

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1938.

"The Sun Still Shines"

The Fortnightly Law Journal has this concluding reflection to make on a subject causing so much political perturbation: "Someone said that all signs of Canadian unity had not completely disappeared, as everyone was agreed on the desirability of Canadian unity. That is one of the troubles. First that everyone agrees its desirability and does nothing to promote it, and secondly that the unity which they agree is desirable differs to such an extent that the agreement on desirability is in fact the strongest evidence of disagreement and total lack of unity. In fact the real agreement lies in the universality of disagreement and Canada is completely united in disunion. The Provinces are more or less united in opposition to Ottawa and the federal politicians are united at loggerheads with their provincial brethren, and all are united in the scramble for the apple of discord. Agreement to disagree is agreement of course, and is fundamentally the basis of democracy. But successful democracy is the constant balancing of disagreement. It is only when disagreement gets out of balance that democracy becomes the source of disunion that is evident in Canada today. Confederation was an experiment in the nature of the compound pendulum. Two forms of disagreement had to be held in balance and the truth is plain that the double balance is more than proportionately difficult to obtain. But we do not despair. Usually things have to get worse before they get better. After all Christmas is with us, the football championship has remained in the East, George Drew leads the Ontario Conservatives, the sun still shines occasionally, the fall has been very mild and the coal dealers gnash their teeth, peace is still with us, all's well with the world. We can look back and enjoy Christmas in the light of things that are in sharp contrast to the might have been. At least in Christmas Canada is united."

A Damning Indictment

The first woman to hold cabinet rank in Great Britain, Rt. Hon. Margaret Bondfield, has just completed a tour of Western Canada and the United States. During the tour, she states that she has found a tragic difference in the treatment accorded the unemployed youth of the two countries. Speaking of the youth in the United States, Miss Bondfield said: "Young men are made to feel that their country is looking after them." Referring to Canada, she said: "It appears that no one takes the slightest responsibility for the Canadian youth once he is unemployed." This is perhaps the most damning indictment ever levelled at a government in this country. It cannot be dismissed as a superficial or partisan indictment. In every province there is evidence of the fact that Miss Bondfield's statement of conditions in this country is only too true. Who is responsible? Unquestionably the Dominion Government. The present Prime Minister and his colleagues assumed responsibility for this problem in their election platform of 1935, in which the promise to appoint a National Employment Commission was accompanied by assurances that this Commission would be effective in solving unemployment. They did appoint a Commission, but deprived it of the powers necessary for action and subsequently neglected to implement many of the Commission's most important recommendations. Significant in this connection was the first statement of policy made by Hon. Dr. Manion, National Conservative party leader, in his speech accepting the party leadership. That statement was a pledge that when elected to power he would appoint a Minister of Youth and Welfare. Not another futile Commission, but a separate department of government in charge of a responsible Minister of the Crown.

"Highly Displeasing"

Far from being satisfactory to Maritime fishery interests, it seems that the more closely the new U.S.-Canada trade treaty is studied the more disadvantageous it appears. The Maritime Merchant confesses that it previously misinterpreted expressions of opinion by prominent men in the trade, when it stated that all associated with the dried fish industry were pleased with the new provisions. In its current issue it publishes a letter from an authority on the subject, namely, Mr. F. Homer Zwicker, secretary-treasurer of a well-known Lunenburg fish firm who was one of the two Federal commissioners appointed by the King Government last year to visit southern countries to investigate fish markets. Mr. Zwicker writes that his firm is not "well pleased" but "highly displeased, in that the same rate of duty was not named for fish both over and under the 43 per cent moisture content." In respect to this phase of the question he adds: "It is my opinion that those in the export business of dried salt fish have every reason to be keenly disappointed and completely discouraged." The criticism of the treaty in its relation to the dried fish trade is levelled at the provision whereby the duty on dried fish with moisture content over 43 p.c. will be 3/8c. per lb. against 3/4c. under the 1935 agreement, while on dried fish with moisture content not more than 43 p.c. it will be 5/8c. per lb. against 1-4 cents per lb. under the 1935 agreement. What the exporters wanted was an equal rate on both kinds of fish. It is said that notwithstanding the fact that the differential between the two duties is reduced by half (to 1-4c. instead of 1-2c.) the com-

petition of Newfoundland Labrador fish is worse than ever on orders booked for export after the turn of the year.

