THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.
Associate Editors: Frank Walker and Lieut. Ian A. Burnett, R.C.N.V.R. (On Active Service)

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

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 1945

Liberal Shadow Boxing

As noted recently in these columns, the only pledge to this Province purportedly indorsed by Prime Minister Mackenzie King is to have a survey made of the prospects of extending the ferry piers at Borden and Tormentine. One Liberal survey has already been made, and Mr. MacLaughlan, the chief departmental engineer, reported unfavorably. Moreover, Dr. Grant, the Liberal candidate in King's, has been ridiculing this scheme ever since it was mooted in the Legislature last year by Premier Jones. We here place side by side the conflicting Liberal statements on the subject. They succeed in cancelling themselves out, and Dr. Grant's final words provide an apt conclusion.

"For some months past investigation has been in progress regarding the possibility of constructing deep water terminals at Tormentine and Borden. At Tormentine the proposed terminal would extend more than a mile and a quarter over the reef where the board ice forms and causes 80 per cent of the delay and would extend to deep water thus permitting the boat to cross from pier to pier in considerably less time than at present. The pier at Borden would not need to be so great in length as that at Tormentine.

"A telegram from the Prime Minister the Right Honorable William Lyon Mackenzie King (now in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan) was read, which said,—"I have promised to see that over-all examination of the Borden-Tormentine deep water terminals will be made by competent English, American and Canadian harbours engineers before the presently proposed inshore dock adjustment will be commenced and that I intend to see that this undertaking which has already been favorably considered by the Cabinet is carried out.'

"It is expected that the investigation above referred to will be completed as expeditiously as possible and the feasibility of the proposed terminals will be decided by a competent board of engineers. If feasible, this project will mean a tremendous improvement in our transportation system."

—PATRIOT report of Clifton Liberal meeting May 23, 1945.

"I have noticed in the Island papers that it was suggested in the Prince Edward Island Legislature that piers should be built at Borden and Tormentine, extending out towards the channel as far as possible, to shorten the distance which the car ferry would have to travel from pier to pier.

"I am not a sea captain, but I worked as a mail clerk in the Civil Service for several winters on the Stanley and Minto and at that time it was the floating ice — and not the board ice — that caused all the trouble and left the boats helpless, regardless of their power.

"That is the kind of nonsense which is keeping Prince Edward Island without daily communication with the mainland. Every one has a remedy of his own, but 'a house divided against itself cannot stand.' Neither can a province secure its just rights."

DR. T. V. GRANT, M. P., in The Patriot, March 18, 1944.

Can We Forget It?

Liberal apologists would like the electors to forget our transportation grievances since the loss of the *S. S. Charlottetown* in 1941. But the record is too disgraceful to be forgotten. It is well summed up in the following excerpt from a letter addressed by the Summerside Town Council to their then representative in Parliament, Hon. J. L. Ralston:

> "There is no question in any of our people's minds, of whatever political leaning, as to the reason why this Province of the Confederation is today enduring such hardship; **simply the indifference, delay and neglect of those entrusted with the duty of government.** The construction of this new car ferry was a necessary war effort and the old arguments of scarcity of material, money or men cannot stand. It was expressed in Council that **no other section or Province of this Dominion would have countenanced or received such treatment."**

An even stronger indictment was that made by Premier Jones in the Legislature when he declared, amid loud applause from both sides of the House:

> "One hesitates to speak about the difficulties today because they are so extremely serious. If the public knew all about it, I think they would be shocked and alarmed. Conditions have been very bad, so much so that there has been a hush-hush policy this winter. - - -
>
> "It seems to me that under the terms of Confederation when something has happened to interrupt our communication for which the Dominion failed to make adequate provision, **we have a claim against Canada for the loss sustained.** The delay of even a day or two might bring up claims of thousands of dollars.
>
> **"I believe that we should claim from the Dominion Government on account of delinquencies on their part for transportation across the Straits, hundreds of thousands of dollars—it may be millions!"**

Similar criticism could be quoted from resolutions unanimously passed by our Boards of Trade, farmers' organizations, and even by our predominantly-Liberal Legislature. The whole Province was seething with indignation. Newspapers from other Provinces published strong editorials on our behalf.

