

The Charlottetown Guardian

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THURSDAY, MAY 7, 1936.

Housman As Moralist

The press tributes paid to the recently deceased English poet, A. E. HOUSMAN, make a point of stressing the poet's alleged liking for beer. From frequent references in his work to this beverage, inferences are drawn which, we venture to say, are entirely wide of the mark.

"Why, if 'tis dancing you would be, These bricker pipes than poetry, Say, for what were hop-yards meant, Or why was Burton built on Trent? Oh, many a peer of England brews Liveller liquor than the muse, And malt does more than Milton can To justify God's ways to man. Ale, man, ale's the stuff to drink For fellows whom it hurts to think. Look into the pewter pot To see the world as the world's not."

Those who cannot see that this is merely the poet's way of ridiculing the popular preference for beer over the diviner intoxicant of poetry, should not bother attempting to read HOUSMAN at all. But had the reviewer continued his quotation for another dozen lines, even the most casual reader would have detected the moral. Here it is:

"And faith, 'tis pleasant till 'tis past: The mischief is that 'twill not last. Oh I have been to Ludlow fair And left my necktie God knows where, And carried half way home, or near Pints and quarts of Ludlow beer: Then the world seemed none so bad, And I myself a sterling lad; And down in lovely muck I've lain, Happy till I woke again. Then I saw the morning sky; Helgho, the tale was all a lie; The world, it was the old world yet, I was I, my things were wet, And nothing now remained to do But begin the game anew."

Can one find, in all English literature, a better temperance sermon than this? But it is as a poet, not a moralist, that HOUSMAN should be enjoyed. Now that he has gone, the following beautiful lines from "Last Poems" take on a prophetic meaning and deeper poignancy:

"We'll to the woods no more, The laurels all are cut, The bowers are bare of bay That once the Muses wore; The year draws in the day And soon will evening shut: The laurels all are cut, We'll to the woods no more. Oh we'll no more, no more To the leafy woods away, To the high wild woods of laurel And the bowers of bay no more."

Britain To The Rescue

As often in Britain's "rough island story," says the Mail and Empire, it has again fallen to American and other nationals to take refuge in a war-ridden foreign capital under the British flag. The story of what happened over the weekend in Addis Ababa reads like a romance. The United States legation in the Ethiopian capital, attacked on all sides by war-like natives, was unable to communicate with the British legation four miles away. The United States representative therefore sent a wireless appeal to Washington. Washington telephoned across the Atlantic to the British Government. The British Government instructed the British legation in Addis Ababa by cable or wireless telephone to go to the succour of the hemmed-in Americans. The British commander at the legation thereupon sent a body of Sikh troops under command of British officers across the city to raise the siege of the American legation. King HAILE SELASSIE, with his family, had already taken refuge on a British warship lying off the coast. All of which leads to the reflection that if the United States had joined President WILSON'S League of Nations, Germany and Japan would never have retired from the League, and the League would have been strong enough to prevent Italy's attack upon Abyssinia.

Page Dr. Grant

DR. GRANT, M.P., who recently complained about the lack of publicity this Province received in a map published in a Conservative political pamphlet, will find subject matter for a more legitimate complaint if he examines the new advertising folio published by the Canadian Travel Bureau, Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa. This folio purports to give an idea of the Bureau's new zoning system of advertising in United States newspapers and magazines for 1936, representing "a more pretentious" and doubtless much more expensive, schedule than last year. Cuts are freely used in these display advertisements, featuring the various provinces of Canada as a vacation land. Farming, fishing, shooting, boating, and out-door activities of all kinds are depicted in the 28 pages of alluring photographic matter. Scenes from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and other provinces are given prominence, but we notice none from Prince

Edward Island. True, the tourist is invited in one advertisement to roam over "red cliffs and sandy beaches"; but the illustrations to the text afford no hint of our existence. Immediately adjoining the textual reference to Prince Edward Island are pictures respectively of Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia, the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, salmon fishing in New Brunswick, and Grand Pre, Nova Scotia. More than one advertisement displays prominently the features of Mr. IRVING S. COBB, American writer and movie actor; but for the features of Canada's Garden Province and Cradle of Confederation, or any part or parcel thereof, one must seek elsewhere.

