The Charlottetown Guardian

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League Attitude Stiffening

MUSSOLINI seems to have overshot the mark in his peremptory demand that the League of Nations "take its hand off" Ethiopia and accept the conquest and annexation of that unfortunate country as facts about which there need be no more dispute. It was a grave error in judgment for the Italian dictator to have taken this attitude. The League, it is true, failed miserably to fulfil its obligations to Ethiopia while the Italian war of aggression was in progress. But if only needed this taunt from the conqueror to make its humiliating position intolerable. The result has been to force the representatives now gathered at Geneva to rally to the League's support. Without a dissenting vote it was decided that the Italo-Ethiopian question should be kept on the agenda, and a further decision was taken to continue enforcement of sanctions against Italy.

Sanctions, it is true, did not prevent Ethiopia from being invaded. But it is significant to note, from figures recently issued by the League, that, at a conservative estimate, Italy between November and February had lost half her foreign trade and half of her gold reserve. The figures showed, too, that the effect of sanctions was cumulative, and that it was reasonable to expect that the position of Italy would be very much worse at the end of April than it had been at the end of February.

What saved Italy's campaign in Ethiopia was the sudden move of Germany in remilitarizing the Rhineland area. This occasioned a relaxing of the pressure on Italy, France in particular being desirous of making friendly overtures in the interests of a European alliance against Nazi ambitions. A resolution passed by the League Council at a night meeting on April 30 contained only a mild recommendation to continue to carry out obligations under the League covenant. The resolution which was supposed also to record the fact that conciliation had failed in the Italo-Ethiopian dispute—"conciliation" six months after the outbreak of war!—did not indicate clearly the fact that the reason for this failure was that Italy had set as her price of peace the entire conquest of Ethiopia. In the final meeting of the Council which approved this resolution, there was to be seen the ridiculous spectacle of the Italian, guilty of aggression, calmly dictating what the Council should put in or leave out of the verdict that they were preparing to deliver against his country.

If the League failed now to resent the whip-cracking attitude of Mussolini, it would be signing its own death-warrant.

The Moose River Probe

Commenting on the forthcoming official investigation by the N. S. Mines Department into the catastrophe at Moose River, the Sydney *Post-Record* says:

"While it has not been indicated how far afield this probe is to be pushed, it may be observed that no investigation which merely results in the discovery of the physical causes of the tragedy will meet the case or satisfy public opinion. There is a strong conviction that the Provincial regulations with respect to metalliferous mines are either inadequate or are ineffectively enforced. Otherwise it is difficult to understand how these three visitors from Toronto obtained access to a mine which had not been in operation for years, and which was obviously in a dilapidated and dangerous condition. It was presumably known to the Department of Mines that the reopening of this gold mine was in contemplation, but apparently no official attention was paid to the initial work, and no safety precautions instituted for the protection of those engaged in these hazardous operations.

"There is no intention, however, of prejudging a case which is now about to be enquired into by a competent commission, but it needs to be said that the public will expect the commission's report to contain findings and recommendations which will help to place the responsibility for this catastrophe on the proper shoulders, and also to lay the basis for the adoption of regulations governing the operation of metalliferous mines, which will be as stringent and effective as those relating to the colliery industry."

Editorial Notes

If the City can get along without granting unemployment relief so much the better for the taxpayers.

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It is to be hoped that when corporations pay their new tax bills they will refrain from damning the dunning budget.

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Fish and game have no excuse for not being well preserved now that we have two voluntary organizations besides the R. C. M. P. looking after them.

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In Alberta Sales Tax imposition when the merchant collects 20c from a customer for a $10.00 order, he hands the Provincial Government 19c and puts 1c in his pocket.

* * *

Although Mr. DUNNING has allegedly departed from the "bridge score" method of accounting, the taxpayer is still vulnerable and is going down plenty, doubled and redoubled.

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The gold crown of Emperor HAILE SELASSIE is safely hidden in the vaults of a London bank. The crown and other imperial insignia of the Negus Negusti were carried secretly to London when the Italian advance began to threaten Addis Ababa. Tremendously heavy, the crown is brimless and is surmounted by a large cross.

The R. C. M. P. have received instructions from Ottawa to patrol railway yards and halt the movement of transients. They should be particularly vigilant at Tormentine, Borden, and Pictou.

