

THE CHARLOTTE TOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."
FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1944

A Chief Justice Protests

Chief Justice Robertson of Ontario has spoken out in protest against the growing tendency which he has noted in governmental orders-in-council of reversing a fundamental principle of justice and compelling people to come to court to prove their innocence.

The delivery of judgment gave Chief Justice Robertson an opportunity to deplore the violation of the long-established British principle that in the eyes of the law an accused person should be regarded as innocent until his guilt has been proved.

The Wartime Prices and Trade Board, which is the most frequent prosecutor in such cases, is merely the executive instrument of a government which has developed a dictatorial complex, and during a grim struggle for democratic freedom has abandoned all serious concern for elementary rights of the citizen.

The Globe and Mail notes that Chief Justice Robertson, in denouncing such practices, was following the example of a former Chief Justice of England, the late Lord Hewart.

The name "self-government" would be a mockery, if it should come to mean government by a vast army of anonymous officials, hidden from view, but placed above the law and administering a topsy-turvy system whereby the servants of the public have made themselves its master.

Lord Hewart supplemented his repeated strictures from the bench and on public platforms against the autocratic ways of officialdom by writing a book about them called "The New Despotism". Its publication is said to have had a very salutary effect in Britain.

Old Age Pensions

A good deal of information about old age pensions was tabled in the House of Commons recently, in reply to a series of questions on the order paper. Up to Dec. 31, 1943, the figures by provinces of old age pensioners, and the average monthly payments, were as follows:—

There is no agreement and no regulation regarding the filing of such liens, other than the general agreement of each pension authority to administer pensions in accordance with the Act and the regulations. The provincial pension authorities have followed different policies, some have refused to follow the administrative requirement of making claims against the estates of deceased pensioners, others have suggested that it might be desirable either to discontinue making claims in all cases or to limit claims to the larger estates.

War On Pigeons

The Nazis have issued a decree, effective the first part of this month, that no pigeons may be kept in the whole coastal region of Belgium, virtually four-fifths of that country.

human inhabitants. The German action is nevertheless understandable. The Belgians first exploited the homing traits of the pigeon to promote races — the initial race was between Paris and Liege in 1820 — and their breeders gave to the world the "Antwerp carrier," pre-eminent among racing birds.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Not to be forgotten that even part of the British Isles (Channel Islands) is in Nazi hands.

Virtually whole of Europe is dominated by Germany, and large proportion actually occupied.

More than two years ago a committee was formed to survey the probable requirements for post-war overseas food stuffs. Estimating conservatively, it was found that for Europe alone, 23,000,000 tons of food would be needed for the first six months after the war, and any relief administration would have in its hands the problem of more than 30,000,000 people who had been "torn from their homes to act as slaves for the enemy."

Basic English — the system by which British authorities hoped to establish an international auxiliary language — has been turned down by a commission set up by the Allied governments to examine its possibilities.

The cure worse than the disease. Dr. Smirle Lawson, chief physician for Ontario, after conferring with a number of the attorney general's department has ordered an inquest into the death of a Toronto man from the effects of surfanilamide drug.

Mr. W. A. Brown of the Special Products Board of the Federal Department of Agriculture says an agreement has been reached with the governments of Britain and the United States under which each will take 1,000,000 pounds of poultry from the Dominion.

H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester, born this date, 1900; is also Earl of Ulster, and Baron Cullodin, High Steward of Windsor, K.G., P.C., Grand Master of the Most Honourable the Order of the Bath, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., LL.D., F.R.S., Lieut. General (Chief Liaison Officer, G.H.Q. Home Forces); Air Marshal, Colonel Scots Guards; Col-in-Chief 10th Hussars; Rifle Bde., and R.A.S.C.; personal A.D.C. to the King; married Nov. 6, 1935, Lady Alice Montague-Douglas-Scott, daughter of the 7th Duke of Buccleuch; has been appointed Governor-General of Australia, but will not assume office until July.

The Royal Canadian Navy announce that recruiting, restricted for a time to specialized categories, now is in full swing again with trained and untrained men required in many categories. The announcement said many applicants are sought for the seaman branch and also many with mechanical experience for duties in engine rooms.

Have we professional street walkers here? The establishment of a five year plan and a vigilance committee of serious minded citizens to rid Montreal of organized prostitution and the scourge of venereal disease is strongly recommended by Dr. L. P. Ereaux, head of the dermatology department, Royal Victoria Hospital.

