THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1945

Federal Aid For Education

"Once there was a farmer who got hold of such specially fine seed corn that he was able to turn out crops that were the envy of his neighbors. When they wanted to buy some of the seed of the prize corn, he refused to sell, for he did not want to lose the competitive advantage he had gained. A year went by and his fancy corn was not so good. The next year it was poorer still. The following season brought even worse results. Finally it occurred to the farmer that his prize corn was being pollinated by the poor-grade corn of his neighbor's."

This story, says the *Globe and Mail*, contains vital implication in the field of education. Canada, consisting of nine separate Provinces with widely varving resources and, consequently, with widely differing abilities to provide services, cannot hope to prosper and grow in such a way as to become a strong, united Canada. We must realize that, as a modern world nation, the security and welfare of our own local portion of the world community can no longer be safeguarded by ordering only the life of our local community or only that of any one Province.

The basis of true citizenship lies in an understanding of and in a belief in a nation's ideals and ideology. The most effective method, if not indeed the only method, of promoting this essential understanding and belief is proper education. Citizenship is granted by the nation, not by the component parts of the nation. It should, therefore, be the responsibility of the whole nation to see that the steps to true citizenship are equally accessible in each of the component parts.

"That these steps are not equally accessible in all our Canadian Provinces has been amply proved," says the *Globe and Mail*. "The reports of Dr. Kenneth Argue on the comparative abilities of Canadian Provinces to finance education should be required reading. These and many other reports have forcefully shown that many of the Canadian Provinces cannot, on the basis of present conditions, properly provide a decent Canadian level of educational services. Can we conscientiously claim a oneness of Canadian citizenship when we have one standard of education in Prince Edward Island and a vastly different standard in British Columbia? Can we conscientiously expect to attain Canadian unity and yet maintain nine educational systems differing in ability to provide services, differing in standards of instruction, and lacking any effective method of integration or of comparing ultimate ends?

"It would seem that the responsibility of the Federal Government is at least twofold. First, financial assistance must be provided the Provinces on the basis of needs so that each Province may provide services of at least a desirable Canadian level. This does not imply Federal control of education. It does, however, imply that the Federal Government has the right to require certain standards of educational achievement in each of the Provinces. Second, the Federal Government should provide machinery for effective interchange of educational ideas, for effective co-ordination of educational aims and plans, and for effective measurement of educational progress. This would involve the provision of adequate facilities for educational research.

"If Canada, as a nation, is to fulfil her responsibility to her individual citizens of tomorrow; if Canadians are to fulfil their responsibility to Canada so that Canada may properly participate in the struggle for world peace, then all Canadians must have adequate opportunity to be trained. To achieve this, money for education must be obtained wherever in Canada wealth exists and spent wherever in Canada the need is found."

A Hot Tariff Potato

According to the *Ottawa Journal* Finance Minister Ilsley is about to drop his budget resolution for a 20 per cent duty on steel pipes and tubes.

Whereby hangs a tale, which the *Journal* relates as follows:

"When Mr. Ilsley slipped this tariff increase into Hansard without as much as a word about it not a soul in the House detected what he was doing. Not a soul might have detected it for a long time had it not been for the eagle eye of the Winnipeg *Free Press'* Grant Dexter. . . . Mr. Dexter was outraged. Here he was offering incense at the altar of a Government which he thought believed in free trade, and which was always denouncing bad Tories for not believing in free trade, and now he was discovering his gods had feet of clay.

"Mr. Dexter went to work. He went to work so vigorously and so thoroughly, dug up so many Government low tariff professions (including its White Paper on Reconstruction) that within a week or two he had the Government convicted of hypocrisy, treachery, betrayal and a lot of other crimes, and, what was more dangerous, had Liberal papers like the Winnipeg *Free Press* and the Halifax *Chronicle* hot on Mr. Ilsley's trail.

"The Government took fright. Frightened especially was Mr. James Gardiner, whose job it is to tend Government pastures out on the prairies of low tariff Saskatchewan. Mr. Gardiner is understood to have decided that if this tariff resolution was persisted in he might as well throw up his Saskatchewan chore and rent himself an office in Bay Street. There were others who took fright, too, and finally word of the mess found its way across the Atlantic to Mr. Mackenzie King's suite in the London Dorchester Hotel, troubling Mr. King mightily. Our information is that Mr. King, now an expert in atomic bombs, decided that the atomic bomb was nothing but a firecracker compared to this resolution of Mr. Ilsley's, and burned up the cables in saying so.

