

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1940. Asking \$1.25 For Wheat

A move is on foot throughout Western Canada, sponsored by Mrs. Doris Neilson, M.P., for Battleford, to present an agrarian program which deeply concerns every taxpayer in the Dominion.

This proposal the Winnipeg Free Press very properly criticizes in a lengthy editorial in which it says:

"We would not like to think that Mrs. Neilson and her friends are unpatriotic or wantonly blind. We believe, however, that they have not thought things out clearly. They have been in distress—often in very grievous distress for years past. Western agriculture has given them small recompense for the work and suffering they have gone through."

The Free Press is undoubtedly right. The problem of Canada's wheat surplus cannot be solved by housing western farmers at the expense of the taxpayers.

An Obsolete Slogan

Among the slogans that have been retired from circulation is the cry: "War never settles anything!"

In a matter of months, recalls an exchange, Holland, Belgium and France; has put Great Britain in dire jeopardy; and has awakened a hundred odd millions of Americans from a slumber so deep that it looked for a time as if the trumpet of doom would sound vainly in their ears.

This is a pretty active record for a supposedly extinct and futile force. And it is to be observed that these settlements in Europe which have made slaves of millions of free men, will stand unless they are unsettled in turn by force exerted for the liberation of these countries and the re-establishment of liberty in Europe.

Is Internment Adequate?

Under the above heading the Globe and Mail calls attention to recent disclosures about Adrien Arcand, interned leader of the Nazi party in Canada—disclosures which, strangely, have emanated from Washington and not from Ottawa.

Here is a man who apparently was conspiring against the State, carrying on Hitler's mission in Canada and organizing an army of 70,000 blue-shirts. His activities were known to the Canadian authorities, yet it was not until the arrest of Fascist leaders in England, eight months after the war started, that Arcand and ten of his lieutenants were placed on trial under the Defense of Canada Act.

The Canadian people will want to know why Adrien Arcand has not been brought to trial for his treasonable conduct instead of merely being lodged in an internment camp, where he enjoys most of the comforts of a summer tourist resort.

for their internment, but when Conservative Leader Hanson asked if criminal proceedings against the accused would be continued the Minister replied that such proceedings would remain in abeyance, but were far from being abandoned.

Ottawa correspondent says the Canadian Government knows as much as the Dies Committee at Washington about Nazi-Fascist activities in Canada. A review of the Arcand case seems imperative in the light of the latest disclosures, concerning which the Canadian people apparently would have been ignorant but for revelations made at Washington.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow All Hallow'e'en.

It is surely appropriate that the Boy Scouts should have chosen All Souls Day for their sale of apples.

Will the West River bridge play any part in the present election, or is it merely a between-election cry?

If paying notes were as simple as making them there certainly would be more Christians who would "take no thought of the morrow."

Sentimental maiden at a recent bridge: "I go to bed with the birds and rise with the bird-singers." Unsentimental partner: "I go to bed with the cats and rise with the hootsingers."

Arrangements are now being made for St. Andrew night's supper. Alas, no Scotsman of military age and physically fit will be there save in uniform this year, at least not in the body though certainly in the spirit.

Congratulations to the Girl Guides on realizing such a substantial return for their National Day Celebrations, \$728 for 2,912 War Savings Stamps. Bear in mind this was "a good turn" effort, no profit, commission or remuneration of any kind going to the Guides.

All this hobnobbing of Hitler and Mussolini with the subjected powers is neither more nor less than the indication that "their wind is up", and they want to make as big a splash as possible before their final collapse.

The first of the four political meetings in West River district took place last night at Afton Hall, one of the Liberal strongholds. But even there Premier Campbell's nominees must have found many who disagree with his vagrant policies and would like the opposition increased to keep a stronger hold upon him in their own as well as the Province's interests.

Reports from the Italian-owned Aegean Islands suggest that considerable hardships are being borne by the garrisons and civilian populations alike, owing to the British blockade. The hopeful belief held in some quarters is that capitulation is bound to follow upon the sorry state of affairs, unless adequate relief can be secured.

