

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Tut! Tut! Mr. Hsley

When Mr. King gets back into harness at Ottawa it will be interesting to see what attitude he will take towards acting Prime Minister Hsley's dictum about the Crown prerogative.

Back in January, 1934, when Mr. King was leader of the Opposition, he delivered a four-hour speech on this very subject. His theme then was one of bitter complaint against the government of the day for proceeding "as if it were an executive wholly independent of the House of Commons, rather than an executive which derives its power from and is responsible to the House."

"I submit, Mr. Speaker, that the House of Commons alone should direct the ministry with respect to all matters pertaining to the Royal prerogative. . . . That is the duty of the House of Commons. It has always been so, or at any rate for many years it has been so, by the House of Commons as one of its rights and privileges, and the House of Commons in Great Britain has been unwilling to admit that a statute is necessary to control the prerogative."

Mr. King went on to cite instances, one of them concerning a statute introduced in 1890 by Lord Salisbury for the cession of Heligoland to Germany in consideration of Germany's having recognized the claims of Britain to Zanzibar. When the bill was before Parliament Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Sir William Harcourt, took the view that the government, by making the treaty a subject of legislation, had abandoned the treaty-making prerogative of the Crown. He (Mr. Gladstone) proceeded to show that the prerogative of the Crown, exercised by the ministers of the day, was subject to review by the House of Commons and by the House of Commons alone, whereas a bill required the sanction of the House of Lords. Mr. Gladstone pointed out that the Commons, in countenancing such procedure and sharing its jurisdiction with the House of Lords, was halving a right which was peculiarly its own, namely, controlling the exercise of the Royal prerogative."

"That position, I think," commented Mr. King, "is the sound one—the position that the ministry is responsible to the House of Commons, and that the House of Commons should direct the ministry in this particular. That, I think, is the true position to be taken with regard to the exercise of the Royal prerogative."

And again, same speech: "The control of the exercise of the Royal prerogative in Canada is the peculiar right of this House of Commons, and I am amazed that one who is the leader of the House of Commons, deriving his authority from the House of Commons, should take any view to the contrary. If the House of Commons ceased to support him he would cease to be Prime Minister, notwithstanding all that the other House might seek to do for him, notwithstanding that every member in the other House might be a follower of his own. His power is entirely dependent upon the support he receives from this House of Commons. In the matter of the exercise of the Royal prerogative, one of the most vital of the rights and privileges of the House of Commons is that of directing the ministry with respect to the manner in which it is to be exercised."

'Fed Up' On Ceremonials

It was noticeable at Ottawa that the proportion of veterans of the war just ended who took part in the Remembrance Day ceremonies on Parliament Hill was small — apart of course from the members of the uniformed units taking part in the commemoration.

This, comments the Ottawa Journal, is readily understandable. Even apart from the fact that recently-discharged servicemen are "fed up" on parades, reviews, speeches by political and military leaders and formal ceremony, they feel that November 11 is not their day but that of the past generation. And their memories of the Sicilian and Normandy beaches, of death in the Apennines, in the clouds and on the high seas—above all the loss of tried comrades and friends—is too fresh in their minds to evoke any feeling of jubilation over victory.

To most, the main concern is to shake off the military habits and fetters of the past five years, get back into the channels of civilian life, get jobs for themselves and homes for their families.

War I, since in their service the date has little significance. But on VE-Day or V-T Day, there will be gatherings of the 1939-1945 veterans, of men of the air squadrons, the ships of war, of the regiments, batteries, and line formations. Distance heals wounds and lends enchantment, dimming the harsher memories and lighting the happier days. Their experience has been one that neither the men themselves nor the people at home for whom they fought will ever forget.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The British and Foreign Bible Society will be in possession of the principal Protestant Churches tomorrow.

Is H. M. C. S. Assiniboine to be left stranded at South Lake, or what is to become of her? She would be a tremendous asset accommodated at Charlottetown.

Newspaper readers don't miss a good story because it isn't on the front page. A scientific study shows that many of the best read stories are on the inside pages.

Probably the quietest industry these days is the law. When everybody is more or less prosperous and with money to spare, the most lawyers have to occupy them is chamber practice, the law courts being almost completely deserted.

It is rumored that the Hon. Dougald MacKinnon, member of the Jones Government may receive the appointment of manager of the War Labour Board in succession to the late Mr. J. R. MacKinnon. This would occasion a vacancy in the Belfast district, and the prospect is that Attorney-General Large will be the Liberal candidate.

Sir John de Mandeville, first of England's eastern travellers, died this date 1372 at Liege; he was a second Marco Polo, and his diary is preserved in manuscript form in the Cottonian collection in the British museum; the first printed edition was that issued from the Westminster press in 1499, by Wynkyn de Worde; during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the work enjoyed a great reputation, second only to Marco Polo's, as an authority on all questions of oriental geography, and was translated into several languages.

Credit is certainly due to Quebec for political and industrial aggressiveness. It is not so many years since it had erected a magnificent new bridge connecting the east and west shores of the St. Lawrence, and bringing the C. P. R. trains right into Quebec City. Now it is proposed to construct a bridge giving the C. N. R. a similar advantage, and sending the Lewis ferry to the discard. The various municipalities are being invited to participate in the enterprise, but the Provincial Government is sponsoring the scheme, which indicates that the Federal Government will be called upon to subsidize the project as part of post-war reconstruction.

