# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, JANUARY, 30, 1939.


## Tonight's Convention

Preparedness is a good thing in politics as well as in national defense. The King's and Queen's County Conservatives have their federal candidates nominated and ready at any time to take the field, and this evening Conservative delegates for the Fifth District of Queens will meet in the Board Room of the City Building for the purpose of nominating their candidates for the next provincial electoral contest. While only the delegates have votes, the meeting is open to the public and after the nominations addresses will be given by provincial and federal candidates on political issues of the day.

There is no knowing whether the Campbell Government will take the plunge this year, or hang on for another session. In any event, the Conservatives of Charlottetown and Royalty are taking no chances. Their convention will likely be followed by other districts in the near future.

There is no question as to the unpopularity into which the present Liberal regime has fallen as a result of their broken election pledges and dictatorial procedure. By organizing well in advance of the contest the Conservatives are making doubly sure of such a victory at the polls as will mean a return once more to democratic, responsible government.

## Dollars To The Rich

The Financial Post, an independent newspaper, is authority for the statement that probably 20 per cent of the federal wheat bonus was paid this year to farmers with excellent crops averaging over 30 bushels to the acre. It characterizes the payment of this money to these people as "a public waste."

It cites, as a characteristic example, the case of two Americans, brothers, who had a large holding of excellent land in Southern Alberta. From 500 acres seeded to wheat these two men harvested 20,000 bushels, averaging close to 40 bushels to the acre. Like all other western wheat growers this year their crop was turned over to the Government wheat board at the Government minimum price of 80 cents per bushel. This price was approximately 20 cents a bushel above the open market, giving the brothers a tidy bonus or handout of about $4,000.

The Post points out that with their large scale operations and big crop these two brothers should be able to break even at 50 cents per bushel; they should make money at 60 cents.

"The 20 cent bonus," it charges, "was simply a wasteful handout to men who, it is reported, come up from California every spring, take off a crop and go back in the fall. They hire practically no help, using power driven machinery and harvesting with a combine. There are no real buildings on their land, the brothers simply camp out or "batch" it in a granary and trailer. Aside from machinery and the original land about all these two buy in Canada would be a couple of pairs of overalls each summer, a grub stake and gas."

The wheat subsidy will cost Canadian taxpayers between $50,000,000 and $65,000,000 this year. "At least a fifth of this or $10,000,000 to $13,000,000, is being handed out to people who don't need it."

Here is a matter that calls for investigation, and a very prompt and thorough one. Our farmers in this Province will recall that last year they applied, through the local government, for federal assistance to purchase seed grain, and were told that they were capable of financing themselves. The refusal to grant their modest request was given in Parliament, coincident with an announcement by Finance Minister Dunning that Saskatchewan and Alberta farmers were getting some $16,000,000 for similar purposes. This in addition to the subsequent action of the King Government in pegging western wheat prices at 80 cents.

It is to be hoped that our Maritime representatives will insist on demanding a showdown on this question of wheat bonusing at the present session of Parliament. If the Post's charges are correct, "public waste" is a mild term for the racketeering that has been going on at the expense of our own hard-working farmers whose taxes go to foot the bill.

## Nothern Colonization

The most ambitious colonization scheme for Canada that has been heard of for some years is that proposed by Judge John McKay of Fort William in the Times-Journal of that city. The Dominion Government, he says, should lend $20,000,000 a year to 20,000 pioneer settlers within six miles of the National Transcontinental Railway in the great clay belt of Quebec and Ontario, and in the northern sections of the four western provinces. He would lend each settler $24 per acre on 40 acres to be cleared, repayable in 10 years with interest at five per cent. For years, he says, Quebec has been donating to settlers $24 per acre for each acre brought under cultivation.

The proposal is also made by Judge McKay that the Dominion Government should "give an option for 20 years on the northern Canadian National Trans-Canada Railway from Quebec to Prince Rupert, to British and American capitalists" provided that they would invest $20,000,000 a year in securing settlers for the arable lands within 12 miles of that line of railway. The company would be expected to try to secure good earning population from Great Britain, Canada and the United States up to 500,000 each year.

It is also suggested that Canada should accept as settlers a large number of refugees from Germany and Czecho-Slovakia.

The northern arable lands all across Canada should be settled, and they will be in time, and will maintain a very considerable population. Whether it should be by assisted settlement, remains to be decided. There are arguments both for and against that policy. But new conditions in the world might affect the decision to some extent.

