# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

SATURDAY MARCH 15, 1941.


## What Our Farmers Want

In election campaigns, though rarely at other times, we hear a great deal about party platforms. This week we had our farmers in session in Charlottetown, and the result of their deliberations was the adoption of a "platform" consisting of a number of resolutions which were not concocted for the purpose of getting votes, but of remedying conditions in the farm industry. As such they merit serious consideration. Briefly, the resolutions embody the following concrete suggestions:

Establishment of a forest tree nursery for the Province.

A Maritime livestock show in Charlottetown.

Curtailment of acreage of potatoes "by educational or other means."

Government investigation of the possibility of supplying mussel mud to farmers.

Investigation into the price of chemical fertilizer with respect to increase over pre-war prices.

A cold storage plant at Borden for storage of Island butter and cheese.

Eradication of warble fly and bot fly by educating herd owners in methods of treatment, followed by legislation enforcing such treatment.

Such repairs and additions to the Railway wharf, Charlottetown, as are necessary for the safe handling of shipments of potatoes and turnips.

Zoning of milk supply territory for each creamery, suggested as a matter "to be considered by the executive of the Dairymen's Association."

Substitution of present system of pegging butter prices by leaving butter on open market and setting the price of cheese at 19 cents.

Refund of the present fertilizer tax on purchases up to five tons.

Bonus of $1.00 a head on Grade A hogs and 50 cents on Grade B hogs for the duration of the war, "to offset the high cost of producing hogs at present feed prices."

Introduction, with minor amendments, of livestock marketing scheme as approved by the Provincial Marketing Board.

Formation of a Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture, consisting of representatives of existing farm organizations, with authority "to speak for and represent the agricultural interests of the Province as a whole."

## Canada, 1941

The abbreviation of the Canada Year Book published under the above title by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics contains a wealth of information about economic conditions, war preparations and war finance up to the end of 1940. It is attractively illustrated and enables all Canadians to obtain the latest official information about their country. The cost is 25 cents from the King's Printer, Ottawa, with a special rate for teachers, bona-fide students and clergymen of 10 cents when ordered from the Dominion Statistician.

## Our War Production

Since Parliament resumed on February 17, there has been a spate of controversy over Canada's war effort in so far as it applies to the Department of Munitions and Supply. Mr. Howe, the responsible minister, has responded with abuse of his leading newspaper critics, and other cabinet ministers have followed suit. According to the Ottawa correspondent of the Winnipeg Free Press (Liberal), the Government has been under fire from all quarters and the criticisms has had a profound effect. Anyone who reads Hansard from February 17 to March 6 will agree that the industrial front of the war effort has received, for the first time, searching, constructive criticism. Mr. Howe has been hard put to meet his critics. He has been given a severe grilling. He asked no quarter, he got none. The upshot is that much welcome light has been thrown on the work of his department. There is now available in Hansard a great mass of information. And it is the right kind of information—facts sifted by keen controversy. The results, as summed up by the Free Press correspondent, are as follows:

Of ten branches of the Munitions and Supply Department, seven are up to or ahead of schedule. These branches include shells, bombs, automotive equipment, ships, construction, clothing and personal equipment, chemicals, explosives and shell fillings.

Three branches of the department have fallen down, some of them badly—tanks, guns, airplanes.

In addition, there is the item of machine tools. Plants are stated by Mr. Howe to be working to capacity, and there is no suggestion of inefficiency. But they cannot meet the demand and there is increasing difficulty in getting tools from the United States. Lack of these needed tools will slow the pace of expansion in many fields of war production.

Provided the delays in production of guns, tanks and airplanes are overcome, Mr. Howe has nothing ahead but fair weather. If they are not overcome, his position in the Commons will become increasingly difficult.

This plain statement of the situation makes more satisfactory reading than the reams of propaganda which have been issued by the Government's publicity bureau. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are being expended in such publicity, most of which goes into newspaper wastebaskets because it is unpublishable in the form in which it is sent out. It does not serve the only purpose for which such expenditure of the taxpayers' money would be justified, namely, of giving the plain unvarnished facts.

If Mr. Howe and his press agents had contented themselves with doing that, much of the parliamentary fireworks could have been dispensed with.

## — EDITORIAL NOTES —

Congratulations—first day of Spring!

* * * *

The Russo-Finish Peace Treaty was signed this date 1940.

* * * *

Tomorrow 3rd Sunday in Lent.

