

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1941

Significant Election Figures

Analysis of the provincial election results in both British Columbia and Nova Scotia indicates a Conservative sentiment very much stronger than would appear from the number of Conservative candidates actually elected.

In British Columbia, for example, the Conservatives obtained 12 seats, the C. C. F. 14, and the Liberals 21. Although the C. C. F. replaced the Conservatives as the leading Opposition party the Conservatives as a party made the greatest gain in the electoral vote with a total of 131,505 compared with 119,521 in the last election.

Similarly in Nova Scotia. The Liberals, who will hold 23 seats in the next Legislature, polled only 109,305 votes, or 52.7 of the total. The Conservatives, though represented in the new House by only four members, polled 80,186 votes, or 36.6 per cent of the total.

This, of course, is the fault of an obsolete electoral system. The system favored the Liberal and C. C. F. parties at the expense of the Conservatives. But judging by the actual votes pulled in the two provinces—separated by the whole width of the Dominion—the outstanding feature was the strength shown by the Conservatives against strongly entrenched Liberal governments backed by an all-powerful Liberal Government at Ottawa.

Potato Progenitor

This is the bi-centenary of the birth of Arthur Young, the distinguished scientist and agriculturist, who first proved the practicability of making the potato a useful and profitable farm product. Summarising his fifteen years experience with the cultivation of the plant he wrote about 150 years ago to the Society of Arts, of which he was a member: "From the first potato put into my hands in the year 1770 to this day (November 9, 1784) I have never lost sight of the culture. . . . A general observation results from all these experiments which is highly satisfactory—that with small crops, and at the low rate of value which is produced by consuming the potato at home, they are clearly proved to be a crop which will pay the expense of manuring, and very ample tillage and hoeing. This is after all, the chief object of modern husbandry—for if a man can rely upon his potatoes, for the winter consumption of his yard, in fattening or keeping hogs, in feeding his horses, and fattening his bullocks, he has made one of the greatest acquisitions that can be desired. . . . You never made a more valuable present to the world, than by recommending this potato which is one of the most important articles that can at present be cultivated on the farm." That is the one hundred and fifty year old opinion of "The Father of Potatoes."

Hitler's "Holy Writ"

President Roosevelt, in his Navy Day speech, revealed that the United States government had in its possession a detailed plan, drawn up by the Nazis, "which they are ready to impose on a dominated world," the intention being to abolish all existing religions, "Protestant, Catholic, Mohammedan, Hindu, Buddhist and Jewish alike," and substituting therefore a Nazi church of their own creation. "In the place of the Bible the words of Mein Kampf will be imposed and enforced as Holy Writ, and in place of the Cross of Christ will be put two symbols—the swastika and the naked sword," the President said; "the god of blood and iron will take the place of the God of love and mercy."

More detailed particulars regarding this blasphemous document, says the Hamilton Spectator, were given in a recent speech at a Y. M. C. A. convention in Columbus, Ohio, by Mr. Adolf A. Berle, jun., United States Assistant Secretary of State. He said that the new church the Nazis proposed to set up would have but one doctrine—service to race and country—the only obedience it would owe being to the state. Civil service orators would act as its priests. All property belonging to existing churches would be confiscated. There must be no more christenings. Instead, the father would be required to solemnly swear as follows: "I take this holy oath that I, the father of this child, and my wife are of proven Aryan descent. As a father, I agree to bring up this child in the German church and as a member of the

German Reich." Apparently, all who cannot affirm their "Aryan descent" are automatically outlawed.

The marriage ceremony, as practised by the various religious organizations in civilized lands, is to be forbidden. The contracting parties merely pledge their fidelity, placing their hands on a sword. There is to be no more formal religious education of any kind. Mein Kampf supplies all that is needful in this respect, embodying, it is claimed, "the purest and truest ethics for the present and future life of Germany." Nothing else in the world matters but the safeguarding of that future, however arbitrary and brutal the means employed for doing so may be.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Summerside dairymen have increased the price of milk to 10c per quart and cream to 60c per quart retail.

Parliament resumes at Ottawa today. Chief business of the renewed session will no doubt consist in discussion of "price-ceiling" and "wage freezing."

Edward Colston, a prince of English philanthropists, died this date 1721. He made a huge fortune as a Bristol merchant dealing with the West and East Indies, much of which he spent during his life time in charitable foundations, and at his death bequeathed \$350,000 to endow Queen Elizabeth's hospital.

Writes a correspondent: "By process of formal legislative and executive action of our Government, unrestricted conscription of capital, material and labor, and men for the armed forces, is imperatively necessary in order to put a quietus on criticism, both from without and within our Empire, that others, but not we ourselves, have enacted the law of conscription."

Under the Italian guilds organization all industry and production is regulated through employer-labor-fascist party organizations known as corporations or guilds. In them all mass labor contracts are drafted. Labor disputes go before special courts after efforts to iron them out in the guilds organization have failed. Strikes are forbidden. It is through the guilds that Mussolini has sought to regiment the nation's production to make it self-sufficient and adequate for civilian and military needs in war.

