

The Charlottetown Guardian

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MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1936.

The Alberta Situation

On the first of April Alberta had a bond issue due, necessitating a loan of something less than three million dollars if default was to be avoided. The Federal Government refused the loan, with the result that Alberta was unable to meet the maturity. In defence of the Dominion authorities' course, Hon. CHARLES DUNNING, Finance Minister, took fairly high ground which attracted non-partisan support from all parts of the Commons except the Social Credit section.

It now develops, however, as a result of treasury documents which Opposition members have had tabled in the House, that on the eighteenth of February last the Finance Minister lent the province of Saskatchewan \$1,435,000 and that on the 30th of March last—less than 48 hours before Hon. Mr. ABERHART was told to go and paddle his own financial canoe—it advanced another \$1,300,000. In both cases the loans were for the province's share of relief costs, the Dominion Government having already contributed its own share. In other words, while Saskatchewan had succeeded in meeting its debt commitments, it had done so by diverting to the payment of its bonds the monies which it should have spent in supplementing the federal grants in aid to relief. Alberta had simply taken the opposite course and met its relief obligations and been unable, therefore, to discharge its bondholders' claims.

In other words, Saskatchewan and Alberta have equally been unable to make their financial ends meet, but whereas Saskatchewan chose to default on relief, Alberta defaulted on its bonds. Thereupon follows the significant Federal sequel, namely, that Mr. DUNNING came to the rescue of Saskatchewan but left Alberta to shift for itself.

Was Saskatchewan succored because its Premier, Hon. W. J. PATTERSON, is a leading Liberal, and an intimate of Hon. J. G. GARDINER, Federal Minister of Agriculture? And was Alberta sacrificed because the Premier happened to be one WILLIAM ABERHART, who snatched an important provincial victory from the Liberals, just when they thought it was within their grasp? This, according to an Ottawa correspondent, is what various fairminded members of the House would like to know. There would seem to be surface grounds for believing that it is what happened.

A Bad Example

If the CAMPBELL Government fails to implement its "economy" pledges it will not be for want of an example near at hand of the deplorable results following lapses from the straight and narrow path. In our sister Province of Nova Scotia, the MACDONALD Liberal Government attained power on virtually the same platform of budget balancing, and in the thirty months in which it has been in power it has added nearly \$20,000,000 to Nova Scotia's provincial debt. "The budget has shown an enormous deficit every time Premier MACDONALD has presented his financial statement to the Legislature," says the Sydney Post-Record, (Independent). "The public debt is rising at the rate of at least \$8,000,000 per year. This stride can never be met by taxation increases, however ingenious and resourceful our Provincial taxmakers may become. The only way to escape the menace,—nay the absolute certainty,—of Provincial bankruptcy is to scale down expenses, as Premier MACDONALD promised the electors he would do till income and outlay are brought into balance. "The truth is," says The Post-Record, "that the MACDONALD Government's financial record is a contradiction of every pledge, express or implied, made by its members to the people of Nova Scotia in the general election of 1933. This reminder is not put forward in a carping spirit, but rather with the hope that it may prompt a reversal of the colossal spending programme the Government has substituted for these cunningly framed economy and budget-balancing schemes which sounded so constructive to the electors less than three short years ago."

A Worthy Cause

The opportunity of encouraging local talent and at the same time assisting a most worthy cause presents itself this afternoon and evening, when the Easter play, "The Charming Pretender," will be performed at the Prince Edward Theatre in aid of the Charlottetown Hospital. Our hospital, during the past few years of depression, have been seriously handicapped financially. Nevertheless, they have maintained their efficiency unimpaired, and are continuing, day in and day out, to serve the public in a manner highly creditable to all concerned.

In Staid Ontario

The Ontario Legislature under the leadership of Premier HEBURN has degenerated into a place for the exchange of insults of all kinds, and even the Toronto Globe (Liberal) finds it necessary to protest, "Ontario electors," says The Globe, "may well ask themselves whether their Provincial Legislature is a parliamentary institution or an outlaw among governing bodies. The language used in debate at various times during the present session has made it a burlesque show." The Globe lectures both the Premier and

the Conservative leader for "deplorable disregard of the amenities of debate" and concludes: "If the Ontario Legislature is a Parliament, it is the duty of the Speaker to see that parliamentary rules prevail. If it is not a Parliament, what is it? Surely the public is not putting up millions a year to support an institution which has not sufficient respect for itself to take its duties and its words seriously."

