

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 1946

Women's Institutes Convention

The thirty-third annual convention of the Women's Institutes of Prince Edward Island opens in the Prince of Wales College hall tomorrow, and a large and representative attendance of delegates is expected.

The steady progress made by the Women's Institutes is a matter of general satisfaction, and nowhere has this progress been more marked than in Prince Edward Island.

National Clothing Campaign

Between June 17 and 29 the Canadian Allied Relief Fund is sponsoring its second National Clothing Collection. The collection is for the millions of the less fortunate lands, for those who have suffered the hideous privations of war, pestilence and famine, and who are now living in the wake of the catastrophe.

Plans have been completed for the launching of the clothing campaign in this Province, and it is hoped and expected that this appeal will meet with the same generous response that was given in the previous campaign last October.

Why Ignore The Provinces?

Opposition members are taking a strong stand in opposing the King Government's proposal to have the British North America Act amended, without consulting the Provinces, on the vital issue of readjustment of parliamentary representation.

For the moment, Mr. Diefenbaker pointed out, the membership from the Maritime Provinces will not be decreased; but if our population in relation to the whole population decreases, what is to prevent some future Parliament, without consulting Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, from passing an amendment removing the present limitation that the membership of a province may not fall below its representation in the Senate?

A reading of Hansard, Mr. Diefenbaker maintained, shows that outstanding leaders since Confederation hold the contrary view, namely that no material alteration may be made in the B. N. A. Act without consultation with the Provinces.

Sir Robert Borden: "I do not see how it would be possible for this Parliament to attempt any alteration in the representation of the Provinces without the consent of the Provinces themselves."—Feb. 10, 1914.

Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen: "Undoubtedly the pact of Confederation is a contract and there are rights involved therein not represented by the Parliament of Canada. We could not put ourselves in the position of asking that rights so secured should be disturbed on our motion alone."—Feb. 19, 1925.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier: "Confederation is a compact made originally by four Provinces but adhered to by all the nine Provinces, who have entered it, and I submit to the judgment of this House and to the best consideration of the members that this compact should not be altered. It should be altered only for some grave cause, and after the Provinces themselves had had an opportunity to pass judgment on the same."—1907.

Rt. Hon. Ernest LaPointe: "This cannot be changed, it has been the contention of many constitutional authorities; and I think it only fair that no change should be accepted without

the consent of all those who were parties to it. It is a sacred treaty just as is any other treaty; it is no 'scrap of paper'."—March 20, 1924.

Rt. Hon. T. G. Crerar: "My hon. friend the Minister of Justice yesterday argued that Confederation was in the nature of a treaty, and I agree with him in that assertion. That being the case, his suggestion that the matter be approached through the avenue of a conference with all the Provinces is the first step that should be taken in dealing with it."—Feb. 19, 1925.

"Parliament," Mr. Diefenbaker said, "is being asked to pass an address which tomorrow will become a precedent which may be used to destroy the rights of minorities if in this House there should be a majority desiring to do so." The Conservative party, he added, has since Confederation believed in change based upon experience, but it believes also that the constitution is the bedrock of the rights of minorities and will resist changes affecting the rights of the provinces or of minorities within the provinces, unless the provinces have been duly consulted. The King Government will find it hard to justify any other course.

EDITORIAL NOTES

June, the month of bridal, church conferences, and the longest days, is now on its last lap with everything promising well for good crops and expanding trade.

Indicating the influence of the daily newspaper on the British people, the Archbishop's Commission, after investigating British social behaviour in June, 1945, stated: "Most people read every word of their local paper."

Field Marshal Montgomery who commanded the British 8th Army in North Africa and Italy, the British forces in the invasion of France and the British occupational zone in Germany, has accepted an invitation from Prime Minister Mackenzie King to visit this country. He is due to arrive in Charlottetown on a date late in August.

Mr. Norman Dodd, British Labor member of Parliament for Dartford, England, said in an address to the Co-operative Congress at Blackpool, England: "The seeds of war are being sown and it is only a question of time before they are tried in a way we have seen so much of in the past." Just back from a European tour, Mr. Dodd called on the common people of the world to take a greater part in national affairs and so avert catastrophe.

The Battle of Waterloo, where the Duke of Wellington encountered Napoleon for the first and last time, fought and won this date 1815; the battle lasted from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. when Napoleon's famous Old Guard advanced against the British; on reaching the crest of the ridge they were crushed by fire of deployed British infantry; a general British advance followed, and soon the French were in flight. Thus virtually ended the career of one of Hitler's most successful predecessors in dictatorship.