The child mind may grasp the meaning of things though having difficulty in explaining it in words. In a Montreal Court the other day an eight year old boy was called as witness for the Crown in a theft case. He was asked if he understood the nature of an oath. He answered in the affirmative, but when asked what would happen if he told a lie, he was vague. "Well, they will place us somewhere, and we will go upstairs," he said. The Crown decided not to use him as a witness.

The Federal Government is contemplating taking over the Dufferin Shipbuilding Co., Toronto. The company is controlled by James Franceschini, Italian-born contractor who was interned after Italy entered the war and released a few months ago because of ill-health. It has been engaged in building corvettes and other small naval vessels for the government for some time. At the time of Mr. Franceschini's internment his interests were taken over by the government's Custodian of Enemy Property but after he was released it was announced he was being restored to his property rights.

Just to show that reduced luxury-making means a big saving of materials for essential war weapons, that the plan for conservation of such supplies is no idle dream, or the whim of some busybody, the Munitions Department has released some impressive figures. The 25 per cent cut in radio output, based on 140 raw material needs for that industry, means the following savings: Steel, 825 tons; copper, 85 tons; brass, 30 tons; aluminum, 15 tons; solid woods, 1,550,000 board feet; veneers, 5,400,000 board feet; paints of all kinds, 25,000 gallons; ceramics, \$1,375,000; ball bearings, \$1,500,000; tubes, \$750,000.

Of interest to the dairy industry is the announcement in Toronto by Mr. J. F. Singleton, head of the Federal Dairy Products Board, that in a short time the order which banned the use of cheese in Ontario and Quebec for other than export would be lifted. This was another way of saying that the present supply is sufficient to meet the requirements of the existing contract with Britain, which calls for 112,000,000 pounds of cheese. He did admit, though, that Canada would have been better off this year if it had not produced as much butter and ice cream and concentrated milks, and gone more into cheese-making. Higher prices for cheese are forecast by Mr. Singleton.

Countess Jeanne von Bernstorff, 73-year-old American-born widow of the last Ambassador to represent Imperial Germany in the United States, denounced nazism and declared that she had "come home to die" when she arrived in New York on the American Export liner Exeter. Cautioning reporters against using her title when addressing her and emphasizing that she did not want the "von," signifying family nobility, to be included either, she said of Germany: "I never want to see that country again. It will be a long time before it will be possible to live there." Born in New York, the daughter of Edward Luckemeyer, a silk merchant, Countess von Bernstorff lost her United States citizenship fifty-four years ago when she married Count Johann Heinrich von Bernstorff. They returned to Germany after the United States entered the World War and lived there until 1932, when they went to Switzerland and took up residence. According to the Countess, they left Germany "before the menace" of nazism arose. The Count died at Geneva on Oct. 6, 1939, eight months after the Countess had come to the United States and regained her citizenship. She returned to Switzerland after doing this and was with her husband when he died. He had been seriously ill for ten months.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The old game of representatives from the larger industries coming into the smaller towns and by petty bribing and half-promises enticing men and women to go to the larger concerns is now being worked with a vengeance. — Renfrew Mercury.

There remains one stronghold of the city closed to women, but the question is being discussed now as to whether the Stock Exchange committee will relax its rigid rule that women clerks are not to be allowed on the floor of the house. There has been and will be further material depletion of male staffs, and the stock exchange firms, banks, and the largely employing women for office work. — Liverpool Post.

It is possible that what Mr. Roosevelt desires is a preliminary to a decision to be reached subsequently — when American merchantmen may be allowed to allow them to ply all trade routes. It may well be that he wants to insure first that they are armed before they are permitted to enter war zones. This is a wise precaution, even though for the time being it does not mean that any more shipping will be available to carry out the purposes of the Lend-Lease legislation in greater volume. — Victoria Times.

Many months ago this newspaper advocated outright repeal of the War Relocation Act. We have felt that repeal would strengthen resistance to Hitlerism on every sector, freeing the United States for more effective aid to the Allies and encouraging every Nazipressed people. Most of all, we have believed that to wipe out the misleading symbol of an unreal aloofness would help Americans to face their in-capable responsibility in the present order. We are glad now to find our right repeal proposed in that Senate. — Christian Science Monitor.

The man with the hoe and the man with the hod may be seen afoot in the mornings; that is their habit. But the man with bald-spot and bay-window cannot be weighed, not even with Messrs. Howe and Goutrelle pleading with him, to save gasoline. Nor can the newly prosperous factory workers in proud possession, at last, of motor cars they had never hoped to own. Every last jaundiced idler in the land is now in use, clattering past the peculiar biped who seeks the slower, safer, healthful, thoughtful way. — Bowmantown Statesman.

They tell the story in Norway about a boy who was looking at the famous Viking ship in the Outdoor Museum at Bygdoy, and when some German officers came in to look around. They were much impressed by the well-preserved old craft and emitted many a "Wide-eyed!" and "Donnerwetter!" "So you like our Viking ship, do you?" queried the lad. "Yes, it is magnificent!" "Well, we used to take England every spring with such boats." — News of Norway.