But what of our Liberal members at Ottawa? They took things easily enough, and soft-pedalled every grievance. Absolute proof of this fact is given in the following quotation from the pages of Hansard of April 12, 1943, which is the official report of proceedings in the House of Commons. Mr. Graydon, the Conservative House leader and Hon. Mr. Michaud, Minister of Transport, had been arguing (not for the first time) over our transportation needs. Mr. Graydon was appealing for action, Mr. Michaud cooly refusing to take the situation seriously. Then we find these damning words:

Mr. Graydon: "Does the Minister regard the present service as adequate?"

Mr. Michaud: "The present service, yes, I certainly regard the service of the Prince Edward Island as adequate for present needs."

Mr. Graydon: "Is that the view of hon. members from Prince Edward Island?"

Mr. Michaud: *"I think it is."*

Our Liberal members stand condemned by those four fatal words, which they could not refute and which were heard in dead silence by every member of the House. How could we expect to make out a case with such incompetent counsel? To ask the electors of this Province to return them to office again, and have them again betray our interests and sabotage the efforts others might try to make on our behalf, is really too much! The only place for such unfaithful servants is in the discard.

Nor could it be expected that the untried C. C. F. candidates, even if elected, would do much better. Their party leaders have shown no interest in Prince Edward Island claims, nor any understanding of our special transportation problems. It is the Progressive-Conservatives alone who have championed us in Parliament. Only they stand pledged to redress our grievances; and our sole hope of obtaining justice and fair play lies in electing them next Monday with such resounding majorities as will be heard across Canada.

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

What a lot of bureaucrats are shaking in their shoes these days.

* * * *

There is no warmth in the soil, and little advantage planting these days.

* * * *

Those brave young men who volunteered for service in Canada only, are now wishing to goodness they had gone overseas to win priority points for demobilization.

* * * *

From tonight there will be no broadcast of election oratory, though political meetings will be in order, even up till Sunday night in Quebec.

* * * *

Prime Minister King has addressed many meetings, but delivered only one speech, the first. Those who were able to hear his Saint John effort said those who didn't missed nothing.

* * * *

Sir Samuel White Baker, English explorer, who traced the course of the White Nile, and discovered and named the Albert Nyanza, died this date 1893; he wrote and published accounts of his explorations and discoveries in *The Albert Nyanza,* and *Ismailia;* his Memoir was published in 1895: "Once again success has crowned missionary labour."

* * * *

Prime Minister King on his tour avoided Halifax and Charlottetown, presumably because he did not want to meet Hon. Angus Macdonald and Hon. Cyrus MacMillan, both of whom he had treated dirtily. In Saint John he made the acquaintance of the Hon. Mr. MacLaren, whom he had recently attached to his sadly depleted Cabinet.

* * * *

Premier Drew, a lawyer by profession, a soldier by instinct, and a politician by choice, will have his hands full with law cases on his political account now that his election is safely over. There is the Royal Commission to investigate the C. C. F. roarback, and the libel action to decide how far *Toronto Star's* "freedom of the press" extends in reflecting upon a party leader.

* * * *

No serious reconversion problem for the food industry is anticipated. While a number of food manufacturers have provided war supplies on varying scales, this participation in the war programme in most instances has involved only the divergence of substantial percentages of regular or specialized production to the Armed Forces. Thus, the voiding of army food contracts will mean only minor adjustments on production lines, or a return to commercial packaging. The net result will be the abandonment of trade allocations of many types of food products in favour of competitive selling.

