

The Charlottetown Guardian

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TUESDAY, MAY 26, 1936.

Starting With The Farmers

It is significant that the first major step in the KING Government's long-heralded policy of retrenchment is being made at the expense of the farmers of Eastern Canada.

This, says an Ottawa correspondent, is the story as the farmers are given it. The nearer truth probably is that the ministry realizes that public funds are insufficient to subsidize the entire agricultural population of Canada.

"Swindling The Taxpayers"

It is scarcely necessary to add anything by way of comment to the following strongly-worded protest in the current issue of the Toronto Financial Post (Independent Liberal):

"Early this month the Minister of Finance increased the sales tax from 6 to 8 per cent and thus assessed an additional burden of \$23 million per year upon the consumers of Canada.

"An extravagant and unwarranted pork barrel proposal now before Parliament threatens to sink that much money or more in a political ditch. Only lively public protest is likely to avert this swindle.

"The proposal is to link Montreal to Albany via a canal. True, all that Parliament is now asked to do is to put up about half a million dollars for improvements to the Richelieu River. But this is merely the opening 'touch'.

"It is said that several members of the cabinet are fighting the canal scheme tooth and nail. This is not difficult to believe, for it is as daring and extravagant a piece of political piracy as has recently been attempted. It is worse than the Montreal Harbor Bridge. In that politically-manipulated enterprise, the taxpayers had to pay out millions more than the estimates called for, but it at least ended up as a bridge over which traffic could pass.

"At this time economy in public affairs is not merely desirable; it is essential. Any scheme to waste the taxpayers' hard-won money to the extent of millions of dollars is criminal. Ministers who support such a scheme are unworthy to hold a place in any decent cabinet.

"The Richelieu canal scheme may go through. It hangs in the balance of a divided cabinet. The political necessities of bare Quebec party treasuries and the economic burdens of a tax-weary public are the opposed elements in the fight which has divided the cabinet. The taxpayers cannot count on winning the dispute unless an informed public and aroused public opinion bring heavy pressure to bear upon Ottawa.

"This is a political raid on the treasury, and it is intended as nothing more. Mr. KING should stop it. After all, he is the general manager of Canada."

Bagpipes A Nuisance?

Does bagpipe playing in a private house in a residential district constitute a nuisance and a menace to the health and peaceful life of the people in the district? That is the problem a Cheshire (Eng.) Bench of Magistrates has been called upon to decide.

Editorial Notes

Not another public holiday till June 23. Many people went by car to the mainland both yesterday and over the week-end. This is the Queen's Birthday. Her Majesty was born in 1867. The Scouts and Cubs had a great Church Parade on Sunday.

We escaped the severity of the weather experienced in almost every other part of the continent. Let us be thankful.

Now, when the talk of trouble in Europe is prevalent, is the time to prepare for the manufacture of canned, bottled and cased finished food products.

The kindness and genuine regret expressed in Mr. BALDWIN's letter to Mr. J. H. THOMAS is characteristic, and could hardly be surpassed. Only a good and great man could have "tempered the wind to the shorn lamb" in the way the Prime Minister did.

ABERHART's Government has relented, and now has given instructions to permit the purchase, by churches and individuals, of Bibles without the imposition of the new Provincial 2% sales tax. Previously only Bibles bought for use in churches were exempt.

The fact that Mr. J. F. POULIOT, M.P., has withdrawn the offensive words used in Parliament after a six week's delay, may be a mixed blessing. He is by far the most talkative member and there has been comparative quiet and considerable progress since he absented himself from the House.

One of the main effects of the Farmers Creditors Arrangement Act has been to dry up the sources of funds for mortgages, as when a farmer finds he is having hard sledding he puts his affairs in the hands of the officials of the Board, which usually means that the lender is put under a moratorium of ten years.

Hon. HOWARD FERGUSON refuses to divulge his intentions regarding Ontario Conservative Leadership convention tomorrow. Interviewed on his return from a world tour, he refused to say whether he was personally interested in the leadership question. "If your friends insist on nominating you at the convention will you stand?" reporters asked. "Hypothetical questions are dangerous questions and I never answer them." But Mr. FERGUSON said he would attend the convention.

The Minister of Railways, Hon. C. D. HOWE, announced in the House of Commons that he had advised the C. N. R. to make representation to the Quebec Legislature with regard to a proposal by the C. P. R. to run a line into the mineral area of Northern Quebec, close to the Ontario-Quebec boundary. As such a line would conflict with the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, Premier HEBBURN serves notice that his government will fight "to the limit" any move to establish a competing line into that mineral area.

