

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887) President, Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure Vice-President, J. R. Burnett, F.J.L. Secretary, Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O. Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett, F.J.L. Associate Editors, Frank Walker and Ian A. Burnett.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES By Mail in P. E. I. \$4.00 per year, \$2.50 for 6 months, \$1.25 for 3 months, 50c for one month. City Delivery, \$5.00 per year, \$3.00 for 6 months, \$1.75 for 3 months. By Mail in Canada and U. S. A. \$5.00 per year, Saturday Weekly, \$2.00 per year, \$1.00 for 6 months, 50c for 3 months.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1940.

The Legislature Prorogued

The chief result of the legislative session just concluded, as compared with other sessions since 1935, has been the amount of information obtained through Opposition questioning. Mr. H. F. McPhee stated the position fairly when he pointed out that the Opposition members were not representing merely their own constituencies, or even the Conservative electors of the Province, but the public generally, and it was in this latter capacity that the questions relating to public affairs were placed on the Order Paper. It is regrettable that the Government did not co-operate more fully in this regard. Answers to questions relating to the expropriation of land for National Park purposes to the payment of claims in the Public Works Department and to the administration of the Fishermen's Loan Board, were refused, either on the ground that too much trouble was involved in preparing the information, or that it was "not in the public interest" to have it divulged.

No one was fooled by these evasions. The suspicions with regard to the manner in which partisan politics entered into government transactions during the last five years have simply been confirmed by the Government's refusal to furnish the names, facts and figures requested. In the case of National Park settlements, there is no doubt at all that there was political interference, this fact being admitted on a public platform at one of the numerous indignation meetings held in protest of the high-handed methods taken in withholding right of appeal to the courts. Had the courts dealt with these cases, the public would of course have access to all the evidence. No doubt some day the whole story will come out. In the meantime, the Campbell Government must take the onus of having a record in this connection too disgraceful to be voluntarily revealed.

The Opposition members followed a patriotic course in refraining, as far as possible, from partisan criticism. Infinitely greater issues are at stake for Canada and the Empire, than the political fortunes of any party in this Province. They were, however, in duty bound to point out evidences of extravagance and to suggest ways and means of curtailing expenditure. This they did, and an analysis of their speeches will show their criticism to have been moderate and constructive.

It is plain that the Government, notwithstanding its many economy pledges, is leading the Province into a morass of debt which will ultimately land us in bankruptcy. A check more potent than any promises is the presence of an official Opposition in the House. Whether the Ministers will take advantage of the advice and suggestions tendered them remains to be seen. It is significant that they refused to consider curtailment of the Falconwood expenditures as suggested, and that only two of the Government's supporters had the courage to endorse the Opposition motion in this regard. But it is to be hoped that there will be a real effort made in the direction of budgetary control this year, and that the gross mismanagement revealed by the 1939 Public Accounts will not be repeated.

Our Forces—Now And Then

Canada now has one division overseas and one fully mobilized and about ready for departure. A third is expected to be recruited without delay or hitch.

Canada's military contribution in man power during the World War was a grand total of 628,964, according to the British War Office publication, "Statistics of the Military Effort of the British Empire during the Great War, 1914-1920."

Of this total, 591,472 were recruited in Canada for the Canadian Expeditionary Force up to Dec. 31, 1918, and up to the same date a total of 422,405 were sent on service overseas, of which 415,017 went direct to England, 3,565 to Bermuda and St. Lucia (3,021 later going to England) and 3,823 to Siberia. Of the number sent to England, 399,807 were sent to France, 519 to Salonica, 250 to Palestine, 588 to North Russia and 21 to Mesopotamia, a total of 401,191.

