

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink."
FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1940.

"Hitting Back And Hitting Hard"

Commenting upon the big naval action off Norway, The New York Times says: "The thunder of cannonades around Norway proclaims that the Allies are hitting back, and hitting hard. It is clear that the British and French navies are fighting desperately to dislodge the Germans from the Norwegian coasts and to block the German army's gateway through Oslo."

Rumania Threatened

A report from Bucharest indicates that Russia may seize the present occasion for a long-anticipated drive against the Rumanian province of Bessarabia. Germany too has her eyes on Rumanian oil supplies and a joint offensive may conceivably be in the offing.

Democracy And Religion

The predicament in which humanity finds itself is no doubt responsible for the evidences of an increasing interest in religion. Rampant materialism left little time for soul-searching, but now that it has been painfully brought home to the minds of the most indifferent that, of itself, when divorced from spiritual values, materialism leads only to despair, the calls for a re-tracing of wayward steps are being listened to with greater respect.

Potato Association Guarantee

One of the issues raised against the MacMillan Government in the provincial election campaign of 1935 was its refusal to guarantee the debts of the Potato Growers' Association. The MacMillan Government did, on more than one occasion, guarantee payment on current purchases of fertilizer and spray material when the banks refused to come to their assistance, but did not consider it in the taxpayers' interests to extend this guarantee to the Association's then heavy liabilities.

THE POTATO GROWERS' ASSOCIATION IN 1935?

The answer tabled by Hon. B. W. LePage, President of the Executive Council, was as follows: "(a) and (b): Yes, to the Bank of Nova Scotia, amount \$100,000."

This year, we note, a question was asked as to whether the Government during the year 1939 was a guarantor in any respect of any indebtedness or liability of the Potato Growers' Association, and if so, to what amount.

Parliament Figures

"It would be interesting to know," says Toronto Saturday Night, "whether the annals of any Parliament under the British system contain a parallel for the case of the late Rev. G. W. Brown, who was a duly elected member of the Canadian House of Commons in two Parliaments, yet never sat, and never had a chance to sit, for more than half a day. He was elected in a by-election preceding the half-day session of last January, was re-elected on March 26, and died on March 31. He was sixty-four years of age, and a man of great earnestness and depth of feeling, and his death was probably somewhat hastened by the emotional strain of these events."

EDITORIAL NOTES

American Civil War began this date, 1861. The City Council seems fated to make blunders, reformed or unreformed.

Hitler declares there need be no worry over other territories, Greenland and Canada, for instance, as his aggressive appetite has been satisfied. But, alas, he said that before, and got hungry again.

The West River District will be inclined to say to the Premier "Thank you for nothing" in delaying the filling of Mr. Bell's seat. Mr. MacPhee being regrettably too sick to attend his legislative duties, the district is now totally unrepresented.

Col. Sir Stuart Sankey, former City Remembrancer of London, England, and cousin of Viscount Sankey has just died in London. Sir Stuart was father of Mrs. J. B. M. Armour whose husband is general secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Canada and Newfoundland, and well-known to many here.

Should our financial fate be similar to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, going aborning, going asorowing, amalgamation of the Maritimes may be insisted upon by the Banks and bond holders. What, then, would our position be? Mere back woods, subject to neglect and contempt, our Federal representation reduced to one in each Chamber, our Supreme Court wiped out, our County Courts reduced to one. In other words all that makes life worth living, and ambition worth cultivating, for the politician would be taken from us. As for the average farmer and citizen their taxes would be rocketed to those of overtaxed New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Pleasant prospect, isn't it, and merely to satisfy the present greed and ambition of time-serving politicians.