The following story was told at a recent London gathering by Lt. Ian Petri of the Netherlands air force, according to the Netherland News Digest: "The Germans used to come in regularly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to lay mines in British waters, but we would come as regularly on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, to sweep up the mines. Both sides seemed to keep to their appointed days for a long time. But on Tuesday the Germans came in again to sow their mines — but they blew themselves up on their bombs. The swimmers to lay mines added that when the survivors of the German ships were picked up they were highly indignant and stated that was a 'wreck example of English perfidy.' The Nazis have

Lenten Meditations

from The London Times

THE SPIRIT OF POWER

Man's search for God and his desire to achieve the good life, has always led him ultimately to the consciousness of his need for power. Approving the best men of all too often find themselves unable to follow the difference between Christianity and other religions lies not only in the truths which Christianity teaches but even more in the dynamic which it offers.

The early progress of the Christian Church provided the complete illustration of that conviction since for multitudes was utterly transformed, such an access of power is needed today. What the world lacks is not primarily illumination, essential as that is — for the history of the past generation gives a picture of men blindly groping for that which leads to happiness and security and peace. The need goes deeper, for even where the ideal is seen and admired there is lacking the power to realize it. Many plans are being devised for the better ordering of the common life; but the future will not be assured by the elaboration of paper schemes. If, in addition to their planning, men will learn to look to God for help and direction, and with humility and faith will admit their dependence upon his Spirit, they will discover the way to the realization of their highest aspirations. God's power is received not by men in the ordinary sense of the word. In the Pentecost story which follows the Lenten days the cloven tongues like as of fire sat upon each of the apostles. Who is needed, therefore, is the individual acceptance of his energizing Spirit. The world's need for power is the need of the individual soul writ large.

It is well that the Christian should pray for a right judgment in all things. But when he has seen the right course of action he will need the power to overcome his inertia and his doubts. The message is the proclamation of the open secret of victory: not only the latest but the greatest of men striving alone to recreate his own life and the life of the world but man working in God's world with his eternal Spirit.

Notes By The Way

A man asserted in court recently that his wife treated him in the kitchen and everybody used the roller towel on the back of the door. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

In Staid Boston, its local readers are hereafter banned at the last look-to their unbowed spirit—liberty was his future. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

A Chicago scientist is ready to prove that man can live for four hundred years, which is one subject in which we definitely are not interested. — Kansas City Times.

Life, somehow, seemed simpler in the days of the past. In the kitchen and everybody used the roller towel on the back of the door. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Americans are said to make more noise than anyone else when they go to war and to make more noise in the kitchen. In the Pacific these days, everyone will concede that the Americans really have something to shout about. — Buffalo Courier-Express.

These are trying days. A woman with a mechanical hearing device stood in line in Chicago for four hours to pay her income tax. When she finally reached an official's window she said earnestly: "I can't hear a blessed word you're saying. I have been waiting so long my battery has run down—drat it all!" — Hamilton Spectator.

The whole case against living in a flat really lies, as far as I am concerned, in a letter which I got up to bed in a lift, says a writer in Punch. Some men, and many women, do not seem to mind this at all, but for myself I would as soon have my shoes taken off by electricity as make that last solemn journey in a lift. — Hamilton Spectator.

With regard to predictions when the war in Europe may end, it is well to recall that Marshal Foch in the last war was not able to say when the war would end, though he should have been able to approximate the date of victory, it was he. Yet in July of 1918 he was furthering preparations for the decisive battle he believed would be fought in 1919. When Foch made those predictions, he was less than five months away, but he had no chances on Germany cracking up. — Hamilton Spectator.

In any case, it is clear that there are a good many hundreds of thousands who, to all intents and purposes, are members of the Christian Church in a merely nominal and convenient way, once every 10 years, when the man at the door asks what he should put down under the heading, "Religious denomination." This seems scarcely fair to the churches, though the prevalence of the falling drive home the realization that seeking out the lost sheep in foreign mission fields is by no means the only avenue of evangelizing open to preaching church members and their pastors. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

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BRACKLEY POINT RED CROSS UNIT
The March meeting of the Brackley Point Red Cross Unit was held at the home of Mrs. Alexander Seaman on the evening of the 16th.
The Treasurer reported \$50.00 (proceeds from card clubs) donated from the Unit to the Red Cross Campaign, which made a total contribution of \$26.00 from the district to this worthy cause. After the purchase of quilts, dye and thread there remained a balance of \$8.00.
Two finished quilts were shown and two more given out for quilting, also several other articles of knitting and sewing boxes in it. It was decided to send boxes to the three boys from the district serving overseas, contents to be donated by the members. Miss Louise Shaw volunteered to attend to the packing and mailing of these boxes.
Program consisted of readings by Mrs. George Shaw and Mrs. Penion McLure. Roll call was responded to by twelve members, telling Irish jokes. Three visitors were present.
April meeting to be held at the home of Mrs. Lowell Younker, roll call to be answered by My First Recitation. Lunch was served and after a pleasant social hour, the meeting was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.

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