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Following the example of Prime Minister Churchill, our Federal Prime Minister has, on command of His Majesty, issued a proclamation setting aside Sunday 23rd inst as a special day of prayer on behalf of our Commonwealth and our new ally, the U. S. A.

* * * *

General Andrew Jackson, seventh President of the United States, born this date 1767; when the state of Tennesssee was formed he helped to frame its constitution; in the war with Britain (1812) he obtained a command in the new U. S. Army; occupied Pensacola, and defeated the British at New Orleans (1815); appointed governor of Florida (1821); elected President (1828,) and re-elected four years later.

* * * *

In Yorkville Court, N. Y., Magistrate Michael A. Ford refused to punish two defendants who pleaded guilty to charges of failing to clear the snow from the sidewalks in front of their First Avenue stores. "I am very reluctant to impose a fine on a citizen who doesn't clear snow from his sidewalk when the City of New York doesn't remove snow and ice from the streets and particularly the cross-walks," the magistrate said.

* * * *

There is hanging in the office of the Commander of the First Army Corps, Governors Island, New York, a picture of a Lieut. Col. Henry Bouquet, who, in 1756, organized a regiment of British-Americans for the French and Indian wars. It may also be recalled that another unit, the American Regiment of the British Army, had garrisoned Governors Island at one time. General Beaumont-Nesbitt, British Military Attache at Washington, who recently visited the Island, said this regiment was still on the organization tables of the British Army but was known as the "Sixtieth Rifles, the King's Royal Rifle Corps."

* * * *

It is possible to carry a joke too far and rue it. The undertaker of a small village ordered a coffin from the neighbouring city. It was being transported on the roof of the regular passenger bus to its destination. Since the bus was full, one of the passengers climbed on the roof and shortly afterwards, when it began to rain lifted the lid of the coffin and got inside. At one of the next stops two more passengers also climbed to the roof and sat next to the coffin. Shortly afterward the "occupant of the coffin, hearing conversation outside, lifted the lid and asked: "Is it raining?" Terrified, the other two roof passengers jumped, one being killed outright and other seriously injured. Pending police investigation, the "corpse" is being held.

* * * *

Apparently in Saint John tourists grab "blackout" notices as mementos of their visit, and the Telegraph-Journal suggests "better that than hotel towels." The notices referred to read as follows: "Hotel lights will not be extinguished. When warning sirens sound, please see that your window shades are tightly drawn and keep them so until the end of the blackout period. When leaving your room in the evening, kindly see that all lights are OUT," Tourist officials this coming season might do well to list blackout instructions among Saint John's "attractions." One hotel printer said that these cards are fast replacing "Do Not Disturb" signs which many hotel guests like to take with them.

* * * *

It is well-known New Zealand is the most advanced socialistic dominion in the Commonwealth, but at last she has struck a snag. A week after it was launched, it is now apparent that the Government's new attempt to establish a national system of free medical care has been blocked by the continued refusal of the doctors to co-operate. Press reports indicate less than one per cent. of the doctors have responded to the Government's invitation to conclude individual contacts with citizens for service at a three-dollar yearly fee, while post offices report small public demand for benefit cards which doctors must sign. Meantime in protest at the attitude of the doctors the miners at Dobson pit, near Wellington, struck work for a day.

* * * *

Empty jam tins, milk tins, and other containers are being salvaged in Sydney, U. S. A., for the recovery of pure tin by an electrolytic process perfected by a Czechoslovakian refugee, E. Georfi. The reclamation of tin from scrap is not a new process, but the method used by Georfi is stated to be greatly in advance of the older methods employed in Britain and the United States. The process, which was developed by Georfi in Czechoslovakia before he was forced to leave his country, is stated to yield tin which is almost spectroscopically pure. The process is a carefully guarded secret known only to Georfi and certain employes of the new company. Within a week the new factory was working 24 hours a day. Machinery is being installed to double its capacity, and additional factories are to be erected in Newcastle, Melbourne, and Adelaide. The New Zealand Government has approached the company for particulars of the process. The factory at present is treating scrap tin clippings, which formerly went to Japan. The export of scrap metal to Japan and other countries was recently forbidden by the Commonwealth Government. Under contract with the military authorities the company removes all empty tins and containers from camps. These old tins are treated and ultimately become new metal. The company also secures supplies of scrap from municipal councils. In Sydney alone many tons of empty tins were previously dumped into the sea or incinerated.

