

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN
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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1940.

The Situation To Date

In less than a month the civil electors will go to the polls to elect parliamentary representatives for a term of five years. In less than three weeks the military voters will be called upon to mark their ballots.

What are the issues? The Prime Minister says there is but one issue—the unity of Canada. It suits his book to proclaim this, as on his record he is not entitled to a vote of continued confidence.

Dr. Manion, on the other hand, emphasizes that the issues are (a) more effective and aggressive war preparations and policy, and (b) the restoration of parliament to its rightful place in our democracy.

While it is admitted on all sides that Canada has made, as was to be expected, a magnificent response to the appeal for aid to keep the Hun at bay, and will continue to do so voluntarily, it is the contention of the Government's critics that little or no credit for this is due to the Mackenzie King Government.

While Mr. King knew more than a year in advance that Canada would be in the war, and took the precaution to prepare defence of the realm regulations to suppress any anti-war propaganda or agitation that he feared might arise, he did little or nothing to prepare adequately our militia forces and volunteers for going overseas, or even for service at home.

This, too, not because parliament had failed to provide the necessary funds for the purpose, as since 1935, no less a sum than \$188,000,000 had been voted for defence. Yet, when war was declared, and volunteers called for, there was neither uniforms nor equipment properly to outfit a contingent of 10,000 or 17,000 men. Why was this, what became of the many millions collected from the taxpayers and placed at the disposal of Mr. Mackenzie King for just such an emergency?

Echo answers "where?" for Mr. Mackenzie King scuttled parliament to prevent the taxpayers finding out.

Not only so, but Mr. Mackenzie King as deliberately destroyed the questions and motions on the subject notice of which members of the Opposition had given, and which should have appeared on the "Votes and Proceedings" of the House, the official record of parliament. Why? again, it may be asked.

Mr. Mackenzie King has therefore forced an election at this unsuitable season, after attempting to muzzle the members of the House, and successfully preventing them getting any official information on the conduct of his administration to submit to the electorate. In doing so he proclaims himself to be that hateful thing we are fighting in Europe—a dictator, defies parliament, and defies the electors to call him to account—why? Because, forsooth in his opinion "the unity of Canada" may be imperilled!

Calling All Voters!

The following comment is from a Liberal source—the Winnipeg Free Press—which however does not invalidate the force of the argument:

"For the duration of the election campaign we are going to try to convince all our friends and enemies that they should get out to the polls on March 26 and mark a ballot.

"It was a recent casual conversation that turned us into a crusader for getting out the vote. He said: 'You don't have to vote if you don't want to, do you? I can't see any use in it.' Afterwards of course, we thought of all kinds of reasons. But for the moment, he had us. We have gone dutifully to the polling places ever since we've been of age. We've marked ballots whenever the opportunity arose, with the same religious obsession of a motorist collecting tourist resort stickers on his windshield.

"So we were temporarily floored when we ran into a genuine stay-at-home voter. He was the real thing. Instead of a cog in the machinery of democracy, as we had come to regard ourselves, he was an avowed avoider of voting, unashamed to be a worthless pebble in the crankcase of free government. He is not alone, for the records show that two out of five free Canadians never get around to voting.

"He did not even want to have his name on the voters' list, when the enumerators called around the other day. He wasn't going to let the government take his name down or any information about him. He never had voted and did not intend to start now. 'This is a free country,' he said, 'and you don't have to vote if you don't want to.' He ended up by arguing what was his vote among so many thousands.

"After thinking it over, we decided that neither his vote nor ours would count very much one way or the other. Liberty does not consist in spending a minute or two in a polling booth trying to decide whether to put an X down for Smith or for Jones. It consists more in the right to talk about and work for social changes, for objectives that we come to believe in.

