

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, MAY 3 1943

Farms Are Food Factories

Many of our agricultural troubles in this war, says the Financial Post, are traced to the fact that framers of Ottawa regulations apparently, have failed to realize that the Canadian farm is primarily a factory for the production of food. As with any other factory, a supply of labor, tools and raw materials is absolutely necessary if maximum output is to be maintained.

Yet while that point has been understood with munition and armament factories, not until a food crisis threatened was there much done about assuring the farmer his supply. His labor was allowed to drift away, the output of his machinery and other absolutely vital supplies like lumber, fertilizer, concentrated feeds and fencing, were rigidly curbed. Under the circumstances, it is remarkable that he was able to increase production of meats, dairy and poultry products last year, and it will be little short of a miracle if he can maintain output this season.

Up-to-date farm machinery, lumber for repairing barns, building hog pens and poultry houses, fences for keeping stock out of growing crops, special feeds, fertilizers and a host of other agricultural supplies, as well as skilled labor are just as essential in food production as lathes, drills, and welding machines in munition making.

True there can be waste of these supplies, on a farm and in a munition factory, and every effort must be made to guard against it. It is also true that we need certain foods more urgently than others and development must be steered accordingly. But sweeping, blanket regulations, instead of correcting such situations, very often aggravate them. Canadian farmers are being asked to produce prodigious quantities of vital foods this season. They can only do so if they get the necessary tools, and on time.

The Great Push

Major George Fielding Eliot, the military critic of the New York Tribune has no doubt the coming Great Push will be made through France or Belgium. Take a look at the map of Europe, he writes, and you will see how this restricts the possibilities open to us. We can land in Greece, for example, only if we have previously reduced Crete and some of the Aegean Islands. We can land in Italy only if we have previously reduced Sicily and Sardinia, and perhaps Corsica. But to land in either place would mean that in order to get at the vitals of Germany we would still have to penetrate the great mountain wall which protects Germany on the south. A landing in Norway would be largely dependent on carrier-based aviation, though some support might be given from Russian bases. It boils down to this: Sooner or later, when we are really ready to seek a decision in this war, we shall have to land an Anglo-American army on the western shore of Europe at a point where we can give the landing adequate air support from the only base available to us for that purpose—the island of Great Britain. This will be a tremendously costly and bloody operation. But we shall have to face it and go through with it if we are going to win the war. Whatever the cost, the sooner we can accomplish this purpose, the sooner we are going to bring the war to an end.

Wartime Employment

In Britain, over this Easter, all war workers were given a three-day holiday. Such a holiday would not have been thought of a year ago. Conditions have changed. They have changed in Canada, too. We have now reached the point where production in certain lines is no longer vital, with the consequence that the next few months may see a great deal of readjustment in war work, plus the possibility of some temporary unemployment. Workers who go out on strike now run the risk of having to repent of their folly at leisure. An instance of this was reported a few days ago from Vancouver, where the big Boeing aircraft plants were closed down after some trouble with the employees.

There is another angle to this matter, suggests the Ottawa Journal. While Canada is long on plant war production it is dangerously short on war food production; with rising need of fewer men in factories and more on farms. Workers who do not care to work in war factories might be induced to work at production of food. Under a real national selective service manpower policy they would be induced to do so by compulsion.

Canada's Fighting Forces

According to Prime Minister King there are now more than 435,000 men in the Canadian army, 200,000 men in the Air Force, 55,000 men in the Navy and 22,000 women in the uniforms of the three forces. This makes a total of 712,000.

Overseas are 100,000 of the Army personnel. How many of the Air Force personnel are overseas is not stated; the Air Force has consisted

ly refused to make this information public. The 55,000 men of the Navy are, of course, afloat and ashore, sometimes in one place, sometimes in another.

Of the 245,000 Army personnel in Canada, 180,000, Mr. King stated, had volunteered for service in any theatre of war. This would leave 65,000 "R" recruits, men who have been drafted but have not volunteered for service outside Canada. Not counting these 65,000 "R" recruits, Canada has, according to the Prime Minister's figures, 637,000 men and women enlisted for service overseas.

The Prime Minister's figures are interesting. But, suggests the Vancouver Province, it would be still more interesting if he would give a further breakdown. Where are these 180,000 men who have volunteered for service anywhere and are still in Canada? What has been their training? Does the number include the 100,000 odd discharged from the Army for one reason or another? What proportion of them are available for reinforcements if the need for reinforcements should arise?