At Level Crossings

The level crossing, with its attendant possibilities of crashes between railroad trains and highway vehicles, is well recognized as one of the most important traffic problems in Canada and in the United States. In some other countries, such as Great Britain, due to the different conditions under which the different media of communication and transport developed, and the older and more established countryside through which even the first rails ran, the level or "grade" crossing is practically unknown. On this continent, there has been considerable progress made, of course, in the gradual elimination of these crossings. Such elimination is the only sure and certain safeguard. In the meantime, such devices as warning and protection must be employed—and observed. Evidence that even protection may not be enough is given in recent word from The Board of Transport Commissioners for Canada. Notes a publication from that source: "The Canadian National Railway lines from May 1, 1938, to October 31, 1938, show 164 cases where there was danger at protected crossings due to the negligence of those using the crossings. The Canadian Pacific Railway from April 1, 1938, to September 30, 1938, shows a total of 181 cases. The Essex Terminal Railways reports one case."

Editorial Notes

The shortest day. * * * Have you forgot anything—that cordial, friendly reminder, for instance, that may make the other fellow feel there's something in this Christmas racket after all? * * * You need not be your brother's keeper in jail to make him realize that at Christmas he is as good as those who escaped detection and conviction. * * * George Eliot died this date, 1880. O may I join the choir invisible Of those immortal dead who live again In minds made better by their presence. * * * Memel in Lithuania, for which no nation seems to care a hoot whether it be Nazified or not, has an area of 1,099 square miles and had been German until it was surrendered under the Treaty of Versailles. It was held under mandate by the principal allied powers until 1923, when Lithuanians occupied the territory. The Allies recognized this bloodless conquest by the May 8, 1924 convention (or statute) signed at Paris and ratified in August, 1925. Although Britain and France are signatories of this convention, no informed observers in London expect them to do more than protest if Chancellor Hitler should "permit" the Memel Germans to come back to the Reich, as did the Sudetens in somewhat similar circumstances. * * * The fear of the Latin American republics which prevented them accepting the U.S.A. resolution in favour of joint peace policy and defensive measures was that Washington with the big stick wanted from them an exclusive loyalty to the doctrine of Pan-Americanism; that it wished them to turn their backs on the Old World, think only of the New, and sever the ties of trade and culture and traditions which bind them to the democracies of Europe. It was to allay this fear that Brazil introduced the resolution ultimately adopted providing that in the event of the peace of the American republics being menaced, the signatories declare themselves ready to defend the American continent against expansionist plans of other powers and to combine for common defence. This leaves each country free to remain republics or become totalitarian states as they so decide, so long as aid from Europe or Asia is not sought or given. * * * Mr. Arthur Bryan in his new "Life of Samuel Pepys, The Saviour of the Navy", while sorrowfully admitting that the Revolution may have been necessary, goes on to say that had it not taken place the exploitation of the poor in the next century might have been mitigated. But that battle had already been lost, when Stratford's head fell, for Marston Moor was but an inevitable sequel to that crushing defeat of the monarchy by the money power. The foundation of the Bank of England by William Paterson only clinched the matter; and the usury became, not only sinless as it had been for some centuries, not only a thing a gentleman could indulge in, as had been recognized for some generations, but a positively patriotic action. Motives are always mixed; the glorious victories of history often turn out to be sad tragedies for the conquerors themselves, and progress if it exists at all, is so slow as to be scarcely perceptible, and in every age men are faced by the same kind of moral choice. * * * This is the sort of heartening news which speaks the spirit of the true pioneer, and usually the successful farmer. Mr. C. L. Dietz, a delegate from Central Nebraska to the National Grange convention at Portland, Ore., said the farmers in his country had suffered a succession of scourges, dust, grasshoppers, hot winds, hail and prices that fell as fast as the hailstones when they managed to get a crop. "Most of us stayed on our own land in our own country because we had a pride and confidence in it," he said. "I look at it this way: Every district has its advantages and disadvantages and when you list them all and strike a balance one place is as good as another. It would be simple if a farmer could pull up stakes, go to another district and immediately settle down on a top-notch farm; but he can't do that. The good ones are taken. The refugee has to settle on the border-line land, where he probably isn't any better off than he was back home. I don't want to go to one of those 'lands of plenty' we hear about and settle on left-over land. I'd have to learn all over again—learn new crops, new pest control, new weed control, new methods, and stumble around trying to compete in an unfamiliar market when I got a crop."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Garden expert says letting the clipped grass lie helps the lawn. As winter approaches, each year, we get a hunch that failure to disturb the snow on the walk is also helpful in some direction or other.—Toronto Telegram.

