THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, JULY 6, 1942.

Mr. Hanson's Warning

The Conservative opposition supported the Ilsley budget in the House of Commons, but Mr. Hanson felt in duty bound to sound a note of caution.

"There is," he said, "one very grave omission in this budget. Every individual is being asked to practise the most rigorous economy. But what proof is there in this budget, or indeed elsewhere in Government policy, that ordinary operating costs of Government are being cut to the bare bone, that waste is being eliminated, that thrift and frugality are being practised?

"In every quarter there is evidence of wasteful expenditure, and particularly is this true in defence expenditures. Evidence and examples of that reach me almost daily, and I know it must be within the knowledge of almost every member of the House, this terrible extravagance that is going on in connection with defence projects.

"I say to the Ministry that the new tax proposals would meet with a more generous reception and there would be greater willingness to shoulder the new tax burdens if the Government would itself set the example of economy. Instead, it has budgeted for a 10 percent. increase in ordinary non-war costs of Government —instead of what it should be 10 per cent. cut off, and then 10 percent. more cut off."

There was no effective reply to this criticism. It goes to the root of a matter, which is of more concern to our war effort than the interests of any political party.

"A Terrible Indictment"

Speaking in opposition to repeal of section 3 of the Mobilization Act in the House of Commons the other day, Mr. P. L. Picard, Liberal M. P. for Bellechasse, made a significant statement.

"If they," he said (meaning the Government) "had talked of Canadian interests in the war, they might have been able to convince the French Canadians to accept a compulsory measure at this time; but not having contributed to bring that about, I do not think the government can expect its supporters from the province of Quebec to go back to our people now and attempt to convince them overnight that conscription for overseas service had become a matter of life or death for Canada. I would be willing to risk myself in such an effort if I had received any help before."

Citing this statement of Mr. Picard's another Liberal member, Mr. W. H. Moore (Ontario) said it constituted "a terrible indictment of the Government."

Added significance is given to Mr. Picard's statement by reason of the fact that he was private secretary to the late Hon. Ernest Lapointe, Minister of Justice in the King Government, from 1926 to 1930 and again from 1935 to 1940. He accompanied Mr. Lapointe to the Imperial Conference of 1926, to the inauguration of the Australian Parliament at Canberra and Naval Disarmament Conference at Geneva in 1927, to the Conference in London on Imperial Legislation two years later, to the Coronation in 1937 and to the nineteenth Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva in 1940.

A Fine Achievement

An extraordinary achievement in British farm production has been announced by the Ministry of Food. Before the war a million tons a year of green vegetables had to be imported. They are now producing all their supply. It is figured that Britain, with 648 persons to the square mile, is feeding more individuals in proportion to its area than any other country. The Ministry of Food, however, warns that there is "no room for complacency over England's food position, because of the uncertainty as to what is going to happen to our supplies."

An Associated Press writer cites increases of 50 per cent in production of wheat, barley and other cereals, and a 70 per cent increase from pre-war figures in the potato crop, as being typical of what Britain has done to better her food supplies.

News From Normandy

From neutral Berne comes news that historic Normandy is being turned into "Normannenland" by steady infiltration of German farmers replacing French peasants who, lured by promises of higher wages, have been taking jobs in the Reich. Berlin, it would seem, is thereby pursuing a policy of nazifying this old province of northwest France bordering on the English Channel, a province from which came Duke Willian of Normandy, the Conqueror, to establish himself across the Channel as King of England. Normandy remained a part of his Kingdom from 1066 until it was temporarily restored to France in 1203 and permanently recovered in 1450.

From Normandy, also recalls The Gazette, came some of Quebec's first settlers, whose descendants are citizens of Canada today. Here they still speak their French and remember many of the old songs the first settlers brought with them. They may continue to do so under the Canadian Confederation, as it pleases them. But if by any chance of fate the Germans secured control here, however temporarily, they would be compelled to bow to the Nazi will and learn a lot of new things. German speech would be the order instead of French or English, and the swastika emblem would have to be saluted and worshipped. This is something for the isolationists, French or English, to ponder when looking over at Normandy and the Hitlerizing of its inhabitants. Canada sounds better than "Canadennenland." The way to prevent such a possible and tragic change, insists The Gazette, is to fight the Axis enemy to the limit, preferably abroad. That is what all sensible Canadians and Americans think.