* * * *

"A reader, a business man, says that we are extreme in our attitude to agriculture; that the idea of doing anything to see that the farmer gets his share of the national income is not sound economics; that we should let events take their course. **We cannot** agree," says the *Letter-Revied.* "Agriculture happens to be much too important in our national life for us to take a chance of another period in which farmers are bankrupt. It is not a question of helping the farmer. It is a matter of seeing that the country is not hopelessly depressed as the result of hard times for the farmer. We know that this all means taxing other people to help farmers, but we are quite prepared to do this."

* * * *

Between 350,000 and 400,000 personnel of the three Canadian fighting services will vote overseas in the Dominion general election. Eight overseas voting territories have been set up for this purpose in the United Kingdom, Continental Europe, Australia, India and Egypt. They have now started to mark their ballots with their voting deadline set for June 9, two days before civilians vote in Canada. Results of the overseas service vote will be known in Canada on June 20, as a little over a week is being given for overseas returning officers who have been appointed to make their compilation, Mr. Jules Castonguay, Chief Electoral Officer, states. So that in ridings where the contest is very close, the winning candidates will not be known until the night of June 20. In Canada, between 300,000 and 350,000 additional of the Canadian armed services will vote in five voting territories established across the country.

Notes By The Way

A boxer's life is full of reverses. O.K. one minute and K.O. the next.—Guelph Mercury.

The fundamental bit of psychology for the budding young leader is very simple—People don't like being pushed around.—London Free Press.

Seven western brothers now in the Air Force are coming back to the farm. We'd like to be there when Paw briefs the boys on the day's chores at 6 o'clock in the morning.—Ottawa Citizen.

Auditions have begun at the Admiralty for professional entertainers in the ranks of the Navy to make up a sea-going, full-time concert group to entertain Royal Navy forces in the Far East. — Fredericton Gleaner.

Two views by returned prisoners of war show us ourselves as they see us. One says, "You're not so polite as you used to be. There's too much pushing and shoving." The other: "Don't you notice that waitresses in the cafes call their customers 'Dear'?" True—but it means no more than when they used to say "Sir."—London Daily Mail.

Amid all this flying filth, will the real issues be lost to sight? We trust not. There is a person whom some of our politicians seem to have forgotten — the plain Canadian man and woman—especially the Canadian overseas for whom we must preserve this Canada. We must make it a better place for him, for his sons and his son's sons. We trust to the good sense of the Canadian people to repudiate the mud-slinging of some politicians and concentrate upon the great task of putting Canada into shape for our men when they return. — Winnipeg Tribune.

Smoking, says the head psychiatrist at New York City's Bellevue Hospital, is in the same class as thumb-sucking, and a baby's pacifier will accomplish the same purpose as a cigarette. We hesitate to predict what effect this shocking revelation will have on American life. But it seems logical that once the cigarette shortage eases up, the juvenile smoker will feel free to come out from behind the barn and join the rest of the family in their infantile enjoyment of the weed. — Portland, Me., Evening Express.

To discuss new and better housing as something necessary to avoid rioting when our veterans return does an injustice to the character of the veterans and it breathes a spirit wholly foreign to public understanding of the question. We should speed up this business of housing, not in apprehension of what may happen if we don't do it, but in simple acknowledgment of what the veterans have done for us. We owe it to every veteran who left these shores for battle to see that he is properly provided when he returns.—Vancouver Province.

The British Empire is an anomaly. It has neither logic nor reason. It has grown and flourished not because of any organization, because practically there is none, but because of the union of free people who have common aims, ambitions and ideals. Germany was convinced that the Empire would fall apart when war was declared. And yet at the darkest hour when Britain stood alone against the might of the Nazi forces the Empire stood united beside her. We have come through the war triumphantly and now we must stand together in building up a better world where permanent peace will reign. — London Free Press.

It is time we looked realistically at this prisoner problem. There are in British and American cages some of the most muscular and vicious German thugdom. Are we going to return them to Germany, to fuel their frenzy with the sight of their battered cities and allow them to turn to guerrilla war against our occupying troops? Or are we going to keep them indefinitely in idleness, encroaching on our reduced rations? The more extravagant item—that future generations of Germans would be born into slavery—may be dismissed. But if all ranks of this generation of Germans are made to sweat out their expiation with a spade or a wheelbarrow, there will be no objection from the vast majority of the people of Great Britain.—London Sunday Dispatch.

