THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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

FRIDAY, FEB. 25, 1944

Provincial Finances

The Public Accounts of the Province for the year ending Dec. 31, 1943, tabled yesterday in the Legislature by Hon. William Hughes, Provincial Treasurer, show an overall deficit of $150,328.27 and a deficit on ordinary account of $89,407.48.

The report was tabled in the form of "an interim statement" of revenue and expenditure, pending issuance of the printed report.

It shows total expenditures of $2,688,030.28 as against total revenue of $2,531,702.01, with total ordinary expenditure of $2,434,102.67 as against $2,344,695.19 ordinary revenue.

The estimates for 1943 made by the Campbell Government were for ordinary revenue of $2,380,105, ordinary expenditure, including sinking fund, of $2,375,209, leaving an estimated surplus after provision of all necessary funds of $10,995; or without taking sinking fund, a surplus on current account alone of $271,050.

Owing to the decision to change the closing of the financial year from December 31st to March 31st, it has been necessary for the Government to submit at its present session three sets of estimates and expenditures, which makes the accounts rather confusing. The estimates and expenditures for the past year have already been dealt with. It is hardly necessary to refer to the expenditure to March 31 in the current year, these are in the way of supplementaries. The estimated revenue and expenditure for the next full financial year ending March 31, 1945 provides for a total of $2,538,458.00 ordinary revenue and $265,000.00 capital revenue or a total of $2,803,458.00. Against this the estimates provide for an expenditure on ordinary account of $2,664,849.00 and on capital account $498,000.00 or a total of $3,102,489.00 representing a deficit for the next financial year of $359,031.00.

Premier Godbout's Boast

From both sides of the Legislature there have come complaints about the number of farmers' sons who are being drafted in this Province. Government members and supporters seem to feel as strongly on this point as does the Opposition. They do not seem to know what to do about it. Apparently they manage things more adroitly in the Province of Quebec, where a discussion on this very subject occurred recently between Premier Godbout and the Opposition leader, Mr. Duplessis. The discussion as it took place in the Quebec Legislature is reported in the Montreal Gazette of Feb. 18 and makes interesting reading.

Mr. Duplessis seems to have started the argument by remarking that Arthur MacNamara, Federal Deputy Minister of Labor, had stated that 500,000 farmers' sons had left the land to go to war plants and the armed forces. How, asked Mr. Duplessis, could the Premier, who loved the farmers so much, have permitted such a desertion.

Premier Godbout declared in reply that the 500,000 figure was for all of Canada and there had been fewer sons of farmers in proportion gone to the war plants and the army from Quebec than any other province. This, he said—and here is the interesting point — "was due to the efforts of the Provincial Government which had enabled the farmers' sons to stay on the land last year. This had enabled the Province of Quebec to work to produce food for the armies and the Allied countries."

How the Godbout Government "worked the oracle" is not stated, but the Premier seemed to be proud of his achievement and under no necessity of keping quiet about it.

Mr. Bracken's Sincerity

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Our farmers believe in the sincerity of Mr. Bracken, a self-made man off the farm who, despite his activities in other fields, has remained a farmer and feels that Canada's equilibrium cannot be sound unless agriculture is recognized equally with labor, capital and other elements," Mr. P. D. McArthur, of Howick, told assembled delegates at St. Chrysostome, Que. In common with farmers throughout Canada, Chateauguay-Huntingdon farmers are dissatisfied with the treatment they have received, particularly of late years, from the Liberal Government and feel that Mr. Bracken is the proper leader who will give agriculture its rightful status in Canada's economy, declared Mr. McArthur, president of the Dairy Farmers' of Canada and a director of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

Jobs For All

Making plans for the solution of all our postwar economic problems is about the easiest occupation that could be imagined. Anyone with a vestige of reasoning power can, at a moment's notice, produce ideas for bringing about continued prosperity. Unfortunately, too many people are being beguiled into this pleasant pastime.

One of the suggestions most commonly made, says the Windsor Star, is beautiful in its simplicity. All that has to be done, says the amateur planner, is to provide jobs for everyone at good wages. There should be no social security measures, because there should be no need for them. Full employment will do away with the necessity for that sort of thing.

No one, of course, can find any fault with the logic of this theory. The planners, however, overlook one important detail. How is this hundred per cent employment to be brought about and perpetuated? It does not solve anything merely to say that the Government, plus industry, capital, labor and agriculture, must work out a plan. Those agencies, if they will come together in the right spirit and with a sincere resolve to find the solution, can undoubtedly do so. But the visionary who merely says, "That is what must be done; let these people find a way to do it," is not rendering any great service.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

The groundhog saw its shadow all right, and now we have the consequence.