Colonel G. S. HARRINGTON's position as chairman of the Employment and Social Insurance Commission, not having been filled, Mr. MACKENZIE KING has temporarily appointed Dr. O. D. SKELTON, Under Secretary of State for External Affairs. This was done in pursuance of the Employment and Social Insurance Act which requires that vacancies on the commission be filled within a period of four months and members be resident in Ottawa. Dr. SKELTON will hold the office on a temporary and pro forma basis pending judicial determination of the validity of the statute. It is one of several pieces of legislation passed by the former BENNETT Government, submitted to the Supreme Court of Canada for a ruling as to its validity.

We had a good deal of front page publicity about the evidence before the Royal Commission investigating the Regina riots. But the report of the Commission exonerating the Government has been passed by almost unnoticed. Organized in protest against relief camp conditions, the trek was declared by the investigating Commission to have been a menace to "peace, order and good government" and it declared the federal Government was justified in halting the trek. Evidence did not show, the report said, why the strikers were permitted to trek from British Columbia into Saskatchewan before being stopped. Had the trekkers reached Ottawa, they probably would have been 5,000 in number instead of 2,000 as in Regina. A more serious riot would have occurred in Ottawa if demands of the strikers had not been met, the Commissioners believed.

A long list of proposals which, if adopted, would mean, as previously intimated, the formation of an association of League of Nations in North and South America have been submitted for consideration at the projected Pan-American peace conference to be held at Buenos Aires, by the governing board of the Pan-American Union. The proposals, divided into six groups, were based on suggestions made by the 21 nations which will join in the conference and were formulated by a subcommittee. The division into which the topics were divided included organization for peace, neutrality, limitation of armaments, juridical problems, economic problems and intellectual co-operation. The most important of these groups was the first which, among a series of suggestions for tightening the bonds between the Americas, proposed the forming of an inter-American court of justice. No date has been set for the Pan-American conference, but this is expected as soon as all the governments have had time to study the proposed agenda. Canada is not included in the organization.

Notes by the Way

To ask a young man to give up his life for something bigger and better than himself is one thing; to ask him to do it so that some TNT magazine or armor plate peddler can reap a 60 per cent dividend, is something quite different. It's not exactly surprising, if college youth choked on it.—Gueph Mercury.

It is hard to tell whether economic trouble causes political trouble, or vice versa. But the obvious fact is that they go hand in hand. A prosperous Europe tends to be a peaceful Europe; an unprosperous Europe is ripe for war and revolt. Stating the case like this only emphasizes the need for international economic recovery and finding it quickly.—Quebec Chronicle Telegraph.

A contemporary remarks that the conquest of Ethiopia is the first victory the Italians have won since the days of Julius Caesar. It forgets that one of the noblest victories for freedom in all history was won by the Italian people in throwing off the Austrian yoke. The tragedy of it is that they have thrown away the liberty they won.—Toronto Globe.

In several countries applicants for automobile driving licenses are required to undergo tests of skill and knowledge varying in their comprehensiveness. On the same principle Germany demands that all who apply for a license to go after game with a gun or rifle shall be tested before the license is issued. It is by no means a bad idea. Driving a motor vehicle or carrying firearms is safe or dangerous largely according to the qualifications of the driver or sportsman. Accidents and death liable to result from ignorant and unskilled handling of inventions having a potentially deadly quality.—Telegraph Journal.

"The Scout Movement in its best and widest form is international, and that in these days is a thing of very great importance. I would like you all to remember when you have grown up, when your Scout days are behind you, this international aspect, because this country will always have to take a leading part in the affairs of the world."—King Edward.

Jaffa, the Palestinian city where riots have taken place, is the Biblical Joppa, the seaport of Jerusalem to which cedars from Lebanon were floated down the coast for use in the building of Solomon's temple. Hebron, from which the Jews have fled to Jerusalem, was once taken by Joshua, was the place from which Joseph started out to find his brethren at Schechem, and was the headquarters of Absalom's revolt.—Toronto Star.

The trucks and the buses which interfere so much with motor vision on the highways should, perhaps, be required to render traffic some service in the way of signaling, so that following vehicles would know when it would be safe to pass and oncoming cars would know that their right of way would not be disputed. The trucks and buses constitute such a problem to motorists that clever minds should be busy finding out how this danger may be reduced otherwise than by putting trucks and buses off the highways. I may be that, like the railways, they may in time need to have their own right-of-way. In the meantime they should study how to make their operation safer for human life, for K they don't reactions will be serious.—Toronto Star.

