THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1946

An All-Important Issue

It is to be hoped that Premier Jones is correct in assuming that the negotiations now in progress between the Provincial and Federal Governments will result in Prince Edward Island obtaining, not only "more money than it ever had before", as he stated, but enough to keep us running on an even keel financially, —which is a different thing altogether. The fact is, of course, that since it came into power the Jones Government has been collecting "more money than ever before", but it has been spending at such a rate that we are farther away than ever before from a balanced budget. We are now in such desperate plight that financial assistance from Ottawa on a really generous scale must be forthcoming.

At a time when other Provinces have been piling up surpluses to tide them over reconstruction, we have been going behind by leaps and bounds. Our provincial debt today is something over eleven million dollars. The last Public Accounts tabled showed a debt increase in one year of over half a million, with a deficit on current account of $348,487. That was for the year ending March 31, 1945. The estimates for the year ending March 31, 1946, then in progress, were for a further overall deficit of $887,656, and on ordinary account of $588,626. For the present fiscal year ending March 31, 1947, the estimates are for another debt increase of $846,524, and a deficit on current account of $619,524. The bank overdraft, according to Hon. Mr. Hughes at the last session, amounted to nearly two million dollars. For a Province with our very limited resources, this kind of financing can lead only to bankruptcy. Not only do we need "more money than ever before", but we also should have some way of ensuring that, it, whatever the amount, it will be spent wisely and economically.

Premier Jones has not taken the public into his confidence as to the latest offer made by the Dominion Government, but presumably it is an improvement over the previous one of two million dollars annually which he declared, at the Ottawa conference, to be altogether inadequate. As our existing tax agreement with the Dominion lapses on Dec. 31 of this year, a new one will need to be drawn, at least tentatively, before the next Legislature meets. In the case of New Brunswick, the old agreement lapsed on Oct. 31 of this year, but the new one will not go into effect until it is brought before the Legislature and fully discussed and voted on. This is the procedure which should be followed here. The Premier should put all his cards on the table, and not give excuse for the criticism which was made last session by even his own cabinet colleagues, that they knew little or nothing about what was going on behind the scenes.

In view of the importance of the matter, it would not be out of place if the Government called a special session of the House in order to place the latest Federal proposals before the elected representatives of the people. That has been done before, and with much less excuse.

Banking Made Plain

Attention is called to an interesting advertisement in today's issue, in which some of the mysteries of banking—mysteries at least to many laymen—are explained in such simple language that a schoolboy can readily grasp them. The advertisement is inserted by the Bank of Montreal, the purpose being to show what the Bank's dollars have been doing during the past business year, how customers' interests have been served, and what transactions the Bank has undertaken from coast to coast.

The idea is an admirable one, and might well serve as an example to other businesses. It not only clarifies many things in the public mind, but it promotes greater personal interest and confidence in the Bank's affairs, which incidentally, one notes, are being conducted with marked efficiency and success.

Indo-Canadian Trade

The Indian Trade Bulletin, published in New Delhi by the Government of India, contains the report of the trade commissioner in Canada, Mr. M. R. Ahjua, for the year 1945, in which the bright prospects for increasing business between the two countries are pointed up. The total value of Indo-Canadian trade for last year was the highest figure ever recorded. British India ranked third in Canada's total external trade during 1945, both in imports and exports, a position attained in the previous year, but improved upon in the meantime. The position is regarded as all the more remarkable in that strong export controls were operative in India during the period. Moreover, Canada's total imports during the year showed a considerable diminution in value; but, in spite of this, the quantity and value of Indian goods imported into this Dominion were markedly increased. While it is admitted that the war-time rise in prices in India has had its effect on the value of such imported goods, Mr. Ahuja explains that "not all the gain in Indian exports to Canada in recent years is attributable to rising prices."

