

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1946

Misuse of Judges

Speaking before the annual meeting of the Police Association of Ontario, Senator Ruebuck deplored the employment of Supreme Court judges to conduct commissions of inquiry or for labor conciliation. There was thus imposed on jurists, he said, duties for which they had no training or experience. He cited examples to show how their tasks as commissioners not only interfered with but unfitted judges for their duties on the bench. Worst example in his opinion was the commission to investigate espionage activities.

"In Ottawa recently," the Senator said, "we took two excellent justices of the bench of the Supreme Court of Canada and imposed on them the police task of investigating an alleged seditious conspiracy and of instituting prosecutions against those who appeared to be guilty. Notwithstanding they were eminent jurists, they walked over the civil rights of accused persons as no experienced police officer would dream of doing, and they did things which no good attorney would on one moment permit. They disregarded the great beacons in English law which light the way to freedom and security—the Magna Carta of 1215, the Petition of Rights of 1627, the Habeas Corpus Act of 1679, the Bill of Rights of 1688. We thus scrapped two very good judges and recast two very indifferent policemen. I hope that we have learned our lesson."

Governments have fallen into the habit of calling judges from the bench to have three man commissions to investigate any problem deemed too hot for politicians to touch. More and more is this practice coming under criticism, as not only interfering with the regular court work for which judges were set aside by life appointment, but as impairing in too many cases their positions of judicial objectivity.

Strongly Criticized

Wide and unfavorable comment is being made on the King Government act in granting a virtual amnesty to the 14,000 who deserted from the army, or failed to report for the call-up. Those, for instance, who have been caught, and are in jail, remarks the Globe and Mail, will have to serve out their sentences, but those who have hitherto evaded the police will have the slate wiped clean. This is a new form of justice—Canada brand. A further discrimination is practiced between those who deserted in this country, and those who deserted overseas. There is a well-remembered group of 6,300 who were absent without leave just before they were to be sent to the ships which were to take them to reinforcement depots overseas. They go scot free. Thus the Government perpetuates the dual system which caused so much of the whole trouble.

It is typical that having granted freedom, and restored the full dignity of citizenship to those who deserted their country's need, the Government should decide to withhold their "rights, privileges and benefits." It is claimed that there will be some financial saving through this move, and the Government puts itself on the head for its economy. How characteristic it is for this Administration to point to this petty advantage in an effort to cover up the enormity of its betrayal of justice and respect for the law!

The harvest of this shameful act, predicts the Globe and Mail, will be reaped in after years. What can Defense Minister Abbott now hope to do to the member of the Permanent Army, who has had enough of it, and decides to desert? What discipline can be expected in the Armed Forces of Canada when it is known that if only a man hides long enough, he will be forgiven? What respect for the law can be hoped for, throughout the country generally, when the Government itself brushes aside the violation of one of the most serious crimes on the military calendar as of no consequence?

Then And Now

The strikes situation in Hamilton, declares Mr. W. R. Gaven, Muskoka, is one of the most shocking defiance of law, order and good government that we have had in Canada since the Winnipeg strike of 1919 when for a time a Soviet was in absolute control there and the Provincial Government stood by helpless and afraid to take any responsibility whatever, apparently intimidated by the fact that the police and Dominion employees had allied themselves with the lawless element. It may not be amiss, therefore, to recall how the Dominion Government of the day acted in that much more serious and threatening situation than now prevails in Hamilton. Instead of resurrecting a Parliamentary Industrial Relations Committee to "investigate" as was done in this Hamilton issue, with no appreciable results, the then Dominion Government of 1919 moved into action with courage and dispatch. A contingent of Mounted Police were brought up; a trained regiment of the "Black" was kept in reserve, but very close at

hand, and the Government notified every Dominion employee to be back by a certain hour or lose his job for good. Nor did it stop there. Eight men were arrested, all being convicted, with the result that in relatively short order the crisis, much more difficult and dangerous than this Hamilton mess, was ended and the disorderly, lawless element brought to their senses. And this, be it emphasized, without any active participation by the Militia. As the owner and editor of the Kingston Daily Standard at the time I naturally followed with lively interest the course of action taken and I recall distinctly how Hon. Arthur Meighen, then in the Dominion Cabinet as Manitoba Minister, actually went out to the scene of disturbance to direct the situation, remaining on the job till law and order had been restored, the Soviet completely discredited and the Government had done its full duty by the country and honest labor.

