THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1940.

Richmond Site Selected

For some considerable time officials in connection with the Commonwealth air training scheme have been surveying the Province with a view to ascertaining the most likely centre at which to erect and equip an airport for the training of aviators for the war. In Queen's County the Charlottetown airport was recommended by local authorities and in Prince County Summerside and St. Eleanor's were both suggested. While no definite announcement has yet been made, it is reported that the federal officials decided that Charlottetown and Summerside did not provide sufficient accommodation for the purpose, and that the site suggested at St. Eleanor's was considered too low-lying and with too much marshland in the vicinity. It is understood the officials have selected Richmond, fifteen miles west of Summerside, as the most suitable place. There the land rises and provides sufficient water-fall to prevent the unsatisfactory condition found at St. Eleanor's. There too, it is stated, there is abundance of suitable land for supplementary landing fields, two of which must be within a radius of five miles of the airport.

This no doubt is the project to which Finance Minister Ralston referred the other day in advising the Summerside Board of Trade that there were certain large expenditures in contemplation for Prince County that made it undesirable for him to consider at the present time the proposed wharf improvement project in the interests of the potato export business.

Seed Potato Tariffs

A supplementary trade agreement between the United States and Cuba, signed at Washington on Dec. 18, 1939, when it comes into force will terminate the obligation of the United States to grant a 50 per cent preference to certified seed potatoes imported from Cuba during the months of December, January and February. The effect will be to permit complete fulfilment by the United States of the terms of the concession on Canadian seed potatoes provided in the United States trade agreement with Canada effective January 1, 1939.

The present rate to Canada on certified seed potatoes is 37 1-2 cents per 100 pounds from March 1 to Nov. 30, and 60 cents from Dec. 1 to the end of February. The rate to Cuba during December, January and February each year was 30 cents per 100 pounds, and under the 1934 trade agreement with the United States guaranteeing a 50 per cent preference, no rate lower than 60 cents could be accorded to any other country. The new United States—Cuban trade agreement cancels this obligation. The result will be that certified seed potatoes from Canada which are now subject to a duty of 37 1-2 cents per 100 pounds when imported into the United States between March 1 and November 30 in any year (subject to a quota limitation) will, when the new supplementary agreement between the United States and Cuba becomes effective, be subject to the rate of 37 1-2 cents per 100 pounds throughout the year.

The President of the United States proclaimed the trade agreement on December 19 and after proclamation by the President of the Republic of Cuba in conformity with the laws of that country, exchange of proclamations will take place and the agreement will enter into force on the day following. It stated the exchange is to take place at Havana as soon as possible.

The War Loan

The success of Canada's first war loan may be a cause for satisfaction, but, says the Ottawa Journal, it is no cause for complacency. The loan has been over-subscribed but many had expected that the offerings would be greater than that. Indeed, considering that mining companies took 10 per cent of the total amount asked for, and insurance companies practically another 16 per cent, one is made to wonder whether the offerings of the general public were what they might have been. Canadians have $1,700,000,000 in savings banks.

It will be interesting, when the books are closed, to check the total number of subscribers. Interesting because that, not a few dozen large subscriptions, will be the real measure of the loan's success.

In the first Great War, Canada's initial war loan brought 25,000 subscriptions.

The second war loan brought 34,000 subscriptions.

The third brought 40,000 subscriptions.

The fourth 820,000 subscriptions.

The fifth 1,000,000 subscriptions.

Finally, in 1919, when the Government asked for 300 millions (a Victory Loan) the response (no record was kept of the total number of subscribers) was nearly $80 per head of the population.

What the result of the present loan shows, says the *Journal*, is that the people of Canada have not yet got their teeth into this war. They have not yet had it brought home to them. There has been altogether too much talk about war orders, plus too many comfortable assumptions of an early victory, and altogether too little realization of the desperate magnitude and danger of the struggle upon which we have embarked.

There will be other war loans; how many, who knows? The Government should begin preparing for them now. It should begin preparing for them by (a) Showing that money raised by war loans is spent exclusively and efficiently for war purposes; (b) That there is absolute economy in all other expenditures; and (c) That this war, likely to be long and bitter, calls for the utmost in sacrifice.

