

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

THURSDAY, OCT. 4, 1923

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STARTING RIGHT

Premier Stewart is leaving nothing to political controversy or muddling of figures. One of the promises he made previous to his becoming premier was that he would keep the people informed as to the finances of the Province, that he would inaugurate an intelligible system of public accounting. As a first step in this direction the Government has engaged a thoroughly competent chartered accountant, Mr. Paul F. Blanchet of St. John, N. B., who has been highly recommended by the Bank of Montreal as fully qualified for the work. Mr. Blanchet has been External Auditor for the Government of New Brunswick and is therefore conversant with public accounts. He has been given carte blanche to delve into the Government accounts and ascertain definitely the financial position of the province as at September 5, 1923 when the Bell Government relinquished office. Mr. Blanchet's instructions are to strike a true and accurate balance and he is given power to make such enquiries and such investigations as he may find necessary to arrive at an indisputable and conclusive statement.

This is what the people want. They do not want from the Stewart Government or from its successors in office any cooked statements either in excuse or in condemnation of their own or other administrations and such a statement we may confidently expect from Mr. Blanchet who entered upon his duties yesterday and who will conduct his investigations absolutely independent of political or other influences. His statement will be anxiously awaited as it is in every way desirable that we should know definitely and unpolitically where we are at.

It is pleasing to note also in connection with this beginning that great improvements have been effected in the Government offices in the Provincial Building. The Premier's offices have been thoroughly renovated, re-painted and re-papered and now present a very creditable appearance.

The office of the Commissioner of Public Works has been rearranged, providing a private office for the Commissioner and a stenographer's room which also serves as a waiting room for callers. The quarters of the Commissioner of Agriculture have also been rearranged. The office taken from the suite of this department for the use of the Attorney General in the late Government has been restored to its original purpose. These improvements will be greatly appreciated by the public generally. Our Government offices are our official centres and the credit of our Province demands that they be respectable and in keeping with the general surroundings of which we so frequently boast.

MEMORIAL VOLUME

The committee in charge of the erection of the Monument at Scotchfort to commemorate the arrival in Prince Edward Island of the first Scottish Catholics, has issued a memorial volume describing in detail this important event in the history of the province. The arrival in 1792 of this first colony of Highland Catholics, the trying events which induced them to leave their native land, the conditions they met with on arrival, their subsequent trials and successes, make a fascinating story, a story which will be read with intense interest not only by

the thousands of descendants of those hardy pioneers, but by all classes and creeds. The hardships endured, the difficulties overcome, by these first settlers and the marvelous success attained in a hundred years by their descendants makes this one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the province.

In addition to the story directly associated with the arrival of these immigrants interesting biographical sketches and photographs of priests and others associated with the early colonization and the memorial services held at Scotchfort in 1922, are contained. The memorial volume is a neatly and attractively bound and printed book of about 130 pages and will be a valuable addition to the history of the province as well as an acquisition to any private library in which it may be placed.

AFTERMATH OF STORM.

Hon. J. A. McDonald, Commissioner of Public Works, left yesterday morning for the eastern part of the Province to make a personal survey of conditions of the roads and bridges after last Monday's storm. Since assuming office the Commissioner has visited much of the eastern section, and although no report of his preliminary visit has been published, it is understood that not only roads but bridges were in a generally deplorable condition. The storm has practically finished the wreck left by the late Government. Efforts will be made to at least ensure possibility of travel and safety before winter sets in, and it is realized that the undertaking will be a very heavy one. The Commissioner, however, is not going at it blindly. He is first finding out what is most urgently needed, and he may be depended upon to make the best of it.

A PRIME MINISTER'S FLOUNDER.

Sir Thomas White, who was our War Minister of Finance, has taken the trouble to reply to the speech of the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, in Quebec, in which Mr. King stated that "not a dollar" of the cost of the colossal expenditures of Canada in the Great War was met by the Government of that day out of the taxes of the people." Sir Thomas White answers that the amount of Canadian war expenditure met out of current taxation up to March 31, 1919, was \$438,000,000; also that he gave all the figures in his budget speech of June, 1919.

This statement of Sir Thomas White convicts the Prime Minister of colossal ignorance regarding the finances of his own country. Mr. King, on the basis of his ignorance, continued with the assertion that Canada's present heavy uncontrollable expenditure was due "to the vicious policy of the late Government in financing the war by loans rather than by taxes during the war"

It would not be far from the truth to say that the ignorance which Mr. King showed about the facts was matched by the foolishness of his deduction.

