

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1941.

A Sure Bet

An Act to promote the defence of the United States, is the official title of the "Lend-Lease Bill" passed last week by the U. S. Congress...

Demanding The Maximum

J. G. Diefenbaker, M.P. for Lake Centre, Saskatchewan, voiced the views of many Canadians when he said in the House of Commons: "We want action with regard to the matter of aircraft production..."

Sales Of Securities

An appreciable inflow of capital to Canada resulted from the international purchase and sale of securities in 1940. Total sales of securities of \$123,900,000 exceeded purchases of \$95,100,000...

More Flax Required

With a large surplus of wheat in storage in the Dominion, Canadian farmers realize that other crops must replace a part of their wheat acreage. Flax is one of these other crops.

to make abroad. In answer to the government's call, the farmers of western Canada responded to flax in 1940 to 372,700, as compared with 297,500 acres in 1939.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Within a week the local legislature will meet, and His Honour the Lieut. Governor and Mrs. LePage have issued invitations for a tea at Government House in connection with the event.

Do not let us fail in our endeavour to get government contracts for Bruce Stewart & Co., Ltd., it is so easy to be overlooked when so many other provinces are everlastingly bringing pressure to bear on the powers-that-be.

Wonder if the Hon. Mr. Dennis will have the courage of his convictions, and introduce a measure to bonus the small potato farmer, and tax the big potato gambler.

The Minister of Justice boasted in the House of Commons the other day that he had saved money by not filling the vacant chief justiceship of New Brunswick. Is the same policy to be pursued regarding our vacancy in the Senate, and is that the reason why no new County Court Judge has been appointed in Kings?

M. Camille Huysmans, former Speaker of the Belgian Chamber of Deputies, recommends that Belgium ask to be admitted to the British Commonwealth of Nations.

Schoolboys between the ages of 16 and 18 are joining by thousands the newly created Air Training Corps in Britain. An Air Scouts section formed as a junior branch of the A. T. C. for boys up to 16 has also had a successful start.

The Alberta Government intends to enter the life insurance business and have introduced a bill giving them the necessary authority. The movement was indicated February 20 in the Speech from the Throne which reported a successful year's operation of the Government's fire insurance office and said the Government intended to extend its work in the field of insurance.

The Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, British statesman, born this date, 1869. Trained as a business man and sugar planter he became head of his father's firm of steel screw manufacturers in Birmingham after his father, the Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain retired; till then his sole interest apart from business was music which he did much to cultivate and develop by festivals etc. in his native city; became Lord Mayor 1915-16, director general of National Service in 1916-17, member of Parliament 1918; Chancellor of the Exchequer 1923-24; Prime Minister, 1937; tried, with the usual consequences, to sup with the Devil under a long spoon; resigned 1940, and subsequently died, and with his demise "appeasement" went out of fashion.

Some politicians have always an eagle eye for the main chance. In the House of Commons, Mr. C. E. Johnston, New Democracy member to Bow River warned the Government against use of peacetime political methods of taking the 1941 census. He said that in one riding the defeated Liberal candidate had been asked to select a man to act as census commissioner and he selected himself. "Name him" suggested Mr. Vincent Dupuis (Lib. Chambly-Rouville). "I have no hesitation in naming him—his name is Claypool," Mr. Johnston replied. "Is he a good citizen of this country?" Mr. Dupuis asked. "Well, he's a Liberal," said Mr. Johnston amid laughter. National registration had been carried out by voluntary service and there was no reason why the census could not be handled in the same way, Mr. Johnston said.

How Mussolini once caused Germans to make a hasty departure from Milan is related by Gilbert Murray, in The Times of London. It was in 1915 just before Italy entered the World War and just after the present Duce had broken with the Italian Radicals and was advocating intervention in his new paper, Il Popolo d'Italia.

The late Sir Henry Head was one of the most celebrated neurologists in the world—a man who studies nerves and their diseases and in his will, after a few legacies to relatives, he directed that the residue of his \$200,000 estate be paid to the Royal Society for the advancement of the study of medicine. Sir Henry was deeply interested in nervous diseases, and once all-wed a surgeon to sever two of the most important nerves in one of his arms in order to study the consequences. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

The Ottawa Journal quotes Wallace R. Deuel, for years a correspondent in Berlin of The Chicago News, as to the character of the infamous Nazi Gestapo. A reader of The News wrote Mr. Deuel: "Is the Gestapo the deadly inhuman weapon that we have been led to believe?" And Mr. Deuel answers: "It is much much worse than you have been led to believe. Most of the information about the methods

NOTES BY THE WAY

Wonder if, on Saturday, King Boris of Bulgaria remembers that he succeeded to the throne when his father, King Ferdinand, abdicated in 1918, because he had picked the wrong side in the Great War? Again Bulgaria has chosen the wrong side—Niagara Falls Review.

Most of us find it quite impossible to express our admiration of Mr. Churchill's speeches without resorting to language that seems altogether too commonplace under the circumstances. The Washington Post helps out when, in its comment on the Prime Minister's Sunday address, it says: "His words marched like an army with banners." —Edmonton Journal.