Hon. Herbert Asomb, the newly chosen leader of the Progressive Conservatives in British Columbia, is Minister of Public Works, Minister of Railways and Minister of Public Affairs in the B. C. Coalition Administration. He is an Englishman who came to Canada in 1911, is fifty-four years of age, and a chartered accountant by profession. He was Mayor of Victoria in 1929-31, after which he was elected to the Legislature for Oak Bay in 1933, being re-elected in 1937, 1941 and 1945.

The Navy strictly adheres to regulations and tradition. When H. R. H. the Duke of Gloucester was about to visit HMAS Hobart in Sydney he had to choose between his moustache and a naval uniform. The moustache won and he went aboard in Army uniform, for naval officers must be clean-shaven or bearded. He was greeted by a party of six mute pipe-bands, who had trained for days for the occasion. Naval traditions demand that members of the Royal Family should be piped over the side of HM ships only when in naval uniform. If a midshipman in command of a torpedo boat had dropped in later for morning tea, they could have blown their hardest, for commanding officers of all naval ships are entitled to be piped.

Through S. M. T. bus services from all points in New Brunswick to and from American centres are being increased. Starting today there will be three departures daily from Saint John to Boston, namely 2:30 a.m., 7:30 a.m., 9:45 p.m.; likewise there will be three arrivals from United States centres. Schedules have been arranged so that connections can be made from and to all provincial points as well as to and from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island with the American service. A local trip between Moncton-Amherst-Cape Tormentine will be inaugurated for the convenience of the residents of that area. Departure time from Cape Tormentine will be 6:45 a.m. and from Moncton 8:15 p.m. allowing direct connection to and from Saint John.

Mr. Francis Campbell Ross Douglas, M.P., the newly-appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Malta in succession to Lieutenant General Sir Edmund C. A. Schreiber, K.C.B., D.S.O., was born in Canada in 1889 and was educated at Glasgow University. He has been a Member of Parliament for North Battersea since 1940. He served as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Education from 1940 to 1945 and has since been serving as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Home Secretary. He has served as a member of the Railway Assessment Authority, the Anglo-Scottish Railway Assessment Authority and the Public Works Loan Board and also as Chairman of the Finance Committee of the London County Council. He is Chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on the Estimates. The acceptance of this post will entail Mr. Douglas' resignation of his seat in the House of Commons.

Notes By The Way

The Empire may be weakened, but not the British people. There are many who believe that the post-war generation will be more enterprising and resourceful than their fathers. Certainly the British are the best risks in the world today—and the only strong competitors in the business of making the democratic system work.—New York Times.

Mr. Daniel Hopkins, a London magistrate, agreed with a husband appearing before him who contended that a wife's task was a full-time job. The husband, Richard Richardson, was accused of slapping his wife's face because she stayed in bed in the morning instead of getting on with the housework. Mr. Hopkins dismissed the assault summons, and told the wife (mother of three): "We see all kinds of husbands and wives; I think you are a very good one."—London Daily Mail.

Though it was Dr. Fred Hillis whom the people of Kennedy honored on Sunday, it was a tribute to the hundreds of such men in country doctors of this rural province. Dr. Hillis could be described as a country doctor, a general practitioner, a hard-working, kindly, generous and sympathetic. There are hundreds of such men in Saskatchewan who labor lifetime, winning not much in worldly goods, working endless days but always with a smile and a willingness to do more. Many of these country doctors are now getting old in the service of their communities, for they do serve in all the finest meanings of the word but was and the consequent shortage of doctors in rural areas has kept them on the job.—Regina Leader-Post.

Then there was the fussy Artur Nikisch (Hungarian orchestra conductor and piano prodigy, 1881-1928) who made such a point of looking well on the platform—with his light-fitting clothing, his lace cuffs and his best tie. He used to be stopped on the street by innumerable admirers. His handkerchiefs were carried in a special bag. He wore pieces of his garments from his body in order to secure the same moments of their own hero. They used to beg for locks of his hair. To this request he was always amenable, mailing to his admirers a few strands of his hair. "At this rate," a friend warned him, "you will grow bald in the end." "I don't care," he replied, "my hair is for the 'Listen to the Mocking Words'."