## NOTES BY THE WAY

**A packet of tea, sufficient for two** persons, has reached the Times Office from a regular reader of the Times Weekly Edition, who writes from North Vancouver, B.C., to renew the annual subscription. In a covering note our correspondent says: "A habit is to send with each letter to England — tea for two. You, who are fated to read this attempt at admiration, may find consolation if you pour some boiling water on the enclosed little packet, when next you dive for a shelter. If not, then you may get a chuckle out of—How the Mighty Times got a 'spot of tea'." — London Times.

**Said to have become so pro**ficient in growing their own tobacco that they smoked it continually the whole day long—even in their bath — a Scotsman, an Irishman and eight Lithuanians were each fined £2 at Airdrie for an unusual use of wartime allotments granted them by Bellshill District Council. They admitted charges of having grown tobacco without a Government license and without the land having been approved by the Customs and Excise. Some of the men were devoting as much as three rods of ground to the growing of the tobacco, and they were proficient in its culture and the drying of leaves, steeping them in treacle and saltpetre and compressing them in machines which they made. — Leeds Yorkshire Post.

**Judging from pictorial evi**dence which has come out of occupied France, the great French cathedrals have fortunately survived the fighting of last year. A well-known French artist in the Autumn of 1940 made careful drawings of the cathedrals at Amiens, Rheims, Chartres and Beauvais. His intention was to show them in their new settings of bombed and shell-damaged buildings, and they make it clear that no obvious damage was inflicted. The front of Rheims Cathedral, which was opened with great ceremony when it had been reconstructed after the shelling and the fires of 1914-18, is shown with sandbags protecting the famous carving on the west front. The houses, so well known to British visitors, which lie close to the walls of the cathedral at Amiens, are now in ruins, but the bombs or shells appear to have missed the cathedral itself. It is believed that the cathedral at Strasbourg, with its famous lace-like spire, is also intact, although it is said now to be closed for religious services, as it is being converted into a German national memorial. — Manchester Guardian.

**In claiming to be a Plantagenet** —"directly descended from Henry II and Henry the Lion, Duke of Bavaria and Saxony in the twelfth century"—General Goring underrates his pedigree. He is clearly a descendant of the Neanderthal Man, and brings his manners and his morals with him (says the Observer.

**Matsuoka resents these precau**tionary measures, saying that "while it may be true and not unnatural that Britain and America have made their preparations to meet any possible contingency, any one can guess that these measures are being aimed at Japan and her actions.—Sydney Post-Record.

**One of the results of having the** Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill as Britain's Prime Minister in time of war is the rapid rediscovery that the English language is capable of expressing great thoughts and inspiring world-saving action. And few of Mr. Churchill's words are long words. It might be argued that Mr. Churchill would be a great man even if his speeches were unreadable. But this might not be the fact, for the mind which is capable of stripping thoughts to simple words is a mind which can grasp great problems by casting away nonessential detail. The power of Mr. Churchill over the free peoples of the earth is the power of forthright honesty of purpose which probably would not be as great if he ever succumbed to the temptation, apparent elsewhere, to use words for concealment, rather than the expression, of thought. — The Printed Word.

**Day raids are once more be**coming a feature of London life. But up to date they have not been on a scale large enough to disturb the city's normal activities. One by one, raiders seem overhead, an occasional bomb crashes down, generally on some inoffensive suburban street, and the Londoners, with the guns barking on all sides, stroll along their pavements and carry on with their work without exhibiting much curiosity. A new feature of the day raids — the dropping of incendiary bombs — has led to the development of a novel and exciting occupation for pedestrians. In a busy thoroughfare this afternoon I saw two of these fire bombs land spluttering on the roadway. An immediate rush by all the people on the nearby pavements to put them out caused some bumping and jostling, but they were speedily extinguished with the bags of sand now conveniently placed in every street. The incident ended with some boys trying to capture the remains of the bombs as souvenirs, and enduring a few burnt fingers in consequence. — Edinburgh Scotsman.

**The recapture by a Sheffield** bus conductor of a German prisoner, one of three who had escaped from a North of England camp is recalled by a letter of commendation sent to him by the Sheffield Corporation Transport Department. Mr. Colin Spittle, of Studfield Hill, Sheffield, was acting as conductor on a bus going to Sheffield, and at Retford the police gave him a description of the escaped prisoners. Sixteen miles from Sheffield the bus stopped for an elderly passenger, and a young man jumped on. He was dressed in civilian clothing, and carried a small travelling case, which was later found to contain chocolate. He asked for a ticket to Sheffield in fluent, if unnatural English", said Mr. Spittle. "As I gave him the ticket I heard a sharp click of his heels and saw a slick forward movement of his head, and recognized this as a German mannerism". Mr. Spittle told the bus driver of his suspicions, and when they came to a police sergeant and constable about four miles from Sheffield the German was ordered out of the bus. He was quite self-possessed until he was asked if he was one of the three escaped men. Then he appeared startled and was taken into custody. — London Times.

