The Charlottetown Guardian

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1936.

Balanced Budget, Indeed!

We were told during the election and since the opening of the present session of the Legislature that the financial condition of this Province was due to the extravagance of the MACMILLAN Government. It was anticipated that the new Government, elected on a specific promise to balance the budget annually, would be able to put its finger on these alleged extravagances and wipe them out. To the surprise and disappointment of the electors, however, the CAMPBELL Government has done nothing of the kind, but has budgeted this year for a greater deficit than ever.

According to the Estimates submitted last evening by Premier CAMPBELL, the income on ordinary account will be $1,639,266.88 and the expenditure $1,709,579, or a deficit on ordinary account of $70,330.12.

On capital account the outlook is even less roseate. The estimated expenditure, apart altogether from "sums sufficient" of which there is provision for three, is given at $186,500, and the revenue at $149,685, or a deficit of $36,815.

Combining the estimated deficits on ordinary account and capital account we have the huge sum of $107,145. But that is not by any means all, as "blank cheques" are asked to provide a site for a National Park, for the establishment of a jail farm or industrial institution, and for unemployment relief projects in co-operation with the Government of Canada.

The total expenditure for Dominion, provincial and municipal unemployment projects last year was $908,992.62, of which the share for Charlottetown and Summerside amounted to $12,212.62, leaving $896,780. The Dominion Government contributed $339,155.52, leaving $557,625 to be defrayed by the Provincial Government. Of course it is not anticipated that the projects for unemployment relief will be on the same scale as last year, although to provide sufficient work and complete the trans-Canada highway it will be necessary to incur a very considerable outlay. Fortunately $86,000 of the $96,000 estimated for the Rustico Highway has already been provided for by the foresight and diplomacy of the BENNETT Government and Messrs. MCLURE and MYERS.

In round figures, the Province will be faced with at least a quarter of a million dollars increased debt at the close of the current financial year. And this is the sort of "balanced budget" the CAMPBELL Government is providing as a first installment on No. 1 pledge of its Election Platform of last summer!

Section 98 Unrepealed

According to current report at Ottawa, Section 98 of the Criminal Code—resounding of high Liberal principles notwithstanding—is not to be repealed this session. Once again the Quebec influence appears to have prevailed with the ministry in this matter. Earlier this session, with a warm smile in the direction of Messrs WOODSWORTH and HEAPS and, doubtless, with some memory of fervid Liberal speeches championing the sacred cause of free opinions, Hon. Mr. LAPOINTE assured the Commons that there "certainly would" be legislation before prorogation to wipe out the section which has been the pet animadversion of Communists in the country ever since some of their number commenced going to jail under it.

The smile of the Minister of Justice was warming and comforting. Basking in its radiance the members of the radical groups felt that it might be a little ungracious on their part to indicate a distrust of benignant governmental intentions by introducing legislation on their own account. Thus no legislation was introduced. The Government was not "put on the spot" to the extent of having to choose between its Liberal principles and offending Conservative Quebec which, faced with a Communist situation that has been giving concern, is emphatically in favor of the retention of the section on the statute books. The danger of any complications, furthermore, is over because the period in the session at which a private member can introduce legislation with any hope of bringing it to a vote is past.

Naturally, Messrs. WOODSWORTH and HEAPS are going to feel a little disappointed. There may even consider that they have been tricked. But Mr. KING, who thinks of everything, has even an answer for any objections that may be raised. The absence of Mr. LAPOINTE in Europe will be made the excuse for not taking any action this year.

Editorial Notes

April snow makes crops grow.

* * *

The middle of April and of Spring.

* * *

The S. S. Titanic foundered on this date 1912.

* * *

The "Y" men are saying it with smiles today.

* * *

Today the present famine dollar in potatoes counts much more than the prospective loss of our market to U. S. A. dumpers.

* * *

Japan wants to play the part of the blacksmith of Asia welding the yellow nations, more particularly, into one, subservient to herself.

* * *

The insistence upon work for unemployment relief has assisted very materially in reducing the number of applicants at the City Hall.

* * *

The grand Oriental Bazaar will be formally opened in St. James Church Hall this evening, when Premier CAMPBELL will perform the opening ceremony, and music will be supplied by the Kirk Orchestra.

