

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1943.

"The Important Thing"

In a discussion in Parliament last week, Prime
Minister Mackenzie King said it is a mistake to
estimate the amount of service given by the
length of time members are sitting in their
peaces in the House. And he added: "It's not
the length of time they are seated; it's what hon-
ourable members say in the time they are stand-
ing. That is the important thing."

We trust that our Island representatives will
duly note these words. They seem to have
acted all along on the assumption that they
should be seen and not heard at Ottawa, that so
long as they were in attendance every day,
their duty as our representatives was discharged.
That seems also to be the attitude of their
party press, which recently chided a member
from another Province for seeking "a little cheap
publicity" by getting up and speaking on our
behalf. If keeping mum were a virtue, our re-
presentatives from Queen's and King's would
indeed be models for all time to come. But, alas,
it's "not the length of time they are seated" that
counts, it's "what they say in the time they are
standing." Judged by that standard—and it's
Prime Minister King who prescribes it—what
a washout our so-called spokesmen at Ottawa
have proven!

Quebec Conservative Prospects

In a keen analysis of the political situation in
Quebec, Mr. Austin F. Cross in The Financial
Post reaches this conclusion:
There are thus about ten different groups
altogether, and at least one of these groups could
again be sub-divided. Quebec is falling apart
like a front-heaved mosaic.

The curious thing is that the pre-Bracken
Conservatives, and the Progressive Conservatives
of post-Winnipeg don't seem to have noticed
this. Their greatest failing appears to be to
ignore Quebec perennially, instead of realizing
that Quebec is the only hope, the sole road to
power.

Let us look at the history books. Sir John
A. Macdonald got into power—and stayed there
—because he could win and hold Quebec. When
Laurier came along, he started stealing Quebec
from the inept hands of Abbott, Thompson,
Boswell and Tupper.

For 15 years Laurier had Quebec in his hip
pocket. The Conservatives themselves perhaps
paid scant attention to Henri Bourassa, yet it
was on his shoulders that they stepped into power.
Finally, in 1911, Bourassa split Quebec, spilled
Laurier, and opened the door for Borden.

The Tories lost Quebec every election till 1930.
Come then Hon. R. B. Bennett. He had no
background of conservatism advocacy, he had made
no mistakes as far as Quebec was concerned,
and he had as his right bow, New Zealand
butter. Exit King, Vive Bennett.

From 1936 on the Conservatives have got
scarcely nowhere in Quebec. The pitifully few
seats they saved in 1935, they lost in 1940.
But now they have a new man, Hon. John
Bracken. Bracken can stand foursquare to any
traditional objections Quebec has to the rank
and file of Conservatism, and come away un-
touched.

It does not take a genius to see that this thing
works both ways. The Liberals are breaking up,
while the Conservatives are just getting to-
gether. This man Bracken looks like a natural.
Bennett, when he wrested 27 seats from King
in Quebec in 1930 made a turnover of 54, yet
the Conservative majority was not even 50.
Consider then what Quebec did for Mr. Bennett.
In a word, it elected him.

Now there is every reason to prophesy that
the Liberal party will further divide, rather than
amalgamate in Quebec. Indeed, governments
usually tend to disintegrate, and that process
is accelerated during a war. What more natural
then to assume that the Quebec Liberals, now to
all intents and purposes headless, will slowly
slide into irreconcilable factions? That may not
be what is going to happen, but there are many
who are predicting just that thing.

Public Health Staffs

According to Dr. J. J. Heagerty, health ser-
vices director of the Department of Pensions and
National Health, all the provinces except Prince
Edward Island and Quebec are below the mini-
mum of public health personnel considered ab-
solutely essential.

The public health committee of the Canadian
Medical Procurement and Assignment Board is
making a survey to ascertain the "absolute,
minimum requirements" of public health per-
sonnel as part of the Board's nation-wide health
survey. When this survey is completed the
Board may be able to act on recommendations
being made that public health doctors, nurses
and other personnel be frozen in their jobs. Dr.

Fred Jackson of Winnipeg, deputy minister of
health for Manitoba, is in charge of the public
health survey for the four western provinces;
and Dr. John Phair of Toronto, Chief Medical
Officer of the Ontario Department of Health,
is in charge in the central and eastern provinces.
Nova Scotia is in a bad state due to the war,
Dr. Heagerty reports. In the provincial hos-
pital for mental diseases with 500-bed capacity,
the only medical man on the staff is the medi-
cal superintendent. The Rockefeller Foundation
survey showed that Halifax's death rate has
risen from 14.5 in 1937 to 17.2 in 1941 and is
almost 45 per cent higher than for the rest of
Nova Scotia.