EDITORIAL NOTES

All Veterans—to arms once more — for those unemployed!

"Solid Liberal Quebec"—does not appear very solid at the present juncture.

Of the 34,000 German prisoners-of-war originally interned in the Dominion all but 4,000 have returned to Germany, figures recently made available in Ottawa reveal.

Field Marshal Lord Montgomery when he visits here Monday will find us the most loyal province in the whole Dominion, with few shirkers and practically no deserters—always proud of our King and Country.

The Russian Government, says The Printed Word, is not moving to a five-day week, but away from it. In force in theory before the war, but not in practice, the five-day week is openly abandoned in the Five Year Plan, and working time is to be eight hours a day for a seven day week.

Ninety-nine women doctors served in the three branches of the Canadian armed forces during the late war, according to Dr. Edna Guest, O.B.E., chairman of the Federation of Medical Women of Canada, in the current issue of The Canadian Doctor. Of this number, more than half had still to be demobilized on June 15. The army had claimed 70, the largest number; 14 joined the RCAF; and seven served in the navy. The first Canadian woman doctor to enlist was Squadron Officer Jean Davey.

Rev. W. A. Ross, former Secretary of the Maritime Religious Council, who recently passed away in Toronto, had many friends in this province which for years he visited annually. He was devoted to boys' work at a time when, so far as the Protestants were concerned, little in particular was being done for them, and conceived the idea of a religious Tuxis and Trail Rangers movement, which, so long as he supervised it proved popular and an undoubted success here, but lost ground considerably when his inspiring influence was withdrawn.

Liberal circles at Ottawa, writes an Ottawa correspondent, take very seriously the theory that the Prime Minister will resign in the near future. With Messrs. Howe, St. Laurent and Hilsley definitely intending to retire; with Mr. Claxton slated for External Affairs only, the candidates to replace the Prime Minister are now Mr. Gardiner, who really wants the post, and Mr. Abbott, who would like it, but will not fight for it. The caucus would probably plump for Mr. Gardiner if it were not that, at the moment, he seems to have no hope of carrying the West.

Sir George Dashwood Taubman Goldie, founder of Nigeria, died this date 1925; the region was originally discovered by the Portuguese but gradually the British acquired the predominating share of the trade; and ultimately under the direction of Sir George the National African Co. was established and proceeded to civilize and develop the territory, surrendering their rights in 1900 for the purpose of establishing a British protectorate. All children born after that date were born free, and in 1917 all the slaves held by native rulers were declared free and slave dealing abolished, and is now practically non-existent. Sir George attended the Berlin Conference in 1884-5 as an expert on Niger questions, and was appointed to the Royal Commission on the South African War in 1902-3. He was an authority on defence, and was for long president of the National Defence Association; he stoutly maintained the only real safeguard against slavery was to be prepared at all times to fight for liberty.

Here is worthwhile enterprise. Mrs. Elmer Glaspie, Vancouver, slim, dark-haired and dynamic, with no previous agricultural background, bought a farm. But that was six years ago, and now, what had started out as one farm, has grown to a corporation of three — Fairmeade Farms Ltd., and occupies 350 acres in nearby Langley Prairie. Today, she spends six months of the year on the farms, of which she is president, and most of her weekends the rest of the year. She has 200 head of the finest cattle in a district noted for its fine cattle, a herd which boasts 175 championships. The old farm-house, which used to stand on the property, has disappeared in favor of a modern home, complete with swimming pool. But it wasn't enough to breed championship cattle, Mrs. Glaspie recently purchased a number of Kentucky thoroughbred horses which are being trained for high school equestrian exhibitions under the direction of Maj. George Griffin, formerly of the R. C. M. P. Her latest gesture is to send 18 jerseys, under the care of Alex Lamond, on a six-week tour of the American fair circuit which includes Salem, Gresham, and Portland. Sixteen of the record-breakers were bred at Fairmeade—a record not likely to be equalled anywhere along the circuit.