EDITORIAL NOTES

We shall have a May Premier as well as May brides this year.

It will depend upon how wet this month is whether or not we shall have bumper crops.

Victory Bonds can be bought on the installment plan, with the payments stretched over several months.

Mayor Andrew Davison of Calgary has written City Comptroller E. A. Hookway advising him he would not accept a \$200 raise in salary which had been voted by city council after the mayor endeavored to vote against the increase on the ground that this was not the time to increase administrative expenses.

The Government knows as well as any of our readers how each stands financially and exactly how much each can afford to invest in Victory Bonds. Should any reader fail to live up to the Government's expectation now, the next loan will be compulsory at saving bank rate of interest, viz., one-and-a-half per cent.

Munition strikers in Vancouver got a jolt when they learned that they had killed the goose that was laying golden eggs for them. Vancouver and Sea Island plants of Boeing Aircraft of Canada Limited employing some 7,800 workers, were closed down at first when employees took an unauthorized 10-minute rest period. The employees, protesting against refusal last week by Mr. Ralph P. Bell, director of aircraft production, to permit institution of the rest periods, quit work at 10 a.m. The employers wired Ottawa who ten minutes later wired to close till further notice. Power was shut off and plant whistles blew signalling a shutdown.

Jamaica, British West Indies, discovered by Columbus this date 1494; annexed by Spain in 1509; in 1655 English forces commanded by Venables and Penn banished the Spanish garrison and took possession of the island which subsequently became the great centre of the slave trade; in 1831 a Negro rising occurred, and in 1834 slavery was abolished; in 1907 the island suffered from a severe earthquake; climate general is pleasant and healthy; produces timber, fruit, vegetables, sugar, coffee, ginger, pimento, cocoa, cinchona; raises cattle and horses; inhabitants include Whites, Negroes, Indians, Chinese, half-breeds; now seeking admission to the Dominion of Canada as one of the provinces.

Lt.-Cmdr. F. M. Jeffrey, of Toronto, said the Department of Naval Services had issued orders that all sea cadets were to be given preference in recruiting for the Royal Canadian Navy. He announced 7,500 sea cadets would attend summer camps this year. "There are long waiting lists of those wishing to join," he said, "and where a sea cadet makes application he will take preference at the top of the list." The announcement was made at 26th annual meeting of the Navy League. The convention decided to ask federal assistance in the provision of overcoats for cadets. The federal government already assisted in purchasing uniforms. Another motion adopted by the meeting recommended to the management committee establishment of five cadet scholarships at \$1,000 each for two years.

Thirty-one per cent of the 2,486,920 families in Canada (1941) are childless. Families with one child at home number 583,200 or about 24 per cent; families with two children at home amount to 432,790, or 17 per cent; families with three children at home represent 10 per cent of the total. There are 98,500 families with five children at home and only 7 per cent of all families have more than five children at home, according to figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The number of families living in rural areas is 1,034,470, of whom 659,480 are found in farm areas, the number in urban areas being 1,432,450. Ontario leads in the number of families, having 36 per cent of the total. Quebec has 25 per cent, the Prairie Provinces about one fifth, the Maritime Provinces 10 per cent, and British Columbia 8 per cent.

A London correspondent writes us: That empty 1 lb. tin which has held fruit only weighs about 3 ounces. Not much, is it? But one such tin from every house in Britain would provide the raw materials for steel for over 50 cruiser tanks. That's among the many reasons why people are mistaken when they think that their odds are not enough to give for salvage. Even the smallest items make impressive totals when everybody gives them. One teapot spout from each home provides the same weight of rubber as is needed to equip twelve tanks with tires, flaps and other fittings. One 20-cigarette carton from every British home makes an even more impressive contribution. It can be repulped to make 52,000 cases for 40 mm. tank guns, 32,000 gun fuses, and 50,000 boxes for 303 machine-gun ammunition. One chop bone from each house in Britain can produce sufficient cordite to fire 12,000 2-second bursts of machine-gun fire from each of the 50 tanks.

Notes By The Way

It might be well to bear in mind that every time Uncle Sam turns a dollar loose he puts a tax collector on its trail. —St. Louis Star-Times.

United States soldier in England was amazed to note that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth goes about London without a bodyguard. This man learned that Her Majesty enjoys the greatest protection possible: the love and admiration of all the people. —Globe or Mail.

