

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, 1944

Civic Finances

The City Council is to be congratulated on their good financial showing, as revealed in the auditor's report submitted at the annual meeting of the Council last night. A reduction of \$69,940 is shown in the net debt of the city for the year 1943. During the past three years, as shown in Mayor Holman's report, the net debt has been reduced by the sum of \$226,401. In that time the City had also invested \$100,000 in Victory Bonds, which are being held in the sinking fund account.

The sinking fund general account shows a balance of \$397,729. Working from the special audit report published for the year ending Jan. 15, 1939, the auditors compute the requirements to be \$100,000, a deficit of \$11,280; but, as \$7,505 of the general account is due from civic account, and \$8,000 of 1943 refunding debentures are not to be issued until 1944, actually only \$19,875 is required in addition to the \$8,000 to bring the funds up to minimum requirements.

The revenue and expenditure account shows a surplus of \$1,397, very little less than the estimates; but revenue exceeded estimates by \$4,076 and expenditures exceeded estimates by \$5,017. Further details of civic financing will be found in the comprehensive report submitted by Coun. Chandler, chairman of the finance committee.

Mayor Holman has intimated that he purposes retiring from office at this election. It must be a source of gratification to him, as well as to the Council and city generally, that such a satisfactory financial showing has been achieved.

Our Dilatory Parliament

Parliament is to meet today for formal adjournment, adjourn, meet again on Thursday for the tabling of reports, then adjourn again until Monday, when it will begin the debate on the Address, probably with a long speech from the Prime Minister.

Why, at this time, all this leisure? asks the Ottawa Journal. Good enough it may be for the easy-going days of peace; but is it good now, when even moments are precious? Fancy state functions have been eliminated; why not wasted hours also?

Surely it would be more in harmony with the times, set a better example to all, invite more respect from everybody—a respect that Parliament needs—if the House were to meet on Wednesday, or on whatever day it is convenient for it to meet, and get down to business. At least start the usually protracted debate on the Address. Certainly the idea of the trouble and expense of a day's session for the tabling of reports—a mere matter of minutes—must seem nonsense to most people.

All the more so when each day's sitting of Parliament costs \$15,000.

Election Preliminaries

Preliminary to an election, perhaps. Mr. Arthur MacNamara, deputy minister of labor, announces a series of staff appointments and changes in duties for certain officers in the department as follows: G. V. Haythorne, chief of the agricultural division, National Selective Service, appointed associate director, National Selective Service. T. B. Pickersgill, formerly special adviser (agricultural) to National Selective Service, assistant associate director, National Selective Service. M. M. Maclean, director of industrial relations, appointed assistant to the deputy minister but continues his duties as director of industrial relations. Arthur Brown, departmental solicitor, appointed assistant to the deputy minister with responsibility for legal matters. H. A. Black appointed assistant to the deputy minister, in charge of personnel, supplies, accounts and budgets. Similarly, Revenue Minister Gibson announces the promotion of four senior members of his departmental staff, three of them becoming assistant deputy ministers. The promotions: Ronald Sharp, M.B.E., chief inspector, to assistant deputy minister for taxation (administration). T. Walker Bullock, M.B.E., chief auditor, to assistant deputy minister for taxation (assessing). H. Howard Stikeman, counsel and executive assistant to assistant deputy minister for taxation (legal). W. Stanley Fisher, to general counsel.

Centenary Of Co-Operatives

In an article on Britain's social progress, published on the editorial page of the Spectator, Sir Norman Angell made incidental reference to the co-operative movement, which he described as "about the biggest business in the country." The amazing growth of this "organization of the proletariat," he said, during the past eighty years was proof enough in itself that financiers and capitalists had not had it all their own way, as some ill-informed critics of the British social system pretend. As a matter of fact, the first experiments in co-operative trading go back to the year 1844, when Charles Howerth set up shopkeeping in Rochdale, England, with a few fellow-townsmen, who grouped their resources and bought and sold for their mutual benefit. It is said that the original co-operative "store" consisted of a counter of two boards set up on barrels. This initial enterprise, which has been developed to such astounding dimensions, will be duly celebrated this year not only in the Mother Country, but in both hemispheres, where the idea has been "caught on" and achieved, in many places, a truly remarkable success.

