The Charlottetown Guardian

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1937

New Brunswick's Attitude

The New Brunswick Government, it will be recalled, bore the brunt of the fighting against the proposed amendment of the B.N.A. Act at the Dominion-Provincial conferences in 1935. The leading champion of provincial rights in the New Brunswick cabinet at that time was the Attorney General, Hon. J. B. McNair. Subsequently the King Government sought to put through an address to the Imperial Parliament seeking an amendment to this basic pact of Confederation which would extend the taxing powers of the provinces in the field of indirect taxation. The scheme met with defeat in the Senate, and it is now regarded as a dead issue, at least until after the Rowell Commission makes its report on Dominion-provincial arrangements. In the meantime, however, the question of New Brunswick's attitude has been revived by Dr. H. L. Stewart in a recent article, in which "mellowing tendencies" are attributed to the New Brunswick authorities and the question is asked: "Has a change passed, suddenly, over this intractable East? Is there now a willingness to risk those perils of over-centralization? The new compliance may spring from reflections fundamentally the same as those which prompted the old resistance." Dr. Stewart further says that New Brunswick's previous attitude was inspired by "indignation over the attempt to invade provincial rights," that emphasis was placed on the "contractual right" of every province, but that such reminder of legal powers often comes from a party to a negotiation who has no thought whatever of invoking them. "So this time," writes Dr. Stewart, "there should be a truce to the sharp recrimination we have heard about New Brunswick obstinacy." He suggests that Mr. McNair, after representing a dissenting province, now contemplates the likelihood of a fruitful issue to "mutual discussions and studies"; indeed, "it is not unfair to guess that he (Mr. McNair) contemplated this from the first, but bore in mind the principles of negotiating policy."

Now comes the New Brunswick Attorney General's emphatic repudiation of Dr. Stewart's comment so far as the government of that Province is concerned. "There is absolutely no change in New Brunswick's stand," he declares. The article, he suggests, "must be based on misapprehension."

Many in this Province share the opinion of the New Brunswick Government as to the danger of scrapping the B.N.A. Act as an Imperial Statute and feel that misinterpretation of its attitude at this time, on the eve of the sittings of the Rowell Commission, is particularly undesirable.

Belated Action

Commenting on Premier King's belated action in seeking co-operation of the several Provincial Governments in the inauguration of a Dominion-wide unemployment insurance scheme, the Sydney Post-Record recalls that in 1935 the Bennett Government drafted a comprehensive and carefully conceived unemployment insurance bill, which was enacted by Parliament in the spring of that year. Subsequently an organization was proceeded with for its administration, and the intention was that contributions under the act should begin as from the first of January, 1936. Had this programme been carried out, a comfortable fund would have accrued by now and the system would be in full operation. But the Bennett Ministry was defeated in October, 1935, and in the following year the King Government referred the unemployment insurance act, along with the other social security measures of 1935, first to the Supreme Court of Canada and subsequently to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and procured rulings in 1936 declaring that Parliament had exceeded its powers in purporting to enact this legislation. The ground for these decisions was that the measures in question were in effect legislation with respect to "property and civil rights," and therefore fell within the law-making jurisdiction of the Provincial Legislatures.

From then till Mr. King made his announcement this last week, nothing was done to further unemployment insurance in Canada. But now at last the Prime Minister says that he has written to the leaders of the seven Provincial Governments asking for their concurrence in an amendment to the British North America Act empowering Parliament to enact and administer an unemployment insurance system, presumably along the lines of the Bennett bill of 1935.

Britain's Problem

Probably at no time since the World War have British statesmen faced such a problem as they are confronting in Europe. As a mainland exchange points out, Britain is a small island with a densely-packed population of only 45,000,000 people and is more exposed to devastating air attack than any country among the major powers of the world. The first concern of her statesmen is with the danger of war. To run the risk of war, unless she were assured of speedy victory, would be madness. War threatens continually. Among her neighbors in Europe are ambitious and unscrupulous nations that will stick at nothing to attain their ends. In the world at large, the forces of Communism and Fascism—with neither of which Britain wishes alliance—are gathering head for a catastrophic struggle. Every conflict that occurs in any part of the world makes a meddling ground for both forces. When such a conflict begins—as in Spain—it is the duty of British statemen to try and isolate it, so preventing the outside forces on both sides from plunging the whole world into fire and confusion. That is a task that calls for all the resources of the most skilled diplomacy. One aim of that diplomacy is to secure justice as far as possible, but the principle aim is, and must be, to avoid universal war.