## PUBLIC FORUM

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

### KINGS COUNTY, WAKE UP!

Sir,—It is rumored that there is a movement afoot by local Liberals backed by the big fellows at Ottawa to abolish the Judgeship of Kings County and place instead a fourth Judge in the Supreme Court at additional cost to the country in this most serious time when the policy of saving should be practiced and not only preached, and every available dollar used to win the war.

I wonder if Messrs Ralston, MacMillan and Douglas have consulted Dr. Grant, and if he too is in favor of robbing Kings County of her resident judge?

How do the Liberal representatives for Kings County in the local Legislature, Messrs. MacIsaac, MacIntyre, Cox, Mustard, Annear, Campbell, Hughes, and Saville feel about the proposed move? Have they been consulted? Is it another case of "putting one over" on King's County? We know that Messrs. MacPhee and MacLean would not countenance such an outrage.

I am, Sir, etc.
KING'S COUNTY.

### LIVESTOCK MARKETING

Sir,—May I be permitted to reply to Mr. W. B. McLellan's letter of the 10th, wherein he makes a feeble attempt to answer two of the many questions asked by me in a previous letter. No. 1: Did the Marketing Board pay more on any occasion? He attempts to prove that on this particular shipment they paid five cents per hundred more. I grant this. But after all, this would not account for much of the increase in commission paid to the Board by their packer.

Mr. McLellan insinuates that I am buying hogs and making a profit. May I say that I am following the same system as the Board, except that I am not pretending to be co-operative. And if I am receiving too much commission, I must blame the Board, for they are the ones that fixed the commission, and we individual shippers have always received the same remuneration until lately, when one packer increased the commission 20 cents per cwt. to the Board, but not to the individual. What has become of the other 15 cents? I presume this has gone into the campaign fund. But after the Act becomes effective, no doubt this will be withdrawn.

No. 2: Why did they sever their connection with the Club at Moncton? He says this was caused by an "imaginary grievance." Was it imaginary that two men were pulling down some $12,000 in salary and receiving $1,500 from the three different provinces? Was it imagination that they simply became an agent for one and only one packing plant? He blames Mr. Hueston for the break. If so, more power to Mr. Hueston. However, I am sure there were others to blame. I think there are still some of us who recall a meeting held at O'Leary about three months before the birth of this P.E.I. Marketing Board at which advocates tried to defend the actions of the Maritime Club. But their arguments were about as feeble and childish as some of the propaganda appearing from week to week in the press.

Now, let me state here that I am in favor of anything that will benefit the community in which I live. I have no objection to the Board continuing. I have always co-operated with their shipper here, and never interfered in any way. But when it comes to giving anyone, man or woman, a monopoly to carry on with the aid of government protection to market live stock, which they never owned, can you expect it to be the success that it might? Our past history should decide that, and history will repeat.

I am, sir, etc.,
SANFORD PHILLIPS.
O'Leary.

### REFLECTIONS ON POETRY

Sir,—If, by good luck, you read the kind of poetry which appeals to you, you will be thrilled and fascinated, and the more tender moving lines will sink into your memory if not your very soul. You will wish to repeat them to every friend you meet, and you will wonder why so many beautiful thoughts often escape seemingly intelligent people.

But memory is a fickle guardian, especially in a world of 'phones, jazz, radio and siren horns. And among poetry readers, poetry backsliders are numerous enough. Days, very likely weeks, often go by before you are stung by remorse into a love of that first impulse. Only the accidental remark or the possibility of coming by an article like this stirs you into decision. And then you say: What poetry shall I read?

It is impossible to tell you this, but you might profit by reading some of Whittier's works, for there is a mystic quality well worth while. In Bryant, Longfellow, Burns, Chapman and others you will find especially fine poems.

To enjoy poetry, I believe one should read it as a child does fairy stories—that is, at frequent intervals. Learning poetry by heart is perhaps the best method of all and we are glad this practice is kept up in our public schools, even if too little so; for this practice together with a try at verse-making oneself, is of great value in the formation of style and helps one write better composition.

