

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887) President, Lieut.-Col. W. Chester S. McLure Vice-President, J. R. Burnett, F.J.I. Secretary, Lieut.-Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O. Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett, F.J.I. Associate Editors, Frank Walker and Ian A. Burnell.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES By Mail in P. E. I. \$4.00 per year, \$2.50 for 6 months, \$1.25 for 3 months, 50c for one month. City Delivery, \$5.00 per year, \$3.00 for 6 months, \$1.75 for 3 months.

By Mail in Canada and U. S. A. \$5.00 per year. Saturday Weekly, \$2.00 per year, \$1.00 for 6 months, 50c for 3 months.

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1940.

Canada's War Expenditure

How much of our national income can we spend on war? This question is posed by an Ottawa correspondent and he warns in the first place that one should be critical of comparisons between war expenditures in Canada and Britain. Sometimes it is argued that Britain is spending up to 35 per cent of her national income for war and, therefore, Canada should be able to spend at least 25 per cent. It is contended, however, that the two countries are not comparable. Owing to size and our federal system, the cost of government in Canada is far greater per capita than in Britain. It costs about one billion dollars to run the federal, provincial and municipal governments and, short of extreme use of war power, Ottawa cannot control provincial and municipal spending.

It is suggested that the best way of appraising the importance of our war effort is by assuming that the national income this year will be \$4,500,000,000. From this deduct \$1,000,000,000 to pay for the cost of government. War expenditures are estimated at \$500,000,000 for the Canadian fighting forces; \$100,000,000 for the air training plan; and an unknown sum for the repatriation of Canadian securities now held in Britain. We must buy back these securities so that Britain can pay for what she requires from Canada. The extent of these repatriations cannot be estimated. In the first six months of the war the total was \$940,000,000, and this was a direct deal between the British and Canadian governments. But from mid-March, repatriation is to proceed by private sale of these securities by British holders to Canadian buyers. A substantial business is developing and it may well run to \$250,000,000 this year.

As for the estimates of war expenditures, it is noted that the estimate for the first seven months of the war were exceeded by 15 per cent and the estimate for the full year now beginning will probably be exceeded to a like extent. All this adds up to a total war expenditure, direct and indirect, of about \$940,000,000. And it must come out of an income, after costs of government have been met, of \$3,500,000,000. It is evident, here, that if Canada does as well as this, the government will be more than satisfied.

The Italian Barometer

It is cheering to note, in connection with the Norwegian campaign, the changed attitude of the Italian press. Mussolini is in all probability very well informed as to the course of the fighting. He doubtless received assurances from his friend Hitler that all was going very well, and the first reaction of the Italian press was to feature triumph after triumph of the Nazi forces. Mussolini must now have come to the conclusion that the Allies are going to be the ultimate victors. Anxious always to be on the side that seems to be winning, he has instructed his creature newspapers to underline Hitler's failure to complete the job he undertook so rashly on April 9.

The Roman barometer, suggests an exchange, is not a bad one to follow these days. It indicates with a sure touch which belligerent appears to be top dog; and Mussolini's sudden change of front probably represents exactly what is going on in the Norwegian valleys.

Gravel And Mr. McIntyre

Hon. Mr. McIntyre interrupted the Opposition leader in his speech on the budget Wednesday night to inform him, the House, and the public in general that it was he, Mr. McIntyre, who "first found gravel on the Island." That, Mr. McIntyre explained, was back in 1928, and he had a report from the federal engineers to show for it.

Mr. McIntyre has put forward this claim on several occasions, but unfortunately it is one which no amount of repetition can substantiate. The facts are against him. There is on record a document known as the Dominion Audit Board Report. It is dated Oct. 8, 1939, and it refers to the subsidy claims of this Province. Attached thereto is the memorandum filed by the Lea Government in which Mr. McIntyre, then as now, was Minister of Public Works and Highways. This memorandum contains the following statement:

"Owing to the fact that we have NO GRAVEL in the Province, and the high cost of importing the same, we have not a mile of permanent highways."

If Mr. McIntyre knew in 1928 that there was Island gravel available, it is strange that he did not take his government colleagues into his confidence. Very strange that he went on importing gravel from Nova Scotia at "high cost," depriving Island people of money and employment; and he guarded the secret of his discovery of Island gravel so carefully that two years later his own Premier and cabinet associates, in preparing their brief for the Audit Board, declared, as the reason for their lack of initiative in highway construction, that there was "no gravel in the Province."