* * *

Our contemporary must imagine its farm readers to be fools indeed if it expects them to swallow its argument that the treaty signed by Premier KING at Washington is responsible for the present demand for table stock potatoes. The tariff rate on table stock potatoes into United States was not affected one way or the other by the Washington treaty, though the duty on U. S. potatoes entering Canada was wiped out.

* * *

Britain is realizing once more that the best guarantee of peace is to be prepared for war. Millions lost in scrapping army, navy, and air forces and in bolstering up a League of Nations (of which she was the only convinced supporter) could more advantageously have been utilized to constitute the British Empire a police force for the rest of the world. Neither Europe, Asia, Africa nor America is ready for internationalism as represented by collective action.

* * *

Not a few here, both men and women, have decided to participate in the "On to Vimy" pilgrimage. Asked why particularly Vimy was concentrated upon, Air Marshal Bishop, V. C., declared: "Vimy was a Canadian show, a Canadian battle and an entirely Canadian victory; its difficulties made it all the more important and they, combined with its dangers, must have been the inspiration of the troops that conquered it on that wet morning."

* * *

Down in New York it is reported Cornell University investigators have discovered that, as a result of six years experiments, human life can be prolonged to 150 years. The investigation showed that the diets science considers necessary for years of growth and development, are unsuitable for the maintenance of mental and physical vigor when the years of growth are completed. The life span can be increased, it appears, by diets low in calories, and diets opposite of the "optimum" feeding for growth of the young. If this discovery becomes practical politics soon, heaven help those who have to provide for unemployment relief.

* * *

It is generally conceded that the five years of lean, depression years accompanied with its unemployment problem accounted for the defeat of the BENNETT Government. Mr. KING obtained office and power on a policy and promise to end both depression and unemployment. He has done nothing so far except to provide legislation for an expensive commission to gather facts and figures which, if the Government has not already in its archives, could be speedily collected by the Bureau of Statistics which is there and paid for the purpose. The whole policy and scheme now being followed is nothing more nor less than a sham battle staged by Mr. KING to hoodwink the already betrayed electors. Nothing the Unemployment Commission can recommend or do is beyond the immediate powers and action of the Government itself.

* * *

The learned medical profession of Montreal is making a mass attack on quacks and faddists who offer free gratis advice over radio and elsewhere. One of the McGill professors addressing a luncheon of business men the other day on the all important subject of foods and digestion said: "All fads represent extremes in diet, and all extremes are harmful. Only variety supplies the best. You cannot get the optimum in fads." He produced a capsule which was said to contain a large quantity of vegetable matter in concentrated form. It would take $30 worth of these capsules, he had found on analysis, to supply the amount of food value there was in two and a quarter cents worth of milk. It was possible to lock up a terrific amount of energy in a small package, he admitted; TNT was a case in point, but unfortunately this did not apply to food. A so-called food tablet could supply only enough energy for a walk of two or three hundred feet."

* * *

The spirit of this age of unemployment relief and dependence upon governments, instead of Providence and brow-sweat, is aptly illustrated by the following incident reported in Congress at Washington:

A farmer sat barefooted on the steps of his tumble-down shack, smoking a corncob pipe. A stranger stopped for a drink of water.

"How is your cotton coming on?" asked the newcomer.

"Ain't got none," said the cracker

"Didn't you plant any?"

"Nope, 'fraid of boll weevils."

"Well, how is your corn?"

"Didn't plant none; 'fraid there wasn't going to be no rain."

The visitor was abashed, but cheerful still. "Well, how are your potatoes?"

"Ain't got none; scairt o' potato bugs."

"Really, what did you plant?" asked the stranger.

"Nothin', I just played safe."

