

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1939

Defense Policy Denounced

Recently an article appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press, leading Liberal newspaper, written by a staff member with special knowledge of aviation problems. In it was set forth, in guarded language, the extreme dissatisfaction felt in aviation circles with the conduct of the Department of Defense.

Mr. King's denial that such a communication had reached him will be at once accepted," says the Free Press, "but Mr. King must surely still feel the need of taking the action that seems most fitting to him in order to re-establish the confidence in the Department which is now fast disappearing.

According to the Free Press article, the apparent decision of the Department of Defense is to purchase only planes of British design, when even the British themselves are buying planes of U. S. design from sources of supply much nearer us and more available than those actually selected.

"When these facts are set side by side by the inability of the Minister to explain his policy in terms other than those of personal abuse of his questioners," says our Winnipeg Liberal contemporary, "the various conclusions boil themselves down to a very general feeling that there should be a shake-up of a drastic kind in the administration of our whole Defense Department."

Returning to the Bren gun inquiry, the Free Press says: "It is abundantly clear, looking back at the record, that in that case the House of Commons was denied, by every form of parliamentary subterfuge, access to information which, had it been made public, would have destroyed at one blow the contract made with the John Inglis Company. In addition, it is now known (and it is so stated in the Royal Commission report) that the Department of Defense used every weapon at its command to enforce the cooperation of the British Government in that contract.

Again: "Since these revelations were made, some facts have been made known regarding a contract for 18-pounder and 4.5 inch howitzer shells, granted by the Department of Defense to the Montreal Construction Supply and Equipment Company. The contract was, apparently, a trial order. The company, was to set up what might be called a 'pilot plant.' Some of the equipment was supplied by the Government and the contract was made on a cost-plus basis and Dr. Manion very properly asked why this company was chosen to do the work when other companies, with actual experience in shell-making, were left out in the cold.

Mr. King's Record

In the course of a verbal clash with Dr. Manion in the House of Commons last week Premier King doffed his customary mantle of modesty and made this interesting observation: "May I say that since the war I have been before the Canadian people five times, and four out of the five times I have been returned as Prime Minister."

Mr. King, comments the Sydney Post Record, boasted with rhetorical disregard for the record. In the five general elections in which he has led the Liberal party, he emerged twice with a majority, and three times in a minority. In one of those elections, that of 1925, he suffered personal defeat in his own constituency.

Analyzing the results in the light of the official returns, one finds that in 1921 the Liberals were in a minority of one; that they lacked 22 of a majority and were 15 behind the Conservatives in 1925; that they had a clear lead over all in 1926; that they fell 49 below the Conservatives in 1930; that they scored an abnormal majority over all in 1935.

beginning of his leadership in 1919. It will be interesting to note how he fares in his sixth electoral test,—now only a few months away.

Peace With Honour

When Right Hon. Neville Chamberlain returned from Munich he proclaimed that he had brought peace with honour. Because the other party to the transaction has broken a solemn pact, is it reason, asks a contemporary, to condemn him if the best laid plans go astray through no fault of his own? If he has kept the faith himself—and who dare deny he has?—that honour, which he brought, is still intact in his possession. The victim of a fraud is certainly no partner to the crime.

Those who sneer to-day that "Britain has lost her honour" might inwardly digest the significance of one sonnet Wordsworth wrote, whose words endure, because they are true:

"Say what is Honour? 'Tis the finest sense Of Justice which the human mind can frame, Intent each lurking frailty to disclaim. And guard the way of life from all offence Suffered or done. When lawless violence Invades a realm, so pressed that, in the scale Of perilous war, her mightiest armies fail, Honour is hopeful elevation—when Glory and triumph, with political skill Endangered states may yield to terms unjust; Stoop their proud heads, but not unto the dust— A Poet's most favourite purpose to fulfill; Happy occasions oft by self-mistrust Are forfeited; but infamy doth kill."

Does this not apply to-day, when battles are won without clash of arms, and conquests made by ruthless threat of might?

Editorial Notes

The Hush-Hush Committee is the name now applied to the Public Accounts Committee of the Provincial Legislature.

