

The Charlottetown Guardian

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1936

Remembrance Day, 1936

Tomorrow is the 18th anniversary of that memorable day on which the guns ceased fire on the battlefields of France and Flanders, and the whole world went delirious with joy and thanksgiving at the incredible news. For truly it was incredible news. It was like the abrupt awakening from a horrible nightmare that had lasted seemingly for a century, and was doomed to go on and on in an impersonal, inhuman fashion like some monstrous cosmic struggle.

It is well to recall our feelings on that first Armistice Day, and the pledges we made to do all in our power, individually and as a nation, to make such another war impossible. Peace has brought its disillusionments to all of us; it has not ushered in the earthly paradise we had dreamed of. At the same time, it is so immeasurably better than war that many are saying and believing that under no circumstance whatever, under no provocation whatever, must Canada again be involved in such another catastrophe.

Unfortunately, however, there are nations which do not seem to be guided at present by reason and sanity. These nations are threatening the peace of the world, and the question for Canada has become, not whether peace or war is the more acceptable, but how we can best further the cause of peace by co-operation with those nations which are actively maintaining it.

In this connection we note with approval a recent editorial comment in the Toronto Globe. "Those who study current history," says the Globe, "must realize that strong among whatever motives may be actuating certain bellicose foreign Powers is an intense jealousy of the British Empire. Internal weakness, developing in that Empire, might have disastrous effects upon all its constituent parts and throw world progress back into the dark ages. This is no time for Canada or any other part of the Empire to muddle itself with academic discussions of its right to remain neutral or of the degree of independence it enjoys."

This is not a cheering Armistice Day message, but surely it is more in keeping with the spirit of the occasion, and with facts as they exist in Europe and elsewhere today, than the recent announcement of the Prime Minister of this country that "Canada has no commitments for Empire defense," and that the reports in Canadian newspapers of enlarged defense force plans for Canada were "quite misleading."

How can we consistently remain within the Empire, enjoying its privileges while refusing to share in the responsibility of defending it, is a matter which will take some explaining. By all means let us continue to hope that defense commitments will be unnecessary in the sense that we shall not require them for an emergency; but let us not imagine that we can avoid an emergency simply by refusing to prepare for it, or that we shall have time enough to decide the question of preparedness when the emergency is actually upon us.

The Quebec Inquiry

The Quebec Legislators Public Accounts investigation proceeds with its startling revelations. Here is part of the evidence of the Provincial Auditor, Mr. Edgar Vezina as to previous evidence to the effect that a superior employee of the Government Treasury had taken bonds from under his vest and placed them in the second tier of the Treasury vault at a time when the auditor was making an examination there were two vaults, an outside vault, and an interior vault, the latter being specially for securities. There was a portable light at the entrance, and the chief clerk had entered first into the interior vault, and the auditors' two representatives had taken the portable light and followed the chief clerk in, and then had seen that Mr. Taylor, Chief Clerk, had deposited documents. When this was reported the Treasury brought about the exclusion of the audit officials from further inspection, and finally then Premier, Mr. Taschereau, had given orders to send the securities to the Royal Trust Company. This was on July 14th, 1933. The orders were not followed, though Douglas Taylor had made report to the effect that the orders had been followed. They had retained bearer debentures amounting to \$123,370, and municipal debentures payable to the order of the

Treasurer, and in regard to workmen's dwellings, totalling \$7,460,000." Mr. Vezina, under continued cross-examination by Mr. Bouchard, leader of the Opposition said his documents showed that securities for \$4,241,000 which had been redeemed had not been destroyed, but could not specify as to the period.

Editorial Notes

Tomorrow a statutory holiday. Those whose turnips are still in the ground are fortunate in the weather.

Tomorrow Remembrance Day and Armistice Day combined. Have you got your poppy?

Shippers are again out canvassing farmers for potatoes, offering 65c f.o.b. farm and 75c f.o.b. Charlottetown.

Premier Aberhart need not worry about his followers deserting him so long as he "delivers the goods", which he has not done so far.

It would appear to the uninitiated that the citizens of Moscow pass the greater part of their time parading in their tens of thousands for the glorification of Stalin.

Evidently public spirit is not very active in Edmonton, Alberta. Only one person appeared as an audience when civic election candidates gathered for a meeting on Thursday evening. He was the caretaker of the building in which the meeting was to be held.

Now that the French Premier finds himself in a tight corner over his Spanish policy he seeks to blame Britain. It was ever thus, but fortunately Britain does not worry over much. In this particular instance her policy of "hands off Spain" has so far prevented a European conflagration.

Geese have been put to work by East Texas farmers who report them "capable hard working farm hands." Five geese do the work of one farm hand. The fowls—an estimated 25,000 are employed in Van Zandt county alone—pluck weeds and grass from about cotton plants. Experience has convinced farmers the feathered farm hands are worth the little care they need.