* * *

The future of Canadian broadcasting is in the balance; the present and past service is being weighed in the balance at Ottawa, and on the outcome depends the kind of service "fans" may expect for the next four or five years. Similarly in Britain the Broadcasting Charter is subject of revision and as a result of investigations the B.B.C. is declared to be an exemplary achievement. While there must be ultimate parliamentary control the Commission is to retain a full measure of autonomy. Party politicians have been warned to "touch it at their peril." In John Bull's domain, it is explained, the public resents the slightest move to make the microphone a political "football." The keynote is public service in the national interest. Broadcasting in the British Isles, since its inception in 1922, has been non-advertising. It is supported by an annual license fee of $2.50 as against $2 in Canada collected by the Post Office Department from owners of receiving sets. The total income from this source is approximately $15,000,000. The Ullswater committee has recommended that 75% of the net fund be made available to the B.B.C., and that the balance be potentially available for broadcasting development, including television.

Notes by the Way

"Juridically, Herr Hitler's breach of the Pact of Locarno may be still more serious than Signor Mussolini's breach of the Covenant of the League. Yet morally, to send German troops into the German Rhineland amid the acclamations of a German population is an act that has nothing in common with Signor Mussolini's invasion of a foreign country, a member of the League, and his employment of all the devilries of mechanical warfare against an unoffending and defenceless civilian population."—The Economist.

During the Great War the propagandists of the Allied cause formulated, for their hour of need and out of their necessity, certain moving slogans to keep their people steadfast and to inspire their soldiers in the trenches. Thus "The War to End War," and "The War to Make the World Safe for Democracy." The League of Nations, forged from the fires of that war, was molded to put these ideals in permanent form and practice. Even though, as time elapsed, the League was often used by the sophisticated statesmen of Europe only in so far as it seemed from time to time expedient, yet the ideals behind it remained implanted in the heart of the masses. The people of England, at least, never forgot the slogans that had inspired them. And the various societies for the promotion of ordeal by reason, instead of battle, gradually made of these watchwords the deep-seated political religion of the British people.—Fortnightly Review.

It is an axiom that the law is the same for Duke or costermonger in the British Isles, but Albert G. Partridge, President of the Goodyear Tire Company, didn't quite believe it when he went to England seven years ago. The law is that an owner taking a dog into the United Kingdom, must leave him in quarantine for six months. Mr. Partrige was told by an American friend, that as far as he was concerned, it could be easily "fixed." Such little things usually are in America! So, as Mr. Partridge told the story at the Empire Club yesterday, he left his dog in quarantine and a few days later went to get him out by the usual method of "fix." But before he presented his case, he found that an Uncle of His Majesty, the King, had two dogs confined in the same quarantine. That was enough and it was the initial experience of Mr. Partridge with British law and regulations. His dog remained right where it was for six full months.—St. Catherines Standard.

In Simcoe, a town of 6,000 people, it is proposed to add more than $2,000 to the municipal revenues by licensing slot machines, bagatelle and pin-ball games. It is said that approximately 35 machines and games are now in operation there, and that if all continue to operate, the revenue will be $2,625. If these games can afford to pay an aggregate license fee of that size, what is the amount of money fed into them in a year—Toronto Daily Star.

One of the most difficult things in this world for an individual is to accept a hurt, a deep injury, or a misrepresentation—with dignity. Nations may never learn this lesson—until their resources have been hopelessly wasted. There are individuals however who are wiser. The dog barks—but the caravan passes on."

Approximately four miles east of the junction of the Ingenika and Finlay rivers, lies a meadow, about two miles long and about a quarter of a mile wide. The upper end is about 50 feet higher than the lower end. To flood this area, the beavers built twenty dams about five feet high. These dams were so uniform that I put the transit on them to find their variation, if any. Every dam lies north thirty-seven degrees east, without the variation of one degree. Is there an engineer who can tie that, let alone beat it? At present the creek has broken through; beaver are extinct in that region.—Dan MacDonald, trapper and prospector, in The Vancouver Province.

The sentences imposed in the courts thoughout Canada in recent years can scarcely fail to be effective in the prevention of violent crimes. They should teach intending law-breakers that Canada is no place for such characters. These men were sentenced to the penitentiary in two months from the time the young banker was murdered. There will be little pity for the men who received life sentences for planning the desperate deed. It is to be hoped those who received the shorter terms will employ their time in learning to become useful citizens.—Brantford Expositor.

