

The Charlottetown Guardian

President, Lieut.-Col. W. Chester S. McLure. Vice-President, J. R. Burnett, F. J. I. Secretary, Lieut.-Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D. S. O. Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett, F. J. I. Associate Editors, Frank Walker and D. K. Currie. Morning Daily (founded 1857) \$1.00 per year (in advance) delivered in City, \$3.00 per year (in advance) mailed to Prince Edward Island, \$4.50 per year (in advance) Mailed to Canada and United States. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1936.

Gloomy Outlook For Taxpayer

It is indeed a far cry from the "vote-Liberal-and-get-back-from-the-Poor-house" assurances of Mr. MACKENZIE KING, his colleagues and party press in the election campaign last autumn, to the sober statements of the same Mr. KING and his colleagues in Parliament today, as they face the grave responsibilities they so lightly assumed, of ending unemployment. The BENNETT Government, faced with the same task, was bitterly criticised for its so-called "blank cheque legislation" which empowered the administration to expend a sum sufficient to provide unemployment relief. This, according to Mr. KING and his colleagues, was a wasteful and undemocratic procedure. A few days ago, it was announced that for the present year a relief appropriation of \$50,000,000 would be demanded of Parliament. And now Mr. KING announces that he has "revised his estimate" and that the sum required will more likely be in the vicinity of \$75,000,000. Last year, under the so-called "blank cheque" legislation, relief expenditures amounted to \$60,448,000. This year Mr. KING finds it impossible to get along without a still greater expenditure; and he proposes to designate the amount in advance, thus putting a premium on the amount available, every province and constituency will be after its "share" and the treasury will be looted before half the season is over. It was to avoid this contingency that the "blank cheque" method was devised, it being obvious to the BENNETT administration that the proper and most economical method of dealing with emergencies arising out of unemployment was not to budget for them in advance, but to meet them as the occasion demanded. All this has been changed. The KING Government, anticipating greater unemployment and greater hardship than under their predecessors, will demand that Parliament authorize the expenditure of a lump sum of several million dollars more than was expended last year; and this amount, it is safe to predict, will be exceeded before the next parliamentary session. In the meantime, Finance Minister DUNNING is preparing his budget, the chief feature of which will likely be a deficit of some \$140,000,000. How are the increased unemployment expenditures to be made up? The taxpayer knows the answer. He knows it is out of his pockets that the money will come. And who are the persons for whom employment is being most urgently sought? Is it the needy, or the politically deserving? That question too is not difficult to answer. In the House of Commons the other day (April Fool's Day) Dr. GRANT, our King's County representative, seized the opportunity of making his maiden speech and of complaining of the lack of jobs available for his party supporters. "I have in my constituency," he stated, "perhaps seventeen jobs on boats, and I had four hundred applicants for those seventeen jobs." Mr. HEAPS: "What kind of jobs?" Dr. GRANT: "Working on tugs and dredges, and of course everybody who is a Liberal and unemployed is now looking to me for a job. How do you expect me, Mr. Speaker, to divide four hundred into seventeen without getting anything but a fraction. We will have plenty of friction, I can assure you."

"Plenty of friction" if Liberal heclers are not provided for. But what about the general public, and the taxpayers for whom Dr. GRANT, and his colleagues in Queen's and Prince Counties were so greatly concerned during the election campaign? Their troubles, it is evident from the goings-on at Ottawa, are only really beginning. "I Serve" Arrangements for the coronation of King EDWARD VIII in May of next year have been approved by His Majesty, and only the actual date remains to be fixed officially. It is likely that Thursday, the 27th, will be the date chosen, as it has become something of a tradition that British rulers be crowned on that day of the week. There is as yet no announcement of when King EDWARD will visit India to be crowned Emperor at the usual brilliant Durbar ceremony. Undoubtedly these coronation ceremonies will be of an impressive nature, and all the world will be keenly interested. It is doubtful that accession to the Throne of any previous British ruler has attracted so much attention in so many countries. As Prince of Wales the new King travelled extensively, and won the personal regard of millions of people in his own and other lands. He was known also to soldiers on battlefields of the Great War, and these retain happy memories of his presence among them. Since his accession to the Throne, says the Toronto Globe, King EDWARD has provided many delightful evidences of his democracy and his amazing industry. He appears to be everywhere and doing everything. The story goes that when the owner of the winner of the Grand National Steeplechase, who had received His Majesty's congratulations, telephoned St. James' Palace to inquire, rather timidly, the procedure to be followed in acknowledging the felicitations, he was startled to hear: "This is the King speaking. You don't need to do anything more. I accept your thanks now." Then followed a brief and cordial chat. So that it is a King beloved of all his own people and admired and honored throughout the world who will be crowned in London in May of 1937.

