

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

SATURDAY, OCT. 30, 1943

Social Security Plans

Following the publication of the Beveridge social security scheme in Great Britain, two plans were presented in the Canadian House of Commons last session. One was a health insurance bill drafted by Dr. J. J. Heagerty of the Department of Pensions and National Health, the other a series of more general social security recommendations made by Dr. Leonard C. Marsh, adviser to the parliamentary committee on reconstruction.

Dr. Whitten's report has now been published under the title "The Dawn of an Ampler Life", and is of great public interest and importance. It differs materially from the Heagerty and Marsh proposals, these being, in Dr. Whitten's opinion, ill adapted to meet Canada's peculiar economic problems.

Briefly, she advocates not contributory health insurance but health service, free to all citizens up to the level of human necessities, with the citizen retaining the right to have further or different services at his own expense. This would be analogous to the present education system; medical service, like school service, would be paid for directly by the state.

Second, social assistance as need. Dr. Whitten emphasizes the number of things that are not insurable, the little personal disasters which cannot be predicted and calculated on an actuarial basis, but which nevertheless cause suffering. These she would remedy with direct aid, limited to those in actual need of help.

Third, and only third, she places "income insurance" which in both the Marsh and Beveridge reports is treated as primary. The Beveridge insurance plan is geared mainly to the industrial payroll, with the employer helping on premiums and doing most of the work of collection. The Marsh plan imitates this. Neither, says Dr. Whitten, is suited to a country having as high a percentage of non-wage workers as Canada.

Dr. Whitten's major contention is that by substituting her plan for the Heagerty scheme which has received government indorsement, "we can get more needed service for millions of dollars less, and years sooner." This is a challenging statement. It goes to the root of the problem, and the Government would be wise to weigh it carefully before dismissing it on the ground of its Opposition origin.

The Farm Front

It is not hard to see, says the London Free Press, why Canada might have to cut her shipments of pork products to the Motherland. We have had constant drains on the supply of farm labor, and this year there have been poor crops. But what is extremely difficult to understand is why the dropping of the Canadian shipments to Britain is coupled with a lifting of the ban on slaughter of hogs for use in Canada.

The explanation is shortage of labor in slaughter houses and pork-packing plants. This is a serious reflection on Selective Service. Surely a labor shortage bottleneck should not be permitted to cripple to a considerable extent one of Canada's most useful contributions to Britain. The number of men involved in the packing plant shortage cannot be great, but it is tying up a most important industry and making people in Britain go hungry that were.

Canadian farmers will be glad to learn that the new contract with Britain is for two years rather than for only one, as this gives them some security in planning. But they will feel that there have been some planning deficiencies somewhere along the line, or they would not be slaughtering brood sows and little pigs. Certainly the prospects are for still leaner hog production in the future.

Canada has a smaller population than many countries among the United Nations. But to compensate for that she has certain natural advantages. One of these is in the production of food. But it seems to have been frustrated by official

Notes By The Way

Changes galore are expected in the post-war auto. But there'll still be the same back-seat driver.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

If, as some people believe, the war will be over this year it is time for merchants to consider post-war trade, and get their names prominently before the public.—Chatham News.

Hitler is said by The Associated Press to have three crises to face. He has always been able to face two, but there may be too many even for him.—St. Catharines Standard.

Young men and women are fairly set on the way to moral destruction when they begin to feel an amused tolerance or pity for those who are better than they are.—Catholic Record.

Cagliari used to be a proud Italian city of 80,000 population, but today not a soul lives amid its ruins. The bodies of at least 10,000 people lie unburied beneath the debris. If the German people

ineptitude, with the result that Canada is now being forced to admit that her production of food, which is now the number one essential of the war, and which will retain its usefulness in the post-war years, is declining. Canadian farmers have done their best, but they have been unable to make bricks without straw.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Hallowmas Eve tomorrow. Let youngsters refrain from destructiveness in their celebration of Hallow'en.

Next week R. A. F. will provide the programme for the Victory Loan Campaign.

The Military Week was too unpleasantly damp to provide the full informative entertainment arranged for.

Congratulations to the citizens as well as to the Hon. T. W. L. Prowse on once more having a representation in the Government.

Dr. T. T. Shields, of Jarvis Baptist Church, Toronto, has entered a protest against the custom of pastoral visitations. He argues that it is an unbearable burden for a pastor of a congregation of 1,000 to visit every one once a year. He thinks the members should visit him instead. Yes, but what says Mrs. Wifey? Truly if it be great to be a famous preacher, it would be hell to be the famous preacher's wife.

From a heavy carry-over of last year and from a limited crop this year there is a total of over 600,000,000 bushels of wheat in Canada today, but experts agree that what looks like a huge food store will look mighty small next summer, for a large amount must be shipped to Britain, more will be taken by the United States, this country's livestock will require a considerable supply this coming winter, and the domestic consumption is steadily mounting.