As peace-maker, it is stressed, Britain is exposed to constant peril. Her efforts to placate and bridle aggressor nations makes those nations potential enemies. There is the danger that if the aggressors are let go too far they may gain overwhelming strength for their demands in the future; there is the danger that, if checked too hard, they may resolve to fight at once. Between the two dangers British statesmen are faced with a question which no responsible person would be bold enough to answer without full knowledge of all the facts. Irresponsible critics answer it boldly. Without any knowledge of the relative strength of Britain and her potential enemies, they urge her to risk war for the sake of China, for the sake of Ethiopia, for the sake of Spain and for the sake of the League of Nations. They not only do not know whether or not Britain is in a position to fight; they do not take into account the danger of disastrous outbreaks in Palestine, Egypt, India or elsewhere throughout an empire of mixed races. The problem of Palestine alone—one quite unconsidered by the criticis until recently—would present a whole-time job to any statesman.

Editorial Notes

The wells should be pretty well filled by now.

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The famous Suez Canal opened this date 1869.

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Apple Day over, nothing left till Christmas except St. Andrew's. And, of course, a long-looked-forward-to Dollar Day.

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Nature provides the Spring for roadmaking, but the Campbell Government think they know better than nature—hence the quagmires, especially in Kings and Prince Counties.

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Things are not always what they seem nor reports what they pretend to be. We are reliably advised that the insurance companies have nothing to do with the hold-up of the Town Clock, and moreover that if the Law Courts have to be re-roofed there may be a further considerable hold-up. It is suggested the clock should be removed to the Market Building, to be seen and read by all men, at all times and in all seasons.

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On the Pacific, in the Willapa Bay district of Washington, remarkable success has been accomplished in the cultivation of a new species of oyster known as "Ostrea gigans". The development is carried on along agricultural lines, so far as seeding and harvesting are concerned. Planted in the Spring, cultivation follows shortly afterward and within eighteen months, the oysters are ready for harvest. As much as five tons of oyster meat to the acre are raised in that section.

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The Island Crusader, monthly publication of the Provincial Sanatorium, continues to provide a fund of interesting and valuable information in the interests of "the health, happiness and welfare of the people of Prince Edward Island." This month's issue contains appeals by Dr. Creelman and others on behalf of the Christmas Seal Sale. Next month, in celebration of the journal's fourth birthday, a special anniversary number will appear.

* * * *

Here is the fine tribute paid to the daily newspapers by that prince of magazine publishers, Dr. Albert Shaw, who suspended "The Review of Reviews" because he felt its purpose was being equally well served by journalism: "It is the amazing resourcefulness of the daily press, and the great ability with which our newspapers are edited and carried on, that furnish the principal reason why periodicals devoted to current affairs are less needed than they were at the time when I began to publis the Review of Reviews."

* * * *

Discussing the problems before the Dominion which the Rowell Commission has set forth to investigate, The Telegraph-Journal, Saint John has this to say: "Who would expect so vast a country with so sparse a population, and with racial problems to be solved, to get on without rumblings of discontent and of provincialism? Perhaps it is well to set forth difficulties in order that the people, especially the young, may better understand them. Perhaps it is well to ask those who preach disunity what their particular province would gain by severing relations with the other provinces. Let all the grievances be aired, but let it be done fairly, with the interests of the Dominion and the Empire in view. An isolated province would be ridiculous. An isolated Dominion would be the prey of a predatory nation or nations. The Canadian people as a whole should know where strength and safety lie."