Mr. McIntyre's present leader, Premier Campbell, was Attorney-General at that time. Probably he can refresh the Minister's memory on this subject.

Even after the Stewart-McMillan Government had introduced the policy of using Island gravel extensively, Mr. McIntyre continued to criticize and ridicule its value as road-building material. The hens, he was wont to say, could pick it off the roads as fast as it was put

down. He was constantly extolling the superior quality of imported gravel, and quoting authorities to show that the use of the "native" material (as one Liberal member called it last week) was only a waste of money.

Whatever credit is due for the policy of developing local gravel pits, it is to the McMillan Government and not Mr. McIntyre that it belongs. Even as late as the 1935 election campaign, when the Borden-Charlottetown highway was under construction, the Patriot, Mr. McIntyre's party organ, was declaiming:

"There are roads in this Province covered with imported gravel that will last longer than any paved highways the Conservatives are building, and they will be there when their roads crumble to dust." (July 22, 1935).

The highways the Conservatives were building, largely at federal expense, included a stretch of solid concrete road which is not likely to crumble to dust for a good many years yet.

And what of Mr. McIntyre's imported gravel roads which were to be everlasting? It was not long before he was digging up what was left of them and sub-grading with Island gravel in preparation for continuing the Conservative hard-surfacing policy; this time not with federal money however, but at our own taxpayers' expense.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The roads are drying fast, and by Saturday should be fit for heavy traffic.

Norway is giving the unthinking an inkling of the stiff time before us, before victory rests on our pennons.

To encourage tourists to their National Park, the Ontario Government has abolished the \$1 permit previously charged for autos.

The Legislature is likely to occupy all this week, and probably the first of next. Three Government members are slated to speak on the address for every one of the Opposition.

James Montgomery, Scottish poet, died this date, 1854.

There is a spot of earth supremely blest, A dearer, sweeter spot than all the rest—Home.

The New Democrats have chosen Mr. John H. Blackmore as their leader in the House of Commons. In last parliament Mr. Blackmore was the leader of the Social Crediters—it is the same party under a new name.

One of our many esteemed correspondents suggests it would be well worth the Government's while to pay the Leader of the Provincial Opposition a regular salary for services rendered the taxpayers. Let it be forgotten we may mention that the late Premier Bell, when he boosted the salaries of the members of the Government and the indemnity of the members, offered to provide an official salary for the Leader. Hon. A. E. Arsenault, then in that position, declined the offer with thanks.

An interesting appeal has been entered against a magistrate's decision in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., where Magistrate James McEwen ruled that a man may not spank his wife but he may "restrain" her, even to putting her on the floor and sitting on her. The magistrate dismissed a charge of assault against Mr. A. Nolin, of Hastings, who admitted he had to deal with his wife. "There is no law that permits a man to spank his wife, but he can restrain her," the magistrate declared. "Such a verdict sets a dangerous precedent," asserted Crown Attorney W. S. Maguire, saying he would appeal the verdict.

The weather has reversed itself in the Prairies this year—the moist section going dry and the dry moist. Around Edmonton 2.22 inches of moisture have seeped into the soil since the start of the current month compared with a normal content of .61 for this period of the year—a jump of 264 per cent. In central areas of the foothills province moisture figures are more than 350 per cent over normal while in the south they are almost 500 per cent above normal. Farms in the centrally located Drumheller district have received 2.52 inches of moisture since April 1 against a normal supply measuring .54. In the south, approximately 3.05 inches have sunk into the land compared with a normal of .44 inches.

Judith Robinson in the Globe and Mail suggests the U.S.A. Ministry to Ottawa should be scrapped, as evidently the Washington Government has no use for it, and treats the Ottawa Government as though it were a State Government in the Union. She concludes: "Granted that Ottawa is no great shucks as a diplomatic post for United States envoys. Granted that transient politicians will do as well there as any. That being so, Mr. Roosevelt would do better to close up the Ministry at Ottawa and ask Mr. King to keep calling around twice a year for orders as at present. Doing that he would do a lot better by his neighbors than he has done degrading the United States Ministry at Ottawa to the level of an annex of New Jersey politics."