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Prime Minister King is so obsessed over an election issue, that he attributes like concern to the official opposition.

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The exception proves the rule. Of 65,000 letters containing £70,000 ($315,000) Lord Woolton received in response to an appeal for funds for the blind one contained no money. The writer asked for a small loan.

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Mr. Victor T. Goggin, Winnipeg-born engineering executive who has served as general manager of Wartime Housing, Ltd., Toronto, since March, 1941, has resigned that post to assume new duties as chief commissioner of the Liquor Control Board of Ontario in succession to Hon. A. St. Clair Gordon.

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Mr. Eliot Warburton, who recently visited here, has resigned as director of the United Kingdom Information Office, Ottawa, to take up a business appointment in the United States. He will be succeeded as from March 1 by Mr. M. R. K. Burge, deputy director.

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Charges that thousands of children are growing up in Montreal under appalling conditions of dirt, disease, neglect and immorality were made by Mr. E. I. Smit, executive secretary of the Children's Service Association. Mr. Smit was speaking at the joint annual meeting of three Welfare Federation agencies — the Children's Service Association, the Protestant Foster Home Centre and the Women's Directory of Montreal.

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Mr. Quentin Reynolds set Toronto newspapermen back on their heels with a one-hour informal chat, in which he said a European invasion across the Channel was so difficult a task it might never happen. In a hurried appearance at the Toronto Press Club inaugural meeting before a public address at Maple Leaf Gardens, the American magazine writer told of his study of German defence plans. He said his findings were so pessimistic they would not stand publication. Mr. Reynolds, who covered the costly operations at Dieppe and Salerno, described in detail the concrete-bedded Nazi defence in depth on the 1,800-mile front from the Netherlands to Spain.

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Many of the mainland newspapers, including the Halifax Chronicle and the Montreal Gazette devote editorial comment to the fine sentiments expressed by the late Lieut. Gordon DeBlois in a letter to his parents, and which was published in our columns. The Gazette says: — "It was through the force of John McCrae's imagination that the dead spoke in his poem. Yet this same unyielding appeal is to be found in the words of Lt. Gordon R. DeBlois, 22, who was killed in action in Italy on December 27, 1943.... This is the same note of searching anxiety that gave power to John McCrae's lines. It is not the anxiety that comes from the fear of death, but from the fear of betrayal after death. Only the living can save the war's dead from the tragedy more ultimate than death itself."

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The Boy Scouts represents one of the pioneering movements in the realm of internationalism, says the Gazette. The international jamborees, when scouts of all nations and races were drawn together by their membership in one organization, were a very real foreshadowing of the world fellowship that will be the only sound basis of peace. Significantly, it was from those countries that could not tolerate any organization not rigidly and exclusively nationalistic, that the Boy Scouts were banned. Few tributes could have been higher, or could have revealed more strikingly the Association's objectives. Canada needs an organization like the Boy Scouts to help in teaching its youth that to be good Canadian citizens it is necessary also to be good citizens of the world.

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Dr. William Buchan, M.A., M.B.C.M., Scottish physician, died this date 1805; born in Helmsdale, educated at Aberdeen University, he started practice in the Huntley district of Aberdeenshire, where he had an extensive territory to cover; he found that many of the families had domestic remedies of their own which they applied with more or less success, but many of the then rising generation were without that knowledge; he conceived the idea of preparing and publishing a book of ready reference in such cases, the outcome of which was "Domestic Medicine", published in 1769, the first English book of its kind, which proved so popular that it ran through 21 editions in 40 years, a record that has never been beaten; in by gone days, popular gifts to brides and bridegrooms were the Holy Bible and Domestic Medicine.

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Complacency on the part of the listening public, generated by postwar-slanted commercials that conjure up Utopian pastures in the peace to come, is causing considerable anxiety among War Department brasshats in Washington, with result that the entire advertising picture, in relation to sponsored radio programmes, is due for a drastic over-hauling, says Variety. The edict slated to reach the desks of sponsor executives, network and agency officials in the immediate future will put an end to all postwar commercial bally-hoo for the duration, with orders from the top to stop kidding the public; that the war's not over by a long shot, and that lulling the earbenders into a false sense of security via the fanciful excursions into super-duper streamlined lands will only retard the final victory, adds the article. "What worries the War Department are the blinkers being passed out to the home-front public via the 'world of tomorrow' paid-for lullabies."