Pierre van Paassen, writing in an American publication, declares that Hitler is a physical coward of first water, hence the inordinate protective measures he takes for his own person. And by that token his cruelty in ordering the concentration camps always being brutal. His purge and massacre in 1935 of former associates is also explained. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

A proposal that a flower garden be laid out on Dundas street from the west end of the Amherst to Wellington street will have the support of flower lovers in London. Such a garden would be constructed during the general program of re-urbanizing the city. The garden would add a touch of color and beauty in London's tourist and convention district. — London Free Press.

As a "help your neighbor" driver bound for Finchley stopped to give a lift to two young women in General London, the driver was busy bustled up, appealing to be taken instead. "We simply must get to Finchley quickly," they pleaded. The young women stood back, their eyes fixed on the driver. As the driver was passing Paddington Station one of his passengers called. "You can put us down here," but the driver wanted to be reminded the driver. "Oh, no, we have to get off here," they replied. "You're going to Finchley," the driver said, grimly. And they went to Finchley. — Calgary Alberian.

There was a time when a slang word by cranking the dictionary, scored a victory for the common speech, and the multitude cheered at the defeat of the crusty old fust-buckets who guarded the purity of our language. The pages of our life have been changed, but the situation is reversed. A new-found liberalism has changed the whole complexion of the big word book.

There are countless good books for everyone to read, and read today books in many parts of Europe today books are barred. In Germany volumes and volumes are burned; every book that held any knowledge had to be destroyed in order to turn back the clock and get the dark ages again of centuries ago.

It is too soon to despair of the fate of Greece. The precious jewel of human freedom some-times has a great price, and the gallant Greeks today have shown a way and not a path. Their rebirth at Thermopile and Marathon, they are ready to pay it. If other nations had shown this courage, and had stood firm from the beginning, in resistance, the war so far would have taken a vastly different course. Even if the worst should now happen, the odds against the Greeks should at last prove greater than mortal man can withstand, the record of Greek courage in this day will be a beacon to give heart and courage to men everywhere. They will carry on the war against barbarism and tyranny with a new confidence of ultimate victory. — New York Times.

Dr. George T. Brown has died in Atlanta, Ga., after practicing medicine for 25 years. The doctor had announced that he cancelled \$100,000 debts owed to him by patients. He accepted cash from those who wished to pay, but sent no bills. The patient, surgeon of Vancouver, Dr. Henri E. Langis, retired with a modest fortune at 55 with the boast that he had never rendered a bill to a patient. His office at Abbott and Cordova streets took in a good deal of money "over the counter," but he kept no books. That was in the days before income taxes arrived on the scene. — Vancouver Sun.

Through the centuries it has been axiomatic that agricultural property is dependent upon the extent and condition of pasture lands. However favorable other factors might be, the farmer can not expect prosperity in rural communities in the absence of ample and lush pastures. This is recognized generally as a basic truth, but there has been a marked tendency in Canada to forget the place of pasturage in farm economy. Compared with other agricultural countries, the grasslands of Canada have been badly neglected. Little attention has been paid to varieties of grasses and clovers; soil fertility has been allowed to become depleted; and pasture management is a study which few stockmen have cared to tackle with anything like the seriousness which its importance warrants. — Victoria Colonist.

The Ottawa Journal quotes Wallace R. Deuel, for years a correspondent in Berlin of The Chicago News, as to the character of the infamous Nazi Gestapo. A reader of The News wrote Mr. Deuel: "Is the Gestapo the deadly inhuman weapon that we have been led to believe?" And Mr. Deuel answers: "It is much much worse than you have been led to believe. Most of the information about the methods

of the Gestapo is obtained in confidence, or cannot be used because it would cause the taking of reprisals against helpless victims, or because it is too vile to be printable, or because it is fantastic that it would not be believed." — St. Catharines Standard.

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.

COLD STORAGE

Sir:—The decision reached by the farmers last week asking for a cold storage plant at Borden for butter and cheese, seems rather difficult to understand. Charlottetown already has considerable storage space which will continue to be utilized. Additional space may be needed but why not have it located near the present storage where power is available and where advantage can be taken of making up cold loads in going in any direction. And where, when "Mr. Hemming's ocean terminal" is ready, our dairy products for all parts of the world and not only to be railed back to Charlottetown to make connections.

"Borden" as a site for a cold storage plant is about as ridiculous as Charlottetown as a site for an Ocean Terminal.

PRODUCER

Sir:—In this age when we are reading about war and more war, it is often hard to find some other reading in our idle hours. I often watch people going home from business or other work in the evening and a scattering few will have a couple of books under their arm. No doubt every one, especially now, reads the daily papers. For myself, I read no less than three papers every week-day, yet I find time and calling in my mind for other reading matter, especially good fiction.

We have branches of our Library in different centres, and books are sent to the country schools every week for the use of the children. Young people look for magazines, love stories, etc.

On my vacation last summer I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. McLeod, a minister from Montreal. He was returning from his vacation spent in different parts of the country, and had visited the island for the first time in many years. I spoke of my early life on the island, and he handed me one of the latest books—"Memory Hold the Door" by our late Governor-General. Through its pages I relived my childhood, interesting, very interesting and educational as well.