"None of these stem directly from the ballot box. They are brought about by the government, and the vital force of democracy lies in the fact that we electors can and do turn out governments. It is all a question with the general trend of policies and whether we consider one else could do better. If you lack the right to mark a ballot that is going to be counted honestly, you haven't got the right to work for what you believe to be better things, or to pro-

test against things you would like to see ended. No man can be a dictator when a fair counting of the ballots is going to judge him every four or five years. He has got to keep us in mind. "But in 1940 there is a special reason for getting out to vote. No better time could be imagined for an object lesson in democracy. It is important to have a good turnout this time. It seems worth trying to beat the Canadian average of a 60 to 65 per cent vote.

"So we are out to encourage voting and to influence people to mark ballots. This is the first shot in our campaign, and we hope it is heard around Canada. We plan to influence our relatives as a start. We will tell them there is a big surprise package waiting for them in the polling booth."

If this advice is honestly acted upon, Mr. Mackenzie King will realize that he cannot fool all the people all the time.

Government By Patronage

The following editorial, from The Windsor Star, which is strongly supporting the King Government, furnishes an amusing commentary on the claim that the present ministry at Ottawa is "a truly national government and that charges of partisan patronage are merely Conservative propaganda:

"With an election in the offing, there has been a squaring of accounts in Saskatchewan. The appointment of Colonel James Albert Cross, D.S.O., as Chief Commissioner of the Board of Transport ends an agreement that was made some time ago.

"When Hon. Charles A. Dunning was in the King Cabinet, he controlled the patronage for Saskatchewan. When Hon. J. G. Gardiner came east to join the King Cabinet, an understanding on the patronage was reached. Mr. Gardiner was to control the patronage with the agreement that two appointments would be made at the request of Mr. Dunning.

"Col. Cross was to be made a Justice of the Court of King's Bench or Court of Appeal in Saskatchewan as soon as a vacancy occurred. "Mr. John J. Stevenson, Liberal organizer in Saskatchewan, was to be named to the Senate as soon as a vacancy occurred.

"When a judicial vacancy came, Col. Cross did not get the appointment. It was to Hon. T. C. Davis of Prince Albert, who was Attorney-General of Saskatchewan.

"But, Mr. Stevenson was named to the Senate a few weeks ago. That was the first vacancy in the Upper House and the agreement was carried out.

"Now Col. Cross has been appointed as Chief Transport Commissioner. Presumably any breaches have been healed on the eve of the election and the patronage agreement has been consummated."

U. S. A. And The War

Addressing himself to British critics of the United States isolation, Sir Frederick Whyte, director of the American division of the Ministry of Information, said that Anglo-American understanding would remain beyond reach unless the "instinct for isolation" was understood and appreciated in Britain. That spirit, especially strong in a Presidential election year, is still deep rooted, he added, and the change desired by President Roosevelt in the American mind might be slow in coming. The lesson of the last twenty years for Americans, Sir Frederick continued, was that Washington's advice to avoid foreign entanglements still held good until the peoples of the world were willing to make sacrifices for the well being of mankind. Nevertheless the Neutrality Act, he thought, showed where American sympathies lay. "Considering the vehemence of the American temperament," concluded Sir Frederick, "it is not inconceivable that those sympathies may one day sweep away neutrality and sweep America into the chasm which today she shuns."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Isaac Todhunter, mathematician, compiler of the standard Euclid, and author of treatises on mathematical subjects, died this date, 1884.

Farmers' Week has been contracted to two days this year, the Liberal Government's idea of the value of farming to the community.

There has been a speeding up in military and naval circles recently, indicating more intensive administration at Ottawa in view of Opposition criticisms.

Regrettably it is announced that the British Admiralty has closed Scapa Flow in consequence of the torpedoing of the Royal Oak in the first few weeks of the war.

Canadian cheese was exported in January to the value of \$357,399 compared with \$524,154 in December and \$188,381 in January, 1939. Purchases by the United Kingdom aggregated \$299,800.

Rt. Hon. Dr. Manion is booked to speak in Charlottetown on Friday March 8, and Mr. Denton Massey, M. P. for Greenwood, Toronto, on Friday, March 15. There should be bumper attendances on both occasions.

It is practically impossible to hold political meetings to discuss public questions with the electors these days, and that is one of the reasons why Mr. Mackenzie King called the election now. A dictator has no use for awkward questioning and more awkward revelations.