As callers at the manse of Carriden Parish Church, Bo'ness, says the Reverend Mr. John Macdonald, "the attention is focused on a card displayed beneath the bell. The inscription: 'Please don't blame the Manse folk if the doorknob is far from clean, look upwards to the left.' And the reason will there be seen. The puzzled eye, traveling as directed, will see the Rev. Mr. Macdonald's most directly above the front door. The swallow has nested there, and the Rev. Mr. Macdonald, who has been in residence at the manse since 1911, regularly in the month of May, and while it's a welcome guest as a harbinger of summer, it hasn't much to say for the people's property. Hence, the warning in verse penned by my wife."

Now comes the time of the year when we look forward with trepidation to the days when the carrying of things becomes a problem. Before many weeks have gone by, we shall have discarded the things that are no longer of any use to us. In this climate, the problem when one decides to go without a coat, which is becoming a more and more universal fashion. Then, indeed, there is no place to carry things. Pencils, pens, keys, and other things, each presents its individual complication. If one wears spectacles, the case for them adds to the problem. We men are complacently contemptuous of the jammed section of the population. The time is coming, however, when we shall be carrying these things in our bags, as we do every year.—Windsor Star.

Sydney science graduate Arthur John McCarthy spends two hours a day blowing bubbles. "You may think I'm a bit of a bubble-blower," he said, "but I believe that when my hobby catches on, Australia will become a nation of bubble-blowers. McCarthy has invented his own apparatus for blowing bubbles. He has dispensed with the pipe, the rubber and the metal rod, with a ring at the top. Sometimes he uses a hollow stem, but this is only for the purpose of blowing bubbles. McCarthy's bubbles are made of a solution which produces durable bubbles. He calls them 'blowing bubbles.' McCarthy is a manufacturing chemist, and aims to commercialize his bubble-blowing solution and apparatus. He claims that when he gets into action he can blow more than 150 bubbles a minute. His wife and three-year-old son are able proficient blowers.—Empire Press Union.

The poetry reading was a Victorian occasion associated with high collar, bustles and gaslight. With the coming of the cinema and radio it disappeared, presumably for ever. Now the Society of Authors in London has revived the practice, and a substantial contribution to the event, which was given in the presence of the Queen and the Princesses, Louis MacNeice, one of the BBC's foremost dramatists and producers, was among those who read their own poems. And David Lloyd James, the Home Service announcer, introduced

Tribute To Canada

Hon. Malcolm MacDonald, former United Kingdom High Commissioner in Canada and now Governor General, Designer of the Royal Empire Society of London on May 21 last. The speech was characterized by Lord Bennett as the most comprehensive ever made to the Society, the following is the report published in the London Times:—

"The Canadian people, Mr. MacDonald said, were a nation before the late war, though they were not widely recognized, but today they were recognized everywhere. Friends of Canada looked forward to the Dominion's further growth in influence and authority as one of the rising hopes of a stern unbending humanitarianism—a nation of destiny. Only two things might cloud that prospect: either of two divisions might rend the Dominion. The first was internal, for any real serious quarrel between the French-speaking Canadians and the English-speaking Canadians would create an almost impossible situation in the nation."

"The other possible vital division was external, any schism between Great Britain and the United States. Politically, geographically, and culturally, Canada was situated between these two mighty Powers. It was of vital interest to her that her membership of the family circle in the British Commonwealth and Empire and her good-neighbourliness towards the United States should not become irreconcilable. If the Governments in London and Washington disagreed to such an extent that Canada had to make a choice between one country and the other, that choice might destroy Canadian national unity."

"The solution to that problem," Mr. MacDonald said, "was that we should be the performers, who included such stalwarts of radio acting as John Laurie and Valentine Dyall. The whole course of English poetry from Edmund Spenser to Dylan Thomas was run in two hours. John Gielgud and Edith Evans, with their professional mastery of language, were carried by the radio to do in the Mare and T. S. Eliot with their shy renderings of their own work, gave pleasure of an equally varied kind to the large audience. And the poet laureate, Mr. John Masefield, founded of the afternoon in his own voice in some charming lines addressed to the Queen, who 'made all Britain's birds to sing.'—From BBC London Letter."

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in Britain should so conduct our affairs that Canadians should never have to make that choice at all. The Canadians, because they understood the Americans better than we did, could play a distinct part if we would let them, in strengthening Anglo-American friendships.

TO CHANGE ARMISTICE DAY?

LONDON, June 17.—(Reuters)—The Evening News in a front-page story today said plans have been completed to change Armistice Day from Nov. 11 to the second Sunday in November, when the deed of both great wars would be commemorated.

QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds



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