A careful survey shows that all the stories of an attempted invasion or the defeat of an invasion of Britain are made out of whole cloth as far as the British know. There have been many rumors about such an invasion, coming from France, Stockholm, Lisbon and perhaps Chicago and points west.

Rt. Hon. A. Bonar Law, Statesman and Prime Minister, born this date, 1823. A native of New Brunswick and son of the Manse, he entered the British Parliament as Conservative member for the Blackfriars division of Glasgow; one of the leading protagonists of tariff reform; rapidly made a Party reputation, and was leader of opposition 1911-1915; entered coalition as Chancellor of the Exchequer; was plenipotentiary to the Peace Conference, 1919; succeeded Lloyd-George as Prime Minister, 1922; without any distinguished gift of speech was remarkable for fluency and persuasiveness; had a very retentive memory; and was able to make a budget speech from a sheet of paper.

Old "axioms" on newspaper reading habits are coming in for startling revisions while others being more definitely confirmed as a result of a continuing study being carried out by Canadian and American publishers for the benefit of their advertisers and editorial staffs, said Mr. T. G. Vatcher of the Bureau of Advertising of the Canadian Daily Newspaper Association at a luncheon for advertising executives in Montreal.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A letter from England says: "Needless to say, the snow business is a severe blow, as the public are paying for each inch of snow."

The Strait of Gibraltar was only a half mile wide five hundred years before Christ. To-day it is fifteen miles in width, so it has been widening more than a half mile each hundred years.

Cast-iron roads have been tried with success in London. They are said to be more durable, kid-proof, and show little or no wear.

"One element of resentment we don't take into account. We think of the bombing as lawless warfare or an attempt to invade the country. For the British, it is something infinitely worse. It is nothing less than trespass—and that they won't put up with!"

X-rays were at one time used only in hospitals. They are now used in fitting shoes, for examining tires on automobiles, and for testing airplane parts subjected to stress, for finding stones or foreign material in peanut butter, etc.

Canada is going to manufacture its own cod liver oil as foreign supplies have been cut off due to the war. Youngsters will welcome this announcement with the feeling that is manifested when it develops that teacher didn't get the measles after all.

At first thought one might think all diamonds are used for the making of jewellery. The facts are, about ninety per cent of these gems are used in the making of drills, lathes, and other precision machinery. Much of this machinery is now used in turning out guns, tanks, aeroplanes, etc.

"Ladies and gentlemen," said the vicar of a Canadian church, "I have thanked personally all those who have contributed to our sale of work. Two towels have been presented by anonymous donors who prefer to be known only as C.P.R. and C.N.R. respectively." — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Dover seems to be an exception to the high, stiff, specification of places enforced by British censorship. Generally it is necessary, when the press wants to print an account of some interesting event, to get the censor's approval. In Dover, however, is frequently of a kind that could hardly happen elsewhere and perhaps is for that reason that, when a story is passed for publication, it is mentioned without disguise. The consequence is that Dover, New Hampshire, has been raised to prominence in the minds of our people.

There are fabulous opportunities waiting for this country. All we need is the vision and courage to grasp them. Many of these opportunities are developing today; others will come when the war ends. These opportunities will come to the Canadian people if they only grasp the vital concept of Canadian life and production—not to work less, but to work more; not to produce less, but to produce more. We have to end our people away, but to bring more people here by the thousands and the millions; to build guns and planes, to make great armies, to launch hundreds of ships, to build more trains, to make more roads, to startle the world with the clamor of our building and making and changing. A new and vital concept—no, not only for us, but for the world.

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The simile "Proud as a piper" seems to us familiar and appropriate for a pipe band, or a single piper, for that matter, is a very apt one. It is especially true, especially when on the march, a newspaper paragraph caps the climax when it adds to the list of similes by expanding to "As proud as the piper in the mill race pipe band." — Mount Forest Confederation.

Los Angeles now has a firm of automobile diagnosticians. For a fee of \$1.50 this firm sends its clinic on wheels to your home and diagnoses the troubles of the family car. In a written report they tell you what is wrong with the automobile and what should be done for it. You may then take it to any garage you desire for attention. If buying a used car they will check 115 points to make it satisfactory before the car can be recommended.

