THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1941

Pay Your Income Tax Now

Under the new arrangement made by the Federal Finance Department, everbody may pay his or her income tax on the instalment plan, provided the first instalment is paid on or before January 31. This is a great convenience, especially as the tax has been considerably increased to provide sinews of war. Income tax forms are now available, and he is a wise economist as well as a discriminating patriot who goes and gets his immediately and pays over one-eighth of the total before the end of the month. He will then have till August to pay the remaining seven-eighths, and a comparatively easy mind to the bargain.

Liberal Press Comment

Commenting on the abrupt termination of the Dominion-Provincial conference the Halifax *Chronicle* (Liberal) says that Prime Minister King, in advocating adoption of the Sirois report, suggested that it would be a step towards national unity, necessary in the war effort. National unity was an issue in the election which decisively returned Mr. King and his supporters to office less than a year ago. That election was claimed by him to be a demonstration of national unity. If it already existed, then there was no need to create it by adopting the Sirois report.

"Actually," says the *Chronicle*, "the conference was a threat to national unity. Mr. King admitted this himself in bringing the session to its early close. . . He had also argued that the financial provisions of the report would strengthen Canada's credit; but increasing the federal debt by absorbing the provincial debts could not possibly increase federal credit, so badly needed in time of war."

The Halifax Liberal paper goes so far as to rejoice in the fact that the Sirois report "is a dead pigeon—at least for the present." Now, it says, the nation can devote itself unitedly and wholeheartedly to the war effort, such action being "much more to the public taste."

The *Chronicle* has been consistent in its opposition to holding the conference at this time, and repeatedly warned the Prime Minister of the folly of the course he was pursuing. Evidently Mr. King doesn't read his leading party newspaper in Nova Scotia!

Women And War Work

A contributor to the Ottawa Journal complains of the failure of the Canadian Government to make adequate use, or any use, of Canadian women in the gigantic task which faces this Empire and this country.

He points out that such organizations of women for war work as exist in Canada are strictly unofficial, have thus an extremely limited sphere of usefulness—and points out by contrast that in the United Kingdom women in their thousands are volunteer members of official auxiliary services which belong to the military establishment of the country, their members paid, provided with uniforms, living in barracks under discipline, and performing all over Britain a host of duties from which men are relieved for combatant work.

A military expert quoted by the contributor estimates that such a force in Canada could save some 15 per cent of the men now in uniform in the home forces. These are the men dining halls — jobs women can do as well, or better. Today the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, our essential war industries, agriculture, all are making their demands on our manpower, and it is far from being an inexhaustible reserve.

The Journal indorses its correspondent's view and says it is time the Government gave very serious thought to this question. Existence of many voluntary associations of women for evening classes—women who give up their leisure to train themselves at their own expense for some useful place in the war effort — shows that a Women's Army, an official part of our military establishment, would be greeted with deep satisfaction. After all, why not let the women help win the war?

Maritime Farmers Penalized

A strong editorial campaign on behalf of Ontario farmers has been carried on in recent weeks by the *Globe and Mail*. It describes the farmers in the wealthiest Province in Canada as "seething with discontent" over the arbitrary action of the Ottawa authorities in fixing maximum prices for butter, combined with unprofitable prices for live hogs and urban wage standards with which the farmer cannot compete.

As pointed out frequently in these columns, the situation, however unsatisfactory in Ontario, must necessarily be worse for our farmers in the Maritime Provinces, owing to higher transportation costs and other drawbacks incident to their situation. Our Maritime Liberal representatives seem incapable of making any impression on the federal authorities; perhaps with Ontario joining in the demand for action, something definite will be done. In the meantime, it is encouraging to note that our Toronto contemporary has taken up the cudgels on our behalf. It says:

"Maritime Province farmers have reason for complaint. According to Provincial Government officials attending the Ottawa conference, Prince Edward Island cheese is shipped to Montreal, weighed there and then sent back to Halifax over much of the same route, for export to England. The producers receive the Montreal price, less the wholly unnecessary freight charges, since all cheese exported from Canada is paid for on the basis of Montreal prices.