Discussing future prospects, the commissioner says: "The steady and gradual removal of export controls in India and the lifting of price ceilings in Canada, which has already come into effect, should certainly tend to expand purchases in India. When account is taken of the shipping situation, which during the war years in no small measure further restricted imports, as well as of the accumulated purchasing power of the Canadian people through six years of war-time saving, now estimated at close to ten billion dollars, prospects of India's exports to Canada appear brighter than ever."

It is not to be supposed, either, that this trading is a one-way affair. According to the Canadian Almanac, the value of Canadian exports to British India for 1944 (the latest year for which official figures are available) amounted to $174,794,243, or considerably more than six times as much as the value of the imports into Canada from that country.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

The new Utility Commission at its first open session made a favourable impression. So did Mr. Ainsworth, for that matter.

* * * *

We are in the same class as 21 of the United States — though not exactly for the same reason—we must reduce our consumption of electricity or else?

* * * *

The Fifth District of Prince, with Summerside the centre, has contrived to rouse great enthusiasm over the by-election, which should result in a large turn-out at the polls.

* * * *

During his recent nation-wide tour of Canada, Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery held up the democratic progressive, aggressive Press as a shining example of what his troops had fought to preserve.

* * * *

The British Labour Party are taking the trouble to convert Canadians to their way of thinking, judging by the fact that two prominent M.P.'s are touring the country expounding Labour ideals and policies. They believe in making personal contact, for so much depends on the inspiration of the direct message to the special community concerned That is Lord Rowallan's—Chief Scout's—conviction also.

* * * *

John Gibson Lockhart, Scottish writer, son-in-law and biographer of Sir Walter Scott, died this date 1854; was a prolific writer and contributor to the Press; editor of the *Quarterly Review;* other works include *Peter's Letters to His Kinfolk, Lives of Burns and Napoleon;* several novels, including *Adam Bears.* Of Napoleon he wrote: To the very last he had a kind of idea; that, namely, of *la carriere ouverte aux talents*—"the tools to him that can handle them."

* * * *

Mr. King's withdrawal of his very formal statement that he would not again lead the Liberal Party in an election may be the first sign of his intention to try an election before 1950 (says *The Letter Review*). The only platform suggested at Ottawa is that of Dominion-Provincial financial relations, and, up to date, Messrs. Drew and Duplessis have not fallen into the trap of announcing increases in Provincial taxation. Unless they do this, the Dominion-Provincial financial situation will simply amount to taxpayers in the Provinces which do not sign agreements paying 5 per cent less Personal Income Tax than in the Provinces which sign the agreements. This would scarcely be the best of political ammunition for Mr. King.

* * * *

Ottawa is issuing stories to the effect that there is really nothing in the theory that the $ U. S. is overvalued in Canada, since the "free market" in the U. S. pays only 95c for the $ Canadian. This "free market" is of not the slightest importance. It merely results from our Foreign Exchange Control system, by which the Government of Canada guarantees par for the $ U. S. in this country, while the U. S. Government does not reciprocate. One result is that a comparatively small volume of $ Canadian, in actual currency, comes on the market in the U. S., with no organized provision for taking them up. Since merchants in the U. S. hesitate to take $ Canadian, this means that this small supply has to be sold at a discount to enterprising dealers in exchange.

* * * *

Mail ballots have gone out from the British Medical Association asking 58,000 practitioners whether they would help the Government put into effect its new National Health Service Act. The British Medical Association Journal, sharply critical of the law enacted by the Labor Government's first parliament, said that if the doctors' answers were a collective "no" it would make the act inoperative and "further legislation would be necessary." "Do you desire the negotiating committee to enter into discussions with the health minister on the regulations authorized by the National Health Service Act?" was the question addressed to every doctor in Britain. The act leaves to be established by regulation doctors' terms and conditions of service. These are the principal matters that would be settled by negotiations between the health minister and the professional organization.