Mr. Francis C. R. Douglas, a native of Wakopla, Man., has been nominated as Labor candidate in the April 17 by-election in Battersca North necessitated by the retirement from the House of Commons of Mr. W. S. Sanders, Labor. Mr. Charles Joyce, clerk, was nominated as a "Stop the war" candidate. Mr. Douglas, who is 47, left Canada with his parents at the age of 10. His father, a Scot, farmed at Wakopla for 12 years. His mother is South African. He is one of the Labor Party's experts on Soviet Russia and once gave King George V a personal report after a visit to Moscow. He is a solicitor and formerly was mayor of Battersca, where he lives with his parents. In the 1935 general election Mr. Sanders polled 17,596 votes against 12,393 for Commander Arthur Marsden, Conservative. The Conservative Party is not contesting the by-election in accord with the wartime political truce.

Free distribution of reflectors to farm folk throughout Quebec is taking place through various Government health, colonization and roads' bureaux. Pressed into action by several public bodies, the Godbout Government decided this free distribution was the best way out of an impasse where farmers refused to buy lights for their vehicles with a continued high toll of road accidents throughout the province. This had the effect of nullifying a notice of motion by Hon. Georges Simard, in the Legislative Council, to force owners of horse-drawn vehicles to equip them with some sort of light or other. The Government action is hoped to result in a decrease in the number of accidents and brings to an end lengthy discussion on a matter that successive Governments feared to tackle for reasons connected with a certain little thing called the "farmer vote."

NOTES BY THE WAY

A new type of plate glass, which may be used by photographers to protect negatives from heat rays during the enlarging process, has been developed by Libbey-Owens-Ford Company. It is designed primarily for commercial use in factories to check glare, and in shops to protect persons, but it also answers the problem of photographers whose negatives are often damaged by long exposure to powerful lamps. Placed between a hot incandescent lamp and a fragile negative the glass absorbs so much of the heat that the negative scarcely becomes warm.

Americans are somewhat surprised these days to find themselves the object of a pampered Biltzberg. Not only are word-bombs bursting around them with accusations of "traitorous" behavior, but a sudden bombardment of allegorical insinuations about Mr. Sumner Welles' visit to Europe is thundering from Third Reich's propaganda guns. Why this sudden effort to create new enemies, and to create them in the person of a man who has done so much for the United States in such a way as to win the admiration of the British and the respect of the Americans? The strange means of trying to win friends and influence free people, and to those Americans who are not so easily misled, the clear meaning of the British-Fish invasion of the Polish-Fish invasion, is not clear.

Quite reasonably, the British see in the firm neutrality declaration of Premier Molotov of Russia a declaration of German hopes for including the Soviet directly in the Rome-Berlin axis. There are probably disquieting thoughts in Berlin caused by the statement of policy by the Russian leader, who is also Foreign Commissar. Perhaps, however, Germany has a more realistic point where she has almost given up hope of any concrete visible aid from this "ally". The Russo-German accord which was hailed so loudly just after the signing of the out has fizzled ignominiously. The reason, of course, is that Russia has indicated plainly that she will not co-operate with Germany just so far as such action would be to her own interest, and not beyond. Consider what has happened already in this doubtful alliance. Germany started the war by tramping into Poland, Russia did not join in the fighting with all over, then walked in and claimed the lion's share of that territory for which Germany had fought. — Windsor Star.

What is Russia up to in the North Pacific? The New York Times wants to know, and seems to be a question to which Canada's Department of National Defence should also have an answer. If it has no definite information on the subject, Canada should make haste to gather some. The great mystery around Kamchatka, remarks The Times, have always been remote and mysterious. In recent years the mystery has deepened. "Foreign ships have been forbidden to sail within sight of the Russian coast, foreign visitors have been barred, and Japanese fishing boats that venture too close have vanished without trace." The veil was lifted momentarily and partially by The Times' correspondent, Mr. Bend, writing from Shanghai, the latter told of the fortification of the Kamandorsky Island, the existence of a Red submarine base on Bering Island and the visit of a "large group" of German naval officers to the coast. What, asks The Times, are the reasons for this? The answer is not clear. It is even more important — were the Germans doing this? And what is the Government of Canada proposing to do about it? If you are interested in the question look up Kamandorsky and Bering on the map and see how far they are from — or near to — this country. — Brampton Expositor.