In Great Britain they are not taking comfort or deluding themselves over the fact that Germany is on rations. They know too well that a Germany on rations is a Germany preparing for a long struggle, and their answer to it is not to sit down and await victory but to go on rations themselves.

We here in Canada are facing the same vital issue and it is time we realized it.

= EDITORIAL NOTES =

William Pitt died this date, 1806. "Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom; it is the argument of tyrants; it is the creed of slaves."

* * * *

Quebec has yet to be heard from on the proposed deepening of the St. Lawrence. The Premier announces the question will come before the Legislature next month.

* * * *

In view of the recent general election, and no new political developments since, it is unlikely the Conservatives of the Souris district will contest the by-election for a successor to the late Mr. Acorn.

* * * *

The Nordiske Company, skin auctioneers offered 46,000 silver fox skins at the Norwegian fur auctions, and about 70 per cent was sold. Foreign buyers were fewer. Big orders were received from Norwegian skin firms. Representatives of Germany were more numerous than last year, and placed bigger orders. There were no French buyers. The prices were about the same as in December. Today Jan. 23 the auctioneer will offer 24,000 silver foxes, and a number of blue foxes will be offered on Jan. 25. On the 27th, 300 platinum foxes will be offered. Two American buyers are in attendance.

* * * *

The Ontario Government, in its estimates of future hydro power needs in that province, has contended that the province must expect a rapid increase in population after the war through immigration, that as a result there will be a large augmentation of the number of power users, both industrial and domestic, and that this larger power need can only be met by extended development of the present sources at Niagara and in the Lake Superior diversions. No account is taken by these promoters of the large amount of additional power that can be obtained from an enlargement of present developments wholly within Canadian territory, including the Gatineau and Ottawa rivers and power streams in other Quebec areas. But Ontario officials stress the fact that most of the increased need will be in central and western Ontario where an important industrial expansion is expected, and this area could be best served by the nearest developments, namely those at Niagara and in the Lake Superior region.

* * * *

A correspondent of the New York Times writes: "I recently saw the motion picture 'Main Street Lawyer'. Although the story was far-fetched and lacking in verisimilitude, it had one saving grace, in that it pictured a lawyer who was honest and helpful to his clients. On the screen and radio and in the theatre a lawyer is generally held up to ridicule. He is almost invariably a knave and a crook, who connives to cheat his clients and deceive the court. In the twenty years that I was attorney for the Legal Aid Bureau of the Educational Alliance, which recently closed, I listened to thousands of complaints against lawyers. In 99 per cent of the cases I found the complaints to be without foundation. They were almost always due to misunderstanding. The long calendar delays raised suspicion in the minds of clients who believed that they had been 'sold out' by their lawyers... Yet there is hardly a lawyer who doesn't give free service and advice to the poor. Former clients, friends and relatives who cannot afford to pay fees are found in every law office."

* * * *

Colonel E. B. Dowsett, writing to The Times of London, sustains the contention recently advanced in that paper by Sir Malcolm Cameron, of Pollalloch that the kilted Scottish infantry (the Ladies from Hell) in the World War suffered fewer casualties, under identical conditions, than did the Tommies otherwise clad: "A battalion of the London Scottish, whose members always wore kilts, was a unit of the Sixtieth Division, which saw service in France, Macedonia, Egypt and Palestine, and although I have not now the exact statistics available I can safely say that I, who had medical charge of that division, always looked upon the London Scottish battalion as the most healthy unit in the whole division. Moreover, these men were London Territorials, who never wore kilts in civil life." Contrary evidence is offered by Chaplain E. L. Marsden, now a canon at the Grimsby vicarage, who says that in the division in which he served as a chaplain during the war of 1914-18 were two kilted battalions. Another correspondent argues that the predecessor of the kilt, the belted plaid, has many advantages over the present-day dress and suggests its adoption as ideal for soldiers. This genuine Highland dress, he says, consisted of as many yards as accorded with the wearer's taste and means, of saffron linen. About the end of the fifteenth century, woolen material woven in the patterns now called tartan replaced the linen. As much as twenty-four yards of material is recorded as a chief's wear. The length was pleated under the owner's belt, leaving a lot of material falling outside the belt, which was drawn on to the wearer's shoulders and was used as cloak and hood when required. On going into bivouac the belt was released, the man rolled himself in his plaid, and slept warmly. In bitter winds the plaid was soaked in the nearest burn and made a cold compress, through which no wind could get. Troops so clothed were notoriously healthy.