An R. A. F. fighter pilot who has shot down Messerschmitts from both Hurricanes and Spitfires, remarked in a broadcast last night that the two British fighters were not so different as they are made out to be. "The Spitfire seems to collect more money," he said. "Why is it that we only hear of Spitfire funds?"

Political Blitzkrieg Against Mr. Hanson

(Orilla Packet and Times) The Prime Minister and the Minister for Air Defence recently made a savage attack on the Hon. R. B. Hanson, charging him with revealing military secrets, by mentioning that the Royal Air Force intended to set up training schools in Canada. They accused the Leader of the Opposition of playing politics and helping Hitler. Without waiting to hear Mr. Hanson's defence, the press took up the hue and cry, and launched a regular blitzkrieg on Mr. Hanson.

Now that the Opposition leader has replied the suspicion grows that there was at least as much "playing politics" in the ministerial outburst as there was in the original offence. Mr. Hanson points out that the secret he is supposed to have revealed was published in the Financial Post several weeks ago, and had been broadcast over the C. B. C. system, where he himself heard it. He denies that he had been given the information in confidence, though he had checked its accuracy with the Department of Defence. Apparently he knew of the censor's ban on this piece of news. But he probably suspected that the ban had political rather than military motives, and that the Government was bent on suppressing discussion that might be embarrassing. He is not the only one who wondered how the public knowledge that the Royal Air Force was training pilots in Canada would affect the enemy. It was certain the Germans could not bomb the training schools, and it was quite as certain that the submarines are already doing everything possible to interrupt sea communication between Britain and Canada. In any case, the blast from Ottawa spread all over Canada a statement the Prime Minister claimed to be of value to the enemy.

We have again and again expressed the view that politics should be set aside during the war, and that it is undesirable to stir up controversies that have their basis in party differences. But for a Prime Minister who persists in conducting Canada's war effort on a purely party basis, excluding political opponents from all but subordinate and giving them little opportunity for co-operation, to charge the Leader of the Opposition with disloyal partisanship because of what was, at the worst, a minor indiscretion is surely a little excessive. It is not surprising that the refusal to permit them to continue to play the kettle black. Moreover, while to mention that British airmen are coming to Canada to train is made an unforgivable offence, even after the heads of the Government have broadcast it all over the world, the report of a single British airman in the other, it is conceivable that the refusal may be a considerable factor in making it necessary for British airmen to fly at night, and with only snatches of sleep, and with no account being taken of the casualties and damage inflicted on Britain because of lack of airman to man the planes that Lord Beaverbrook's energy has been making available. Certain it is that Mr. Hanson's verbal offence is not commensurate with the major error which was the subject of his speech.

The incident has provoked the most intense lapse into hysteria to which the Canadian press has ever been witness in recent years. Some papers, accepting the charge, which he denies, that Mr. Hanson had been given the information in confidence, and that he had gone so far as to drive from public life a man who, by his conduct of the Opposition last session showed that he has the qualities to give his country good and useful service in the post-war period. We have no cause to regret papers regret their present position, even though they do not say so. One effect of the experience will be that, for the future, the press and public will be inclined to receive official statements with more reserve directed against political opponents. There is a well known proverb: "Once bitten, twice shy."

Since the foregoing article on the attacks on the Leader of the Opposition was written, the Globe and Mail has published a half hearted article which says that Mr. Hanson had been given the information in confidence, and that he had gone so far as to drive from public life a man who, by his conduct of the Opposition last session showed that he has the qualities to give his country good and useful service in the post-war period. We have no cause to regret papers regret their present position, even though they do not say so. One effect of the experience will be that, for the future, the press and public will be inclined to receive official statements with more reserve directed against political opponents. There is a well known proverb: "Once bitten, twice shy."