Editorial Notes

This is the anniversary of the torpedoing of the S. S. Lusitania in 1915.

According to Senator DANDURAND, the MACKENZIE KING Government sold our Merchant Marine to Australia for less than scrap.

The New Glasgow News is raising the question of the future of Senator HANCE LOGAN, lest he and his works be forgotten with the passage of time.

Not a single one of the readjustments of tariffs and taxation is in the interest of farmers, save and except the concession to fox breeders obtained by Mr. J. WALTER JONES.

The present good standing of Canada is due to five years' arduous and successful administration in the time of a world crisis when most countries went hopelessly "in the red." But, says Mr. BENNETT, the policy now being pursued by their successors is almost certain to cause a disastrous revolution.

It is with pleasure we note Mr. T. F. DRUMMIE, of the Saint John Telegraph-Journal has been elected to the Presidency of the Canadian Daily Newspaper Association, and Mr. H. P. DUCHEMIN of The Sydney Post-Record has been re-elected First Vice-President of the Canadian Press.

According to Mr. FRANK ELIASON, Secretary of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan, the farmers will not benefit a cent from the Dunning Budget. The agricultural implement manufacturer will maintain their present prices and add the Sales Tax; while in the case of the oil companies "apparently they had foreseen the cut and raised their price accordingly."

It is reported Premier CAMPBELL has decided to refuse any share of the Federal Unemployment Relief Fund. He points out, it is said, that if he does, the Province must pay an equivalent amount, and it cannot afford to do so. If this Province can get along without unemployment relief we certainly are "on the top of the world" and the fact should be blazoned abroad to the four quarters of the globe.

In Canada, said Mr. P. J. ROWE, S.C., M.P., Athabasca, people were trying to make employment on one hand and on the other to cut down employment by the use of labor-saving devices. Mr. ROWE referred to the appointment of Mr. A. B. PURVIS as head of the National Employment Commission by saying "I suppose he qualifies as head of the unemployment board because he is adept at unemploying people."

The Penitentiaries Commission, of which the late Mr. HARRY W. ANDERSON was a member, has had a succession of mishaps which has prevented it functioning. On the day of his appointment as chairman, over two months ago, Mr. Justice ARCHAMBEAULT, suffered a fractured leg. He suffered a further injury just when his recovery from the first was complete. Now his colleague Mr. ANDERSON has gone, and the Commission will be further delayed till a successor has been appointed.

When the Central Women's Institute protested to the Government against letting Miss MACMILLAN go without an endeavour to retain her services, the Government told them they could select her successor. Accordingly the Executive interviewed and examined six applicants, and unanimously agreed upon one as the most efficient and one likely to be a worthy successor to Miss MACMILLAN. Fancy their surprise and disgust when they discovered that, without a word of explanation, the Government gave the appointment to another.

The curse of the Sales Tax is that it pyramids. The manufacturer adds 8% and the retailer another 8% making the consumer pay 15% or 16%—making his dollar worth only 84c. Besides it imposes a great expense on the business man keeping books and records of his sales and paying for the auditing and return of his sales. It acts as premium to U. S. A. exporters and a handicap to Canadian industry and enterprise. Of course it saves millions of dollars to the government making the business man tax collector with no hope of evasion, whether he collects his accounts or not.

Hon. Mr. C. A. DUNNING, practical business man as he is, has done a praiseworthy thing in wiping out the distinction between ordinary and capital surpluses and deficits. It has been the practice of the Finance Ministers and Premiers of both parties to budget for an alleged surplus on ordinary account, and a deficit on capital account. In this they were merely attempting to deceive themselves and hoodwink the electors. Mr. DUNNING puts an end to it. He said the Government was determined to present clearly the over-all deficit in the Government's accounts. "In the past we have too frequently misled ourselves," said Mr. DUNNING, "by the form in which our Government accounts were presented. We have pointed with pride to a small surplus on ordinary account and we have tended to minimize the importance of large deficits resulting from capital and special expenditures."