NOTES BY THE WAY

What with transport difficulties and fighting the Russians, Fin and is unlikely to be able to supply its newsprint customers. The United States, which takes 200,000 tons annually from Finland, will look mainly to Canadian manufacturers to make up the volume until the situation gets squared away. — Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

Torpedoes cost $10,000 each. One way to beat them, especially in respect to trade on the short routes between Britain and the Low Countries, might be to use boats that cost less than the cost of sinking them. The submarine, however, is not the real menace. The principal danger as from the explosive mines. — Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

The Finish-Russo struggle has been likened to the battle between David and Goliath. But Goliath did not tour-flush about it; he was out and out determined to clean up on little David and did not claim that it was a friendly matter for David's own good. Nor did he claim that David first attacked him. — St. Catharines Standard.

London—Air-raid precautions in Edinburgh have been brought to a fine art by the canny Scots. On each table in the lounge of one of the largest hotels there is a typewritten sheet of emergency instructions the last paragraph of which reads: "Dining-room customers who wish to go to the shelter should tell their waiter, who will present their bill immediately.." — New York Herald Tribune.

If the news coming from Germany since New Year's means anything, certainly the outstanding fact is the complete team-work of Messrs. Hitler and Goering. They may have their little tiffs, but they think and plan and act as one when it comes to hating Britain. This is the thing that counts. It is puerile to place any faith in a possible internal bust-up in Germany under present conditions. That may come later, but that time has not arrived yet. — Vancouver Sun.

The history of any war is important, not only from the academic point of view, on which some educators tell us, we have put too much stress, but for the lessons to be derived from which later generations of soldiers may profit in future wars. True, it is hoped that the first and greatest lesson to be learned will abolish the need for military text books, and that the interest in this war will be chiefly in the fact that it is too early to take the millenium for granted. We of the British Commonwealth probably paid more dearly than any of Earth's peoples to learn the folly of assuming too soon that the race had grown older and wiser. —Calgary Albertan.

Consider what Britain will be like when peace follow victory. A vast section of our people will come back from the countryside. They will have grown to love it, to understand its people and problems. They will no longer be street-bound city dwellers. Their changed attitude will do much to span the disastrous gap between town and country. Our people will, too, have discovered the joys and virtues of home life. They will have found new interest in entertaining themselves instead of always expecting to be entertained. We shall all be better democrats. In destroying tyranny abroad we shall have killed snobbery at home. We shall be more understanding of our fellows readier to share the views of people who shared a common danger with us. Peace will bring a better Britain, a more human and more natural Britain. — London Daily Express.

It surely cannot elude the world's notice that the spirit of "jingoism" has completely disappeared from Imperial relations. There was no need of a "campaign" with catch-phrases, propagandist speeches and drumbeating, once the clarion call went out from the Allied camps. The response of the Empire was immediate, unemotional and absolutely devoid of false sentiment. The independent governments acted with the full backing of their peoples; the Colonies despatched "spontaneous messages of support." "We did not ask for these messages," declared the Premier; "the Colonies have not been forced into war by Great Britain against their will. The action of so many peoples of various races is a witness to their consciousness that a threat to Great Britain is equally a threat to that freedom and well-being which has been assured to them under British rule." — The Birmingham Mail.

Italian newspapers ask why the British Government do not immediately declare war on Russia. Some people in England may support the Italian view. They say that if we were sincere in our opposition to aggression, we would fight Stalin as well as Hitler, since Stalin has shown himself as foul an aggressor. They are like someone who sees a man engaged in a life-and-death struggle with a cut-throat, taps him on the shoulder, and says: "If you are really sincere in your hatred of cutthroats, why not start fighting that other cut-throat over there at the same time?" We cannot permit the Italians or any other nation to choose our enemies for us. In the same way the United States, who offered mediation, are not going to be dragged or cajoled into war at the bidding of foreigners. There is a vast difference between mediation and intervention, and the people here are grateful to the Washington Government for their last-minute attempt to avert this new catastrophe. — London Daily Express.