At the outbreak of the war Canada had a permanent army of 3,000 and a partly trained non-permanent force of 60,000. Published records of the Canadian Department of Public Information show that the First Canadian Division of 33,000 men was sent to England in October, 1914, and landed in France in February, 1915. The Second Division landed in France in September, 1915, and the Canadian Army Corps was formed. The Third Division was in France early in 1916 and the Fourth Division joined the corps in August, 1916. The Canadian Cavalry Brigade of 3,000 reached France in 1915. The Canadian Corps consisted of about 90,000 men, with each division having 19,000 to 20,000 men, plus 10,000 corps troops. There were more than 20,000 Canadians in the Royal Air Force and other services. Many Canadian units, separate from the Canadian Corps, were attached to the five British Armies. In September, 1918, there were 160,000 Canadians in service in France and 116,000 men in England. Troop movements overseas by years were: 30,999 in 1914; 84,334 in 1915; 165,553 in 1916; 63,536 in 1917; 73,630 in 1918 to Nov. 15, 1918.

Canadian casualties in France (as of Dec. 31,

1919) included 51,669 killed in action and died of wounds; 4,956 died, other causes; 149,732 wounded; 3,729 prisoners of war; 6 missing. In Canada, 3,055 died of other causes.

In addition to the 591,472 recruited in Canada for the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 21,169 were recruited for overseas service in the Royal Air Force and other services, and 14,590 British and Allied reservists went from Canada to rejoin their colors. In England, 1,733 Canadians enlisted.

Air Training Projects

The long-anticipated announcement that Prince Edward Island will participate directly in the training of airmen for service under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan has been received. This was practically promised in the federal election campaign and in any case it is a matter in which, as a Province, we are entitled to share. As stated in the Ottawa despatch in yesterday's Guardian, the new aerodrome for a service flying training school is at North St. Eleanors, near Summerside, while arrangements have been made for the development of the Charlottetown airport and the creation here of a bombing and gunnery school provided the necessary ground can be obtained on which to erect the required buildings.

In the case of the St. Eleanors' airport, lands have been expropriated and presumably a similar procedure will be adopted here if additional ground is required.

Several months ago the City Council offered the Dominion Government the use of the Charlottetown airport for military training purposes for the duration of the war. This offer has been under consideration. Now, it is understood, notification has been received from Transport Minister Howe that the Charlottetown airport has been designated an airport for direct or indirect use for military purposes under the official regulations. That is all the information available at present, but no doubt the air training programme both at St. Eleanors and Charlottetown, will be pushed forward as soon as weather conditions permit.

Many of our young men have already enlisted for active service in the air force in other Provinces. The establishment of training centres here will be an incentive to further enlistments on a much more satisfactory basis.

Governments In Business

The British Columbia government in order to bring the gasoline companies of that province to their knees, has arranged for Seattle dealers to supply the province's needs. This is a particularly good example of the brilliant business instincts of the B. C. Government and governments in general. Had they made a similar offer to their own companies, i.e. to relinquish all company taxes, property taxes, personal taxes, and rebate all indirect taxes on the B. C. wholesalers and their employees, there would be no question of the asked for reduction.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Niccolo Machiavelli born this date, 1469. A son of the humanist movement, he laid but small stress on religion and practically abandoned the Christian standard, and thus, throughout the 16th century, Machiavellianism was, like Hitlerism today, synonymous with everything that was evil.

Mr. Wright asks if the Legislature would wish to go back where no debt was incurred for hard surfaced roads to suit tourists. It is quite in order, therefore, to ask Mr. Wright would he like to go back to the Presidency of the Anti-Automobile Association? If he was wrong then, isn't there just a possibility of his being wrong now?

Hon. Horace Wright has a conveniently short memory when discussing Sinking Fund Provision. In his speech on the Budget he did not recall the fact that when the Bell Government went out of office in 1923, the External Auditor found "I.O.U.'s" where Sinking Fund bonds should have been.

There is an end to all things, even to a Legislative session. It has been like old times having public questions discussed on party lines in the House, and, after all, there is no more satisfactory manner of legislating and administering than that on the old tried and trusted two party lines. With all its faults and failings it is 100 per cent better than totalitarianism such as we had in the previous four years.

Hon. Mr. Ralston has been better than his word, for he has fulfilled expectations by dividing his patronage between Prince and Queen's. St. Eleanors is to be the base for the flying school, and Charlottetown the bombing and gunnery school "provided necessary ground can be obtained on which to erect the required buildings". It is up to the Provincial Government and Hon. Cyrus MacMillan and Mr. J. Lester Douglas, M.P., to see that the necessary land is made available and that in the shortest time possible. The Boards of Trade, City and Town Councils of both Counties must be up and doing, making their voices heard in the land, until the prospects are made accomplished facts.