September imports of fresh vegetables were lower than last year. The value was \$28,575 compared with \$47,331. The greatest decline was in the import of lettuce, which fell from \$26,733 pounds to \$2,367, on the other hand, celery and cabbage increased. Domestic exports rose to \$130,537 from \$109,394, because of increased export of potatoes. The United States was the leading purchaser during the month.

Montreal City Council has petitioned the C.N.R. directorate to proceed with the completion of the Montreal terminus ordered stopped by the Bennett Government as a work of unnecessary extravagance. The directors informed a delegation from the council that it would cost \$40,000,000 to complete the work, besides an annual sum to operate it. The delegation decided to go to Ottawa "and do the lobbying and at the same time to get all the Montreal members to back the plea."

According to the Mail and Empire, Prince Edward Island potatoes are assuredly quite in demand on the Toronto markets these days. Local housewives prefer the Island potatoes and apparently are quite satisfied to pay the extra few cents, rather than use New Brunswick. One of the leading local wholesalers on Friday paid \$1.32 per bag, carlot orders for the P.E.I. brand, or 2 cents above the previous day's level. New Brunswick were quoted at \$1.30, but very little stock is reported on hand due to the slow demand. Ontario stock continued at Wednesday's higher level of \$1.05 to \$1.10.

Closer co-ordination of rates on the movement of goods through and in and out of the country is known to be the central purpose of the reorganization of the Board of Railway Commissioners forecast by Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Transport, in his recent speech to the Canadian Club in Montreal. It is rumored that the new body to be known as the Transportation Commission will consist of three members instead of five as at present and six before the recent death of Hon. T. C. Norris. It will have control over not only the freight tariffs and passenger tariffs charged by the railways but also over charges at the various ports over which the National Harbor Board has jurisdiction. While mention was made of extension of the board's powers to deal with truck and bus competition with the railways it is not anticipated that much can be accomplished in this direction unless a closer co-operation can be effected between the federal and the provincial governments on the subject of the regulation of the conditions under which highway carriers operate.

Here is a "close-up" of both Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Landon as orators. "It was impressive to read in the newspapers and to hear over the radio Mr. Roosevelt's closing oration. But to realize exactly how beautiful a politician he is, one must watch him in action. He is bristling with fight for his foes yet his heart melts for the people; he is vibrant with hope for the future yet he is not oblivious of his mistakes in the past; he is 'I, the President' when he speaks of driving through legislation and a moment later his boyish smile is disarming. His resonant voice acts out every word, his wrinkled features make the proper faces at the proper time. To the man who can observe him dispassionately, who is not concerned with what he stands for, the President is beautiful—simply beautiful. Alfred Landon, on the other hand, may be everything his sponsors say he is as an administrator, but he is a rank amateur as a platform politician when he runs up against Mr. Roosevelt. He is a faltering speaker who reads his text with his face buried in its pages, and he is a little ludicrous when he tries to act out a pun aimed at the administration."

Some years ago a Japanese journalist, notes a London newspaper, one who had never seen a game of golf came to England and attended a Walker Cup contest. This he duly reported for his Tokyo newspaper. "The game is very skillful," he wrote. "The small white ball is induced by violent blows towards a small piece of grass in which a hole is dug. The object of the contest is then to propel the ball as near the hole without it dropping in. In this the British much exceeded their American opponents, who were unable to prevent their balls dropping in the hole."—E.S.

Notes by the Way

Remaining aloof from a war in which Britain was engaged would not take Canada out of the Empire. She would still be regarded and treated as an enemy by Britain's enemies. Her trade would be immediately attacked and her ports blockaded and bombarded. The Monroe Doctrine might, and again might not, save her from actual invasion by a plundering army. The stopping of overseas trade would bring financial collapse and chaos, even though no foreign soldier set foot on Canadian soil.—Toronto Telegram.

Dr. Mandel Sherman, the mental hygiene specialist who told a group of teachers in Utah that they ought to train pupils to be failures, is probably due for a great deal of sarcastic and indignant abuse. But, like our own Dr. Osler, he may be made suffer from a gift of phrasing-making when his underlying idea has some sense in it. What Dr. Sherman seems to have had in mind is the fact that a great many people land in sanatoriums and indulge in nervous breakdowns because of the emphasis on being a success.—Baltimore Sun.

Very properly, much has been made of the announcement of the Latter Day Saints, or Mormon Church that it will take care of all its own needy or unemployed members this winter and that none of these will be on relief after November 1. This action, now being carried out, has been hailed as an example of how the relief responsibility can and should be reassumed by local communities. And so it is. Yet it is interesting to note by what method the programme is being fulfilled in the case of the Mormons. A dozer storehouses in various parts of Utah stand filled with preserved food and home-made clothing. These were filled by the work of the very people who needs they are now to fill. On work projects and ward-farms the otherwise unemployed earned certificates entitling them to goods. Thus will they be cared for.