In any case, as the Winnipeg Free Press points out, the proposal to hand over the C.N.R. line from Quebec to Prince Rupert to private capitalists would not receive public support and therefore could not be the basis of colonization work.

## Editorial Notes

Charles I executed this date, 1649; and Field Marshal Earl Haig died, 1928.

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The new election act, we are advised, will come into operation March 1, but probably will not be tested in practice till September.

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A good few have passed to their reward since Mr. Lloyd George ran an election with the cry "Hang the Kaiser". His Imperial Highness is still very much alive and kicking in his exiled home in Holland. Similarly quite a number have joined the ranks of the poor and needy since Mr. Mackenzie King ran his election to "End Unemployment."

* * * *

Something more must really be done for the poor and unemployed in our midst; why not have a meeting of clergy and social workers, such as the public service nurses, and let them reveal active conditions as they know them. That appears to be the first step to rousing public opinion in the matter.

* * * *

Miss Agnes McPhail does not believe the American Trade Treaty worth a rap, and is of the opinion if farmers are to be benefitted it must be by marketing regulation, (such as the Bennett Government passed but which was subsequently, under the King Government, declared ultra vires), providing authority for the majority to bring others into line to regulate production and obtain better prices.

* * * *

The grocery trade has been heartened by the fine business during the week or two prior to Christmas and week between Christmas and New Year's, says Canadian Grocer. There are reports of some of the larger retailers having increases in December running as high as 30 per cent. Same applies to many of the smaller aggressive dealers. Merchants who had set quotas for December found them exceeded by a wide margin, the increases in certain instances wiping out the decline up to that time. All of which indicates the buying urge of the general public had been pent up for some reason or other and when it did come it went off with a bang. Many holiday stocks were cleaned up several days before Christmas and there was a lot of buying around among competitors. According to many grocery brokers, 1939 has opened up nicely. This is easily accounted for. Jobbers and retailers have been more or less starving their stocks during the past several months and now have to replenish some of them.

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Science shows that plant growth is absolutely dependent upon nitrogen as well as upon other elements. Without available nitrogen in the soil, plant and animal life would cease to exist. In the 1938 Yearbook of Agriculture, "Soils and Men," it is estimated that farm soils each year lose nearly 23,000,000 tons of nitrogen through harvested crops, grazing, erosion and leaching. Only a little more than 16,000,000 tons are given back to the soil in the form of fertilizers, manures, rainfall, irrigation waters and legume crops. American soils have from 2,000 to 16,000 pounds of nitrogen per acre down to a depth of 40 inches—in areas studied by department scientists. It is estimated that the air above an acre of soil, however, contains from 145,000 to 150,000 tons of free nitrogen, although it must follow what is known as the nitrogen cycle before becoming available to plants and animals.

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For the first time since the Liberal Government's advent to office, it has applied the Customs Act provisions which empower the Revenue Minister to fix value for duty purposes to imports of manufactured commodities. Textile articles of cotton and artificial silk were those to which the ministerial decree has been made applicable. A department bulletin announced that bedspreads and counterpanes of artifical silk and cottons will henceforth be valued at 32 cents a pound. Towels and accessories and woven fabric terry cloth will henceforth be valued from 34 to 60 cents a pound, according to the character of the product. Other values fixed by the Minister for duty purposes are bath mats and seat covers, 64 to 80 cents, and terry woven fabrics, 30 to 55 cents. The valuation is at Canadian funds, f.o.b. point of production, and it applies to goods not entitled to entry under the British preference. However, the provisions of the Canada-United States trade agreement are not affected by the new arrangement.

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What kind of oil is used in our public clocks? The unusual cold snap which immediately preceded Christmas in London caused a large number of clocks to stop. People wrote to the papers about it. There were interviews with clockmakers. Most clockmakers still use porpoise oil as a lubricant and the opinion is that the unusual low temperature caused the oil to congeal. In a discussion of stoppage from other reasons, a Sussex man writes to The London Times: "I have kept two grandfather clocks in good working condition for more than forty years without the aid of a clockmaker. One feature which may easily be overlooked by the amateur is the wear on the two faces of the escapement lever. These become pitted after a number of years, not deeply, but sufficiently to account for stoppages difficult to account for otherwise. I keep these faces ground as nearly smooth as I find necessary by means of a small carborundum sharpening stone. This treatment has always proved effective."