"Thus, at a time when the railway between Montreal and Halifax is jammed with trains carrying vital war materials and munitions, and scores of miles of additional passing tracks had to be constructed to facilitate traffic, we have the strange spectacle of Maritime Province cheese destined for Britain being shipped more than a thousand miles merely for the purpose of being weighed. Is there any reason why the cheese could not be weighed and graded at Charlottetown or Halifax?

"The Maritime farmers have another grievance: Hogs raised within sight of Halifax Harbor are paid for one the basis of prevailing Montreal prices, less the freight rate from Halifax to Montreal, which means Nova Scotia farmers get about 60 cents per hog less than Quebec farmers. That may be reasonable enough if the hogs are to be slaughtered in Montreal, but it seems a bit thick when they are killed, pickled and packed in Halifax and sent directly overseas, with the overseas price to Canadian Bacon Board based on delivery at the Atlantic seaboard.

"Is it any wonder the Maritime producers are angry after taking the matter up with Ottawa and getting nowhere? The whole thing shows a lack of proper consideration."

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Ex-Mayor Houde is reported to have been sent to 21 days in jail in his interment camp for talking politics. What else could he talk about anyway?

* * * *

Britain's war effort now is costing approximately $61,620,000 a day. It cost $45,000,000 daily in 1940. Army, Navy and Air Force costs combined averaged about $55,000,000 daily in the first 11 days of 1941. The rest went for interest and management, national debt and ordinary expenditures.

* * * *

Prime Minister King ought to be more than grateful to Premier Campbell for the magnificent though unavailing support he gave him at the abortive conference, and if gratitude be the anticipation of favours to come, Prince Edward Island must surely be a beneficiary as the result of the two working in such close harmony.

* * * *

Throughout the province as well as the Dominion memorial services for the late Chief Scout, Lord Baden-Powell, will be held tomorrow. In the City a joint service under the auspices of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides Associations will be held at four o'clock in the afternoon in Trinity United Church, Rev. Hugh Miller, B.D. officiating and Rev. D. C. Boothroyd, B.A. delivering the address, while other city clergy also will participate.

* * * *

The Hon. W. F. Alan Stewart writes to our evening contemporary asking it, or any of its readers, to tell him how the farmers can carry on in view of the increased liability they have incurred through having to pay higher prices for their purchases while receiving lower prices for everything they have to sell. We can tell him, and have been doing so since the outbreak of war—insist upon a coalition government for the duration of the war.

* * * *

Edward George Earle Lytton Bulwer, 1st Baron Lytton, novelist and statesman, died this date, 1873. Played prominent part in society and politics and became secretary of state for the Colonies in 1858-9. The novel "Pelham" established his popularity as a writer followed by the brilliant series including "Eugene Aram" "Paul Clifford", and "Godolphin"; in "The Last Days of Pompeii" and "Rienzi" he showed an unsuspected power of sustaining human interest in archaeological and historical fiction. "Beneath the rule of men entirely great, the pen is mightier than the sword."

* * * *

Here was the inspiring editorial contribution of the Saint John Telegraph-Journal to the discussion of the Sirois report: "In considering the recommendations of the Rowell-Sirois Report, it is to be hoped that both provincial and federal representatives will be able to find a solution to the many problems which face the confederation as a whole and the units which form it, without destroying any of the advantages and privileges necessary to the provinces in order to fulfill their proper task in the federal organization". All in one mouthful and two breaths!

* * * *

Here is Premier Campbell's representation at Ottawa in a nutshell: "He dismissed any idea that the Sirois Report recommendations involved loss of provincial autonomy. There was no danger of centralization of authority at Ottawa. He referred to recent suggestions that some provinces might be bankrupt in two years if the commission's recommendations were not carried out. He believed there was some danger of that eventuality. His province might have little to gain from the recommendations but he believed all parts of the Dominion should work for whatever was best for the whole." And who is there to disagree with him?

* * * *

The U.S. Association of Foreign Press Correspondents has removed from its rolls two active members mentioned in the Dies Committee White Paper on un-American activities, and has accepted the resignation as an associate member of Dr. Hans Borchers, German Consul-General. Mr. Hans Borchers, German, listing himself as correspondent for several Brazilian papers, was expelled. Dr. Herbert Gross, American correspondent for Nachrichten German Ministry of Economics, resigned under fire. Both has been charged formally with "unprofessional conduct." The White Paper listed Mr. Kreuthenstein as an employee of the Transocean News Service, an organization described in the document as Hitler's "agency for the dissemination of propaganda in foreign countries," and Mr. Gross was named as having been identified by a committee witness as "an agent of the German government."