The Provincial Governments of Ontario, British Columbia, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have entered their appeal from the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada that the Dominion Parliament has the right to abolish appeals to the Privy Council. "Their lordships would be of the opinion that this is a proper case in which special leave to appeal should be given," Lord Maugham said. Mr. Frank Gahan, appearing for the petitioners, indicated that the intention of the parties was to try to get a hearing this summer if it were possible, when Lord Maugham said the hearing could be postponed until after the war or for some lengthy period. In Toronto Attorney-General Gordon Conant announced that the case would be argued in London within the next two months, with Mr. Clifford Magone representing the Province of Ontario. The Dominion Government will be represented when the judicial committee of the Privy Council hears the constitutional argument on the powers conferred on Parliament and the provincial legislatures respectively in the British North America Act and the additional powers conferred on Parliament by the Statute of Westminster.

NOTES BY THE WAY

"Although I advocate the severest measures against motorists who cause the slaughter of innocent people through criminal indulgence in alcohol, I wish to see no more punishment meted out to drivers suspected of being 'under the influence' must carry out tests to determine whether the driver has recently consumed alcohol, whether the amount taken has disturbed his normal behavior to the extent of making him incapable of driving efficiently. The doctor must then test his vision, speech, memory and co-ordination, including his manner of walking and performing simple operations, such as dialing a telephone number or placing a key in a lock. Finally, investigations must be made to ensure the driver's conduct is not due to some pathological state arising from a cause other than the consumption of alcohol." — New Zealand Press Union.

Britain has prohibited the employment of aliens in hairdressing shops, officially recognizing the fact that, just as men tell everything to the bartender, women tell all to the hair-dresser. — Toronto Star.

The Carnegie Institute has a machine capable of exercising a pressure of three million pounds to the square inch. Perhaps it could break down Roosevelt's resistance and get at his intentions with regard to a third term. — La Presse (Montreal).

Experiments by the Canadian fisheries research board show that fish cut at all when the water's temperature is below 32 degrees or when it's over 65 — so save your bait. — O'Hara in N.Y. Post.

Up to Sunday morning, Toronto had 37 hit-and-run cases this year — some of them fatal. That is an average of about three every week. Take in the whole of Ontario, the aggregate shows a serious and growing problem. The hit-and-run driver is a selfish coward and every one who is subsequently caught should be sent to jail for a long term. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

It is startling to read that because of age, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., has resigned from the board of the Rockefeller Foundation, which he has always regarded as his No. 1 job. But a glance at who's who shows that John D. Jr. was 69 on January 29, and that the retirement age of 65 which the foundation fixes for its officers. Prof. Walter W. Stewart, one of America's foremost economists, succeeded him. — Minneapolis Star-Journal.

When German air raiders staged an attack on the Camps in Stroness while the Town Council of Stroness was in session, the windows were shattered, the gas was lit and business continued. The wind may blow, the snow may snow and the Nazis may rain down bombs, but they cannot frighten the hardy sons of the Orkneys. North Britons or South Britons, the spirit is the same. — Montreal Gazette.

A visitor from the Old Country arrived in Charlottetown during the evening snow before pouring day, to see what was up and no longer perhaps, to learn something. The speaker droned on for nearly three hours. He found a very dull and weary audience, but he stuck to his no-nonsense, just speeches. They conducted things differently on the other side of the Atlantic, where the campaign is a whirlwind affair. He was speaking during the evening and his meeting was advertised to start at 8 o'clock, it starts promptly at 8; not half-past. Anyone in the audience can interject questions and nobody objects to them—least of all the speaker. The speakers are bona-fide questions and not attempts to spoil the meeting. The chief speaker is expected to talk half an hour, or 40 minutes at the outside. If he wears his watch at the end of an hour he would be showed down. At the close of his speech the candidate asks for questions and they are fired at him from all directions and from people of every shade of opinion. Questions may last 15 minutes to half an hour, and a smart candidate, especially if he has a gift for repartee, welcomes these opportunities. Few speak for more than an hour and a half. Parties choose their "colors," and supporters wear rosettes in their coats or hats throughout the election. There are bright posters and placards hung in the windows of private dwellings and it is not uncommon to see a duplex house or an apartment covered with different placards. Sometimes the placards or banners across one half of a house will be answered by posters or banners by the people in another part. It is not surprising that so few people turn up at some of our political meetings. They need living up. Hecklers should be welcomed instead of being thrown out. — Stratford Beacon Herald.

When a historical film is made in Soviet Russia the former baker Evdokim is called in to play the role of the Russian czar, Nicholas II. His striking resemblance to the former Autocrat of all the Russians was a curse to him during the days of the Czar. The secret police haunted him and he was forced to cut his beard. Today one is interested except for an occasional Soviet motion picture director in search of a czar—Scribner's Commentator Magazine.