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

Nazis are hogs for revenge. They claim officially having taken 1,250 lives of Czechs in reprisal for the killing of Heidrich.

* * * *

Dr. Grant, M.P., succeeded in getting front page publicity with his suggestion that after the war the whole of Canada should be taxed to provide a tunnel to replace the lost car ferry. Meanwhile the trouble is to find a second car ferry steamer to serve our purpose on the Borden-Tormentine route.

* * * *

Hon. J. L. Ralston denies explicitly the allegation of Mr. J. F. Pouloit that while he was acting Minister of Finance in 1941 he had an interview with Sir Edward Peacock to discuss the amalgamation of the C.P.R. and the C.N.R. He said while acting for Mr. Ilsley he never saw or had any communication, direct or indirect, with Sir Edward or any one else representing him.

* * * * *

The National Dairy Council endorses the six-cent butterfat bonus announced by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. "It will mean a great deal to thousands of farmers across Canada," Allan C. Fraser, Council manager, said. In May the Council recommended a subsidy on butter rather than an increase in price to the consumer. The Board's action is in line with that recommendation.

* * * *

Allegations that the medical profession is being utilized as a shelter for slackers is nothing new, but Lieut. Col. Day C. Warnier, commanding the 30th Reconnaissance Battalion at Windsor, has come out flat-footed with the charge. "I'm going to speak bluntly," Colonel Warnier said. "I'm going to name the profession that has done little in this war effort, and that's the medical profession. I can count the members of the profession in Windsor on both hands who have enlisted in the army, and only one of these is under 50 years of age. All the rest are veterans of the last war. The younger doctors are slackers as far as the present war effort is concerned."

* * * *

The entry of Japan into the war, and the consequent threat to imports into the United Kingdom of practically all textile fibres, emphasized the importance of flax cultivation in the United Kingdom. It is the one textile fibre that can be successfully grown in this country. Efforts to increase the acreage in Ulster are still being maintained, and a message recently addressed to Northern Ireland farmers by the Minister of Aircraft Production stressed the importance of planting every available acre to flax in order to supply the demands of the aeroplane industry. For 1941 the area under flax is estimated at 90,000 acres as compared with 22,582 acres in 1938, 21,194 acres in 1939 and 46,000 acres in 1940. In addition, increased flax cultivation in Great Britain, Canada, Australia, Egypt and other countries will help the industry.

* * * *

According to a report received by the Department of Trade and Commerce from G. A. Newman, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Port of Spain, British Guiana at the close of 1941 had $2,400,000 surplus in its treasury. In a colony where economic conditions are so dependent on agriculture and weather conditions, it is not yet possible to estimate whether 1942 is likely to show the same favourable result. Prevailing dry weather may adversely affect the autumn sugar crop, which is the principal crop of the year. Grinding of the spring crop is under way, and up to April 1, 1942, production amounted to 55,024 tons of sugar, an increase of about 3,000 tons over 1941. As British Colonies in this area are no longer able to obtain supplies of rice from India, every effort is being made in British Guiana to expand production of this commodity in the hope of being able to supply Trinidad and perhaps Barbados with their 1942 requirements. In the meantime, there is strong activity in the bauxite mines, and an expanding lumber trade, while retail stores are enjoying a steady turnover of consumer merchandise.