"We have been given the chance once, and once only, of building up a beautiful city that is the pride of the whole world and worthy of the courageous people who have stood their ground during the raids without flinching," said the Lord Mayor Alderman Sir Sydney Jones, addressing the Liverpool Luncheon Club, Liverpool, unfortunately, was built mainly in the nineteenth century, and there was not much of it that we could look upon with any pride, said Sir Sydney. Visitors from other countries spoke in glowing terms of the citizens and their institutions, but generally agreed that the city itself was grim, and perhaps it was the damage we had suffered now gave us the opportunity of amending the failures of the past. — Liverpool Post.

In increasing numbers girl gunners are to be drafted for service with the anti-aircraft batteries. They are given the title of gunners because they will have to handle the precision instruments which make for deadly fire—identification telescope, height and range finder, predictor, and so on. They will not have to handle the guns. That is the men's job. But they will be the eyes of the guns. And already somewhere in the country girl gunners are at work. This is an exciting and specialized job, but a girl has to be a senior wrangler to do it. Youth, alertness, the mother wit which so many girls possess in practical matters, and a dash of the spirit of adventure are qualities enough. Training will do the rest. The whole course takes about three months, including experience at a firing school. — Manchester Guardian.

There is, we believe, no difference of opinion in Canada as to the need for this country to make the maximum contribution to the war effort; the differences arise as to what constitutes our maximum war effort and how it is to be achieved. If it can be established that conscription is the best and most direct means to that end Canada will resort to conscription. Upon this point there need be no doubt. There are those who hold that the case for conscription is conclusive; and it is their right to urge this course upon the Government with all the arguments at their command. But it is the Government that to give weight not only to their arguments but also to other considerations which are factors of moment in planning a national effort. But all these considerations must be subordinate to an objective of which the Government is doubtless as conscious as its most savage critics: the necessity of making the greatest possible contribution to the final destruction of Nazi tyranny. — Winnipeg Free Press.

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WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR
The defeat of Hitler will require vastly greater effort and sacrifice on the part of every individual Canadian than has yet been apparent. — R. B. Hanson.

Dr. J. S. Plaskett

(Victoria Colonist)
A great scientist with a worldwide reputation is lost to the Dominion in the death of Dr. J. S. Plaskett. From a national as well as a local standpoint his name will always be associated with the astrophysical observatory on Little Saanich Mountain. He designed this, the most noted establishment of its kind in Canada, and he was its first director. He had not been there for many years when he brought fame to this quarter of the world by his discovery of the great Double Star. Another astronomical feat to his credit was the proof he adduced that the whole galaxy of the stellar system rotates around a very distant centre; so distant is the sun from this centre that it takes 250,000,000 years for the planetary system to make one revolution. Dr. Plaskett has written much about his findings and written with great authority, for he was a student with an excellent background for the work on which he was engaged for so many years. His life's work, as that of no other man in the Dominion, brought recognition to Canada, especially in relation to his association with the seventy-two inch telescope at the astrophysical observatory here. Dr. Plaskett was a man of great personal charm and courtesy as so many found who visited the observatory during his time as director. His career and his accomplishments stamped him as a great Canadian.

The Poet's Corner

PROUD MASIE
Proud Masie is in the wood,
Waiting so early;
Sweet Robin sits on the bush,
Singing so rarely.
Tell me, thou bonny bird,
When shall we carry me?
When six brav gentlemen
Kirkward shall carry ye.
Who makes the bridal bed,
Birdie, say truly?
The grey-headed sexton
That heaves the grave duly.
The glow-worm o'er grave and stone
Shall light thee steady;
The owl from the steeple sing
Welcome, proud lady!
— Sir Walter Scott.

When Mr. Hanson landed from a bomber in Britain he declared: "Essentially this is a fact-gathering trip. We want to see all we can see and what more Canada can do in the war effort." That was fine. But Mr. Hanson is reported to have added: "Prime Minister King doesn't tell us anything so we thought we'd see for ourselves." Wasn't that an unfortunate remark, especially to make overseas? It is simply not true to say that Mr. King or his ministers do not tell anything of the war effort, in Britain or here. Moreover, before he left Montreal, Mr. Hanson asked reporters to "be sure to say how much we appreciate all that Mr. King and his Cabinet have done to facilitate our departure and in making arrangements for our reception on the other side." It will seem to many that if Mr. King so facilitated Mr. Hanson's trip to England and introduction to Britain's high officials he did the best he could possibly do in the way of telling him of the war. — Ottawa Journal.

TROUSER PROGRESS

Long trousers were first worn by French revolutionists in 1790 and American sympathisers soon adopted the style.

PLASTIC GEARS

The latest gears for machines are made from plastics and they outlast the conventional metal ones.

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10c Per Fig
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200 WEAVERS STRIKE
MILLTOWN, N. B., Oct. 30 — (CP)—More than 200 weavers of the St. Croix cotton mill here have been idle since yesterday afternoon, when they walked out after demanding that a fellow employee be returned to his former work. The employee had walked out previously, refusing to obey an overseer's order changing his job.
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