New Brunswick had ten health districts with
eleven medical health officers, but has lost five
of these physicians and has had to merge sev-
eral districts which means doubling up the work
and cutting efficiency. Prince Edward Island
has had little reduction; not one of its three
medical men and staff of 12 was eligible for
military service.

The shortage in Quebec is comparatively
slight but in Ontario the shortage has been so
very great in every field that it has become nec-
essary for one health officer to do the work of
two. It also has been necessary to train health
nurses to do work formerly done by medical
officers, such as blood testing, and so on.

The reduction in Manitoba has not been so
great, but the demand on the health services has
been greatly increased due to the war. In Sas-
katchewan the enlistment of rural men has been
very heavy. In Alberta only five health officers
are left of the nine who looked after the nine
different health units. Nurses in outlying dis-
tricts of Alberta are giving medical treatment
because there are no doctors, even in adjacent
areas. By December of last year 212 physicians
had left Alberta since the outbreak of war;
there are three hospitals in Alberta with no
doctor left in the immediate district, one of
them may have to be closed because the near-
est doctor is forty miles away. The situation
in British Columbia is also very bad in the out-
lying districts.

Dr. Heagerty emphasizes that there always
is a possibility of a serious outbreak of disease if
public health staffs are so depleted they are un-
able to do essential work. Such necessary duties
include testing and chlorination of water ser-
vices to urban populations, sanitary inspections,
supervision of milk supplies, and control mea-
sures to prevent the spread of diseases such as
the measures taken in the West to detect and
control bubonic plague and Rocky Mountain
spotted fever, which have been reported in
southern Alberta.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Red Cross implies red blood and ready
help in time of need.

Next week the Legislature will have opened
in annual session, with a lot of more or less
deserving members hungering after the loaves
and fishes of the Department of Public Works
left behind by the new Senator now in Ottawa.

Are the powers-that-be pressing for a new
car ferry? Remember the war has little chance
of being over next winter, or the next, or in all
probability in 1946. Where will we be then
with the present steamer in the condition she is
now in?

John Wesley, English religious leader and
founder of Wesleyan Methodism, born this
day 1703; organization began as local societies
under the Church of England but ultimately
Wesley having been excluded from Anglican
pulpits he merged the societies into a Church
and started to ordain ministers; the new body
grew and expanded tremendously, taking a
strong hold of U.S.A. Protestantism where, at
that time, the Baptists were the principal
competitors of the Anglican Church; Wesley's
preaching, zeal and power of popular appeal
were enormous; he died in 1791: "Cleanliness is,
indeed, next to godliness."

Notwithstanding a free and critical parlia-
mentary, Prime Minister Churchill continues to en-
joy the confidence of the British electorate. Lady
Apsley, Conservative, has won the Bristol Cen-
tral parliamentary by-election caused by the
death on active service in the Middle East of
her husband, Lord Apsley, also a Conservative.
She polled 5,867 votes against 4,308 for Miss
Jennie Lee, Independent, 830 for John McNair
of the Independent Labor Party, and 258 for
F. H. Dunn, Independent. Both McNair and
Dunn forfeited their deposits. The Bristol Cen-
tral constituency contains some of the worst
blitzed areas of England. Fifty per cent of the
original voters have been forced by the Ger-
man fury to move away from their homes.
Hence the vote was far smaller than in the gen-
eral election of 1935 when Lord Apsley, Con-
servative, polled 15,774 votes to 14,258 for J. J.
Taylor, Labor.

In the sixth in a series of brief sketches of
men and women who are playing prominent
roles in the field of education the Montreal
Gazette says Rev. Dr. E. Leslie Pidgeon, has
for many years been actively concerned with
the cause of education not only in Quebec but
in other parts of the Dominion as well. Born
in New Richmond, Que., the grandson of the
second Presbyterian minister in Prince Edward
Island, Dr. Pidgeon received his education in
New Richmond school, Queen's University,
Kingston, and at the Presbyterian College in
Montreal. Dr. Pidgeon, who has for a number
of years been a member of the Protestant Com-
mittee, was one of the founders of the National
Council of Education. At one time he
served on the McGill Corporation, and on the
board of the Theological College, Winnipeg. At
present he is a trustee of Queen's University,
vice-chairman of the board of the United The-
ological College, a member of the board of Divinity
Hall, and president of the Religious Educa-
tion Council of Quebec.

Notes By The Way

The fall of the great port of Tri-
poli came more quickly than we had
any right to expect. Field Marshal
Rommel did not even make a brief
pause for station identification. —
The New Yorker.