## NOTES BY THE WAY

**Maybe Germany has decided to** put its house in order. The Nazi government is recalling its nations in domestic service in England and the Netherlands. — Chatham News.

**Bus and truck drivers will be** required to produce medical certificates to show they are physically fit, with particular reference to vision and hearing. About 5,000 are affected by this Alberta regulation. Strangely enough, drivers of private passenger cars are not required to prove they are physically fit to operate a car in traffic, although they far out-number bus and truck drivers. — Edmonton Journal.

**Old Alice Billy, a centenarian** British Columbia squaw, predicts that this year nations will gather and smoke the pipe of peace, "but there will be treachery in their hearts." Old Alice apparently believes that history repeats itself — Exchange.

**The secret is out. The vogue** for men's napkins, the size of a postage stamp, which have superseded the good old-fashioned bed-sheet variety, was inspired, I'm told, by the dry cleaners. —Scanlan in Buffalo News.

**The mayor-elect of Powassan on** the road to North Bay is 23 year old and he based his campaign on the claim he intends to get more of the tourist traffic to stop in his town. People go through there on the way to see the quints, but perhaps they might be induced to stop over and have a look at a 23-year-old mayor. — Peterborough Examiner

**If the historian of the future has** criticisms to make of the policy of the British and French Governments in 1938, they will relate not so much to what was done by London and Paris in September as to what they did not do earlier in the year. The indictment will lie not against the methods adopted to get out of the dangerous situation that arose in September so much as against the inertia that allowed such a situation to develop. It was proved in September that, when it came to the point, Britain and France were not prepared to fight to preserve the inviolability of Czechoslovakia's frontiers. That being so, true statesmanship would have discerned it in May, or even earlier. Looking back, with all the admitted advantages of hindsight, we can clearly see that Britain and France, on May 22nd at the latest, should either have warned Germany that they would fight or have warned Czechoslovakia that they would not fight. The world was dragged to the precipice because they did neither. The fault lies with the incurable predilection of British statesmen for the policy of stalling for time in the hope that problems will solve themselves. And it is hardly reassuring to reflect that precisely this is the avowed policy of the British Government at the moment. —From the Economist.

**William Foran was more than the** Secretary of the Civil Service Commission. In many respects, and in much of the public mind, he was the Commission Foran stood by the Commission's cradle, watched it grow through forty years, championed it and fought for it against all comers, knew more about it and its aims and work than anybody else, took more abuse and criticism for it than all its members put together. Once a parliamentary committee, or somebody concerned with a parliamentary committee, advised Foran to confine himself to "the duties of a Secretary." The advice was about as sensible—and as effective— as King Canute's efforts with the waves. Foran had forgotten more about the Commission than any parliamentary committee could ever learn, perhaps forgotten more about it than any Civil Service Commissioner could learn. And the Commissioners knew it. Knew that Foran could no more be a mere Secretary of the commission than the skipper of a ship could be a cabin boy. Last week William Foran cleaned off his desk for the last time, called it a civil service day. It was a day which took in 40 years as the Commission's chief of staff, 50 years of unbroken work as a civil servant. Few men in the Canadian or any other civil service anywhere can look back on a prouder record. Or to a more honorable one. As Foran, still with a song in his heart, goes to his Indian Summer, the legion of Canadians who know him not only as a civil servant but as a king of lacrossé, of hockey, of football and athletics in general will wish him well. He deserves much of Canada; has earned richly a rest. —Ottawa Journal.

**Nineteen hundred and thirty-**eight was such a big year for the Germans that it is not surprising that their language grows a little flowery when they try to summarize it. Marshal Goering says that it "sticks out above the centuries like a granite obelisk, and overshadows all events in German history like a gigantic oak tree." Non-Germans may be inclined to feel that it sticks out like a sore thumb, and that if it is an oak it is of the poisonous variety; but allowance must be made for point of view. Meanwhile Baldur von Schirach, leader of the Hitler Youth, has advised all young Germans to "emulate the Fuehrer in their private lives." Hitler, as everybody knows, neither smokes nor drinks, and for their health all true Aryan youths and maidens will imitate him. Unfortunately, the secret of power seems to be something more than this. In Czecho-Slovakia, which makes some of the best beer in the world, the per capita consumption of beer had fallen off one-third in the seven years before 1938; the Czech youth preferred sundaes, milkshakes, Eskimo pies. Yet this did not save Czecho-Slovakia. — New York Times.

