

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1947

Seed Wheat For France

A visitor in Ottawa this month will be M. Tanguy Prigent, France's Minister of Agriculture, who will seek wheat from this country to replant the fields of France where severe winter weather has destroyed a large part of the crop sown last fall.

There is more back of this mission than appears on the surface, says the Ottawa Journal. In all Europe today, and in France in particular, food has become a weapon in the fight between conflicting ideals.

Only Canada can supply the seed wheat which France so badly needs.

Our Prairie-grown Spring wheat could be planted in France just as soon as the snow goes, could be expected to produce a crop next fall.

Educational Fad

The powers-that-be are beginning to realize that fads and specialisms are entirely out of place in elementary and high school education. Hon. L. B. Pearson, under-secretary for external affairs, in an address in Ottawa said that in many ways Canada's educational system had become "too specialized."

We Helped The Soviets

We have been helping out the Soviets financially at a greater rate than most of us are aware. Under mutual aid, agreement for which Russia was signed on February 11, 1944, Canada supplied the Soviet Republic with help valued at \$167,000,000, the supplies including foodstuffs, base metals, military vehicles, machine tools and other war supplies.

Less Talk And Fewer Laws

The Winnipeg Free Press commends to the attention of our own House of Commons an admonition directed to the English Parliament in 1593 in behalf of Queen Elizabeth.

ber, both of ecclesiastical and temporal, and so many there be, that rather than to burthen the subjects with more, to their grievance, it were fitting an abridgement were made of those there are already.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are off to a good start in their annual Baden-Powell celebrations.

Australian women will be able to buy Australian-made nylon stockings by May or June of this year.

No economy is to be noted in the Department of the Secretary of State, where a staff of eleven, with salaries of from \$3,000 to \$4,000 a year, are being set up to handle citizenship certificates.

Personnel in Prices Board Offices was cut from 3,156 to 2,984 between March 1, 1946, and January 15, 1947, according to a reply tabled for Karl Homuth (PC-Waterloo South).

Perhaps if the Toronto and Montreal members of Parliament had to pay their fares for their week-ends, they would prefer to remain in Ottawa to attend their parliamentary duties for which they receive \$500 per month.

The Transportation Board, it appears, "possesses sweeping powers", and can regulate rates irrespective of shippers or railways.

Britain, quite impartial, invited Russia as well as U. S. A. to agree to a standardization of arms. Mr. Attlee, in a debate on foreign affairs November 18, told the House after referring to Anglo-American co-operation, that Russia was still considering whether or not to co-operate with Britain in the standardization of arms, and according to question in the House last week, the Soviet is still non-committal.

Wilson Barrett, British actor and dramatist, born this date 1846; he established his reputation as an exponent of emotional drama in The Silver King which was performed at Dury Lane and throughout the leading cities in Great Britain and Ireland before and for longer periods than any production of the Nineteenth Century.

This is an instance how they encourage bureaucracy. Mr. Ross McLean, new Government film commissioner, receives a yearly salary of \$8,000, Revenue Minister McCann declared in the House. Last year Mr. McLean drew \$4,500 salary, \$1,549 in other remuneration and \$466 in travelling expenses.

The Wheat Board is, very practically, but perhaps not in the best tradition, trying to sell as much as possible of its wheat at open market prices, in preference to filling the British contract. During the first four months of the crop year commencing August 1st, 1946, shipments were 43 million bushels to Britain, well below the proportionate rate for the contract, and 33 million bushels to other countries.

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Notes By The Way

Tomorrow's deluxe train, we are told, will have a movie theatre, a ballroom, a loud speaker system and radio everywhere.

Hypocorism is a university word meaning baby talk. Hypocorism is inescapable, the only way to stop some people from talking baby-talk is to shoot them and put the body in a concrete tomb.

One of the factors justifying the one-storey school is that maximum use is made of ordinary daylight. It is possible to prevent hypocorism in the young by proper training, however.

There were not a few accidents when we began travel by ox team. Still the ox was compelled to yield his maned shoulder to the yoke. More accidents occurred when the horse was impressed into service.

As has been mentioned often before, it is the custom of writers in other parts of Canada to poke fun at the sort of weather that sometimes strikes the Prairie Provinces during the winter.

The advancement of science may pose more problems than it solves, with atomic control and all. But at least one scientist, and mind Fred Romer, of Harvard, has recently provided a plausible answer to one question that has been plaguing mankind for generations.

Elephant tusks are being shipped again from Africa, and London's ivory market, the centre of world trade in potential ladies' brushes, billiard bats and buttons is booming.

In our congregational register this month will be found the baptism of Gerard Martin Julian Feaver, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Frederick Brooks-Hill Feaver of the Canadian Legion at The Hague, the Netherlands.