As time goes on and rationing be-
comes tighter, it is believed the
Sprayback and the missus will be
pretty well relieved of their respec-
tive allergies. —Winnipeg Tribune.

Many people are not only mystified
but greatly concerned over the
growing number of strikes. With
Canada engaged in the greatest war
effort in its not very long history,
giving every spare collar to help
fight the stupendous bills, and work-
men joining in a number of cap-
acities both military and civil, it
seems strange that labor should be
on strike. The stupendous bills, and
the war schedule to the extent that
the morale of the people is endan-
gered, which must give a good deal
of comfort to the enemy. —Paris
Star.

John Kieran, in his column, "One
Small Voice," points out that the
modern phrase "nuts to you" is
really old-fashioned. He opened his
Greville Diary to quote, at page 481,
the Lord High Chancellor of Eng-
land saying that it was "nuts to
him" that the noble lords in the
Upper House were behaving as they
were. It is astonishing how much
modern slang is merely a re-
vival of slang used long ago. The
phrase, "there's nobody at home,"
meaning vacuity of mind, goes back
at least to the poet Pope, and since
he was a distinguished wit, it is not
definitely proven, possibly much farther.
The opening lines in act V, scene
IV of Henry VIII, find the porter
and his man in an uproarious en-
counter, during which the porter utters
a temporary phrase "Mow 'em 'down"
occurs. —Winnipeg Free Press.

Colonel Yohagi, military expert,
tells the Japanese that Japan has
"even more steps" to make victory
certain: 1. Consolidate conquered
countries. 2. Destroy the Axis. 3. Drive the British
from India. 4. Consolidate the Solomons
and New Guinea. 5. Control
Midway. 6. Conquer Australia. 7.
Occupy the remainder of the Aleutians.
It reminds us, more than a little
bit, of the laic on the brook
bank who, when asked how many
point on the map, replied: "Well, when I
get the one that's fooling around with
my hook and two more, I'll have
three." —From the Minneapolis Star-
Journal.

As Herbert Morrison has again re-
minded the United States, the Brit-
ish peoples did not go to war for
"imperialist" or "imperialistic" prin-
ciple. We were not attacked, Canada, Aus-
tralia, New Zealand, South Africa
were not attacked, but they rallied
just the same to fight a tyranny
which threatened not only their
own but the whole world. What
hope would there have been for the
world if there had been no British
Empire or if this Empire had been
principle and a central will, had
stood supreme and irrefutable? —Lon-
don Daily Mail.

A one-time Miss America has put
on 60 pounds in the years since. In
case of selecting a Miss Western
Miss America, the numbers have been
placed on file. —Winnipeg Tribune.

What lies behind the whole sad,
sorry story of the destruction of the
French fleet? Destroy the fleet? But
the French fleet? How do the various protagon-
ists of this French drama fit
into the picture? How much can Hitler
save for his own use, and how much
Toulon naval base, not less, and per-
haps more, important for him than
the ships that died? What is the
meaning of the writer address-
ed to the wretched Peter? But the
greater drama is enacted elsewhere.
Today, on the battlefields of Rus-
sia and Tunisia and, most impor-
tantly, in the air, when the
workshops and shipyards which sup-
ply the battles. Tomorrow, as we
advised if they determine to work
together in pooling their live-
stock. We are asked to do so
means of rearing an acute
mortgage situation. We should do
money back to any bidder for his
livestock. Let us resolve on some
livestock loading in deference to
both.

Redistribution

(Canadian Press)
Under section 51 of the B.N.A.
Act, Canada's constitution, it is
provided that after each census the
provincial representation in Par-
liament is to be revised according
to five rules:—

1. Each province is to have a fixed num-
ber of 66 members;
2. Each of the other provinces is
to be assigned a number of mem-
bers in proportion to the total
population as the number of
members to the population of Quebec;
3. The number of members to be
assigned to each province is to be
a fractional part not exceeding one-
half of the number required to give
each census for any province but
if the fractional part is more than
one-half another member is grant-
ing the representation;
4. In any redistribution, the num-
ber of members for any province is
not to be reduced unless the pro-
portion which the population of the
province bore to the total population
of Canada at the last readjustment
has been diminished by 1-20th or
more;
5. The redistribution is not to take
effect until the termination of the
existing parliament.

By an amendment to the B.N.A.
Act in 1886 provision was made for
the granting of representation to
Quebec and British Columbia ex-
ceptionally, they are not included
in any province. It was under this
provision that the Yukon was given
one representative in 1902.