* * * *

Tea, wine and spirits tasters have been voluminously written about, but little has been said concerning the cheese-tasters. Like the most eminent among the other tasters, they claim to have been born, not made. Pre-eminent, as a cheese-taster for over half a century, is Mr. J. Hugh Mackie of Castle Cary, Somerset. Talking with a representative of The Daily Telegraph at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, the other day, he said, as he ambled between rows of Cheddars, Cheshires, Caerphillies, Stiltons, and Caciacavallas using his probing iron here and there and then placing it under his nose: "The great secret of cheese-testing is the nose." Paradoxically, Mr. Mackie never tastes a cheese, though other judges were to be seen nibbling. "Smell, touch and taste," he said, "that is the rule for many experts, but my nose tells me nearly everything. If the cow which provided the milk for the cheese had eaten something unusual, garlic, let us say, I could immediately detect it from the cheese aroma."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Perhaps the words are apocrypha, as some authorities assert, but the purported message of Voltaire to Helvetius contains in a nutshell the whole democratic principle of free speech: "I do not agree with a word that you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."—St. Louis Globe Dispatch.

Britain is said to be able to produce more aeroplanes from day to day than any other country. If the next war is to be fought in the air Great Britain will be ready for it.—Chatham News.

Santa Claus is not going military this year, for the toy men note that only one per cent. of toys for the Christmas trade may be described as military in character, and that is a good thing.—Niagara Falls Review.

A professor back from Russia says he heard the "internationale" sung only once while he was in that country and the slogan, "Workers of the world, unite," has been eliminated from late coinage. Russia has apparently changed a great deal from the days of the revolution.—Recorder And Times.

In the last seven years the training of skilled labor has declined; older workers from many trades have found secure employment in other occupations. Thousands of young men and women have come from high schools and colleges bent on entering professional and office work and countless others who would like to learn a trade have not been able to find employment in the type of work they want. Even a government classification of the jobless by former occupations would include the names of many unqualified for the work they named in their registration.—New York Sun.

After reading an article in the Saturday Evening Post a week ago, one would not be surprised to see the rest of its prediction fulfilled, and a complete tie-up of Japanese goods at West coast ports. Already one prediction has come true today, in the news that the Alaska Fishermen's association, supported by the Maritime Federation of the Pacific, has announced a boycott of Jap goods and commodities from November 15, in retaliation for the Japanese wholesale cleaning-out of the Alaska salmon fisheries. Such a boycott would be a great help to China, and, being unofficial, would not implicate the United States government.—Exchange.

School teachers are the employes of the State and as such should eschew political doctrines in any and all information they have to impart to the young. Whatever the political or economic theories they espouse are matters of personal determination; they possess no right whatever to attempt to shove these down the throats of the children given to their charge.—Victoria Colonist.

Where should we have been now but for the leadership that has kept us at peace and brought us to prosperity through one of the most difficult periods in history? Even the government's opponents have at last realized this, and have fallen into line on the question of rearmaments. No one now doubts that our influence in the world depends on the power behind it. In giving to his party and to the country the first account of his stewardship, Mr. Chamberlain has been able to point to a record of achievements not only in international affairs, but also at home where industries have not merely recovered from depression but have come to greater prosperity than they enjoyed before the great slump in world trade.—London Daily Chronicle.

The Journal has no brief for Communism, nor Socialism, least of all for Fascism. It detests all of them. But The Journal, as a humble member of a profession that was cradled in freedom, that lives and can live only by freedom, has a brief for freedom of speech. It feels that any man, be he Communist, Socialist, Fascist or even Anarchist, has a right to his conscience; a right to believe what we wants to and to utter what he wants to, just so long as he does not advocate violence for the rest of us. That is fredom, British freedom; the creed for which Britons have fought, and often died, through a thousand years; the creed that makes England a beacon and a mooring in a sea of world unrest. It is the thing which Canadians, if they be British, and value liberty, should always want to stand up for. —Ottawa Journal.

An official communique from the Japanese authorities is to the effect that Japanese 'planes bombed Chinese planes in the Tientsin area—"with satisfactory results." It is those words which we have printed in quotes which count above all else as displaying a mentality as metallic as it is soulless. "With satisfactory results!" If the Japanese air force were able to blacken-out the sun from every square inch of China and reduce every city, town and village to a colossal mass of shattered buildings and bodies, spreading disease and disaster over that gigantic territory of 470,000,000 people—that we imagine, would then inspire the Japanese despatch writers to allow themselves the luxury of a superlative in sin by characterising such diabolical fiendishness as "the most satisfactory result."—Hong Kong News.