We came out of the last war with that which all wars leave in their wake—a depression. Let us not deceive ourselves. The major factor in the world-wide economic depression of the last several years is nothing other than the waste and inflation that attended the World War. If the depression is of long duration, if it is exceedingly stubborn, we may know that it is only a reflection of the costliness, the wastefulness and stubbornness of the four years of bloodshed. Yet, despite the known effects of that war, despite our high resolves of seventeen years ago, here are the major nations of the world spending more money for preparations for the next war than they ever spent before in time of peace. Getting ready for the next war—and its next depression. A world of bankrupt countries finds it possible, year after year, to increase the budgets to maintain armies and navies and to make ready for more war.—Senator Gerald Nye in The Forum (New York.)

PUBLIC FORUM

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

SHELL DUCK SHOOTING

Sir,—For some years a movement has been on foot by at least one or two men to claim the privilege given by the Migratory Birds Convention Act to shoot shell ducks in Spring in this Province.

At the present time, according to the statements of supervisor of fisheries Gallant, as reported by the press, his Department was now ready to issue permits to shoot those birds.

I am not competent to say whether or not they do enough damage to game fish to warrant them being shot, but I do strongly object to the time and method as outlined by Supervisor Gallant.

The ducks were not to be shot until the young ones were hatched and just as soon as they were able to swim and all "clustered" or "huddled" up close to their mother. I cannot be sure which word he used were to be "shot then," as he said. "In this way you could shoot more than by firing at them singly." There is an old saying when one wishes to express the lowest depths of degradation to which anyone could descend. "They would shoot a bird on its nest." What words could be found to express the conduct of anyone who would descend to the place where they could shoot a proud mother, wearied with weeks of incubation, just as she starts out with her little family by her side for their first taste of life.

Among others salaried officials are eligible for permits. I wonder how many of our people are anxious to pay salaries to officals to waste time, money, and ammunition, provided free, of course, by one of our governmental departments, for such a base proposition. Those birds are good food if taken in the open season, but at this season of the year are useless and, of course, are left to decay along with the dead and dying little balls of down which were once her happy family. And one would have to be dead indeed, to all feeling for motherhood, humanity, kindness, or fairplay for a helpless creature within their power, "because she will not forsake her young," before they would engage in such a pastime.

Now, Sir, I am sorry to have to write this, but I think it time we ordinary citizens became acquainted with some of the things that are going on in the name of "protection" behind the scenes, and also realize that we have just as much share in the game and wild life of this country as the most ardent killer. And things have come to a nice state, if an onslaught is now going to be made on another species to blot it out along with our owls, just as the last fish and partridge may fall a victim to the hunter.

I am Sir, etc.
LUDLOW JENKINS
Marshfield.

ELECTRIC LIGHT PROBLEM

Sir,—The report of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities in Nova Scotia for 1935 has just been received. It is a volume of 453 pages and it gives all the transactions of the Board, copies of all orders and decisions made and of all regulations approved, together with a full statement of receipts and expenditures. The report was tabled in the Legislature and is available to the public. The Chronicle in commenting upon same says: "In a number of cases the Board has seen fit to order investigations and valuations of various public utility properties by engineering experts in order that a thorough examination might be made of the rates."

The Board has jurisdiction over five classes of services operated under either municipal or private control and management, namely, electrical, gas, telephone, tramway, and water. How is it that in this Province no provision is made to have a similar report made by our Utility Board and presented to the Legislature so that the public may know what regulations they are subject to?

Within the last two weeks our electric Company refused to supply light to a citizen unless he made a deposit of $10.00 and although protest was made it was learned that a regulation had been approved by the Board permitting such a demand to be made. Such a regulation is not unusual but the trouble is that our citizens have no knowledge of such things and much annoyance and friction results when they are called upon to submit to such treatment. The deposit will be returned with interest at 5% **when the customer ceases to use electricity.**

Yarmouth, N. S., is experiencing the same trouble as Charlottetown in regard to its light and power plant. There the plant was put up for public auction in 1928 and purchased at a nominal figure by Associated Gas and Electric Co. This sale was never cerified or approved by the Governor-in-Council. Recently the plant was acquired by Nova Scotia Light and Power Co. Yarmouth is now asking for a revaluation of the physical assets of its distributing system and a despatch to the Financial Post of the 11th inst., says, "there has been strong agitation for expropriation of the property by the municipality." There is also a question as to the legal validity of the sale to the "Associated" and its right to transfer the franchise rights.

