THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAYY, OCTOBER 30, 1945

It Is Up To Us

We are indebted to *The Canadian Doctor* for this editorial in verse:

The scientist showed us how to make nitrates
From the oxygen and nitrogen in the air we breathe.
He told us how this product could be used
To enrich the soil and grow bigger crops
In order that the hungry world could be fed,
And it seemed so wonderful and so good.
But nitrates are also used in making explosives
Which blow the legs and arms off of young men,
Or kill them horribly and instantaneously
Explosives which destroy bridges, dams and libraries;
So it seems that nitrates are good or bad,
According to the intent of the man who uses them.

A certain man read his Bible that he might learn,
And by its light so modify his conduct,
That he might be at peace with his soul,
And with all mankind living about him.
He got comfort and meaning from its pages
And was blessed exceedingly.
Another man read his Bible to prove his point
That slavery is justified in Holy Writ,
That women must submit to their husbands,
That God is a stern and terrible Tyrant.
Now it is to be supposed, we believe,
That he proved his point—and lost his Peace.

A good mother loved and worked for her son;
She taught him, and she obviously trusted him;
She prayed—as what mother has not in some way—
That he be strong and brave and good—
That he be able to meet his temptation when it came,
And then she went to bed serene in her love and faith.
Another good mother prayed when she should have taught;
She believed God would protect her son
Who had not learned how to protect himself.
Her prayer was not answered—even more—
It disgusted the son with his mother and her methods.
Even prayer, improperly used, can be evil.

The skillful surgeon learned in medical school
To operate on the human body and relieve its ills;
He knew how to avoid hemorrhage and infection;
He held in his hands the resources of medical science
To be used to the end that the flesh of man
Might not fester, throb with pain and die.
Another skillful surgeon learned in medical school
To operate aseptically and to avoid hemorrhage,
But he used his knowledge to kill unborn babes,
To disguise criminals so that they might escape—
A scalpel in his hand was a dangerous thing,
A menace to society and to decent living.

It is said that the Devil can cite Scripture
For his every purpose, and that vital statistics
Can be made to prove or to disprove any point,
We are told that there are always lawyers who can win
On either side of most any argument in court.
It's a strange situation, but a very real one indeed—
That the sun which grows my garden can blister my skin;
That the fire that warms my house may burn it down;
That the breeze is closely akin to the tornado
That the water I drink may drown my child;
That words can soothe and heal or utterly destroy;
That even the absolute truth can sear and burn.

There lie about us the wonderful building materials
From which we can build a library—or a brothel.
Science, religion, civilization and culture
Have laid at our feet and in our hands
The building blocks—beautiful, strong and good—
From which we can and must construct the new world.
Now we need an Architect, a Builder, a Leader
To show us how to use these blocks in the best way
To the end that the new Tomorrow may be sound and good.
We need Imagination, Wisdom, Men of Goodwill
Because the wonderful new building blocks
Can and will be used either for Good or for Evil.

A Liberal Blast

Charging nothing short of "betrayal at Ottawa" the *Halifax Chronicle* (Liberal) makes a scathing editorial onslaught on one of its own leading M. P.'s, Hon. J. L. Ilsley, Minister of Finance. The *Chronicle* accuses Mr. Ilsley in particular, and the Mackenzie King Government in general, of making "flagrant concessions" to certain big interest groups in Ontario under the terms of the Ilsley budget. Here are the facts as stated by the *Chronicle*:

A company situated at Welland, Ontario, the constituency represented in the House of Commons by the Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, has been granted tariff protection to the tune of twenty per cent on steel pipes and tubing. The pre-war tariff on this particular product was only five per cent.

Diesel engines which formerly entered this country free are now subject to a new twenty-five per cent duty.

Industrial diamonds are subject to a substantially higher tariff than heretofore.

A careful analysis of the budget, says the *Chronicle*, will reveal a subtle and consistent attempt to effect tariff increases on a number of finished products.