The Poets' Corner

ANOTHER SPRING

Another spring has warmed the
Earth's deep breast,
The swift meadow-larks carol
again, and the purple wind-
flowers
Lift their eyes
To bluer skies.
But over in Egypt, under the hot
African sun,
The graves are fresh, and one by
one,
Slim crosses rise
Under the burning skies.
Browning's England has never
seemed more fair,
But graves are there.
And by the sun-washed streams,
Where castle-towers, and many-
gardened mansions slept,
The roses red are no brighter than
the blood
And courage of the Valiant Dead.
For Death walks everywhere . . .
His dark sword,
Has touched the life of simple man
and lord,
And even laughter now is tinged
with tears.
For these, these troubled years
were wearying.
And though the victory is almost
won,
Won because of those who fell . .
who now lie lost
In Europe's crusted deep,
Though they sleep
There is no Peace till victory is
complete . . .
And what was fought for is kept
. . . and burnished
Bright as gold.
The old, fine ideal . . . the love
for brother man . . .
Until these span the globe
And make all men as one . . .
There is no Peace . . .
Under the sun.

—Rose Coomes

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.

POOR C. C. F. PUBLICITY

Sir,—In a recent meeting of the C. C. F. which was held in North Rustico hall with a very small attendance, one of the speakers said Hitler had stopped depression. May I ask in what way did he do it? To my knowledge he stopped it at the cost of many millions of innocent lives, also at the cost of many thousands of good Canadians which I saw for myself. May I ask what about Dunkerque when the water was red with good Canadian blood?

I am very glad to say that one of the boys from the last war took exception, as this same Comrade has been suffering from wounds which he had received at Vimy Ridge, Hill 60, and other hard battles. When one other person in the audience spoke up and asked where would we be only for Hitler, I wondered how mothers and wives and relatives who have lost their dearest ones feel toward this man.

I am, Sir, etc.,
RETURNED SOLDIER.
North Rustico

POLITICALLY NEUTRAL

Sir,—At a joint meeting of the Prince Edward Island Credit Union League and the Co-operative Union of Prince Edward Island held in Charlottetown on June first, it was decided to restate publicly the traditional cooperative position of neutrality in politics. Cooperatives are neutral in politics. Individual cooperators belong to all political parties and vote according to their convictions. The cooperative movement stays apart from political division and embraces all people, consumers and producers.

Likewise the cooperative movement is neutral in religion and race. The cooperative movement has its strength in this policy of not allowing any division along political, racial or religious lines. Its appeal is universal; it is designed for the common good. This principle is well-known to all students of cooperation. The official cooperative bodies of this province are simply recalling it to the attention of the public at large.

I am Sir, etc.
J. T. CROTEAU
Managing Director, P. E. I. Credit Union League; Secretary, Cooperative Union of P.E.I.

BETRAYING COL. RALSTON

Sir,—The Liberal press in Prince County is going all out in sales talk for their candidates and as unfortunately we have no Conservative press in this County, I am asking you to kindly give me some space in your paper to make a few observations.

It is remembered that at the first Liberal convention held in Summerside to select a candidate, the delegates and others were so enraged at Mackenzie King for his treatment of Col. Ralston, who naturally was very popular, that they could not select any one to suit them for nomination. After more than a month, and with the time limit at hand, they held another convention and Mr. McNaught was nominated, although it was not very complimentary to him to be selected as a last choice. But now he is held up as a worthy successor to the late A.E. McLean and Colonel Ralston. Imagine the comparison!