**Greatly to my vexation** I find in many quarters a belief arising out of statements made on behalf of the Brighton Corporation at a recent Ministry of Health inquiry that I intend to sell to Brighton the Kipling House at Rottingdean. I have no such intention. As an old friend and great admirer of Mr. Kipling, I bought the property to preserve it and I do not wish to part with it to the corporation or to anybody else. But Brighton in shining armor defending Kipling's earlier Sussex home against the vandals is felicitous counter - propaganda to the wanton tales of her dalliance with the Mammon of Unrighteousness. —Sir Roderick Jones in the London Times.

## That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

### MOST SKIN DISEASE CAN BE CURED

Like many other physicians I have repeated the old story about the skin specialist who jokingly made the statement that he had chosen to be a skin specialist because his patients never got him up at night, never died, and never got well. The idea of repeating the story was to show that skin ailments were often difficult to cure and required much patience from patient and physician. That the repeating of this joke has really done harm is stated by Prof. Carroll S. Wright, Temple University, Philadelphia, as guest editor in Medical World.

"I have actually, on numerous occasions, had patients inform me that they understood that skin diseases, for the most part, are incurable, and a physician once told me that he had no interest in treating patients with skin diseases when even a skin specialist admitted that 'they never got well'."

It can be understood then why patients with skin ailments will often neglect to undergo treatment if they believe it to be just a waste of time and money.

In answer to this old joke, Dr. Wright states that as a matter of fact he has been roused from bed by skin patients with severe pain, and has seen patients die beacuse of skin ailments, and fortunately the great majority of skin ailments "are entirely curable or can be greatly benefited by persistent medical efforts."

The ten most common skin ailments in a series of nearly one million cases, in the order they occur, appear to be eczema, acne (pimples), scabies (itch), psoriasis (white patches of silvery scales), seborrhea (dandruff), urticaria (hives), dermatitis venenata (inflammation due to touching substances of a chemical, vegetable, or animal nature), and verruca (warts). Figures from the private practice of Dr. Joy F. Schamberg and Dr. Wright show ringworm to be as common as eczema.

Dr. Wright points out that the above diseases can be helped by treatment although the disease may return because the cause is not and perhaps cannot be entirely removed.

In order, then, that patients and physicians will get away from the idea that skin diseases cannot be cured, Dr. Wright says, "It is my belief that the results of treatment in skin diseases are at least equal, if not superior, to those achieved in other specialties."

## When Britain Is At War

(Sydney Post-Record)

One of the most amazing statements yet heard in the Dominion Parliament was Senator Dandurand's argument that Canada is unable to cooperate with Great Britain in matters of defense, because there is no knowing on what side this Dominion might stand in event of another great war. Senator Dandurand is the Government leader in the Upper House, and as the matter under discussion related directly to national policy of prime importance, he was of course speaking for the King Administration. Otherwise his astounding remark might be dismissed as the emanation of a superficial thinker, as the hall-mark of an irresponsible mind.

But not only is Senator Dandurand a member of the Federal Cabinet and the Government leader in the Senate. He was Canada's representative at Geneva when the last meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations took place.

This is the sharp comment of the independent Windsor Daily Star on Senator Dandurand's curious philosophy with respect to Imperial relations and obligations:

"If the King Government does not know with whom this country might be allied in the event of war —as Senator Dandurand suggests— then it might be interesting to have it consult the public on this very point. War is the last thing the peace-loving people of Canada want, but the same peace-loving people know where they stand and what they want when it comes to defence of the British Commonwealth of Nations—which is just another way of saying the defense of Canada. Our national interests, so far as defense is concerned, cannot be separated from the interests of all the empire."

Britain's enemies are Canada's enemies, and no complacent sophistry can ever place them in any other category. As Sir Wilfrid Laurier once reminded Parliament, when Britain is at war, Canada is at war, and this is a necessary condition of our membership in the Empire. But Canada's place in the next war involving Britain will not depend on constitutional doctrines, Parliamentary resolutions, or the policy of any Dominion Government which may contain key Ministers of Mr. Dandurand's peculiar type. It will be determined by the will of the people of Canada, and there need never be any question as to how it will be determined. Mr. Dandurand is simply out of touch with public sentiment in this great British Dominion. If he has spoken in this case with the sanction and approval of his colleagues, the King Government has yet to learn the temper of the people it affects to represent.