"This is deliberate betrayal not only of political commitments at home but of our confirmed low tariff policy in external relations as well," the *Chronicle* declares. "It is betrayal of a sort which no amount of glossing over by Mr. Ilsley and his colleagues can hope to conceal from the eyes of the Canadian people and of the world. It is betrayal of a sort which may well wreck all hope that may still be entertained for the success of the forthcoming discussions on Dominion-Provincial relations. The Maritimes, for a certainty, will not be prepared for one moment to do business with a government at Ottawa which has so clearly demonstrated a penchant for protection."

The *Chronicle* is, of course, in close contact with its provincial party leader, Premier Angus Macdonald, Mr. Ilsley's former colleague in the King Government. Can this editorial blast have been inspired by the Hon. Angus? It looks, at any rate, as if a big family row is developing among Liberals in our sister province.

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

Forty per cent Bond issue already subscribed; only 60 per cent to be purchased before objective attained.

* * * *

One of the reasons advanced by the Government in favour of B. C. Naval Training College was that the climate was milder there than in the Maritimes. Since when was it found necessary to coddle our budding Nelsons in warmth and security from cold?

* * * *

The McGill Graduates' Society have decided that more than 15,000 graduates and past students of McGill University will be invited to a mammoth V-reunion to be held in Montreal in October, 1946, provided transportation and accommodation permit. The proposed reunion will coincide with the 125th anniversary of the founding of the university.

* * * *

Rev. Edmund Cartwright, Church of England priest, died this date 1823; his niche in the gallery of fame was secured by his invention of the power loom, for which the British Government voted him a gratuity of $50,000; he also invented a wool-combing machine which made a radical change in the development of the clothing industry; he was likewise a poet, and published two volumes, but while his inventions live in memory his verses have long since been forgotten.

* * * *

Mr. C. G. Keyes of Ottawa, president of the Canadian Automotive Wholesalers' Association, has sent a letter to Prime Minister Mackenie King expressing his opinion that a curb should be applied to what he termed the "present trend toward large corporate business." He said democracy had been defined as representing equal rights and opportunities but that "this freedom is being abused by big business, who, by the establishment of control, is eliminating the opportunity of the individual as a competitive producer and distributor." The association president added that small towns already show this trend as more and more small individual enterprises disappear and a greater number of people become employees of "big business."

* * * *

Revenue of the Saskatchewan Liquor Board showed an increase of $1,100,000 during the six-month period April to September, 1945, compared with figures of the same period last year. Returns for the first six-month period of the current fiscal year totalled $2,550,000 compared with $1,450,000 in the same period of the previous fiscal year, 1943-44. During the second six-month period of the last fiscal year, liquor board profits amounted to $2,320,000, compared with $1,800,000 in the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year. "During this past 12 months the liquor board has produced a profit of $4,870,000 compared with $3,300,000 in the year prior to the C. C. F. government's taking office," Mr. Fines reports.

* * * *

Supplies of some Christmas food items will be short this year, according to *Canadian Grocer*. Included are mincemeat, dried fruits (dates and figs), etc. The poor apple crop, as well as the continuing tight supply of sugar, will cut into the mincemeat supply. Dates from Iraq, which last year arrived about Christmas day, have not yet been shipped and it is quite possible, says this publication, some might reach the market in time for Christmas. Turkish figs are high in price and Commodity Prices Stabilization Corporation has not yet made a purchase. To offset the pending shortage of dried apples, the trade is anxious to see more prunes and raisins brought in, as well as some dried apricots. The record production of pumpkin of last year has been pretty much offset by greatly expanded exports of this item to the U.S.A. and stocks are reported to be almost normal again. There is no chance that the present domestic sugar ration will be increased before the end of the year. Present ration calls for one pound in October and December and two pounds in November. But with the finding of 1,600,000 tons raw sugar in Java ports the supply situation may be relieved somewhat early next year

Notes By The Way

There are 10 species of maple trees in Canada, the most important of which, from a commercial point of view, is the sugar maple. The wood of the maple is used for flooring, furniture, interior woodwork, handles and many other purposes. The sap of all the maples contains sugar, but in commercial practice only the sugar maple is tapped for sugar making. In 1943 the maple lumber produced in Canada amounted to 26,516,000 board feet valued at $2,626,000.—C.P.R. Bulletin.