Here in Canada it is said that no fewer than four thousand co-operative stores are doing business, with a membership exceeding half a

million. The United States has something like 35,000 societies, having sixteen million members and doing a business running into billions of dollars. All this has arisen from the modest little efforts of the "Rochdale Equitable Pioneers," the twenty-eight poor Lancashire men, weavers and others, who subscribed a few pence each and began business in December, 1844, with a total capital of £28! From that small establishment in Toad Lane, Rochdale, says the Encyclopaedia Britannica, "the whole of British co-operation, and very much of that of other lands, has grown." Though they never became a self-supporting community, as was originally intended, "they did succeed in vastly improving the position of millions of the working classes by enabling them to obtain their provisions cheap and pure, to avoid the millstone of debt, to save money, to pass from retail to wholesale trade, and from distribution to manufacturing, building and house-owning, ship-owning, and banking; above all, to educate themselves, and to live with an ideal."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow Parliament resumes.

The recent snow fall was a Godsend to farmers for the roads were bare and hauling difficult.

It is now claimed Prime Minister Mackenzie King has decided to move more to the left than the right in view of the approaching election. In a bid for the industrial vote he will offer more socialistic measures than hitherto, in the hope and expectation of dishing the C.C.F.'s.

Those, and there were hundreds, who attended the R.A.F. service in St. Paul's were greatly moved and edified by the experience. It is rarely in the lifetime of a non-military city like this that the entire devotion of a congregation are in the hands of the enlisted men themselves. They are there not more such to bring the civil and military population more together regarding life eternal.

The Entertainments National Service Association of Great Britain together with the Ministry of Labour are arranging that thousands of factory workers in Great Britain shall attend 100 symphony concerts free. The first concert, to be held in the Northern industrial town of Wigan, will be given by the world-famous Halle orchestra. It is intended that other well-known orchestras shall visit industrial centres at the rate of four concerts a week over forty weeks.

Victor Marie Hugo, French author, born this date 1802; was the great leader of the Romantic school of French literature; his poems, dramas, and romances on every subject and in numberless forms, aroused an enthusiasm almost unparalleled in literature, through him the current set definitely in favour of the new Romantic movement. The death of Brown is more than Cain killing Abel, it is Washington slaying Spartacus. Jesus wept; Voltaire smiled. O that divine tear and of that human smile is composed the sweetness of the present civilization.

These from sprightly Toronto News: Is tobacco likely to be rationed this year? Probably, since the Wartime Prices and Trade Board has announced that it will not.

Who is the greatest military genius of this war?—Hitler—he defeated Hitler and Mussolini by attacking Russia.

Is it true that Mr. King is the greatest statesman Canada has ever produced—Only if he's given you a job at \$10,000 a year; otherwise most of the others have been taller or broader, or both.

Why, in 1940 plebiscite did the government ask me: "Can you milk a cow?"—Just curiosity.

A good deal is known, says London Spectator, about the German secret weapon, or weapons, in official circles, but next to nothing reliable outside them. And the officials, while knowing that devices of serious potentiality exist, cannot decide what prospect there is that performance will equal the predictions. It is by no means inconceivable that some form of rocket-gun on the French coast might be able to throw high explosives as far as London, and that does not exhaust the possibilities of what Mr. Churchill went out of his way to refer to at the Mansion House as "new forms of attack on this island." There is no occasion for undue alarm, and German designs have been effectively enough frustrated by our fighting service before this. But to proclaim that the German talk of secret weapons is mere bluff can be mischievous as well as foolish. It is not mere bluff.

We are getting some home truths about General Montgomery. His youngest brother, now an Anglican parson announced he did not know him as he had left home before he (the parson) was old enough to get acquainted with him. Now we have another brother in Vancouver, a barrister declaring: "When I knew him in his boyhood he had no social graces and no social contacts. I won't say he had no use for women—rather that he had little attraction for them. But he has remarkable power to inspire devotion among those under his command." He described Gen. Montgomery as a man of "inflexible determination and tremendously confident who would carry out any reasonable task assigned to him," but added: "I don't want to portray him as a lovable character, because he isn't."

