

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Link.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1941.

Newsboys' Day

Newsboys throughout Canada and the United States are recognizing today the invaluable service of the boys and youths who deliver the papers to subscribers and on sale on the streets, 312 days in the year. It goes without saying that the newsboy is indispensable in our democratic civilization; for unless he delivers the goods in cities and towns, very few citizens would be in a position to know what is going on in the world, morning or night. It is true there is a kind of competitor in the radio, but it can never replace the newspaper from a family point of view, for unless the fan happens to be listening at the exact time the news is broadcast it is lost, so far as he is concerned. The newsboys handle all the news of the day, in a form which enables every member of the family to digest it at leisure, turning to whichever page in which he or she is most interested.

It is hoped by drawing attention one day in the year to the services of the newsboy, to make readers generally realize the important part he plays in the community welfare. As a matter of fact, a large proportion of the successful citizens of Charlottetown, in the professions and in trade and commerce, began as list boys and newsboys on our local papers. Many have confessed that the experience thus gained was of great value in later life. Who can tell how many of the younger generation, now among our newsboys, will be our professional, political and business leaders of tomorrow? Good luck to them all!

One of the finest tributes ever paid to newsboys will be found in today's Poet's Corner. The lines were written several years ago by a noted London journalist.

Godbout's Campaign

Premier Godbout of Quebec is actively participating in two by-elections against the onslaughts of ex-Premier Duplessis. At St. Johns the other night the Premier likened his Province to a "veritable paradise on earth where there existed a greater measure of liberty and justice than anywhere else in the world. If such happy conditions existed it was due solely to the British Crown which extended its protection in as great a measure to Quebec as to Canada as a whole," he affirmed. Referring to his new policy in making English compulsory in the schools, Premier Godbout declared preparations in the future could best be done now by good educational facilities for the rising generation. "We want to have the number of our (French-Canadian) laborers reduced," he shouted, "we want more of them to become bosses and we wish to be rid once and for all of the opprobrium of being called hewers of wood and drawers of water." To the claim of the National Union that the Government's educational program was an indirect slap at the Roman Catholic clergy of the province, Premier Godbout said "nonsense." The Government was collaborating with the clergy in the fullest measure and from the clergy itself came appreciation of the Government's efforts to streamline education. "I speak to you as the father of a family," the Premier went on. "Imagine anyone coming to us and saying, sure it's all right for you to feed and clothe your children but don't interfere with their brains or their intellectual development, that isn't your domain..."

Free French Fliers

Colonel Henri-Philippe Pierrene, Chief of the Free French movement in Canada, has issued a striking statement with regard to the rapid growth of the DeGaulle Air Force which is operating in the various arenas of war. In little more than one year after the departure from England of the first Free French air squadron, which went to Egypt to fight beside the Allies there, the Free French Air Force has grown from a mere handful of young volunteers to more than 2,000 now in active service. Free French pilots, according to Colonel Pierrene's statement, are now serving over occupied Europe, in Syria, Iran, Egypt, Tunis, Libya, Abyssinia, and the Sudan, thus relieving the pressure on the R.A.F. in all these fields. Free French pilots wear the French aviator's uniform with the Cross of Lorraine, the Free French symbol, added on the sleeve. For the most part they fly British or American planes, because there were not many French planes, and fewer parts, that reached Britain after the fall of France.

Colonel Pierrene's statement goes on to say: "This development of the Free French Air Force in just one year is indeed remarkable, for it represents a steady growth in spite of tremendous difficulties. Scattered Frenchmen have escaped from homes watched by the Gestapo; they have smuggled themselves out of enemy-occupied territory, and, once arrived at a seaport, they managed to get aboard a small craft

headed for England; or they have taken to the air, either in their own planes, or in enemy planes to which they have helped themselves under the enemy's very nose.

"That this total of 2,000 has been built up by one at a time by the arrival in England of young Frenchmen determined to brave any danger in order to carry on the fight to the end with their Allies, in order to save their country's honor, and eventually to free their country, is evidence of the healthy spirit still strong in a France whose fetters prevent its people from expressing their real opinion."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Car-owners have, for the most part, themselves to blame if their gasoline costs them more; they can lay up the old car half the time.