The average angler has been misled by the fishing catalogues into calling a fish pole "rod". These rods of steel and bamboo are in another effort after the unattainable. A man imagines that he can get better fish by using a rod. It is a \$25 rod of fishing if he has the stuff that goes with it, tackle, fancy bait, hook, lures, rubber boots, fish baskets and all the rest. One of the things this country needs is a call for a return to the simple life and a return to "fishin'", poles that grow in profusion everywhere. A man who indulges in the sophisticated fishing devices is on the bamboo rod and fishing progress. Not at all. These commodities have driven many old fishermen away from the water. It is plain putting on the poles nature has lavishly provided. Here is a reader who writes from Tessonian asking advice about the best way to fish. The advice is to spend some time on an outfit that he could out with a jack knife in two minutes on his back. This propaganda is positively pernicious, in a manner of speaking. A good fisherman needs no bush, or at least not a large one. And Tom Jull, the Toronto angler, confesses that he set himself back for four English poles. It is this sort of thing which has retarded civilization in all ages. — Saint Daily Star.

It is a deplorable thing that the innate chivalrous and courteous instincts of the young people of any country should be distorted and warped by corrupt teaching so that they are ready to commit the worst of crimes at the beck of an unscrupulous despot. Unhappily, these conditions have been brought about in Germany today. The Allies are fighting to put an end to the spread of a dangerous doctrine which, as long as it finds adherents in Europe, will constitute a lasting threat to the peace of the Continent and of the world as a whole. — Belfast Telegraph.

Before Congress becomes too disturbed over the sale of some of the later models of our war planes to France and England, it would be well to pause for a moment and try to see just how the sales fit into the general picture of our foreign policy. We can afford to go to certain lengths to accommodate the Allies on plane orders. For one thing, foreign orders will be likely to raise our capacity to a level approaching the capacity of the strongest air Powers abroad. In this sense, Allied orders for planes contribute to rather than weaken our preparedness. — St. Louis Post Dispatch.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of subjects of public interest. The Editor does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

TEMPERANCE DELEGATION PROTESTS WINE AND BEER BILL

Definite news of the Campbell Government's proposal to bring down a light beer and wine bill at this session of the Legislature, brought a representative group of temperance workers to a meeting in Charlottetown on April 11. It was held at two o'clock in the Baptist Church vestry. Enforced short notice and poor road conditions did not result in a poor attendance for, delegates from the S.O.T. Divisions, W.C.T.U.'s, Temperance Federation district officials, and Protestant Churches were in representatives almost from East to West Point—about seventy-five.

Acting Federation President, D. MacKay, M.L.A., occupied the chair. Rev. G. C. Webster, J. A. Nicholson, W. C. Green, H. L. Denton, Messrs. J. G. Hutchison, Ralph MacCaul, Herman Myers, J. H. MacFarlane, Clifford Crew, Harry Simpson, John Anderson, and Mrs. Wyand, spoke in reference to the Government's proposal to introduce a light beer and wine bill at this session of the legislature. It was pointed out that the Federation had just respectfully requested the Attorney General to reduce the monthly allowance of liquor to fifty per cent, and that it was stated that the body had also asked for the appointment of a special police officer (to operate in cooperation with the R.C.M.P.s) to work for better Prohibition enforcement in the City.

It was arranged that all who could attend the Temperance conference with the Legislature on Tuesday morning would do so. Mrs. W. H. Johnson, Messrs. Herman Myers, William Pound, Mrs. J. H. MacFarlane, Mrs. Wyand, Revs. William Verwolf, and S. G. Nice spoke stressing the value of Prohibition and advocated its re-enforcement and more rigid enforcement.