Mr. Hughes Cleaver, chairman of the war expenditures committee of the House of Commons, states that it had decided to forward "forthwith" to Munitions Minister Howe text of the press report issued by Mr. R. H. McGregor, Progressive Conservative member of Parliament for York East, relating to allegations of payroll padding and misuse of materials in the No. 2 shell-filling plant, Pickering, Ont. The committee further decided, Mr. Cleaver said, that because it was a "physical impossibility" to make a complete investigation of Mr. McGregor's statement respecting "mismanagement" before Wednesday next, "when the present session ends and the life of this committee terminates," that the matter be given prompt consideration when a war expenditures committee is appointed next session.

Notes By The Way

An old distillery now is turning out varnish, but probably won't make any difference to the boot-leggers. —Winnipeg Tribune.

A new creation of science is an elastic and practically unbreakable glass. With Scotch present prices, bringing out the last drop should help. —Chicago News.

If the man power shortage is real, you'd think the air networks could get along without an announcer to introduce the announcer. —Chicago News.

Pictures of male curiers in the press reveal how far times have changed since man's only interest in the broom was as a source for pipe-cleaners. —Toronto Telegram.

Confidence is the big thing Canada needs at the present time and in the future. Canada's opportunities are greater than those of any other country in the world. —Guelph Mercury.

The Russians too, are a peculiar race. They bog you down with a 26-ounce lunchbox. Then expect you to get up and open a second front. —Winnipeg Tribune.

And now the jet plane. Transportation on the ground and in the air will go not by leaps and bounds, but by jets and jets. —Toronto Star.

Limited manufacture of washing machines and irons has started again in this country. As for Canada is concerned the battle of production appears to have been won. But the batteries still have to be fought so there is no possible excuse for relaxing effort. —Bramford Expressor.

Whether you know it or not, you were born with only two fears—a fear of falling and a fear induced by a sudden and unexpected loud noise. If you're afraid of everything else, you've learned it since you first saw the light of day. —Lester P. Miles in Your Life Magazine.

Many an American reading about the recurrent strikes and threats to strike has said to himself, "Those fellows ought to have a scolding from the boys at the front. Many workers have boys at the front themselves. What do they say to their sons in Italy or New Britain?" —Christian Science Monitor.

If there is to be any reduction in employment in war plants, the first industry to profit from labor released for service elsewhere should be that of farming. Unless a great air offensive were launched, they will never be able to reach the food production goals that have been set for them, and food, be it remembered, is the most important munition of the war. —Brookville Recorder and Times.

From the enemy's point of view the game is not worth the candle, since he does not play it as part of a great air offensive, or with any hope of breaking a morale which a great air offensive was unable to break or in the execution of a military mission of military damage. His only hope is to be able to tell his people, willing under the sign of unending attack and defeat, that the German members of the blural attacked this or that objective. —London Daily Telegraph.

There are so many war correspondents in Italy at present that they have become something of a pest for Fleet Street. They are called "the boys at the front" either there are 125 of them. An equivalent of a correspondent and a half to every mile of front. Of the writers of their work at Allied headquarters writing their account of what is happening in the war effort. A senior analyst of the situation given at his press conference by Colonel McCormack, the British press chief—Vancouver Province.

A self-heating soup was exhibited recently before a group of workers of canning factories who had gathered at the British Ministry of Food to learn about the importance of their work to the war effort. A senior analyst of the situation given at his press conference by Colonel McCormack, the British press chief—Vancouver Province.

The newest Roosevelt. Churchill was told by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. When the general visited the Prime Minister at Marrakesh, Morocco, Lord Moran, Mr. Churchill's chief physician, complained that whenever he approached the Prime Minister to read the thermometer, Mr. Churchill removed it from his mouth, read it and announced his own temperature. "I always do that," Mr. Churchill said. "I believe these doctors are trying to keep me in bed." When Gen. Eisenhower visited President Roosevelt, he told him the story for an example of the Prime Minister's independence. "Oh, that's nothing new," Mr. Roosevelt said. "I've been doing that for years. I don't trust those fellows either." —Toronto Globe and Mail.