Editorial Notes That "blank" cheque for unemployment has amounted 50 per cent. since the week-end

Practically two families have been wiped out in New Brunswick due to "the bonds of holy matrimony" being held in contempt.

HAILE SELASSIE still has faith in the League of Nations, while WINSTON CHURCHILL considers it a cumber of the ground.

The BENNETT Government in 1934-5 paid out \$60,000,000 in unemployment relief. The KING Government is budgeting for \$75,000,000. Yet we were told Mr. BENNETT was extravagant.

The Ottawa agreements are to remain until their full term undisturbed by the wrecking effect of the KING-U.S.A. Treaty. Besides, the Dominion Imperial Conference is not due till the Coronation, May 1937.

One of the most outstanding post-Easter events is the Motor and Variety Show scheduled for the Forum, April 21, 22, 23 and 24. It promises to be the biggest event of the kind this side of Montreal.

Certainly the Conservative Governments, Provincial and Federal, deserve the high praise given them at Rotary the other day; our highways are our touristic lungs, and it is pleasing to have a specialist declare them to be the "equal of the best of the asphaltic type so far laid down."

The cable reports about the intended resignation of Premier BALDWIN are merely a repetition of what appeared in our columns a fortnight ago; viz., that Mr. BALDWIN was slated to retire after the Coronation in 1937 and that meanwhile partisans were lining up behind Mr. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN and Sir SAMUEL HOARE respectively to fill his shoes.

The Quebec Observatory, which for more than 50 years has occupied a site overlooking the St. Lawrence River on the Plains of Abraham Heights, has started to move into new quarters near one of the old Martello towers on Laurier avenue. Instruments and new meteorological equipment are being installed in the new building which is expected to be fully fitted in a few weeks.

Total imports of fertilizers during February were 93,663 cwt. at \$74,290 compared with 50,108 at \$45,303 in February, 1935. The largest item was 69,590 cwt. of superphosphate, mainly from the Netherlands. Other imports were: 955 cwt. of blast furnace slag, 1,618 of bone dust, 1,420 of sulphate of crude potash, 5,992 cwt. of nitrate of soda, tankage 2,081 cwt. Among the domestic exports of fertilizers during February were the following, with February, 1935, figures in brackets: Ammonium sulphate 55,490 (61,011) cwt., bone dust and meal 1,618 (nil); cyanamid 277,732 (337,318) cwt. The cyanamid import came largely from the United States.

Some of the English judges are unusually particular in the language they permit to be used in Court as the following incident shows: "Don't use that word!" exclaimed Mr. Justice LANGTON, when counsel in the Divorce Court, London, said: "He was only bluffing." "I wish you would avoid these Americanisms," the Judge went on. "It is much better to use English, even if you have to say 'Preterence.'" Counsel protested that he did not know "bluff" was an American word; he thought it "good enough English."

The Judge: "It comes from a game called 'Poker.' Don't you know it? That is American enough isn't it?"