If ever there was a flaring example of Laissez Faire it is that of Premier Campbell's long delayed reply to Mr. Fitzalan Stewart's charge.

Alfred, Lord Milner, born this date 1854. Lord Tweedsmuir is one of the brilliant young men he chose to train for Imperial Statesmanship.

Fear of losing licenses has almost eliminated the drunken, reckless driver in New South Wales, according to the Minister for Transport. Of 408 recent accidents checked, only four were due to drunkenness. "License cancellation is a far more effective deterrent than heavy fines," the Minister says.

The prospects are that the Legislature will sit till the middle of April. There will be an adjournment over Easter, and then a resumption for a week. The work of the session will not actually necessitate this spinning out of days into weeks and weeks into very nearly a month, but the members may be able to draw their \$400 indemnity with better grace when they are able to say it represents only a \$100 per week.

Grasshoppers are expected to infest a larger area of Western Canada this year than last. Agriculture Minister Gardiner told the House of Commons. This was based upon the areas in which eggs were laid. Vigorous control efforts adopted by the provinces with the federal Government co-operating, and control efforts in the United States, were expected to restrict the loss from this pest.

Who is afraid of the Big Black Wolf? The Wiczeor Warszawski, Polish Nationalist newspaper, calls German occupation of Bohemia-Moravia and Slovakia Chancellor Adolf Hitler's "first important mistake. This step in expanding Germany's Empire, the newspaper said, followed "the bad tradition of the Hapsburgs." It attributes Nazi successes to Europe's fear of becoming involved in another war, but declares such alarm does not exist in Poland.

Tests are to be made in Victorian (Australia) schools with the aim of more closely relating education to actual experience. Under a new system, instead of working out problems about what A bought from B in their arithmetic classes, pupils will theoretically buy a house, work out the cost of furnishing it, raising a mortgage on it, work out interest rates and other incidents in the process.

Carrying coal to Newcastle is nothing in Australia, it was recently revealed that Australia, despite her position as the world's principal wool producing country, still has to import a small amount of wool from overseas. This incongruous situation is due to the fact that Australia occupies her position of supremacy only in regard to medium, fine, and superfine merino wools, producing very little of any coarse, crossbred wools. When manufacturers of heavy wooled goods need this coarser wool for blending with the finer Australian types, or for use alone, they must import it from other countries.

System is wanted in bacon export. The latent demand for Canadian bacon in the Glasgow and other Scottish markets is shown by the fact that 79,731 samples were sold to the public at the Canadian Pavilion of the Glasgow Empire Exhibition during its six months' run in 1938. Mr. G. B. Johnson, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner at Glasgow, states that imports of bacon into the United Kingdom from Canada in 1938 were down by about 14 per cent. as compared with 1937, evidently due to the reduction in the supply of bacon hogs, especially in western Canada, following a shortage of feed supplies. "Spasmodic or inadequate shipments are the main difficulty facing importers of Canadian bacon in Scotland," states Mr. Johnson. "There may be a fair run of it for a number of months, then supplies get scarce, and traders are forced to purchase from other countries. Regular supplies of lean bacon are essential to make the most of the sales opportunities. So far as cure and quality are concerned there is no occasion for criticism but it should be borne in mind that fat bacon will not sell in Scotland."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Amusement tax collection figures show the tremendous increase in their attendance in Alberta during the past ten years. Last year admissions for the entire province reached a new high mark, \$1,981,584. This is considerably more than double the attendance in 1931, when it was 2,347,000. In fact, Edmonton's attendance figures last year were greater than all Alberta's in 1931. —Edmonton Journal.

Relief should be considered as a last resort for one's sustenance. The trouble with relief in Canada today is that it has developed into an institution. Possibly it is being taken too much for granted. Perhaps it is killing off that time-honored and creditable principle of looking after oneself insofar as possible. In some cases relief has been encouraging idleness and indolence. —Regina Leader-Post.