There is a section in our Public Utilities Act which empowers the Board to state a case in writing for the opinion of the Supreme Court upon any question which in the opinion of the Board is a question of law. The section also says "a like reference may also be made at the request of the Attorney General." I therefore respectfully suggest that, as a first step, the City should request the Attorney General to take the necessary action to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court in banc, as to the legality of The Maritime Electric Co. to operate here and as to its alleged rights, privileges and franchises. If the Company is operating illegally then it has no right to claim any sum as a "going concern." Its value is just what its physical assets here are worth and upon that value only should a rate base be established.

A judicial decision is all important. This Company, which has been able to shift its ownership and control between three systems and to secure considerable sums of money from unsuspecting investors, upon what is alleged as assurances given by its agents and salesmen, should be made to feel the severity of the legal whip. As chairman of the Investors Protective Committee which represents important sections of these investors, may I express the hope and make the request that such other steps may be taken to establish the right of these investors to fair and just compensation.

I am, Sir, etc.,
JOHN F. WHEAR.

HOW AMEND IN FUTURE?

Sir,—In the consideration of the problems now awaiting solution in relation to Canada's Constitution several matters are clear.

1. A Constitution devised seventy years ago for the purpose of bringing into being a new nation, has by the effluxion of time and social, economic and political changes, become in large part obsolete and unsuited to present needs and conditions.

2. The Constitution itself contains no express provision for its own amendment.

3. Amendments in the past have been made by the British Parliament, except as to matters of subsidy which with one exception, have been effected by the Canadian Parliament.

4. In making these amendments through British statutes care has been taken of Provincial interests. Never yet has Provincial autonomy been invaded or even threatened by an amending Act of the Parliament of Great Britain.

5. Provincial rights and the Provincial field of legislative jurisdiction have been invaded time and again by the Canadian Parliament by the enactment of Canadian statutes.

6. The remedy of the Provinces and of individuals whose rights have suffered from such interference has been by resort to legal tribunals which have on many occasions declared these Federal assumptions of jurisdiction to have been beyond the powers of the Dominion Parliament and unconstitutional.

7. The trend has been toward centralization of control at Ottawa and an increasing tendency in that direction may be expected. This tendency in the future will in all probability result in a continuance of the invasion by the Dominion of Provincial rights, whatever settlement of constitutional powers may presently be made.

8. Protection in the past has been afforded to the provinces

(a) by reason of the fact that any amendment touching the respective powers of the Dominion and the Provinces must unquestionably be made by Imperial enactment; and

(b) By reason of the right of the Province or party to resort to the Courts and have the offending Act daclared unconstitutional.

The question emerges, if a readjustment of the respective subjects and powers of legislation be now made, will the Provinces continue to enjoy the same means of protection, or will this protection be lost? The answer to the question depends upon what is now agreed upon to be enacted by the British Parliament regarding the method of making any future amendments.

It will be freely admitted that if a present adjustment of federal and provincial powers of legislation is now made the means which will be taken to make such agreement binding and effective will be a resort to the British Parliament to pass a new amendment to the B. N. A. Act. It is with this in view that the recent Conference has taken place between the Provinces and the Dominion. When a settlement has been reached, the British Parliament will be asked to pass a statute accordingly, and this of course will be done. The British Parliament has never yet refused. This subject,—of what adjustment of legislative powers shall now be made,—is a large one. No detail whatever of what has been tentatively agreed to at the conference or subconference has been divulged by Premier Campbell. It is assumed that some such adjustment is being made although, even as to that, the Premier is charmingly vague and indefinite.