There were 9,665 head of Canadian cattle exported in January to the value of \$512,107, of which the United States took 9,592 at \$508,387. In December the number exported was 5,403 at \$271,042 and in January 1939, 32,508 head at \$1,950,446.

Speak of Liberal unity and loyalty. It will be noted that it is an employee in the Department of Finance at Ottawa who has been arrested charged with printing or making in his apartment a pamphlet of a seditious character, advising the electors to "vote Communist."

NOTES BY THE WAY

I suppose that in the course of his long, honorable and fruitful service in this country Lord Hallifax has committed mistakes. The ideal British statesman must commit mistakes. — Yorkshire Evening News.

The Paris A.R.P. authorities have issued an order making it compulsory for all pedestrians in the capital to carry torches (flashlights) which must be flashed when the pedestrians cross the roads. — Manchester Guardian.

Mrs. Cordell Hull tells of a punctilious Washington hostess who, apparently anxious to give proper rank to an official's wife pouring at her afternoon reception, recently phoned the State Department protocol officer to ask: "Which takes precedence tea or coffee?" — Newsweek

The average American golfer, according to a survey reported to the New York convention of the Greenkeeping Superintendents' Association, walked 110 miles while playing the game last year. This statistic, however, does not alter our opinion that the average American golfer is a guy who feels terribly abused when his wife wants to use the car and asks him to take her to a street car line on his way to the office. — New York World-Telegram.

The O'Donovan (Colonel Morgan William O'Donovan, C. B.), who has died at Arda, Northam, Bedford at the age of 78, was the chief of the sept O'Donovan of Clan Cathal, one of the oldest among the aboriginal Irish, the name being derived from the ancestor who was slain in 977 A.D. The estates of the sept O'Donovan, who served with distinction in the South African War, succeeded by his eldest son, Lieut. Colonel Morgan John Warcup O'Donovan, 1st Battalion, the Royal Irish Fusiliers. — London Times.

Oscarette, our pet turtle, is proving to be a pretty tough baby. Ever since she returned to town with us from a June Sunday fishing trip she has had the pit under her nose. She is a big girl, the two-foot-square pool in the pit's centre she now spends her days and nights wholly submerged in water that never goes above 45 degrees. The water is filtered through out of the water and put her down on the cement floor, and when our back was turned she deliberately tumbled into the water. She is a very tough creature, contented in water of 45 degrees of less in this sort of winter. — Trenton Courier-Advocate.

Question: It is a great grief to many of us to hear you suggest the slaughtering, with poisonous chemicals, of God's innocent little creatures; have they no right to live? — (Anon., Windsor). Reply: I suppose they have, but not the innocent little roses and other plants we remember during the last war, seeing a soldier, after months in the trenches, apparently trying to slaughter some of these little creatures which had become very much attached to him, when another soldier said "live and let live," so perhaps he shared your sentiments. — London Listener.

Despite the strain of a desperate war, the nations are neglecting and the general education of the countries is, the national government of China has gone ahead with a remarkable educational program of mass preparation. By 1940 the government, under the literacy should be wiped out. To this end, ten millions of peasants, coolies and other laborers, together with their children are attending compulsory mass education classes which have been organized in ten provinces. The extent of this project is appreciated when it is recalled that ten years ago as high as 90 per cent of the population were illiterate. Education in China was possible in the past only for those who had means and access to a complex apparatus of pet and system of scholarship made learning practically unattainable by the common people. Ten years ago a change of revolutionary program was made in their educational system, the complex alphabet was simplified and reduced to one thousand characters. Then it was that the experimental mass education was begun, as F. Tillman Durbin, co-ordinator of the New York Times, by Dr. James Y. C. Yen, the co-ordinator of the new alphabet. In 1936, the cause of mass education was officially advanced by the compulsory education act which required that all Chinese aged 16 to 45 must also acquire a specific amount of education. The government launched a school program which the outbreak of war with Japan halted but did not cut off. — Toronto Star.