Owing to the petrol restrictions one firm of Otago stock and station agents has put the clock back a quarter of a century. They have supplied their agents in some centres with smart cobs and gigs. These agents still retain their motor cars for use on long trips or in bad weather, but daily rounds within a reasonable radius of headquarters are being covered by the gigs. The price of petrol has been increased on six occasions since the outbreak of war, and now stands at 2s 6d and 2s 11d a gallon, according to grade, compared with 2s and 1s 11d before the war. — New Zealand Press Union.

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.

"PRINCE NOVA"

Sir—It may have required, as you stated in Saturday's Guardian, the mentality of a genius to have united the mainland and the Island in selecting a name for the Wood Islands ferry boat. The name of "Princess Nova" is likely to invite criticism. "Nova" is the feminine of the adjective "Novus" and, if used as a name, it should not be prefixed by the masculine "Princess." "Princess Nova" would be acceptable and, doubly so, as many mercantile vessels are given feminine names.

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

(But the Island's half of the name would have been misleading. Anyhow "Princess Nova" would have been a misnomer, because the "Princess" or "Princess" is not new. Ed. G.)

WOOD ISLANDS FERRY SERVICE

Sir—June 1st is the date now set for the inauguration of the Wood Islands-Charlo ferry service. This ferry service marks a great forward step in automobile connection between Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The crossing is a distance of about 13 miles, and should not take more than an hour with a good boat. It is long overdue and replaces the poor four-hour fifty-mile service by the E. S. Footclaire between Pictou and Charlottetown.

Plans for this service were formulated two years ago by arrangement between the two Provincial governments and the Federal government at Ottawa. The Public Works Dept. undertook to build two terminal docks, dredging of the harbors, road approaches to docks, etc., and other incidentals. A brand new man-made harbor was made at Wood Islands, and an approach road concrete on the Island. The works were to be in readiness for the inauguration of the Ferry service, May 1st, 1940.

The Provincial government, it was understood was to provide a paved road between Charlottetown and Wood Islands, as their contribution to the scheme. How, one will ask, will the ferry service be of any use, if this road was not paved? Well, May 1st is here and what do we find that the docks are ready, harbors dredged, boat purchased and being made ready. Alternations to the plan are being made, but to preference given admiralty orders. No fault of the owners. However, the work may have been ready had it not been for the above reason.

Now, what about the part accomplished by the local government? Is that ready? Well, the facts are these:—The road is not only not paved, but not even graded or gravelled on the road now, it couldn't be paved for at least two years. The situation is this: If the ferry docked at Wood Islands, with cars from Nova Scotia on May 1st, these cars would not be able to travel one-half mile to town, and return down due to mud and ice snow.

What is the reason for this state of affairs? Why has no one done their share to make this ferry service workable? Why has not the road between Vernon and Wood Islands been paved this year? How does the Premier suggest a car can get from Wood Islands to Charlottetown on May 1st or even during the month of May? Does Premier Campbell think that tourists will disembark their cars at Wood Islands during their stay of months, and eat red dirt for 23 miles.

The Campbell government has had two years in which to get this road paved as their part of the undertaking. We need tourist business, more than ever this year, to pay for war supplies.

The questions people are asking are these:—Why is the road to be paved? Why was it not made ready for paving? Does the government intend to pave the road, and if not, why not? Why this road, and if not, why not? Why the Campbell government? I am, Sir, etc. "ELECTOR"

AMERICA WITH US

Sir—The remarks attributed to Attorney General Conant of Ontario regarding Canada's desire to enlist the co-operation of the United States toward the more quickly winning of the war, have stirred up a lot of press criticism.

But what is more natural than that we should desire the assistance of our friendly neighbour in this every war, the Philippines and the United States and ourselves? The more quickly the war is over and done with the more quickly will its menace be removed from our shores; and the more quickly will be removed from within our shores that which is decaying the fabric of our national and individual well-being in every way. The philosophies of those who hate our form of Government and who are doing everything in their power to destroy it.

The sooner the war is over, the sooner we will be enabled to go on with the normal business of living again. And that applies not only to our great institutions, but also to the intimate lives of Americans and Canadians who from field, sea and factory secure their living.

Who wishes things to continue as they are now, the markets of the world that once were ours closed to us, our sea traffic stopped, our people frustrated and defeated, our strength and ability to establish their own homes, gloom and uncertainty pervading all over our countries from the Arctic to the Gulf of Mexico, is because a nation in Europe again reverts to barbarism and forces war on a peaceful world, and as it has now for the third time in the life span of a man seventy odd years old.