There is always somebody taking the joy out of life. The five little Dionne girls at Callander have offered serious competition to Niagara Falls, famed mecca for tourists, according to Mr. W. L. HOUCK, Liberal member of the Ontario Legislature for Niagara Falls. "Last summer we had a highly successful season but our greatest competition came from the DIONNE quintuplets," Mr. HOUCK declared in the Legislature. "In other years people would stop at least two or three days to take in all the beauty of Niagara Falls, but last year, considering the distance between Niagara Falls and Callander, they were very anxious to be on their way and would only stop to view the scenery and then leave again."

Profiting by the advice given last year by Lieutenant Governor DEBLOIS to Islanders, the Government of Quebec has issued official instructions to hotel keepers and their staff to develop the welcome smile. "When, after having toured their establishments from cellar to attic, hotelmen are satisfied that nothing is amiss, and that everything is in readiness to fittingly receive a stream of visitors, there still remains the preparation of a smile. There is nothing as powerful as a smile, especially in this difficult domain where so many different tastes have to be considered, and satisfied. We do not refer to a mechanical smile, one in which only the lips smile, with the remainder of the face and body impassive and wooden. Neither do we mean a servile smile, an inane grin, which does more harm than good. No, the real smile, in the hotelman, is rather a courteous and dignified attitude, which creates the impression on visitors that they are really welcome guests in the establishments."

"The problem of trading goods with a remote nation like Russia which does not expect to sell its commodities at a profit and which can accordingly underbid private industry in the Dominion," says a U. S. exchange, "is one which will probably puzzle the best minds of the MACKENZIE KING Government. It is probable that Canada will not refrain from signing a trade treaty with the Soviet upon high moral grounds. Great Britain has bought and sold goods with Russia; so has Germany. The practical difficulty in the way of a commercial pact is the Canadian suspicion that the Dominion will buy a 'pig in a poke' when it makes the agreement. Before the United States recognized the Soviet, the master minds of the Roosevelt administration estimated that an annual American export trade totaling \$50,000,000 would be forthcoming. As a matter of fact, the figure for the first year has been less than one-tenth that sum."

Notes by the Way

Mussolini made one of his grandiose speeches last week with a statue of Julius Caesar in the background. He should remember that Julius Caesar, as the late Hon. Dr. Montague once told an audience in this city, was stabbed 30 times between Pompey's statue and 10 o'clock.

Neither pro-German nor pro-French, but pro-peace. That, we are sure, is the emphatic sentiment of the British people. It was the guiding principle of all Arthur Henderson's work. Would that he were alive now to enunciate it once again with all his special authority. For it is, in these days, of crucial importance that none should be carried by prejudice into one or the other camp, but have care only for the peace of the world. We think that, for those who make such an approach, everything else in the present crisis dwindles into insignificance beside the opportunity of negotiating a general European settlement of pacification and security through the League.—London Daily Herald.

The settlement of the wages dispute in the coal industry is a matter on which both the owners and the miners are to be warmly congratulated. It is doubtless true that an incentive to immediate agreement was found in the desire of both parties to avoid an outbreak of industrial trouble at a moment when the country is mourning the death of the King; but even before the announcement of His Late Majesty's illness it had become apparent that the dispute was being conducted in a different spirit from that with which experience has made the public familiar on more than one disastrous occasion in the past sixteen years.—Glasgow Herald.

The Queen Mary, needless to say, is much more than a liner, much more than just another floating palace of the Atlantic. This ship is, in every sense, a national undertaking, a national institution. Financial assistance from the British Government made her completion possible. She may or may not pay dividends—many large ships fail to—but the average Britisher will not be greatly concerned on that point. He thinks of the Queen Mary purely as a symbol of British maritime might, of British supremacy of the seas, of Britain's sporting answer to all the nations, that when bigger and better ships are built, Britain will build them!—Windsor Star.

Hitler seems to have succeeded in distracting the attention of Europe while Mussolini presses on in Ethiopia in the hope that presently he will confront the world not with sinister intentions but with an accomplished fact.

Miss Charl O. Williams has suggested that all women stay home from work one Monday, just to prove to their male critics the importance of women in the business world. Isn't it a little late to suggest something like that? It would perhaps be more in order for the men to stay home to convince the women.—Christian Science Monitor.