A woman reader writes to the editor of Illustrated an account of a romantic adventure she experienced in Switzerland. "The night was perfect," she says, "the yellow moon hung over the valley; the lake gleamed below; and the mountains, snow-tipped and mysterious, formed a majestic background. It was the last night of my holiday. "Dear English lady," murmured my handsome, six-foot escort in his halting English, "Dear English lady, do you like poetry?" "I agree that it did." "Shall I say some poetry for you, then?" "I was thrilled, Mountains, lake, romantic swain, and now poetry. Shewey or Shakepeare were just right. Do English escorts would have thought of reading just that touch of perfection. "In deep, sonorous voice that seemed to echo and re-echo through the valley, my companion, with head thrown back and arms outstretched, declaimed:— "O' cross buns, 'o' cross buns, One a penny, two a penny, 'o' cross buns." — Illustrated London.

The owners of a six family apartment building in south Brooklyn, finding that a bank was about to foreclose a \$100,000 mortgage, have transferred their title to Adolf Hitler and Josef Stalin. The bank is pretty mad about it, but those who have the most right to kick, it seems to us, are the other property owners in south Brooklyn. They have to worry about the possibility of waking up some morning to find that Adolf and Joe have moved in as their neighbors. — New York World-Telegram.

Fundamentals Of Silver Fox Breeding

Article 2 (By G. Ennis Smith, Animal Geneticist and Superintendent, Dominion Experimental Fox Ranch, Summerside, P. E. I.)

The number of foxes entirely unfit for fundamental breeding has reached alarming proportions. Of all the breeding foxes throughout the country, through promiscuous breeding methods, only 10 per cent will not lead to any marked improvement. But what is worse still with such inferior foxes, inferior types will be produced in successive generations. As long as such a condition persists there is bound to be a lack of high-class silver foxes and the market will be flooded with pelts of a very inferior quality.

In this paper a schedule of fundamental matings is given that can be carried out with four families, which is the least number required for any progressive improvement. It will be seen from this schedule that, with four families, four lines of foxes can be built up in three different ways, making four distinct lines and twelve lines that differ in marked respects. Some of the lines will undoubtedly be inferior to the others and it is questionable if it would be worth while trying to maintain such a separate line. In order to be successful in breeding to judge which lines shall be concentrated on. At the same time it is advisable to carry out as many lines as possible. In many cases four lines will be bred to a marked extent, therefore it is impossible to establish a separate line from them, yet when used as an outcross they will improve other lines. This will have an important part with regard to the establishment of any line of foxes. Constitutional vigour, particularly size, strength and density of fur are the chief requisites in selecting foxes to form the main backbone for each particular line.

Outcrossing In the vain hope to obtain a herd of large foxes it has been a very wide practice for fox breeders to make large males, obtained from a favourable outcross, with selected large females, products of another outcross, independent of whether the foxes are being inbred or outcrossed. As a consequence there has been a wholesale production of small foxes, the result of a combination of what they set out to achieve. A second generation of outcrossing will inevitably lead to a loss in size and constitutional vigour, and in each subsequent generation of outcrossing there will be a further loss in size and vitality. Successive generations of outcrossing have been the curse of the fox industry, which has been brought about in two ways: the promiscuous breeding of the new "blood" that has been introduced into the ranch and mating as remotely related as possible, resulting in the ill effects of inbreeding. The fox breeders would follow a schedule of matings, similar to that given in this paper, any improvement they wished would be the result of a kind of "breeding test" which unfortunately has too often been the case. An improvement obtained by a favourable outcross must be fixed by inbreeding before proceeding to introduce new "blood."