Notes By The Way

Believe only half of what you hear, and if you can't decide which half you should believe, play safe and believe nothing. —Kitchener Record.

The cart is being placed before the horse and the reversal is grotesque. For in this situation, the horse is Full Production and the cart is Low Prices. If the heavy load is to be hauled to the top of the uphill road of Reconversion to Stability, the natural aim must be to strengthen the horse, and not to increase the weight in the cart. When the top of the hill is reached and an even road lies ahead then will be the time to place greater demands on the horse. —Kontres Gazette.

"In four-dimensional space a tennis ball could be turned inside out without tearing the cover." Sounds like the U.N. trying to arrive at an atomic bomb control policy. —Winnipeg Tribune.

"A rose is a rose is a rose..." It might appear equally true that a dollar is a dollar is a dollar. But this is not quite true, as is evidenced by the contract which was reprinted in its pristine form from Miss Stein's latest book, "Brewster and the Wolf." The contract was for the sale of a house. The house was to be sold for \$10,000. The contract was signed by the seller and the buyer. The contract was signed by the seller and the buyer. The contract was signed by the seller and the buyer.

Von Ribbentrop, once a champagne salesman and Hitler's foreign minister, turned a sickly white and slumped forward when the British prosecutor referred to the long chief of the German high command, wept as the prosecutor detailed the crimes of the master race. These supermen of the master race do not appear to be so tough after all. But a soldier is a soldier and the supermen are likely to save them from the explosion of their unparalleled crimes. —Toronto Star.

This fall children who go to one Chicago public school will find 25 miniature pianos—no toy but stiffened from their music-hungry fingers. They will owe this chance to an ex-Air Force private who largely made of war-surplus materials. Instead of sitting on the player's lap, it rests on a tubular aluminum frame which is attached to a "comfortable" attached seat. Chicago is not the only large city school system to like up new Rhododendron instruments. They and other cities are thinking as a definite prerequisite for the study of any musical instrument. —Hamilton Spectator.

This country is already beginning to feel the pinch of the war. Let the disappointments be what they may, the veterans have tackled their jobs with a vigor and industry that is a credit to the country. They are not afraid of work. They know the value of preparation for the hand of the hand of the hand. Their Canadian spirit is real, and soundly earned. Also, they have been abroad and have seen other lands. They are not afraid of work. They know the value of preparation for the hand of the hand of the hand. Their Canadian spirit is real, and soundly earned. Also, they have been abroad and have seen other lands.

Canada is a young and growing country. It needs people who can dream of the future, and then turn those dreams into reality. The people who will make Canada grow and prosper. But this cannot be done without trend in the present day for people to want something for nothing. They are merely content to dream, not take action that will bring results. Canada is a young and growing country. It needs people who can dream of the future, and then turn those dreams into reality. The people who will make Canada grow and prosper. But this cannot be done without trend in the present day for people to want something for nothing. They are merely content to dream, not take action that will bring results.

Steel production in Britain during 1945 was at the rate of 13,619,000 tons per year, the highest rate ever reached in this month. The figure for 1938 was 10,980,000 tons. This record achievement was disclosed by the British Iron and Steel Federation in its statistical survey published recently. The survey also shows that exports of iron and steel during the same month increased to 264,500 tons, an annual rate of 3,168,000 tons, which is higher than the figure for any of the last eighteen years. The total exports of iron and steel for the first five months of the year were at the rate of over 2,520,000 tons a year, an increase of 28.6 percent, on the 1,959,400 tons recorded for 1938. —U.S. Information Service.