Editorial Notes

Next vacation, May 25. Legislature resumes tomorrow. Premier CAMPBELL's first Budget tomorrow evening. Easter Monday, a statutory holiday more in the breach than observance. Hon. C. A. DUNNING says Premier ABERHART must obtain a Federal Charter before he starts a provincial Bank—another snag. Invitations have been issued to all Premiers who participated in the Great War to accompany the Pilgrimage of Canadian War Veterans to Vimy. The only one who has accepted so far is Hon. W. J. PATTERSON, the new Premier of Saskatchewan who served three years in France with the C. E. F. and participated in the action at Vimy in 1916.

In Quebec new working hours legislation has been mooted at London City Council where it has been advocated ten 100-acre-farms should be acquired to be divided into 50-acre sections with a competent farmer taken from the relief rolls in charge. Work camps of 25 men each would be established on each farm to help the farmer, who would become owner after three years.

Mr. RUDYARD KIPING was not forgetful of his favourite "Our Lady of the Snows," for in his will he bequeathed \$800,000 to be divided between the Fairbridge Farm Schools of British Columbia and New South Wales. These were founded by a chum of RUDYARD, and it is well known that the latter had always been a friend of boys and girls, as was instanced by his interest in the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements.

For the same reason apparently that Hon. J. A. MACDONALD says we have to pay more for our lumber, he says to pay more for our agricultural machinery. The export of farm implements and machinery in February was valued at \$391,882, an increase of nearly \$80,000 over the same month last year. The United States proved to be the largest market during the month, the value of the export to that country being \$208,865, the United Kingdom \$69,044, and British South Africa \$26,214.

An endeavour is being made to give Canadian official recognition to the magnificent service of Aviator HERBERT HOLLICK-KENYON who piloted LINCOLN ELLSWORTH's plane across the Antarctic. He belongs to Vernon B.C., where his wife and family wait his return this week. ELLSWORTH and HOLLICK-KENYON were unreported for days after taking off on an exploratory flight over the South Polar continent, but were found by a search expedition. As the days passed without word of her husband, Mrs. HOLLICK-KENYON never lost hope. "I was anxious, of course, but I felt sure he would come through safely," she said.

In Montreal the unemployment situation is serious indeed. Standing up in vehement defence of himself and his administration, Mayor HOUDE represented himself as a friend of the people, a champion of order and good government, but an enemy of the big interests, and warned his hearers against political leaders without hearts. Speaking on the unemployment situation to the members of the Canadian Progress Club, at a luncheon, he warned them that they had to choose between democracy, with all its faults, and autocracy. "If you want autocracy, say so courageously. I won't say I'm not for it. I may be." But he hinted that under autocracy there might be more shooting than persuasion.

In Quebec new working Hours legislation have been passed for industrial and commercial establishments in the interests of boys under 18 and women. They now are prohibited from working after 11 o'clock at night. On the day before Christmas, the day before New Year's Day, and the day before Easter Sunday, the working day must not extend beyond 10 p.m. The regulations lay down that boys under 18, and all females must not work more than 60 hours a week in any commercial establishment in a city or a town of more than 10,000 population. Such working hours must be apportioned between 7 o'clock in the morning and 11 o'clock at night. The words "commercial establishment" mean any place where merchandise is sold or offered for sale, but they do not include hotels and restaurants nor shops where only members of the same family work.

In the debate on the \$75,000,000 vote to the Unemployment Commission Hon. C. H. CAHAN, former Secretary of State, remarked that the Prime Minister's talk about the "blanket cheque" legislation of the previous Government had become an obsession. The legislation now before the House, said Mr. Cahan, provided for government and administration by order-in-council to an extent at least equal to any precedents established in past years. He questioned the propriety of the Governor-in-Council being empowered by this legislation to make orders and regulations to carry out the provisions of the Act. "The Prime Minister believes," he said, "that by getting away from the blank cheque he is overcoming the difficulties in securing a satisfactory solution of the unemployment and relief problem," but he is merely passing the buck, as he had already done with regard to the railway.

Notes by the Way

Foreigners must wish success to the new German airship, Hindenburg, in its first flight to South America. As a scientific achievement it merits universal admiration and is beyond international jealousies. It is unlikely that it will be used for anything else but peaceful purposes, as it would present a broad target to airplanes in war. It is a pity that its first use was the ignoble one of serving as a peddler of propaganda and a polling booth in a crooked German election.

