dawn is now bright before us and the day is ours to make of it what we will. We are an Empire and slices of an Empire. We have each our own history, our own peoples and many of our own languages. We are divided up into fifty-two separate administrations. We have 54,000,000 people and a trade worth together \$400,000,000. Our importance almost takes the breath away. We have only to find a means of welding ourselves together in a spirit as well as on paper.



That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

HOW DOES YOUR YOUNGSTER STAND OR SIT?

In Great Britain the orthopedic surgeons and children's specialists believe that there is some fault in the system—food, air, exercise, heredity that causes children to have bone defects; or defects in the way they stand or sit, giving them a poor posture or shape of body.

In America, the specialists believe that it is the poor posture or position standing or sitting, that causes the illness, and lack of proper growth and shape of body. We must admit that nothing is more important to a nation than the proper growth and development of its children—the future men and women.

In the White House Conference on Child Health it was felt that the relation of body mechanics or posture (the way the child stands or sits) should be investigated. A committee of which Dr. Robt. E. Osgood, Boston, was chairman, has made a most interesting and helpful report.

The committee found positive evidence that two-thirds of the children of the United States have faulty body mechanics, it was also found that they were sitting or standing poorly.

Can poor posture be corrected? The report shows that where "systematic" attempts have been made in the schools to improve faulty body mechanics, it was always associated with improvement in health and efficiency.

I am a great believer in group games for children; they strengthen heart and lungs, teach a youngster to take his knocks, teach him also to be unselfish as he must work for the good of the team and not himself; teach him to control his temper, and train him in many other ways.

However there is no question in my mind but that if a youngster is taught to stand and sit correctly, to walk with his head up, his eyes straight ahead, shoulders back, abdomen drawn in, that in addition to improvement in condition of all his body organs—heart, lungs, stomach, liver, intestine—there is bound to be an improvement in his morale or courage, his general outlook on life.

Send your youngster to a school or club gymnasium, to take the regular body building and "straightening up" class work.

Further, see that your youngster sits well back in his chair, shoulders back, not drooped, and that he stands and walks in the erect position.

Nova Scotia's Arms

(Mail and Empire)

Among the handsome and useful publications issued by the Nova Scotia Department of Information at Halifax, is "Historic Nova Scotia" bearing on the cover in colors the ornate armorial achievement granted by King Charles I in 1625. The ancient arms were officially supplanted after Confederation for a time by the commonplace salmon and thistle, until recently in general use, but the original arms are now restored to their place.

It is stated that Nova Scotia has the proud distinction of being the only province of the Dominion of Canada and the first colony of Great Britain to possess a flag of its own. The flag of Nova Scotia is a white flag with a blue St. Andrew's Cross (Saltire) dividing the "field" in four, while in the centre is the double tressured lion of Scotland, the ruddy lion rampant in gold. It traces its origin to the Charter of Nova Scotia granted in 1621 to Sir William Alexander (afterwards the Earl of Stirling) by King James VI of Scotland and I of England. In this Charter the name Nova Scotia (which is the Latin form for New Scotland) first appeared in contradistinction to Acadia or the Acadie of the French. The flag itself is derived from the Royal Coat of Arms granted to Nova Scotia in 1625 by King Charles I of England, the son and successor of James I.

This ancient and beautiful armorial bearing is the oldest of all the arms borne by the British Dominions, and by reason of the unique combination therein of the Royal and National Arms of Scotland is pronounced by heraldic writers the grandest of all. The Arms of Nova Scotia are recorded in the register of the Lyon Court of the Lord Lyon King of Arms at Edinburgh, the Scottish heraldic office of the British Government. The mount at the base is adorned with mayflower and thistle floral badges, the former being the national flower of Nova Scotia, and the latter the badge chosen by James III, King of Scots. But, apparently, the change is not known by many publishers, who continue to use, with complimentary intention, the discarded fish and thistle.

Life On Venus

(The New York Sun)

The discovery of almost conclusive evidence of the existence of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere of Venus is another triumph for the great Hooker telescope on Mount Wilson and also apparently for infra-red photography. The unequalled light-gathering power of the 100-inch mirror enabled Dr. Walter S. Adams the Mount Wilson director, and Dr. Theodore Dunham to become the first astronomers to identify a gas in a planetary atmosphere. They found the dark absorption bands indicating the presence of carbon dioxide in an invisible part of the spectrum of Venus and photographed them with the same sort of plates that have been used recently to make excellent pictures in rooms which to the eye were as dark as Erebus.

The light which comes to the earth from Venus is sunlight reflected from the clouds which seem completely to envelop the planet. Above these clouds is a layer of atmosphere apparently about 4,000 feet thick; what the depth of the atmosphere below the clouds may be nobody knows. It is plain that light reflected from Venus has traversed the upper atmosphere of the planet twice before it reaches a terrestrial observer. It is only in this upper level that the presence of carbon dioxide has been shown, but there is no reason to suppose that the gas does not exist below the clouds as well. Repeated attempts to detect oxygen and water vapor in the atmosphere of Venus have met with failure.

One of the greatest difficulties encountered by astronomers in attacking the problem of the composition of the gaseous covering of Venus is that its absorption lines are not readily distinguishable from those due to the atmosphere of the earth. If the two planets never changed their positions relative to each other this difficulty might be insuperable, but their orbital motions sometimes provide an escape from it. When the earth and Venus are approaching or receding from each other the so-called Doppler effect comes into play and the absorption lines of the atmosphere of Venus are displaced with respect to those of the terrestrial air. Then there is a chance of distinguishing the one from the other. Whether the Mount Wilson observers took advantage of this shift of the spectral lines does not appear.