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The only previous British cabinet member to become involved in a stock broking scandal was Mr. LLOYD GEORGE, who, with the late Lord ELIBANK, then Chief Whip became involved in what was known as the Marconi Scandal, dealing in American Marconi shares while the Government was negotiating for a Marconi Imperial radio contract.

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The new $100 duty-free racket arrangement with the U.S.A. plays havoc with 25 years' endeavour to develop trade and travel West and East instead of South and North. What inducement is there for anyone in the Maritimes to go to Montreal or Toronto for personal requirements when he can go to Boston and import them duty free? The railways west are bound to suffer loss of passenger traffic.

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Rt. Hon. R. B. BENNETT does not believe in accepting an honour without reciprocity. He has enjoyed the Honorary Colonelcy of the New Brunswick Rangers for some time, and is having new Regimental and King's Colors made for the regiment. He hopes to be able to come east for their presentation. The new colors will carry battle honors ranging from "Mount Sorrel" to the pursuit to Mons.

* * *

The announcement of the sudden death of Mr. R. J. CROMIE of the Vancouver *Sun* will come as a shock to his journalistic confreres as well as to many others in public life. Mr. CROMIE took hold of The *Sun* when it was a bankrupt concern and converted it into a fine paying property. He was of a dynamic personality, restless and ambitious, and never seemed to know when "to stay put." He travelled extensively in later years, and was a popular speaker at service clubs throughout Canada.

* * *

Replying to Mr. C. F. FULLERTON, President of the Railway Commission Rt. Hon. R. B. BENNETT said his remarks during the Budget debate that the actual net loss of the Canadian National Railways system last year was $115,000,000, had been inaccurately referred to in the newspapers as a "deficit." A net loss on profit and loss account was "entirely different from a cash deficit," Mr. BENNETT said. Nevertheless both auditors and bankers consider it a deficiency of receipts compared with outlays.

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The increase in sales tax will hit different individuals unevenly. Some firms will have to absorb the increased tax without being able to pass it on. But generally the effect will be to spread the heavier tax burden over the great mass of the population. If some way could now be found to make the public realize just how much government taxation is wrapped up in every purchase made every day, we might be on our way to the great public tax revolt that must apparently come before governments will endeavor to economize on a large scale.

* * *

Who says broadcasting doesn't pay—the U. S. A. entertainer? TESS GACDELLA, known on the stage as Aunt Jemima, won a verdict of $115,000 against the National Broadcasting Company, General Foods, Inc., and Log Cabin Products, Inc., when a jury in United States District Court in Brooklyn decided after an hour's deliberation that the use of her name for other entertainers employed by the companies on radio programmes had injured her professional standing. Miss GARDELLA alleged in her complaint that she had been known as Aunt Jemima for sixteen years in the theatre, on the radio and in motion pictures.

* * *

"It would, I am assured by a British officer who has just returned from Abyssinia, (writes JANUS in *The Spectator*), be a profound mistake to assume that the war in that country is ended. My informant is, on the contrary, convinced that Abyssinian resistance will, if necessary, go on for years. Recent Italian successes have been due to the ruthless use of aeroplanes and gas, and the capture of Addis Ababa will make no practical difference to the situation. A million Abyssinians are still under arms, waiting only for the rains now at most three or four weeks distant. Even if the Emperor were willing to come to terms, which is inconceivable, the various local chieftains never would. They have vowed one and all that they will never surrender an inch of the soil they have controlled. Even the little rains of four or five weeks ago were capable in an hour or two of making the much-vaunted motor road from Dssye to Addis Ababa completely impassable, and when the real rain comes total immobility appears to be the inevitable fate of the Italians. Then guerilla warfare by the Abyssinians will begin in earnest."

* * *

It is foolish for people to minimize the seriousness of the prospects of another war. The London newspapers are not mincing words on the matter, and are not building any false hopes on the respective powers refraining from the use of poison gas. The London *Spectator*, for instance says: "If there is war at all there will be war with every circumstance of barbarism and hideousness that the ingenuity of the world's greatest geniuses and most elaborately trained scientists can impart to it. Even the excuse that a nation with its back to the wall must clutch any weapon in reach is superfluous. Italy has had her back to no wall in Ethiopia. She has tanks; the Ethiopians have none. She has heavy artillery; the Ethiopians have none. She has aeroplanes enough to darken the sky; the Ethiopians hardly have a machine worth calling an aeroplane at all. Yet in cynical violation of one more solemn pledge she sprays her naked victims with poison-gas from the sky, and it is to gas, as *The Times* Special Correspondent at Addis Ababa asserts categorically, that her recent spectacular successes on the northern front are mainly due. The conclusion is inescapable. To abolish gas-warfare it is necessary to abolish war."