In the Summerside press of June 4 with big headlines the statement of Senator Brewer Robinson on the question of reinforcements is given at one of the Western Liberal meetings. Knowing the esteem held in Prince County for Colonel Ralston and the resentment against Mckenzie King for his treatment of him, it was felt something should be done to try and counteract that feeling. Senator Robinson, according to the report, said that there were always adequate reinforcements at the front. It would seem therefore he differs from the late Minister of Defence, Col. Ralston, who from his position, and from visits to the front line, should be and was qualified to know, and who was forced to resign because he differed from Mckenzie King and stuck to his knowledge and convictions.

But what of Senator Robinson's principles? He takes the first opportunity to try and let Col. Ralston down in the minds of the electors, the same man who, it is well known, got him his appointment as Senator. But if his object is to belittle Col. Ralston and to hold up Mackenzie King, to secure votes for McNaught, it will certainly produce the opposite effect.

Mr. King has a lot to answer for, and one of the most serious was his refusal to allow the air training scheme in Canada two years before the war started. All over Canada and in the United States, it is known that King's manipulation of Quebec votes for his own political ambitions is the most serious obstacle for national unity in Canada and has caused very unfavourable comment all over North America. Could his most loyal partisan truthfully say that Mr. King's heart was in the War, instead of his scheming to hold his party together?

I am Sir, etc.
ELECTOR
Summerside.

REVEAL THEIR TRUE CHARACTER

Sir,—In a desperate attempt to discredit the efforts of the Public Informational Association to tell Canadian voters the true objective and consequences of "State Socialism", C.C.F. leaders, speakers and supporters are resorting to tactics and talk that literally "reek of the gutter."

This Association, its director and supporters have been publicly branded as "liars, gangsters, rogues and racketeers"; the cost of our education campaign has been portrayed in fantastic figures; gross, false charges have been made as to the source of our support; our messages have been branded as Fascist propaganda.

This technique of abuse, epithets, lies and slander is, of course, designed solely to divert attention from the issue of "State Socialism"—which is the only thing that counts in this election. So don't let anyone cloud our vision by throwing mud.

Which of us is the biggest liar, rogue, rascal or racketeer will be forgotten by all within a few weeks after the election, — but

Neither you or your children will ever forget it if you should vote for "State Socialism," (C. C.F.)

Because, regardless of who is a liar or who is paying for our campaign or how much it cost, these three incontrovertible facts remain:

1. C.C.F. stands for "State" Socialism."
2. "State Socialism" stands for control of all production and distribution by the "state."
3. History has proven that no such programme can be attempted except under rigid regimentation. That spells—DICTATORSHIP.

Every C.C.F. candidate is positively committed to that programme. If they tell you they are not (as several C.C.F. candidates are doing), either way they are misinformed (which is not likely), or they are deliberately trying to trick you, because "State Socialism" is the basis of the whole C. C. F. platform.

Under State Socialism the C.C.F. politicians would take over complete control of our lives. What difference would it make, under such a system, if the farmer still owned his land or if he had no voice in its operation? What would it mean to the "little businessmen" to be left in business if his every move had to fit into the "National Plan" of the Government?

What good would our bonds and savings be to us in a world where a lot of crackpot "Social Students" decided what we could spend? So forget all personalities and prejudice. Think this thing out on its merits, because it will affect your every day life from election day on. Then—if you decide you don't want State Socialism be sure to get out and vote on election day, against the C.C.F. candidate in your riding—no matter who he is. And urge your friends to do the same.

Election day is another D-Day for Canada.

I am, Sir, etc.,
B. A. TRESTRAIL

SERIOUS BACON SITUATION

Sir,—Lack of space in my previous letter prevented even a reference to an important factor that had quite a strong bearing upon the excellent results to which Prince Edward Island farmers have attained in the raising of superior bacon hogs. I refer to the very intelligent oversight during the past decade or more exercised by the Dominion Government Production and Marketing Boards, presided over by Dr. E. S. Notting and his two assistants Mr. S. D. Irvine and Mr. H. W. Clay. Not only have these professional men made frequent visits to the farms of the Island, explaining the best methods of feeding and advising in cases of sickness or other trouble, but they have arranged for a constant supply of the best Yorkshire boars and sows. The Charlottetown Experimental Farm has also maintained a special department in which the producing capacity of sows has been determined. The Provincial Government has granted bonuses to owners of the best grade of service boars.