Strange as it may seem in this day and age, the mayor of a certain municipality had never been in court. He had never sued anyone and he had never been sued. He was subpoenaed as a witness in a case through his civic post. He had no knowledge of legal procedure. After being duly sworn he was questioned by one of a quartet of lawyers. No sooner had one legal light asked a question than the three other members of the profession leapt to their feet and cried "Object." The mayor was amazed at their action, but not subdued. He turned to them—as he would to his aldermen at a Council meeting—and thundered: "Quiet! We will talk one at a time." Court officials roared with laughter. The judge, in an understanding manner, leaned forward on the bench and remarked, "We will allow the Mayor to tell his story in his own way."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Merchant ships from time to time flash reports of submarines drawing near them. Sometimes the reports are followed by distress signals or messages suggesting some alarm. Too often the reports are tragically justified. Before help can arrive the deadly torpedoes have done their work, and another vessel has gone to the bottom of the sea. Occasionally, however, the incident passes without any attack. The vessel goes on its way and nothing more is heard about the submarine. The explanation is fairly simple. Submarines of allied German and neutral powers are carrying out various duties at sea. Most of the submarines bear little or no identification. One submarine, particularly if partially submerged, looks much like another. German and neutral powers are carrying out various duties at sea. Most of the submarines bear little or no identification. One submarine, particularly if partially submerged, looks much like another. German and neutral powers are carrying out various duties at sea. Most of the submarines bear little or no identification. One submarine, particularly if partially submerged, looks much like another.

There is a bureau to be set up at the Canadian end of the Thousand Islands bridge, where United States tourists can buy on arrival, Canadian money, and on departure sell what they have left for their own currency. The Ottawa Journal comments on this practical and sensible arrangement and suggests that Niagara Falls and Windsor be embraced in the same set-up. Fort Erie also should be included. Europe will only attract few Americans this coming summer. And certainly no latitudes of the South are attractive. The natural hegira is the North and this Dominion has much more to offer in hospitality than any other. There are good roads, scenery, fishing and hunting. Exchange bureaus at the border city points will eliminate any possibility of an American visitor being short-changed. Deeds of the heavy penalties against such practice, there are always a few who are inclined to "gyp". With the exchange now so favorable to the United States dollar, there are unmitigated opportunities for the tourist trade to an all time high, and to maintain it there, the prospect is not an ephemeral one. It can be made into a permanent national asset of vital importance. It is already doing in a great degree, but the opportunity for expansion this year is the greatest ever. One of the fundamentals is to have Canadians tourist conscious to play up to the opportunity and to make the best of it. — St. Catharines Standard.

Another practical and somewhat novel plan for assisting youth to find an occupation has been launched in Toronto. Promising men and affairs have formed a non-profit company known as Ten-a-Year, Ltd. The aim is to secure each year for ten graduates of the Faculty of Applied Science, University of Toronto, positions which they are qualified to fill. Each year the ten graduates selected (who will be shareholders in Ten-a-Year, Ltd., when placed in positions, will keep the directors informed of potential jobs available for the next ten. This plan provides a remarkable example of cooperation, with no motive other than helping qualified persons to get a start in life. — Toronto Globe and Mail.

A young aircraftsman at a Royal Air Force fighter command station has the distinction of having "ridden" a Spitfire bareback. He is a rigger, and was finishing off a job on the tail of a Spitfire. He was sitting astride the fuselage facing tailwards, and the engine was running. The pilot unaware that the rigger was still on the tail took off. Puzzled by the weight and the peculiar behavior of his aircraft, the pilot made a circuit of the airfield while his passenger gripped tight with knees and arms. After a second circuit the pilot landed smoothly. The medical officer hurried across and the aircraftsman was found to be none the worse. He has even offered to repeat the ride for a £5 bet, but there are no takers. — London Times.