NOTES BY THE WAY

The toast to His Majesty is drunk (in an officers' mess) in this manner: As soon as the president has satisfied himself that all is in readiness for the toast, viz. that the wine decanters have been placed in front of himself and the vice-president, he fills his wine glass and then passes his decanter clockwise to the diner on his left; the vice-president does likewise. Diners who are teetotallers should ask a waiter to fill up their wine glass with water or other non-alcoholic beverage before this passing of the wine takes place. When the president sees that all glasses have been filled, he rises to his feet with his wine glass in his right hand, and in a loud, clear voice says, "Mr. Vice, the King," whereupon the vice-president rises, glass in right hand, and says, "Gentlemen, the King", after which all diners rise with glasses in right hand, all standing to attention while the band plays a few bars of the National Anthem. When the band ceases playing the Commanding Officer raises his wine glass and says, "The King, God bless him". After the Commanding Officer has said these words, but not before, all diners raise their glasses, and say "The King" and then drink from their glasses. The words "God bless Him" are permitted to Field Officers only; the use of these words is optional and not compulsory. — R.C.R. in Canadian Veteran

More than half a million Canadians will pay income tax next year—twice as many as ever before—and if they are to do their part according to their means and responsibilities it will be necessary for the majority to make some provision to meet their payments. The Government expects to raise $200,000,000 from this source to help pay the stupendous costs of war. Large incomes have been heavily taxed, but a survey made by the experts shows that if they were to pay one hundred cents on the dollar the Government would obtain less than $150,000,000, so it is necessary to ask all single persons receiving $750 or more and all married persons in receipt of $1,500 or more to contribute. In addition to the graduated income tax based on ability to pay, the Government has levied a national defense tax at a flat rate applicable to all incomes above $600 for single persons and above $1,200 for married persons, and it will be generally agreed that those who can't fight should pay. As far as it is practicable, this tax is being collected by employers at the source and paid over to the Department of National Revenue, but there will be thousands of cases where this is not feasible, and those affected will be required to pay their taxes direct. For such persons, indeed for all income and national defense taxpayers who have not substantial reserves of ready cash, it will be wise to start a budget. This method of payment has been facilitated by an instalment plan which eases the impact of the levels and permits payments to be spread over the eight months from January to August. — Toronto Globe and Mail.

The placing of double guards along the Channel coast and the constant patrolling of all beaches means that the British Government still believes that Hitler will attempt an invasion and does not propose to be taken by surprise. The heavy movement of German troops into Rumania may or may not be a blind devised by the Nazis for the purpose of concealing their real strategy and in lulling Britain into a false sense of security. The marked reduction in the number and extent of recent air raids over Britain may well have been part of this strategy. It is improbable, however that the Government in London is acting merely upon a speculative interpretation of German troop movements and air procedure. It may be taken for granted that Britain is being well served by her own agents in Europe and by friendly citizens in German occupied territories and that the precautions that are being taken are the result of something more than guesswork. There is a suggestive parallel between the present position of Adolf Hitler and that of Napoleon. The French conqueror knew that he must subdue Britain or fail in everything. He had mastered Europe. His attempt to strike at Britain through Egypt met with disaster. Hitler has tried the same tactics by using his Italian ally, and Italy has failed him. Napoleon spent a long time at Boulogne, waiting for the fleet that never came. He too, built barges and other troop-carrying craft, which never crossed the water. He sought to decoy the British fleet into distant seas so that the channel crossing might be made in safety, and he failed. He did his utmost to confuse the British Government as to where he intended to strike, but his real intentions were known. An exiled loyalist saw to that. Trafalgar was fought and the whole invasion scheme collapsed. The doom of Napoleon was written in terms of British seapower, and history is repeating itself. Britain's navy still rules the sea, augmented by ships of the Dominions, and the British air arm has proved itself more than equal to that of Germany. A great army recruited in all parts of the Empire waits in the United Kingdom for the day when it will march to Hitler's Waterloo. —Montreal Gazette.