Notes by the Way

A compilation of Dominion Government figures shows that the total cost of the Great War to Canada, including interest charges over the past twenty years, has been the staggering sum of \$4,341,666,904. There is only one thing worse than to lose a war—and that is to win it.—Financial Post.

The President's attitude was "Do something, and when you have done that something, if it works do some more, and if it does not work do something else. You young people want action. You believe as I believe that something that needs to be done can be done." And how significantly American it is to believe that.—Toronto Daily Star.

The season of tragic bathing fatalities will soon begin. If one counted only the number of times when, according to the daily papers, drowning is due to ignorance of the art of swimming, one would be surprised at the number of lives which might be saved, provided practically everybody could swim well. Swimming, into the bargain, is a splendid exercise for the body. One should teach children to swim from the age of four or five. Once they have learned the art, they will never forget it. Learn to swim yourself, if you don't already know how. There are instructors everywhere who can teach you in a very short time.—La Tribune, Sherbrooke.

A Harvard professor says: "It is egregious obscuritism to postulate that syncope in harmonization has an immoral connotation." Translation: Jazz won't hurt your morals. If any.—Grand Rapids Press.

With vast experience of colonial overlordship, Britain has learned to be magnanimous, and liberal, toward, and very considerate of the aspirations and rights of people under her chaperonage or tutelage. But nowhere should she exhibit more genuine deference than to her peoples of the Indies. And all her tendency toward increasing their share in and responsibilities of government and in educating them to that end. In that the best of British traditions are linking up with the best of Indian aspirations.—Montreal Witness.

The declaration of President Roosevelt that he seeks to make it possible to keep every boy and girl in school until the age of 18 will appeal to many people as idealism run rampant. There are thousands of boys and girls better off in the actual school of life at an earlier age than 18.—St. Catharines Standard.

George Lansbury, veteran leader of the British Labor party, on his way to preach peace on the continent, said before sailing: "We are trying to be true-hearted followers of the Prince of Peace. Who was crucified on Calvary because He preached the realist way of life." A noble idealist, yet a voice crying in a wilderness of armaments.—Ottawa Journal.

I have not narrated everything that I have seen or learned during my long and adventurous career, because I have the right to unfold only sections that are mine, and because I do not wish to follow the example of some men who, when they speak from beneath the tomb, accuse, attack, destroy—and only give the victims an opportunity to reply by digging their nails into the planks of one's coffin.—Memoirs M. De Blawitz.

By serving margarine instead of butter to the troops of the Royal Air Force, Great Britain saves about \$25,000 a year. The aviators have been complaining about it, and their cause has been taken up by champions who urge that butter be used as a ration instead of the substitute.—The Windsor Star.

The suggestion that Government business should have precedence in the Dominion Parliament for the first six weeks or two months of every session has distinct merit. After the slate is cleared of the Government's program, the members who want to get themselves into Hansard or the benches of the back home could have their inning.—Peterboro Examiner.

We knew it was something like that. Mussolini intimates that gassed Ethiopians are victims of their own degenerate acts. They tried to poison gas upon the Italians in the one turnkey way and the stuff backfired.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

The Department of Agriculture has discovered a racket that the officials are suppressing with not a little regret. A growing demand for the prairie for open public land available for farmers provoked an investigation, which showed that children were sending for it, as the pages were only printed on one side. It develops that the books were being used as scribbles by the restless youngsters, who mailed their applications "O.H.M.S." thus saving postage. Admitting this was a racket, it may be that the children actually put the departmental publication to better use than some of their elders. At least they used both their heads and their pencils.—Montreal Gazette.