Over the air flow the dulcet tones of the radio announcers, extolling a cigarette which soothes the nerves...or gives the smoker a lift...or stops him from coughing...or helps him make decisions. In refreshing contrast is the label on a cigarette put out by National Co-operatives, Inc., says the Chicago News. Here is candor unique in advertising: "These cigarettes are made of quality domestic tobaccos, expertly blended to give a mild, satisfying smoke. Except for the lack of ballyhoo, they will be found to differ very little from brands of more widely heralded renown. Affording the same degree of enjoyment to those who relish smoking a good cigarette, they contain, as well, about the same amount of nicotine and other ingredients generally believed to be injurious to health."

A good wife is said to be worth more than her weight in rubies, and in fact she is, of course, priceless. On the other hand a bad wife is worthless. An English judge a few years ago rendered a court decision when he refused any damages at all to a man who sued a rich man for damages in connection with divorce. "A man who has been devoted to his wife," said the judge, "is well rid of such a creature. She has no wifely value at all and he should not ask to be compensated for her loss." The judge granted a divorce minus financial compensation. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Parents and children will both no doubt look with disfavor on a suggestion that the Ontario Attorney-General's Department may introduce a spanking machine. The report has it that the device will be for use in penal institutions, but once it is adopted, it will be only a short step to the woodshed. Surely this is one process that should be safe from the advance of mechanization. What, after all, is wrong with the slipper or the hairbrush? Or, for that matter, what suitable substitute could be found for the paternal palm? Away with such modern gadgets! Shall we stand for taking all the sentiment out of home life?—Border Star.

At the end of July the Emperor of Ethiopia proclaimed a new currency—the Ethiopian dollar. The London Economist reports. During the Italian occupation, the Italian lira supplanted the Maria Theresa dollar, which had been the traditional currency of the country. Since the Emperor was restored, two currencies have competed: the old silver dollar and the East African shilling, which was introduced by the British forces. Owing to the scarcity of silver, the big Maria Thresa coin has had a higher bullion value than its exchange rate as fixed by the military and Ethiopian authorities; and it was, in fact, the only freely accepted currency in large areas of the country. The new Ethiopian dollar is given the fixed rate of exchange of two East African shillings, and it alone is legal tender. Hence the rate against sterling is 2s, and against the American dollar 40.25 U.S. cents.

There is no surplus of wood. It is a valuable farm crop the supply of which is constantly dwindling. Thousands of acres of marginal and eroded lands could well go back into trees with profit to their owners. In Illinois and elsewhere, state nurseries make it easy for distributing seedlings at cost. Reforestation and soil conservation point the way to the farm program of the future. They are necessary to guarantee not only an abundant food supply but better housing and the innumerable useful articles made from trees. — Chicago Daily News.

Times have changed. On many farms in the eastern part of Canada and on the prairies farmers' sons seldom use an axe. They have none of the old-time skill in lumbering craft and general bush work, says the Fort William Times-Journal. How this deficiency is to be rectified is a question for authorities. There are plenty of instructions on the proper way to swing a golf club. It seems just as important that husky young Canadians should have expert instruction on how to swing an axe. Our Ontario forest wealth will have to be garnered with axes and saws until some inventor discovers a better or less laborious method.

The Kremlin will shine again with golden domes and white stone buildings. The extensive restoration work is under the direction of the well-known architect Nikolia Vinogradov and the artist, Academician I. E. Grabar. The Kremlin was covered with a thick coat of camouflage and sham windows and roofs were painted on the walls of the cathedrals and other Kremlin buildings. These valued memorials of antiquity will now assume their original splendor.—USSR Bulletin.