What we read is registered on our minds as a golden leaf in our book of memory. It is a part of our life from childhood; interesting, very interesting and educational as well.

But every Maritimer member has something to work on in pressing for the use of Maritime yards. Mr. Howe said: "It is considered to the advantage of any existing yard to have a further contract, we are in a position to place that contract."

That, surely, is an opportunity which members, and interested groups in the province, can well explore.

W. A. O'BRIEN, Bristol, P.E.I.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

Sir:—I was very glad to see in your paper that an effort is to be made at the coming session of the Legislature to have the Workmen's Compensation Act placed on our statute books. I welcome news as this Act is badly needed here, as the working men and women have no protection in this Province and while Canada calls on labor to step up production, our Provincial Government should step up protection. And it is time we all got behind this move and caught up with the rest of Canada in this regard. Why is it that we are always behind the parade in this Province? This Act has proved a god-send in most every country in the world. It has never been repealed but always strengthened. Surely the men and women in this Province are entitled to protection as well as in any other country. The L.P.U. has endeavored to have this Act passed for years, always there were excuses, but now it is time to get it done. They would take care of it, well Mr. Premier what now? Our young people know the benefits of the good it will bring to our Province. They can't be put off much longer. This war will come to a successful conclusion in a step or two and our boys will come marching home. What have we to offer them? Will it be like the last time? What better way could be found to show our appreciation of their wonderful courage than to show them that in their absence we gave their country protection, and that when they returned to their jobs they were protected; and that we were marching in line with the rest of Canada and the U. S. A. It would be a good thing if our boys to see this Act in the Speech from the Throne. Surely they deserve that much or will it be that old cry "Woe Betide Cloddy" I feel sure the Canadian Legion will get behind this Act as they too know how much it means to this Province, so to the promoters of this Act, "Good Luck and go to it, we are all with you. The way to win is to keep punching."

I am, Sir, etc. L. T. R.

LONDON —(CP)—Free French officers say the Messerschmitt 110 crack Nazi fighter-bomber was designed from plans made for the French Potez built two years before the Messerschmitt.

An Echo From Zeebrugge

(Exchange)

One piece of information recently made public received rather less attention than it deserved. The Kiel Canal has been rendered impassable to all but the smallest vessels. It seems that a large German vessel, heavily laden with iron ore, sank in a narrow part of the waterway. Whether it was sunk by a mine sown by British mine-laying aircraft, or whether a British bomb sent it to the bottom is a matter of no importance. But there it lies, depriving the Germans of the use of their most important means of access to the North Sea.

During the last war, British naval forces accepted great risks and exposed much valuable equipment in order to achieve the same result. The brilliant operation carried out by H. M. S. Vindictive, Captain Carpenter, R. N., achieved the same result by engaging the fortifications of the Germans at Zeebrugge while concrete-filled ships were towed to the mouth of the canal and scuttled. Zeebrugge was one of the naval epic of the last war. What was accomplished at that time has again been accomplished. German submarines may not be able to get out of the Kiel Canal to the North Sea for some time. They will have to go all the way around Denmark through the Skagerrak and Kattegat, both of which are heavily mined, then run down the coast of Denmark with the risk of being spotted by the regular aerial patrol of the big British flying boats.

It is incidents such as this which remind us of the painstaking thoroughness and eternal vigilance of the British naval service. Day and night the little ships in the auxiliary naval service and the planes of the Fleet Air Arm are going about their business, watching for enemy submarines, sweeping the British shipping lanes clear of enemy mines and laying their own mines in the path of enemy traffic.

Building Ships

The House of Commons has heard a lively discussion on Canada's shipbuilding and boatbuilding industry. Several Maritime members, quite properly, took part in the debate. The importance of providing sea-going craft is urgent. Maritime members will do well to keep before the House the facilities existing in this part of the Dominion.

Mr. Howe told the House that he did not believe there was a shipyard, large or small, that has not been entered all the work it can do. That, however, does not tell the whole story. Terms and specifications have a good deal to do with a yard's ability to handle a contract.

As in any industry, shipbuilding firms cannot spend large sums for special equipment on war orders unless they are assured that enough orders will be available to meet the costs.

As an extreme illustration: A factory cannot install \$200,000 worth of special equipment for a \$1,000 order. The management will reasonably inquire if a steady stream of such orders may be expected.

Some of Nova Scotia's boatbuilders have experienced various difficulties in tendering on government contracts. One of these is specifications for exotic materials when domestic materials would serve the purpose.

U.S. IN BERMUDA —(CP)—The new U. S. naval bases in Bermuda will occupy 1,085 acres of the 12,155 comprising this British Island colony.

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The Poet's Corner THANKSGIVING May sudden justice overtake And snap the forehead pane, That old and palsied poets shake, Against the minds of men. Blasphemers trusting to hold taught In far-flung webs of ink The utmost ends of human thought Till nothing's left to think. But may the gift of heavenly peace And glory be bestowed on thee, Keep the boy Tom who, tending geese, First made the nursery rhyme. —Robert Graves.

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