When you examine 700 highway accidents and find that 525 of them occurred on straight-away stretches and only 125 at admittedly dangerous curves, you do not have to go far to find the only possible explanation, which is excessive speed. Barring a few plain lunatics, the very great majority of drivers take such hazards as bad curves, hill crests, etc., with a certain degree of caution. But the wide-open modern road, properly surfaced, marked and banked, is too much of a temptation for a multitude of people who are in too much of a hurry even to think. That is why the majority of accidents happen where there is least excuse for them.—Montreal Star.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

NATURE IS NOT NOW ALLOWED TO KILL OFF THE UNFIT

Some years ago an elderly physician observed a group of men and boys taking exercise in a gymnasium, turned away in disgust. "When I was young I got my exercise sawing and chopping wood; that's what these fellows need — some good hard work."

This old physician failed to remember that these men and boys had work to do but it was not physicial work they were taking this gymnasium exercise because their bodies needed work.

Man's whole body is covered with muscle which was meant not only to move him from place to place but to enable him to lift objects, to hunt his food, to jump gullies, climb hills and do other mechanical things in life. As he has none of these things to do in our present civilization he wisely uses or exercises these muscles by taking regular gymnasium work or other forms of exercise. The exercise not only strengthens his muscles, heart and lungs, but gives him a natural appetite for plain nourishing foods, aids his digestion and prevents constipation. If in addition to working his muscles, the exercise or game gives him pleasure, happiness is added to the health gained.

The matter of the physique and health of its people is now giving concern to all nations, not with the idea of preparing for war, but that men and women wil be able to carry on at their work for a longer period and not be a care on the community in the days to come.

"In the past, nature secured a fit race by killing off the unfit. Now we are gradually undoing nature's efforts by our greater sense of humanity toward the weak. While this is no doubt the right policy, it increases the necessity to create fitness."

Naturally there is more diabetes and heart disease and cancer present to-day than formerly because all the weak individuals nature (left alone) would have killed off, have been enabled to live to middle age.

By regular exercise and eating enough to the right kinds of food, the body can be brought to its best physical condition and maintained there.

Even a daily walk, which can be taken by practically every well person, will go a long way in strengtheneing the entire body — particularly the heart and lungs.

The Poets' Corner

FROM "RECESSIONAL"

Now along the solemn heights
Fade the Autumn's altar-lights;
Down the great earth's glimmering chancel
Glide the days and nights.

Little kindred of the grass,
Like a shadow in a glass
Falls the dark and falls the stillness;
We must rise and pass.

Little brothers of the clod,
Sou. of fire and seed of sod,
We must fare into the silence
At the knees of God.

Little comrades of the sky,
Wing to wing we wander by,
Going, going, going, going,
Softly as a sigh.

Hark, the moving shapes confer,
Globe of dew and gossamer,
Fading and ephemeral spirits
In the dusk astir.

Moth and blossom, blade and bee,
Worlds must go as well as we,
In the long procession joining
Mount and star and sea.

Toward the shadowy brink we climb
Where the round year rolls sublime,
Rolls, and drops, and falls forever
In the vast of Time.

—Charles G. D. Roberts.

Empty Scottish Highlands

(David Garnett in the "New Statesmen")

Queen Victoria's famous reflection that one of the pleasures of visiting the Highlands of Scotland was conversing with the Highlanders could scarcely have been made today; she was, of course, exceptionally privileged—but her observation cannot have been generally true even when she wrote For the striking fact is that there are no Highlanders to converse with: the Highlands, which must at one time have been as thickly populater as Connaught is today are empty. The English tourist, guidebook in hand, reads of historic glens, each of which sent its fifty or hundred men to battle, but he finds himself in the most uninhabited country in Europe —looking down fertile valleys in which for several miles he can see no inhabitants at all —or at most an ancient ghillie attached to an hotel. The devastation is strangely complete —no ruins of ancient huts can be detected among the bracken and heather which have obliterated the boundaries of the crofters' field. The people have been gone a long time—and though the process of eradicating the Highlander was finaly carried out when he was the most universally romanticized figure, in the reign of Victoria, it had begun well before the nineteenth century.