The Government of that day probably struck a wise medium by taxing the people as heavily as was clearly safe, while passing on the rest of the cost to a time when the country would be better able to meet it. Mr. King's ideas on the subject seem to indicate the kindergarten sort of brain which we suspect Mr. King to possess.—Ottawa Journal.

Notes By The Way

Ours is a breezy little island. But the winds that ordinarily sweep over it from the surrounding gulf, bring to those who live upon it health and vigor, growth and prosperity. There are usually a few storms every fall, with little or no destruction of property. Very rarely have we a storm that bears destruction on its wings. Very rarely have we a storm to compare with that of last Monday and Monday night. Indeed the "oldest inhabitant" fails to remember such another hurricane and such a down-pour of rain.

The gale of 1851 was remarkable for the number of United States fishing vessels wrecked on our shores. It occurred on Saturday and Sunday, on the third and fourth of October. Preceded by unusually warm and mild weather for the time of the year it carried destruction, shipwreck and death to the large fleet of fishing vessels from the United States that were then assembled off our northern coast and damage to the farms, towns and villages all over the island and the neighboring maritime provinces. On the shore of Richmond Bay, alone, twenty-four wrecked vessels were counted on Monday morning. At Tracadie, Rustico and other points there were also wrecks and fatalities. Between East Point and Savage Harbor seventeen vessels were cast ashore. It is stated that three hundred men—American fishermen—escaped the wreck and were hospitably entertained in the houses on our northern shore. Other hundreds lost their lives. That was known as the "Great American Gale."

In the year 1867 another notable gale swept over this island. It was stated that the tide upon that occasion rose "three feet higher than ever before." New vessels, not yet launched, were floated from their blocks, and boats that were drawn high upon the shore were dashed to pieces. Fishing establishments along the coast were invaded by the unprecedented tide. Eight vessels were wrecked outside of Georgetown harbor. Eleven vessels went ashore between Malpeque and North Cape. Three vessels went ashore in Richmond Bay. In respect to wreckage on the coast of this island, the gale of 1867 was second only to that of 1851. There was also much damage to wharves and bridges and the crops all over the country were injured. That was the "August gale."

In the year 1879, too, there was a storm of more than ordinary violence. It occurred on the 29th of October. It was stated that the tide then rose until it covered fields of potatoes still unharvested in Lot 11. This storm was particularly disastrous in respect to wharves, bridges and other public property. Cardigan Bridge was, upon that occasion swept clean away. Goff's Mill Bridge, Yeo's Mill Bridge, Blodford Bridge, MacKinnon's Bridge, Dogberry's Bridge, Ellis River Bridge, Southwest Bridge and many other bridges in all parts of the Province were also washed away. Many shipping disasters were reported. At Cardigan three vessels were driven upon the shore of the river above where the bridge stood. At Georgetown five large fishing boats were swamped. Houses and barns were leveled with the ground and trees were uprooted in every direction. One result of this great storm was an agitation for the construction of permanent bridges of iron and concrete.

The Saxby Gale, the gale of 1915, and other gales in which many bridges were destroyed to the great loss of the province, also accentuated the advisability of building these structures in such a way that they will withstand the occasional storms of autumn and remain permanently to carry us over the stream. It is to be hoped that the building of such bridges—carried on so admirably throughout the Mathieson and Arsenault administrations, will be continued until practically all will survive the storms of autumn, and the Government of the Province will be relieved of the necessity of continually expending large amounts of public money for their reconstruction. A large number of bridges were broken up by the storm of this week. They should to the extent that is possible be rebuilt of iron or steel and concrete—even though the cost has to be defrayed out of the Provincial revenues. The additional expense to which the Province will be put upon this account will prove to be economical in the end; and so long as Hon. J. A. McDonald is Commissioner of Public Works there need be no fear of graft, or the scamping of the work.

The latest storm will be memorable in Charlottetown as that in which the greatest number of ornamental trees were felled. There is scarcely an old residence in the city that has not suffered loss of some of the beauty by which it was surrounded. The temporary stoppage of our electric lights and telephones brought home the value of these latter-day comforts and advantages. The storm showed us how much we are indebted to the application of electricity to the requirements of domestic service, and how greatly dependent we are which the greatest number of ornamental trees were felled.