One wife in every 20 throughout Britain is to be asked questions concerning her married life. Hundreds of enumerators, most of them women, are to call on 500,000 wives seeking answers to a set of questions, says the Peterborough Examiner. A few of the questions are: When were you married? When did you have your first, second and third child? What are your motives for not having children? Of course, the purpose of this quiz is to enable the Royal Commission on Population to complete its inquiries into the birth-rate of Great Britain. The women to be quizzed are to be selected at random from the latest voting lists. But they are not obliged to answer the questions. This commission was set up by Winston Churchill in March, 1944. Its 16 members, including seven women, are helping to solve a problem which Mr. Churchill has described as "one of the most vital to the future of Britain." Churchill was always noted for getting to the bottom of every problem and we think that the results of the enumeration will let Britain know where the trouble lies.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

POLITICS AND POTATOES
Chapter 4

Sir,—I hereby submit copy of letter received this morning, I believe I am safe in saying by special request of Premier Jones. I am quite sure my good friend Col. C.J. Stewart is only carrying out orders.
(Enclosure)

"Charlottetown, P.E.I.
"October 27, 1945

"Frank B. Clarke, Esq.
Charlottetown.

"Dear Sir:—

"Replying to your request of the 26th instant:—

"It is regretted that it has been found impossible to arrange for a meeting of the Executive Council for the coming week.

"No meeting is scheduled for the 1st November and, owing to the unavoidable absence of the Premier from the Province for an indefinite period, the date of the next meeting has not, as yet, been determined.

"I am instructed, however, to inform you that the delegation you refer to will be given a hearing at the next regular meeting of the Council, the date of which you will be advised in due course."

"Yours truly
"C. J. STEWART,
"Acting Clerk of the Executive Council."

How, Sir, did we run this Island before Mr. Jones graduated from farmer to Premier? We talk of post-war planning under the present setup. I say to Liberals, Get together, shuffle the cards, and if I might make a suggestion select as leader my good friend the Hon. T.W.L. Prowse, whose son in an emergency during the explosion at Halifax of the ammunition dumps, did credit to the whole Island.

I would like the Government after it is reshuffled to withdraw the $100,000 loan in the form of a bank guarantee to the P.E. Island Potato Growers' Association. If Mr. Boulter is unable to run without assistance donate them $25,000. Mark it up to experience, by both Conservatives and Liberals, but have it clearly understood that the Association must be the same in future as the individual operator, sink or swim.

I am quite sure this being an agricultural problem of mine, that if he were permitted the Hon. W.F. Allan Stewart, Minister of Agriculture would be helpful and would be willing to work with me, or any other person placed in my position.

In my judgement neither Hitler nor Mussolini used their taxpayers any worse than Messrs Jones, Barbour, and Boulter have used me.

Wake up Charlottetown! Wake up all over P.E. Island. If the Premier should develop a cold for an indefinite period we cannot run the Province. We will have to just convalesce with him.

I am, Sir, etc.
FRANK B. CLARKE

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

Sir,—Recent reports published in your valuable paper show that those interested in the welfare of the City of Charlottetown and returned men residing there, are active in endeavouring to provide employment for those who will need it in the immediate post-war period.

In an agricultural community such as our little Province, it is clearly understood that the prosperity, productive capacity, and purchasing power of the farm population determines the volume of business passing through the city and the measure of employment and wealth of those who live there. It is therefore a matter of equal concern of town and country and one that is of first importance, that the farmer be enabled to increase the amount and quality of the products of the farm, so that all may share the greater income from the greater volume of business.

It will surely be criminal negligence if, when the needs of this Province are presented at the forthcoming conference at Ottawa, ample Federal financial assistance is not sought and obtained for the immediate development and extension of hydro-electrification for the benefit of the farmers of the Province.