Notes By The Way

Some of these modern girls will do anything to attract attention to themselves. We met one the other evening who hadn't got her finger nails painted —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

According to rumors reaching us lend-lease shipments of butter are being received gratefully by the Arabs, who use the precious stuff almost exclusively as an unguent. Spread evenly over the brown limbs of the sheiks as they relax under the desert sun, it is said to induce the sensation of being pleasantly French fried. —Pittsburgh Post Gazette.

Soldier, signaller, secret agent, scout, King's messenger, Commando . . . even that is not a full summing up of the work of dispatch riders of the Royal Corps of Signals. Every military unit or formation has a dispatch rider section and if it hails from the official Corps so much the better, for none are so fully trained and equipped as the men from the R. C. S. —John Fleetwood.

The housing shortage is being felt most acutely by young British war brides. They are strangers in town, far away from their families and friends. In many cases their husbands have been posted outside of Toronto and the young women have had to look for lodgings themselves. They have found it a frustrating and embittering experience —Toronto Star.

During the last 15 months this province has learned to do without the Japanese We used to be told they were essential in fishing and truck farming But these and other callings in which they specialized are getting along without them, just as well as the average of industries in war-time In fishing and lumbering neither the management nor the workers want anything to do with them again They were efficient enough but their word was worthless and constantly they were centres of trouble.—Vancouver Sun.

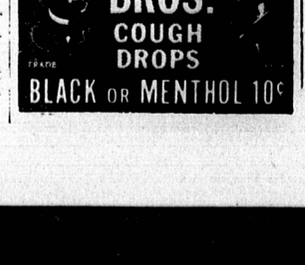
The execution (of Ciano) was a family affair, of which Italian history in its Renaissance period is filled and would receive but scant attention abroad were it not indicative of the inherent brutality of the system and of the men who run it What disposition the Allied powers would have made of Ciano as a war criminal cannot be said: they too might have ordered his execution, but at least that would have been an honorable death in comparison with the vengeance imposed upon him by the father-in-law he double-crossed — Providence Journal

The number of Canadian Western farmers who paid off or reduced their mortgages in 1943 is likely to be continued and even increased during 1944 according to reports. A recent news item, quoted in a Country Guide bulletin, states Mortgage debts on Manitoba farms were sharply reduced last year and outside the Winnipeg Land Titles office the number of mortgages discharged was nearly four times as many as new mortgages registered. In the country only 500 new mortgages were registered during the year and 2,253 were taken off. Similar reports come from Saskatchewan and Alberta. —Amherst News.

German tires were analyzed by four American scientists to determine how much natural rubber and how much synthetic rubber they contained. It turned out that the Germans are using varying amounts of natural rubber, sometimes very large amounts, in "synthetic" tires. Of ten tire treads, one was wholly of plantation rubber and nine were pure Buna S — the synthetic butadiene styrene rubber on which the Germans are supposed to depend principally. Of ten tires, all contained from twenty to 100 percent rubber. The tubes were seventy-five to 100 percent natural rubber and cushions also were largely of natural rubber. The tests are reported in the analytical edition of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry. —Exchange.

The Mediterranean field of operations provides a most spectacular example of the United Nations working together Apart from the British, Canadian and American troops engaged there, one can find New Zealanders, Indians, Newfoundlanders and French, Belgian and Polish commando units are also doing their job At sea, operating in the Adriatic and the Aegean, there are American, British, South African, Dutch, French, Greek, Polish and Yugoslav sailors, who, as the Dutch proverb says, are "Out together, Home together." A war correspondent has said: I have seen British and American officers working hand in hand in perfect harmony. Sometimes the chief officer is American, sometimes British, but always there is complete co-operation If we could only run national and international politics that way, we might get somewhere —Halifax Chronicle

What I hope is that the first thing the allies will do when they are in Germany will be to take over the wireless and in fact every means of propaganda and let the German people have a big dose of truth. They haven't had much of it during the past few years The speaker was a man who knows Germany well, having lived there for lengthy periods. The Germans, he went on, have a reverence for authority which seems strange to English people They believe what they hear on the radio simply because they hear it They will not believe it less if it is controlled by the allies Propaganda is all-important in Germany That is probably true, and anyway it is a policy the Germans adopt in all the countries they have occupied. But they broadcast the products of Goebbels' lie factory. We should (we hope so, anyway) stick to the truth. —Sheffield Telegraph.



Lenten Meditations from The London Times

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Both for nations and for individuals the task of deciding what are the right things to do is hardly more important than that of deciding the order in which they are to be done. History abounds with instances of enterprises that failed, of compaigns that were lost, merely because the details necessary for success, though not forgotten, were undertaken in a wrong order. Everyone knows how keen in these times is the competition for "priorities," and how vitally important may be the task of assigning them rightly.