"The upshot was that at a meeting of the Cabinet the majority, now thoroughly alarmed voted to have the resolution dropped like some hot potato. What was said by Mr. Humphrey Mitchell, who is understood to have asked for this duty increase in the first place (the industry that would have benefited is in his riding) and Mr. C. D. Howe, who supported it with old-fashioned protectionist argument, and Mr. Ilsley, who had it wished upon him, we do not know.

"What we think we do know is that there will be—or should be—a lot of fun in Parliament when those free traders of the treasury benches come to the House for permission to withdraw their protectionist resolution—something like the small boy caught in the orchard who has thrown away his pilfered apples."

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

Of 2,000 women interviewed as they entered a Toronto grocery store, 1995 said they read the advertising regularly in their daily newspaper.

* * * *

The Legion is to be commended on the splendid arrangement made for the display of wreaths at the war monument. It is a work of art.

* * * *

If Russia obtains the formula for producing atomic energy, as she claims she will at the forthcoming conference at Washington, then "East will meet West", though we have the poetic prophecy that never the two shall meet. Will it imply an explosion?

* * * *

A commercial agent, who concluded a ten days' visit here Saturday, declared he had not done better business since before the war and was able to satisfy most of the requirements of his customers.

* * * *

The Province has done better than the most optimistic anticipated in subscribing to the 9th Victory Loan Campaign. It is simply magnificent that a population of 95,000-odd should contribute over five million dollars at this particular time.

* * * *

The magnificent record of this Province in patriotic endeavour recalls the refrain of the jingoistic song:

We don't want to fight
But, by jingo, if we do
We've got the will,
We've got the men,
And we've got the money too.

* * * *

Guadalcanal, of the British Solomon Protectorate, was invaded by Japan this date 1942; aggressive action by U. S. troops checked the advance, and by a fierce struggle, including the naval victory of the U. S. Fleet, restored the Southern Solomon Islands to their former owners.

* * * *

Here is a suggestion the City Council may profitably act upon. Why not ask the Naval authorities for the Destroyer Assiniboine, now ashore at South Lake, have it towed ashore at Charlottetown as headquarters for the Yacht Club or Navy League? It can be had for the asking, as it is en route to the "bone yard."

* * * *

The passing of Mr. Richard S. Lea, brother of the late Premier Lea, removes another of our successful Islanders abroad, and one who was proud of his birthplace, making it his second home. He enjoyed an international reputation as an engineer, and was as often engaged working on problems in Europe, Asia and Africa as he was on this continent. He was a student at Prince of Wales College in a brilliant class which included ex-Chief Justice Mathieson and Sir Andrew MacPhail. Sympathy goes out to his widow, who has come to love the Island, and returns to it every year after spending the winter in Montreal and the south.

* * * *

The English, French and Hungarian elections make it clear that European opinion is moderate and not revolutionary, Mr. Douglas Jerrold, editor of the New English Review, and publisher, said in an interview in Montreal. The English Labor government, in his opinion, would not have got a mandate from the people if it had been a socialist government in the international acceptance of that term. It wanted to nationalize the banks and the mines. For a long time these had been partly run by the state. Mines had been under some measure of government control since the last war. The same applied to electrical power. It was already under municipal control, and all the government would do was unify the system. The Labor government did not propose to nationalize agriculture commerce, general industry or distribution. Four groups, said Mr. Jerrold, voted for Labor: organized labor, black-coated labor, the agricultural workers and the independent small business and professional classes. He believed none of these voted for revolution, though the last group had swung left for the first time and it was not certain just what they expected. He thought there would be a complete continuity in foreign policy and no change in colonial policy. Questioned about Europe, Mr. Jerrold said he considered that the most important problem in the world today was the restoration of freedom to the nations of western and southern Europe. The problem of Germany could not be solved before this was done. There must be some form of western European federation, and it must come as a free act from below, he said. It would take 50 years, he thought, to rebuild European civilization.

Notes By The Way

A new comet, observed in South Africa, is now reported heading away from the earth at great speed, proving that comets have more sense than is generally believed.—Edmonton Journal.

With all the striving toward higher pay and shorter hours, it may be necessary to draw a distinction. Everybody wants employment, but does everybody want to work?—Kansas City Star.

The Mosquitoes, which are dashing from Newfoundland to England in a little over five hours are really putting a sting into speed records. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Jawaharlal Nehru, the Indian Nationalist leader, says he favours letting the Princes remain in power. Considering that they are bound and determined to do that anyway, it is very wise of Mr. Nehru to be so magnanimous. — Brantford Expositor.

