

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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A 50 DAYS' SESSION

Under the Salaries and House of Commons Act the indemnity paid members is \$4,000 per session provided the session lasts more than 50 days. If the session lasts less than 50 days provisions is made for a proportionate reduction of the amount of the indemnity. By some oversight no provision was made for a session lasting exactly 50 days and last parliament the auditor-general threatened to withhold payment of all allowances in case Parliament should last the exact 50 days when of course, members would not be entitled to anything. There was considerable discussion in the House of Commons, and the difficulty was overcome by an Order-in-Council authorizing full payment for a fifty days session. As fifty days will take the session to the first week of May the country may rest easy in mind that there will be no risk of the members suffering any reduction of salary for the first session. As the Government has decided upon a fall session as well, the overburdened tax-payers have also the satisfaction of knowing that their hard worked representatives will draw \$8,000 each for their spring and fall attendance at Ottawa, not bad for say a minimum of a 100 days' absence from home just \$80 per day, by a Government pledged up-to-the-hilt before the election to economy in every direction.

THE PROMISED PROSPERITY

There are some promises dependable, and very many that are totally unreliable. The promise of aspiring politicians, particularly just preceding an election, come well within the latter class. It is not long since the air was full of these assurances that if we would only make a change in our Government and place Mr. King at the head of affairs, it would be followed by a prosperity so pronounced that we could almost see visions of gold nuggets growing upon gooseberry bushes. But Mr. King is on the job now, and yet one of his brightest organs, the Halifax Chronicle, repudiates the idea of good times emanating from any government.

It says: "But we are not of the opinion that the present Dominion Government, or the Government of any other country can assure an immediate return of prosperity to the people. The depression from which we have been suffering, from which we continue to suffer, and are likely to suffer for an indefinite period to come, is due to world economic conditions induced by war and not to local or political causes."

This is essentially true, despite the fact that it is an entirely different story from what it, and the Liberal press generally preached only a few months ago, and very materially different from the colored stories it would be relating, if during the King regime prosperity should take wings in Canada's direction.

But there are other prophets, more reliable than those of the political class, upon the job, and they are spreading optimistic stories, based upon practical knowledge and scientific fact. These are found amongst the princes of industry, and they are telling the world that all the indications are pointing to better times. The reports of the Labor bureau of Canada show a material reduction in the number of unemployed as compared with the same period of a year ago. Leading manufacturers declare that the demand for the

wares of industry is on the increase, and that a gradual increase in the output, in almost all the departments of industry is taking place, with a hopeful expectation of reaching the activity of pre-war days in the not far distant future. While governments exercise but little influence upon economic conditions, in a world of competition yet the acts of governments in giving local encouragement and protective help to industry, adds strength to the foundations upon which they operate, and the stability of Canadian trade and commerce in comparison with the greater depression prevailing in other countries is a fitting tribute to our Government of the war period.

In any case, whether due to governments or otherwise, it is pleasant to hear from those who know what they are talking about, that we are on the road to better times.

CIVIC AND OTHER MATTERS

In the spring most men's fancy early turns to thoughts of personal and home adornment, be it for the sake of love of beauty in maid or surroundings matters not. The fancy is there and should be encouraged and developed. The Rotary Club has set the pace this week in the matter of provincial and community improvement and deserve congratulations on the lead they have given. Professor Clark followed with a timely illustrated address on "the house beautiful," and as summaries of his remarks, as well as those made at the Rotary Club, have been published in the Guardian everyone will be familiar with them. In the "Garden Province" there is no reason except lethargy why we should not have ideal gardens in city towns and villages, beautiful surroundings and approaches to our farms. It must be admitted that most of our farms are ideally surrounded, are the subject of delighted comment by visitors, and leave little to be desired in the way of improvement. But there are others lagging behind and these it is the intention to encourage and stimulate towards improvement. In the city and towns are many beautifully situated dwellings that could be made attractive and artistic by a little care and foresight in the spring months.

On the larger question of increasing our population and attracting summer visitors, the Rotary Club also struck the true note, and it is for the members and other public spirited citizens to see that the seed sown does not fall on barren ground. To keep eternally at it, to hammer at the doors of the powers-that-be with an importunity that will not be denied is the main secret of success in matters of enterprise for community and provincial development.

REDUCTIO AD ABSURDUM

A Liberal paper in a neighboring province, in comment on the exchange situation, declared that the Canadian dollar had reached to par value in the United States, and stupidly suggests it as one of the benefits produced by a few weeks of Liberal rule.