What perhaps everyone does not know so clearly is that these facts supply an apposite parable of the spiritual life. A community may share a number of aims, all of which in their various ways may seem desirable. But the degree in which that community will help forward the progress of God's kingdom in this world depends upon which of these aims it puts first. An individual may ponder a diversity of ideals and plans, each of which is to have some share in shaping his life. But his character will be the product of what he places foremost, and to the attainment of which every other wish and ambition will be subordinated.

Our Lord emphasized this truth by both his example and teaching. No one can read the story of his life on earth without being impressed by its poise and serenity, its quiet decisiveness Such qualities in a most unfavourable setting were possible because his whole life was controlled by a single motive. "I am come," he said, "to do the will of my Father." This must always be put first, by this test every call upon him must be judged. Having dedicated himself to this purpose, having resolved that it outweighed every other claim, worry and indecision did not trouble him as too often they trouble us, when we are pulled in opposite directions by conflicting motives, and are doubtful which we shall obey.

His teaching was as explicit as his example. Many social problems troubled the people among whom he lived; in particular, they were burdened by a dual system of taxation—Roman and Jewish, civil and religious. Either by itself might have been tolerable, but the combination of the two made the domestic situation already difficult, and it seemed likely to be worse in the future. Yet "do not be over-anxious," he said, "about food, drink, and clothing; never put material comfort in the first place. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things —these material needs—shall be added unto you. Place God first, make your community a part of his kingdom, make his law your standard, and you will find that the solution of economic and other such problems will follow."

Often too the need of people dissatisfied with their religion is that they should face the question which our Lord's teaching implies. Why does not religion yield them greater satisfaction? They are far from indifferent to it: it has a place among their interests. Yet is the place they give it the first place? Only they who are willing to put it before all else can hope to know the true meaning and rewards of Christian discipleship.

Debasing Christianity

(Winnipeg Free Press)

We wonder if it is not just about time for Canadian Christians to rise in serious protest against the way the word Christian is being debased in this country.

The weekly Toronto paper, News, has come upon an illustration of a case in point, in connection with the advertising folder being distributed for the Mont Tremblant Lodge, a well-known Laurentian resort. The following quotation is from this folder:

"We would like you to know that our clientele is entirely Christian, and because our hotel is more like a family club than a hotel, non-Christians would feel more or less out of place and would not enjoy themselves. In fact, our guests object strenuously to non-Christians being here We want you to know this so that your vacation will not be spoiled if you are not a Christian."

As the editor of News comments, "no more slimy piece of anti-Semitism has been produced on this continent. No tawdrier appeal to hatred has ever been smeared with hypocrisy."

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What the operators of this resort are saying is quite clear. It is: No Jews admitted. They are not interested in Christians per se. If a pure Aryan atheist drove up, he could rent the best room in the place and be welcome. But if Mr Justice Felix Frankfurter, of the United States Supreme Court, sought to pay a good-neighborly call, the gates would be barred against him.

If Canadian Jew-haters seek to provide restful havens for other Jew-haters and turn a profit on the deal, that is their business. Why those who have been infected with Nazi race poison should try to disguise the fact is beyond us. Goebbels never tries to disguise his hatred of Jews with nicer words He comes right out with it So should they.

The Canadian churches surely cannot allow this sort of thing to go on unchallenged. For racists to describe themselves as Christians is a libel on Christianity. The founder of the Christian religion would not recognize them as his followers, for he taught that we should love one another and love our neighbors as ourselves.

The Poet's Corner

AT MELVILLEUS TOMB

Often beneath the wave, wide from this ledge
The dice of drowned men's bones he saw bequeath
An embassy. Their number as he watched,
Beat on the dusty shore and were obscured.

And wrecks passed without sound of bells,
The calyx of death's bounty giving back
A scattered chapter, livid hieroglyph,
The portent wound in corridors of shells.

Then in the circuit calm of one vast coil,
Its lashings charmed and malice reconciled,
Frosted eyes there were that lifted altars;
And silent answers crept across the stars.

Compass, quadrant and sextant contrive
No farther tides. . . . High in the azure steeps
Monody shall not wake the mariner.
This fabulous shadow only the sea keeps.

—Hart Crane.

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Charlottetown Tax Appeals

The Board of Appeals from City taxes and assessments will meet in the Court Room in the City Building at 9.30 a.m. on Monday, February 28th, 1944, to hear all appeals from Civic assessments and valuations, and will continue thereafter by adjournment if and as circumstances may require.
Charlottetown, Feb. 14, 1944.

