

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1945

Third King's Convention

The Progressive Conservatives of Third King's are to be congratulated upon their splendid convention yesterday, resulting in the nomination of Major J. A. MacDonald, son of Senator MacDonald, as candidate for Mr. H. F. McPhee's seat in the Legislature. A returned soldier with an excellent war record, Major MacDonald has all the qualifications of a first-class representative and there is every reason to believe that he will be returned with a substantial majority on June 4.

Just why the by-election has been called at this time is a matter of speculation. A seat in Fifth Prince became vacant at precisely the same time as Third King's, but no writ has been issued in that riding. It would appear that the Government has lost all hope of averting a Federal Liberal debacle in King's on June 11, and is rushing in now to obtain a snap verdict on its own behalf. The circumstances are all the more suspicious when one recalls that at the time the by-election was announced, Major MacDonald—who it was well known would be the likely Conservative candidate, and who had been severely wounded in action—was still in hospital; also that the Provincial Conservative leader, Hon. Dr. MacMillan, was reported seriously ill in hospital in Toronto.

One result of the Government's haste will be the disfranchisement of all Third King's service forces overseas and in other provinces. The Jones Government is running true to form. It did this in the general provincial election, and is doubtless hoping to "get away with it" again. This repetition of an absolutely inexcusable and contemptible effort to defraud our fighting men of their votes will, we believe, be strongly resented in Third King's, which is rightly proud of its record of enlistments.

Premier Jones and his colleagues evidently regard our returning war veterans as of no importance so far as the franchise is concerned. They are saying so now for the second time. The electors of Third King's have the remedy in their own hands, and by returning Major MacDonald they can answer this insult not only for themselves but for the whole Province.

Health And Welfare Problems

Public Health and Welfare Organization in Canada is the title of a recently published book of great value to all concerned in these vitally important matters. The author, Dr. Harry M. Cassidy, is director of the School of Social Work, University of Toronto, and has held many important appointments, including that of Director of Training in general charge of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's training activities throughout the world. His book is a companion volume to the author's Social Security and Reconstruction in Canada, published in February, 1943, which dealt, in survey fashion, with the historical background and major problems of building a post-war system of social security. In this second book he analyzes the problem of reorganizing and developing the provincial and local health and welfare services so as to fit them into a national plan. The book runs to over 450 pages, is well documented and indexed, and covers every section of Canada. A lengthy chapter is devoted to the Maritime Provinces, of which several pages are concerned with Prince Edward Island.

Dr. Cassidy finds commendable the simplicity of our Island system. The fact that virtually all our public health and welfare work is done by the Provincial Government means that the difficult problems of provincial-municipal relations which are so prominent in other provinces are almost totally absent. The public health services have been well treated, and there has been considerable progress in this field in spite of the small expenditures that have been made. On the other hand there are serious weaknesses. Despite the absence of complex urban communities, our existing services are not sufficient to cope with the problems that exist. "Even so favored a community as Prince Edward Island needs mothers' allowances, an orderly programme of general assistance, probation and parole services, mental hygiene clinics, medical care for the needy, and other programs that are either lacking at present or scarcely developed at all," the author says. "Expenditure on public health, the program that has been developed, are far too low. Nothing much has been done to attract well trained personnel, except in the case of public health doctors and nurses. And administrative organization could be improved materially."

Dr. Cassidy finds our outstanding administrative weakness to be the lack of integration of the existing welfare services under a responsible provincial officer. A committee of the cabinet directs the relief work that is done; a commission handles old age and blind pensions; child welfare comes under a superintendent reporting to the cabinet; and the Attorney General is responsible for the operation of the jails and for dealing with problems of delinquency in general. "These several activities," he suggests, "are important enough in provincial administration to be grouped together in a department of public welfare, under direction of a technically qualified official re-

porting to a provincial minister. There is no need for relief responsibilities being delegated to the few small municipalities, as is done at present on a somewhat informal basis. On the other hand, it seems that the peculiar circumstances of Prince Edward Island call for complete centralization of both welfare and health services at the provincial level."

To the existing public health department, he suggests, there might be added the provincial mental hospital and the provincial sanatorium, and it also might be given responsibility for the administration of grants to hospitals. The boards which now exercise direct supervision in these matters might remain as advisory bodies.

In so small a province, Dr. Cassidy does not see much point in combining the departments of health and welfare unless they consisted of two distinct divisions, headed by competent permanent officials. In that case they would be the equivalent of two separate departments. On the other hand he says that both in size and population the Island is very suitable to be a health unit or a welfare unit.