Germany's demand for the return of her colonies must be faced very soon. It must be faced not without sympathy for the German people, despite the repugnance which the actions and bearing of some of their leaders have inspired. When definite proposals are made the problem will occupy the front of the stage in the international political scene, and its consideration will make unprecedented demands upon the statesmanship and diplomacy of all concerned in it. The nations which hold the present mandates from the League of Nations will have much to say about it. Unless there exists, as has been alleged, a secret agreement between Germany and Japan, it is difficult to imagine Japan, for example, sacrificing to Germany any rights in the Pacific. The rights of nationals will demand consideration in the settled colonies. The problem bristles with difficulties, but the way out is not the way indicated by Herr Hitler and Dr. Goebbels—guns, and the right of might. That way madness lies.—The Melbourne Argus.

Seventy-eight-year-old John Sims lies ill in a cottage in the corner of the cemetery at Westbourne, Eng., where he and his wife may occupy only as long as the village church clock ticks. A deed dated 1806 entitles him to live in the place, rent free on condition that he wind and attend the timepiece, now nearly 100 years old. If it stops, out the couple goes. Sims became ill three years ago, and the church gave him permission to pay a clock maker 25 cents a week to wind the clock for him. So Sims listens regularly for the ticking of the timepiece.

Traffic signs in London, England, which say: "No parking after 12 p.m." must all come down. A motorist, who appealed in court last week was acquitted when he pointed out to the magistrate that there's no such time. Twelve o'clock is either noon or midnight; it's not a.m. or p.m. Time marches on.—Harrison in Windsor Star.

We may be thankful for our weather contrasts without forfeiting our birthright to grumble about them. It is not a very far-fetched idea that to them we owe a good deal of our national characteristics of refusing to get into a fuss about things before they happen, and, when they do, of dealing with them in a bluff, practical way which may not owe much to logic or theory but yet disposes of the difficulty with fair success. It is a useful quality in more than meteorological emergencies. In far more important things even the wisest and most clear-sighted of men cannot tell what is waiting for

That Body of Hours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

LESSENING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM ASPHYXIA—SUFFOCATION

"On adding together deaths by asphyxia—drowning, lightning, electric shock, monoxide gas, smoke suffocation, hanging—one arrives at the astonishing conclusion that death from asphyxia is twice as frequent as death caused by automobile accidents."

To those who have been following the great efforts being made to lessen the terrible toll of death caused by automobile accidents, the above quotation from Dr. Paul J. Flagg, president of the Society for the Prevention of Asphyxial Death, Inc., comes as a distant surprise.

Of course the above mentioned causes of asphyxia, or suffocation cover a number of conditions or situations but the end result is that the "cut off the wind," cut off all oxygen from entering the lungs and death results.

"Asphyxial death gives no warning. It strikes like a bolt of lightning. One cannot practise means of prevention and treatment at the time of the accident. One must be prepared when it comes. Any one of us may be the next victim. Help the medical profession and help yourself toward the prevention of asphyxial death."

How can this type of death be prevented? Fortunately, whether this type of asphyxia is caused by drowning, monoxide gas, lightning, electric shock or other of the above mentioned accidents, the treatment is always the same, that is to try to get some oxygen into the lungs. Thus getting the lungs to draw in the oxygen by means of what is called the Schafer method of resuscitation can be used in all cases. It is very simple and everybody should know it.

Put yourself astride or on one side of the patient's body in a kneeling position facing his head. Placing your hands flat in the small of his back with the thumbs nearly touching and the fingers spread out on each side of the body over the lowest ribs, lean forward and steadily allow the weight of your body to fall over upon your hands and so produce a firm downward pressure, not too violent.

By this means air (and water if there be any) is driven out of the patient's lungs. Immediately thereafter swing backward, releasing the pressure but not lifting the hands from the patient's body. Repeat this pressure and release every four or five seconds.

