

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded 1887) President Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McClure Vice President J. R. Burnett, P. J. L. Editor and Managing Director J. R. Burnett, P. J. L. Secretary Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D. S. O. Associate Editors Frank Walker and D. E. Currie

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

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1938

Modern Warfare

eadly and horrible as modern warfare is, there is some consolation, says Scientific American, to be derived from facts learned from certain military failures in Ethiopia, China and Spain. In these three brutal reversions to savagery, science, as expressed in the newer machines of war, has not always shown up so efficiently as a maker of military advantage.

In Ethiopia, optimistic predictions of attacking commanders that the invading army in Ethiopia's capital in little more than marching time. Months later, despite vastly superior equipment, airplanes, tanks, guns, and even war gas, the invaders were still fighting bloody infantry battles far from their goal.

It is in Spain, however, that the calculations of the strategists have suffered their most serious upset. Both sides in this fraternal strife have been well supplied with tanks and the most modern fighting and bombing planes. Yet neither of these devices has proved as successful as was expected. The great speed of the planes has mitigated against their efficiency, and mud has proved the nemesis of the tanks. Plans bombing bridges, rail-heads, and other important military objectives have failed generally to accomplish their destructive purpose; their very speed has made their marksmanship poor and their bombs have fallen far from their targets. Their real effectiveness has been as frightful "strafers" of civilian populations and as a means of lowering the morale of troops.

In China, poorly equipped and poorly trained Chinese held off the Japanese at Shanghai for weeks although the latter used every modern device of warfare including the big guns of naval vessels firing at point-blank range. Superior equipment and training of the Japanese finally pushed back the Chinese, but very slowly indeed, and at terrific cost to the invaders in men, munitions and planes.

Yet if all this is reassuring as to the relative inefficiency of the machines of war, there remains to be considered the human factor, the woeful savagery of the military mind. This has shown itself in all three of these bloody affairs in a total disregard for the humanities. Prisoners of war have been murdered in cold blood; thousands of civilians have been destroyed, principally by airplane bombs, and all manner of un-military cruelties have been perpetrated in the name of national honour and furtherance of megalomaniac ideologies.

Federal Contributions

The following figures relative to federal assistance to fishermen in Prince Edward Island during 1937 are from information tabled last week in Parliament:

Contribution to provincial funds from which aid was given in establishing or better establishing fishermen and groups of fishermen in the industry, \$42,406.82.

Fishing bounty payments, \$13,494.45. It was also stated that the Dominion Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year up to Feb. 28, had paid \$8,182.95 in subsidies and grants to individual firms in the Province towards the construction and equipment of public cold storage warehouses. The amount paid in 1936-37 was \$611.88.

U. K. Poultry Losses

Although \$150,000,000 worth of eggs and chickens are yearly produced in Britain, imports from the Continent, even with eggs from China, continue, all because birds and eggs to the value of \$20,000,000 are lost every year. The special technical committee found the foregoing to be the result of its recent survey and dispatched the statistics with particulars to the Ministry of Agriculture with the suggestion that the government take over the control of the poultry industry in the United Kingdom. The report tabulates each county and every one reports various diseases as the principal cause of the loss of birds and their poor feeding the loss of the eggs. The suggestion of government control would be exercised through a State commission with the following functions: Arrange compulsory registration of all who distribute poultry stock, hatchery eggs and day-old chicks in considerable quantities. Suspend registration if there is evidence of disease, or that the parent stock is unfit, or the premises unhygienic. Apply conditions to hatcheries which will ensure that only eggs are being used from blood-tested stock of reasonably good quality. Formulate a scheme for the establishment of stations for the production of foundation breeding.

The Price Of Freedom

It is in times such as these, says Saurday Night, that the absurdity of the popular-vote-before-going-to-war idea becomes apparent. What competence of judgment in such an infinitely complex question as the present European situation can be possessed by voters who know no more of its realities than they can gather from a hasty perusal of contradictory despatches in the daily papers? It is not by holding plebiscites that the free nations have maintained themselves in the past against the aggressions of tyrannical power, but by producing great and courageous leaders and trusting them to do the best that could be done.