* * * *

Cecil John Rhodes, British colonial and Imperiod stateman, born this date 1853. Founder of the Rhodes scholarships at Oxford of the value of £300 a year, to be held by students from every important British colony, and from every state and territory of the United States of America. "The sum so bequeathed," says the Encyclopaedia Britannica, "was very large; but it was not for the munificence of the legacy that the will was received with acclamation throughout the civilized world: it was for the striking manifestation of faith which it embodied in the principles that make for the enlightenment and peace and union of mankind, and for the fine constancy of Mr. Rhodes's conviction that the unity of the British Empire, which he had been so proud to serve, was among the greatest of organized forces uniting for universal good." The will was drawn up some years before his death. A codicil, signed during the last days of his life, gave evidence of some enlargement of his views as to the association of races necessary in order to secure the peace of the world, and added to the original scheme a certain number of scholarships to be held at the disposal of German students.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Then there is the story of a group of women golfers who, as a patriotic gesture, decided to walk to the links, but despatched their playing paraphernalia in the car; and of course they were too tired to walk home. — Toronto Globe and Mail.

Reduced speed and the gasoline and tire situation have cut down highway fatalities, but there seem to be just as many people as ever committing suicide by going out in canoes they are unable to manage and from which they cannot swim. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

It is not a proper subject for competition, nevertheless we are inclined to think that the title President Roosevelt has given Canada, "The Airdrome of Democracy" is almost a prouder one than the now famous designation of the United States as "The Arsenal of Democracy." — Kingston Whig-Standard.

There may be temporary shortages of labor in some categories caused by the departure of the Japanese, but readjustments will be made and in a few months their absence will no longer be felt. British Columbia has been more than patient tolerating them for nearly half a century with their insolent boring-in and aggressive methods. We certainly won't have them back on any terms at all. — Vancouver Sun.

Unless women go without stockings this Summer, there will be a shortage next Winter. "We want to encourage younger women to wear ankle socks now, so that no one has to go without stockings in Winter," an official of the Board of Trade said. "We hope that parents who are prejudiced against their daughters going bare-legged to work will not discourage them from doing so. There is a definite shortage." A suggestion that stockings should be sold singly so that odd ones can be matched is to be considered by the board. Socks are advocated because the new utility footwear is not so finely made that it can be worn barefooted. — London Daily Telegraph.

The taxes on liquor, luxuries, recreations, travel and telephone conversations are the natural consequence of the need to limit expenditures and to secure revenue. In general the budget changes are in accord with the excellent principle of paying, as far as possible as we go. Subject to the objection that there is inadequate non-party control of expenditure, the necessity for obtaining the revenue is indisputable. — Toronto Telegram.

While the British public is critically reviewing the details of the disaster in Libya, it might be well for the Americans to look over the way things have been going in the Aleutians off the Alaskan coast. For one thing, the manner in which the news has been fed to the nation has been far from forthright. Among the early announcements was one that said the Japanese had been driven from all inhabited areas of the islands. Then came word that landings had been made at Attu and that enemy ships had been "signted" in Kiska Harbor. Now it appears that landings have been made at both places and that the Japanese are continuing operations. — Buffalo News.

The synchrophone is one of Britain's war secrets. It is so secret that even the makers of the gramophone records which are part of the invention do not see the pictures which complete it; nor are the picture-makers allowed to hear the records. The synchrophone is used for training certain service men. It is the joint work of an engineer, a recording expert and a man skilled in photographic layout. It is better than a film because it can be shown in daylight; and this is not the time to say more about it. — British Industries Bulletin.

To the Stork club came a young British officer, accompanied by a bearded naval lieutenant. The younger one noticed that the doorman was writing names into a book — "Tallulah Bankhead, John Ringling North, Leo Durocher". He asked: "Are you writing the names of celebrities in that book?" "Yes, I am," said the doorman. The officer pointed to his bearded companion and suggested: "Put this name in also—Lieut. Garthwaite, R.N. He's a celebrity, too." "He is?" asked the doorman, "Why?" "Because, explained the young officer, 'he put a torpedo into the Bismarck'." — New York Post.

