

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1939.

Financing the War

Writing in a current issue of The Canadian Chartered Accountant, Professor McQueen of Manitoba University makes the observation that this generation in Canada which must fight the war must also pay the war and that those who tell us that we can make posterity pay are deceiving both themselves and us.

Clothing The Troops

The clothing situation of the Active Militia is rapidly becoming more satisfactory. At the start the demand for wool for the manufacture of uniform serge, underwear, socks, sweaters and blankets placed an abnormal tax on the country's wool supplies.

Censorship in Britain

A tribute to the fairness and courtesy of the British censors is paid by the London correspondent of the New York Times, who writes: It is being demonstrated every day that censorship need imply no suppression of news other than military or naval secrets.

straightforward, honest rule of law with nothing sinister about it. It may prevent American readers from knowing the exact latitude and longitude where the Rawalpindi was sunk, but it does not attempt to edit correspondents' despatches to make it appear that the victim of the German pocket battleship went to the bottom because of a boiler explosion.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Statute of Westminster passed this date, 1931. The skaters and skiers are now taking heart. Welcome to the Hon. Mr. Ralston. Minister of Finance Dunning is dead politically. Long live Minister of Finance—Ralston!

The Australian militia will be composed entirely of men obtained through the compulsory system, as the result of a decision of the Commonwealth Government to retire all members of the voluntary militia to the reserve at the end of the financial year, June 30.

Ontario Presbyterian ministers are kicking against being asked to continue Government officials in the performance of marriages. A resolution favouring civic marriages was moved in the Presbytery by Rev. Ross Skinner and seconded by Rev. Joseph Wasson.

Hon. Mr. Cordell Hull, U.S.A. Secretary of State, has invaded the Farm Belt in defence of the Government's tariff policy. Referring to farm imports for the first nine months, Hull said that two-thirds of these were of products "which even the authors of the Hawley-Smoot tariff considered so incapable of displacing our farm production and so indispensable for our people that they were left on the free list in the Tariff Act of 1930."

German industrialists, with whom Mr. D. G. Munro, managing director of Montreal Coke and Manufacturing Co., talked during a trip to Germany early in 1933, felt that Hitler would not make much headway, Mr. Munro recalled recently. At that time factories were closed.

Hitler, however, assumed power and almost immediately, Germany's industry revived with the objective of making the country self-sufficient. His second trip, late in 1937, Mr. Munro states, revealed a much different scene with no unemployed and all industries working at full speed.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The State of Michigan has quite an idea regarding its automobile license plates. Carelessness with old plates has led to much trouble for the police and the possession of them has kept owners from buying new ones for too long periods.

Shipping of all sorts is afoot. Big warships ride the ocean waves in search of enemy raiders. Fast liners travel alone, relying on newly acquired guns for protection. And hundreds of other vessels travel in convoys.

Another well recognized sign of winter is given in the closing by ice of the Saint John River. It will be recalled, of course, that last year the river, after being officially and definitely closed by ice several days, opened again following rains and mild weather.

In time of war, when the first necessity is to get things done quickly whatever the cost, rough and ready methods are adopted, inevitably involving much waste of public money. In the last war waste must have cost the country scores of millions.

The Financial Post charges this week that patronage is only part of the issue which has been raised against the government. This independent newspaper, of high standing, says: "Political favoritism has been rampant, but so have the unbusinesslike methods of awarding contracts, weakness and carelessness in the administration of defence."

Generous citizens of Windsor and district dug down deep and contributed so handsomely to the Red Cross C.F.O.N. drive that, not only has the high objective of \$120,000 been reached, but already \$135,653 has been reported and still more is to come in. The people should be proud to live in a community where such open-hearted giving has been put on the record.

Restrictions on the Montreal waterfront these days are severe, and only persons armed with special permits are permitted inside the Commissioners' street flood-wall. The list does not include the wives of ship's officers, which has caused concern to one master mariner. How to get permission for his wife to visit him while in port? He solved it quite simply. He merely signed on his wife's stewardship for the duration of his stay. As a member of the crew, she was allowed past the barriers.

The existence of grave obstacles does not mean that the dream of a federated Europe is impossible. Our thirteen original States achieved a lasting union. Germany and Italy are themselves unions of once separate States. Perhaps in this direction, under pressure for common defence, we may eventually see further regional unions, as in Scandinavia and the Balkans.

Probably none of the neutral countries has yet faced the sternest test of its stability and will to escape war. The economic struggle is being intensified. The determination of the belligerents to find a short cut to military decision will find expression soon or late. The contest for concessions to the neutral States and control of their policies will grow fiercer as the deadlock in the West continues. In the last war Italy, Bulgaria, Portugal, Roumania and Greece entered the conflict after ten months or more of neutrality.

Shop - Keeping In Pioneer Days

THE STORY OF BEDEQUE'S FIRST STORE By E. S. D. From the Day - Book of William Schurman, merchant, "on the Island of St. John," begun 1784

In the early log cabins the household furnishings were doubtless mostly of the home-made variety, and probably when the folks could afford the more pretentious furniture they went to Charlottetown to shop. Anyhow, Schurman's book never records the sale of a bed or table. Chairs, cupboards, and saucers, seem to be the principal items of trade in the home-furnishings department.