Notes by the Way

Be tolerant of age. If we were to accept the policies of many large corporations, once a man has passed middle age his usefulness to his company and to the world at large is at an end and merciful anaesthesia is probably the best thing that could happen. Enforced retirement of executives at fifty-five, sixty and sixty-five years of age is a practice increasingly prevalent, increasingly costly. A man's mental capacity, health and resistance to inevitable katabolism, to say nothing of invaluable experience and the stable wisdom that matures with age, is a far better yardstick with which to measure man's utility than merely counting his years upon earth.—Canadian Business, Montreal.

The average tolerant American is interested in the tale of the Aladdin-like fortunes that have come to a few and does not begrudge them their good luck. But, even if he takes a chance himself now and then, he is apt to be opposed to or doubtful of lotteries in general because common sense and common observation tell him there is a catch somewhere in the tale of all-round benefit to the individual and the State that would follow revocation of the ban. The disappointment of the losers, the waste of money which they could ill spare, are not in evidence so much as the joy of the winners, but they are hard facts. From the economic point of view there is nothing to be said for lotteries. The great Irish lottery does drain money out of the country, but it is money tainted with the disappointment of thousands and the sapping of habits of thrift and industry. Uncle Sam would like to keep it at home, but he is not ready to pay the price of sponsoring a rival gamble.—Buffalo Evening News.

Only in Czechosolovakia, Poland, Germany and Japan, says the Chatham News, is the unemployment problem lighter than in Canada. This leaves Italy and the Soviet Republic with the majority, while we have been told everything is fine in these countries.—Toronto Globe.

We need more trees along our roadsides. Trees and shrubbery at the roadside attract birds and rabbits and squirrels. They make road travel pleasanter. And in winter they hold back the snow from blowing in drifts across the road. Especially we need more trees in our cities. A tree or two will go far toward turning a back yard into a garden. Overhanging branches can make even an alley less noisome. Front yard trees make beautiful residence streets and enhance property values.—Chatham Daily News.

Aftermath of the Italo-Ethiopian conflict promises to be as confusing as were the preliminaries and cabled news of the campaign. For example: Is Selassie still a King or just a refugee? And what responsibility is assumed by countries that give him shelter? In international affairs it is not difficult these days to start a new issue.—Toronto Globe.

When just before the Great War the total State expenditure in Ireland was £11,344,500, the case was made that public administration was too costly, that there was a wholly unnecessary number of Boards, and that the country was overtaxed. We have since advanced a long way, but not in the direction of cutting down expenditure or reducing taxation. The nation has been partitioned, and is in the unevitable position of having not only two, but three governments engaged in operating her services. The excessive number of Boards, condemned by politicians of all parties in satirical terms, has been increased to such an extent that one fails to keep count of them. For the Free State the amount will be £33,000,000, approximately. — Dublin Irish Independent.

There are circumstances in which twenty-miles or five miles, is dangerous. The driver who pulls away from the curb without giving a signal and making allowances for oncoming traffic is driving dangerously. The driver who turns left out of the traffic lines to enter an intersecting road or street, without making a proper signal, is a menace to safety no matter what his speed. Cutting-in may be about as perilous at thirty miles as at sixty, or taking a curve in the centre of the road.—Ottawa Journal.

Latest outspoken opinion from Berlin: "Germany must do as Italy did, and seize colonial territory just as Mussolini is seizing Ethiopia." This is plain enough for the ordinary intellect.

An Austrian is alleged to have attempted the murder of Prince von Starhemberg by firing a pistol through Strahemberg's window when the Prince wasn't home. Evidently a man of humane principles.

Miss Anna Buchan, who is visiting her brother, the governor-general, is an authoress, using the pen name of O. Douglas. She expects to secure some material while in the Dominion and it is anticipated that he will also bring Canadian color into some of his future writings. the new regime is likely to result in some fine literary pictures of this Dominion.—Toronto Expositor.