The field covered by the book is too vast for any adequate summary, however brief. It can only be recommended most highly. Published by The Ryerson Press, Toronto, it retails at \$3.50 paper cover, \$4.50 cloth.

Two Distinct Days

This from the Ottawa Journal may be quoted without comment: Once again we beg to remind all concerned that Empire Day is Empire Day and Victoria Day is Victoria Day and never the twain shall meet.

Empire Day is observed on May 23, is observed exclusively by the schools. It is marked by patriotic exercises in the schools, and is celebrated in this way throughout the Empire. Victoria Day, on May 24, is a national holiday, peculiar to Canada, and is established as a national holiday by Dominion law. "Victoria Day" is its official name. For the younger generation perhaps it needs to be said that it celebrates the birth of Queen Victoria.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Airplane travel, if one can afford it, or one is a Cabinet Minister, practically eliminates time and space in political campaigns.

The flowing tide is with Honest John Bracken. The C. C. F.'s even suggesting the C. P. R. is behind him; while Toronto Saturday Night concedes that Premier George Drew will win hands down in Ontario.

The Boy Scouts are off to a new start, greatly strengthened by the addition of Rev. Mr. Davies and Mr. McCormack to the active forces, which have been gallantly holding the fort in the long six years of war.

Tomorrow Victoria Day holiday. Prime Minister Mackenzie King tried to abolish it by order-in-council, but even Quebec rebelled against this, and thus it is continued to be celebrated all over Canada.

An unusually attractive advertisement appears in this issue, inserted by the Agnew-Surpass Shoe Stores Limited. It takes the form of an honour roll of the firm's employees, those having made the supreme sacrifice being specially indicated. It does credit to the company as well as providing a memento to relatives and friends.

Attempts are being made to spread dissatisfaction with any participation by Canada in the Japanese war, it being argued that this is the U. S. A.'s concern. But Canadians cannot forget that there are thousands of our men interned since the fall of Hong Kong; this Pacific war is to free them, before the Japanese prison camps kill them. The Pacific war is Canada's because the enemy in the Pacific is Canada's enemy as well as that of our neighbours to the south.

Hope for autoists, though deferred. The War Production Board of Washington announces that "on the basis of available information" 200,000 passenger cars will be produced late this year. Mr. Henry P. Nelson, in charge of automobile reconversion for the board, said "it looks now" as though production can be stepped up to 400,000 cars during the first three months of 1946, with annual output at the rate of 2,000,000. At a news conference, Mr. Nelson said a few cars may be turned out in the July-September quarter, but there will be no "substantial" production earlier than October.

John Davison Rockefeller, American millionaire, died this date 1937; with his brother William and three friends he formed the first great trust, the Standard Oil, with himself as President; this led to the founding of several similar organizations, all with the object of limiting competition and expanding profits; the outcome was John D. became a millionaire many times over and was at a loss to know what to do with his money until some one, probably his wife, suggested he should endow some educational, medical and charitable organizations; thereupon he founded and endowed Chicago University in 1890, the Institute for Medical Research in 1901, the General Education Board in 1903, and the Rockefeller Foundation in 1913—for promoting the well-being of mankind throughout the world, to all of which institutions he contributed some hundred million dollars of the people's money collected through monopolies, trusts and cartels; "Do you know the only thing that gives me pleasure? It's to see my dividends coming in."

Notes By The Way

What can it profit a man to gain the world and come to his perjury with a gastric ulcer. —Francis Steinbeck in "Cannery Row"

China invented sauerkraut, not Germany, according to not the American Kraut Packers' Association, whose press release revealed sauerkraut was fed to laborers on the Great Wall centuries ago to combat vitamin-shy diet. —Frederick Gleaser.

A Canadian soldier who has been on leave in Paris writes home that the French never drink water. If he would look at French river water, he would learn why. In France drinkable water is something you buy in a bottle, and as it often comes from Vichy no loyal Frenchman would touch the stuff. —Peterborough Examiner.

The thorough democracy of the Victoria Cross was forcibly illustrated not long ago when a private went to Buckingham Palace to receive the Crosses their sons had been awarded posthumously. One was a London innkeeper, the second was a Scottish farmer, and the third was a rag-and-bone man from Camberwell, Brookville Recorder and Times.

Goering is a clown, and he has been the subject of a lot of good-natured banter in the British press. Even Sir Neville Henderson, in his "Failure of a Mission", confessed to a liking for this bloated beast, not get too sentimental because he is a Nazi of the Nazis, must die for his crimes against humanity. —Montreal Star.

It comes as a shock to learn that Knut Hamsun, his wife and their two sons are accused in their homeland of Norway of having been active pro-Nazis. Hamsun's soil was such a humane soil, it is hard to imagine its author being a supporter of anything so hideous and unbecoming as Hitlerism. —Hamilton Spectator.