We confess a grudging admiration for one type of wrong-doer. He's the man who can pass worthless cheques without the slightest trouble on merchants who hum and haw and glower when we present a perfectly good one, despite our honest face and identification running all the way from a birth certificate to finger-prints.—Windsor Star.

This may be peace, but many are waiting for the days when they can live in the home they own, buy what they desire without asking any one's leave, pocket the salary they earn without punitive tax "deductions at source," and fire public servants who would be public masters. — Victoria Colonist.

Already one little fellow has been injured while playing inside a pile of leaves and parents should discourage such play. A motorist, forced to swerve through such a pile, cannot see children inside. They should not be allowed to play on the roadway and particularly not among leaves at this time of year.—Niagara Falls Review.

The Emergency Nursing Reserve, organized three years ago by the Ontario Division of Red Cross to provide training for women and prepare them to handle any emergency or diseaster, during the war years, is continuing on as a useful peacetime project. Women trained in the reserve are volunteers who may assist in home nursing and in hospitals under medical supervision. Reservists number some 7,000 and they have frequently earned the commendation of civic and hospital authorities. During the acute nursing shortage many gave hours of aid in the over-crowded and understaffed hospitals. — Red Cross Letter.

The deepest hole in the world has reached bottom at 14,,696 feet after nearly two years of drilling and a number of P. E. I. landowners who'd hoped for an oil boom have jettisoned their dreams of wealth down the shaft, says Maclean's Magazine. On the strength of reports from an earlier drilling on Governor's Island, the "three-mile hole" was begun on Thanksgiving Day, 1943, on a man-made island of logs, rocks and concrete in Hillsboro Bay, near Charlottetown. Interest, continent-wide at first, waned as months grew to years. One day this Fall City Service Company and Socony Vacuum Oil Company, Inc., began dismantling their equipment believed unique in the petroleum industry's records.

Not only fish make their unaccountable appearance in pools and brooks which were just now dry land, says a writer in The London Spectator. I built a shallow concrete pond some two yards in diameter and planted a weeping willow beside it. Though the place is singularly dry, the willow grew at great speed and finally learned to send overland roots into the water. This summer a species of watercress has established itself on the concrete; and I know of no other plant of the sort within a mile. The most sudden and complete adaptation to marsh conditions that I have seen was on the Pikhem Ridge above Ypres. The many shell holes were frequented by innumerable frogs and waterbirds and were richly fringed with rushes and other water-loving plants, some three years after the shells ceased to fall. Some of the many examples of quick repopulation by fish, which continue to reach me from India, are certainly explained by aestivation. Some fish like the frogs of South Australia, can survive in under-earth retreats for very long periods.

The Poets' Corner

HYMN OF THE HOMEMAKER

Dear Lord, bless Thou these humble tasks of mine,
These lowly, trifling tasks Thou didst assign
To those of us who find their happiness
In menial service for our loved ones. Bless
The humble tools with which it is our fate
To daily strive perfection to create.

Bless Thou my work at start of each new day,
My loved ones as they go their toilsome way
Bless Thou my happy children playing near,
Their laughing voices music to my ear,
The home I sweep and clean and shine with care,
The garden where my plants and flowers are fair,
Bless Thou the birds which nest in our trees
And cheer my day with countless melodies.

Let me, each minute of each busy day
The while I sweep and clean and cook and pray,
Soothe childish woes, encourage wearied hearts,
Renew ideals lost in the world's rude marts
Make home a haven where my loved ones find
Sweet echoes of the joys for Heaven designed.

—Margaret Preston in "The Harpsichord."

PUBLIC FORUM

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

P.E.I. HOG POSSIBILITIES GRAIN

Sir,—As promised in a previous letter regarding an enlarged production of hogs in Prince Edward Island, I shall devote this letter to a discussion of the required feed grains, namely, oats, barley and wheat.

The question very naturally is being asked, "Why is it that Prince Edward Island farmers, having attained for themselves the valued distinction of producing the highest grade of hogs in Canada, have as yet made no appreciable effort to increase their output?" To this question farmers whom I have interviewed have replied in the form of another question. "What guarantee," they ask, "have we that, if we raise a greater number of hogs, we shall be able to obtain a sufficient supply of grain with which to feed them?" They go on to explain that at the present time they are using all the grain they can grow as well as any imported grain that happens to be offered to them. Coming as it does from the exceedingly cautious Island farmer this reply on the face of it must be regarded as satisfactory.