The output of the Turner Valley oil field will be limited to conserve the natural resource, since the available market is not as great as the flow. With increasing aerial and automotive activity, the time may come when Canada will be thankful to have a reserve.—Brandon Expositor.

"According to a new idea adopted by the State Legislature persons convicted on minor charges will be allowed to serve their terms in disjointed periods, such as every Sunday. The new law will thus provide for a man attending to his work at the same time as he is repaying justice for law infractions. This system will only be applied, however, in cases where the sentence is less than two months."—L'Evenement-Journal Quebec.

Often we have suggested that nothing happens anywhere in the world without having its repercussions elsewhere. Thus it is interesting to note the plaintive demands for wool clothing. Nowdays, people are using central heating instead of Australian wool to keep themselves warm, and the trawlers find it more difficult to sell their wool.—Niagara Falls Review.

Here is a flea that comes from Detroit, Mich., and on the face of it, it looks sensible: If an electric light bulb burns out in Detroit it is taken to the utility office and it is replaced there. The point is that bulbs are purchased for very little money if taken in large quantities, and the more bulbs burned up the more electricity will be used. We are not sure that such a plan would work out in Trenton, but there is no harm in telling how it is done in Detroit.—Trenton Courier-Advocate.

With one of the finest samples of hard spring wheat ever seen by judges at the International Grain and Hay Show at Chicago, F. Lloyd Rigby of Wembley, Alberta, Canada. Once more it has been demonstrated that the Canadian prairie land is the world's reservoir for that magnificent type of wheat which is, and always will be, in great demand by the millers and bakers of the world.—Fort William Times-Journal.

Many individuals, within England and without, have voiced their opinions of Prime Minister Chamberlain's peace with Hitler at Munich. The voice of British money is speaking more clearly, more forcefully than any other on that subject. British capital is fleeing. Britain's wealthy and the light-born may pat Mr. Chamberlain's back among the teacups at Oliveden, applaud him to his face. But they are not taking any chances with their money while they wait to see the fruit of his "appeasement" of the dictators. It may be that Chamberlain was sincere in his belief that "appeasement" would be best in the long run for British capital, which he represented. British capital, in whose interests that alliance was made, has no more faith in it than British labor.—New-York Post.

When Mussolini first seized power in Italy, he established the doctrine of fascism. Later Hitler seized the reins of power in Germany to create nazism. Ever since, other countries adopted similar regimes, each under some particular guise, but all assuming the general classification of totalitarianism. Greece, indeed, has been the confusion of the average man in seeking to determine the exact meaning of the word, so the definition given by J. Reuben Clark of Salt Lake City may offer a way out for the average man. He says: "The powers of evil battle like as good as God. This new pagan state has entered the field of government, protesting love and friendship for the people whose property it means to confiscate, whose liberty it means to steal, and whose religion it means to destroy." This is a definition of totalitarianism that is worthy of being posted in any man's hat.—Sherebrooks Record.

Since Edgar Hoover was given the job of directing the criminal investigation bureau at Washington, effective work has been done in running down and punishing notorious criminals. Quite a number have been convicted and given life imprisonment or executed. The activities of hysther lawyers and corrupt politicians are especially noticeable in the attempt to have sentences of imprisoned culprits reduced. This is a form of conspiracy against the law that has not made as much headway in Canada though occasionally an effort is made to obtain unjustified parole. On the whole, however, the people of Canada have reason to congratulate themselves that the crime situation is so simple as compared with that of the United States. There it has become so familiar to the general public that law-abiding element have come to regard it as a permanent handicap against which nothing can be done.—Galt Reporter.

It is fair to point out that the Arabs who now urge the Jews to enter Palestine have in their own country a severe and rigid system to restrict immigration. If a similar system had prevailed in Palestine over the ten years the present problems would not have arisen. Emigration from Germany is taking place on a large scale. An attempt has been made to convert vast numbers of Polish Jews to their homeland. This attempt has met with protests from Warsaw, for Poland does not want her national back again. Of course, shortly we shall hear voices raised in Britain saying we should take these Poles, seeing that they are acceptable neither to Poland nor to Germany. But already, full and flowing, a tide of immigrant aliens is pouring into this country. Never before in history have so many foreigners been admitted to this island. Already nearly a quarter of a million of them are in among us, and day by day and every day more and more arrive. These aliens are not seeking education. They do not

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.