In the horse-and-buggy days, observes the Kingston Whig-Standard, "the church authorities in Philadelphia had permission, between 1798 and 1831, to stop all vehicles traffic by placing lantern chains across the principal streets." Fortunately they didn't have to keep on hand a stock of mufflers for screaming horns.—Moncton Transcript.

Poland has gone off the gold standard. It may be recalled that when Britain did the same thing there was a good deal of consternation throughout the world, but things went along about the same as before. Therefore, Poland's jump will not create undue excitement or apprehension.—Ex.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Burton, M.D.

DIZZINESS—USUALLY DUE TO EAR OR LIVER TROUBLE

When an attack of dizziness occurs there is often the feeling on the patient that there is something wrong with his heart. As a matter of fact most cases of dizziness come from a disturbance in the ear or in the liver. Generally but not always when the objects about the patient seem to be going "around and around" or the patient himself seems to be going around and around, the trouble is in the ear, whereas when things appear to be going up and down or the patient feels that he is going up and down the liver is at fault.

The treatment in these cases is to look for trouble about the nose and sinuses, and if this is found and removed the attacks disappear. Of course if fresh infection occurs, the attacks of dizziness may return. Treatment during attacks consists of any quieting medicine such as phenobarbital. While this is a most helpful drug, there is the chance that the patient may acquire the "barbital habit."

The removal of a part of the large bone behind the ear (the mastoid) is sometimes necessary to prevent these attacks. The attacks of dizziness due to the liver in which the objects go up and down (not around and around) are prevented or controlled by cutting down on rich starch or fat foods. The use of level teaspoonfuls of Epsom salts regularly for a week or ten days every month should prove helpful in this type of dizziness.

The Poet's Corner

FROM "A SHROPSHIRE LAD"

I hoed and trenched and weeded, And took the flowers to fair; I brought them home unheeded; The hue was not the wear.

So up and down I sow them For lads like me to find them; When I shall lie below them, A dead man out of mind.

Some seed the birds devour, And some the season mars, But here and there will flower The solitary stars.

And fields will yearly bear them, As light-leaved spring comes on, And luckless lads will wear them When I am dead and gone.

—A. E. Housman.

Palestine's Troubles

For the fourth time since the establishment of the mandate there is trouble in Palestine between the Jews and the Arabs. Apparently so far as violence is concerned the Arabs are the aggressors. The five Arab representatives who recently visited High Commissioner Sir Arthur Grenfell Wauchope stated that the rioting had been caused by the government's refusal to forbid Jewish immigration and by the sale of land to Jews. It is highly probable that if this last objection were closely examined it would be found, as has been found before, that in not a few cases the vendors are Arabs; but this is an aspect which the Arabs refuse to consider. The High Commissioner explained that so far as immigration is concerned, that is a major policy, and suggested that a delegation of his callers go to London and discuss the question with the Colonial Office.

In the end if these riots are not to become chronic some modus operandi must be worked out. The British Mandate promised to consider the interests of both people, and seems to manage to please neither, which suggests that an effort is being made to keep the promise. But the task is one of peculiar difficulty, for the differences between these two peoples, inhabiting a small country, go far back into history and cut deeply into religious, cultural and national mores. The immigrant Jews have done much economically for the country through scientific agriculture and industry. But the old Arabs, seeing the land of their fathers as they regard it becoming the possession of "unbelievers," do not take the long view that these gifts of the newcomers are benefits which they will share. The young Arabs, drunk with the heady wine of nationalistic ideas which are sweeping Asia, and perhaps jealous of the superior training and initiative of many of the Jewish immigrants put their objections into such forceful vehicles as

Change Ringing In Minor And Majors

(By H. S. Gordon in Coming Events in Britain.)

There are over four thousand peals of bells in the British Isles, and about 40,000 devotees of the craft of change ringing. Outside Great Britain change ringing may be heard only in certain parts of the Empire and in a few places in the United States of America where the tradition was established by English immigrants.