In 1915 another amendment to
the Act was passed providing that
notwithstanding anything in the
Act, a province shall always
be entitled to a number of mem-
bers not less than the number of
members representing such province.
Since confederation the number
of members of the House of Com-
mons has risen steadily. The
Confederation House had 181 mem-
bers. But the unit of representation—
1-65th of the population of Que-
bec—also has been increased after
each census as a result of the ex-
tending population of that province.
Compared with 18,331 in 1871, the
unit after the 1931 census was 44,
186 and the result of the 1941 cen-
sus is now 81,212.

Mr. Churchill's pilot says that the
British Prime Minister usually wants
to make sure that his plane is high
enough to clear the hills. It is just
as well to have your feet well off
the ground when ranging over the
skyscrapers. —Hamilton Spectator.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the
discussion by correspondents of
questions of interest. The
Charlottetown Guardian does not
necessarily endorse the opinions
of correspondents.

FARMERS' APPRECIATION

Sir,—Please accept a much de-
served word of appreciation for the
splendid way you are backing
the farmers' cause in your editor-
ials. We farmers are desperately
in earnest over the problems of la-
bour and transportation which link
up so definitely with our increased
production program.

Our powers of persuasion seem
at times to be futile and thus we
are almost at the point where we
would consider trying to provoke
the authorities to action. Personally
I do not favor harsh criticism as a
general practice, but on some
occasions risking even a reputation
to try to force some action in re-
sponse to these problems that we all
know by practical experience are
so vital to our total contribution
in this war effort.

The farmers' voice being develop-
ed by the Federation of Agriculture
in Canada seems to make a bright
spot for the future. When that
voice is developed to the extent that
our government will hear, I do hope
that all classes of people will receive
their fair share of all things avail-
able.

So keep up your good work and
together we may achieve.

I am, Sir, etc.,
Freetown, P.E.I. R. A. PROFFIT.

LIVESTOCK SHIPPING

Sir,—The scarcity of cars for
the transportation of produce of
every kind is so acute that the
transportation controller for Can-
ada has taken the drastic step of
prohibiting any car unless loaded to
capacity. The capacity of a car will
depend upon the kind of product
to be shipped. In livestock—hogs
for instance—it was originally put
at sixteen thousand lbs., or eighty
hogs weighing two hundred
lbs. each. After considerable agita-
tion and representation on behalf
of producers, this figure was re-
duced to a minimum of ten thou-
sand lbs., or approximately fifty live
hogs, and commenced on March
1st. Every livestock car must
contain this weight at final loading
point, or be subject to whatever
penalties the controller may im-
pose, for failure to load the car to
the capacity stipulated.

The regulation may seem a bit
irritating to farmers and shippers
alike, but it is evidently considered
a regulation that affects our war ef-
forts tremendously, and we should all
co-operate to the end
that freight space for the end
of the war. We are asked to do so
served and that we use every inch
for which we have contracted.
Farmers can assist greatly in this
respect—in fact, without their co-
operation our objective for full
capacity loads is going to be diffi-
cult to obtain. If each farmer who
has livestock for sale will notify
his local shipping agent, a few
days in advance of shipping
date, the number of head for which
he requires shipping space, then
this information can be relayed to
the central office in time to per-
mit of making pick-up arrange-
ments all along the line from load-
ing point, that will assure of maxi-
mum loads.

This is an arrangement that
should be in operation on a vol-
untary basis, without the urge of
necessity. There is no other line of
car loading where shippers are so
careless about the matter of load-
ing cars to capacity as is the case
with livestock. Farmers will even
divide their contribution between two
parties in an effort not to
miss the truck per cent. that one
party may purchase more than the
other, and thus the result may well
be that both parties pay as much
as twenty cents per cow or pig,
less than what they would pay were
they permitted to do so.
activity loads. Farmers will be well
served if they determine to work
together in pooling their live-
stock. We are asked to do so
means of rearing an acute
mortgage situation. We should do
money back to any bidder for his
livestock. Let us resolve on some
livestock loading in deference to
both.

I am, Sir, etc.,
J. A. GILLES.

RATION COUPON BANKING

Beginning March 1st, the 3,200 branches of the
Chartered Banks of Canada, undertake another wartime
service, namely Ration Coupon Banking. It is a vital
part of the nation-wide rationing program.