So far as the King Government is concerned they have done nothing that could possibly affect exchange or any other business interest, excepting that they have not paid their election bills now several months overdue, which has an adverse rather than a beneficial effect upon the country's business.

If any Canadian Government policy had an influence upon this question it was surely that of the Government of Hon. Arthur Meighen, which up to the present has been adhered to by the King Ministers.

The Public Forum

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

An Outrage

Sir.—There is at the present time a number of mud-diggers operating on the live oyster beds of the Clyde River. We ask the question, where are the authorities? when they allow this violation of the oyster laws. If those diggers are not immediately removed, one of the finest and most productive oyster beds in the province (beds that produce hundreds of barrels annually) will be totally ruined for all time. I am Sir, etc., FISHERMAN.

Price of School Books

Sir.—It may be in the interest of the public weal to draw attention to the seeming exploitation of the people of P.E.I. by the T. Eaton firm. The text books in our public schools have the name of the above mentioned firm engraved on the covers of our reader text books in large type. This is prejudicial in the extreme to the interests of our merchants and general inter-provincial business. It is the strongest kind of an advertisement for the mail order houses—to the detriment of our local business men, and may be one of the most potent factors tending to drive some of our people away from P.E.I. The price printed on the front page of those readers is less than one third of the price at which they are sold to the merchants and dealers, thereby causing a great deal of misunderstanding and explaining between buyer and seller. It seems that in the public interest the matter should be investigated by the executive. I am Sir, etc., JAMES PENDERGAST, Kensington, Mar. 6th, 1922.

Cost of Living

Sir.—Every now and then there is something in the newspapers editorially or in the correspondence department relative to the great beauties of the Island province and its many qualities, and other good things. Its salubrious climate, the great fertility of its soil and such things are rolled under the tongue with much care, and one would think the island was a veritable paradise, where gold dollars were to be picked up on the streets. But are these statements all true? It may be true, for instance, that we have a pretty nice little climate; but one cannot live on climate alone. It may be true also that we have good water here; but a long drink of water, even though it is good, is not a panacea for all the ills of life. The only thing that is living conditions better here than they are anywhere else? There's the rub! We live in a province where practically everything needed to sustain life is produced. Why then should it cost the much to live in a small farming community like this as it does to live in a much larger Canadian city? In some instances the cost of living is greater here than it is in Montreal, for instance. Rents, too, are as high here as anywhere else, under the canopy of Heaven. This is true, either for houses or parts of houses. People do not seem to know what to ask for the places they have to rent, and only people with lots of money can get a place to lay their head. Why this should be so puzzles me. The only excuse I can offer is the utter stupidity of the people. But cupidly doesn't build up a town, it only drives people away from it and keeps them as far away as they can get. I am a Prince Edward Islander through and through and like to see the Island get even a semblance of a fair show. The people who charge exorbitant prices for everything, or even for some things, are the worst enemies the city has.

The best thing, and the fairest thing that can be said about conditions in Prince Edward Island, is to tell the truth about them. What's the use of bringing in more emigrants when we cannot find work sufficient for those who already have? Better busy ourselves in finding work for our own people, and let the immigrant go where there is work for him.

Under which the reduction in exchange rates commenced, as soon as he assumed the Premiership and which dropped from seventeen down to about six per cent, before he left office. In real fact however the big factor in the reduction is in the increased value of the English pound, sterling, which has from the low point of about \$3.40 now reached almost to par.

Another point is that the Liberal Journal was also wrong in its facts, for the Canadian dollar is not yet quoted commercially at par in the United States. We refer to these things only to show the puerility of arguments adopted to fill the vacancy or death of anything really good that can be said in extenuation of the King inactivity.

Happenings Of The Week

King Christian and Queen Alexandra on Tuesday announced the betrothal of Crown Prince Christian Frederick to Princess Olga, eldest daughter of Prince Nicholas of Greece. The announcement says the couple became engaged at Cannes.

Lady Drummond, well known for her work during the war, announced this week at Montreal, at a luncheon given in honor of Lady Byng by the Daughters of the Empire, that they had raised a sum exceeding \$5,000,000 for patriotic purposes since 1914.

Father and Son week was duly celebrated with banquets in the Methodist, Baptist, Christian and Anglican churches. It is a beautiful idea bringing to the surface the deep undercurrent of love that the average father has for his boy and the boy for the father.

It was with sincere regret that the death of Mr. J. E. L. Goodwill of Peterboro, Ont., was learned by a wide circle of friends here who will deeply sympathize with Mrs. Goodwill, his mother and relatives here in their bereavement.