Mrs. Harriet L. Clydesdale of Hiten has been declared "jolly contentment in England." On her 100th birthday she danced so hard she knocked part off the ceiling, then went for a 3-mile walk early in the morning. Mrs. Clydesdale still likes to walk about three miles every day, and is a regular attendant at church. She has had four husbands and 19 children. She has outlived her husbands, the last of whom died about seven years ago, and most of her children. Six of these were triplets and six twins. Arthur Read, the youngest of her children, who is 35, looks after his mother. "She is always bright and happy," Read said. "The only thing is she does not like going to bed at night."

The Board of Education in an Ontario city has decided to include current events among the subjects to be taught in the schools under its supervision. Some other schools are doing the same thing. There should be a move in that direction all over the province under the leadership of the education department, which alone can make it legal. "Current events" can be made a most fascinating subject. It tends to keep the pupils in step with the march of time, a vitally important thing if our schools are to turn out into life young men and young women thoroughly in touch with the progress of affairs. The average teen-age girl or boy today looks at nothing but the movie page, the sporting page and the comic strips.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

The timepieces vary in size, from the huge clock in the Grand Quadrangle, which is wound by a double multiplying jack requiring one thousand revolutions to raise the weights, and the dial of which is seven feet in diameter, to Ann Boleyn's wedding clock, which stands only four inches high and is one of the most treasured of all the clocks in the castle. It was bought in 1530 by Henry VIII, from a Frenchman and presented by the King to Ann Boleyn on the morning of their wedding. It is beautifully engraved, and on the west-

That Body of Hours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

FOODS AND CONSTIPATION

A statement frequently made is "There's no use telling me not to take medicine to move my bowels because I've been constipated since I was a child."

It will be found that there was little or no instruction from parents on the importance of having regular movements daily, no checking up if the youngster didn't go to the toilet after breakfast or lunch; and the importance of obeying Nature's call was never drilled into the youngster.

There are therefore a great many people who have formed the "cathartic" habit, honestly believing there is no other way by which they can get rid of the wastes from the bowel.

Now as there is no "obstruction" in the bowel—growth, kink, or twist to prevent the wastes moving down—and the wastes are not great majorities can secure regular bowel movements with a little thought as to their food, with perhaps, when possible, a little exercise added.

The first fact that the constipated must learn is that they will not become poisoned or seriously ill if there is no bowel movement every day. While there is some absorption into the blood of the waste matter lying in the intestine, some of the "heaviness" or sluggishness felt is due to the weight or pressure of the wastes against the nerve endings lining the bowel.

The habit of going regularly to the toilet at certain definite hours is most important. Having a little stool on which to place the feet brings the knees closer to the abdomen is a great help in encouraging intestinal movement. The treatment of constipation by proper foods often gives excellent results. The habit of eating coarse foods—vegetables and fruits—is excellent in cases where it is slowness or sluggishness that is causing the constipation. But where the constipation is due to nervous spasm, the coarse foods irritate the irritable or sensitive lining of the intestine and actually increase the degree of spasm. This spasm type of patient should have a smooth, not a rough, diet.

The X-ray meal will show whether the intestine is of the sluggish or the spastic type, and so whether rough or smooth foods should be used.

The proper foods, a glass of water before meals, and bending exercises forward, backward and sideways keeping the knees straight, will increase the flow of bile, Nature's "purgative," and stimulate the muscular walls of the intestine to push wastes downward and so out of the body.



A DAY OF SUNSHINE

O Gift of God! O perfect day: Whereon shall no man work, but play; Whereon it is enough for me, Not to be doing, but to be!

Through every fibre of my brain, Through every nerve, through every vein, I feel the electric thrill, the touch of life, that seems almost too much.

I hear the wind among the trees Playing celestial symphonies; I see the branches downward bent, Like keys of some great instrument.

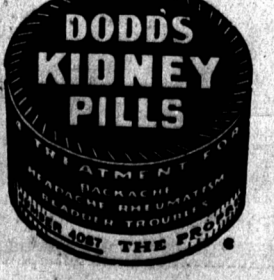
Blow winds! and wait through all the rooms The snow-flakes of the cherry-blossoms! Blow winds! and bend within my reach

The fiery blossoms of the peach! O Life and Love! O happy throng Of thoughts whose only speech is song!

O heart of man! canst thou not be Blithe as the air is, and as free? —Longfellow

are the initials H. A. and true lovers' knots with the Royal Arms. Round the top of the clock is the motto, "Dieu et mon droit," and around the bottom the inscription, "The Most Happy."—London Observer.

The Italian army in Addis Ababa is following the historic example of tyrannical old Rome, which Mussolini so much emulates and admires. They made a desolation and they called it peace." an ancient historian records of Roman conquests.—Hamilton Spectator.