Admittedly, control of Mongolia in general and perhaps of Outer Mongolia in particular would be an important factor in Japanese preparation for war against the Soviet Union; but to prepare for a war does not necessarily mean to start it. Japanese control over a large part of Inner Mongolia is already an accomplished fact, and it may soon be extended even farther. It is, however, really imperative for Japan to stretch its control over Outer Mongolia also, at the risk of meeting resistance from the Soviet Union. There is, in other words, a strong case for believing that Outer Mongolia is a side-issue in the moves of Japanese expansionism: it is less important as a target for Japanese aims than as a screen for those aims—Victor A. Yakhotoff in Pacific Affairs (New York).

The emblems of kingship, always fascinating, have acquired a new interest from recent happenings, and today no true-born Englishman would agree with Defoe that "crowns are empty things." In a paper read to the Society of Antiquaries, Mr. M. R. Holmes dispensed of the popular belief that all our Sovereigns from William the Conqueror to Charles I were crowned with the Crown of St. Edward. It was probably not till the Confessor's body was moved in the reign of Henry III that his crown was recovered, and even then it was only one of numerous crowns in the possession of the kings of England. Edward II owned at least two, and the Coronation Crown varied in different periods. After the Cromwellian revolution, in which the Regalia were destroyed, crowns were empty things in a literal sense, if in no other, being often no more than frames into which borrowed jewels were fitted. From Charles II to George IV every English monarch was crowned with one of these frames temporarily bedight with precious stones. And it was not a question merely of red-temple; these gems—that might have been more understandable—of his reign were afresh for each coronation. Those who have seen the riches of the Crown Jewels at the Tower of London will find it hard to believe that at so recent a period our kings and queens were so ill-provided with the outward adornments of sovereignty.—Truth (London).

Flaubert speaks of Shakespeare as "something tremendous," and says "he was not a man but a continent; there were great men in him; whole crowds, countries, he who is misjudged, criticized, and soundly abused—without returning a defence—what is he thinking about? What shades of hero does he possess? How many atoms of Napoleons, Lincolns, Mozarts, Michaelanges, Hugos, or Pastors bubble in his silent frame? He who talks opens himself up for argument and a task of defence, but he who takes pride in his self-respect, and says nothing, who is he who can justly and honestly pass opinion or place him in judgment? In all, he is a portion of continents, and of the best of the earth. Whitman spoke of life as something "immense." "I contain multitudes," he wrote. Beauty, in its largest sense, is a relative term, but wherever it lodges or wherever it is given birth, it cannot accept challenge. It is supreme in itself. In all of us is God, the breath of beauty, the voice of the wild, the glory of the stars, the simplicity of the poorest and humblest, the urge for happiness, unselfish service, and the desire for as much of the understanding of life as we deserve.

It is almost 21 years ago since the first Governments in the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta came into being. In that period every member of Alberta's first Cabinet except its Prime Minister, Hon. A. C. Rutherford, has passed away, while the death of Justice Lamont, of the Supreme Court of Canada, was the first break in original Government of Saskatchewan. Hon. Walter Scott, that province's first Premier, is still alive. So is Hon. W. R. Motherwell, its first Minister of Agriculture, and Hon. J. A. Calder, its first Minister of Education. The latter two are still in public life.—Lethbridge Herald.

It is only to be expected that any new activities in the diplomatic circles of an alarmed Europe will have all manner of constructions put upon them, and that an apprehensive France in particular will be disposed to believe that Germany, disturbed by Franco-Russian solidarity, is moving to invent a counterweight to that probable agreement. And, of course, there is a certain amount of objective evidence which points toward an at least temporary community of interest between Germany and a disgruntled Italy. There are, however, no tangible grounds for believing that anything in the nature of alliance is in the making. Germany had one experience with Italy as partner and found her a singularly unreliable friend. Nor is it likely that at the present time Berlin would blunder into overtly championing an impoverished Italy and thus incur the ill-will of Great Britain.—Baltimore Sun.