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Utopia By Arithmetic

Drawing a sort of mathematical conclusion we still don't quite get: C. H. Millard had an audience in Oakville the other day that if Canada's 1945 national income of \$11,000,000,000 had been distributed among "all the people" the average Canadian family would have received \$4,500.

That sounded good, even if it did involve arithmetic. So first we divided the eleven billion by the amount each family would have received and we find that by Mr. Millard's unaided statistical approach there were 2,500,000 families in Canada in 1945.

What, then, is this Canadian "national income" for 1945? Presumably Mr. Millard took his figures from the statistical summary of the Bank of Canada which is an unquestioned authority. There it is, anyway, in the summary in black and white. Our gross national product for 1945 was \$11,000,000,000.

Next item is military pay and allowances. Mr. Millard says that soldiers, sailors and airmen (and nurses) and this came to \$1,100,000,000. We don't quite know why this is not included in the national income, because obviously it was paid out of the taxes of the salted and wages and other labour income. But Ottawa has it figured out.

Then there is the net income of individual enterprises, farmers, storekeepers and the rest, which is the amount that the individual who loan money to government and industry. This came to \$1,800,000,000.

So staggering taxation plus short-planning has resulted in bottlenecks in the road to increasing our general level, which clearly should be our main goal. It should not be forgotten for a minute that the \$1 billion today is only worth 70 cents in 1938 standards of what money will buy in the way of food, clothing and the rest. It may be true, as the saying is, that the only way to increase output is to increase output.

What, then, of corporations? By Bank of Canada statistics for 1945, Canadian companies had profits of \$450,000,000. This is a net of \$267,000,000, leaving a lower net than they earned in 1937 (the year that the stockholders' income would be taxable as income.) In personal and corporation income taxes the Federal Government has annually for the past four years levied a total of \$500,000,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gaudet were receiving the congratulations of their many friends Sunday on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

smug. Here the people pronounce "greenwich" with the "w" sound included. And they make Delhi, a place in neighboring Norfolk, into "Del-high". Also some Bluesness sneer at what they imagine to be a localized pronunciation of "Del-house" as "Dloosy" when (as the Bluesness say) it should be "Del-hoo-sie" with accent on the "oo".

Pass The Butter

"Elation" is the word used in Ottawa to describe the feelings of Canadians on learning that this suffering country is to be spared the horrors of a butter shortage. Thanks to the wise and timely arrangements of a government whose first thought is for the nation's butter-fat content, Canadians are assured a full butter ration through the months to come.

The elating news has been spread in all directions from Ottawa several times during the past month. Two related facts have not been spread with nearly equal avidness by any Canadian government department concerned. One fact is that all the New Zealand butter coming to Canada has been subcontracted from the butter supply allotted to the long-rationed people of the British Isles.

The quotes are from the official joint announcement of the Dominion's Office and British Food Ministry, as reported in the London Times.

Now, according to the official figures of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, released for publication February 3, Canada's stock of creamy butter for domestic consumption was three million five hundred thousand pounds greater on January 31, 1946, than the same date in 1945.

But it was needed by Canada. Urgently needed. The Canadian government said so. It was needed to make sure that we Canadians, after our years of wartime starvation, need not risk again the agonies of want we had endured last year when our butter stocks were at their lowest point in a month from six to four ounces a week apiece. That was why it was needed; that must have been why. It couldn't have been needed to provide politicians in power with a good margin of insurance against the possible political effects of a temporary butter shortage.

The butter was needed in Canada. It was urgently needed, or the Canadian government would not have made its presidential quest. So, naturally, the request was granted. Out of their meagre post-war store, the British people are supplying Canada's urgent need with six thousand tons of butter that is already being used to ensure that the Canadian's pressing ration of butter shall be available in full, the people of Britain will have to take their chance of another cut in a scant wartime ration that has already been cut.

But cheer up. The British Ministry of Food believes that, with luck, the diversion of butter to Canada will not necessitate any alteration in the existing United Kingdom ration. It will only mean a further reduction in stocks. It will only mean putting that much further off the hope of adding one small pat of luxury to the austerly diet the British people have been taking for good on eight years now.

Pass the butter, please.

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The Poets Corner FROM "THE BARN" The smell of apples stored in hay And homely cattle-cake is there. And use and disuse have come to terms, The walls are hollowed out by worms.

Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.) BELFAST CENTENNIAL "The second successful Scottish centennial celebration in Prince Edward Island this summer was held yesterday at Eldon, on what is now Mr. Frank Halliday's field, but what was a century ago the camping place of pioneers who twenty years ago in the tug, Fred M. Batt and a number drove in carriages."

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