When the heat came on in the Pacific, New South Wales railway employees decided to forego an increase in wages of 10 per cent, 2,000 years and the Railways Commission has informed the Government that it will have to liquidate by time-off when manpower becomes available or paid for. To pay will cost 1,000,000 pounds. —Australian News-Letter.

The Yanks are going right after the synthetic oil industries of Japan. The Japs have already lost their wells in Burma and the production of oil in the East Indies is a matter of record that the Germans did not take long to finish off. Even so, the synthetic oil of mechanization and oil and for the Luftwaffe. —St. Catharines Standard.

Few motion-picture stars ever received such a torrent of letters and gifts as does the commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force. People from all parts of the world send General Eisenhower things as toothbrushes, gingerbread, cigarettes and sweaters. Occasionally there are epigrams, too, as in the case of a four-leaf clover. Many of the letters received by General Eisenhower have a common purpose: the writers want something. Mostly they ask for autographs or for the general to appreciate receiving the general's battle-jacket, a five-star cluster, his necktie. Youngsters beg for German helmets, uniforms or pilot tools. One small boy asked for a "genuine Tiger tank." —New York Herald Tribune.

Federal, state and local governments employ more than twice as many men as ever in this country, says the National Civil Service League. The New York World-Telegram points out that in 1922 the federal government paid \$1,125,000,000 to 673,000 employees; this year it is paying \$6,000,000,000 to 2,930,000 employees. In 1922 the state and local governments had 2,170,000 employees at \$3,300,000,000 a year; now they have 3,135,000 at \$8,000,000,000 a year. The public hope is well-founded optimism, the league predicts a substantial cut in federal employment after the war. Even so, the estimate is that there will still be more than 5,000,000 civilians, drawing more than \$8,000,000,000 a year from public treasuries, five years after demobilization. If 60,000,000 Americans have jobs by that time, one in every five of them will be on a public payroll, at the expense of the other 11.

The Poet's Corner

HOW FAR IS IT TO BETHLEHEM? Not very far. Shall we find the stable-room lit by a star? Can we see the little Child, If we lift the wooden latch May we go in? May we stroke the creatures there, Ox, ass, or sheep? May we peep like them and see Jesus asleep? If we touch His tiny hand Will He know we've come so far Just for His sake? Great Kings have priceless gifts, And we have naught; Little smiles and little tears Are all we brought. For all weary children Mary must weep Here on His bed of straw, Sleep, children, sleep. God, in His Mother's arms Babes in the byre, Sleep, as they sleep who find Their hearts desire. —Frances Chesterton.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

JAPANESE RESIDENTS

Sir—I am proud to be a native of Prince Edward Island and would rather do with one meal a day than have a treacherous, sly little Jap work on my farm. I am, Sir, etc.

FARMER'S WIFE

Sir—Mr. W. S. Muttart writes in his paper regarding the Halifax riots on V-E Day: "I wonder what Halifax is doing now about liquor and government control now?"

HALIFAX RIOTS

Now his claim that Prohibition was not to blame for the disturbance is a little out of place. Liquor sales at the present time were prohibited for five days, and continuing until the 4th inst. When the disgraced citizens and servicemen opened up the saloons, the liquor was sold during the period in which liquor shops were closed. Therefore, the liquor was not on hand but that the non-sale of liquor was the direct cause of the riotous happenings. People will stand for a degree of regulation but when this goes too far, the safety valve opens up. A similar state of affairs might very well have happened here but for the fact that the liquor stores were open day and night to cater to the wants of the people. I am, Sir, etc.

CITIZEN

P. E. I. INTERESTS NEGLECTED Sir—We have in Canada a Commodity Price Stabilization Corporation in the West. There is a floor price on wheat. It cannot go below a certain price. The Government takes over the surplus. At present the Western farmers are receiving hundreds of thousands of dollars in subsidies on oats. How much are we getting here?

Thus, the plasma of group A contains no anti-substances, that of group B contains the anti-A, and that of group O contains both anti-A and anti-B. This should make clear some of the rather confusing rules about compatibility. Obviously, two people of the same group can give one to another; obviously, too, group A cannot give his corpuscles to a group B person because the latter's plasma contains anti-A which would destroy the transfused cells. Group O corpuscles, commonly known as universal donor corpuscles, can be given to anybody because they contain neither A nor B and are therefore unaffected by either anti-A or anti-B.