Preached War — Not Peace

(Sydney Post-Record) Miss Agnes Macphail, once Member of Parliament for Grey-Bruce, expresses her amazement in a speech at Aberfoyle, Ontario, over the destruction of the highest form of civilization in the world, that which has been common to the Scandinavian countries. It astounds me that so fine, peaceful, decent a civilization, which has good will for all the rest of the world, should meet such a fate.

Just why Miss Macphail should be so astounded, much more even mildly surprised over the methods Adolf Hitler in his latest blitzkrieg in Scandinavia, is a mystery to the average man on the street who has been able to follow without too much difficulty the trend of international events in the past few years. Miss Macphail's work at Ottawa, where she sat as a Federal M. P. for many years, apparently did not take in great latitude; certainly her powers of observation and deduction were not strained in her political years. Since 1933, Hitler's progress, his ambitions, his character, have been too well known by the average practical person. Miss Macphail's love of peace has blinded her to the stark fact that such monstrous as Hitler exist and pursue their brutal tasks, that peace can never be possible as long as they dominate, that until they are eliminated by their own weapons, unfortunately, it will be possible to talk peace, but not to have it.

For the past ten years Miss Macphail has been preaching peace and actively campaigning for disarmament in Canada in the idealistic belief—sincere enough, of course—that all the world would do likewise. In cold practice it does not work out that way. So many people in Canada believed Miss Macphail, and others like her that when war was again forced upon the Empire, Canada found herself without an army, without any army of any importance or numbers, without equipment, and even without any kind of a navy to protect a vast country that lies with its borders on two oceans.

To state the brutal truth, the Miss Macphails of the world, impractical idealists who permit their love of peace to blind them to the rough realities and cold facts of life, are the very ones who are largely responsible for the loss of advanced science that made the Scandinavian countries unwilling contributors to their bloodshed and anarchy. The idealists who permit their love of peace to blind them brought about disarmament in Britain to a point where she was not ready for war when it should have come, and might just as well have been advocating the disintegration of the British Empire and all that goes with it, freedom, democracy—and peace.

Power Of The Press

"Journalists are rated in Germany as 'heavy laborers' and therefore are allowed extra rations." — (News item)

The working folk went leaner. But the writing folk were fatter. For they had to be the keener. On the things that they did at it was their various fashions. To hold Adolf up for ever, so they needed fuller rations. To support that large endeavor.

To extend their rich resources. And add body to their yelpings. They were given larger helpings. On his pate the penman's rostrum Rose as high as any hummock. For the army of distortion. Had to travail on its stomach.

Grudge them not, in this their station. Larger rations than their neighbors. For their arduous occupation. Has been ranked as "heavy labor."

And though haply, on this showing. They are now like pigs in clover. Gosh, it must be heavy going. Putting Grubbers' eyewash over! —Lucio in the Manchester Guardian.

United States are Paris. The war is attacking everything we value, respect and cherish, for the humblest and the highest of us, and shall we stand by and not raise a hand to prevent it? Not when that becomes as clear to the average individual American as it is today to his brother Canadian.

Of course we want the Americans with us; we would fight for them. I am, Sir, etc. JAMES MacLEAN. 636 Rogers Bldg., Vancouver, B. C.

MAX FACTOR'S SOCIETY MAKE UP

We have just received from Hollywood a full shipment of Max Factor Beauty aids. Included in the shipment are such items as: Max Factor Skin and Tissue Cream. Max Factor Honey-suckle Cream. Max Factor Cleansing Lotion. Max Factor Powder soude. Max Factor Face Powder in the following shades—Natural, Sanguine, Lavender, Olive and Sun-Kissed.

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Fortunes In Doughnuts (Halifax Chronicle) The professional fortune tellers have evolved a new device for uncovering the future. They dunk doughnuts in coffee and read fate from the splashes. Fortunes, it seems, can be read from almost anything — if you have the gift. Soothsayers use all sorts of methods, including crystal spheres, playing cards, the stars, the lines of your hand, tea leaves and, plain old-fashioned trances.

How Are Your Eyes? If you are having symptoms of strain—headaches, sore eyes or dizziness — consult a specialist. At your service with years of experience and a thorough refracting service. Call in and discuss your difficulties. G. F. HUTCHESON G. F. HUTCHESON F. G. HUTCHESON. —Tennyson.

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