The parallel between the pre-war tension which ended in the Great War and the European situation today is a matter of almost universal observation. Why should not the processes which brought about war in 1914 operate to the same end in 1936? There is just one factor which may save the situation, and that is the conception of preserving peace by collective action which was given to the world by the Great War. Impotent as the League has been, flouted and repudiated as it has been, it has yet succeeded in putting into the minds of the people of the western nations the idea that national power should not be applied to the furthering of particular ends on national initiative but that it should be devoted, in conjunction with other nations, by keeping the peace.—Winnipeg Free Press.

Constantine Brown, author of "The Diplomatic Game," in an article in The Washington Star, says: "The coming year's bill for American wars, past and future, real and imaginery, hypothetical and projected, in a nation that by solemn international treaty has bound itself never again to resort to war as "an instrument of national policy" will be $4,684,000,000, according to the tabulation compiled from official sources by Representative Fred Biermann of Iowa — — an average outlay of $161 for every American family of five."—Chronicle-Telegraph.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

PERSISTENT DIARRHOEA MAY BE DUE TO AN OVERACTIVE THYROID GLAND

Figures from private and public hospitals clinics show that at least three of four give a history of being constipated. Although these people are on their feet and are not sick enough to be in bed, they can hardly be considered normal.

However even among those who are normal or not sick, it would appear that at least half, or fifty per cent, are constipated.

It is interesting therefore to read of the other type of cases, that is those who do not appear to be sick, but instead of being constipated are afflicted with diarrhoea.

Of course at times when much fruit is eaten or when something "not fresh" has been eaten, diarrhoea often occurs, lasting for two or more days. But when diarrhoea is present all the time and no excess or overripe fruit or other food has been eaten then the cause must be found to prevent the weakening effects of the diarrhoea.

Dr. A. Richieri, Buenos Aires, in the Argentine Medical Journal, states that diarrhoea occurs very often in all forms of hyperthyroidism (that is when the thyroid gland in the neck is manufacturing too much juice.)

While this condition (goitre) usually has other symptoms such as rapid heart beat, nervousness or trembling, nevertheless the diarrhoea may be the only symptom present.

This type of diarrhoea usually has a sudden onset, the number of bowel movements varies between two and three a day in the mild forms and between forty and fifty in the acute or severe form. These bowel movements are sometimes painful but there is no blood nor mucous in the faeces (stools.

As there may be no other symptoms but the diarrhoea (no great increase in heart rate, no enlargement of the thyroid gland, no bulging of the eyes, no trembling or nervousness), it would be difficult to locate the cause as due to an overactive thyroid gland except for the metabolism test. You may remember that this test tells the rate at which the body processes work when the body is at rest and no digestion of food is going on.

If the rate is faster than is considered normal and there is also a considerable increase of sugar in the blood following starch meals, an overactive thyroid gland is considered the cause of the diarrhoea.

In cases where the cause of persistent diarrhoea is not readily discovered, Dr. Richieri's suggestion of the overactive thyroid gland is worth consideration.

The Poets' Corner

FROM "LAST POEMS"

In valleys green and still
Where lovers wander maying
They hear from over hill
A music playing.

Behind the drum and fife,
Past hawthornwood and hollow,
Through earth and out of life
The soldiers follow.

The soldier's is the trade:
In any wind or weather
He steals the heart of maid
And man together.

The lover and his lass
Beneath the hawthorn lying
Have heard the soldiers pass
And both are sighing.

And down the distance they
With dying note and swelling
Walk the resounding way
To the still dwelling.

—A. E. Housman.

B. N. A. Act Amendments

(Toronto Globe)

Senator George Lynch-Staunton spoke in the Senate recently on a subject that has not had the public attention and airing that is its due. In fact Senator Lynch-Staunton spoke upon it for the express purpose of stimulating some public discussion.

His subject was: "Is it wise or necessary to seek to amend or repeal the British North America Act?" He directed the bulk of his argument against those who would have the British Parliament transfer its power to amend the B.N.A. Act over to the Federal Government, and he was "full of objections," that gave support to his contention that "no man can devise any amendments to the B.N.A. Act which will give to the Dominion Parliament any greater power than it now has respecting national questions." He reminded his hearers that the B.N.A. Act was in effect an agreement between the Provinces and the new State by which the Provinces retained all powers with respect to local affairs and surrendered "only legislative powers having to do with the peace, order and good government of the new State."