Since Munich, we have witnessed strengthening very considerable armament on the sea and in the air; a substantial recovery of morale and economic strength in France, in marked contrast with the economic deterioration in Germany and Italy; an unmistakable swing of American sentiment toward an amendment of our Neutrality Act which would enable nations defending themselves against unprovoked attack to purchase munitions in a time of war the weapon of their defence. These are all factors making for the preservation of peace, for they tend to build up such a proportion of strength on the part of the law-abiding countries that no predatory power will dare to challenge that authority. —New York Times.

It is generally agreed that there are far too many arms in private custody and everybody who owns a pistol is quite prepared to let his neighbors give their up. If the safety of person and property in Canada were judged by the number of arms known to be possessed by Canadians, it would be a picture of a most insecure life. That is a rank absurdity. It is strongly suspected that the present registration is not complete moreover, which makes the situation worse. It has been positively proved that many crimes of violence are committed by persons who have stolen arms from private citizens. Evidently possessors of sufficient care and do not know when they are stolen or lost. Now there is an opportunity for each Canadian to own a revolver, pistol or automatic to put question to himself: Do I really need this weapon, is there any respectable prospect of my ever needing it again? —Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Away over in France there seems to be a growing need for a certain amount of umbrella control. According to a message from a highly placed official in the Ministry of Normandy. When the dance question is in progress a lone male with an umbrella is a nuisance. He wanders round until he sees a partner with whom he would like to dance. Slipping the crook of the umbrella over the arm of the man he dances with, he detaches the unneeded partner. The displaced male is left with the umbrella himself and wanders round until he sees another dancer whom he decides to unhook in order to claim his share. And on and so on until the dance finishes—or the first fight breaks out. —Manchester Guardian.

T. C. Moore, a barber in Monroe, La., was arrested for passing out hamburgers with every fifty cents' worth of trade. This, it appears, violated a local price-fixing ordinance, but, law or no law, we think it was a good thing for what we have come to call Barber-shop Melancholia. A man always feels depressed and helpless getting his hair cut. His image in the mirror looks silly; the body swathed in sheets, he looks like a mummy. He looks at himself while a dialect comedian in white coat jerks it to and fro. It is hard to see a man's face while looking at this feeble-minded apparition; it is hard to see the hair being cut. These are the things that compose in the face of hints that soon the hair may be all gone, revealing the barren wintry landscape of the skull. Hamburger might be just the thing to ward off the despair that seizes us at times like these. A little red meat just the prescription for courage and urbanity under the shears. —The New Yorker.

The whole (defence) system appears to be run on second thoughts. Evacuation has produced another plan—and an immediate outcry against it. The gas menace has been forgotten. Masks are mouldering away in millions of homes, and the emphasis is now laid on the high-explosive danger. Twenty million pounds worth of splinter-proof huts is being prepared but deep shelters "are not being built at all." Camps? Not even a first thought there. Trenches? Caving in everywhere while the employed plead for the work of consolidating them or of building new ones. Nor is this lack of decision confined to passive defence. Two months ago Mr. Hore-Bellisha stated that the 45 anti-aircraft gun—the "king" of its class—was being produced. Yesterday it was announced that construction is to be discontinued. What is wanted to convince the public that things are going ahead is not soothing assurance but positive evidence of energy and drive behind the machine. —London Daily Mail.

In the last war it took ten months before any real check was put on the Army's recruitment of skilled munition workers; it took fifteen months before a Government Committee started to frame lists of occupations requiring protection for the maintenance of national trade and food supply, and it was only after the war had been running eighteen months that a comprehensive list of "certified occupations" emerged. We have learnt our lesson the "schedule of reserved occupations" issued recently is an attempt to do in advance what was only accomplished after so much waste and friction in the middle of the last war. Its immediate purpose is to secure that the essential labor force needed for a country at war shall be kept intact and shall not be drained in advance by the commands of the various kinds of civilian defence. —Manchester Guardian.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

IMMORAL LITERATURE IN COUNTRY STORES

Sir,—Not only are the news-stands and book-stores of the city selling this stuff, but all (or a great many) villages throughout the province have one store distributing the output of a central distributing station in Halifax. It is very puzzling why the clergy of all denominations don't join forces and lead a drive against the sale of this filthy poison. I have been told that not very many of these magazines are sold, but if even one is sold it is read and passed from hand to hand behind the backs of parents. One of them is enough to poison (morally) the youth of a whole countryside.