* * * *

Mr. S. Morgan-Powell, who has given up the exacting general editorship of the *Montreal Star,* for the more congenial direction of its literary, musical and theatrical section, has had an enviable career in journalism on both sides of the Atlantic. In this connection, the *Star* says: "In accordance with the decision announced a month ago, he will henceforth devote his energies and his knowledge to the journalistic love which wholly engrossed the middle period of his long and still continuing career. Books and the theatre make up the province to which he has now limited himself. The fact that this is so should now be noted by his colleagues both old and new in *The Star* office; and some small expression made of two thoughts: the first, the regret felt at even partial separation from an old and tried association; the other, the deep confidence and rejoicing that the association in its new form will long endure. Readers of *The Star,* so many thousands of whom have enjoyed his writing for so long, will join with us in the satisfaction that his vigorous pen will still be at their service, its point still keen and sharp, the ink in which it is dipped so mellow with the wisdom and culture of his years."

Notes By The Way

The silly question of the week is: "What would you do if your doctor told you that you had only six months to live?" Well our first move would be to see another doctor—perferably an old old doctor who didn't like to think about death. —Peterborough Examiner.

One of the supreme joys of living is undoubtedly full appreciation of the value of leisure and the knowledge of how to use it. Persons who say they are bored because they have nothing to do are making frightful admission of mental sterility. They have allowed their perceptions and curiosities to atrophy, with the result that they themselves are only half alive. —Galt Reporter.

Use of the designation "Second World War" was protested in the British House of Commons the other day on the ground that it seemed to presuppose there might be another. One member suggested it would be better to take a risk and call it "the Last World War". At that it could hardly be more remote from reality than calling them the United Nations. —Kitchener Record.

What is described as Canada's first successful "F-M" two-way radio train order system has been installed in four of the Canadian Pacific Railway's Diesel-electric switch engines at Toronto. The instant communication thus provided by shortwave equipment takes the place of a messenger who, travelling on foot, was the only means a yardmaster had heretofore of getting in touch with his crews. The railways are making progress, it seems, but what about getting similar devices by way of safety factors for passenger trains? Remember the Almonte wreck? — Brantford Expositor.

We regard that contest in Tokyo between a Jap sleight-of-hand artist with an abacus and a G I. with an adding machine as a dirty plot against the mechanical age. Adding up a string of figures, the Jap with a centuries old device got the right answer well ahead of the American expert. So what? Primitive methods, up to a certain point may easily be superior. Give us a simple, enough problem and by counting on our fingers and toes, we bet we can beat the abacus. — Detroit Free Press.

The head of the Cunard White Star Line, disclosing plans for the construction of five new trans-Atlantic liners, makes it's clear that none of them will approach the Queens— the Mary and Elizabeth—in mammoth size. The Boston Post notes. Indeed, he points out that those two vessels, with the auxiliary assistance from the smaller craft, will be able to handle the postwar volume of traffic over the ocean for some time to come. Neither the Mary nor the Elizabeth will have any challengers until many a year of service has passed.

The amount of chocolate and cocoa that can be produced in the United States next year depends largely on how the international emergency food council, which met in London, allocates the new British West African cocoa-bean crop, which comprises half the world output. With other importing countries pressing for increased allocations, United States representatives face a fight to obtain restoration in the past twelve months. —Newsweek.

There is evidence that the army does not propose to allow the navy to use "see the world" as a recruiting slogan without opposition. It points out that during the war Canadian soldiers also saw a bit of the world, including Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Africa Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Iceland, Bermuda, British Guiana, Australia, Kiska, Spitzbergen, Jamica, and other places too numerous to mention. But probably the air force saw more territory than either navy and army. —Brockville Recorder and Times.

The policeman of today is a man of parts. Finger-printing, the radio, civic bylaws, traffic control, pedestrian management, first aid, jiu jitsu, marksmanship and applied psychology are all within his province. There was a time when all that was demanded was the physique of a wrestler and a working knowledge of ward politics. Now Chief Knight predicts they will shortly require a B A. before they start out to pound a beat, and if this is so we might reasonably suppose that one day the chief of London will have his Ph.D. in public safety. And why not? —London Free Press.