The Public Forum

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

Two Sides to a Dollar

SIR:—Last August the writer was on a visit to P. E. Island. In common with others I bought the high-priced picture post cards and sent them to friends back home, paying the high price for postage. The first experience I had of wretched mail service was when I mailed a card in Summerside on Aug. 15th addressed to a friend in New Brunswick village, where there is a daily mail. On Aug. 20, I arrived at that place and found my card had arrived that day. Now where was it during those five days?

On Aug. 16th I mailed cards in a box on the Wilnot Valley rural route for folks in Greater Boston. Those cards were collected that day. On Aug. 27th, after my return here, those cards had not been delivered. But they were later on, how many hours or days later I cannot say.

Last week I received a letter from P. E. Island, dated Sept. 24. A letter from the same person, dated Sept. 21 and mailed that day was received 24 hours later. Both these letters bear the Summerside cancelling stamp.

In 1921 while in New Brunswick I mailed post cards and placed a 1-cent stamp thereon. Two weeks afterwards I was back in Boston and found my cards had not been received. Some time later each person received an envelope with a statement inside that a card was in Halifax on which there was due one cent, and to please send the lacking postage.

It looks as though this slow transit of mail matter originates in the provinces. Some Canadian postal official should see that the service is speeded up.

I am, Sir etc. S. E. ARCHER

Boston, Oct. 1, 1923

Wretched Mail Service

SIR:—While on the island I looked and I saw, I listened and I heard. I gently touched the hem of deep affection and I felt the grief throbs of kind and loving people pulsating through my responsive heart and soul. I looked into the distant future and could see a human tide swiftly flowing outward toward those shores that are often barren and devoid of Christian love and sympathy toward the hard working poor. I listened and I could hear the low moaning and piteous cries of the hungry asking for bread, raiment, and shelter among strangers. I looked and could see the appealing uplifted tearful eyes, the outstretched tired hands, and the swiftly heaving breast of human souls begging and beseeching in distress, sickness, and want in a great city where the milk of human kindness and true neighborly affection is too often measured and balanced on the scale of greed and selfishness.

I have seen, I have heard, and I have felt, so now I will ask any of your kind readers on P. E. I. to search through the lines of this letter for more truths about Boston. I will also ask any of your good readers in and around Boston to take a trip with me to any of our suburban residential towns and visit the real estate offices in order to find out how many apartments of five or six rooms we can procure for \$40.00 per month. We will go to Malden, Everett, Somerville, Cambridge, East Boston, or any of the outlying suburbs. We will travel all day and complete our day's task foot-sore, brain-weary, and heart-broken because we cannot find a decent comfortable habitation within the reach of the ordinary pay envelope of the average workman that must provide in some way for food, shelter, and clothing for deserving helpless little children.

We will next go to the offices of the many coal dealers to find out if at any one place we can procure a single ton of coal for less than \$15.50 in order to keep little innocent ones in comfort and warmth during long cold winter months. Forty dollars is now a bargain rent you can find it. Fifteen dollars and fifty cents per ton for coal will be cheerfully paid if the laborer has the price in his jeans. These two items alone make a total of fifty five dollars and fifty cents and must come out of the pay envelope that does not hold \$35.00 for a full week's pay, and mind you it is sometimes far below that amount due to loss time occasioned by sickness and various causes.

We will go now to the best of the world, and ask the prices of such things as—eggs and butter. We will find these prices prevailing at this time of writing. Sirloin Steak 68c per pound, Rump Steak 90c per pound, Top of Round 60c per pound Sirloin Roast 65c, Rib Roast 45c, Rump Roast 50c, Bacon 30c to 50c a pound, fresh eggs 78c per dozen, best tub butter 58c per pound. I am only quoting on these few items that must enter into the daily living of the average workman with a family. All other items that must be taken care of

mental trees were felled. There is scarcely an old residence in the city that has not suffered loss of some of the beauty by which it was surrounded. The temporary stoppage of our electric lights and telephones brought home the value of these latter-day comforts and advantages. The storm showed us how much we are indebted to the requirements of domestic service, and how greatly dependent we are which the greatest number of ornamental trees were felled.

That Body of Yours By James W. Barton, M.D. FOOD BALANCE

My readers are perhaps tired of hearing about food. And yet your own common sense tells you that you are just what your food makes you. In the treatment of an ailing child, what is now the first thought? The baby doctor of the past was perhaps the one who seemed to be able to pull children through severe attacks of pneumonia or diphtheria. Such is not the case now.