Canadian farmers should not be discouraged by the fact that there has not been, immediately on the closing of the Danish market, a large new demand for Canadian bacon in Great Britain. Even a slight sag in the price for the moment is not a factor that should cause hog raisers to draw in their horns. For the remainder of the war at least, they can be assured that the demand will not figure in the world food market picture. It is difficult to see how she could recover sufficiently from her present condition to resume her exports of bacon, lard and other products. Meanwhile, Britain continues to need bacon. For this, she must undoubtedly turn to Canada, and the day of the Canadian bacon exporter will surely come. All that is needed is a little patience. — Windsor Star.

The tens of thousands of citizens who have radio receiving sets in their homes will welcome the announcement that, effective forthwith and retroactive to April 1 this year, only one radio receiving license will be required for all the receiving sets in a private residence, instead of one for each as formerly. It has also been decided that the existing fee of \$2.50 be retained. This, to is welcome news. For there was apprehension that the governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation might call for an increase this year. The decision to charge only one fee for a set in a private home is a wise one, for the comparatively few owners of sets who took out licenses for the set in the bedroom as well as in the living room, or in the garage where smart boys had experimental sets, have been paying unfairly for their honesty while the majority of their neighbors were dodging the tax collector or by paying for but one set. — Montreal Gazette.

There is at least one good word to be said for hypocrisy. It remains, as in La Rochefoucauld's day, the homage that vice pays to virtue. There is perhaps a sort of consolation in the fact that Hitler continues to display it. He could not see Denmark or invade Norway without trumping up some sort of excuse. His claim is that he is merely reacting to the lawless actions of the French and British who were planning to do precisely the same

THE PUBLIC FORUM

DEPRECIATION COSTS

Sir—I imagine that many a farmer would be inclined to ask the biblical question "Can any good thing come out of . . . Wall Street?" Here is an answer in the affirmative. At least, the following figures, culled from "The Wall Street Journal," giving the consolidated income account for the three months ended March 31, 1940—as compared with the same period in the previous two years—give one satisfactory reason to this rural reader why the farmers get nowhere in particular, from year to year:

Table with 3 columns: Year (1938, 1939, 1940), Net sales, Bal. aft. exp., Depreciation, Balance.

I would like to draw the attention of Canada's 700,000 farmers, not so much to that pleasant appreciation in the net sales shown above but, rather, to that steady entry on "Depreciation" account. No farmer does that! He might get a true picture of his production costs, if he did—but I respectfully suggest that the sooner he does include an equivalent steady item to care for the tireless operators of "Depreciation" and "Obsolescence," the better.

I observe that the Canadian Chamber of Agriculture is asking for a ceiling of 5 per cent. "on farm mortgages and agreements of sale" to be fixed by Statute. That seems a fair proposition to all concerned—and reminds one, in a rather nostalgic way, of the \$15,500 buried in the capital structure of the homestead farm, upon which "no entry" has been made as long as one cares to look back!

I am, Sir, etc. "BLUENOSE".

SERVICE?

Sir:—In the press recently there appeared a bulletin from Ottawa telling of a plan of the Federal Government whereby they intend to withhold 5 per cent of the earnings of Civil Service employees until after the war, when it will be refunded to them in a lump sum. It says this will involve some three thousand clerks and stenographers in Ottawa alone. A very admirable plan. Now with a permanent staff of some thousand and in all probability still more employed for the enumeration (Feb. 5-10) is it not rather strange the Enumerators are still waiting to be paid? The Enumerators consist of 1 Liberal and 1 Conservative for each polling division who work in conjunction with one another all being paid by the Government. This would mean for the 22 Ch'town Polls 44 men. Now opposite to this poor Service on the part of the Federal Government, the men who officiate as Deputy Returning Officers and Poll Clerks (also 44 in all) 1 Deputy Returning Officer and 1 Poll Clerk for each of the 22 Ch'town Polling Divisions, were paid off by check from Ottawa 10 days after the Election?

It will be observed how service was so promptly rendered where the employees are all Government men.