By these services, in conjunction with the care and interest shown in the hog industry by the farmers themselves, an excellent and dependable ground work has been laid from which almost unlimited potentialities are possible.

All who are interested in the future progress of the Island will, however, admit that insofar as the annual output of hogs is concerned, not only have we no reason to boast or even feel at all satisfied, moreover some good reason should be given for our not having taken advantage of an excellent opportunity to establish a valuable industry that should bring a large amount of money to the Island together with a prestige not likely to be held in the future by Canada as a whole.

In a concentrated area such as Prince Edward Island, with its twelve or thirteen thousand farmers, there is no good reason why this Island should not produce bacon hogs equal in all respects to those produced in Denmark or in any other country. To do so, however, we must not only make use of every known process leading to the highest grades but we must determine with exactitude which feeds will give the best results and in every way possible reduce labour costs to aminimum.

Including the number of hogs killed for home consumption during 1944 the actual production on the Island was probably in the neighbourhood of 100,000 which, divided into the two seasons of the year, meant that there were probably 50,000 hogs constantly calling for attention.

Now, as there are quite a number of our farmers who are raising from 50 to 200 hogs per annum, the number of each farm would not on the average exceed four or five at any time, a quantity altogether too small to permit of keen or scientific study, such as will be necessary in order to obtain the best results. In other words a much larger annual output is essential. This is point number one.

One of the chief weaknesses in the industry lies in the fact that our hogs on the Island are housed in all kinds of quarters, including very frequently barns and stables, a practice manifestly unfair to the horses and cattle, besides calling for an amount of attention far in excess of what would be required if they were housed in well designed piggeries. It is said, for example, that in Calgary the P. Burns Company have 1000 hogs in the care of only two men. To build these piggeries individually would, of course, cost far more money than if ordered in quantity, and the plan suggested is that the Provincial Government should recommend their use to the farmers and by combining all their orders act as a purchasing medium, giving them the advantage of the lowest quantity price. They could also, when necessary, assist the farmers to finance the cost, spreading payments for same over a period of one or two years. This is point number two.

Another trouble in the industry, all over Canada, is the exceedingly high rate of mortality suffered by the young pigs, chiefly during the first few weeks after farrowing time and up to weening age. Experts say that this mortality has been as high as 50 per cent and is not less than 26 per cent today. Such a heavy loss should be reduced to not more than 5 per cent, a saving which in a few years would pay for the cost of the piggery and in any event would give an enormous interest return on the investment.

Just as infant mortality results as a rule from a lack of knowledge and experience on the part of parents, so mortality of young pigs can be obviated only by more experience, in other words by specializing, a condition possible only in the case of those who have a fairly large number of pigs to care for.

Now, apart from the numbers it is generally agreed that there are two distinct branches of the hog industry, namely on the one hand the care of the breeding sows prior to farrowing time and up to the weening age of the young pigs and, on the other hand, the fattening period, both of which call for different treatment, different feeds, pasture, exercise, etc. If our farmers were to divide themselves into these two classes namely of breeders and fatteners, the former selling their weened pigs to the latter, a very considerable saving should be made both in the mortality and in the general care of hogs. Experts claim that as much as 25 per cent of the total cost could be saved by these up-to-date methods. By following these principles Prince Edward Island would place herself in a position to compete successfully with all other countries in the event of falling prices. This is point number three.

Now our government owns and directs a large farm at Falconwood and one way in which that farm can be made to yield better returns would be to establish a large, well directed piggery, with the best possible housing conditions and management. Exact costs could be kept and the whole institution employed as a demonstration centre to which the farmers of the Island would be invited for purposes of observation. This is point number four.

Space again cries halt, so another letter will be required to tell the balance of the story.

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

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