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THE TWO MACS

PUBLIC FORUM

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

SECOND DISTRICT OF QUEENS

Sir—What went wrong at the Liberal convention or who is to blame for not adopting the suggestion of a resident of Second District of Queens in his letter of May 9th, 1940. Was it too much teaming up with many under-estimates—you canvas the poll committees in the south and I will do the same for you in the north? I am, Sir, etc.

WEST RIVER (ENCLOSURE) Country vs City for Nomination

Patriot, May 9, 1940. Editor Patriot, Sir—I would like to call attention to all Liberal delegates of the Second Electoral District of Queens regarding the forthcoming by-election.

It is rumored that certain eligible men of the city are aspiring to this notable position. While these men are likely quite capable of filling the position, don't you think, gentlemen, that there are men from the country who are just as capable? Why take a city man to run in our district, when a man from the country knows so much more about conditions as they exist in the country, and can see for himself if the people of the district are really in need of what they ask for, while a city member has to depend on what some people choose to tell him regarding conditions, which sometimes are not quite as true as they might be.

Then again, Charlottetown does not come to the country when they want a representative, so why should we do so? Plainly speaking, it all amounts to giving away our reputation to the city of Charlottetown. If these city men wish to run for nomination, let them do so in their own district, and we will do the same. Surely people whom you consider good enough to associate with, deal with all your life, and who have made a success of their own interests, should of necessity be good enough to represent you in your own district. I think it is rather a slight to these men to pass them up, and go to the city for a representative. I trust that these delegates will wait up when the time comes to nominate a representative, and show the people that we have men with as much brains for politicians as our own district as the city has. Surely the Liberal Government is not following the Conservative custom. You all know what has happened the Conservative party in their last local election by having city men as candidates. Therefore, gentlemen, give this subject ample consideration. I am, Sir, etc.

Resident of Second District of Queens.

retraction of its former editorial, in which it admits that the circumstances of the case make it appear that Mr. Hanson had been made the victim of a political plot, intended to destroy his influence; and also declares that "it is a matter of common observation that the present Government of Canada is playing party politics to the top of its head in this hour of the nation's greatest crisis, and by a strange perversity still wishes to inflict the punishment for this conclusion of affairs on the Leader of the Opposition." The Globe and Mail admits, to prepare the way for the official attack, in the hope as the Globe and Mail says, that by charging him with betraying a military secret, they believed that they could make him destroy himself. The Globe and Mail "doubts" whether Mr. Hanson can be trusted on the Government a more becoming manner of conduct than it uses at present. But apart from the question of a small minority in the Commons "foreign" the Government to change its course, it obviously isn't going to be made easier for him if the Globe and Mail and other papers lend themselves to plots for weakening his influence with the public. The Globe and Mail even fails to do Mr. Hanson the justice of mentioning his denial that he was given the information "in confidence."

H.M.C.S. Margaree

(Halifax Chronicle) Loss of the Canadian destroyer Margaree is a bitter blow, but not bitter to the friends and relatives of those who today are listed "missing, believed killed." The list is an appalling length: 140 men are believed lost in the tragedy which overtook the warship. But many will cling to hope for days, as long as hope can be held. Errors, as the navy authorities point out, are possible. And there is always the hope

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The Poet's Corner A BIRTHDAY GREETING (The following poem, written by A. P. Herbert, the famous author and member of the staff of "Punch," on the occasion of the birthday of Adolf Hitler on April 29, last, appears in "Seven Songs," a collection of Mr. Herbert's verse, published in London on Friday—Montreal Star.) "God moves in a mysterious way, The Devil still must have his hand; And it is not for us to say Why you have lived to fifty-one. But this new candle on the cake Should be the last they light for you. God will not make the same mistake; The Devil soon must have his due. (And recollect, my little fake, Napoleon died at fifty-two.)"

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DODDS KIDNEY PILLS Loss of the Canadian destroyer Margaree is a bitter blow, but not bitter to the friends and relatives of those who today are listed "missing, believed killed." The list is an appalling length: 140 men are believed lost in the tragedy which overtook the warship. But many will cling to hope for days, as long as hope can be held. Errors, as the navy authorities point out, are possible. And there is always the hope

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