Applied psychology is being used in the "beauty shops" which are maintained by the American Fifth Army in Italy. The establishment of these beauty shops is the result of which is going into efforts to maintain the morale and efficiency of the fighting men. The beauty shops' work makes it necessary for the soldier at times to be dirty and bedraggled. But the majority of these men do not mind being in a very bad condition. They are willing to trade and crawl through mud to win a battle, but once it is over, they want to get cleaned up as completely as possible. The "revival tents" give them that opportunity. They are showered, shaved and outfitted with clean new uniforms. In a very real sense they emerge as new men. The "beauty shops" are to be counted among the most valuable agencies for keeping the men in fighting trim. —Windsor Star.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of the news items appearing in the Charlotte-Town Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

SCHOOLS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Sir,—Three interesting letters appeared in this column last week concerning school teachers of P. E. I. It is to be hoped that all teachers have read these letters. I wonder, if the President of the Federation will so readily answer the letter by "Unfortunate Mother" he did the one by "Disgusted Teacher."

Perhaps, if the Executive of the Federation spent more time attempting to have our system improved and less in pestering the government for increased salaries more would be accomplished. Parents would see better work being done in the schools and realize that teachers really deserved more than they now receive as remuneration for their labors. Public opinion could be a very powerful ally of teachers striving for higher wages. But the wages might not remedy the conditions spoken of by "Unfortunate Mother" and parents would be less likely to support the higher salaries to teachers who left the work of teaching to the parents themselves.

A tremendous responsibility rests upon those who undertake to train youth; the youth of today are the guardians of the world of tomorrow. Through them will be reflected the ability and character of their teachers. But even the most conscientious teachers cannot do their best when hampered by a system which for the past ten or more years has been falling into decline.

It is with deep regret we must admit that conditions are serious in our schools today. Just where to lay the blame is of course beyond my ability but I think we are too prone to say quite casually that since we cannot do it we will do it at that. We say quite truly too, that the system has not changed in fifty years. What if it? We must admit that this same system has provided many, many well-trained, capable persons who have filled important positions all over the continent and beyond it. Why condemn a system that has been successful in the past before investigating the cause of its decline?

Many arguments are advanced in favor of introducing larger units of administration and many attempts have been made to convince the public that this change would be the real remedy for our educational ills. Personally, I do not believe that this system would prove successful here. An editorial in this paper Jan. 22nd quoted Dr. Robertson's opinion that in two roomed schools, who better qualified than "The Doctor" to judge the success of these schools? Perhaps if he really tried we could get better results from our present system: rejuvenation, introduction of new energy into a listless system might be one of this nature. The condition in this case but in any system, if appointments of great consequence are made because of political leaning rather than ability and experience the results could be disastrous. On the government rests a great responsibility then.

We hope the present government with its new minister of education will be able to grapple with a situation that must occasion great concern to parents and others who realize the disastrous condition of our schools, particularly in rural schools of P. E. I. I am, Sir, etc.

ONLOOKER.

The Poet's Corner

BY THE MARGIN OF THE GREAT DEEP

When the breath of twilight blows to flake the mist, All its vaporous sapphire, violet glow and silver gleam. With their mad flood me through the gateway of the eyes: I am one with the twilight's dream.

When the trees and skies and fields are one in dusky mood, Ever the heart of man is rest within the mother's breast. Full of peace and sleep and dreams in the waxy quietude. I am one with their hearts at rest.

From our immemorial joys of heart and home and love Stray'd away along the margin of the unknown tide, All the heart of man is calm can thrill me far above Word or touch from the lips beside.

Ave, and deep and deep and deep—let me get the drink and draw from the heart of man more than light or peace or dream. Such primaeva being as o'erfills the heart with awe. Grow into one with its silent stream. —A.E.