Professor Walter Raleigh, Oxford University, writes to the London Press a protest against foisting secondary education on all and sundry: "Tell Mackay to stop founding Universities. There's no sense in them. Bottled men, gone putrid, that's all. And they spread like mould on cheese. If a University or two would bust up, or resolve itself into an Agapome, my spirits would go up. Damn this so-called education of the young, anyhow. They're too good to be fouled this way." Rather strong language but containing more than a modicum of sound common sense, for not a few of the students attracted to Universities become merely spoiled bread-earners.

Halifax has a knack of keeping in the limelight notoriously rather than otherwise. In the House of Commons the other afternoon Mr. George Black (P.C., Yukon) drew attention to the fact that a question dealing with Nova Scotia's empty beer bottles stood on the order paper in his name and he said he wished to "suggest that I am not interested in empty bottles." Mr. Percy Black (P.C., Cumberland) rose to say the question was his. It asked how many empty or used beer bottles have been collected in Nova Scotia by the Prices Board or under its authority and sold either in Nova Scotia or elsewhere up to November 1, 1945. Nova Scotia "is the only part of Canada where empty beer bottles are of sufficient importance" to be placed by the government under the authority of the Prices Board, he said.

Here is the argument of The Financial Post for the appointment of such officials as Lieut.-Col. W. W. Reid: "To those who look upon Canadians as a nation of he-men the official disclosure that army rejections in the last war totalled almost 50 per cent will come as a terrific shock. The actual figure of 48.8 per cent is substantially higher than incomplete statistics indicate for any other English-speaking country, including the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia. It should be remembered that the recruiting system in Canada differed greatly from that of the United States or Great Britain. In the latter there was much pooling of human raw material among the three services, in Canada practically none. Moreover, for various reasons which need not be detailed here, the Air Force and the Navy in the early years of the war at least, made a very strong appeal to adventurous youth which resulted in them having practically a first choice of many recruits offered. The fact that neither of these services considered any but volunteer recruits tended to give them a further advantage. But after all allowances are made, the percentage of army rejections remains shockingly high. It is far too high for a country as young, as big and so generously endowed with food and recreational resources, as Canada. Here surely is a challenge to the schools, the Y. M. C. A., the Boy Scouts, the churches, the medical profession, and all other agencies in this country which have it in their power to improve the health standards of Canadian youth."

Notes By The Way

"Solve your differences and get on by" is the motto of the President. Truman's advice to labor and employers. But that's not so easy to accomplish as it sounds. — St. Thomas Times-Journal

An estimated 136,000 men are engaged in war repair work in London, where there are more than 40,000 houses still so badly damaged as to be uninhabitable. Four and a half million houses were damaged or destroyed in Britain during the war; the total damage to property in London is estimated at \$4,800,000,000 at 1938 prices. — New York Times

A 26-calibre German revolver which Victor Sanchez brought back from Europe proved to be a troublesome device, landing his father in Mount Sinai Hospital and him under arrest. The gun was discharged while his father, and police later arrested Victor on a charge of violating the Sullivan law. — New York Herald-Tribune

One of the biggest consignments of refrigerated meat to arrive in the Royal Victoria Dock since the outbreak of war, was discharged recently from the S. S. Rippling ham Grange. The cargo of 7,000 tons included boned beef, pork, frozen beef, boned pork, mutton, lamb and fifty-five tons of canned meat; all from the Argentine. The consignment was slated in its price list as being the one-half weeks' meat ration for the whole population of Greater London. — P. L. A. Monthly

In Britain, many new industries have been created through the process of modernization. The products include 2,000 made from coal tar dyestuffs; medical supplies including antibiotics; perfumes, essential oils and other chemicals; plastics and synthetic materials; and a host of other goods. The process of modernization has also led to the development of new methods of production, such as the use of machinery and automation. This has resulted in increased efficiency and productivity, and has helped to create new jobs and opportunities for workers.

A crime wave of thefts and burglary which reached epidemic proportions in the latter part of 1944 and continuing unabated, is being fought by the police department, which seems powerless to curb the crime wave. The police are using a variety of methods to combat the crime wave, including increased patrols, improved security measures, and public education campaigns. Despite these efforts, the crime wave continues to be a major problem for law enforcement agencies.

The great ideals of freedom, justice, brotherhood and peace have been fought for, and died for, twice in this century. They persisted even in the darkest moments of our history, and they will continue to guide us in the future. We must never allow these ideals to be forgotten or abandoned, for they are the foundation of a just and peaceful society. We must strive to uphold these ideals in all our actions and decisions, and we must work together to create a world in which these ideals are fully realized.

Blasting a two mile tunnel for a highway right through the Andes to save forty kilometers on the route between Valparaiso and Santiago, Chile, is being undertaken by American Road Builders' Association. The project is a major engineering feat and will greatly improve transportation in the region. The tunnel will provide a direct route between the two cities, reducing travel time and increasing safety. The project is being funded by the American Road Builders' Association and the Chilean government.