MUSCLE MUD AS FERTILIZER

Our policy in absorbing the freight costs of lime has had the effect of the farmers applying to their land this fall approximately eight thousand (8,000) tons of lime the result of which should have a beneficial effect on the crops of future years. There is another matter well worthy of consideration—there are our stores vast deposits of muscle mud containing a large percentage of lime and it is well known that, when muscle mud was applied to the land every year, our crops were bountiful, more particularly the hay crop. The natural question arises as to what is the matter with our younger generation that they are not digging this wonderful fertilizer out of the rivers and applying it to the land especially in the winter when there is little or nothing else to do. Of course we hear the statement that there are no mud diggers now but the principle cost of the digger is the scoop and chain and these must surely be laying around somewhere. Why not our farmers get together and build a mud digger, get out on the ice raising sixty or eighty loads of mud per day or is there no some hardy young men with initiative and energy sufficient to enable him to buy a digger, raise mud for his neighbors and sell same by the load. This is well worthy of the consideration of our farmers and we would strongly urge that they arrange to take the matter up and act on this advice—they will not regret it.

We are, Sir, etc. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PRISONER'S CHRISTMAS TREE

Sir—"I was in Prison and ye visited me." They said "When Saw We Thee"

The Poet's Corner

THE KING COMETH

Yet, if His Majesty, our sovereign lord, Should of his own accord Friendly Him invite, And say, "I'll be your guest to-morrow night," How should we stir ourselves, call All hands to work! "Let no man idle stand. Set the Spanish tables in the hall. See they be fitted all; Let there be room to eat; And order taken that there want no meat. See every sconce and candlestick made bright, That without tapers they may give a light. Look to the presence are the carpets spread, The galle on the head, The cushions in the chairs, And all the candles lighted on the stairs! Perfume the chamber, and in any case, Let each man give attendance in his place; Thus, if a king were coming would we do: And were good reason, too; For 'tis a courteous thing, To show all honour to an earl's king And after all our travail and our cost, So he be pleased, to think no labour lost. But at the coming of the King of Heaven All's set at six and seven; We wallow in our sin, Christ cannot find a chamber in the inn We entertain Him always like a stranger. And, as at first, still lodge Him in a manger. —Anon: Seventeenth Century.

look for pleasure. Their search is for work. They desire to occupy jobs for which there is already a waiting list of 2,000,000 of our own citizens, the unemployed.—London Sunlay Express.

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In Prison and visited Thee?" and Jesus answered: "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren Ye have done it unto me." Some read their Bibles wrongly. Their version is:—"I was in Prison and ye visited my relatives"—(Fathers, mothers and children.) "We don't mind helping the children of the prisoner but let the prisoner go." They say. Then we pray "Thank God we are not as these miserable prisoners." This Christmas we hold our second Christmas Tree at Queen's County Jail. Last year about 35 prisoners were present and received gifts—candy and fruit. Many with tears in their eyes thought of happier Christmases and may be resolved to do better in the future. So please leave your gifts at the Jail and God will reward you. I am, Sir, etc. PRISONERS' AID

BUT SOON CUT OFF

GARDIFF, Wales — (CP) — Undergoing an operation here Francis Sawie's heart stopped for two minutes. It was restarted and Sawie lived 16 hours.

HOUSES GO CHEAP

LIVERPOOL, England — (CP) — Two houses, which produced a gross annual rental of more than \$112 each, for 10 shillings (\$2.34) each in auction here. They are scheduled for demolition.

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS and particularly to those to whom or for whom we have rented or sold HOUSES, FARMS AND OTHER PROPERTIES We extend a hearty good wish for A Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year H. K. S. HEMMING & CO. Real Estate Agents Charlottetown

ACTORS IN CHURCH LONDON — (CP) — Professional West End actors will present a play, "The Guest of Three Kings" at the West London Mission Church Shepherd's Bush, Jan. 8. DIED OF BROKEN HEART GENEVA — (CP) — Gretel, the pet stock, is dead—of love. Her mate was stolen about a month ago and Gretel, broken-hearted, refused to eat and died of starvation. YOUR FEET HURT? H. J. A. BROWN Phone 140 Chiroprapist—Podiatrist 143 Gt. Geo. St., Charlottetown All foot troubles painlessly and scientifically treated Special Foot plates to casts



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