On the other hand it does not spell for progress. In the first place the home grown grain is costing more than the laid down price of the western grain. Owing also to the high precipitation during the months of July and August, Island grain is much softer than western grain and does not grind as satisfactorily. On top of this the greatest handicap in growing grain locally lies in the heavy extent to which it robs the soil of its fertility.

When I stress these facts in talking to the farmers the only reply I get is a shrug of the shoulders, which interpreted into plain English means that they depend upon someone else to do all their thinking and planning regarding the importation of grain to the Island. One or two have suggested that it is up to the Government and that if the Government does not consider it worth while to arrange for large importations of western grain there is no choice for the farmers but to do without it and to be satisfied not only with their present output of hogs but of all other kinds of livestock.

Now, in this matter of the importation of western grain, the actual responsibility lies 100 per cent with the Dominion Government, but as it is a notorious fact that every Ottawa Cabinet since Confederation has left undone, so far as this Island is concerned, those things which it ought to have done, it behooves the Provincial Government to get exceedingly busy. They can truthfully tell their friends in Ottawa that in so far as Island progress is concerned there is no health in us, and demand with no uncertain sound that they will do at once whatever may be necessary to provide this Island with all the western grain that it can make use of.

Of the many commodities required by this Island there is none so insistent as that of grain, for upon it we must depend for a growth in all phases of livestock, cattle, horses, hogs, sheep and chickens, all of which owing to our great natural advantages we can develop to the best advantage.

Now, before we shall be in a position to import western grain efficiently, we shall require three important installations, for all of which the Ottawa Government is responsible. They are as follows:

1. Harbor facilities to accommodate grain vessels.

NB: Realizing that the cost of carrying grain from Port Arthur to Prince Edward Island is much greater by car than by boat, the Ottawa Government has been allowing buyers on the Island a rebate on railway freight, and we naturally do not complain. On the other hand, in these after-war days of sensible national financing, it is unthinkable that such extravagant methods will be long continued. In any event, apart from the lower cost of importing by ship, Island producers would have the advantage of using the grain ships for the export of their potatoes and other produce. I am, therefore, presupposing that the Ottawa Government will realize that there is no choice for them but to equip at least one of our harbors with satisfactory means of permitting ocean going vessels to dock and be unloaded. In any event the Minister of Public Works at Ottawa has definitely promised that the Railway wharf in the Charlottetown harbor will be repaired and enlarged in the spring of 1946 and that the harbor itself will be dredged to a depth of thirty feet.

2. But when the grain ships arrive, where shall we store the grain? There is not a single elevator on the Island, although there are hundreds built by the Dominion Government in all of the other harbors of Canada. As grain ships, carrying very large loads must be unloaded within two days in order to save demurrage, an elevator becomes a sine que non, and will be just as insistent as the repairs to the Railway wharf and the dredging of the harbor.

3. Nor is the above the whole story by any means, for in order to unload grain vessels efficiently and rapidly the automatic method of unloading is necessary, and that consists of what is known as a marine leg, a hollow tube which sinks into the grain in the hold of the vessel, inside of which a vertical belt runs continually, and has attached to it many cups which pick up the grain in the hold, carry it to the wharf and spill it over onto a horizontal belt, which carries the grain to the top of the elevator. At the basement of the elevator cars and trucks receive the grain as required to be carried to the different parts of the Island.

All of these things cost money but are capital expenditures, many years overdue. The capacity of the elevators is a question that will call for careful consideration, depending as it will upon many future factors, all of which will call for another letter.

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

WORK FOR VETERANS

Sir,—During the past few months it has become increasingly apparent that our returned men are finding it difficult or impossible to obtain suitable employment. What is to be done?

These men left their homes and exposed themselves to the rigors and hazards of war: they deserve our aid and warrant a chance to make an adequate livelihood on this island.

Aside from the works which may be supplied by the Government, numerous openings should and do exist in the field of private enterprise.

If one surveys the situation, two possibilities unfold themselves toward large employment of these young men.

Firstly, the soil and its kindred works. Surely, many of our men could find a happy livelihood in the production of selected fruits, berries, poultry or perhaps beekeeping.

I feel that, if several such farms were to be started and well managed, within a few years, a sufficient volume of produce would be raised to insure a profitable canning industry, in association with the processing of these articles. Canners advise me that their handicap is lack of the produce to insure a steady operation and a satisfactory flow of the finished article to the outside market.

Numerous service men from the West have told me that upon their return to civil life, they planned to take up fruit farming in British Columbia or kindred lines as beekeeping, raising turkeys or poultry If this may be done in British Columbia, why not here?