The free nations are weak, it is pointed out, because they are not organized for combat. They are slow to move, because they have to be con-

pelled into activity by the pressure of "constant wrong." And they are powerless unless their efforts are combined. But they have preserved liberty up to now because they have been willing, when absolutely necessary, to fight for it. Is it not possible that the apparent decline of liberty in the last ten years has been due to the fact that the free nations, exhausted and disillusioned by the Great War, have been seeking to convince themselves that liberty could be maintained without fighting, by Leagues and regional pacts and covenants and economic sanctions and the "out-lawing" of war? It may not be absolutely necessary for the free nations to fight a war in order to bring the decline of liberty to an end; but it is absolutely necessary for them to stop being afraid to fight one.

Editorial Notes

Foch died this date 1929. We look to verdant Spring to make its appearance over night.

Senator Sinclair when he goes to Ottawa will be able to report to Mr. Dunning that his (the Senator's) brother-in-law has been approached to allow himself to be nominated in his (the Senator's) brother's place as colleague to him (Mr. Dunning). We are sure Mr. Dunning will be delighted at the prospect of keeping Queen's in the safe keeping of the family.

Mr. E. A. Henderson, Boston, writes: An observing visitor to six different Cities in the States says Prince Edward Island is well advertised. In grocery stores, P. E. I. potatoes, in department stores, P. E. I. Silver Black Fox furs, on the news stands souvenir postal cards of Freeland Lodge, a tourist place at Freeland, P. E. I., at the top of the menu in hotels and restaurants, Prince Edward Island Melpeque Oysters 1-2 doz. 35 cents. Well done, P. E. I. keep it up!

During the past twenty-eight months, the period of the present Liberal administration at Ottawa, there were no fewer than 312 dismissals of postmasters in the different provinces. 179 of these dismissals were made at the instance of a member of Parliament, the remaining 133 after investigation. The dismissals in this Province during the period were three, and in no case was there an investigation. Mr. Brooks, M. P., elicited this information in the House of Commons the other day.

Chalk up one vote each for "thing" and "ain't" as the most abused English words. Professor Walter K. Smart of Northwestern University nominates these words for first place and among other overworked words he lists: In business—"proposition." Among women—"awfully, terribly," and similar words. Among writers—"so." Professor Smart picks "no" as the most helpful word, "stop" as the most dramatic and "ubiquitous" as the ugliest. For the most beautiful words he chooses murmur, memorial, lullaby, roar, roam and dour. He characterizes the last as a "cressing word which defines something disagreeable."

When a man on a jury is seen to converse with a witness, it is presumed that the conversation is about the case and the juror is disqualified. When a woman juror is concerned her word that she has not been gossiping about the case is sometimes accepted and she is allowed to remain. Evidence showed that the four women jurors who conversed with a female witness at a will case before the Leeds Assizes the other day, had merely discussed hats and garments, nevertheless, they were disqualified, and the trial was adjourned, while four others were sworn in to take their places. In disqualifying the four the judge said: "I am not saying that you have done anything wrong, but it is desirable that you should not act as jurors in this case. You have heard something about it from one side before you come into the box to judge it. I will, therefore, ask you to withdraw."

Among human beings the male is the more vulnerable of the species. Analysis of mortality figures released by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company shows that each of the more important causes of death, with few exceptions, has a higher rate among males than among females. Science Service reports. Men are engaged in more hazardous occupations and take part in more dangerous sports, on the whole than women. This may account for some of the sex difference that shows in the mortality figures. Part of it, however, is due to an inherent vulnerability, as shown by the fact that even in very early childhood, when boys and girls are living essentially the same sort of life, the male shows a higher death rate than the female. Four times as many white men as women are the victims of homicide, and men are much more apt to take their own lives than women are. Syphilis, heart and kidney ailments, pneumonia, tuberculosis, appendicitis and influenza each kills more men than women. Cancer, on the other hand, kills slightly more women than men. Of the childhood diseases, only whooping cough shows a sex difference in the mortality figures. This disease kills more young girls than boys.

The Archbishop of Canterbury revealed the other day in London that he knew about slums from personal practical experience, having been forced when a clergyman in Leeds to live in a two-room one. He was exhorting "shameful housing conditions" in an address at the opening of a new block of flats in Clapham Road, London. "One room of my lodging," he recalled, "was my bedroom, in which I had great difficulty in standing upright. I was able to have my meals elsewhere, in the Clergy House, which was a disused public house without a license. "I always rejoice to think that in those three years I knew what it was like to live in conditions similar to those of many of my neighbors in Lambeth (the Archbishop's place is in Lambeth.) "I was a bachelor then and I don't like to think what it would have been like if I had had children, though. It is not how to exist in a house much too small and to be overcrowded, but how to maintain in a house much too large and certainly never overcrowded."