Richard Kearton, British field naturalist and author, born this date 1862; originally a dirt farmer, he was for some years sub-manager of Messrs Cassells, publishers; a fellow of the Geological Society; among his well-known publications are: "Birds Nests", "Egg and Egg Collecting", "Wild Life at Home, how to Study and Photograph It"; "Our Rarer British Breeding Birds", and "Wonders of Wild Nature." "As Franklin K. Lane says in his 'Fruits of Faith', to conquer Nature man broke down the gates of the Garden of Eden and came forth to meet the challenge of an unordered world."

The Wartime Prices and Trade Board for the month of February this year, cost \$08,000 to operate, and for the fiscal year from March 1942 to March 1943, a little matter of \$11,000,000. If subsidies paid by the board be included that figure for February is increased to nearly \$10,500,000 for a single month, and proportionately for the year. Similar figures could be submitted for that other modern masterpiece, National Selective Service; and for controllers of canned lobster, canned salmon, wet fish and smoked fish, and fried fish and chips, and all the other controllers of this and that, together with their staffs, says Toronto News.

It will be noted that another straw showing the direction of Ottawa wind is the announcement of Agricultural Minister Gardiner that in the new agreement with the Mother Country, the yearly quantity of pork products to be delivered has been reduced from 675,000,000 lbs. to 450,000,000, and the duration of the agreement is for two years. A remarkable reversal of position has come in the livestock industry. For a long time Ontario was the banner province for hogs, but the war has thrown Ontario into a place inferior to that of the Prairie Provinces because of failure to raise enough coarse grains for feeding purposes and because of the difficulty in getting sufficient feed grain moved from the west.

A new kind of penicillin, said to be 10 times more powerful than the original wonder drug, has been isolated in the research laboratories of St. Louis University. There's one trouble — test-tube experiments so far indicate that it won't work internally in the body. The new bactericide is so potent that one part dissolved in 51-200,000 parts of water will kill staphylococcus aureus, the organism responsible for boils, carbuncles and other common inflammations. One part in 800,000 will inhibit completely the growth of the pneumonia diplococcus. Laboratory experiments established that the drug drives its bactericidal powers by oxidizing glucose, which is present in the body, and producing hydrogen peroxide as an antiseptic. Unfortunately, the antibacterial action is neutralized by catalase, an enzyme in the blood and tissues, which decomposes the hydrogen peroxide as fast as penicillin B produces it. This action in the living body explains why the new chemical is not promising for medicinal use.

however, which the Allies can do nothing to avert. The future of Rome depends on the will of the Nazis, and the example of Naples is a dark portent for the Italian capital.—Exchange.

Injection of penicillin into the spinal canal or into the space at the base of the brain which contains the cerebrospinal fluid, will probably be important in the treatment of staphylococcal meningitis (infection caused by the staphylococcus of the three membranes which envelop the brain and spinal cord). So Drs. Cobb Pilcher and William F. Meacham, Nashville, Tenn., report in The Journal of the American Medical Association. Their statement is based on results obtained in animal investigations.—Exchange.

There is no reason why favoritism should be shown to these fit young men when others are taken from their jobs to assist in the defence of their country. A civilian worker who is called up may have been doing vastly more important work any way than playing hockey. It is notorious, however, that men who are outstanding at certain games, are enlisted at centers far from their home towns where they have scope for their



FORWARD

Rich in fulfillment unrevealed Another Conference concludes. The third of pregnant interludes Between advances in the field.

Another plan of range immense, Unfolding with majestic pace And broadening from base to base, From Conference to Conference.

Another talk each talk succeeds, Of still more universal scope? Enshrining yet more fervent hope One meeting to another reads.

For either on the heaving deck Met on some favored ocean site, Or else upon the terraced heights Of Casablanca or Quebec.

Progressing with a widening view, Thither from pole to pole, A solar center of control, A migratory G. H. Q.

World architects, was strategists, They strive for mankind's utmost good, To fuse in larger brotherhood A world of isolationists.

Rolling along through destined grooves, And train of cause and consequence Toward that crowning Conference To which the whole creation moves.

—"Sagittarium" in The New Statesman and Nation.

professional talents, or, if they are in the army or air force, they are kept at the depot long after they have been ordered that they may play on the depot team. In the latter case it is the officers higher up who so arrange things that the man is not posted for service elsewhere.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Can you remember the days of the red flannel shirts and nightgowns and the red flannel pajamas? There was a time when they flourished and in winter they brought more warmth than any other piece of wearing apparel. Red flannel has always been associated with heat and red flannel certainly had a warming effect. In these modern days red flannel has been seen very rarely, though the footmen of Ontario and Quebec like the color and the material and wear it in shirts and underwear. It is because of the war that the kind of clothing that these men go through the stiff winter of the north with little complaint. The Prices Board, which is clear on the subject, is available to battle the fuel shortage for if you wear red flannel clothing close to your body you won't need as much coal in the furnace, or wood in the stove.—Lethbridge Herald.