Every generation produces its highbrow and lowbrow poets. The lowbrows are popular and often make money. The highbrows are exclusive and unless supported often die in poverty; as was the case of George Sterling and others whom I might have mentioned, as well as so few unknown souls in our present time.

In the previous generation, the three most popular "lowbrow" poets were undoubtedly Ella Wilcox, Will Carleton, and James Whitcomb Riley. Of this trio, I believe that Riley will survive longest, for his children's poems are mighty nice gems. In the present generation, Robert Service's works are examples of the obvious, having a wide popularity. But Eddie Guest, incubated in a newspaper office, enjoys the vogue of widest popularity. He understands the masses and caters to their tastes.

With real genius it is different, the men who must labor to perfection will either speak out the language of the soul or die, even though they starve in the doing.

I am, sir, etc.
F. H. MacARTHUR.

### Self-Supporting

"I see your daughter is back home again, old boy."

"Yes. We found it too expensive having her living in a flat supporting herself."—Fredericton Gleaner.

## War Census Taken Already

(From House of Commons Hansard (Ottawa)

NATIONAL REGISTRATION

Mr. DOUGLAS (Weyburn):

1. What was the total cost of the national registration conducted under the National Resources Mobilization Act?
2. How soon will the data collected be classified and made available?
3. What was the total number of persons registered, (a) males; (b) females?
4. How many workers suitable for war industries were located, and in what trades?
5. How many of these workmen have been placed in war industries as a result of the national registration?
6. How many persons were found capable of driving a tractor, (a) males; (b) females?
7. How many persons were found capable of milking a cow, (a) males; (b) females?

Mr. GARDINER:

1. Expenditure to date, $806,988.12; Department of Public Printing and Stationery accounts still awaiting payment, $111,745; total $918,733.12
2. The data for reserved occupations, etc., are already available, and part of the statistical data. The latter will be completed before the end of March.
3. (a) 3,988,760 males; (b) 3,871,710 females.
4. Approximately 1,800,000 in 1,250 trades.
5. No record available. Department of Labor is presently engaged in extracting from lists prepared, names and addresses of unemployed persons, and these lists are being sent to employment agencies for the use of industry. Industry may secure complete lists of names and addresses of all persons with special qualifications for the doing of any type of work in respect of which they desire, men or women. It is expected that this type of information and service will be increasingly required as demands of industry for men and women develop.
6. In Ontario, 636,400 males; 20,210 females; other provinces not yet available.
7. In Ontario 556,500 males; 318,880 females; other provinces not yet available.

## He Guessed Wrong!

(Exchange)

In the first world war, King Ferdinand of Bulgaria made a bad guess. He went with the Germans and it cost him his throne. Under similar pressure, his son, King Boris makes the same decision figuring perhaps that the little ball will not roll into the black twice in succession.

The old fox of the Balkans, now fat and wheezy, is holed up at Coburg. The Germans have paid him off with $30,000 a year, and Herr Hitler wired him felicitations in his 80th birthday the other day. He salvaged some nice opals and other semi-precious stones, along with diamonds, emeralds and rubies from his better days. He likes to carry them around in his pocket, hold them up to the light and croon over them, as he sits in the back room of the tavern for hours.

It was quite literally a few flips of the little ball on the roulette wheel which impelled him to his throne. A young Hussar lieutenant, half German Coburg and half French Bourbon, he was stationed in Hungary. He lost heavily in an evening of gambling and had twenty-four hours in which to pay up. A card shark and professional fixer named Phillip Waldapper paid the losses, in exchange for several pounds of flesh.

Waldapper took the young lieutenant in hand. It appeared there would soon be an opening in Bulgaria for a king and Waldapper started a buildup for Ferdinand. The latter was enthusiastic at first, but later tried to withdraw because he said, he wanted to be a botanist, also to collect butterflies. However, his Spartan mother made him go through, and in 1887 he gained the throne. An ecstatic chronicle of that day describes him:

"The handsome, smiling youth perfectly corseted, his lips and cheeks bravely rouged, leaving in his wake an exotic perfume as he rode gallantly into Sofia amid the cheers of his devoted people."

Waldapper got the state lottery concession, made a huge fortune, but died penniless. The King set a fast night-club pace in his court, but when they bounced him in 1918, he immediately went to Africa to pick up his botany and butterfly chasing. The old man chuckles as he fondles his treasures.

### Exercise

"You should take more exercise," said the doctor.

"Take more exercise!" exclaimed the patient. "Why, I'm out seven nights running."—London Evening News.


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