All eyes are turned just now to the Fraser River sockeye salmon run. This is a year of great expectations. Four years ago, the cycle year, there was a phenomenal run. Fishery officials declare that large numbers of fish reached the spawning grounds. Unless unknown mishaps have occurred to confound all predictions, there ought to be an equally good sockeye season in 1946. Most British Columbians benefit directly or indirectly when there is a good run; most suffer in some way or other when there is a poor run. —Vancouver News-Herald.

Unfortunately, the majority of union members seem to be so completely under the spell of their leaders that they refuse to look facts in the face, as so many of the Hamilton workers did. They cannot be led to realize that sometimes they are sacrificing themselves merely for the well-being of their self-appointed leaders. When the awakening will come, or how it may be brought about, we do not know. But come it must. And when Labor finally does realize how it has been hood-winked for so long, the results will be indeed interesting — to say nothing of the benefits the awakening will bring to Labor itself, to industry and to the whole national economy. — Montreal Star

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

CHALLENGE TO SUMMERSIDE

Sir,—In The Guardian issue of November 22nd appears a cartoon sponsored by the Prince County Liberal Association in which the artist presumes to depict the opposing positions as occupied by the Government and the Opposition in their respective appeals for support in the by-election, Fifth District of Prince.

The picture as issued is incomplete in that the artist failed to expose the present reduced status of the one-roomed country school. On the face of that cartooned Country School he should have written "No Latin taught in this school" as that is the true position of every one-room school in the Province today. The teaching of Latin has been abolished by the Jones Government, and no matter what the ambition of the rural parent may be for his children's education, or the aspirations of the youth of the country themselves, they are doomed so far as obtaining a complete classical education is concerned.

This is a terrible handicap to rural children, and an unpardonable injustice when we consider that in the 1946 matriculation examinations, four out of six Provincial scholarships and an equal four out of six Bell Scholarships went to pupils educated in such one roomed schools. In addition, the pupil standing highest in Latin in the whole Province came from a one room country school. Now they are ruthlessly barred from competing for these opportunities.

The road to better education is further pictured as having been made easier through the advantages obtained from Family Allowances etc., but the poet says:

"Is learning your ambition
There is no Royal road
Alike, the Peer and Peasant
Must climb to its abode."

The matter of "Family Allowance" is a subject that might induce a variety of potent arguments if brought under discussion, but at any rate the Jones Government had nothing to do with it. Appropriation of credit for its virtues is plain, stupid effrontery on the part of the Government, its candidate or supporters as the case may be and indictes a dire dearth of tangible reason why any elector should tender his or her support on election day.

Another very good and sufficient reason why Summerside electors should vote against the Government is because of its electric light plant steal. Summerside no longer owns what formerly was their own electric light plant. It has been forcibly taken from them by the Jones Government who can appropriate it for their own purposes at will. So cold-bloodedly was this nefarious deal thurdled across that the Liberal representative from Summerside voted with a solid Conservative Opposition against the bill. The remainder of the Liberals "cooperated" and deliberately robbed Summerside of its plant—is that the sort of "Co-operation" their candidate is shouting for at the present time?

If the electors of Summerside possess even a small portion of the independence and spunk the remainder of the Province freely credits them with having, they will snow the Liberal candidate under with such an avalanche of ballots on November 26th that there will never be any doubt again as to where Summerside stands when its inherent rights are invaded, and make it abundantly clear the present enlightened electors can neither be cajoled nor threatened by any candidate, Premier or Government.

I am, Sir, etc.,
ELECTOR.

PREMIER JONES AND SUMMERSIDE

Sir,— It seems, from a recent address by Premier Jones that he was speaking more on behalf of the Dominion Government which in itself was something new for Mr. Jones, than he was for the local government.