In his father's footsteps. Philip H. Willkie, only son of Wendell L. Willkie, and William C. MacPhail, son of Larry MacPhail of the champion Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team, were among the thirty young college graduates who were inducted into the Naval Reserve V-7 Midshipmen School this week.

Sir Roger Keyes, British admiral, born this date 1872; one of the most distinguished officers in the Navy, who was created a baronet and presented by Parliament with \$50,000 in recognition of his services. He was in command of operations for blocking Zebrugge and Ostend; chief of staff at Dardanelles and Gallipoli; in command of the Dover Patrol in 1917; and in command of the Battle-Cruiser-Squadron, Atlantic Fleet from 1919 to 1923.

Mr. G. M. Little, director of the Wartime Bureau of Technical Personnel announces that through a national survey, the bureau has estimated there are approximately 18,000 university-trained engineers and chemists in Canada. Engineers and chemists who had applied voluntarily through the bureau had been placed in war industry, but this source of trained personnel had run out. The bureau is now faced with 500 unfilled requests for engineers and chemists for war work and Mr. Little does not believe that figure represents the total demand.

You cannot down the sporting instinct in the British Tommy. "Mud and Blood," a daily mimeographed news sheet issued by British soldiers defending besieged Tobruk in Libya, recounted recently the progress of a flea-catching competition among the various battalions. "The competition," it said, "is not confined to fleas, but comprises all kinds of vermin, and a table of comparative values is given hereunder: One bedbug equals three fleas; one rat, ten fleas; one gazelle, 300 fleas; one Italian prisoner, 200 fleas plus all fleas found on him. We think it anomalous that 300 fleas are allowed for one gazelle and only 200 for an Italian, since Italians are much fletcher of foot than gazelles and consequently harder to catch."

It is announced from Ottawa, though not officially, that all the nine provinces have agreed to the Federal Government being the sole collector of income tax and corporation tax for the duration of the war. Mr. F. C. Mears, of the Montreal Gazette, has this to say: Federal and provincial officials, sitting in at the conferences, have quite properly withheld from the public any important figures as to what the various provinces will get out of the deal. Such disclosures might cause heartburning or rivalries. There has been a genuine desire to get the job done speedily and harmoniously, and that desire has been satisfied. The Dominion has been disposed to deal generously with the provinces, one evidence being that the 1941 figures were finally used as the basis of the computations. For a while this basis will be an advantage to most of the provinces.

New Zealand is under no delusion about the necessity for men and more men to fight for freedom and safety. It has just called out its, C. men, grade three, for home defence. This grade covers men classed as unfit for foreign service and many employers felt secure in possessing workers so rated. Under the intensified training plan for the home army, however, these men are now mobilizing, while those with special skills or holding key posts have been warned the calling up will last throughout the war. This step is not only part of the government plan to make over home defences, but apparently is a plan for conservation of manpower. The creation of an army tank school also is creating demands for new types of technicians, such as draughtsmen, welders, and male stenographers who are being called up for the duration of the war.

Concern has been caused by the recent ruling of the U. S. Department of Justice, that naturalized American citizens who have lived abroad for some years must return to the United States by October 13, 1941, if they wish to retain their American citizenship. College professors and Rabbis are particularly hit by the new ruling, as in quite a number of instances naturalized Americans come to Canada to accept posts in different colleges, Jewish temples or synagogues. Principal F. Cyril James, of McGill University says some of McGill's staff were Americans but he did not know whether they were naturalized Americans or not. He said he had been informed by the U. S. Consul General that there were to be no exemptions other than the ones cited in the ruling from Washington, viz: "If such citizens are residing abroad solely or principally in the employment of foreign corporations if such are substantially owned and actually controlled by American business organizations having their principal offices or places of business in the United States." Persons born in the United States are not involved in the new ruling as they retain their American citizenship no matter where they live until and unless they swear allegiance to another country.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The Nazi are now engaged upon three fronts. The Russian armies are meeting them in the East the R.A.F. is hammering them from the skies, and the silent people in the submarines are undermining German tyranny from below. — Vancouver News Herald.