Conference with the Legislature: The interest was so pronounced that most of the delegates remained over for the evening—11:00 a.m., April 8th. Despite a heavy downpour of rain, additional temperance workers were on hand for the evening. One speaker, who walked five miles to be present, Mr. Webster eloquently and concisely discussed the Temperance cause, and the wide organization, reminded the Premier of his oral promise to this body that there would be no meddling with the Prohibition Act unless by a plebiscite. He urged the avoidance of a vote, and suggested that possibly the Government was afraid to face the temperance cause, or that the cost of the cost was a problem, or possibly because this law (in common with many) is unsatisfactory. With our nation at war, he continued, we should seek to conserve, not reduce our resources. He outlined the attitude of the Federation in this matter, (1) if the Government is to conserve, (2) if pressure is exerted for its removal by some bodies, then a general vote thereon, (3) a general vote thereon would be the most justifiable, and (4) in the event of a vote on the Prohibition issue that action be delayed for some months that the temperance rally their forces. The Federation will bow to the will of the people, but we want the people to have a chance to express their wish.

Mr. J. H. MacFarlane, Bedeque, representing the farmers, said that with many other countries, including Germany, tightening up on liquor was a very large step. In his opinion, this Government, for its own political interest, should not take any such step. He urged that the Executive Council, knowing Mr. MacFarlane's will and favorably said to express their wish.

Rev. William Verwolf, Summer side, with knowledge of conditions under Prohibition repeal elsewhere, showed that in Canada in 1937 beer accounted for 80.71 per cent of the alcohol that entered the blood of the people. Thereafter, the big enemy of temperance in Canada was wine. Beer does not reduce the consumption of moonshine or hard liquors either. It does not do it in British bootlegging. It greatly increases crime. Liquor interests doubtless, as they did elsewhere, are fighting to keep their trade here. Quoting official figures, he showed that wet interests spent well over \$474,000 to defeat Prohibition in other parts of Canada.

Rev. R. H. Stavert, Wood Island, said that the temperance cause is a very large one. He urged that the Executive Council, knowing Mr. MacFarlane's will and favorably said to express their wish.

lands, addressed the gathering re the relation of revenue to the liquor traffic. Revenue, he said, comes from created wealth, liquor falls to create wealth. Quoting official figures, he contended that this Government touching its liquor revenue, is doing poor business. He used many statistics to demonstrate the fact that crime and increased liquor revenue go hand in hand.

Mrs. Wyand, Cavendish, who has operated a tourist business there for twelve years, treated the relation of drink to that industry. She showed that tourists such as beer and wine would draw here should be unsought. We should think concerning the type of people we cater to in contemplating a move such as this Government has in mind. This Island is an ideal place to invite tourists to visit. The first use of beer and wine would reduce the paying taxes so she argued that the Government should think very seriously before they moved to make this possible.

Rev. J. A. Nicholson, York, reminded the Legislature that a major number of rural residents here were strong for Prohibition. Rev. J. M. Blesedell, North River, pointed out that our Prohibition statute if rightly enforced would practically stamp out intoxicating liquor consumption. The Government sale even if enforced one hundred per cent still permits abundance of drinking. The proposed bill if adopted would doubtless lead to Government sale.

Mr. G. R. Saville, M.L.A., Annandale, spoke in favor of our Act, but referred to some problems in its enforcement. Hon. W. F. A. Stewart, said that the medical fraternity should govern the issuing of scripts by physicians; otherwise, the Legislature should do it.

Hon. Horace Wright, Bedeque, thought that liquor should be radically, or wholly scrapped as a medicine. Hon. J. A. Campbell, Heatherdale, thought that the Temperance Federation should be curbing liquor consumption in the rural sections. Rev. H. L. Denton, reminded the member that that was a matter of law enforcement; that the Attorney General's department, however, this Federation has constantly been urging this department for better enforcement.

Mr. Thane A. Campbell criticized the temperance people for insufficient moral support and co-operation in the enforcement of the law. He said that the Government had stopped the importation of illicit liquor, therefore more intoxicants flow through other channels. He said it takes time to make radical changes. This law involves a moral question, is a matter for the Christian people to participate in its enforcement and for the Government to handle alone.