Heartiest congratulations are being extended to Mr. and Mrs. James Shaw, Mr. Edward Road, who had the distinct honor of celebrating the 50th anniversary of their marriage last Tuesday.

Mrs. Benjamin Rogers entertained very pleasantly at bridge on two occasions this week, asking her friends in on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Rev. J. A. Cairns of Langlois, Sask., and Mrs. Cairns, who have been visiting in England for the past several weeks are to spend the week end in the city visiting their daughter, Mrs. Mulligan, before proceeding to their western home.

Senator and Mrs. P. C. Murphy of Timish, arrived in Ottawa for the opening of Parliament.

Scottish Wit and Humor was very ably dealt with by Rev. G. C. Taylor at the Caledonia Club on Thursday evening and was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience present.

The Charlottetown Bankers had a delightful visit in Amherst on Thursday. After their successful game of hockey, they were very agreeably entertained by the local team and their friends.

There must be some such place. But I don't think that place is Prince Edward Island, even though the grass is green here for twelve months of the year, as some over-zealous orator said at a recent meeting of the Rotary Club the other day.

Grasses and flowers and good crops and salubrious climate are nice things to have if we have lots of money and plenty of work. But until there is more of both offering than there is in sight at present there's room for some change in the Provincial programme, if not in the Provincial Government. I am, Sir, etc., ISLANDER.

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

From the W. R. Louson collection

THE TOUCH OF SYMPATHY

We were a little tired the other day, tired of the fight, to be frank, tired of trying to do—just right when so many things seemed to go just wrong. Of course we had been praying about it, but faith was not overcoming as it should have been, and we were reaching out here and there for a little touch of human sympathy when our eyes fell upon a little letter that Maltbie Babecek once wrote to someone in a similar condition of mind and state of life. It seemed like a personal message to us. We read that of other years felt the real touch of that touch and generous soul of sympathy. Being dead he was yet speaking. Ah, how it lifted and rested! Here are the words: "I have thought of you more than once lately and wondered how things were going. It is a comfort to look back through the years and think what good friends we have been and tend to make a jump into the future and know there's the real summer season of friendship comes. The best things we have know on earth can be but small beginnings, little eyes and buds on the tree of life that look on to the real unfolding of all that life and love mean. I have no doubt that is rather a wearisome thing for you nowadays but comfort yourself by knowing that you will fight the fight bravely and keep the faith loyally."

Ah, the touch of such a heart of rems changes the whole song of life!

Rev. A. K. and Mrs. Hermina of Summerside, are visiting in St. John, this week.

On Wednesday Mrs. W. W. Owen made an agreeable hostess entertaining at several tables of bridge.

Miss Minna Moore who has been visiting her sister Mrs. (Dr.) David MacKenzie of Montreal, has returned to her home in Eldon.

The London Times states that the gift of Eton College to the Princess Mary was a silver statuette of the founder, Henry VI, about 15 inches high, and standing on an inscribed base. It was copied from the statuette on the lectern in King's College Chapel, Cambridge.

The Horse Show on Wednesday was an attraction, especially appreciated by the men who were most enthusiastic over the splendid showing made.

A pleasant feature of the dedication services of Rev. William Orr Mulligan to St. James Church was the reception held afterward when everyone had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Mulligan to Charlottetown. An agreeable surprise was also given Rev. G. C. Taylor, when the congregation of St. James presented him with a valuable gold watch and Mr. D. A. McKinnon, the clerk of session with a case of flat silver, both gifts being much appreciated.

Mrs. W. A. Huestis was among the hostesses this week entertaining in honor of Mrs. Chessman who is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Jardine, Brighton.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Cotton, and Miss Margaret Cotton are leaving today for Halifax and will sail from there on an extended trip to France, Belgium and Great Britain. They are followed with cordial good wish for a pleasant holiday.

Professor McNeill of Queens College, formerly of this Province, was on Wednesday recommended by the Ottawa Presbytery to hold a chair in Knox College.

The popularity of the Jimmy Evans Company is nightly shown by the large audiences in attendance and the flowers and chocolates so lavishly given to the dainty young lady performers.

Mrs. J. McLean of Souris, accompanied Senator McLean to Ottawa this week and was among those attending the social functions in connection with the opening of Parliament on Wednesday.

Mrs. J. A. Webster was among the hostesses entertaining this week, having invited quite a circle of friends to her home on Wednesday for bridge.