The United States, whose economic thinking still retains traces, and more than traces, of the frontier mentality which is natural to a residue from the nineteenth century, manifestly thinks in terms of expanding consumption and practicing free enterprise in a thoroughly unlimited market. This language was familiar to Victorian economists, but it is not so familiar to modern economists. The United States has a long history of free enterprise and economic growth, and it is important to continue to support these principles in the future. Free enterprise is the foundation of a strong and prosperous economy, and it is essential to the well-being of the United States and the world.

On the other hand because of our abundance of resources we are unable to grow sufficient quantities of animal feed. As a consequence, our population is probably not more than half of what it should be and I believe can be increased three fold. There is no limit to our chicken, turkey, and other poultry production, and we should be able to produce much more than we are at present. This is a major challenge for the United States, as it is essential to the well-being of our population. We must find ways to increase our production of animal feed, and we must work together to meet this challenge.

The Poets Corner
APPLE PICKERS
Up pointed ladders, picking apples
The lean, bronze boys and gods,
whose cries
Of joy prevail, where sunlight
dapples
The orchard grass, beneath the
sky's
Pale, painted alk. So, such a god,
He reaps the harvest of old trees,
Bewitched by birds, by goldenrod
More golden with the tint of bees.
Nimble they pick with just and
turn
Till stars flick leaves with silver
foam,
Then smooth beneath a close, red
moon
Brown shoulders bear the baskets
home.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

ISLAND INDUSTRIES NEEDED

I have been reading in your valuable paper the complaints made because the Government has not provided jobs for our returned soldiers. Generally I am not inclined to take up the outcries on behalf of the returned soldiers, at this end of the year there are not many projects which can be undertaken and while much needs to be done we must plan permanent jobs which will give our people financial security.

The answer is by building a sound economic structure instead of depending upon the jobs which are being created by the Government. Instead of selling everything we produce to the Government, we should buy our necessities on a retail market which at best is poor business, let us plan industries to do for ourselves.

A million dollars sent from the Province and we send out many millions in the course of a year) is a million dollars gone never to return—gone to keep the wheels of industry humming in other provinces but a million dollars retained here, in the retail market, would mean increased prosperity for our people.

We must have tanneries operated on modern lines to process our hides. We must build factories to make our shoes, luggage, harness, school bags, etc. We must have factories making our own clothing and textiles.

Let me be more specific. With our population of nearly 100,000, we produce about 200,000 pairs of boots and shoes a week. Some factory, some payroll and permanent work for our people. A thousand pairs of overalls a week and wind breakers, ski-suits and other articles of clothing to be made.

Much of this raw material would be imported but we should have a tannery and the spread between that price and the price would be boosting industry right here.

God grant we shall avail ourselves of this opportunity. With your kind permission I will continue this letter in your next issue. I am, Sir, etc. ANNE MACLEOD, (Patrol phone copy)

F. E. I. HOG POSSIBILITIES: GRAIN ELEVATOR
Sir—Since my last letter appeared in The Guardian this is the first of talk I am being given. Why worry about the size of a grain elevator when we have a surplus of grain? It is not the size of the elevator that is important, it is the quality of the grain that is important.

THE RUSSIAN ATTITUDE
Sir—I have no desire to criticize Russia unfairly, but her attempt to dominate the countries of Eastern Europe is a serious military force, in apparent defiance of the principles of democracy adopted by the other Allied nations, and which should be met by the same principles of freedom of choice in the matter of government, made to the smaller nations of Eastern Europe.

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Charlottetown Plundered
170th Anniversary of a Notable Event

On the 17th August 1775, Lord Bello arrived in this harbour. He immediately commenced the erection of a Fort on the western side of the harbour. The fort was named Fort Amherst in honour of General Amherst, in which on leave he left a garrison of 100 men. Captain Walter Patterson arrived on the 30th August 1775 to assume his office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief. Shortly after Patterson arrived he dismantled Fort Amherst and left on the ground only the remains of this Fort remain today.

There being therefore no defence, two American Privateers entered the harbour on the 17th November, 1775—one hundred and seventy men strong today. One ship, the "Lynch" was armed with six guns and ten swivels and had a crew of seventy men under the command of Captain Nicholas Broughton. The other ship, the "Franklin", was armed with four guns and ten swivels and had a crew of sixty men under the command of Captain John Selman.

The crews landed unopposed and plundered the town and then took away with them all the provisions they could find. The Governor, Mr. Patterson, fled to the United States, and the town was left in the hands of the privateers. The privateers then sailed for the United States, taking with them all the provisions they had plundered.

Now, thanks to our Premier and our representatives in Parliament, headed by Mr. McLure, Ottawa ever has been opened to our representatives from all the Provinces, not realising at last that full justice must be done to Prince Edward Island and that there is no reason why this Province should not be quite as prosperous as any other and financially better off than any other.

It is certain that there will be a high price to pay, but the sacrifices involved in unselfish devotion to a worthy cause, will inevitably result in the ultimate realization of the dream of universal brotherhood.

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