For what has the present local government to do with getting a new car ferry or new ferry terminals? In doing so, the Premier launched into figures, starting at a million, up to thirty millions. But why stop at a mere thirty millions in these days of billions? It would be all the same if he were trying to connect up all these large sums with a local by-election. As far as setting a floor price for potatoes, is that only for this Island or for all Canada? What has the Local Government to do with the price of stock feed? Just contrast Mr. Jones' address with all its wild and fantastic claims, with that of the popular candidate Mr. Francis McNeill with his masterful portrayal of facts, his gentlemanly review of the whole situation and his clear-cut and pertinent statements of how the Jones Government treated the Island soldiers at the front in denying their right to vote. I am sure that all the veterans in this District will support and vote for Francis McNeill who will represent them in this Province.

I see that the Liberal interests have a cartoon by some local artist intended to help them. But this artist "builded better than he knew". In that drawing, he has the Union Jack flying over the school house. Well done himself. This does not agree with Mackenzie King's orders that all Union Jacks flying over public buildings shall be replaced by the Red Ensign. This order as we know has been protested by the veteran Senator Duff and the correspondence has been published in the Press.

Premer Jones in his address was very enthusiastic about Summerside and its big stores and people. Not so long ago he was not so nice about Summerside. We all know about the reconstruction muddle in the Local House. Mr. Jones was then very caustic about Summerside and its business men. He would not recognize a Summerside business man at the head of the Reconstruction Council, and unfortunately we know the result. No bluff will work this time, and election day will show the answer.

A great many Liberals who are supporting the Conservative candidate Francis McNeill, feel that they are not changing their politics in voting in this by-election against the present Jones Government.

Mr. Jones' new admiration for Summerside will fool no one. He may be able to sell his bulls at the cattle shows, but he cannot sell that bull in Summerside.

I am, Sir, etc.
RESIDENT

Old Charlottetown
(And P.E.I.)

LAST OF THE REGULARS

In 1854 a review of the troops was held on Queen Square in honor of the Queen's birthday. A royal salute was fired and three hearty cheers were given for Her Majesty, but this was the last time for any military display by the troops of Charlottetown garrison

The troops were annually relieved by fresh detachments from headquarters at Halifax, thus a strong and sufficient force was constantly in charge o the station. Now, however, when war was declared against Russia a large portion of the troops from Halifax were called home to England and the troops in the garrison here were called to Halifax.

During the following year St George's battery, Fort Edward and the Block house were dismantled and all the equipment, stores and ammunition were shipped to Halifax.

The Regulars were never stationed here again until the time of the Tenant League, 1865, when a detachment of the 16th Regiment from Halifax arrived and were allowed to remain a little over a year.

In 1856 an Infantry Corps of Volunteers was formed under the command of Captain Neil Rankin. At the opening of the Legislature they formed a guard of honor to the Governor in front of the Colonial building. It was the first military display since the departure of the Regulars, and caused great interest.

The Poet's Corner

BASE DETAILS

If I were fierce and bald and short of breath,
I'd live with scarlet Majors at the Base,
And speed glum heroes up the line to death.
You'd see me with my puffy petulant face,
Guzzling and gulping in the best hotel,
Reading the Roll of Honour. "Poor young chap,"
I'd say—"I used to know his father well.
Yes, we've lost heavily in this last scrap."
And when the war is done and youth stone dead,
I'd toddle safely home and die—in bed.

—Siegfried Sassoon.

RE-EDUCATE GERMAN YOUTH

FORD, Northumberland, England —(CP)— Ford Castle, built in 1341, will be used by the National Association of Boys' Clubs as a centre for re-educating young Germans in the principles of democracy.

DARTFORD, Kent, England — (CP) — Charles Bareham, 60, took a day off to be sworn in as mayor but next day was back at work as a London Passenger Transport bus driver.

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Every person who is troubled with gas in the stomach and bowels should get a bottle of Dr. Evans' Stomach Mixture and see how quickly it will relieve all distressing symptoms.