Fox breeders have placed themselves in a very unfavourable position for carrying out any fundamental matings by the practice of confining the mating of their outstanding males to several full sisters and to males closely related to each other. It would be a much wiser policy to insure in the first place that the males in the ranch are mated to a number of unrelated females, as outlined in the schedule given in this paper. Furthermore, it seems to be an established procedure, whenever any particular matings have produced outstanding results, that these matings should be repeated year after year. Such a procedure is open to question, as a case of ground for immediate results without giving proper thought and consideration to the future. As a result there have been many outstanding foxes that have been bred, particularly in those cases where the female lines have been the outstanding foxes. One cannot help asking the question, what has become of the offspring of many champion foxes? Breeding foxes in the same way year after year is a very unwise policy. The sound method is to carry out systematic variations as much as possible.

Limits of Mating Another great cause of the fox industry is mating foxes according to their own value, independent of their ancestry. Fox breeders must use their judgment in outlining their matings, but within certain limits, and if the matings are outside of these limits the judgment of the breeder with respect to net value, no matter how good it may be, will be a handicap rather than an asset. The aim of many fox breeders appears to be to produce a favourable "click" as if fox breeding was entirely a matter of luck. Sound fundamental methods will eventually produce favourable results. One "click" or one family of good foxes will not of itself lead to a progressive improvement. The surest way of developing a good herd of silver foxes is to bring together in a systematic manner the favourable qualities of a large number of different strains or families. In every other generation to introduce new "blood" and then to breed it out as given in the schedule, and by the use of proper breeding methods to retain the superior and eliminate the inferior qualities that have been introduced. But selection in itself is not sufficient. There must be some method by which the good can be separated from the bad, and in that respect inbreeding is the most potent weapon. Outcrossing tends towards a dead level in a litter, but with inbreeding some of the litter may be superior and others inferior to their parents, dependent upon how closely they have inbred and in proportion to the inbreeding and outcrossing in the immediate ancestors. Inbreeding not only lends itself to select the superior foxes and eliminate the inferior, but what is more important still it tends to fix those favourable characteristics that have been obtained by outcrossing. Fox breeders have not been get-



CLIO
Something so noble in that lifted brow,
Exchanging arrows with the morning light,
Even as one caught the gleam, it seemed that now
The day was come, imperial, out of night.

For she could break the dark, and lend to age
Outrage to youth and lover's ecstasy.
Spring's haunting woodlands were her heritage,
Song in her voice, that rang the reverie.

I indeed I thought the Golden Bough
Was hers, that petals at the gate of death:
And being woman, she had woman's
To break the heart, or heal it at a breath.
Last, in her secret self, she kept
And soul of things,—the unattainable.

—Ernest Rhys.

KIND TO CARROTS

WESTMINSTER, England.—(CP)—A man who wouldn't kill a carrot appeared before a conscientious objectors' tribunal here. He said eating carrots did not kill them—"you just absorb it into your own system."

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ing inevitably leading to a drop in size and loss of vitality. Already numerous reports have been received that the so-called freak males that have been bought at a high price have been very poor breeding propositions, and this condition is very liable to get worse as the breeding of freak foxes increases. The freak foxes, already the product of several generations of outcrossing, will be sold to other ranchers which will lead to the outcross and they in turn will sell to other ranches, and so on, until the product is not pure enough to produce to still other ranches, which will inevitably lead to a long succession of successive generations of outcrossing, a most unfortunate condition. The schedule of fundamental matings as given in this paper is most applicable to the breeding of the so-called freak foxes. If the family A is considered as the freak family and B, C and D as the families of standard silver foxes to which the freak foxes are mated in a ranch, it will be seen that it will be possible to linebreed not only with the freak foxes but with the standard silver foxes to which the freak foxes have been mated. So that in the first place a freak male fox should be mated to a number of unrelated females and the male freak foxes produced from these matings should be mated back to females related to their mothers, as shown in the schedule while the female freak foxes should be used for linebreeding with the freak families. One thing is very certain that if some system of inbreeding is not carried out the first breeding of freak foxes develops, it is bound to lead to the production of a lot of worthless foxes. There is one essential fundamental that should not be violated, the first cross of freak foxes in any ranch should be with inbred standard silver foxes. (Copies of the detailed schedule of fundamental matings may be had on application to the Dominion Experimental Fox Ranch, Summerside in a ranch, it will be seen that it

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