It is odd to see numerous stores and shops on the principal streets of Toronto, Ontario's capital city, closed and bearing signs that everybody is away taking some holidays. The idea is really in working out well apparently, for many lines of goods are so scarce —none at all of some kinds —that there would be much for customers to buy if the doors were open. Anyway the lure of the open road, shady trees, beach life, that is coveted in hot weather. —Kingston Whig-Standard.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

MUSIC IN SCHOOLS

Sir—Those of us who had the privilege of attending the recent Music Festival will naturally endorse the initiative of the Women's Institute organizations in their efforts to bring more music into our schools. The children on this occasion proved that they do not lack musical talent, and it would be an excellent thing if such gifts were given the chance of full development. We are fortunate in having an excellent and forward-looking director of education for Prince Edward Island, and I feel sure that the public would heartily support any steps he may deem wise and fitting in order to provide more and better musical instruction in the schools all over the Island. Musical appreciation can nowadays be taught by almost anybody who can turn a gramophone on and place there any one of the large number of light classical music records that appeal to youth. Among these are those of Tigran (The Wind of Youth), P. O. Church, and Tschaikovsky (The Nutcracker Suite). Such music only needs to be heard by children to elevate and enliven their musical taste. There is also a wealth of folk music in the songs of the various "parent" nations—English, Scottish, Irish, Welsh and French-Canadian, airs and folk-songs, the sea-chanties collected by Sir Richard Terry, the plantation songs and Negro spirituals etc. (Kennedy Fraser's songs of the Hebrides are good examples of folk-music). Music should also find a prominent place in the course taken by future teachers. There is a great opportunity here for advancing the cause of musical culture among the young generation. The chance should not be missed.

I AM, SIR, ETC. A MUSIC LOVER

THE DUCK SEASON

Sir—In the issue of August 13th of our Island papers I saw the regulations regarding shooting of migratory birds, and one of the sections for shooting ducks has been set back this time to Sept. 25, which is later than ever; also the last half hour before sunset is one half hour after sunset. I wonder what all this is for? Is it to shut the farmer out of the last half hour before sunset, when he is busy gathering his crop and a good number will be digging their potatoes by that time and too busy to be bothered with what will leave more room and the birds will be easier for the outsiders or city gunners to get. I may say the last half hour before sunset is the best shooting, and if we have to shoulder our guns one half hour after sunset and go to the ducks are beginning to come or fly into the ponds. It is high time for the farmers to get busy feeding the rest of the world to wake up and have their say in making those laws; and then the rest of the world will be able to protect the shooting for those other than the country people.

The farmers are asked nearly every winter to feed the Hungarians, and they are asked to feed the ducks around the barn yard, and I wonder whom are we to feed them with? The ducks are the only ones who are helping to make the shooting laws; but if those laws are not changed back to what they were once years, instead of the farmers feeding the "huns", they will be helping to feed the farmers.

I think some of our country gunners should get in touch with our Members and have them see the alarming report of this year's changed back. In closing I think it would be a good idea for all people who own land in shooting districts to follow the people in this locality and prohibit outsiders from trespassing in the present regulations are so strict that a great many people who call themselves gunners have places for shooting along rivers and streams, but they are not allowed to shoot at our little ponds and as soon as those ponds freeze a little the ducks will leave the streams and go to the ponds. Our gunners should get together and have our season open Sept. 20 and shooting close hour before sunset and one hour after sunset. I am, Sir, etc. E. E. JAY. Peakes, P. E. I.

MR. KING'S GRUESOME CONFESSION

Sir—So the 20,000 odd deserters, draft dodgers, etc.—those milk fed pets of Mr. King, with the yellow streak down their backs and at least had the guts to go overseas before cracking under the strain of battle and deserting must remain as hunted men. What a disgusting climax to Mr. King's conscription policy! What a disgusting comparison of justice.

Not so long ago the people of this Dominion were stupefied by the alarming report of Russian espionage in our country. It was unbelievable that Russia, the allied nation who had helped so much during the war, should thank Canada by stabbing her in the back. To those who were active in the spy ring we cried "traitor" and we cheered as we read of the prison sentences meted out to those found guilty, amongst whom was a member of parliament. These people, who had conspired to give secrets to an "allied" nation are paying for their disloyalty with imprisonment and we wish they should. Those thousands who sold their country and fellow men to an "enemy" nation by deserting the armed forces are given freedom. I repeat: what a comparison of justice!