There would be little general interest in the discovery of carbon dioxide on Venus if it did not at once raise the question of the possibility of life on the globe which is not only the earth's nearest neighbor among the planets but almost its twin sister in size. Animal life as we know it cannot thrive on carbon dioxide, but vegetable life does. Carbon dioxide, being a compound of carbon and oxygen, may be broken up into its constituent elements. Plants do that very thing, absorbing the carbon and liberating the oxygen to replenish the supply of oxygen in the air. In spite of the failure of the spectroscope to reveal the presence of free oxygen in the atmosphere of Venus it seems hardly reasonable to suppose that a planet so like the earth in other respects should be different in this. In other respects, however, Venus is decidedly different from the earth. The length of its day is not known to man, but there are indications that it may be as long as a terrestrial month. Being some 26,000,000 miles nearer the sun, Venus receives much more heat than we do. Astronomers have taken the temperature of the illuminated side of the planet and found it to be around its own temperature, which was exceeded in Death Valley in its hot seasons 1911-1915. This, it is to be remembered, is the temperature of the upper surface of the cloud layer. On the solid surface of the planet, where the eternal clouds form a protecting screen, milder temperatures may prevail. Imaginative writers have pictured Venus as a world like in the earth in an earlier geological age, with colossal reptiles swimming in tepid seas or wallowing amid luxuriant tropical vegetation. Perhaps they have not made a bad guess.

Poison Ivy

(Mail and Empire)

Poison ivy is widely distributed and each year causes a considerable amount of suffering, disability and expense. As the season is approaching when this plant will become a menace an illustrated description of it is given in "The Blue Bell" by Dr. A. R. Pennoyer, medical adviser of the Bell Telephone Company. Poison ivy is a climbing or trailing shrub, with broad leaves in clusters of three, aerial roots and greenish



THE CANDID VISION

White is the forest's heart to them that find it— White hot of lily nor of irised foam Their vision, where the sprite steps down her brook-stair Yonder where sleeps on lovelier than all bloom.

Paths secret, involute, known to the moth down-floating From Psyche's hand to cleave the forest shadows, Therein Lightfoot treads, nor frights the enchanted vixen That was a princess, fairest of earth's ladies.

But we that have seen Death have lost the vision Heart of the forest unto Lightheart gives. Therefore entreat we, "Child, make haste whilst still discerning Where beckons little Snow-White 'twixt the leaves."

—Anne Young.

flowers. The berries are white and waxy smooth. All parts of the plant even when dried, contain an oil which soon after touching the skin raises a severe inflammation and produces an intolerable itching. The poison seems most virulent when the plant is blooming. People often confuse poison ivy with Virginia creeper, the two vines sometimes growing together. The latter, however, has five leaflets which lack the peculiar dark green shade of the poisonous plant.

Poison ivy affects no special habitat. It is found in ravines, and on the border of woods; it climbs tall trees and nestles coyly in fence corners. It is anywhere and everywhere, and the only sure way to avoid it is to watch your footsteps and restrain yourself from promiscuous picking, especially in the Autumn when its gay coloring makes it a desirable ornament. When frequenting localities where poison ivy may be found either on pleasure or on work, it is advisable to make a search to detect its presence or otherwise. When it is recognized, it is not difficult to avoid contact with it. If unfortunately one comes into contact with it, the best treatment is a thorough scrubbing with soap and water. At the first sign of skin irritation a doctor should be consulted.

Non Est Disputandum

(By Gerald Gould in The Week End Review)

Among the otherwise perplexing rules of an odd society mentioned in a contemporary, I find the following piece of striking common sense: "Avoid, therefore, entering into arguments with Liberals and idealists, with diseased persons and persons of alien descent." I should myself prefer to amplify and simplify the sentiment into: "Avoid entering into argument with anybody." But the preliminary list is more comprehensive than it looks at the first reading.

Father William, it will be remembered, "argued each case with his wife"—when young. The trouble about that is that it becomes a domestic habit, like morning tea. I have long ago abandoned the hope or intention of inducing anybody to see sense about anything; but I continue to argue each case with my wife. As we are both extremely hard working people, almost the only regular opportunity for initiating debate is last thing at night or first thing in the morning; on both occasions my brain, such as it is, is definitely out of

Dr. L. B. EVANS of London, Eng.

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business, whereas hers goes on functioning untriflingly like a thirty thousand horse power juggernaut. This puts me at a gross disadvantage; but I have developed a technique. First of all, I always take the precaution of being right. This is so simple, that I am surprised it has never occurred to anybody else. Secondly, I make a very long, rambling, sleepy sort of speech, telling her what she is going to say and refuting it point by point, clause and sub-clause, schedule and addendum. Either she interrupts, or she doesn't. If she does, I retire from the discussion in dudgeon; if she doesn't, I go on, till she has forgotten where we began. When, however, she does at last say something, I reply: "You are perfectly right and I am utterly wrong. I apologise. I withdraw everything I have ever said on this or any other subject." I then get to bed or get up and shave, as the case may be.

It is an excellent technique. It leaves one's wife stunned with indignation, poisons her mind and ruins her life. Also, it jolly well teaches her to argue. I recommend it to the great Trade Union of husbands.

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