Conceivably, this also may be one of the matters which under the undisclosed scheme is to be handed over by the British Parliament to the Canadian Parliament and to the Provinces to settle among themselves, and then to embody in a Canadian statute alone. **It is all such a matter of indifference, according to Mr. Campbell's view, that perhaps he did not even inquire.** He blandly, in effect, tells the public, 'You are not sufficiently interested, or you are not sufficiently enlightened, to be told'. Hence, the public can only guess. When they try to understand, they can only deal with the possibilities, and with the results of possibilities. For doing this, the Premier gently chides the public—not the Opposition in the House, be it observed, since Opposition there is none. **It is public criticism outside the House which the Premier dislikes.** It seems to be a case of "Shut your eyes and open your mouth," with the Premier. Mr. Campbell says he has "heard a great deal in the press, about this subconference." "It has been pictured to the people of this Province as an effort", etc. "The first wrong impression I would wish to correct", is so and so, he states. **Yet he withholds all details except such as may slip out unintentionally. How can the public be blamed, then, for dealing with the matter from every possible point of view? It is their Province, even if the Premier is not interested.**

If, then, there is to be an immediate settlement between the Dominion and the Provinces, through these conferences or subconferences, as to what shall be the present change in legislative powers and jurisdictions, that change will be made effective by an Imperial statute passed upon due request.

The further and possibly more important question is left, what is being arranged, if anything, regarding the method of future amendments to the B. N. A. Act, (after this one)? Shall they be made by the Imperial Parliament, as heretofore, or will this new Imperial Act provide that future changes to the Constitution can be made at Ottawa, say with consent of all or a certain number of the Canadian provinces, and without having to resort in future to the British Parliament? If the latter be the plan proposed it must be examined critically and carefully to find out, if possible, what would be its effect upon the rights of the Provinces. If this be not the plan, Mr. Campbell might have avoided much discussion by telling the public so. That it is the plan seems probable even from his own utterances, but more particularly from the statements of Attorneys-General outside the Province who have not been so reticent.

On the assumption therefore that it is the plan contemplated it will be dealt with more definitely and particularly in a subsequent communication.

I am, Sir, etc.,
PRO PATRIA.

CANADIAN LEGION BAND

Sir,—Recent news items contain information that Summerside, through the kind efforts of it's citizens, donated a sum of money to re-condition the old band instruments which the Town had. Later, Hon. Senator McArthur announced that he was purchasing an entire new set of instruments, the old ones to be kept to train juniors who would later be absorbed by the senior band.

I wonder if the citizens of Charlottetown can appreciate this?

The Canadian Legion Band—formerly the G.W.V.A.—was started shortly after demobilization by a few of the old players. The instruments used were those donated by the citizens to the 105th. and which were brought back from Overseas by the players themselves.

Around this nucleus was built the G.W.V.A. Band, and up to about six years ago, when the Canadian Legion, by a lot of sacrifice and effort on it's part, helped the members to obtain uniforms, no apparent interest has been taken by the citizens beyond expecting them to furnish music on the square etc. for which no recompense is forthcoming beyond getting the use of a room in the market building for practising in.

As regards this room, it is hardly fitted for the purpose being in close proximity to the Fish Market.

Now the members of the band who are employed, when called on to play, have to, in many cases, forego pay from their employers for the time absent, or make arrangements for their relief.

Sheet music to keep the Band up to date must be provided. This costs money. Another thing. The instruments bought in 1915 are nearly worn out. It has gotten to the pitch where it is practically impossible to tune them properly, and unless some way can be found to re-condition them, they will be useless. If a new member is brought in there is no instrument for him.

The few paying engagements which the Band gets are not very remunerative. There is not enough received to keep things going, and it is only by the self-sacrificing efforts of the men themselves that things are kept rubbing along.

Since the Band was started, not one five cent piece has been received from the citizens toward it's upkeep. This is not fair to them. The public expects a lot and gives nothing.

Now I wonder if there are any public spirited citizens who will take this matter up? Don't forget that although it is called the Canadian Legion Band it is your Band as much as if it were called the City Band.

On the occasion when it performs before the public nothing but favourable comment is received. Visitors from abroad are loud in their praise. Money is being solicited and granted the Tourist Association to attract visitors to our Island, but nothing is contributed to an organization designed to please them after they are here.

I would like to mention here that some of the bandsmen have been forty-five years or more playing before the public without recompense. Is it fair that because of their love of music they should be penalized and made to pay for their efforts to amuse and entertain the public.

The Bandmaster is giving his time and talent free, and how he manages to keep things going no one but himself knows.

Who is the one who will start something?

I am, Sir, etc.,
BANDSMAN.