J. A. FULLERTON,
City Clerk

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Discharged Veterans

(Don Baldwin in the Winnipeg Free Press)

In a recent issue of a national United States magazine, Hon Ian Mackenzie, Canada's minister of pensions and national health, published an article entitled "Canada Honors Her Heroes."

While there can be no argument about the fact that Canada does honor and respect the members of her armed forces, it is doubtful if many Canadians are aware of the petty annoyances, the ceaseless, senseless waiting, and the red tape that envelops every officer and man who returns from overseas for medical reasons.

I returned from England with a group of 12 officers all of them being returned on medical grounds. Treatment at the port where we landed was excellent; train accommodation was perfect; there was only one delay, and that completely beyond the scope of army officials. However, once launched into the maelstrom of administration that envelops the Canadian army at home, the story was entirely different.

A few miles from Toronto, where we were all destined, the president of the standing medical board for the district boarded the train, talked to all the officers, made a superficial examination and told us that 17 days' leave would be coming to everyone.

It was, therefore, a considerable shock when we were told by an officer, who had no connection with medical matters, to report to the captain in charge of officer personnel the following morning at nine o'clock.

The next morning was Saturday, and all the captain had to tell us was to report again Monday morning. In answer to our pleas that we had been granted leave by the medical officer, he countered with the information that only himself, by authority, of the district officer commanding, could grant any officer leave. Arguments were of no avail, and he made it plain that we, in his opinion, were certainly asking a lot when we sought more than a week-end.

* * *

The result was that men with, in some cases, a child they had never seen, were given approximately 36 hours at home after being away for periods varying from one year to two or three.

Much later we found out that both the captain and board president were right as far as the leave question was concerned. We were entitled to two weeks each. However, the joker had come into the picture when the adjutant-general's department had failed to say just when this leave would be given—before or after a medical board in Canada.

The dozen officers involved certainly did not feel like returning heroes being honored for their deeds. They felt, rather, that they were more or less in disgrace for having returned to this country; that they very definitely were not wanted. For those who remained in the army this feeling was increased as each man was shoved from one unsatisfactory job to another.

The system of discharges is a sore point with soldiers both in Canada and those returning from overseas. On paper the procedure is simple. A man is merely sent to his district depot, medically boarded and discharged.

However, in practice the system is a complete paradox. Nothing could be more involved and still get results. Usually the man starts out with his unit medical officer. The medical officer does not trust his own opinion in a matter of discharge and sends the man to a specialist. The specialist, usually much over-worked, probably cannot see this patient on the day set. He sends him back to his unit with verbal instructions to report back the following day. The company sergeant-major never takes the unsupported word of a private soldier in any matter that allows him off duty Therefore the man is on parade the next morning and has to report back to the unit M. O. and repeat the procedure.

Theoretically, the specialist's report will follow immediately the examination is concluded. In practice, it is seldom less than a week, and in some cases it may be delayed a month.

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The man will then be struck off strength to his home district depot. Here, documents—a bugbear word in the army—enter the picture. In about 90 per cent of the cases the documents will either be delayed or, arriving at the depot, will be incomplete in some detail that will necessitate a delay varying in length with the seriousness of the mix-up.

With nothing to show in writing regarding physical condition, the man must either seek excused duty from the medical officer of the depot or scrub floors to while away the time during his wait.

When the document situation is cleared up, the course is not clear of rocks by any means. The medical board at the depot generally has a line-up ahead that makes the man wonder if he will ever reach the end of the road. Usually the wait is from three to six weeks before the final board is complete and the "blue ticket" is handed out.

LONDON —(CP)— Fire guards and other civil defence workers, including women, have been authorized to wear service chevrons and gold wound stripes identical with those worn by the armed forces.

HEREFORD, England —(CP)— All public auction records for pedigree Hereford cattle since the boom days at the end of the First Great War were broken here. The champion bull sold for nearly $6,500.

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These days most people are working harder, worrying more, sleeping less. This strain on body and brain makes physical fitness easier to lose—harder to regain. Today's tense living lowers resistance—increases body and mental fatigue. Overwork; hasty meals; irregular hours; worry—any of these may upset proper kidney action. When kidneys get out of order, excess acids and poisons remain in the system. Then backache, headache, rheumatic pain, disturbed rest or that "tired-all-the-time" feeling may soon follow. To help keep your kidneys in good order—to help guard against physical let-down—use Dodd's Kidney Pills, for over half a century a favourite remedy for faulty kidneys. Ask for Dodd's Kidney Pills at any drug counter. Look for the blue box with the red band. 126

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