Keep this up until natural breathing returns. him round the next corner. In such a world there is much value in being compelled to develop and exercise a faculty of improvisation and in being trained to keep an equal mind under severe and sudden changes of condition. What ever else we may say about the vagaries of our weather, we have at least to thank them for countless opportunities for such painful practice.—London Times.

In his final election address Chancellor Hitler said: "I know I have hurt millions of persons, but I had to do it in order to create a new national unity." The admission may be of little practical help to the victims, but it at least confirms the charge that they were treated outrageously.

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PUBLIC FORUM

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

ELECTRIC LIGHT PROBLEM

Sir,—New evidence is always a strong plea for continuing to press our case against those who control the local electric plant. The Financial Post of Toronto in a reference in its issue of April 4 to the Maritime Electric Company states that the Company might consider a sale of its Prince Edward Island properties if a suitable offer were made and then concludes as follows: "Capitalization of the company consists only of common stock all of which is held by Associated Gas. No financial statement or operating report has been issued by the company, such particulars being consolidated with those of the parent organization."

This paragraph suggests two important facts. First, that the Maritime Electric Co. is hardly more than a form. The ownership and control is vested elsewhere. Second, that although a public utility, the owners have thus far escaped the responsibility of publishing an annual statement as to the operation and financial structure of the local plant. It is hardly possible that conditions such as these shall be permitted to continue. It is against the public interest that they should continue.

The "Post" alleges that a sale of the local plant might be considered if a suitable offer were made. A recent decision of the New Brunswick government may give some clue as to "a suitable offer." An agreement has been entered into by that government with the Gatineau Power Company to construct a turbo-generator steam unit at Dalhousie, N. B. with a capacity of 10,000 horse power, to supplement the Grand Falls development, at a cost to exceed \$300,000. This projected steam generating plant will have more than twice the capacity of our local plant so that what was spent in repairing or renewing or refitting or re-equipping the local plant is of no consideration, but rather for what sum can a modern plant be installed. As a rule it is more profitable to purchase a new car than to constantly spending money in keeping a worn, played-out car in running condition and in the end you only have an old car.

Recently, I received from the Canadian Fairbanks-Morse Co., St. John, an illustrated booklet giving information on principally owned Diesel power plants and the first sentences which my eye catches read: "No community can afford to overlook the possibilities of Diesel power." "The Diesel Plant is simple to operate and its efficiency does not depend on the skill of the operator." I am making these quotations simply to show that our light and power problem is known beyond the confines of this province, and the public are becoming interested. What actions are taken locally becomes news abroad. Why? Because light and power is the one big issue of today and people are interested in learning how others are overcoming their difficulties in respect thereof.

May I refer to a financial statement recently received from Associated Gas and Electric Company giving a statement of consolidated earnings and expenses which shows the total operating expenses and taxes as 62.34 per cent of the total operating revenue. In the local plant the percentage is 64.4. Why should the percentage be so large here and why is it larger than over the whole Associated system? The answer is that in the Maritime Electric Company there are no local stock holders to make enquiry nor is there a single share of stock held by any Canadian. The plant here is run not in the interest of the local consumer or investor, but for the benefit of foreign corporations.

The operating expenses, less cost of power per customer per year is \$17.50 here, \$9.10 in Truro, \$6.20 in Dartmouth, \$7.80 in Sydney and \$11.55 in Pictou County.

The balance sheet of the Associated shows total liabilities of \$469,916,412.81 and the main item in the assets is Investments in Subsidiaries: Associated Gas and Electric Corporation 6,710,000 shares of \$1.00 par value each, common stock (en-

tire issue) at company's valuation \$381,264,445.00. Now look at what the accountant says: "The investments in subsidiaries are carried at company's valuations which do not purport to represent realizable values at December 31, 1935." The public may form its own opinion as to the financial stability of this immense organization. I am, Sir, etc., JOHN F. WHEAR.

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—John Kobb.