

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1940.

Aftermath Of A Plebiscite

Admittedly our Garden Province is a tourist paradise. Everyone says so, and everyone, for once, is right.

Indians in other provinces are not permitted the use of liquor for beverage purposes, and all Prince Edward Islanders fall into that category.

The law, of course, applies not only to Prince Edward Islanders but to all persons within the Province, tourists as well as residents.

How the world got to the tourists we do not know. But we have reason to believe that before any rumor of the fact reached the ordinary resident.

Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, died this date, 1786. An opportunist, a philosopher despot, a great administrator, cynical, selfish, industrious, tolerant, he made his country the first of German states.

The other night one of the American radio commentators announced that the Vichy government were complaining that owing to the British blockade they were unable to get delivery of a large order of wheat from Canada.

The Boy Scouts of America—1,400,000 strong—have launched a nation-wide program "to vitalize democracy in the United States as the paramount requisite of national defence."

To acquire adequate supplies of raw materials for national defence, hides and skins, except fur skins, will be imported into U. S. A. from Canada only on approval of the hides administrator on behalf of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

It is all over—including the shouting. Old Home Week has been a grand success, thousands entered into the spirit of the thing, helping to uphold the morale at a time of very grave peril in the Empire's history.

So great has been the demand for tourist scripts, that we understand six additional books of fifty scripts each had to be applied for yesterday by the distributing physician to carry him over the balance of the week.

But all good things come to an end, and it is reported that the indiscriminate issuing of tourist scripts will terminate today. Some may still be available during the remainder of the season, but under restrictions which will remind the visitor that he is no longer enjoying the unbounded hospitality of Old Home Week.

Meanwhile our Prohibition organizations are rejoicing in the assurance given by Premier Campbell that the law is being enforced "more rigidly than ever."

Somebody Bungled

The Fisheries Department seems to have made a poor job of the undertaking given by the Minister, Hon. Mr. Michaud, to market this season's annual lobsters.

of \$4.00 for the present system of assistance and inspection. Complaint was also made with regard to the imposition of the sales tax, which amounts to \$1.50 a case, on a product which the Government is supposed to be trying to sell.

Prominent among those voicing criticism of the present system were Hon. J. P. McIntyre, Provincial Minister of Public Works, and Mr. T. M. Linkletter, M.L.A., both experienced packers who doubtless know whereof they speak.

It is unfortunate that the Fisheries Minister, in his pre-election assurance to the packers and fishermen last March, did not clarify the Government's policy, which was understood to guarantee the season's pack up to 55,000 cases at \$18.00.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

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The Mechanized Horse are making marvelous progress under their non-commissioned officers in military drill and discipline. To see them tomorrow on their second church parade will surprise those who first saw them as raw recruits enter camp ten days ago.

The new Commander-in-Chief of the Atlantic area, Major-General W. H. P. Elkins, has arrived at headquarters and has been in conference with the officers commanding the 6th and 7th (Saint John) districts with reference to the organization of the area, which includes part of Quebec and Newfoundland.

The Canadian Red Cross Society has advised all branches that it will not permit its funds to be augmented by anything in the nature of a lottery or game of chance.

Montreal detective headquarters the other night were stirred by an urgent call from a woman that "I have just come home and found a dead man in my parlour." Radio calls were sent out, and when the police reached the address given they found a corpse all right, but it was in a funeral parlour.

Something more than just flendish disregard for all law, something more than the insane desire for destruction for the sake of destruction, is likely to be the cause of the sinking of the French ship *Medusa* with French soldiers and sailors on board.

Farther than eye can see, far North, far West, stretches the prairie lands, whose such prolific harvesting. The grain's ripe crest crowns with bright gold the vast Canadian fields.

Every strike is preceded by a dispute between employer and employee. That is the time the Department of Labor should step in.

Anti-war sentiment among American youth, and especially in the colleges, owes much to that famous Oxford pledge of itself.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Victorian Order of Nurses is engaged in one of the greatest services to humanity; healing the sick and bringing comfort to those who have met misfortune. It carries out its work through trained nurses kindly ministrations, and the personal interest that is so great an influence in alleviating physical illness and the misery associated with poor circumstances.

Winston Churchill is not the first literary man to become Prime Minister. A predecessor, George Canning, was a man of letters as well as a politician. But in between the two is the much more celebrated case of Disraeli. He wrote successful political novels, as we would call them today, novels with a social significance.

Although Mussolini has not developed anything quite like the Nazi "Hell Hitler!" it must not be assumed that he has not ways of keeping his name before his own people. He has, to the detriment of the Italian countryside, wherever there is a hillside he has had white horses and regimental badges on Salisbury Piers, the Duce or Dux so largely that they can be seen for miles. Nor is that all. He is so proud of his speeches that he has had them printed and have the snapper excerpts painted on any blank wall that may be handy, and his advertising experts are so efficient that it is a small wonder that at least three of these signed sayings.

On The South Coast, July 23 (Delayed).—Great Britain's coastal defences against attempted German invasion from the south are now within an age of being complete. The spotlights, the fences actually are complete and are impressively formidable. Heavy blockhouses of reinforced concrete, immovable and bullet-proof, are scattered here and there, integrated and fairly impregnable shore units with due assistance from the fleet and air force, should baffle any attack.

The new Quebec provincial sales tax is a plain headache to the shopkeepers of the ancient province. It is supposed to be a two percent tax but in some instances it is four percent, sometimes 10 or 12 percent, and sometimes as much as 20 percent.

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National Registration

Failure to register during the three days of National Registration next week will put any citizen over the age of 16 in danger of penalties under the law. This fact makes it important that the Government take every step possible to warn and notify everyone of the means whereby registration can be effected.

It will take a very quick registrant and a citizen who knows the answers to all the questions asked at least 12 minutes to complete a single registration. If the average time is put at 15 minutes, it is probably still too low. In some cases it will take 20 to 30 minutes to complete one form.

In the case of a federal election every voter receives a card telling him where and when he can cast his ballot. But in the case of National Registration, no such cards are being sent out. The Government is depending upon sticking up posters in every sub-division, upon the press and upon the radio, to communicate with the people. Are these means adequate? Not everyone notices the cards flapping on the walls. Not everyone has his radio on continuously. Would it not be better to use the lists available in all the municipal, provincial and federal elections in every town or village, to contact at least that number of people who are eligible to vote? The assumption that the way the news is now being spread is effective is in all probability quite erroneous.

What places are to be used for registration? Are they to be numerous enough, and sufficiently well-manned as to handle the business? Or are we likely to have long queues of people waiting for long periods of waiting. Many of those registering will be aged persons, infirm, or with some physical disability. Is provision to be made for looking after them? Are there to be waiting rooms and chairs for the elderly? Are there to be men to attend the stand that can call them forward when their time comes? These are points that should be considered, for if the weather is hot and such arrangements are not made, there are going to be many city casualties. The St. John Ambulance Brigades had better stand to.

The arrangements, we hope, are going to be well done. But these questions may be asked and suggestions made in the hope that if answers have not been already given something will be done to meet them. The points raised are all fairly obvious.

But, unless these obvious things are done, our National Registration will not be completed in the three days allotted to it, and will drag on beyond the stipulated time with consequent grief not only to the Government but to many thousands of individuals as well.

DIET CHANGE MAY AFFECT EXPORTS
SYDNEY, N. S. W., Aug. 16.—(CP)—No increase in prices over those now paid by the British Government for Australian meat is to be sought when the present contract expires in September.

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and agricultural circles. A reduction of British meat eating habits which may well become permanent would mean a big change-over in production in Australia.

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