The long, idle nights of firewatching in factory and home have weakened the keenness of many of us more than we care to admit. It is understandable that routine and sacrifice of rest without apparent necessity put a strain on the most loyal workers. Their enthusiasm will return with the first onset. But that may be too late. Repentant overhaul of equipment and vows of renewed vigilance will not renew gutted homes. The problem is one of psychology. It might be helpful if every solitary fire-watcher says this to himself: "My job is to be ready to ward off the dangers that our own attacks involve. I am tonight in effect one of the crew of a British bomber. And I will do my duty as such."— Sunday Dispatch (London).

Last week we encountered a Peterborough woman who did not know that any kind of rationing was in existence; she had not heard that there was any shortage of sugar, tea or coffee and she had heard none of the appeals that these commodities be conserved. Although she is not an especially well-educated woman, she is far from illiterate; she goes about the town a great deal and has many friends. She listens to the radio and she reads the Examiner regularly. Members of her family are in war industries. And yet she had not heard of rationing! — Peterborough Examiner.

...We hope Americans will get the story of Lidice in all its full import. Some of them — too many of them—do not yet seem to understand what this country is up against. We hear well meaning, loyal citizens still peddling the opinion that "the war will be over by November." When you face such a force as this, it has to be a battle to the end. Such a force, upheld by its very fiendishness, does not collapse easily. It is more likely to go on to the very end. Hitler has burned the bridges of civilization behind him—he has no choice but to go on through. He knows the terrible retribution that will come to him if he fails. And make no mistake about it, he and Japan, from every appearance now, will be able to drag this out into a long war that will try the souls of men. — Milwaukee Journal

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

"We have only to endure and persevere to conquer." — Rt. Hon. Winston S. Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain.

What Boston Thinks of Canada

(Montreal Gazette)

It is often said — Brooke Claxton repeated it only the other day — that if Americans have a low opinion of Canada's war effort, the "campaign of detraction" against the MacKenzie King Government is to blame. Subscribers to this theory will be interested by the following editorial which appeared last Monday in the Boston Traveller.

"It is never pleasant to criticize one's closest friend and Canada is still the closest friend the United States has. The fact remains however that Canada is leaving herself open to criticism in its attitude towards conscription.

Prime Minister McKenzie King is quoted as stating that he does not believe it is necessary at present to draft men for service overseas. He holds this opinion at a time when the United States believes it necessary to draft men for services over every one of the seven seas.

"This is not the opinion of the common man in Canada. His own voice of conscience is answered in the way he volunteers for overseas service.

"This was not the opinion of the Canadian people as expressed in the recent plebiscite. Whatever logic-chopping may let Prime Minister King say that the affirmative vote was not a vote for service overseas, that is what the Canadian voters meant it to be.

"The people of Canada clearly want to do their full share. Their Prime Minister seems to be failing in his duty to express that willingness in the form of action."

Boston is not the city which depends on Canadian newspapers for Canadian news. Thousands of Canadians and ex-Canadians live there —before the United States restricted immigration. Boston was the Maritime Mecca. The Christian Science Monitor, an International newspaper but published in Boston as a local sheet, carries as good a Canadian news service as any American daily, and lays particular stress on interpretative articles from its own Ottawa correspondents. Moreover, both the Monitor and the Herald-Traveller were pro-British long before Pearl Harbor, and have been and still are good friends of Canada.

The Traveller's opinion is not formed on ignorance or twisted by slander. It is soundly based, and it is right.

China And Japan

(Hamilton Spectator)

A dispatch from Chunking quotes Ta Kung Pao, an influential Chinese newspaper, to the effect that, when the Nazis launch their "next major onslaught against Russia," the Japanese will make a simultaneous attack on Siberia. "It is merely common sense that while Russia has urged her Allies to open a second front in Europe, the Axis must have urged Japan to open a second front in the Far East to counterbalance Allied pressure," runs the argument. But if the prognostications are based on nothing more than surmise of this kind, they do not amount to much. However, it is asserted that all preparation for "an immediate attack" have been completed, and all that is awaited is the signal from Hitler to put the armies on the march. The idea that Japan, in spite of her non-aggression treaty with Russia, would strike suddenly and without warning has long been entertained at Chunking. That Japan is capable of such treachery, if it is thought Axis strategy would be served by such a course, is not to be doubted. It would, in fact, be quite in the Nipponese tradition. One of the members of the Chinese cabinet recently spoke of the "waiting game" being played by the Japanese. They hope that active intervention will not be necessary, predicting that Soviet troops will have to be withdrawn from Siberia to meet the German thrusts elsewhere. The Japanese are too busy consolidating their conquests in the southwest Pacific, and creating a "sanitary zone" in China to forestall Allied air attacks on Japan itself, to welcome the prospect of a new front in Siberia. If it comes about it will be because of Nazi compulsion.