He has given New York the best city administration it has ever had. The sum of his constructive achievements far outweighs his mistakes. His good qualities of character—his courage, his honesty, his energy, his combativeness—far more than counter-balance his obvious defects. No one regards him as a paragon of all the virtues. But he has been a great, a distinguished Mayor. That is more than enough. — New York Herald Tribune

The size of the individual members of the American family has shown no decrease. Babies come in the Canadian Army in men and women are actually said to be taller and heavier than they were 50 years ago. The size of the modern bedroom can be measured by the length of the bed. The folding table in one corner of the living room may become a dining table, but they are not the same surface areas as once upon a time. — New York Times.

Mr. King's explanation of why Canada maintains the semblance of diplomatic relations with Vichy France, an especially vexing question, is not reassuring Mr. King's explanation, in effect, is that Canada is acting as a sort of buffer for the Empire between the British peoples and the encamped regime at Vichy. He says that Mr. Churchill is anxious that the connection should be maintained through the French Minister at Ottawa. Well, it may be so, but it is mighty dubious. What plain men are compelled to do in the name of the Empire is acting less and less like a responsible body of representative Frenchmen and more and more like the ignominious cat-servant and creature of a German. There is in honest dealing as much excuse now for having a German Embassy at Ottawa as a Vichy Legation in Canada.

The other day a restaurant patron complained that because he was wearing suspenders instead of a belt he was not permitted to order at the counter. His customers, suspendersless, ate their meals in cool comfort while he sweated. A piquant detail, he testified, was that several women diners, following a current mode, were wearing suspenders over their blouses, and no objection was made. If visible suspenders are permitted for women, why not for men? he inquired. What price sex equality now? It is not because of any aesthetic consideration, surely, for the average suspenders-wearing man, at that point of beauty and even gauntness yield nothing to the most ornamental of the feminine sort. What, then, is the answer? The answer is, "Why not for men?" The whole problem can be solved by the universal adoption of the belt. Some men are so constructed anatomically that they think they are which they cannot wear belts. But it is not only these, a small minority, who are exempt from the consideration. There are other and more numerous men who think suspenders are more comfortable, and still others, probably the most numerous class—who stick to suspenders out of long habit; they have worn 'em for 40 years and will be dinged if they're going to change now. These reasons are respectable ones, but it is sad to confess that they are not much respected by those who decide what the well-dressed man shall wear in public places. — New York Sun.

Here is one of the most interesting medical discoveries made during the war. It concerns an entirely new treatment for noise shock. For most sick persons quiet is the best part of their treatment, but there are at least some patients for whose recovery noise is necessary. Two mental experts, working in a military hospital, have been studying the treatment of mental disturbance due to gun-fire, shell-bursts, exploding bombs, sirens and diving-bombing planes. Treatment of such cases, by rest, by physical training, games and occupational therapy did a good deal, but not enough. Their patients were subjected to such cases as a slamming door, or a noisy automobile exhaust. They started violently at any unusual noise. In fact, hospital ward noises were used to restore to normal the victims of excessive noise. The doctors then borrowed from the BBC their gramophone records of war noises, of anti-air craft and machine guns, the sound of planes and sirens, explosions, and so on. The patients were told in simple terms that what was to be done. They were reminded that human beings can get used to any noise if they have enough of it. Those who live by a railway know this. And so they were subjected to the very same noises which had caused their breakdown. Their reactions were immediate. They were those of excitement, not of terror. They were relieving the emotional experiences which had terrified them. They trembled, they sweated—all the signs of great anxiety, but they brought back their anxieties, but they faced them and they conquered them. These men regained their self-control and their confidence.

Assembling of necessity packages for women of the British fighting forces has been put on a mass production basis at British War Relief Society headquarters in New York in order to meet the need created by the drafting into military service of additional thousands of English women. The packages will contain small comforts, many of which can no longer be purchased in Great Britain, for women of the services to take with them when they are sent away

The Poet's Corner

I never see the newsboys run Amid the whirling street, With swift untiring feet, To cry the latest venture done, But I expect one day to hear Them cry the crack of doom And risings from the tomb, With great Archangel Michael near: And see them running from the "fleet" As messengers of God, With Heaven's tidings shod About their brave untiring feet. — Shane Leslie.