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Scottish Associations In P. E. Island

(Old P. E. I. Magazine)

I

Between the years 1770 and 1775 a number of Highlanders immigrated to this Province and settled here under very favourable auspices.

They were led by Glenaladale the chief of their clan and joined at a later period by his kinsmen Keppoch, also chief of another branch. They brought with them their chaplain and physician, both men of high attainments. Many of them were related to these chiefs by ties of blood or connected by marriage. They had among them representatives of the best blood of the Highlands of Scotland, and formed an ideal colony for the settlement of a new province.

At the opening of the 19th century they had increased in numbers and spread over a wide section of the Province. The ties of blood and friendship helped to keep up that spirit of clanship which prevailed in the old land, and the customs and festivals which they had there were still followed in their new homes.

At Hogmanay or "Choolican" they drummed out the old year by beating on a dry hide around the house and had to
"Sing at the doors for Hogmanay",
or repeat an impromptu rhyme before admission in the first hour of the New Year. On Handsel Monday the servants received a Handsel from their employers, but at Hallowe'en they
"Together did convene
To burn their nuts and pou their stocks
And haud their Hallowe'en
Fu' blithe that night."

It was however on the festival of Scotland's patron saint that they held their chief gathering, where they recounted the doughty deeds of their forefathers in many a hard fought field, or the wanderings of Prince Charlie among the hills and glens of Scotland, that they knew and remembered so well; or re-told again the story of the bloody massacre of Glencoe in which so many of their relatives had so tragically perished.

* * *

It is unfortunate that we have no written record of the first public celebration of St. Andrew's day here, but tradition tells us that at a very early period in the life of the Colony it was the custom of the Highlanders to assemble for the celebration of this festival at the residence of the chief of Glenaladale. A bountiful repast awaited the arrival of the expected company, which comprised representatives of the principal families then in the province.

Glenaladale, as the leading chief, presided, and Keppoch held a seat of honor. There were McEachens and McIntyres, McPhees and McIntoshes, Beatons, Morrisons and Grants but Macdonalds were so numerous that they were addressed by the title of their family seat as "Garahallia" Glenfinish, Bornish, Rhetland, Allisary, Tulloch or Keppoch as the case might be.

Some of the men had served valiantly in that company of the Royal Highland Regiment which Glenaladale had raised here, then recently disbanded, and as the martial spirit still pervaded them, the King's Wars were a subject of interest scarcely less absorbing than the latest letters from Scotland.

It was long past midnight when all for whom beds could be found retired, and a huge field bed was improvised for the others until next morning when, after breakfast and a "Deoch an dhorris" or stirrup cup to their next annual meeting, all left for their homes But many were the calls or "ceilidhs" held on the way, for none should pass a friend's house without calling to relate all the news.

* * *

A few years later, as population centred at the seat of government, it became a more convenient place for these meetings, and the St. Andrew's Society was regularly constituted to celebrate the day in a suitable manner at Charlottetown.

The early records can not now be found although they are believed to be still in existence, but we find the Society in a flourishing state in 1824. William Johnstone, Attorney General, was then President, Ewen Cameron and John Stewart of Mount Stewart, vice presidents; and Dr. MacKieson, secretary. The annual dinner was held at Mrs. Bagnall's, then a leading hostelry. Colonel Ready, Lieutenant Governor, S.G.W. Archibald, Chief Justice Robert Hodgson (afterwards Sir Robert) then just elected member for the city, and Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, gaelic priest, were guests of the Society.

At the dinner given in 1825 it was noted that many distinguished Scotsmen then held high positions in the provinces; the Earl of Dalhousie being Commander-in-Chief; Sir James Kempt, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia; Sir Howard Douglas, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick; Sir T.J. Cochrane Governor of Newfoundland.

An original song or poetical composition was an invariable feature of these occasions, but none of the earlier ones have come to hand. A Highland piper in national costume, probably Donald McFadyen, always attended and played at the dinners which were kept up pretty regularly in the succeeding years.

(To Be Continued)

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