As for the campaign in China, the situation is unquestionably grave, from the point of view of the Allied Nations. But the country is so vast that the territorial gains made by the enemy lose much of their significance. It is claimed that the western areas of China are quite capable of sustaining continued resistance to the invaders. The Chinese are a stubborn and resourceful race, as the recent successful fighting in a mountain pass, in which the enemy were thrown back with heavy losses, shows. Though the Japanese in that engagement numbered ten thousand men, supplied with heavy guns and supported by aeroplanes, they were unable to make headway against the defenders, who supplemented their meagre supply of machine guns and grenades with rocks and whatever missiles came to hand.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek is badly in need of military supplies. He pleads especially for more aeroplanes to meet the ever increasing pressure from the invaders. The United States has appointed Colonel Caleb Haynes to be chief of the American Bomber Command in China, and this famous flying ace, who has already performed such notable feats on various fronts can be relied upon to give a good account of himself. Just how many machines he has at his disposal is, of course, a close secret; but the only way help of any kind can be got into China from the south is by the air route, now that the Burma Road has been lost, and it is certain that large numbers of Allied planes are being constantly flown into the country. The new overland route now under construction from India, through difficult terrain, will not be opened till the end of the year at the earliest, and transportation will at best be slow. Only pack animals will be able to make the journey of approximately five hundred miles. That is a very different proposition to the fast motor traffic that formerly sped over the Burma Road. But, in spite of all difficulties and disappointments, China, through her Minister of Information, proclaims, her unwavering "determination to fight until war is won." The United Nations should take heart at this inspiring example of patient endurance and courage.

NOTICE to Users of Sussex Beverages

WE ASK your kind indulgence if, the next time you call for Sussex Beverages, you find your dealer "all out." Rationing of pure sugar has limited us in meeting the tremendous demands for these favorite drinks.

To guard our nation's food supply, industry, no less than every home, is required to restrict the use of sugar, and we are glad to co-operate in making every necessary sacrifice.

The demands for Sussex Beverages have increased so rapidly during the past year that restrictions affect Sussex more severely than other carbonated beverages sold in the Maritimes.

The Sugar Administrator has limited the sugar that can be used in manufacturing beverages to substantially less than was used in 1941. Since the demands for Sussex continue to increase far beyond 1941 sales, this requires that we make a great contribution to food conservation. So we are not able to fill all the demands for your favorite drinks.

We will continue to supply to our dealers all the Sussex Beverages that Government regulations on pure sugar will allow. The great demands for Sussex may, however, occasionally cause your dealer's stock to run out. Where this occurs, we ask you to kindly bear with him in the same patriotic spirit that we all undertake to support our Government's war measures.

The high quality of Sussex Beverages and the purity of their ingredients have not been and will not be impaired. Nor has the price been increased.

★ *At this time of peril, no sacrifice is too great to bring about the victory of our arms. Your Government therefore calls on you to buy War Savings Certificates to the limit. By so doing you help to win the war and provide a valuable savings fund for yourself.*

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Lace bugs make their appearance on rhododendrons at this time. The young bugs mature in early June and lay eggs if they are not killed at once. A good spray is nicotine and soap — 10 ounces of nicotine sulphate to 40 ounces liquid soap, dissolved in 50 gallons of water. Be sure to spray the under side of the leaves, for that is where the bugs are.

Use Minard's for bites.

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