Promotion From The Ranks

The 19-year-old son of the chief of staff of the Canadian Army is a private in the basic training school at Brantford. This is evidence of the new democratization that is coming into Canada's fighting forces. But it is not the only evidence. Outside of an occasional administrative job calling for specialized ability, no one can now enter the Canadian army with the rank of officer, or even of lance corporal. Every man joins as a private. All take the initial basic training that is common to soldiers in all the branches. Those demonstrating special qualities of leadership may be sent on to an officers training school, which we now have two in Canada. If they succeed there, they get the rank of second lieutenant. From then onward their further promotion depends upon their ability.

The Air Force has developed its own similar plan for reaching down to the ranks to find officer material. All men taking training in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan enter at the same rank—the lowest. Only a certain percentage of those ultimately winning their wings are given commissions. The commissions go to the pupils best demonstrating their worth.

The Navy, where distinction of class and rank have always been marked, is also seeking to find its top men among the more promising of its "other ratings." In the last war it was not until the closing stages, when we ran very short of officer material, that there was any accelerated scheme of promotion from the ranks. Truly in this war, every Canadian soldier, sailor or airman carries a field marshal's or admiral's baton—in his knapsack.

Need For Men

(St. Catharines Standard) Col. J. L. Ralston, Minister of Defense, Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Hon. Mr. Casgrain, and others in the Cabinet have been appealing in the best way they know for men to come forward and join the forces. There is a conspicuous lack of official information as to the week by week recruitment which is required for ordinary replacements, and the requirements of the men obtained by the nonorous oratory of the Cabinet Ministers.

The government is committed. The fastest and most effective way of securing men for the services is the one way the government will not travel. Politics governs this decision without question. The life of the Liberal party, however, is of far less importance than the life of the British Empire.

As a distinguished visiting United States Editor declared, Canada still insists on a comfortable way of waging war. But wars cannot be won with comfort but only with sacrifice. No matter how wars be won by politics and all the sophistry thereof.

When a Canadian recruiting Sergeant is asked to keep off a country fair ground, because it will hurt attendance, it is time for patriotic Canadians to bestir themselves and do some serious thinking as to what is the cause of the mental condition and reaction against war services held by thousands of the young men of the nation. There is only one responsibility for it.

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WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR "We are fighting to defend democratic and Christian ideals. We believe that everything which free men value and cherish on the side of the 'W' is in peril in this war." — W. L. Mackenzie King.

Churchill And The Cat

(New York Herald-Tribune) Criticism of and comment upon the historic meeting between President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill has taken many forms. It has ranged from most solemn disquisitions upon matters of world import—with which after all the meeting was really concerned—to bitter clashes over very minor points of protocol. But it has remained for a publication in London to strike one can not say a new low—a note which is quite out of this world. The publication is called "Cat" and it is the organ of the Cats Protective League. As reported by The Associated Press, "Cat" took umbrage at pictures showing Mr. Churchill patting a feline mascot on the head during the Atlantic sessions. Cats, it asserted "abhor head patting." The Prime Minister should have offered his hands and been awarded a sign of approval before taking liberties.

Aside from the fact that Mr. Churchill is far more concerned these days with the problem of dealing with a man-eating tiger than with the niceties of social intercourse with lesser felines, it seems that the etiquette prescribed by "Cat" is a bit over-refined. After all there are cats and cats. Some will look coldly upon an outstretched hand, then go back to sleep. Some will arch up to it and purr. And still others, in the tradition of mehlabei will leap at it with a loud cry and do some efficient mauling. Cats, in fact, are the most individualistic of pets as well as the least predictable. Therefore, since Mr. Churchill and the cat he patted on the head both emerged unscathed from the encounter, their meeting may be considered a success.

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Honor Roll of Sea View School. Grade X-1, Velda Duggan; 2, Lea Stewart; 3, Sterling Murphy. Grade IX-1, Elmer Adams; 2, Leigh Donald. Grade VIII-1, Robert Murphy; 2, Allison MacLennan; 3, Elaine Graham. Grade VII-1, Dorothy Murphy; 2, Wallace Murphy; 3, Audrey Adams. Grade IV-1, Max Murphy; 2, Clarence Adams; 3, Thane Adams. Grade III-1, Pauline Adams; 2, Keith Adams; 3, Gordon Sutherland.
The finer the nature, the more flaws will show through the clearness of it; and it is a law of this universe that the best things shall be saddest seen in their best forms.—Ruskin.

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