New Federal regulations provide that a permit must be obtained before employ more than one domestic servant in any one household, the idea being to provide help for women with young children and restrict the demands on the labor market of these maintaining large establishments. But so many women have transferred to war work that help is scarce and servants offering choice of the easiest situation. Bulletin of the Queensland Bureau of Industry complains the regulations have misled their mark and the result is that "leisure women are providing jobs for lechered domestics." —Australian Press Union.

Just to make Japanese searchlight men and A. A. gunners "hoping" into a big American pilot over Rabaul one night they overboard a roll of toilet paper. The paper streamed out in the glare of the searchlights, and more A. A. pilots were sent down. The pilot Morsed insulting messages to Emperor Hirohito with his landing gear. His crew caught the idea and threw down empty boxes. He explained that a little earlier he had been kept up all night by a wand-wand plane pilot, and to even the score had from his own possessions over Rabaul from midnight until dawn. —Australian Press Union.

With war workers clamoring for houses, there is in Melbourne a fully furnished five-roomed house standing empty and likely to remain so. In the early morning a man wooed the girl of his heart and she consented to marry him. With his arms around her neck, he kissed her and she kissed him. He had not unlocked the door since. He has vowed that he never will and the girl is now just a grey and dingy memorial to romance.

Alterations are being made in the entrance to the Tube stations so that there can be no possibility of the recent disaster in which 173 people lost their lives. The main entrance to the station is being widened and canopies under the stairs are being removed. The new entrance can be better lit than at present. At some stations the entrance is being given a right-angled turn. At other stations existing entrances are being narrowed so that only two or three people can enter abreast. Where this is done, wider subways are being provided with exit handrails. —Manchester Guardian.

Few things could so graphically demonstrate the new status of Canada as a fighting unit of the British Empire as the arrival here of a group of Royal Navy personnel from Britain. The purpose of their journey is revealing. They have come here to undergo a course of instruction in the Royal Navy in which we have a long and distinguished record. The entire naval force of the Dominion is now being trained in the most modern methods of seamanship. The Royal Navy is now seeking admission to the Dominion of Canada as one of the provinces.

The British Cabinet Minister and President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Dalton, proposed something as a war measure which we have always longed for as a matter of summer comfort — a male costume with no collar, no neck, and no buttons. "Women," said Dalton, "have set us a good example. They don't bother with their stockings, and many of them are wearing shorts. In summer they are all the better for it. Women have taken to wearing the fish to water. Men are a great deal better off. Dalton made his proposal in a speech at woolen mill in Yorkshire wearing a blue striped shirt, a semi-stiff collar and necktie. But then it's not summer yet. —From the Des Moines Register.

One of the most interesting scientific hunts in the history of modern medicine is under way. Hundreds of scientists throughout the nation have embarked on a large program of search for quinine substitutes. The extent of the work being indicated by the fact that more than one per cent of the nation's quinine stocks are being used as guinea pigs to take test doses for all sorts of drugs in order to combat malaria. None of the drugs tried so far, according to reports to the American Chemical Society, has been found to equal the quinine or its synthetic substitute. It is intriguing to consider the possibility that some unskilled laboratory may provide the answer which will affect the lives and health of millions. The discovery of a new substitute for quinine will become famous. —Boston Post.

When writing seems to have become a habit, it is to the early eighties practically all of our beautiful and cherished hymns had been composed and churchgoers were seeking for new hymns. The three R's or the catchalls. With the introduction of jazz and blues into our secular musical life, composers of hymns, especially the evangelistic services, wrote somewhat in that manner. Not unlike the fact of the hymns written for the moment, these songs, not favoring old hymns, however, still retain their inspiration and charm. Such authors as Fanny Crosby, Ira D. Sankey and others who were writing around the time of the first world war will compose hymns similar to those of years ago. —Guelph Mercury

PUBLIC FORUM

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

SIXTY YEARS AGO

Notes Along the North Shore

Sir,—While motoring along the North Shore on a Sunday afternoon during the summer of 1936 and looking over the several playgrounds of my boyhood days when I was applied to launch to the bank. Now barefooted we entered into the water to fish smelts, catching the smelts by hand. It was some 100 yards from the bank, some 10 or 15 inches deep, and the fun was grabbing the smelts on the pebbles. The game went merrily on for two or three hours, or until each boy and girl had all the smelts they could carry (about a bushel). The party was carried home and saluted lightly, then the fish was dried in the open air. I was many days out in the fields keeping the smelts from carrying the fish away before they were ready to be laid away for using.