NOTES BY THE WAY

The peculiar and puzzling readiness of Russian prisoners to confess cannot be attributed to the re-awakening of patriotism—many of the charges bear their own refutation. Nor can it be attributed to a sense of mercy—records of the past prove that they were only too ready to give a plausible explanation for such a singularity to be found in the Russian method of examination. The Soviet, it is true, it is stated by Alexander Kerensky, first revolutionary Premier, "has no parallel anywhere else in the world. It is psychological as well as physical. It is the result of wives and children, as well as personal torture." When the ruthlessness of Russian leaders is remembered, the statement can be readily believed. When it is believed, the habit of confessing needs no explanation—fear for wives, children and friends, added to the fear of physical torture, will break down the stoutest resistance. —Toronto Telegram.

Sometimes the impossible is accomplished. Arthur Little, Boston chemist, once made a silk purse from a sow's ear by dissolving out the gelatin which he squirted through a spinner's nozzle into a filament. The filaments were twisted into threads and these were knit into a purse.

Put out the nets at the right time and right place and they'll come in heavily weighted with fish as sniners proved once more in the Queen's Sound area of Vancouver Island on one recent fishing day when they landed 950 tons of herring between six o'clock and 12 o'clock. That seems like a lot of fish, doesn't it, even when it represents the catch of a number of fishermen. The quantity looks bigger still when expressed in pounds—1,900,000; but of course the herring runs are big in British Columbia waters in the normal season. It is not surprising, therefore, that good many tons of fish in a single "set" of his net.—Canadian Fisheries Bulletin.

We've heard a story about a dear, fuzzy old lady who recently travelled by air for the first time, making an evening trip between Washington and Newark. She was a little puzzled by the flight attendant who came to her cabin and finally made inquiries of the stewardess. "It's a navigation light," she told her. "If you look out the window, you'll see a red one, too." The old lady seemed to be fascinated and all during the rest of the trip kept looking out the window at the other. After they had landed she said, while the stewardess was helping her with her things, "The young man who drove the plane is really wonderful. He kept the lights kept right between those lights all the way from Washington." —The New Yorker.

Translating from one language to another is the finest of all intellectual exercises; compared to the bridge puzzles from the West, it is a child's play. Mr. Carl Conolly.

Things are looking up in the world of invention. Lynde Hoker, of Utica, N. Y., has taken out a patent on a cake of soap that can't get away. It is made in the shape of a ball with a string through which a string is run. You hang the soap around your neck while in the tub. We knew the Democrats would finally get the Dominion for the country.—New York Sun.

Back-of-the-mind plan George VI. will visit each of the Dominions and open Parliament in State in the Westminster way. This would mean visiting one Dominion each year over a number of years. State coach and Windsor greys might also do the Empire tour. George VI's idea is to show himself in every Dominion, and to visit the Westminister Statute which is monarch separately.—Cavalade (London).

Most people realize that automobile engines today are much more powerful than they used to be. What is perhaps not so well known is the fact that the gasoline required by modern engines is derived from roughly one-third as much crude oil as that needed by an equally powerful engine, say twenty-five years ago. This remarkable improvement has been due to two main factors. First, greatly increased recovery of gasoline per barrel of crude oil; secondly, the improved quality of the manufactured gasoline.—National Research Council.

Two minute islands in the Pacific ocean, and on the route from America to Australia, have jumped into the limelight. But for the development of trans-oceanic flying, they would have been equally unknown; would only have retained a remote interest in recollections of seamen who found many more of them. Canton and Enderby, in short, have been taken out of obscurity to rank in a sort of minor international controversy. For in the establishing of air routes of these potential islands, intermediate landing fields and refuelling stations are valuable.—Hamilton Spectator.

The mayor of La Rochelle was more than a little surprised to receive a letter recently from a 16-year-old girl in Arkansas asking for a recipe for cooking snails. With true Gallic gallantry he sent by return of post two recipes, one a la poulette, the other a la Bouguignonne.—London Times.