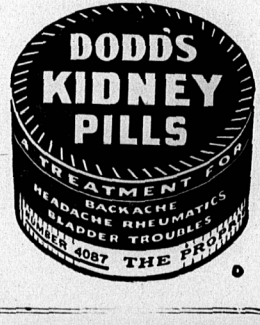
Is it to be deduced that the enumerators money is being held back because one half of it goes to Conservative Enumerators. I am, Sir, etc. ENUMERATOR

MALVERN MAY RETURN

WOODSTOCK, England.—(CP)—Malvern College at present evacuated to Blewett Palace here, will return to its own quarters at Malvern in September, "subject to no unforeseen emergency," the headmaster has been informed.

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May Day Sale Thursday, Friday, Saturday May 2nd, 3rd and 4th

We are listing some Super Bargains below and would ask you to carefully consider them. Prices are now advancing which should make these bargains very attractive.

- FINE SHIRTS, SALE PRICE \$1.29 — Arrow, Lewis, Marquis. Collar attached, worth up to \$1.95. May Day Sale — \$1.29
CAPS, BEST QUALITY 95c — Eastern Caps, \$1.50 quality. May Day Sale price — 95c
REAL STETSON HATS \$3.00—Slightly soiled, worth \$6 and \$7. May Day Sale price — \$3.00
MEN'S SOX, EXTRA SPECIAL 5 prs. \$1.00 — Come in and get plenty of Sox at this price. 5 pairs for — \$1.00
HYDE PARK HATS \$2.95 — Styled for the smart dresser and made for us exclusively. May Day Sale — \$2.95
WORK SHIRTS 89c — Large, roomy Work Shirts in all the better colorings.
MEN'S PULLOVER SWEATERS \$1.98—Fancy stitch blue and greens, new stock, regular \$2.50. May Day Sale — \$1.98
MEN'S ZIPPER SWEATER JACKETS \$2.75— Good heavy weight in blues and greens. May Day Sale for — \$2.75
ASTRACHAN WOOL SWEATER JACKETS \$3.50 — A fine looking zipper front Jacket, regular \$4.95. May Day Sale price — \$3.50
GOODHUE TWEED PANTS \$1.65 — All new patterns in shades of grey, regular \$2.00 value. May Day Sale price — \$1.65
HEAVY BLUE DUNGAREES \$1.25 — Made of extra heavy denim, regular \$1.50 value. May Day Sale price — \$1.25
BROADCLOTH PYJAMAS 20% OFF — Our entire stock of Broadcloth Pyjamas, a large variety. May Day Sale — 20% Off
GOODHUE TWEED PANTS \$1.95 — Brown and grey patterns, very new. Regular \$2.25 value. May Day Sale — \$1.95
MEN'S FINE WORSTED SUITS \$12.95 — Your choice of 25 new Worsted Suits. Regular \$18 value. May Day Sale price — \$12.95
YOUTHS' WORSTED and TWEED SUITS \$12.75 — Smartest of new Spring patterns. Regular \$16.50 to \$18.00. Sizes 34 to 38 only. May Day Sale — \$12.75
6 ONLY MEN'S RAINCOATS \$3.00 — Those raincoats are old stock, some of them worth up to \$10.00. May Day Sale, to clear — \$3.00
MEN'S BLUE OR FAWN TRENCH COATS \$5.75 — These coats are new and made by Croydens. May Day Sale price — \$5.75
GOOD FLANNELETTE PYJAMAS \$1.75 — Heavy weight English Flannelette Pyjamas. Regular \$2.25. May Day Sale — \$1.75
MEN'S TIES, GOOD QUALITY 50c — Hundreds of new Ties 50c. Very attractive and splendid quality silk the kind of ties the good store sells. May Day Special — 50c
HYDE PARK SUITS \$18.75 — Hyde Park hand tailored Suits in Tweeds only, regular \$25 quality. Want a bargain, see the May Day Sale Price — \$18.75
SUEDE JACKETS, ZIPPER \$3.50 — Fawn Suede Jackets, not leather, regularly sold at \$4.75. May Day Sale price — \$3.50
SPRING UNDERWEAR MEDIUM WEIGHT COMBS. \$1.89 — Made by Stanfields, regularly \$2.25, long sleeves and legs, extra value. May Day Sales — \$1.89

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