Mr. George E. Full's friends are glad to see him out again after his recent indisposition.

Miss Davida Baker of Alberton, is visiting her cousin, Miss Berna Huestis, Prince Street.

Miss Ethel Bagnall of New York is visiting her sister Mrs. J. A. Rodg of Ottawa.

Fashion's latest fad in New York is tinkle-top overshoes, which have bells on the tops of old-fashioned goshes which are worn by some women with fur coats, silk gauze stockings and straw hats. Many will say they will never be worn in Charlottetown but the ubiquitous, flapping overshoe has been seen quite often in our streets.

Miss Dorothy Stewart, was hostess for the Young People's Bridge Club, entertaining very pleasantly at four tables of Bridge last evening.

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Y. W. C. A. was held on Friday afternoon at the Cunniff Home, to elect officers for the coming year. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. F. C. Moore. Vice President, Mrs. J. O. Hyndman. Treasurer, Mrs. D. R. McLenan, (by acclamation). Recording Secretary, Mrs. H. R. Hilson.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. J. D. Stewart, and Mrs. D. R. MacLennan.

A vote of thanks was tendered the retiring president, Mrs. Champion for her faithful work and much regret expressed at losing her from the Board. Afternoon tea was served in her honour.

PITCHED BATTLES

GENOA, March 8.—Tension between the Fascist and Socialist elements which has been smouldering for months, culminated in several pitched battles and gun and revolver duels in the streets of Genoa last night.

The Trend of Business TO forecast correctly trade developments is of vital importance to the man of business. Our Monthly Commercial Letters, which will be sent on request, contain analyses of agricultural and trade conditions of great assistance in reaching sound conclusions. THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE Capital Paid up \$15,000,000 Reserve Fund \$15,000,000 Charlottetown Branch, C. Lomer Miles, Manager

The Patriotic Assurance Co. Ltd. (Head Office for Canada) Toronto Wish to announce the appointment of J. R. Paton, as their general agent for Prince Edward Island. Office, 132 Great George Street, Charlottetown. WRITING FIRE INSURANCE ONLY FOUNDED A. D. 1824

Notes By The Way (From The Examiner.)

The opening of the Dominion Parliament by St. Louis Davies as Deputy Governor General serves as a reminder of the many honors he has gathered during his long and brilliant career in public life.

The writ and intelligent people of Prince Edward Island quickly became aware of the deception practiced upon them and of their own huge mistake in 1919, have welded the lash of indignation upon their petty tyrants in many public gatherings. Calls to resign and give place to better men have been unprecedented in number. The press, unawed by influence and unbribed by gain has dealt them many stinging blows beneath which they squirm and shrink in keen distress, but with feeble signs of penitence. All these are hopeful symptoms. The little men, drawing twice the pay of the big men of the past, have begun to feel that they must do something to atone for their past usurpation, neglects, and blundering incapacity.

Rumor has it that they have evolved and promised a measure to give votes to women—another "Me-too" incident! Borden and Meighen gave votes to women in federal elections; Mr. Bell will give the women votes in provincial elections. Most sincerely do we hope that the rumor may prove true. It will show such originality and inventive genius on the part of the narrow-gaugers. And we have strong hopes that the enfranchised women will do for the Bell government what so many of them did for Meighen. But before they mark their first ballot let them inspect it carefully to note whether there is not a poll tax attached to it by a string! Meighen did not deal in poll taxes.

Logically the poll-tax goes with the vote. It is thus in all cities and countries where poll taxes are imposed. One is always an adjunct of the other. Will the poll tax be repealed, or will the number of contributors to this odious form of taxation be doubled by giving votes to women? These are pregnant questions. Again, if women are given the right to vote with exemption from the poll tax, what will the

We do well to broaden the gauge of our railway but who can think without a sigh of regret of how we have at the same time narrowed the gauge of our representative public men and debased our public life in the Legislature at home and at the national capital. It is not for want of men of ability native to our soil that this befalls. Our wealth has not greatly accumulated nor have our men decayed. We gave Schurman to be Governor of the Philippines, Lane to be Washington Cabinet, and our Farmers and McPhails to lead or adorn the great Universities of Ontario and Quebec. We still find men of high judicial capacity to sit in our courts.

That we are not decadent people has been proven by our brave soldier boys on a scene of battle fields and by our athletes whenever and wherever they have met

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS ALL KIDNEY DISEASES RHEUMATISM BRIGHT'S DISEASE DIABETES BACKACHE WATER 4087 THE PROPRIETOR

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