The Poets' Corner

THE LAKE

There's no one here beside the lake,
Whose waters, in half-slumber, shake
Long leaning grasses at the verge.
And all else, as clouds submerge
The light to dullness, does not stir . .
. . . . . .
The white row of the reeds unsinging
Choristers of evensong,
Skirts the green silence all along.
I, coming by the path I know,
Pause, as I wander, and go slow,
Because at once with peevish cry
Over the lake the moor-fowl fly,
Trailing their feet. Their echoes sink;
And silence rises to the brink
Of all the world within my view:
Lake and lake-island, cypress, yew,
And evening clouds. And now for me
What is more tender than each tree?
What hand, what voice can demonstrate
But half the deep, compassionate
Lull that the sombre branches bring?

—George Buchanan.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

KEEPING UP THE WEIGHT IN CERTAIN MENTAL CASES

One of the things that seems to aggravate certain types of mental patients is the loss of weight and with it a considerable loss of physical strength. Much of this loss of weight appears to be due to lack of water in the tissues.

Those who have to do with professional boxers, who must get down to a certain weight at a stated time, have found that as they are deprived of water in order to get rid of weight, they become cranky, oversensitive, and lose their usual good nature.

Dr. I. Finkelman, Elgin, Illinois, in American Journal of Psychiatry reports an experiment on twelve mental patients most of whom had dementia precox (persistent dream state.) The patients were given a solution that put water into the tissues and held it there. Eight other patients with the same ailment were not given this solution so that the effects could be noted.

The solution consists of 6 per cent gelatin, 3 per cent dextrose, and 0.5 per cent sodium chloride (table salt). The patients were given 18 ounces of this solution daily with meals.

All the patients treated gained weight except one, who was of the melancholy type always looking in on himself. All the patients improved mentally with the gain in weight.

Every little cell in the body should be likened to a tiny fish, and naturally every tiny fish needs water in which to move, take in nourishment and get rid of wastes. The cells from a chick placed in a salt solution seventeen years ago by Dr. Alexis Carrel are still alive, the water being changed daily to get rid of wastes, and keep the cells active.

The thought then is that when the tissues need more liquids, the use of the above solution might be helpful, especially where there is extreme thinness and where there appears to be nervous strain, whether there is any real cause or not for the strain.

On the other hand, of course, in those individuals who are overweight and wish to rid themselves of some of it, cutting down on liquids and table salt will give excellent results, as the tissues will not receive as much water, and there will be less salt to hold it in the tissues.

Carnegie And The Empire

The financial support given educational work in the British Empire by the Carnegie Corporation of New York is indicated in an article in a recent issue of United Empire, the journal of the Royal Empire Society. The article has the reliability of being written by the society's librarian, Mr. Evans Lewin. During the year 1934-35 the Carnegie Foundation of New York gave $1,021,613 for educational work in the overseas British Empire. The amount is additional to the vast sums already expended by the Corporation on its cultural activities. Mr. Carnegie was born in Dunfermline and left part of his great estate for the benefit of the British possessions. This stipulation has led to the work of the Corporation in the overseas fields being such a successful and important part of its duties in administering the fund. The corporations activities are widespread, ranging from the support of universities to the advancement of native education in Africa and from the encouragement of the fine arts and music to the support of museums and research work. No part of the British Empire had been entirely outside this field of operations. This includes such diverse objects as the support of Jeanes schools in Rhodesia; library development in Kenya, British Honduras, the West Indies, South Africa, and elsewhere; the cataloguing of manuscripts in the Colombo museum; adult education in Australia and New Zealand; the advancement of music in Canada; the survey of the Apia Observatory in Samoa; scientific investigations in British Guiana; the development of Maori adult education; the educational programme of the Toronto Art Gallery; and aid in the preparation and publication of books dealing with British Dominions and Colonies

Assistance given educational movements in Great Britain has been provided for by the Corporation quite apart from the fund drawn upon for the overseas activities. A provision in Mr. Carnegie's will stipulated that assistance given the British Empire must be directly connected with the overseas portions of the Empire. Of course he made rich provision under various heads for the United Kingdom while he was alive, one being the assistance he provided for embarrassed students at all Scottish universities