The writer knows of three of these dirty rags being discovered in one school district in the past year all showing signs of much handling and reading. I believe those magazines are not sent through the mail, they come by express.

What are the Women's Institutes and C.W.L.'s doing about it? Nothing at all, I'm afraid. This is a duty lying so close to their door-steps that they don't see it. I don't know if it's a case of everybody's business being nobody's business.

I did notice in a recent general meeting of the C.W.L. that a list of those magazines, forbidden by name last year's "Deputation to Ottawa," was given out. This is of no use. Merchants who handle this stuff will assure you virtuously that they have none of those prohibited books for sale. Not one! Certainly not; but they have others just as bad or worse if possible.

It can be safely taken for granted that all the magazines, called "Love" or "Romance," or any name remotely connected with those themes are immoral. They are just plain undisguised lessons in obscenity.

Could not the "Mounties" be given authority to seize some or all of those "Love" stories and have them examined at police headquarters? Can't something be done before our children are ruined? "Where there's a will, there's a way."

I am, Sir, etc. COUNTRY MOTHER. (Patriot please copy)

When Dictators Flourish

(New York World-Telegram) Beneficial by-products from the workings of dictatorship are rare—but one is that the world today is a less a lesson in censorship. When a dictator takes over, censorship arrives with him. Facts go underground. Propaganda becomes infatigable. True rumors get going. It is uncontrollable how much the dictatorship tries. From rumor, a steadily increasing nervousness grows, internally. Weird stories told on the sly can't be refuted in print; can't be recognized and disproved, as they can be in a democracy. The longer the censorship the greater the jitters at home. The process contributes much to the blow-up in which tyrannous ends.

Many of the stories seem just fantasies. But nobody ever quite knows, or can know, whether they are true or false. And the Hitlers, Stalins and Mussolinis, powerful though they be, don't dare admit the existence of the stories. Suppose, for example, the German Propaganda Minister should deny that Hitler is dead and that a double is substiting for him. That's one of the rumors. Or that it was the double, not Hitler, who met with Chamberlain. Or that the reason why Hitler doesn't always look the same over the radio is that several doubles are serving to perpetuate the Hitler myth.

Or suppose Stalin should publicly claim that he is actually alive and that it isn't true he is an underground study who just looks like Stalin; they appear—Emperor, Duce or Fuehrer. These are just a couple of the most cock-eyed. But the sum total of tales that flourish when the lid of censorship is on is something for any dictator to view in trembling fear. For sometimes the boy-crazy man will get him. If he knows history he will know that. He who creates darkness has every reason to be afraid of the dark.

The Poet's Corner

THE FAIR HILLS OF EIRE The dewdrops lie bright 'mid the dew on the fair hills of Eire. O! The sweet-scented apples bluish redly in the moon. On the fair hills of Eire, O! The water-cress and sorrel fill the vales below. The streamlets are hushed till the evening breeze blows. While the waves of the Suir, noble river) ever flow Near the fair hills of Eire, O!

A fruitful clime is Eire, through valley, meadow, plain, And the fair hills of Eire, O! The very bread of life is in the yellow grain. On the fair hills of Eire, O! Far dearer unto me than the tones that music yields Is the lowing of her kine and the croaking of her fields. And the sunlight that shone long ago on the shields Of the Gaels, on the fair hills of Eire, O!

—From the Gaelic by J. C. Mangano. pose is to secure that the essential labor force needed for a country at war shall be kept intact and shall not be drained in advance by the commands of the various kinds of civilian defence. —Manchester Guardian.

That Body of Hours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

HOW SURGERY, RADIUM AND XRAY CURE CANCER

During the past ten to fifteen years physicians, surgeons, health commissioners, and health writers have been warning the public about the danger of neglecting a sore that does not heal, chronic indigestion, and bleeding from any source because in middle age this may mean the presence of cancer. This warning was given, not to frighten people, but because cancer is curable if discovered and treated early. Thus, although the cause of cancer is as yet unknown, it is known that if all the cancer cells can be removed or destroyed, cures can be established which will allow patients to live in comfort through the normal span of life.