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.

CANADIAN CANNED GOODS EXPORTS TO BRITAIN

Sir,—In last Friday's Guardian you quoted some important statistics regarding exports from Canada to the Mother Country of canned fruits and vegetables, showing a very satisfactory increase for the year ending March 31, 1937, over the year 1933. The figures are:

		Lbs.	Value
Fruits	1933	9,403,604	$528,900
Fruits	1937	20,333,850	1,244,542
Increase in 4 yrs.		10,930,246	$715,642
Vegetables	1933	4,557,634	$178,979
Vegetables	1937	37,416,350	1,597,538
Increase in 4 yrs.		32,858,716	$1,418,560

The above remarkable increases in the four years' period show excellent progress. When, however, it is known that Canadian exports constitute but a fraction of the exports from the United States to Great Britain, and further that Canada enjoys a substantial preference in British customs duties, the possibilities of the British market for Canadian canned goods will be realized.

In about twenty lines of fruits and vegetables this Island can produce in higher quality and at lower cost than in most parts of the continent, while our labour and other expenses are certainly not higher than elsewhere.

It is, therefore, simply a case of employing the most up-to-date processing methods, coupled with careful management and an aggressive sales policy, and there is no reason why, in a few years, Prince Edward Island canned goods should not be known the world over as equal to the best.

I am, Sir, etc.,
H. K. S. HEMMING.

APPLES AND CHERRIES, ETC.

Sir,—On reading a letter signed by "An Old Teacher" in your issue of 9th instant, it reminded me of a few notes I took a year or so ago from the files of the Daily Examiner, when looking for other matter, in regard to the shipment of Island apples to the British market in 1898.

On looking up these notes, I find that one refers to an article in the issue of 15th September, regarding a movement being on foot to ship Island apples to Great Britain by the Fruit Growers Association by the steamship "Lake Winnipeg" sailing from Charlottetown in a direct service at that time

In the issue of 7th December, there appeared a letter from J. C. Houghton & Co. to Edward Bayfield, President of the Island Fruit Growers Association, in which it was stated that the 73 barrels of Alexanders shipped by the "Lake Winnipeg" were found to be very fine fruit of an excellent colour, but that the "Ribstons" turned out small and green, the latter fact being very much against them. It was also stated that the price received was $3.00 a barrel, and that the shipment had been a great success.

The issue of the 14th December, states that John Leitch shipped over 2500 barrels of Island apples to Liverpool during the season of 1898, and received a better price than on the local market.

In the issue of 21st March 1898 or 99 the late Hon. D. Ferguson made a very favourable report on the shipment of Island apples.

Our neighbours in Nova Scotia apparently find it profitable to continue in the apple industry. At least some kinds of apples can be grown in this province just as good in quality as those grown in Nova Scotia. Surely "Apple Day" is sufficient to prove that we can still grow good apples in P. E. I.

As the Fox and Potato industries were developed, so should it be possible to again develop on a sound basis the apple industry of the Island, but it will take instructions and time to attain even the output which existed 40 years ago.

There is from time to time much talk regarding ocean liners coming to this port, but until we have Island products to ship by them, they will probably be as few in numbers in the future, as they have been for the past two decades and more.

It seems at times that the easy money at first made in the fox and potato industries and during the Great War, turned our people aside from many things which in former years flourished in this province, and brought in a reasonable return for the labour expended.

It is pleasing to note that the Hon. Mr. Dennis, Minister of Agriculture has a good word to say for our Island apples.

May we soon have leadership for the restoring of this former industry on as large a scale as possible, and through it, the employment of some of the youth of the province.

I am, Sir, etc.,
INTERESTED

RULED FAVORITE

(C. P. by Guardian's Special Wire)

LONDON, Nov. 15—Lord Glanely's Marcus Superbus was made favorite for the Manchester November handicap, to be run Nov. 22, in a callover of odds at the Victoria Club tonight. The three-year-old stablemate of the St. Leger winner Chulmleigh was backed 100 to 8.

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