The Orient is the one section of the wide international field in which the United States seems disposed to use its economic power in support of principles upon which the security of the civilized world rests; and it is certainly not the time for the blunders of 1931 to be repeated. There is, of course, the chance that economic sanctions will involve an appeal to force; and it has been the refusal of the democratic nations to accept this risk in the past that has landed the world in war. If the United States should now undertake to enforce by these means respect for a treaty which a great Power has thought it in its interest to repudiate, she should, and we are sure will, get the co-operation and sympathy of all the countries that have an interest in seeing a just peace brought about in the Orient. —Winnipeg Free Press.

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.

FEED PRICES

Sir,—I have read with interest letters by correspondents as well as reports of other activities in connection with the prices of imported feeds especially with regard to bacon production. I think that under the present circumstances this is a matter which deserves more attention than it is getting at least up to the present time. With the war on and greater demands being made on us all in many different ways it should be very essential that we be able to take our part in the increased industrial activity required, but we are an agricultural province there being no other important industry, so that everyone depends directly or indirectly on the business or purchasing power of those so engaged. To that old disadvantage of having to sell our produce for less and buy at a higher rate than anywhere in Canada has now been added the jacked up prices due to war conditions. But our most important products such as pork are being sold at a set price.

Now with Great Britain needing a heavy and steady supply of bacon and with our production by local means very limited it seems a grave injustice that with abundance of cheap grain within our Dominion we should be forced to either do without it or pay exorbitant prices. The producer in the West sells grain, especially barley, which is so suitable for hog raising at a low price. But we, a part of the Dominion, cannot get it as heaply as foreign countries. All this forcing us to ship many of our hogs away for someone in a more advantageuos position to grow and finish.

In peace times these conditions were unbearable enough but at the present time with our countries engaged in a titanic fight for the freedom of the world surely these conditions can be altered so that we may be able to take our part in the increased production needed and give our province a healthier, stronger position in our Canadian industrial activity. I would therefore urge individuals, organizations and especially members of the different Houses to do their utmost to eliminate these conditions and thus serve worthily justice, our province, and our Empire.

I am, Sir, etc.,
B. H. CURRIE.

FINANCING CONSUMPTION TO INCREASE PRODUCTION

Sir,—When needed, as in the present war, Canada can produce the goods and services as, when and where required.

Before launching the call for the war loan of $200,000,000, which has now been largely oversubscribed, the Federal Government called upon the commercial banks to submit lists of their depositors' savings and the amount of these lists totalled no less a sum than one billion, seven hundred million dollars.

Who in peace time would have said that we must employ, clothe, house and feed thousands of men and the families of the married men. Under war conditions we have allowed our finance to do so. Why did we have to wait for war to make our finance reflect reality and produce security?

As the means to live come before the manner of living, it is not so much a change of heart, as shown above, but a change of method: in short a different reason for basis and issue of money and by so doing increase consumption so that the individual consumer may buy what he needs.

Canadian voters must demand through their representatives that in future, in times of peace as in times of war, all Canadian issues of money required for this purpose shall be based on Canadian real credit, that is Canadian productive capacity.

It has always struck me as strange that a country can issue money to employ our young men to defend the country against cruel injustice, yet do not do so in times of peace.

As stated above, to the extent of the productive capacity of Canada—productive capacity that is to the extent of Canada's real credit, based on capacity to produce wealth. Money is not real wealth, it is only a claim on real wealth. We must produce more real wealth before we can distribute more of it.

The happiness of family life is largely unrealized. The motherly instinct of women remains too often unsatisfied, while the sex appetite is abused—Is it not true that many who see the wrong of all this have no real heartache about it? Others have the heartache but do not know what to do about it.

A large number of women are compelled to seek work for their maintenance because of the large number of unemployed men. Women when married and bear and raise children are doing their natural duties and are, therefore entitled to be encouraged. Should they not, therefore, be paid a government bounty for every child born in wedlock. This would encourage them to get married and in so doing would leave their billets open to the many young men at present unemployed and thus increase the opportunities of marriage for women. The bounties paid to the women for each child born in wedlock would enable many young men with otherwise, too small salaries to get married, found their own homes and raise their children but denied the opportunity because of existing conditions. For them, a courageous leadership could make possible the prophecy of Isaiah:

"And they shall build houses and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build and another inhabit it; they shall not plant and another eat; for the days of a tree are the days of my people and mine elect shall enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the Lord and their offsprings with them. And it shall come to pass that, before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking I will hear."