The sack of Naples by the Nazis, and the possible fate awaiting Eternal City when they pass through it on their way North, bring to mind dates in history when Rome suffered at the hands of Germanic races. It was sacked by the Gauls in 390 B. C., by the Goths in 410 A. D., and by the Visigoths in 455. The world will wish it a better fate in this war than the one to which the erstwhile occupant of Palazzo Venezia has exposed it— a fate, however, which the Allies can do nothing to avert. The future of Rome depends on the will of the Nazis, and the example of Naples is a dark portent for the Italian capital.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

Cuban fishermen along the docks in Havana have grown used to the presence of a burly American who fishes with them in amiable silence and performs more important duties on the side that they know nothing about, writes Bennett Cerf in The Saturday Review of Literature. "Senior Way" they call him, convinced that "Heming" is his name, and there is evident affection in their voices when they speak of him. "Senior Way," one of them went far as to desire to be a visiting correspondent, "is a great American—as great as the other two most famous men in your history." Which is it—Senior Way? The correspondent asked idly. "Senior George Washington and Senior Tom Collins," was the prompt reply.—Exchange.

Unreasonable optimism about the duration of the war is to be discouraged, but it is just as unwise to become arbitrary about the taint of a long-drawn out struggle. A sample of unfounded pessimism is to be found in the speech at London, Ont., of Reverend Norman Rawson, who declared unequivocally that "there isn't a ghost of a chance we war being over before 1945." The war could certainly be over before that time. No one should be foolish enough to predict the end this month or this year. But neither should anyone be foolish enough to make the positive statement that the end cannot come before any certain date. No one should be foolish and adopting this policy of studied hopelessness is distinctly bad for morale.—Windsor Star.

Clip These Coal Tips



Watch The Humidity Keep the furnace humidifying pan and other humidifying equipment full of water. If you haven't regular humidifiers, potted plants are effective if they're kept well watered. The higher the humidity, the lower the temperature needed for warmth and comfort.

Examinations For M. P's.

(St. Thomas Times Journal) A correspondent writes to a London newspaper suggesting that candidates should be required to undergo oral and written examinations as to their fitness to be members of Parliament.

A member of Parliament is supposed to be a man of higher intellectual status than most of the people who elect him. If he is not in that position he has no business offer himself as a candidate. He should have a wide knowledge of history, not only of his own country but of other countries because he will be called upon to vote upon measures dealing with his country's relations with foreign affairs. He should know something about finance, economics, sociology and many other aspects of life. But what do we find in many instances? That he knows very little about anything and has less intelligence than many of the electors. He is chosen because he is well-liked in the community, always ready to extend the glad hand to anybody, and he may even depend on the speaking ability of his friends, and supporters to carry the burden of his public engagements. Once elected all that he does is to obey the party whip and drop into the right lobby with the gang or divan.

The public demands that members of the civil service shall pass examinations for their jobs, and sometimes the tests are very severe. But the men who make our laws, often dealing with complex affairs of life can get into Parliament without any examinations. The members are the employers of the civil servants who carry out the administration of the country, and in these days when the civil service has developed into an autocracy, it is desirable that our members of Parliament should be strong enough to see to it that the civil servants are not allowed to impose their personal authority over that of Parliament in perpetuity after the war.

Compulsory Voting

(Ottawa Journal) Recently it was announced that in the Ontario general election this Summer only 52 per cent of the qualified voters went to the polls—little more than half of the electors. We fight in this war for freedom and free institutions, and freedom almost all of the best we have in blood and money—and half of us won't walk around the block to cast our votes. The men who are the guarantors of our freedom. In Australia they have had compulsory voting since 1926. The result is clear, decisive, and desirable. Prior to 1926 Australia was as bad as this country in the matter of dishonor to the franchise. In Australia the Federal voting in Australia under the old constitution, go-as-you please showed only about 60 per cent of the electors going to the polls. Since 1926, with the enactment of compulsory voting, the poll in Australian Federal elections has ranged from 80 to over 90 per cent. A lot of the rest get home.

Some advocates of compulsory voting have injured the idea by proposing that electors who fail to vote at the election should be deprived of the franchise. That is silly—the Australians have had no such mistake. There would be no end of confusion, complication and litigation if we attempted to enforce such an extreme law. Many a person can not vote on any particular date because of some necessary duty or of illness or accident. The Australian legislation merely provides for a fine of \$10 on anyone convicted of not voting without good cause when he or she is called that way. Not many a man or woman is going to put up a ten-dollar bill in preference to taking a walk around the block.

Undoubtedly the largest proportion of sinners among us in regard to non-voting are people of the well-to-do class. They don't bother, because they feel they get along comfortably enough regardless of politics or perhaps feel a little superior to the public fuss. Most of them ought to vote. They usually have the education and the contacts which should enable them to be good judges of the worth of the politics. It is high time that Canada should think seriously about collecting a lot of ten-dollar bills from people like that.

KINGSTON W. I.

The Kingston W. I. met at the home of Mrs. M. MacEwain for their October meeting. The meeting opened with Institute Ode followed by reading of the minutes. Rawson, who declared unequivocally that "there isn't a ghost of a chance we war being over before 1945." The war could certainly be over before that time. No one should be foolish enough to predict the end this month or this year. But neither should anyone be foolish enough to make the positive statement that the end cannot come before any certain date. No one should be foolish and adopting this policy of studied hopelessness is distinctly bad for morale.—Windsor Star.

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