I have not had the opportunity of seeing the possibilities of other main rivers of the Island except the Dunk. I believe the Morell to be larger; but in the Dunk River Valley there is enough power going to waste, that could easily be harnessed, to serve the entire central half of the Province for the requirements of farm electrification. The Morell River could take care of the eastern section while several other rivers, such as Montague, Winter, New Glasgow, Wilmot, etc., would run auxiliary plants to take care of future developments.

Four power dams are needed on the main stream of the Dunk River, one of which will have a head of over thirty feet with a dam approximately two hundred feet long and capable of developing six hundred h.p. There should be two thousand h.p. electrical energy available from the full development of this power area and this will serve a rural population of twenty to thirty thousand people.

There is nothing that will create such an atmosphere of happy among the farming people of our Province, and all others as well, as the knowledge that plans are being made and adequate financial assistance being obtained to carry on this fine program of development for the benefit of the entire Province and particularly for the rehabilitation of the returned soldiers, as it will assure full employment for many years.

In conclusion I would like to refer anyone interested in such an undertaking to the Farmer's Magazine, pages 6 and 55, of the October number. Surely this is what we need here in Prince Edward Island, just as much as in Ontario or elsewhere

I am, Sir, etc.,
HUGH CAMPBELL.
Emerald, R.R. 3.

WORLD FOOD PROBLEM

Sir,—I am glad to see that the F.A.O. (Food and Agriculture Organization) sessions at Quebec City have been getting such a welcome in the daily newspapers generally. This is a constructive sign, pointing not alone to "a better-fed human family" but, also, toward a finer evaluation of the basic position of "Agriculture" in human affairs.

So far as I can make out, UNRRA is a purely temporary "relief" mechanism built for the transition emergency—i.e., a sort of "food-and-fiber" bridge, from war to peace? There is, however, one feature in UNRRA which I think might well be transferred to the F.A.O., or to whatever permanent organization the United Nations may devise, to actually "do the job" at which they appear to be aiming. The most affirmative answer to the famous old peacetime question, at all efforts to deal with the so-called food surpluses ("where is the money to come from?") seems to this reader to be UNRRA's financial technique of 1 per cent of the member nation's total annual income. In other words, not only is this contribution based on ability to pay but, quite as important, it is also on a level with the advantages likely to accrue to the respective national treasuries, if the good ship "World Business" can be kept on an even keel?

The Guardian's editorial columns have made many references to the desirability of a fairer share of the Dominion's income accruing to the primary producers at work in Canadian fields, waters, forests and mines? Well, sir, it seems to me that if the United Nations are determined to win the new objective of "a better-fed human family," they should be also willing to deduct 1 per cent from their collective annual revenues and apply the same to the purposes of victory against the age-old enemy of peace—hunger in one land, and plenty in another. Washington's "share" would call for $1,350,000,000 this year: with $380,000,000 from London and $75,000,000 from Ottawa—and so, along the line of the United Nations. Why not? The beneficiaries will be all mankind!

I am, Sir, etc.,
MARITIMER.

The Poets' Corner

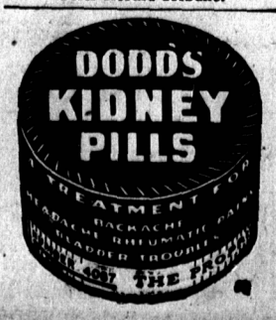
LEE SHORE

Lonelier than a gull that floats
Like a falling
Leaf, is the buoy at the edge of foam,
Muffled in the smother, climbing the crest, calling
Like a sound in a dream the ship close-hauled for home .. .. ..

No more the sudden wings in the sky, the slope
Of destroying wings above her straining sails,
No more the silhouette of the periscope
On the freezing sea, the flash of the guns at her rails .. .. ..

The voice of the buoy bell is a final warning
Of the hidden reef the bar, and the breakers' roar.
May she hold her course and make her port in the morning
For this is her peril now: her own lee shore.

—Florence R. Mastin, in The New York Herald-Tribune.



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