There are several other means by which the government could improve the social conditions of the people. For instance payment of a reasonable old age pension to encourage the retirement of men and women over 65 years of age to make room for the numerous younger people unemployed.

The establishment of a system of a reasonable self liquidating rental purchase housing, at low interest rates, with no percentage payment down and thus encourage the poorer classes to own their own homes. The requirement of a 20 per cent deposit of the cost of a house costing say $3,000 or $600 is an absolute deterrent to the majority of the people to take advantage of the existing government housing scheme.

The establishment of a reasonable contributary health insurance scheme, similar to the one existing in Britain. The test of good government lies in the achievement of very simple and plain matters. —whether it has secured a decent job for every one, enough food, clothing and decent housing for all. These are the first essentials of good government. There are other tests, but any form of government which cannot undergo this primary test cannot be said to be the best. In conclusion I will quote that brilliant British statesman Mr. Anthony Eden:

"We say we are fighting for the maintenance of democracy. But what we have to do is make democracy worthy to be sustained."

I am, Sir, etc.
ANONYMOUS.

The Poets' Corner.

THE SEAS OF ENGLAND

The seas of England are our old delight;
Let the loud billows of the shingly shore
Sing freedom on her breezes evermore
To all earth's that sailing heave in sight!

The gaunt sea-nettle be our fortitude,
Sturdily blowing where the clear wave sips;
O, be the glory of our men and ships
Rapturous, woe-unheeding hardihood.

There is great courage in a land that hath
Liberty guarded by the unearthly seas;
And even to find peace at the last in these
How many a sailor hath sailed down to death.

Their names are like a splendor in old song;
Their record shines like bays along the years;
Their jubilation is the cry man hears
Sailing sun-fronted the vast deeps among.

The seas of England are our old delight;
Let the loud billow of the shingly shore
Sing freedom on her breezes evermore
To all earth's that sailing heave in sight!

—Walter de la Mare.

HOW WAR CHIEF WAS CONVINCED

LONDON —Jan. 22 —(CP) —It's a far cry from a plane dropping a bag of sand nearly 30 years ago to the Royal Air Force ships and the bombs they dropped at Kiel since the outbreak of the present war, but that primitive set-up of 1911 gave impetus to the Royal Flying Corps which developed into the R. A. F.

The story is told by R. M. Hanlon, who has retired after 43 years' active service with a big maufacturing concern. In May, 1911, he organized on behalf of the Parliamentary Aerial Defence Committee the demonstration at Hendon which had as an ultimate result the formation of the R. F. C.

"Colonel Seely, now Lord Mottistone, who was minister of war at the time, showed very little interest in planes until he was satified that bombs could be dropped effectively from the air," Hanlon recalled. "For his benefit a week before the demonstration we dropped a bag of sand weighing a hundredweight from Graham White's Farnham plane. We expected Grahame White to crash directly he had released his load but he went smoothly on."

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MEETING

Fifth District (Charlottetown and Royalty) National Conservative Association of Queen's County, Oddfellows Hall, FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th. at 8 P.M.

At this meeting, appointment of delegates from the various Polls to attend the Queen's County Annual Meeting and Convention, January 30th, will be officially confirmed.

Members of the Fifth District Executive will also be selected.

A full attendance is requested.

P. J. ROSSITER, Acting Secretary
P. W. TURNER, President

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ANNUAL MEETING

Queen's County National Conservative Association

STRAND THEATRE, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30th. 1940

At the same time and place a Convention will be held to nominate a Candidate, caused by the resignation of Mr. John H. Myers.

Each Poll is entitled to five delegates. Those from the FIRST and SECOND DISTRICTS will meet in the Main Auditorium promptly at 12.30. Those from the THIRD and FOUTH DISTRICTS will gather in the Board of Trade Rooms at the same time, in order to facilitate the selection of members on the County Executive. Regular meeting will begin at 1 o'clock sharp.

P. J. ROSSITER, Acting Secretary
P. W. TURNER, President

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