The Senator sought to disprove the assumption that since the enactment of the Statute of Westminster Canada has passed into a new realm of independence. That statute, he argued, conferred no new powers and gave no new status, but left the Dominion precisely where it was. He also took issue with those champions of Dominion independence who assume that his Majesty King Edward VIII is now King of the Dominion of Canada, rather than King of the British Dominions. The fact is, he asserted, that the King has no authority to "rule over this country except as it is contained in the laws passed in the time of William and Mary."

The Senator's objections to Dominion sovereignty and absolute independence can be summarized as three, chief of which was his opposition to the Dominion Government having control over the B.N.A. Act, and thus power or control over the individual that goes far beyond that necessary for "peace, order and good government." In opposing any British legislation that would make such control possible, he argued that the British Parliament has the power but not the authority "to deprive me of my birthright as a British subject."

So far as Canada's independence was concerned, he expressed the opinion that the influence of material interests, if not sentimental attachments, would oppose it. Independence would cut the ties of Empire, leave Canada alone, open to the territorial ambitions of predatory Powers, and beyond the shadow of Imperial protection. To the same extent she would be a commercial orphan, deprived of the preferential treatment of the Ottawa agreements, and forced to compete on the same basis as other nations for the business of Empire markets.

Those voices which the Senator was arguing against seek to hide their independence ambitions behind the all-embracing argument that this is the age of "modern times," and that modern conditions are different and long past the "future" the Fathers of Confederation had envisaged. The Senator's answer is equally simple and direct. "So long as we live up to the spirit of Confederation, so long as we do not endeavor to violate the contract that was made among the Provinces," it should serve. But if it must be amended it should be amended only with the consent of the creators, and the "creature should never have the power to amend itself."

An Empire Wrecked

(Toronto Globe)

In what way, if any, Italy has gained by the conquest of Ethiopia remains to be seen. All that is clear at present is the fact that Mussolini has succeeded in destroying one of the world's most ancient Empires, and in turning a long-peaceful country into a scene of bloodshed and fierce internecine strife.

The independence of Ethiopia dates from about the eleventh century before Christ, and the country embraced Christianity in the fifth century of our era.

Formerly the inhabitants were friendly to white visitors, but Italian planes and poison gas have changed this attitude to one of intense hatred of all foreigners. So much for the effect of Italian "civilization" on this ancient people.

The results as they touch the rest of the world, however, are also to be considered.

Naturally, natives throughout Africa, and especially those in adjacent British and French colonies, have watched the unequal contest between Ethiopians and Italians and may be expected to share in the disquiet which this unjust war has aroused. Disaffection and revolt in various parts of Africa are disturbing possibilities in consequence.

Britain is particularly affected by Italy's presence in the Lake Tana area.

The lake is the principal source of the Blue Nile, the waters of which are of vital importance to both Egypt and the Sudan.

Mussolini, on several occasions, has declared he has no intention of interfering with British interests in Lake Tana; but there is no guarantee that he may not, at any time, consider it expedient to ignore these statements and to attempt a diversion of its waters. Should he do so, war with Britain would seem almost inevitable.

But, whatever may be the consequences outside Ethiopia, it seems certain that conditions in that country must remain chaotic for years to come.

That Mussolini realizes this is shown by his announcement that 400,000 of the Italian soldiers now in Ethiopia will remain there "as settlers."

In reality, of course, the troops will remain for the purpose of "cleaning up" and of "pacifying" the tribesmen, and this is likely to be a long difficult and expensive task for Italy.

Only one gratifying feature of the Italian conquest is to be found, and that is its possible effect on the Egyptian Nationalists. For several years this faction has been busy agitating for complete abolition of British participation, limited though that be, in Egyptian affairs; but Egypt sees the danger of Italian control of Lake Tana, and would much rather accept a British protectorate than submit to Italian interference. It is probable, therefore, that the Wafdists may modify considerably their antagonistic attitude.

In the meantime, the civilized world waits anxiously for the rescue of British, United States and other nationals who are in danger of falling innocent victims to the enraged tribesmen as a result of Italian frightfulness.

NEWCASTLE, England—(C.P.)—A young woman in a Newcastle hospital who had lost her power of speech following a brain operation suddenly recovered her voice when a hymn was being sung and she joined in the singing.

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