The cond source of employment for many might be in the nature of selling a specialized service or product. For example, there is need in Charlottetown for a floor waxing service. Maybe a couple of able lads could find a living in job repair work for the home. How many times do we wish a broken window glazed or a doorstep repaired, and have to wait a week for a regular carpenter to arrive, because he is already on a job?

There should be chances for the production of small wooden toys, a better household stepladder, children's swings and teeters, and many other such articles. These can be sold through commission agents or travellers to large concerns who know the markets. They are hungry for new products. These little industries require small capital, big ingenuity and a will to strive. I know many of our men possess these qualifications.

Only the other day I saw a magazine ad for a front door scraper, made of two horse shoes, a wooden bar between them and a brush attached to each horse shoe. This simple gadget, which cost a few cents and some thought, sold for $5.95!

Many of us may not be inclined to any of the above schemes, however do not let us be discouraged. Other chances are here.

Remember, Prince Edward Island needs our returned men and can provide a good life for them. Let us see they find it.

I am, Sir, etc.
ARTHUR L. WRIGHT

USE THE SKYWAYS TO PROTECT THE HIGHWAYS

Sir,—Whilst the "Big Three" of atomic energy control are assembling and deciding those facts and ideas of such preponderance, hitherto without parallel in the annals of mankind, regarding whether to keep the secret of atomic power control a secret, or divulge that information to others; it seems to this writer that, as such a means of destruction is known to three nations and part of that information has been common knowledge in scientific circles in other nations for some time past, it would be primitive indeed to form the conclusion that the scientific brains of other nations will be in a dormant state and not working with superhuman effort to find a means whereby they will obtain the same results—possibly even more deadly than that already proven, by the successful extracting of sure annihilation, from highly concentrated electrons and electrodes within the atomic field; some form of allopathy will be essential—vitally so!

Blindly, heedlessly, we are treading over the graves of millions of men and women who have died to save freedom; (this freedom which is trembling in the balance at the present time) and to avert the catastrophy which lies ahead unless our blindness regarding this era vanishes before the light of intelligence and mutual understanding between nations as between individuals: with a complete and effective means of governing a situation of such momentous proportions.

Whether or not there is secrecy now will make no difference later on for other scientists outside the nations so vitally interested at present, will go even further into the fearful possibilities of the atom as a destructive means, also as a source of controlled power, the most dynamic ever known to man. Further research will put electricity in the background for some purposes later on and at some future date will prove that without atomic energy in the air there would be no electricity in the field, in common use as we have it to-day, i.e. we have been using a by-product of the atom for years without knowing it in every phase of electrical power.

The controlling of atomic power as a means of destruction could easily become the liquidation of civilization as a democratic people: for today there are two disarmed nations, seething underneath like volcanoes, ready to explode and erupt, should the advantage or means of such an accomplishment present itself; whose hatred of defeat and loss of prestige has been evidenced, in many instances, during the trials of war criminals and at other times. They too, have scientists and their trained men total millions. This is a thought to be taken into consideration, "for we think to-day so that the future may live": the future of free peoples.

Whilst the English, Canadian and U.S. triune embodying three great English speaking nations is contemplating what attitude to adopt regarding future protective measures against annihilation from atomic manipulation, this one point is vital for the future safety of civilization—"Use the Skyways to protect the Highways."

We are nearing the time when aeronautics will leap forward from between 600 and 700 miles per hour in speed, to between 1,000 miles per hour and 1,000 miles per minute, depending upon whether a projected and controlled human motor can stand the strain caused by such terrific speed and friction, when the new power is developed for speed instead of destruction.

When the possibilities of a man sitting in an underground cavern and starting missiles of appalling destruction on their way to almost any corner of the globe, controlled by radio, to drop exactly where required is a fact, it is then indeed time to think of what could happen to any nation.

By having a world air patrol of specially equipped planes which will travel across all countries by prearranged agreement or by definite ruling and explode atomic bombs by radiating waves within any country secretly preparing them; then will that destructive means create havoc in the country or countries preparing them instead of within the confines of peacable nations who might be easily and unexpectedly overcome by such means of awful destruction. For the safety of civilization this or a similar plan will determine at any time who would be contemplating aggression or domination by the use of atomic power.

Science has inadvertently gone into the missionary field in bringing out from things unseen, the knowledge that, even within the atom, each one of which operates in its own complete cycle, controlled by that Unseen Hand, the magnitude of the Almighty is shown in such an awe-inspiring way surrounding each individual continuously, irrespective of country or clime, station in life, or conditions of existence.

I am, Sir, etc.
"JOHN OF THE LILACS"

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