The Carol's Centenary

(London Times) December brought with it a noteworthy centenary. It was a few days before Christmas, 1843, that a Christmas Carol was published, and lighted and cheerful, it has remained and has not been put out. The present time seems particularly appropriate to this occasion, because not of all our festivals Christmas has most sturdily, even stubbornly refused to be depressed by the war and has insisted on being celebrated, barring the trifle of a turkey or two, with unaltered rites. Through the years of the fighting, Charles Dickens's story of the Christmas Carol has been read and reread, and when the first notion of the Carol took possession of him with two numbers of Martin Chuzzlewit; but when the first notion of the Carol took possession of him he laughed and said and fitly went at it frankly and had finished it before November was out. He appears to have believed that he had hit on a new idea, but in fact he was the one man in the world to whom it was not new. For Scrooge was probably a re-creation of Gabriel Grub, whose story Dickens had told on Christmas Eve at Manor Farm. And yet Dickens was essentially right, for the story of Gabriel Grub, though he had none of the gorgeous high spirits of the Carol; it could not sweep the morose off their legs into unwilling cheers; no light issued from it as it did from old Fezziwig's carols; it had no great moments such as that in which Scrooge asks the boy if he knows the wise turkey, and the boy replies, "What the one as big as me?" If Dickens had momentarily forgotten all about Gabriel he was quite justified.

112th Annual Statement The Bank of Nova Scotia Established 1823 GENERAL OFFICE: TORONTO, CANADA CAPITAL \$12,000,000 RESERVE \$24,000,000 Condensed General Statement as at December 31st, 1943 ASSETS Cash, clearings and due from banks... \$116,067,481.94 Government and other public securities, not exceeding market value... 203,040,293.09 Other bonds and stocks, not exceeding market value... 7,346,076.47 Call loans (secured)... 8,740,568.84 Other loans and discounts (after full provision for bad and doubtful debts)... 126,389,377.78 Liabilities of customers under acceptances and letters of credit (as per contra)... 23,738,260.53 Bank premises... 5,260,591.46 Shares of and loans to controlled companies... 1,900,000.00 Other assets... 713,232.66 \$493,195,832.77 LIABILITIES Notes in circulation... \$ 3,885,921.32 Deposits... 426,753,927.13 Acceptances and letters of credit outstanding... 23,738,260.53 Other liabilities... 1,478,006.99 Capital... \$12,000,000.00 Reserve fund... 24,000,000.00 Undivided profits... 1,339,716.80 \$37,339,716.80 \$493,195,832.77 J. A. McLeod, President H. D. Burns, General Manager Branches from Coast to Coast in Canada NEWFOUNDLAND JAMAICA CUBA PUERTO RICO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC LONDON, ENGL. NEW YORK 108 Old Broad St. 49 Wall St.

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DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS nance begin to lick around them they must needs give in and feel ashamed of themselves. When he was in Italy, some little while after the Carol's appearance, Dickens was meditating a new periodical, to be called The Cricket. It never came into being, but his design for it is worth quoting, for in it he laid his finger on the strong point of the Carol's philosophy: it was to "make such a dash at people's fenders and armchairs as hasn't been made for many a long day. That onslaught was, and is still, irresistible and even the Minister of Fuel reeling before it might tell us, as Scrooge told Bob Cratchit, to buy another coal scuttle. It is easy enough to pick holes in the Carol, for Dickens in his white-hot fervour doubtless laid himself wide open to attack on all the usual grounds. But it is daunting work to criticize if nobody will attend to your criticisms, and as Thackeray exclaimed, "Who can listen to objections to such a book as this?" The details of the story make little as compared with what in modern language might be called its "atmosphere." The last and best word is "Christmas," who found the Carol's supreme merit "in the great furnace of real happiness, that glows through Scrooge and everything around him, that great furnace the heart of Dickens. Scrooge unconverted declared Christmas to be a humbug; many people without going so far have inclined to think it in their secret hearts a nuisance, but once the flames from the fur-

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BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 25 — (AP) Idaho potato shipments have been cut in half during the past week by a shortage of refrigerated cars and state agriculture commissioner Harvey Schwendman says such of the state's record 43,000 bushel crop will be lost unless orders limited cars to 100 daily. Schwendman says whereas 200 a day were being loaded.

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