## Science And Art

(Hamilton Spectator)

In the selfsame week in which the King conferred the highly-valued Order of Merit upon Sir James Jeans, for his outstanding contributions to science, that eminent physicist created quite a furore in musical circles by stating in a public lecture that it was impossible to distinguish between the sound of a note struck on the piano with a walking-stick and the same note played by the hand of a master. The public is grateful to Sir James for popularizing the study of astronomy. But when he likes, he can be as abstruse and technical as the best of them. As a matter of fact, he has a number of mathematical treatises to his credit, which none but experts could appreciate. It is the rare faculty of presenting the stupendous story of the heavens in a way "understanded of the people" which has gained him the gratitude of readers throughout the world.

After all, what is there to get so excited about, even though scientific research should show that the mechanically produced note is quite as good in quality as that resulting from the touch of an artist? Is it Sir James' fault that this is so? Or is there any implied disparagement of the virtuoso? One note does not make a concerto any more than one swallow makes a summer. It is the rhythmical succession of notes, the gradation of tones which skilled human agency can alone create, which constitutes music. Science may elucidate art, but it cannot displace it. The reputation of Paderewski is not endangered—neither is the reputation of Sir James Jeans.

## The Poet's Corner

### FROM "IRRADIATIONS"

The morning is clean and blue and
the wind blows up the clouds;
Now my thoughts gathered from
afar
Once again in their patched armor,
with rusty plumes and blunted swords,
Move out to war.

Smoking our morning pipes we shall
ride two and two
Through the woods,
For our old cause keeps us together
And our hatred is so precious not
death nor defeat can break it.

God willing, we will this day meet
that one enemy
Who has given us so many a good
beating.
Thank God we have a cause worth
fighting for,
And a cause worth losing and a
good song to sing.

—John Gould Fletcher.


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## Kings George The Sixth

### CHAPTER EIGHT

"Examples lead us, and we likely see:
Such as the Prince is, will his people be."

—Herrick.

In the fall of 1913, Prince Albert received an appointment on the Collingwood, which was at that time the flagship of the first battle squadron of Sir Stanley Colville, who subsequently became a well-known admiral of the fleet, and Captain James Ley was in actual command of the ship. He entered the service of the Collingwood at Rosyth in September and sailed away as a midshipman for a Mediterranean cruise which will never be forgotten by the present King because while the squadron was carrying on manoeuvres in Egyptian waters, he had the opportunity to stay for a short time with the great British soldier, Lord Kitchener, who is said to have made a deep impression on the young Prince.

He was with the Fleet when exercises took place at Portsmouth, Lamlash, Devonport and other well-known training locations. It is recorded that he followed the same enviable policy whereby there was absolutely no distinction between the son of the King and the members of the ship from the highest officer in command of the battle squadron to the lowly recruit who had just come on board. He took his place in the gun-room as any other shipman and it is stated that he preferred the name which was invented for him by his friends, namely, "Mr. Johnston". It was only on formal occasions that he was called Prince Albert, with everyone trying to carry out the Prince's wish that nothing should be said or done which would create the impression in the gun-room or ward-room that he was not the equal of the other men in the ship's services. He followed the same routine of the other men. He would rise before six in the morning; he would prepare his own cocoa; then he would take a shower; he would go through the usual morning drill; he would eat his breakfast with his own company; he would do all other duties in the course of the day, even working in the dark collier when coaling the ship was necessary since oil burning boats were a rarity in those days; rushing through the final duties of the day, he would partake of the evening supper which traditionally consisted of bread and cheese, onions and beer, and then he would get into his hammock for a well-earned rest.

In July 1914, which was only a few weeks before the outbreak of the World War, he served his country as midshipman in the great naval review in Devonport and his routine on the Collingwood was the same of any other midshipman, without any special privileges or other signs of rank as son of the reigning monarch. Perhaps the oustanding event of that time is the story which recounts a visit of the late King George the Fifth, who in the course of a formal inspection of the Collingwood, came face to face with his second son but neither father, nor son greeted one another in any other manner than the usual click of the heels and salute like all the other colleagues of the young midshipman, though father and son had not met one another for a long time. This incident was typical of the character of the late King George the Fifth and the present King George the Sixth.

A few weeks later, the World War broke out in all its fury. At the time of the incident on the Collingwood, war had been declared but the full extent of this international conflict had not been realized. However, Prince Albert expressed a desire to curtail his training immediately in order that he may enter the active service, but a month after the World War broke out, something happened which interferred with his plans.

(Continued next week)

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