The art is at least three hundred years old and has never lapsed. It may be regarded as evidence of the fact that the Englishman will contrive to introduce a sporting or athletic element into everything that is capable of sustaining it. Certainly change ringing demands stamina as well as precision and the team spirit.

Speaking broadly, the aim of change ringing is to present a series of bells in every possible mathematical permutation. The manipulation of the eight bells of a complete diatonic scale involves 40,320 permutations. This operation is called a Major and it takes about 28 hours non-stop to complete, each man swinging his bell over 5,000 times.

Obviously the ringing of a Major is not an undertaking for every week of the year, but it is performed in many an English village on such great occasions as a Royal Jubilee and certainly many ringers will be looking eagerly forward to ringing a Major next year in honor of the Coronation of King Edward VIII.

A Minor may be heard in hundreds of different places in England on any Sunday, usually before evening service. It is every possible permutation of six bells that is 720 changes and it takes about half an hour to complete.

Among the more famous peals of bells that may be heard regularly may be mentioned that at St. Paul's Cathedral before service on Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon; St. Martin's (Parish Church), Birmingham, on Sunday morning and often on Tuesday evening; and York Minster, on Sunday and varying weekdays. But a Minor is hard to escape on any Sunday in any English village.

There are a few peals of 12 different bells, and long ago the name of Maximus was assigned to that complete change-ringing of that only in the ringers' dreams, however, for it would involve 470 million changes and take nearly 40 years to complete. They say that to ring a Maximus is the ringers' idea of heaven.

In ordinary change ringing, the bell rule is that every bell that can change its position in the series must do so at each successive blow. Thus if a peal of five bells begins down the scale 1 2 3 4 5, the next sequence with be 2 1 4 3 5, followed by 2 4 1 5 3. This plan yields only ten changes with five bells and it is stage number one. It will be observed that each bell works in regular order from the first position to the last. In practice it celebrates its tenure of office in first or last position by two blows. The progress of number one bell from first position to last is known as "hunting up"; the reverse process as "hunting down."

Now this set of five bells is capable of 120 changes or permutations, and new rules must be introduced to pass beyond the series mentioned above. The rules are too numerous and involved for detailed exposition here, but it may be noted that the first variation, and also the oldest historically, is known as the Grandfire and ad-

mits 30 more permutations. The Grandfire involves a methodical interference with the order of the bell that precedes the treble, with a consequent throwing out of work of the fourth and fifth bells, which are said to dodge.

After the Grandfire the services of a conductor become necessary in order to control the intricate interweaving of "bobs" and "singles" by means of which the permutations are in fact exhausted in coherent order, and of course, without any repetition of a sequence or change.

To make this change ringing possible each bell is hung on a beam attached to the upper part of a wheel. A rope is fixed to an upper spoke of the wheel, passes through a hole in the rim, then proceeds along the rim until it falls into the belfry, where it is grasped by a ringer.

Each ringer swings his bell by pulling the rope until his bell stands mouth upwards. Here the bell is arrested by the simple mechanism and delivers its note, but a "hand-stroke pull" will evoke a second clang before the bell returns to its normal position.

A ringer's first task is to learn to swing his bell and control the timing of its stroke. He must learn to give exactly that weight of pull that will swing his bell over the point of balance, if he is to become acceptable as a member of a team. Change ringing depends for its effectiveness upon perfect timing, and there must be no hurrying or slackening throughout the whole operation, whether it be a five-minute's Doubles or a twenty-eight hour's Major, or even, for the matter of that, a Maximus in Eternity.

Do not think it is enough to listen to change ringing. That is only a small part of a rich experience. The other part is to find out the ancient lore where the ringers gather after their Major or Minor exertions, and to hear them discuss the operation. Only the initiated will understand all the language, but the onlooker must be careful, should he take part in the conversation, not to betray himself as a Philistine by calling a bell "it." To the ringer a bell is always "she."

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