Forecast that a pipeline would be constructed between Turner Valleys, New Brunswick, and Fort William to provide outlets for Alberta crude oil if railways fail to reduce freight rates was made by W.S. Campbell of Edmonton, chairman of the Independent Oil Producers' Association.

Richard oil has been attracting attention among the past five years as good source of vitamin A and D in livestock feeding. Made from British Columbia pitchblende and refined in Vancouver, pitchblende has been repeatedly tested by the poultry department of the University of British Columbia.

The public is well aware of the prevalence of magazines devoted chiefly to exploitation of the taste for sex and crime literature and coarseness generally. A generation ago such stuff circulated only under cover, but now it is flaunted on the news stands for all who wish to buy. The tragedy is that youth is buying and read-

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

OUR HEALTH INTELLIGENCE QUOTIENT

One of the excellent services rendered by life insurance companies is the annual or periodic examination, given to their policy holders. Unfortunately, a number of policy holders do not take advantage of this privilege as they think the information will be passed on to the company and new health habits do not take root. Nothing can affect their policy if they told the truth (or believed they were telling the truth) at the time they were applying for the insurance. By not taking advantage of this privilege of a free examination they may be missing some health saving or even life saving advice.

In addition to advising the policy holder as to his exact condition, advice is given on daily health habits that is worth much to his health and happiness.

I recently came across one of the examination forms filled out by the physician on one side and the policy holder on the reverse.

We are all more or less familiar with what is called the intelligence test whereby the intelligence of a boy or girl or woman, is measured by the way she answers a number of questions about everyday affairs, how they would act under various conditions and other "trivial" questions. The resultant mark is called the "Intelligence Quotient" (I. Q.).

In a similar manner, insurance companies ask various questions about the individual health of a policyholder under the heading "Keep Fit. Before asking the questions, three general statements are made:

1. Are your health habits such as to improve your health or otherwise? 2. Physical fitness depends on good health habits. Faulty health habits lessen your ability, mental and physical, and are a factor in causing many physical defects or ailments.

3. A measure of your good health might be called your Health Intelligence Quotient (H. I. Q.).

1. Have you a regular bedtime? 2. Do you take a daily rest? 3. Do you refrain from overeating at work, or eating when over-tired? 4. Do you take regular vacations? 5. Do you eat moderately, slowly and at mealtime only? 6. Are your mealtimes regular? 7. Have you a regular time to bowi movement? 8. Is your exercise sufficient outdoors? 9. Do you use tea, coffee, or tobacco moderately? 10. Are you free from undue worry and nervousness?

It should be of interest and help to all of us to answer the above questions and learn our H. I. Q.

Pulling Ontario's Leg

(Montreal Gazette) It has been the practice in Ontario, and particularly in Toronto, to point the finger at Quebec as the hotbed of Fascism. Evidence that there are a number of young men of greater intellectual ability in themselves Fascists and who are drilled and salute after the manner of Mr. Hitler and his party, but an entity with every section of the Dominion, is the fact that the Dominion White Paper has made his assurance at a time when no person could foresee the severe drain on the Dominion's resources. The Dominion White Paper has made his assurance at a time when no person could foresee the severe drain on the Dominion's resources. The Dominion White Paper has made his assurance at a time when no person could foresee the severe drain on the Dominion's resources.

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Some seed the bird's devour. And some the season mars, But here and there 'will flower The solitary stars.

And friends will yearly wear them As high-leaved spring comes on, And luckless lads will wear them When I am dead and gone.

flourishes best in an atmosphere of dust and ashes. However that may be, it is no longer possible for our excellent friends of Toronto, or for any of their newspapers, to look askance at us and to bestow upon us that pity which is not always akin to love. They have been started with the same brush and we extend to them unreservedly our deepest and most sincere sympathy. If there are some among us who, yielding to a natural impulse, are inclined to guffaw, we do it discreetly, in our sleeves.

DIES IN MONTREAL MONTREAL, March 18.—Dr. George Herbert Mathewson, 68, prominent Montreal eye specialist and former chief ophthalmologist of Montreal General Hospital, died today following a heart seizure.