If your neighbour's house is burning down, the President succinctly observes, involving an imminent menace to the safety of your own, you thrust your fire hose into his hands without stopping to collect the $15 the hose may be worth. When the crisis is over he can give back the hose or replace it. The analogy is not exact, for armament is destroyed or becomes obsolete, and the last thing we should probably want would be to have it replaced. But the United States is dedicated to the policy of all aid to Britain, not because of the cash profit in the business, not because of any commercial considerations, but for the single reason that the safety of this country depends upon British survival. If their house goes down, the fire will lodge in our roof and walls, and the one reason why we are falling over ourselves to dig up planes and guns and tanks and ships for them lies in the hope that they will put out the fire before it reaches us. But so far we have been charging them cash on the barrel head, and at a handsome profit, for every item of fire-fighting equipment we have sent. The British, for whom it is a matter of life and death, have not complained; they have scrimped and gone short, sent us their luxury woolens or Scotch whiskies denied themselves Americans purchases, in order to raise the dollars. But they are running short of dollars. This constitutes, certainly, a serious problem for the British; it is just as much an American problem, however, and its solution is only less vital to our own safety than to theirs. — New York Herald Tribune.

After the Ottawa Conference

(Saint John Telegraph-Journal)

The series of incidents which marked the close of the abortive federal-provincial conference in Ottawa this week — the charges and counter-charges, the threats and counter-threats, the resumption of a personal feud between two of the foremost figures in Canadian public life, and the general tone of uncertainty and antagonism which overspread it all—has done little to enhance the statesmanship of many of those who guide the destinies of this Dominion and the provinces. It were better if the Prime Minister's first conviction, which was shared by at least some of his colleagues, had prevailed, and that there had been "no attempt to implement the provisions of the report at this time."

The threat of the Finance Minister that, because of the failure of the conference to take action upon the Sirois recommendations, it may be necessary for the Dominion to invade provincial taxation fields to finance the war, raises the question as to what would have happened had the plan outlined in the report been adopted. Does Mr. Ilsley mean to infer that the implementation of the recommendations would have secured to the federal government revenues from what are now provincial sources which would greatly increase the Dominion's total income? Or does he mean that the sources of revenue which might have been handed over by the provinces to the Dominion as the result of negotiation will be seized anyway by the federal authority?

If he intends to convey the fact that the Ottawa government had hoped to profit financially at the expense of the provinces through the Sirois plan, then he takes issue with his leader who, in his opening remarks before the conference, declared that "should the recommendations of the report be adopted, it (the federal government) will, at the outset, be called upon to accept an increase in its financial burdens." If he means that the federal taxation authority contemplates a raid, or a series of raids, on the provincial field, regardless of the attitudes of the provinces concerned, then he should be reminded of the statement made by the Prime Minister, also at the opening of the conference, when he asserted that the Dominion government could proceed with its war financing without seeking any rearrangements or adjustments with the provinces, but that this course would involve "grave inequalities and injustices," and added: "It is hard to say how it could fail to provoke serious discontent and a weakening of morale." In the face of this warning, it is difficult to see how the Finance Minister could make the threat that he did.

The whole proceedings were marked by displays of childish behaviour which must have been received with disgust by a great many Canadians, and the only hope left is that the meeting which set out to create a greater degree of national unity does not achieve an entirely opposite result. After all, the affairs of this country are supposed to be under the direction of a constitutional government, and the sooner we get back to a realization of the fact that, under the constitution, both the Dominion and the provinces have rights and privileges which must not be violated, the sooner will we be able to attain that unity.

O.B.E. FOR POLICEMAN

LONDON —(CP) —For supervising rescues from wrecked houses and organizing fire teams when incendiary bombs fell on a factory Station Inspector Gaban of the London police has been awarded the O. B. E. (Civil Division).

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THE LAST JOURNEY

I shall go forth one day to joust with death;
The brittle little chains that hold me tied
To rusted hopes, to visions cracked and dried,
Shall break, and I shall hear the trumpet's breath
Go clamoring across the barren heath
And for a flaming moment I shall ride
The lists' brief course to meet the Undefied—
And take the blow that I shall fall beneath.
Each day, I gird my feeble soul with prayer:
May then the blood of Bayard be my own;
May I ride hard and straight and smite him square,
And in a clash of arms be overthrown;
And as I fall hear through the evening air
The distant horn of Roland, faintly blown.