Facts You Should Know

- 1 If you are a merchant, jobber, wholesaler or
other dealer receiving ration coupons from your
customers, your bank stands ready to show you
how to deposit or otherwise deal with the
coupons you receive. The same applies if you
are a "quota-user."
2 It has nothing whatever to do with your regular
bank account, in which you deposit dollars and
draw cheques in dollars.
3 It is purely a relationship between dealers
and commercial banks. Ration Banking begins
only after the consumer has used his coupons to
purchase rationed commodities.
4 The banks' job is mainly of an accounting nature
—acting as an agent of the Ration Administra-
tion, Wartime Prices and Trade Board, under
carefully defined regulations.
5 Ration Coupon Banking relieves the Ration Ad-
ministration of the tremendous burden of hand-
ling, verifying and accounting for used coupons
with which consumers have obtained their supplies.
6 If you are a consumer only, it in no way affects
how much or how little of rationed commodities
you receive. Banks do not issue ration coupons,
nor do they have anything to do with the actual
rationing of commodities.

By this important addition to the many wartime services
they perform, the Chartered Banks serve the nation, facilitate
business, and seek to save time and expense to the country.

THE CHARTERED BANKS OF CANADA

Ad No. 4301—3 cols. x 160 lines—Special Advertisement
Released to Newspapers March 1st by Canadian Bankers Association

In calculating the unit, the Que-
bec population figure used is the
total population of the province—
3,331,882—minus the 3,097 persons
living in an area added to Quebec
by the boundaries extension act of
1912.

Comparison of the 1941 population
figures for Prince Edward Island,
Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan
and Alberta shows that their rate
of growth was smaller than the rate
for Canada as a whole.

Prince Edward Island had 8464
per cent of the Dominion population
in 1931, only 8280 per cent in
1931, only 8271 per cent in 1941;
Manitoba 6.742 per cent in 1931;
Saskatchewan 8.881 per cent in 1931,
only 7.787 per cent in 1941;
Alberta 7.054 per cent in 1931, only
6.912 in 1941.

But the basis of rule 4 under
the B.N.A. Act, no change to be
made in the representation of On-
tario or Alberta. The proportion of
their population to the total popu-
lation of Canada has not decreased
by 1-20th since 1931.

For the other provinces with re-
duced population ratio, this is the
situation:—
Prince Edward Island—this pro-
vince should have only two mem-
bers on a strict population basis, but
it is represented by four Senators and
one Member of Parliament. The B.N.A. Act
amendment of 1915, its House of
Commons representation remains at
four.
Manitoba—Since the population
ratio for Manitoba has decreased by
more than 1-20th, redistribution is
effective. With a population of 729,
744 in the 1941 census, Manitoba
entitled to 14,249 members—one
member for each 51,213 persons.
Since the fraction above is less
than one-half, it is disregarded in
accordance with rule 3. Hence the
provincial representation is to be re-
duced from 17 to 14.
Saskatchewan—As in Manitoba,
the population ratio has dropped
more than 1-20th. With a popula-
tion of 985,992, Saskatchewan entitled
to 17,495 members. The fraction is
greater than one-half and is disre-
garded and Saskatchewan's repre-
sentation is to be cut from 20 to 17.
Nova Scotia, New Brunswick,
Quebec and British Columbia ex-
ceptionally, they are not included
in any province. It was under this
provision that the Yukon was given
one representative in 1902.

House.
British Columbia—Its repre-
sentation is decided on a strict popu-
lation basis of the unit of population. With
a population of 817,861 the province
is entitled to 15.97 members. The
fraction above 15 is more than one-
half and the 16th member is pro-
vided.

The Peets Corner

SEA-BLUE GARDENS
Of every flower that breathes and
blows,
None is lovelier than the rose.
That dwells in the sea-blue gar-
dens.
None is lovelier, none more fair
Than the day when crimson petals
rare
Drench with a loveliness light as air
All the ways of the sea-blue gar-
dens.
And the wind blows wild and the
wind blows free
From the wings of the all-
ever sea.
Far as the bluest eye can see...
Cooling the sea-blue gardens.
—Rose Cooper.

64,000 MORE WOMEN
STOCKHOLM (C.P.)—The
population of the Swedish capital
rose by over 14,000 during 1942 to
916,000. The surplus of women over
men, which has shown a growing
tendency in recent years, rose to
about 64,000.

How Are Your Eyes?

If you are having symptoms
of strain—headaches, sore
eyes or dizziness—consult a
specialist.
At your service with years
of experience and a thorough
refracting service.
Call in and discuss your
difficulties. Write or phone for
appointments.

G. F. Hutcheson
F. G. HUTCHESON
G. F. HUTCHESON

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EYES EXAMINED

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GLASSES FITTED
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New Location
Corner Kent and Queen Sts.
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Phone Residence 1012.

IRAQ'S CHILD KING
Iraq's 3,500,000 inhabitants are
governed by a regency, the king
being eight years old.