Prester John In Ethiopia

(Mail and Empire) The earliest known description of Ethiopia appears to be that found in a Portuguese manuscript recently acquired by the British Museum. It is entitled: "News Letter Dispatched to the King our Lord (Manuel I) of Portugal, who had succeeded John V in 1485 concerning the Discovery of Prester John." It bears no other identification. But in its twenty-eight folio pages, it first identifies "preste Johan" as the so-called mythical Prester John, the Negus Neghesta of Ethiopia.

It then relates the adventures of the Portuguese admiral, and "Governor of India," Diego Lopez de Sequeira, and the Ethiopian Ambassador, Mathew, in 1520-21, in Ethiopia. It antedates the hitherto first known account of the country—that of Francisco Alvarez, a priest who spent seven years in Ethiopia—by twenty years.

How the Portuguese admiral came to visit Ethiopia is also set forth. Early in the sixteenth century, in response to Portuguese overtures, Prester John sent his royal envoy, Matthew, to King Manuel I at Lisbon, with proposals both military and matrimonial. There was some doubt as to Matthew's credentials, so he was shipped off to India, while Vasco da Gama, it is now learned for the first time, was ordered to reach Ethiopia and ascertain the true situation there.

This accounts for his famous voyage round the Cape of Good Hope. The entire manuscript has not yet been translated, but a digest of it has been published by the London Times. Prester John was the name of a fabulous Christian monarch, once supposed to be of Asia.

The idea prevailed until the beginning of the 14th century. The Asiatic story then died away, but the name remained and the royal presbyter was assigned to a place in Ethiopia. In Marco Polo's narrative Prester John is the lord of the Tartars up to the advent of Genghis Khan. The story is repeated by other writers, one of them speaking of the descendants of Prester John as holding territory about 300 miles northwest of Peking. But this Portuguese manuscript would show the real Prester John was an Ethiopian.

Dr. Stanley's Warning (Exchange) Dr. C. W. Stanley, president of Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, says that what is happening in Germany and Italy is an "awful lesson" to Canadians, and he complains of the stream of pro-fascist and pro-Hitler propaganda in this country. German propaganda, he avers, is threatening the peace of the world as Russian propaganda never did. He adds:

"So far as I know few newspaper editors in Canada, no public men except one, has lifted their voices either in protest or warning.

"Hitler first had attacked universities. Today more than a sixth of all the professors in Germany have lost their places, some of them have been murdered. Scores have been tortured.

"Are our universities aware of these things, or are they taking their opinions from our newspapers, which have shown little or no interest in what is going on?"

Dr. Stanley's opportunities for reading the Canadian newspapers must be restricted. Scores of these, daily and weekly, reach the desk of nearly every newspaper writer on public affairs. We believe every editor who has these facilities will testify that the Canadian press as a whole has done its full duty in exposing the horrors of Hitlerism and the fallacies of fascism, and in warning the Canadian people against the infiltration of both. The universities and the churches can speak for themselves, but the Canadian press would not be boastful if it claimed to have taken the leadership in combatting the dark forces which Dr. Stanley rightly fears. With his assertion that there is "a real danger" that the battle will be lost in all countries and that the torch of civilization may go out! all thoughtful Canadians will be in agreement. The friends of freedom everywhere must be on guard and prepared to repel its assailants.

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How To Waste \$25,000

(Toronto Globe)

United States Representative William I. Sirovich has asked for an appropriation of \$25,000, to finance an inquiry into the practicability of a union between the Dominion of Canada and the United States.

For a Congressional committee \$25,000 is but a small sum, and the insignificance of this figure may indicate that Mr. Sirovich has a secret suspicion that the question will not take long to settle.

And indeed it could be answered without even this small outlay, for during the past half-century there has been no apparent wish in Canada for closer union with Mr. Sirovich's country than is provided in the traditional friendship between the two nations.

In the general elections of 1911 the Liberals proposed unrestricted reciprocity with the United States, a suggestion which received the hearty approval of United States.

President Taft. But in an unguarded moment Mr. Taft was moved to declare that the adoption of this proposal would make Canada virtually an adjunct of the States—and the Liberal Party went down to defeat.

Mr. Sirovich and other of his countrymen who labor under the delusion that Canada would willingly be divided in separate States under the Stars and Stripes should realize that the Dominion now is a self-governing country, an important part of the British Empire, with a decided voice in world affairs. For all the imaginary benefits Mr. Sirovich can devise, Canada could not be tempted to yield her independence or to submerge her identity in that of another national.

Probably Mr. Sirovich would have no greater success if he spent the proposed \$25,000 on investigating the possibility of making the United States a part of the Dominion of Canada; but he would certainly have no less.

K. S. HEMMING, B.A., C.P.A., C.G.A.

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