Keags are mentioned quite frequently and varied in price from 50c per bushel to \$1.20. A bushel of wash tubs that is interesting to see John Baker in 1807 buying "1 tub for meat 6s. (\$1.20). A firkin of butter was sold for 10s. Buckets were always forty-five to fifty cents a piece in the early days, though a well bucket cost only forty cents in the late 1800's.

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The Poet's Corner

IF I HAD WINGS LIKE A BIRD If I had wings just like a bird I'd fly to you in a single word; I'd spread my wings and fly away Beyond the reach of yesterday!

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—(AP)—Alf. M. Landon, who twice has challenged President Roosevelt to disclose his third-term intentions, talked with the President for nearly an hour today—and the subject wasn't even mentioned. He reported the President didn't bring it up and "I didn't either."

"WORN OUT" AND WORRIED Dragging around each day, unable to do household errands with the children—feeling miserable. Blaming it on "nerves" when the kidneys may be out of order. When kidneys fail the system clogs with uric acid. Headaches—backache, frequently follow. Dodd's Kidney Pills help clear the system, giving nature a chance to restore health and energy. Easy to take. Safe. 116

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of general interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

FARM REHABILITATION

Sir,—A stenographic error occurred in the first paragraph of my last letter on the above subject, by which the word "mortgaging" was used for "marketing," thereby depriving the argument of its most significant point. The present exceedingly unsatisfactory marketing methods of all island exports are the direct cause of the low prices being obtained by farmers and fishermen, which in turn have resulted in their falling behind financially. It is in this fact mainly that your correspondent "One Who Knows" will find a reply to his question as to why the number of Island farmers who sought relief under the Farmers Creditors Arrangement Act was so greatly in excess of the applicants in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

I am Sir, etc., H. K. S. HEMMING

QUERY

Sir,—Is it true that a Prince Edward Island director of the Canadian National Silver Fox Breeders Association at an Executive meeting held on Nov. 23rd last, refused to second a motion made by a director from Nova Scotia to hold the next annual meeting of the Association in this Province?

Is it true that the P. E. I. Fox Breeders and Exhibitors Association could legally nominate directors last year, but cannot do so this year? Is it true that a member had his way paid in Calgary in January last when he was not nominated at the annual meeting of the P. E. I. Fox Breeders and Exhibitors Association?

I am, Sir, etc., FOX BREEDER Member of both Associations.

PUBLIC SCHOOL AIMS OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Sir,—Almost everywhere, throughout the Dominion of Canada, educators these past years, have worked long and earnestly over the problems of Public School Education. Their efforts have resulted in revised Courses of Study. Most of these changes in the Curriculum have brought, little if any, added expense; they manifest themselves, rather, in different attitudes and aims, functioning through reorganization of subject matter and different emphasis and methods more in keeping in the opinion of these educators, with present conditions and the greater knowledge, now available, of the nature of the child—the core and only reason for the existence of any system of education.

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must be accepted by the first individual or group as desirable. Thus we cannot impose our educational aims upon our pupils. In education we must recognize two groups of aims—those of the teacher or educator, and those of the pupil or learner. The aims of the teacher or educator are adult aims and reach far into the future. Those of the pupil are altogether different. They are immediate, and may even appear trivial to the teacher. The teacher must guide the pupil in forming his own aims, so that the aims will more and more approach harmony with adult aims of education.

The Right To Criticize

(Brantford Expositor) One of the best incentives to efficient administrative action is a realization that policy is being watched with a discerning eye. If this vigilance is relaxed there is an inevitable tendency to inefficiency, if not incompetence. It is useless to pretend that Canada's war effort and the organization to that end have attained perfection. It would be unreasonable to expect it. Criticism, therefore, provided it be of a constructive nature, should be welcomed as being helpful at such a time. To suggest that free expression of opinion by responsible spokesmen for a free people is likely to give the Nazis "wrong ideas" is a silly argument. The Nazi propaganda ministry can be depended upon to invent unfavorable stories about Canada which will fully eclipse the truth. Dr. Goebbels does not depend upon little items of honest criticism for his supply of ammunition. There is the high example of the Motherland where, on the most crucial of policies, the Government rarely escapes criticism even in wartime. Mr. Chamberlain and his Ministers are almost daily subjected to vigorous and sometimes bitter attack from one section or another of the British press, or in Parliament itself. Despite the restriction of a state of war, the voice of critical judgment is not stifled in the United Kingdom. And this, even at so early a date, has had demonstrable value. Because press and people have not remained unscathed, blunders have been remedied and mistakes prevented which might otherwise have resulted in loss and possibly disaster. There is a world of difference between criticism and subversion and neither Ottawa nor any other capital in the British Commonwealth of Nations has any cause to be too sensitive on the subject. When the voice of fair and reasonable criticism is stifled in this land, the very principles for which we are now fighting will have died.

STRAIGHT SHOOTING

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