Two nations are co-operating to give a 3-year-old boy a chance for his life. High authorities in Washington and Melbourne have planned together that little Kelvin Rogers, with a nail buried in his right lung, may be brought 10,000 miles from the big Australian city to Philadelphia. There a skilled American surgeon with facilities said to be unavailable in Melbourne, will operate to remove the nail. The Jeff Davis, a motorship of the government-owned American Pioneer line, will bring the boy and his mother. Free passage has been arranged for them because Kelvin's father, with three other children go care for, earns only \$20 a week. Medical science will give its best service free. That should be a typical example of the meaning of civilization—worldwide co-operation of governmental energies for the saving of human life, the conserving of human values, the promotion of human welfare and happiness. The thrill the story stirs in the hearts of readers, the pride it arouses in our government's kindness, indicate that this is the sort of civilization we really want.—Chicago Daily News.

They are making a lot of fuss over the fact that a sixty-nine-year-old Toronto man walked from Toronto to Oakville during the blizzard of the other day, ignoring the fact he had a much better chance of doing it safely amid storm conditions than he would have had in good weather.—Peterborough Examiner.

Comeback.—The real hero of the Augusta Masters Golf Tourney was blonde Craig Wood, the hard luck man. Instead of breaking up his clubs after his first round of 88 blows, Craig came back with rounds of 87-89-76 to tie for 20th place with 300 shots.

That Body of Ours

By James W. Borison, M.D.

FINDING WHETHER THE LIVER IS DOING ITS WORK PROPERLY

When we remember that about 2 of every 3 persons during their lifetime have more or less inflammation of the liver and gall bladder, and that about one in every 20 persons has gall stones, the great wonder is that so few operations for gall bladder trouble seem to be needed. Thus when an operation is advised by the physician or surgeon it is good evidence that it is needed. However before operation is performed tests are made to see how well the liver and gall bladder are doing their work. Dr. M. Zimny, Buenos Aires, reports as to the way the liver and gall bladder are working, the results of which show whether or not an operation, especially the removal of the gall bladder, should be done.

Some dye is injected into a vein and a tube is passed through the mouth and then downwards through the stomach right into the small intestine into which the bile flows down from the liver and gall bladder. By means of this tube the contents of this part of the intestine are drawn up and examined during the first hour that the liver is getting rid of the dye. The color of these contents is then compared with a sort of test tubes containing definite amounts of the dye. If the liver and gall bladder are normal—doing their work properly—the dye appears in the contents (withdrawn by means of the tube) within fifteen and thirty minutes after it was injected into the vein. It takes about three hours for the dye to be completely removed.

The rate at which the dye is removed is measured, and according to the time taken the physician or surgeon decides upon the advisability of operation. Thus if there is a small amount of trouble in the liver and gall bladder which makes it take a longer time to get rid of the dye, operation is considered wise and safe. If a little longer time is needed by the liver it is considered best to wait and treat the patient a little longer before operating, tests being made every five or eight days, so that with a certain degree of improvement operation may be performed. There are emergency cases of course where operation must be performed although under ordinary circumstances it would be postponed for a time.

Dr. Zimny states that the test is harmless a ways, despite the condition of the patient, is easily done, and may be repeated whenever necessary.

The Poet's Corner

THEATRIC SPRING

We hear alarms and worry o'er the cause— An emerald exploding in the snow; A tocsin clangs, a marshland dons a mask— The fog's grimace that hints an Odors rehearsing, faint behind the hedge; Now throbs the lane, a palpitating brew; A nymph appears, pretends to shake the world, The little earthquake fitted to her mood. Laughing, she drops her tunic wove from haze, Applies her ear, front-centre, to a tree; Water, she cries, a cloudburst drowns the scene, Each raindrop big as some nomadic sea. Oh, Exaggeration and Surprise! Oh, Spring, the theatre plainly in your eyes. —Nathalia Crane in the New York Sun.

right lung, may be brought 10,000 miles from the big Australian city to Philadelphia. There a skilled American surgeon with facilities said to be unavailable in Melbourne, will operate to remove the nail. The Jeff Davis, a motorship of the government-owned American Pioneer line, will bring the boy and his mother. Free passage has been arranged for them because Kelvin's father, with three other children go care for, earns only \$20 a week. Medical science will give its best service free. That should be a typical example of the meaning of civilization—worldwide co-operation of governmental energies for the saving of human life, the conserving of human values, the promotion of human welfare and happiness. The thrill the story stirs in the hearts of readers, the pride it arouses in our government's kindness, indicate that this is the sort of civilization we really want.—Chicago Daily News.