Behind The Headlines At Ottawa

By Dean Wilson

It is a notable fact that regardless of the political party which has been in power in Ottawa since 1931 there has never been a session when the Government was not attacked for the methods employed in providing aid for the destitute, and the present session has been no exception.

The Federal authorities have been confronted with relief problems prior to 1931, but every year since then these problems seem to grow in magnitude in face of the strenuous efforts to solve them, especially on account of the severe drain on the national treasury caused by the drought conditions in the West and an ever-growing unemployment in many towns and cities throughout Canada brought on by a declining output in industry. Then again, municipalities and provinces in all sections of the Dominion have exhausted their normal sources of revenue and yet reports of balanced budgets are rare, though a strict economy bordering on self-sacrifice has marked their administrations in a great many cases. Therefore, everyone turns their attention towards Ottawa for help in providing relief as a national problem. The Federal authorities have endeavored to meet these needs, regardless what party is in power, encounter untold symptoms of despondency and lack of co-operation by these widespread local governments. In other words, the more fortunate sections of the country are unwilling to jeopardize their own financial positions in order to aid their fellow-Canadians who happen to be in temporary difficulties, which shakes the very foundations of Confederation.

For example, Ontario and Quebec have been sending threats and ultimatums to Ottawa and these threats demand that the Federal Government should remove some of the burdens which these central governments have been carrying for several years. They claim that they have paid \$200,423,000 between 1931 and 1937, being made up of \$410,613,000 in Federal income taxes, \$114,800,000 and \$37,000,000 by Ontario and Quebec, respectively for provincial relief, and a sum of close to \$34,000,000 by the municipalities of each of these provinces for the same purpose. On the other side of the ledger, the Federal Government's total refund for relief "costs" within these two provinces has been only \$100,000 during this period and they assert that this is unreasonable, demanding that the Federal Government should refund some of their revenue within these provinces, especially the income tax. In support of this contention, they quote the famous speech of Sir Thomas White, former Minister of Finance which was delivered in the historic session of 1915, in the corner of which he said: "My chief objection to an income tax is that the several provinces are likely to be obliged to resort to measures for raising additional revenue and I am of the view that the Dominion should not enter upon the domain to which they are confined to a greater degree than is necessary in the national interest."

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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.

INDICATIONS OF WAR OR PEACE? Sir—With all this "near war" atmosphere which recent events in Europe have engendered in the world's newspapers, it is curious to see the dull reaction in the wheat markets. On the day following the movement of German troops across the Austrian border, there was the reputation in the Winnipeg wheat-pit, as recorded in the press: "Winnipeg wheat brokers appeared content, Saturday, to take profits out of recent price bulges." It would be interesting to compare the reaction at the same market at July 15, 1914, when the inevitability of the coming struggle was a mere fraction of today's war references. May this lethargic echo in the world's wheat-pits, Sir, be taken as a true barometer of the situation today, I hope so, because then the necessities of life such as food, clothes, houses, furniture, etc. it is an artificial "boom" of a kind that may cause more harm than good, as witnessed in the United States, where economic conditions are far worse than in Canada as a result of such an experiment.

"WORN OUT" AND WORRIED. Dragging around each day unable to do housework - cranky with the children - feeling miserable, Blaming it on "nerves" when the kidneys may be out of order. When kidneys fail the system clogs with impurities. Headaches - backache, frequently dull. Dodd's Kidney Pills help clear the system, bring nature a chance to restore health and energy. Easy to take. Safe. Dodd's Kidney Pills. I am, Sir, etc. CERES

A Business Letter (The New York Sun) "Miss Jones, please take a letter. To Peter & Phoenix, Inc. 'Gentlemen,' Hm-mm-m. In response to your letter of inquiry of the date of February 23, would say that the present price of widgets is which we are quoting is \$5.95 per thousand, F.O.B. New York, less 2 percent for cash." "And you might also strike out of the date," and just make it of February 23. How will that read, now?" "In response to your letter of February 23, would say that you? 'I think that's better, don't you? No use wasting your time with a lot of extra words. And you might strike out saying that, too. Instead of 'would say that the present price of widgets is a little stronger, I think.'" "Yes, sir. Then it will be, the present price of widgets which we are quoting is \$5.95, and so on." "No, by gosh, Miss Jones. We can make that much better. Cut out a lot of stuff, not only 'would