Those men who voluntarily went overseas and to battle before deserting are not included in the amnesty. They, like the thousands who deserted in Canada, don't deserve it and should be punished severely. But if full pardons are granted to deserters, those who went overseas surely deserve first consideration. They are the men who, seeing the possible gaps in the ranks grow steadily larger, read in letters from home, and in army newspapers, of the mass desertions "back" in Canada. They are the men who, battle weary, heard of Col. Ralston's recommendations for immediate reinforcements being "thrown out", and of his subsequent retirement as Defence Minister. They are the men who heard the disheartening report of conscripts tossing their rifles overboard while on their way overseas. Their morale shaken, and unable to stand the strain of battle, they said, "What's the use?" and "to hell with it all" and deserted. But are they pardoned like their counterparts in Canada who fled to the woods? No, they are excluded from the amnesty and remain as exiles in a foreign country, while those in Canada (anyone of whom can walk into a pawn shop in Montreal and for a few paltry pennies buy a war service badge) are free to get themselves high-wage jobs. It is surely a disgusting demonstration of democratic justice.

We are told that it is only a partial amnesty, and those who are freed must forego the benefits, rights, etc. normally accorded to service men. Rights? What rights have these men earned that they must forego? They do not deserve the dishonour of being called Canadians, let alone any service rights. There is nothing partial about the amnesty, it is full and complete. We are told that granting the amnesty will save much expense and trouble to the government. What a frivolous excuse when one considers the millions of dollars spent annually in caring for the thousands of discharged men, who today had they had adequate reinforcement at the front!

So far only one member (T.L. Church, P. O. Toronto-Broadview) has protested against the Order-in-Council granting the amnesty. A few days ago the Prime Minister toured the battle fields of France, in memory of our honour-dead. I wonder, as he walked along those beaches deeply stained with the blood of Canada's youth, if he did, for an instant, remember the days when our men were considered more important than men's lives, and how unsuccessfully he filled those blank files, caused by those who fell in the defence of freedom?

Speak up to a group of French dignitaries at Dieppe. Mr. King said: "For the first time I fully appreciate what our men went through." What a gruesome confession to make when the fighting is over! Those who let their fellow men down and disgraced Canada are free, but we who went overseas were considered more important than men's lives, and how unsuccessfully he filled those blank files, caused by those who fell in the defence of freedom? Speak up to a group of French dignitaries at Dieppe. Mr. King said: "For the first time I fully appreciate what our men went through." What a gruesome confession to make when the fighting is over! Those who let their fellow men down and disgraced Canada are free, but we who went overseas were considered more important than men's lives, and how unsuccessfully he filled those blank files, caused by those who fell in the defence of freedom? Dying together, the father and son, a war is not over the day it is won. —William D. DeCoste, Canadian Army, (Formerly of Charlottetown.)

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The Poet's Corner

THOUGHTS (On visiting a Veterans' Hospital)

We walked through the wards where our comrades are lying. Spent with the effort of long years of dying. Lost and forgotten, yet living somehow. The battles they fought in are history now. We walked through the wards where our comrades are lying. Young to be faced with a future of dying. Still in their glory and showered with praise. But robbed of their youth for the rest of their days.

We walked through the wards where our comrades are lying. There was a father and there a son, dying. Dying together, the father and son, a war is not over the day it is won. —William D. DeCoste, Canadian Army, (Formerly of Charlottetown.)

GO PLACES LABOR DAY! Summer's Last Long Week-End. GOOD going from 12.00 noon, Friday, Aug. 30th, until 2.00 p.m. Monday, Sept. 2nd, 1946. RETURN: Leave destination not later than midnight Tuesday, Sept. 3rd, 1946. LOW RAIL FARES FARE AND ONE QUARTER for the round trip. Times shown are Standard.

CANADIAN NATIONAL QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds

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