To return to the practice of blood transfusion. This was tried from time to time during three centuries, sometimes with brilliant results, but more often with sudden disaster, and this naturally brought the procedure into disrepute. It was not until the beginning of the 20th century that Landsteiner, by his discovery of the blood groups, provided the necessary compatibility tests have been carried out. During the 1914-1918 war, it was practiced so far as opportunity allowed; its value in saving lives was obvious even though the amount of blood available was small, for this all had to be obtained from orderlies or from walking wounded. Yet even at that time, the possibilities of storing blood were explored, and even practiced in a small way. Blood storage was developed in the Spanish war, and has been in use since that, whereas in the 1914-1918 war the surgeons were able to save a proportion of men who had suffered moderate blood loss by means of the single pint or at most two pints, which they could collect on the spot, we, in this war, can give a good chance of life to men who have suffered huge losses of blood, since as much as six, eight or more pints, since a man requires something approaching the amount he has lost. But this storing of blood has its limitations; it also presents many technical problems, and demands strict supervision. If the storage be faulty, even for a few hours, the blood, instead of being life saving, can be actually lethal, and so there have been devised

DISGUSTED LIBERAL

Blood transfusions Today And Yesterday (By Brigadier Sir Lionel Whitby)

Blood has always been recognized as a vital fluid. Indeed the word is often used as a synonym for life. It is a small wonder, therefore, that blood transfusion was attempted centuries ago, for it was felt that when life was ebbing, all would be well if only a new supply of blood could be provided. Nowadays, we know that this is not true, especially for those who are injured, or for women in childbirth, who have suddenly lost large quantities of blood, or for those who are desperately ill, and whose other components of the body which are equally vital, and may die from various causes, though they possess the full quota of blood.

Another ancient idea was that blood conveyed not only its fundamental physiological properties, but also the spirit, the convictions, the peculiarities—even the racial characteristics of the donor. One is often asked whether the character of the recipient of a blood transfusion can be altered in any way. We can be quite certain on this point. None of these characteristics is conveyed by the blood. Neither criminal tendencies, nor temperamental peculiarities, nor religious convictions, nor racial characteristics are transferred in this way. Race is immaterial. A negro, an Indian or a Chinese can give blood to a white man, and vice versa, provided the ordinary rules of compatibility are observed. But species is important. The blood of a monkey, a sheep or an ox is foreign to man, and therefore cannot be used for transfusion. And, as certain blood-borne diseases such as syphilis and malaria can be transmitted, these are always excluded before a donation is made.

Now about blood-groups. Blood groups are no indication of the quality of the blood. All are equally good. By international agreement, the groups are named by the various combinations of two factors, called A and B. Mathematically, there are only four possible combinations, namely, both factors, or one of each, or neither. Hence the "O" groups are known as AB, A alone, B alone and O. The last being neither A nor B. A man's blood group is determined by an inescapable heredity on Mendelian principles and it cannot be altered by time, disease, illness, transfusion of other blood or in-

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fact by any known means. The factors are present not only in his blood but also in almost all the fluids of his body and in all the body cells. These rigid laws of inheritance are often of great importance in medico-legal work when the paternity of a child is in dispute. Knowing the group to which the parents belong one can say with certainty to what groups the children may belong, and, most important, to what groups they could not possibly belong. It is this last aspect, non-paternity, which finds its place in the law courts. But in order to understand the relation between blood groups and transfusion accidents one must appreciate an elementary fact about the composition of blood. Blood consists of two main parts—the plasma, which is a fluid, and the corpuscles, the red corpuscles giving to blood its red colour; and pale yellow fluid, known as the plasma, in which the corpuscles are suspended. Were it not for the plasma, blood would be a sticky viscid material, even thicker than treacle which could not flow easily round the body.

Now nature has ordained that the A and B factors shall be especially prominent in the red corpuscles. At the same time, she has ordained that anti-substances, substances which will destroy A or B and which are therefore known as anti-A or anti-B shall be present in the plasma. It is of course a biological axiom that anti-A could not be found in the plasma of a person of group A, because if this happened the individual would destroy his own blood. And so we find these anti-substances are distributed in exactly the reverse way to the A and B factors in the corpuscles.

Thus, the plasma of group AB contains no anti-substances, that of group A contains the anti-B, that of group B the anti-A, and that of group O contains both anti-A and anti-B. This should make clear some of the rather confusing rules about compatibility. Obviously, two people of the same group can give one to another; obviously, too, group A cannot give his corpuscles to a group B person because the latter's plasma contains anti-A which would destroy the transfused cells. Group O corpuscles, commonly known as universal donor corpuscles, can be given to anybody because they contain neither A nor B and are therefore unaffected by either anti-A or anti-B.

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