It is upon this truth that the modern treatment of cancer by surgery, radium, and X-ray is based, and convincing proof of cures by these methods can be seen every day in the hospital clinics where all cases are closely followed. How is cancer cured by surgery? The Handbook on Cancer, Canadian Medical Association, states that a "cure" of cancer requires not only the removal of the primary or original growth but of the lymphatic vessels (part of the blood circulating system) which drain the growth. Thus when the breast is removed for cancer, the lymphatic vessels draining it are removed as far over as the arm pit; in cancer of the lip or tongue, these lymphatic vessels are removed as far over as the sides of the neck.

Treatment by radium and X-ray is not the removal of the cancerous growth but the destruction of the cancer cells that have wandered off from the main growth. This is made possible by the fact that these fast growing cancer cells are more easily destroyed by radium or X-ray than are normal cells. The published records of results obtained by surgery alone compared with surgery combined with radium and X-ray treatment show that the patient's chances of recovery are distinctly improved when these methods of treatment are used instead of either method alone.

Just here a note of warning is given. "Just as in the case of the surgical treatment, treatment by radium or high voltage X-ray should be solely in the hands of the expert."

O Spring!

Spring has turned into a shrew and given New York a piece of her mind. Altogether it was a depressing spectacle, starting with a soggy snowfall and ending in a burst of ill-tempered tears. Snow beginning to sneak down on March 11 is always a dangerous symptom. It comes when a group of old-timers, not content to sit well enough alone, insist on staging a formal celebration of the Blizzard of 1888, when "snowflakes as big as dollar bills" piled up to turn the whole city into a beleaguered fortress. It has never happened again, but everybody knows that it could, and this year the signs and portents looked ominous. Since '88 New York has undergone undergrowth, like a forehanded mole, and even another blizzard would scarcely freeze us into complete immobility. But it would be no more welcome on that account. By the middle of March people are sick of winter and all its works. Snow, even of the best quality, isn't

BACKACHE OFTEN WARNING

Backache may be the first sign of kidney trouble. When your back aches, look to your kidneys. Don't fail to heed this warning—it is important. Take prompt action to correct backache, or its cause. At the first sign of backache turn confidently to Dodd's Kidney Pills—for over half a century the favorite remedy for kidney ailments.

Dodd's Kidney Pills

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That Body of Hours
Ever fallen, Bill?
Only for Sweet Caps!
SWEET CAPORAL CIGARETTES
The purest form in which tobacco can be smoked.

fun any more and slush is just slush. It is incongruous to think of the First Robin wading around in muffler and overalls. Exhibitions of temperment on the part of the weather are coldly received. The sap is already rising in us, and the human heart is opening to blue skies, green meadows and balmy breezes. To have to bang it shut again is just a little too much.

Annual Convention of the PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND TEACHERS' FEDERATION will be held in PRINCE OF WALES COLLEGE HALL Charlottetown TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY APRIL 4th, 5th, 6th. Addresses by Mr. C. N. Crutchfield, Secretary Treasurer Canadian Teachers' Federation Hon. T. A. Campbell, Premier of P. E. I. Mr. W. R. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture Mr. H. H. Shaw, B.Sc., Minister of Education. Mr. Howard Court, Supervisor of Teacher Training Prince of Wales College Mr. M. E. Callaghan B. A. Supervisor, and others. All interested are cordially invited to attend.

ATTENTION FARMERS NEAR CHARLOTTETOWN The annual St. Patrick's snow storm has tied up the Potato and Turnip movement and improved the market. To growers who wish to take advantage of this we have a Truck at your disposal. When your load reaches the edge of the town kindly telephone the office No. 212 and we will arrange to meet you. We want Turnips, Table Stocks and Seed Potatoes. FRANK B. CLARKE CHARLOTTETOWN L-1232-3-18-39

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