The baby doctor of the present age, and likely for ages to come is the one whose special line is scientific feeding.

Of course he will likely instruct the mother about bathing, airing, and resting the baby, but his main thought is the proper feeding. A youngster off its diet for a short time is in a dangerous condition, and so the first thought is to get it nourished.

Accordingly all sorts of tables are devised from the feeding by the mother, partial feeding by the mother, and artificial foods entirely.

Now what about a man or woman? Are you eating too much white bread, too many potatoes, perhaps too much raw fruit? Perhaps you have a light office job and are eating much meat?

Remember what was said before—Very little meat if you did very little work.

Always plenty of vegetables anyway, but increasing your meat and fat somewhat if you worked hard with your hands or took plenty of exercise.

Keep your diet balanced. out of the weekly pay envelope must be met proportionally through adverse and trying conditions as a result of high prices on everything that enters into the daily and yearly life of the burdened workman.

You hear a great deal about tradesmen pulling down \$10.00 or more a day. I will admit that in some cases they do, but in order to be fair and give the true color to the whole situation we should bring the high peaks of those wages down to a fair level and that fair level is the average weekly wage throughout the whole work in some lines of work.

We should first of all consider the fact that the average tradesman is paid only for the hours he works on the job. He is not paid for holidays, and he is not paid for whole time on Saturdays or for the many cold winter days when little or nothing can be done in some lines of work. You will find that when weather is down to the freezing point the tradesman with high wages must go down to the zero point. Plastering, painting, brick-laying, and carpenter work must of necessity come to a standstill on many kinds of construction work during stormy and severe cold weather, so you see

Continued on Page 6

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

A CANADIAN QUOTATION Thou beautiful for sunset skies, For spacious lake and plain, For mountains where the night is deep And fields of amber grain. And Canada—my own land— Rise with the moaning sea, Acclaim thy right to Freedom's might— Strong and sufficient be.

Thou beautiful for heces brave, With firm and valiant tread, Who fear no unseen thrust or pain And naught of death do dread. O Canada—my own land— I've bound my soul to thee; God shed His grace on our loved race From sea to farther sea. —Charlotte Carson-Talbot, in Toronto Globe.

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Wind Storms are Becoming More Severe of recent years in Eastern Canada. As many people know, a Fire Policy does not cover damage from a storm, but this risk can be covered under a separate Windstorm or Tornado Policy, at an exceedingly low rate of premium. When the roof of a House, Barn, Store, Factory, Church or School is blown off now-a-days, it costs a very considerable amount to make the necessary repairs. Why not protect yourself against such loss? We will gladly furnish rates and particulars on request. HYNDMAN & CO. LTD. 61 QUEEN ST. The Oldest Insurance Agency in P. E. I.

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SPLENDOR Though nothing can bring back the hour Of splendor in the grass, of glory in the flower. We will grieve not, rather find Strength in what remains behind; In the primal sympathy Which having been must ever be, In the soothing thoughts that spring Out of human suffering, In the faith that looks through death, In years that bring the philosophic mind. —W. Wordsworth.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS DR. C.

Thornton ment C. N.

TORONTO, Ontario. The influence of social indignation instigated cleared Sir Henry... the fact that the million dollar Canadian National Home Bank has withdrawn Board of Directors National Railway fourth Monday proceeded. "At prior to the ma it was suggested the Home Bank of our banking ingly a deposit made, but it w Home Bank for a shortly after the it was brought to Mr. Gough was of the Bank. "There is not than the fact th a portion of our to Toronto where large portion of which is the very port for public o say with comple with the except not one official Railways is in a more, no one sus of the Bank wolved. For mys nation I receive difficulties was t morning paper." Asked as to ti National Railw banking connec Stewart, Directo Montreal and ?

"I Can Wi Mrs. A. Mof

DR. C.

Make the Rinso liquid first. Do not put Rinso directly from the package into a tub. Rinso is a little water until it is a cream. Then add 1 quart of boiling water and when the frothy sides, you will have an amber-colored liquid. Add this liquid to the tub, until you get the lasting Rinso suds. Soak the clothes clean.

DR. J. W. MacINTOSH Has been appointed a Medical Representative Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, at George P. E. I.

LOSS COMES NOT FROM THE FIRE ITSELF, BUT FROM THE LACK OF INSURANCE

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