—Frederic F. Van de Water.

For Dr. Manion's Campaign

(The Catholic Record)

It had been held as certain that the most effective way to bring Nazi planes over Ireland was to open the Irish ports to the Royal Navy. The implication was that continued closure would guarantee German respect for Ireland's neutrality. The past week has proven that supposition false. Total war bombs have fallen on Irish soil, violating the neutrality of the nation, destroying property, taking the lives of innocent Irish people. That they were German bombs is beyond question. Prime Minister de Valera's "energetic protest" went to Berlin, not London. It checkmated the willingness of even the most anti-British to believe the expected Nazi charge that the planes and bombs came from England.

Experienced observers and expert analysts of war strategy find it difficult to explain the motives behind this new Nazi move. Despite highway barricades thrown up along the Irish coast and the use of air-raid precautions throughout the country, general opinion is slow to interpret the bombing as the prelude to an invasion and occupation of Ireland. Nazi psychology, as exemplified by many lines of action in the past, make it easier to believe that the attacks are a warning to the Irish Government not to pay too much attention to the wishes of Great Britain and the words of President Roosevelt. If they were asked to do so, the Nazi rulers could offer no more striking proof of the truth of the President's words, "We know now that a nation can have peace with the Nazis only at the price of total surrender."

What makes it difficult to understand the German way of thinking is that the Nazi tacticians should give the first answer to the Roosevelt question, "Would Irish freedom be permitted as an exception in an unfree world?" Official Ireland wants to remain neutral. The number of enlistments in the British Army leaves little doubt where the sympathies of the people lie. If, in view of the anti-blockade situation, Great Britain had seized the Irish ports for the duration, it would have been at least understandable although not justifiable in the light of her declarations about the rights of small nations. German bombs can mean only one thing. If it suits the Nazi purpose, the fate of Poland, Norway, the Netherlands and Belgium awaits Ireland. She shall not be permitted to remain neutral.

This hard fact, driven home by Hitler, calls for support of the campaign to which Dr. R. J. Manion is giving leadership by appeals to Irishmen in Canada and the United States.

The amply sufficient basis of an appeal to the de Valera Government to open the Irish ports to the Royal Navy is the fundamental nature of the clash between two systems of philosophy which reach far beyond the realm of politics. The Irish ports have become a vital factor in an issue far greater than that of Irish-English relationships and one from which Hitler's bombs have told Ireland she cannot remain aloof. The nation which has fought for freedom for more than seven centuries is now faced with a greater battle for liberty on a new front. Last week gave hard proof of that fact when Hitler added dynamite to Roosevelt's words.

Ireland stands in a key position. Upon the direction of her policy depends largely not only her prospect of retaining freedom and the hope of several nations of regaining theirs, but the length, if not the outcome of the war. There are few who would charge Ireland with wishing a British defeat at the cost of a Hitler victory. With last week showing the extent of Nazi regard for Ireland, it is clear that a British defeat would mean Polish slavery for the Irish. It is Great Britain's misfortune that other nations did not and do not realize their place in Hitler's plan for a new world order.

Prime Minister De Valera has stoutly denied that German submarines are being supplied with fuel or provisions on the Irish coasts. Official Britain has admitted the truth of his statement. This is good in the same sense that the evacuation from Dunkirk was good. A study of the map shows that the proximity of LeHavre, Brest and neighboring ports to the southern trade routes and the distance, beyond Lough Swilly, of Belfast and Newcastle from the northern routes, make the use of the Irish ports vital to British shipping and its control of the U boat menace. It is not enough not to help the German war machine actively. It is the firm conviction of the vast majority of Canadians of Irish descent, loyal friends of Ireland and staunch supporters of her rights, that the Irish Government should open Cobh, Berehaven and Lough Swilly to the British fleet and aircraft. That is the conviction because they want to see Ireland governed by the Irish and not under the iron of Hitler's heel.

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SIGHTLESS CIVILIANS

GORING-ON-THAMES, Engl —(CP) —Civilians have lost th sight in air raids will "learn to blind" at the Goring home of Beachcroft Towse, V. C., 70, was blinded in the Boer War.

Mexico City expects to entert many from the United States d ing the international tourist co vention in September.

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