Already the Japanese have begun to put pressure on all foreigners, which can only be intended to drive them out of the country. Those without treaty rights (like the "White" Russians) have been subjected to downright terrorization, and there have been unpleasant incidents concerned with those of other nationalities. Foreign Powers will, presumably, be able to maintain their consuls in Manchoukuo, but little authority can be exercised by the consuls of Governments who have not even recognized that Manchoukuo exists. The total result of Japan's action will therefore only be to make more certain her grip on this "puppet State."—Hong Kong Press.

A desire for a greater degree of independence in cotton was one of the reasons for Japan's occupation of Manchuria, and its cultivation has been systematically fostered since the organization of Manchoukuo. This year, the acreage was increased and weather conditions have been favourable. As a result the Manchuria Raw Cotton Association is deeply gratified by the prospect of a crop of 261,000 bales. In contrast with an American crop of twelve million bales this year, the Manchurian production is a tiny drop in a very large bucket, but none the less it indicates progress in the Japanese campaign to build up competition with American cotton.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

In Britain, in France, in the United States and Canada governments have oppositions alert to criticize. A government so situated must be circumspect. Its courses of action must be constitutional. In countries under dictatorships the dictator has no opponent, no critic, for any longer time than it takes to have him shot against a wall. The autocrat has no press whose approval he must keep. As he takes bolder and bolder foreign courses of action he keeps all of his enemies foreign, but if he slackens in this kind of action danger overtakes him from at home. So Stalin is pictured to this own people as a Russian challenging the world in defence of his own people. So is Hitler. So is Mussolini.—Toronto Star.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young, Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow. They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted, They fell with their faces to the foe. They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them. They mingle not with their laughing comrades again; They sit no more at familiar tables of home;



By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE SHOCK ABSORBERS OF THE BODY—THE DISCS BETWEEN THE SPINE BONES

A number of years ago, in trying to correct a low shoulder, round shoulders, sway back, and spinal curvature, I had the patients hang on rings, one of which was higher than the other, or simply hang by their arms from a horizontal bar. On coming down from the apparatus, many of them would say, "That hanging seems to relax, to rest me."

The reason for this relaxed or rested feeling was that the little round discs or cushions of fibrous elastic tissue situated between the bones and the spine, get pressed or flattened down during the day to such an extent that one may be as much as one inch shorter at night than in the morning. By hanging by the neck, or hanging on the rings, the spine bones get separated and so these discs between the spine bones get a chance to enlarge to their normal size again.

Now as these discs are really cushions to take the jar off the spine—the shock absorbers of the body—if they can be kept from being flattened too much, or given a short time to bulge back to the width or depth they are after a night's rest, it will take that much jar or shock off the whole nervous system.

Sometimes the front part of the disc may be pressed down more than the back part, which might occur in the upper back due to tuberculosis or in the lower back due to a heavy or protruding abdomen. This means that the little facets—where one spine bone joins the one below it—get separated from one another, and as this is a joint like any other joint, an arthritis—inflammation of the joint may result. Naturally the muscles around this little joint in an effort to "protect" the joint become spastic, or a spasm occurs. A tensed or strained muscle is painful.

In the lower back this causes pain from pressure on the nerve root supplying the hip and leg and so pain in the hip and leg—sciatica—frequently results.

Dr. D. Sashin, New York, in Archives of Surgery, Chicago, in speaking of the treatment of these low back cases, suggests that the patient be put under an anaesthetic, and after putting this lower part of the spine into its normal position or "curve", a plaster jacket be applied to hold it there. It might be worth while for us all to lie down at full length for a few minutes and give our shock absorbers a chance to enlarge or expand. It should rest us.



FOR THE FALLEN

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children, Britain mourns for her dead across the sea. Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit, Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres. There is music in the midst of desolation And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young, Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow. They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted, They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again; They sit no more at familiar tables of home;

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PUBLIC FORUM

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

SUGAR BEET EXPERIMENTS

Sir,—Yes, Mr. Editor, the story is true about my having some plots of sugar beets grown in the Province. We all, sir, at times imagine we can look into the future and visualize certain things that we would wish to come to our community, our province, or our nation, and feeling that it would be a wonderful thing if in this province of ours we could look and see a finely equipped sugar beet factory belching out clouds of smoke as a proof of its internal industry, with hundreds of our citizens employed at remunerative labour within, and from three to four thousand acres of sugar beets being grown by our farmers to enable the plant to run. Then again, we would manufacture the tens of thousands of dollars worth that is now being sent away to pay for the sugar which we consume.