Each one of us made a flambeau or torch, that was a small pole about three feet in length, split in one end and packed with birch bark. On reaching the river we applied the torch to the bark. Now barefooted we entered into the water to fish smelts, catching the smelts by hand. It was some 100 yards from the bank, some 10 or 15 inches deep, and the fun was grabbing the smelts on the pebbles. The game went merrily on for two or three hours, or until each boy and girl had all the smelts they could carry (about a bushel). The party was carried home and saluted lightly, then the fish was dried in the open air. I was many days out in the fields keeping the smelts from carrying the fish away before they were ready to be laid away for using.

During my motor drive I met John Dan MacIntyre and John McDonald, both of Monticello. They were nearly 60 years ago that greeted me. We formerly met at the stream referred to above. The old familiar faces were passed on and once filled the old homes that I knew in my boyhood days. Children yet unborn will never know about us now. Middle-aged men and women. But sir, allow me to state the new generation do not follow the old ways. Doctors were not plentiful in those days of yore. Nearly all the folks called on their own doctoring. For colds and coughs the women peeled bark from cherry trees and also round wood tree bark known as "dog bark" and made a decoction. The bark tea, as it was known, was a cure for colds and coughs. When young folks had a sore throat a teaspoon of salt was placed on the child's pallet as a cure. The eye doctor would place the salt on the afflicted person's eye and clean out anything in the eye.

I remember going to an old girl who lived in Halls River. She had some substance in one of my eyes. I told her of my trouble, so she took me to her home where I was while she went into another room. Returning five or ten minutes later, she said my eye was all right. "Yes," she said apparently, "I cured my eye." I was apparently relieved by her assertion, returned to her room, where I was writing about what I considered was oatmeal. She pointed to a vacant space in the side of the house and said, "I cured the dust from your eye." This was the end of my trouble. I could give more evidences of cases of this kind that I know of where by simple prayer did its work by soothing people's souls.

There also was a doctor for anyone having a sore back. I knew of three feet tall stout and had long whiskers. When anyone complained of an aching or sore back he would work day after day until the work was finished, and nearly all the flour was hauled to the mill. The number was indicated by the whole cargo on board the vessel. I related my find to a certain farmer that he was now passing. The man told me that he saw a shirt, and the matter ended there as far as I was concerned. —From the Des Moines Register.

The late C. C. Carlton, Sr., had made arrangements to refloat the vessel. The work was carried on during the month of March, 1900, and packed very solid. Mr. Carlton had a number of men and horses engaged with the plough. The ice was ploughed in the field in summer. The pieces of

Leaflets On The Loan

BY STEPHEN LEACOCK THE HAPPY WARRIOR

STRENUOUS GOING!

He came out to my house beside the lake the most pleasant cheery man I ever saw. I knew him just a little, but couldn't recall his name. "Canvassing for the Loan," he said, as he shook hands, "pretty strenuous going!" "Sit down," I said and showed him an easy chair on the veranda. "A great spot, you have here," he remarked, "that's a pretty little bay."

"Yes," I said, "they call it the Old Brewery Bay." "Well, well, The Old Brewery Bay," he repeated, "that's the beautiful name! Poetic, isn't it?" "That's what I judge my visitors by. If they like the name Old Brewery Bay, they're all right. They can have anything on the place. Once a woman—I won't say a lady—exclaimed, 'Can't you change it?' She got hers.

"As a matter of fact I have known that name, The Old Brewery Bay, to make people feel thirsty by conversation as far away as Nevada." "Pretty strenuous business," repeated my friend the canvasser, as he sat comfortably down. But he didn't look strenuous either. "Will you have a cigar?" I said. "I certainly will," he answered, and then as he lit it he said, "Any fish in the bay?"

"Well, of course, that started us. We got talking of bass being right in the bay and out on the shoals in July, but always moving on in August. I told him there were lots of young pickerel in June, close in along shore, but you could never make them bite and he asked me if I'd ever tried a very small gilt and silver spinner for pickerel, and I asked him if he ever took Scotch whiskey.

That led to the question of trout fishing. If you don't see the connection it doesn't matter. But I agreed with him that now-a-days you go trout fishing on the streams you've got to carry soda. You can't any longer drink the water in the creeks. That led to the discussion of the way the fish are disappearing in the older settled parts of Ontario and that you have to go north now. So we went north, taking another cigar and another Scotch with us—all the way up to Central Alberta. Anyway, we spent a most pleasant hour or so. As my friend rose to go I suddenly remembered the Loan.