That \$75,000,000 Program

(Mail and Empire) In the Commons on Wednesday there were several references from the treasury benches to the pending \$75,000,000 program. The truth is that the lukewarm reception given to the Government's measure to establish a Federal commission to deal with the practical side of the unemployment problem that a more practical expenditure policy is in contemplation for the alleviation of existing employment conditions. Ministerial spokesmen to-day emphasized, accordingly, that money voted by the Federal House would be supplementary to appropriations made by provincial legislatures and municipal councils. The hope was raised, accordingly, that with the improvement which has taken place in conditions over the past year and one-half, this might be the last session in which a con-

PUBLIC FORUM

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

NEED OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Mr.—It would be a very simple matter to give instance after instance of Federal infringement upon Provincial jurisdiction and autonomy. One of the effects of such review might be to arouse antagonism, which is both unnecessary and undesirable. The situation must be regarded and understood both from the point of view of the Dominion and of the Provinces, and then the remedy sought. It is not a question of party or parochial feeling or politics. Nor can the problem be regarded solely in its relation to provincial jurisdiction. There are broader issues involved. Canada's interests and future must likewise be considered. As has been said, we must accustom ourselves to think in terms of the whole country, and nothing less than the whole country. Whatever tongues may utter the language of bitterness and disunion, ours shall speak for that practice which betokens our faith in a united Canada. At the same time the interests of Canada as a whole must coincide with the interests and welfare of its several constituent parts. The problem which the people of Canada and its Provinces have set themselves "is, indeed a noble task worthy of the best that is in our public men and of the active and effective interest of all our citizens. Particularly does it call for the whole-hearted co-operation of those who, by reason of their training and experience, can, perhaps, be most useful; the members of the legal fraternity. The goal is the complete unity of the Canadian people."

In considering the field of legislation and the need of more equitable distribution of legislative powers it must be remembered that since the B. N. A. Act was drafted many changes and developments have occurred, which were then unthought of. Means of transportation, discoveries and inventions then unknown form today a large part of our activities. Corporate enterprises have become national-wide. New social problems have developed. The economic crisis has given rise to the necessity for the redistribution of legislative powers. Instead of the powers of the Provinces being weak and provincial legislation "shaky", the Canadian Provinces today enjoy legislative powers greater than those of the States of the American Union. The whole field of social legislation, old age pensions, the evil of profiteering, methods of dealing with industrial strife and disputes, hours and conditions of labor, minimum wages, combines, regulation of profits, factory acts, unemployment insurance and relief, co-operative institutions, power production and distribution, insurance, and many like subjects have been considered to fall within the head "property and civil rights", and to be matters for Provincial legislation.

In economic activities, the trend has been towards centralization and rapid expansion. Legislative control which was suited to Canada's infancy is regarded everywhere as wholly inadequate to the social, economic and political development of today. The need of amendment to Canada's Constitution is recognized. Attempts have been made by the Federal Parliament to legislate upon some of the subjects referred to. One claim after another has been tried with a view to discovering a ground of Dominion jurisdiction and has failed. The control of trade and commerce is now found to conflict with Provincial jurisdiction under property and civil rights so far as local trade within a Province is concerned. Attempts to invent new fields of Dominion jurisdiction by attaching criminal consequences to a breach of the provisions of the Act and thereby bring the subject-matter within the Dominion's jurisdiction under "criminal law", have not been successful.

Enough has been said to show the need of extension of Dominion legislative jurisdiction. The demand for reform of the Constitution has arisen out of conditions which call for uniform and Canada-wide legislation. It is not caused by a need of the Provinces to extend their jurisdiction. A readjustment is admittedly necessary. The question is, how should this change be brought about, and how should future changes when called for be made. Premier Campbell says the method of change is immaterial. That subject will be taken up later. I am, sir, etc. FRO PATRICK.

It will be observed that the Maritimes have been the lightest borrowers, that Ontario owes nothing to the Dominion Government, that almost \$124,000,000 has been advanced to the four Western Provinces. The small balances owing from the Maritimes are carry-overs from the loans made in 1919 under the housing scheme of that year. Relief needs account largely for the enormous sums the Dom-

1871 1936 65 years of Security and Stability to Policyholders Every hour somebody benefits from a Confederation Life Policy Confederation Life Head Office Association Toronto Branch Office: Bank of Nova Scotia Building, Charlottetown—W. G. HOGG, Manager.

tion Government has loaned to the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia. Only a determined optimist can picture the repayment of these enormous loans. Mr. Dunning has good reason to insist on some such instrument of security as his projected Loan Council board before handing out any more Federal money to the Provincial Governments.

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