So while in one of those dreamy moods, I sent to the sugar beet factory in Ontario and obtained the proper variety of sugar beet seed and had two plots planted in Prince County, two in Queens and two in Kings, making agreements that the rows should be measured in sections of ten feet in two or three cases in each plot and the product of those sections weighed, keeping in mind the distance the rows were apart so that we could compute the amount of sugar beet grown per acre. This has not been carried out.

Samples of the beets from each county have been packed and were today sent by express to the Dominion Chemist at Ottawa in order that the sugar contents of each sample may be determined.

These sugar beets were grown by the following gentlemen: B. H. Turner, O'Leary, Hudson Lowther, Albany; W. J. Gibson and Sons, Marshfield; Mont Annear, Montague; Alphonse MacDonald, Souris; Fred McLeod, Coleman.

I wish, Mr. Editor, to express the thanks of the Department to those gentlemen who so generously assisted us in carrying out this experiment.

I am Sir, etc. W. H. DENNIS, Minister of Agriculture.

THE FLY IN OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

Sir,—It is a sad comment on the public system of education in this country that there are so many graduates from colleges and universities who think that, once they have passed through these institutes of learning, they possess the necessary passport to a high position with a fat salary attached.

While this may be true in some cases, it must also be remembered that not a few university men and women never reach the rainbow's end. I have often thought of such as "round pegs in square holes."

A higher education is most desirable for those who can afford it, but the masses of Canadian youth must get their bread and butter outside of a professional life. We are living in an age where there is constant struggle and fierce competition. We must educate our young people to meet this gigantic issue. Can we blame youth for its failure when our educational system is at fault?

At present there is a great need for skilled labor in almost every branch of industry, which is being met by Europeans who have been trained for such positions in their own countries.

Does it not seem logical that our own youth should have a larger opportunity in technical schools established in every Province?

They have no lot in our labour of the day-time; They sleep behind England's loam. But where our desires are and our hopes profound, Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight, To the innermost heart of their own land they are known; As the stars are known to the night; As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust, Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain, As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness, To the end, to the end, they remain.

—Laurence Binyon.

Armistice Oratory

(Saturday Night)

The whole tone of the Armistice Day celebration in this country and in the United States is becoming unsatisfactory and unifying. Little honor is done to the memory of those who died in the conflict which ended seventeen years ago, or of those who risked their lives in it but are still in our midst, by the constant reiteration of the thought that their sacrifice was vain and mistaken, and that no such sacrifice should ever have to be repeated. If the affairs of nations are henceforth going to be conducted with perfect wisdom, perfect justice and perfect humanity, it may be reasonable to make such a claim; but unfortunately there is no evidence whatever that such is going to be the case, and so long as the wisdom, justice and humanity of governments, and of the citizens who are ultimately responsible for governments, continue to be highly imperfect, we suspect that war will continue to occur from time to time, and that when it does occur the blood of many who had little to do with their government's misbehavior will be shed in satisfaction for the sins of those who had much to do with it.

The statement that all war is futile is irritating enough at any time, but peculiarly so on the anniversary of the day which marked the saving of Europe from the possibility—at any rate for a generation or so—of complete domination by one of the least humane, least tolerant, and least freedom-loving of its races. (That that day saved Europe only for so short a time was the fault not of the men who fought the war, but of the men who made the peace.) It is a statement which is meaningless on the lips of Canadians, who are living their whole lives in the shelter of the liberties achieved for them by countless British wars in the past and by their own war of 1812. It is a statement which is meaningless on the lips of Americans, who owe their national unity to one of the bloodiest and most cruel civil wars of history. It is a statement which is not found on the lips of Russians, who are prepared with what seems like an unprecedented fortitude and discipline to defend their new-found faith against a world of foes. It is, moreover, a statement which nobody is justified in making who is not prepared to accept the arbitration of higher-than-national power for the settlement of differences between nations, and to permit that power to enforce its will by means which differ from war only in that they are not employed as an instrument of purely national policy.

If those who hate war—and its hatefulness we have no wish to deny—would content themselves with making every effort that lies in their power to ensure that the behavior of their nation shall be as wise, so just and so humane that no other nation can so slyly make use upon it without gross injustice and inhumanity, we should have no word to say against them. Unfortunately we see little sign of any such effort on their part. And even if they made such effort and succeeded, to the extent of ensuring the wise, just and humane behavior of their own nation, there is no certainty that that nation would be for ever exempt from the attacks of nations less perfectly governed; nor that it would be for ever justified in abstaining from all conflicts between other nations, and leaving the unjust and inhumane but stronger among these other nations to have their way with the just and humane but weaker.



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