"You're canvassing for the Loan," I said. "Yes," he answered, "from a special list. You're on it." "That's all right," I said. "I took up my subscription yesterday at the bank." "So they told me," he said. We were sculled out by the men, making a trench wide enough for the ice to pass through. The first tier of ice cut out was, I think eight or ten inches deep. Then another slice was turned over by the ice plough. This crude work was carried on until the layer of ice was suitable for large saws to cut the ice through until the water was reached. Through this, with hard labor, the channel was finished and the vessel refloated.

I may state here that I saw about 33 terns, 60 hours, made fast to powerful chains attached to the vessel in an endeavor to haul the vessel on huge runners, but the attempt failed. As a boy of tender years, not fit to take part in the work, I looked on daily forgetting that I was often called with an empty stomach. In later years six men came to Naufrage Harbor or shore, as there was no harbor there then, to fish for salmon. They made their home for the time being in a vacant house near the shore. The men did not remain there many days, making their getaway on short notice one night, as I was informed spoke came at night to visit the men. Be this as it may, I happened some time later to see a man named S. Bear River Line Road. He was one of the salmon fishermen here then, all Carleton Place, a smart fellow to allow the spoons to drive you out of that house." He replied, "It was time to get out of that place."

Then I enquired of him personally to tell me what he saw in that day's work. I looked on daily forgetting that I was often called with an empty stomach. In later years six men came to Naufrage Harbor or shore, as there was no harbor there then, to fish for salmon. They made their home for the time being in a vacant house near the shore. The men did not remain there many days, making their getaway on short notice one night, as I was informed spoke came at night to visit the men. Be this as it may, I happened some time later to see a man named S. Bear River Line Road. He was one of the salmon fishermen here then, all Carleton Place, a smart fellow to allow the spoons to drive you out of that house." He replied, "It was time to get out of that place."



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The BANK of NOVA SCOTIA

Established 1832 saw the cellar hatch opening up, and they did not wait long enough to greet their new visitor but skipped away and did not fish any salmon at Naufrage. The house referred to was supposed to contain some of the stolen flour and other goods from the "Edith Wills", the stranded vessel. The part of the story is true, but I cannot vouch for the spoons. One thing I know, Mr. S. was reluctant to tell me any more of his experience in that particular residence. The house is occupied since that time by other people. One small transaction of my boyhood days seems to follow my memory of those years. As it may touch some unscrupulous person a little lesson, I will state that I was netting trout for a feed and for sport in Naufrage pond over 60 years ago. One morning I had eight beauties. I felt each speckled beauty was as large as mackerel. A man came by an old trout fisher, fishermen, gave eight coppers, as there were no cents or dollars for my eight fish. I did not realize until later that I was gulled, to use a rural expression. A boy should be treated as you would have others treat you. The farmers on the North Shore had more conveniences fifty years ago than they have now. At the time I write of, Angus McCormack had a general store at Monticello and a store at Selkirk Station. The late Henry Fraser also had a general store where Joseph Macdonald resides at present, also Daniel Feehan, a former resident of Savage Harbor, had a general store at St. Margaret's, also Alexander McDonald had a store at St. Margaret's. Today there are none of these stores to be seen. Besides there were several peddling wagons on the road carrying groceries and cottons, as well as boots and shoes. The merchants were actually brought to every farmer's door. Generally the women would meet these wagons at their own (the farmer's) gate, do their business, mostly selling their eggs in this manner. The peddler would give advances for a week or until he returned. The late C. Pratt of St. Peter's Bay, drove his own general delivery wagon along the north shore. I may add that the writer had a general delivery wagon on the road some fifty years ago, and for some years later peddling for the late R. Cox, McNeil, and later for the Hon. Thomas Kichham. My first years out while working for R. N. Cox, I had a serious accident at Big Pond Hill. A spirited horse was rather difficult to manage. While attempting to descend the hill I referred to—I had at the time 140 dozen eggs in bulk (Continued on Page 9, Col. 8)

PUBLIC MEETING IN SUPPORT OF The Fourth Victory Loan Campaign

Table with 2 columns: NAME and DATE. Names include CARDIGAN, O'LEARY, Alberton, BRADALBANE, MURRAY HARBOUR, VICTORIA, TIGNISH. Dates range from May 3 to May 11.

Additional places and dates will be announced later. Realistic and authentic War pictures actually taken at the Russian fighting front. 20 per cent of the Cameramen lost their lives in "shooting" these pictures. They will stir your deepest emotions. Prominent speakers will give short addresses. Every citizen should attend these meetings, and assist in the war effort. No admission charged. National War Finance Committee.

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