Continuing, he said, that any law to be well enforced requires public sentiment behind it; this should be a party affair. If this Province were a party affair, and we did not have to legislate for the thousands of visitors who come here, the Attorney General said that to legislate with all this delegation said, Alibiate, with machine had to legislate with other thousands in mind. About all conventions held here press him for freer facilities to secure intoxicants.

Rev. G. C. Webster, in answering this statement, said that our visitors should be willing to conform to our laws. Hon. Horace Wright, argued that liquor was unnecessary even as a medicine, nevertheless he thought that limiting the number of scripts issued by each physician might destroy our Act.

Figures for 1937, and this phase of the matter has not changed since, show that this Province's capita paid one dollar for in the tax on liquor on an average (apart from P.E.I.) eight dollars per capita. Major crime here in 1936 was only one quarter of the average for the rest of Canada apart from P.E.I. Minor crime for the same year shows a striking picture in favor of the Island Province.

J. M. BLESDELL, Secretary, Island Temperance Federation. North River, P.E.I. April 10, 1940.

YOUR Y. M. C. A. Co-operates with every constructive agency in the community, churches, schools, colleges and other citizen-building enterprises. As an influence for all that is best in character growth, it solicits your interest and support that it may further serve. Give generously to our Local Maintenance and War Work Appeal. APRIL 15th. — 20th.

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The bullet thwacked into the body of an army officer walking next to him. The would-be murderer had fired a shot from his pocket pistol. The bullet swept upward and the man's bullet ridden body tumbled to the ground. All Hitler's tours and voyages are being put under observation long before the day that the fool-proof plans are prepared. Thousands of picked S.S. men are being detailed to the town or village through which the Fuehrer is scheduled to pass in conjunction with a fine-toothed comb. "Doubtful" individuals are immediately put under observation. There must not be the slightest possibility of "anything happening."

The 220,000 S.S. men are divided into regiments, permanently stationed in various parts of Germany and are absolutely forbidden the local police and ensure that the orders from Berlin have been faithfully carried out. Directly a local detachment receives information that the Fuehrer is on his way it buckles down to work. Each house is carefully searched and the head of every family is told that the presence of the activity of all members of his household. Hotel managers and landlords receive similar instructions and are absolutely forbidden to take in fresh lodgers before the "beloved Fuehrer" has passed through the town.

Once the buildings flanking the proposed route have been thoroughly searched every citizen finds himself placed under the surveillance of a second who is in turn protected by a third. Everything is then ready for the procession. As soon as the Fuehrer approaches, the Gestapo men vanish into thin air and the fire positions on roof-tops and in trees. Armed with powerful telescopic-sighted rifles they have instructions to fire immediately on any individual who makes a suspicious move, for it is deemed greatly preferable to kill an innocent person than risk a would-be assassin. During the procession, the first rank of picked police turns about and faces the crowd, watching for the slightest suspicious movement. Protected by high bullet-proof glass screens, encircled by a strong detachment of bodyguards, should Hitler be speaking from the balcony of some building, he stays in his car till dozens of S.S. men have gathered around him. But, it might be argued, any false member of the Gestapo would be able to end his masters' life should he choose to. In his terror of death, however, the Fuehrer has confidence in no one. The Gestapo watches over the procession. It is his turn the Gestapo is carefully

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The Poets' Corner THE FLOWER-FED BUFFALOES The flower-fed buffaloes of the spring. In the days of long ago, Ranged where the locomotives sting And the prairie fires lie low, Is the tugging, booming, perturbed grass. Is swept away by wheat, Wheels and wheels and wheels spin by In the spring that still is sweet. But the flower-fed buffaloes of the spring Left us long ago. They were no more, they bellow no more. They trundle around the hills no more. With their blackfeet lying low, With the Pawnees lying low. —Vachel Lindsay.

10c Per Fig Straight

Just Around The Corner Already the Sport Fans are reading baseball scores and it won't be long until the game takes over the spotlight from Hockey. It makes no difference whether its winter time or summer its always time for HICKEY'S BLACK TWIST CHEWING Manufactured By HICKEY AND NICHOLSON TOBACCO CO., LTD., Charlottetown