THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 1944

Our Naval Story

In "Canada's War At Sea", a book still in proof form to be published in the fall, tribute is paid to Canada's sea-faring men who have won glory in this Second World War. A two-part book, the joint effort of the late Stephen Leacock and Leslie Roberts, this exciting account of Canada's early history and her magnificent naval war record will open the eyes of many Canadians to things Maritimers have known or guessed all along.

On the other hand, this will fill in the gaps for those who know only half the story. Maritimers have seen the convoys go out. They have seen them come back, war-battered. They have known action off their shores. They have seen mine-sweepers in the St. Lawrence. They know what the navy was before the war. They have a fairly good idea of what it is now. What happened "in between" makes a thrilling story.

Mr. Roberts has spent weeks on the Canadian ships. He has talked to Canadian sailors. He has spent time with the old sea-dogs in the "Crows Nest" in Halifax. He had government assistance on the details and he has made a thrilling, factual story of it which should make any Canadian's heart beat a little faster, with pride.

As Canadians we should thrill with pride—pride tinctured with shame that as a nation we permitted this gallant handful of heroes to face such risks—solely because we had failed to give them the ships they needed.

When war started there were six destroyers, the Saguenay, the Skeena, the St. Laurent (Sally Rand), the Fraser, Ottawa and Restigouche. There were five mine-sweepers, a motor vessel on the west coast, the training schooner Venture in Halifax, two gate vessels, the Ypres and the Festubert, and in Montreal a ketch, the Glencairn.

Decision to make Canada's navy a "small ship" navy set the stage for the drama in which this country, never considered a naval power, was to acquit herself so honorably and bravely.

In neglecting her navy during the years between the wars, Canada was betraying her great Maritime tradition, and this is remarkably brought out in the historical part of the book written by the late Stephen Leacock. He goes into the far reaches of history—back to the Norsemen to trace Canada's relationship with the sea. He tells of the early French explorers, the first Canadian ship building, the launching of the first steam-boat and similar exploits which are part of Canada's story. He tells too of the unawareness of both the people and the government which let the navy sink to its weakest point between the wars.

Its redemption is Roberts' story, a story of grim routine and dazzling heroics, of tragedy and humor, but above all a success story. The convoys got through, and the little-ship navy is still doing a big job.

Deadly Weapon

The umbrella has appeared again as a symbol of importance in the world. General Montgomery is photographed in the battlefields of Normandy and clutched tightly in his hand, against the rain, is an umbrella of antique design, much—suggests the Winnipeg Free Press—like that carried by the immortal Mrs. Gamp.

Thus the umbrella emerges from a long period of eclipse. In Mr. Neville Chamberlain's time the umbrella was the emblem of appeasement; Mr. Chamberlain waved his flimsy protection of black silk and tried to shelter Europe from the downpour of a world war. The umbrella failed and, with its unhappy owner, was discarded.

Now it returns in the hands of a warrior. Apparently it can be either a symbol of surrender or a weapon of conquest. It all depends on who holds it.

Post-War Economics

Next to winning the war and ensuring a stable and enduring peace, no subject is of more engrossing interest or importance than the development of world economics in the post-war years. A recent study of this subject, published by the International Labour Office, presents some significant features. Starting with the ideal of "freedom from want" for "all men in all lands" propounded in the Atlantic Charter, the study is an attempt to discover how this ideal may be realized. Though it is admitted that freedom from want is "a very elastic goal" since new wants are discovered as the standard of living rises, it is nevertheless maintained that at least the following are required under modern conditions: "enough food of the right kind to maintain vigorous health, adequate clothing for comfort and cleanliness, houses safe and pleasant to live in, health care, and at least elementary education for all. The only way in which this minimum can be achieved is through vastly increased production, for though it may appear to those living in the wealthier economies that all that is required is more distribution of the fruits of existent production, yet that does not take into account the enormous unfilled material wants of the great majority of the world's people.

Production can be increased sufficiently only by the large-scale economic development of new areas, and this can be realized best by co-operation between the areas which are industrialized and the at-present undeveloped countries. Large-scale investment by the wealthy countries in the undeveloped areas will be mutually beneficial. To the latter it will mean more rapid economic progress than would otherwise be possible. To the former it will provide an outlet for the tendency towards excess saving which is almost bound to develop and which, without an outlet, will produce economic depression. Moreover, progress in the undeveloped countries will mean increased markets for the industrial areas.

The danger to the wealthy areas will arise, it is believed, when the new economic areas have reached the point where they can compete successfully in lines of production which are at present the preserve of the existing industrial countries. The remedy, however, is not for these countries to attempt to protect their industries by cutting off investments in the undeveloped areas and by imposing high tariffs. Such a policy will only retard and will not prevent the development of new areas and, by limiting world production and world trade, it will have the effect of limiting wealth not merely in the new countries but in the wealthy countries themselves. The International Labour Office considers that the true solution lies in a policy of intelligent adaptation. As, under changing conditions, one line of production becomes economically unsound in a particular country, resources should be shifted systematically to lines in which a competitive advantage can be maintained. Such a policy, if adopted in all countries in conjunction with multilateral international trade, would result in world-wide economic specialization, and this would mean maximum production and thus maximum material wealth in all countries.

EDITORIAL NOTES—

From now on all thoughts will be concentrated on Old Home Week with memories of the past, joys of the present and hopes for the future.

* * * *

Sir Granville Bantock, English composer, born this date, 1868; his best known works are Omar Khayyam, Atlanta in Calydon, and Hebridean Symphony; was one of the outstanding conductors in the nineteenth century, and travelled round the world with the famous George Edwards Opera Company; he succeeded Elgar as professor of music at Birmingham University.

* * * *

Writing to The Pioneer, Mr. J. B. Thomas, Cascumpec, says: "I would like to point out that the dissatisfaction shown the old parties is largely due to the needs of the people being emphasized prior to election and then following election being ignored; and thereby encouraging new factories. If the people cannot secure the action they wish under our present regime they will certainly try something else. Farmers are no longer willing to accept a lower standard of living than other classes. They work longer hours and have been obliged to assume a gambler's chance as to returns and now they are asking for some security. So what about it?"

* * * *

There are 1,900,430 electors on the provincial lists for Quebec's elections. In 1930 the number of electors on the lists was 753,310 of whom 370,631 cast their ballots. The big jump in the electoral lists this election is, of course, due to the fact that women in the province will vote for the first time in a general election, but it will be noted that even this does not account for the 1,900,430. Increase in population is one cause explaining the some 400,000 extra votes, allowing for the women's franchise, doubling the 753,310 figure, but probably a still more important reason is that the 1944 lists are made up on the enumeration system, whereas previously the lists were made up once each two years and many thousands of people were not registered and could not get registered as elections approached. Of the 1,900,430 electors this election the cities of Montreal and Quebec alone account for 685,674 voters. This means close to 40 per cent of the total.

* * * *

M. P.'s are more or less playboys at heart and in action. Progressive Conservative members of the Commons applauded Dr. H. A. Bruce (PC-Toronto Parkdale) when he entered the Commons chamber after he had been suspended from part of the previous day's sitting when he refused to withdraw the term "bribe" applied to family allowances. Dr. Bruce dramatically entered the Commons chamber by the main door after the morning session had started and walked half the length of the chamber to his desk. His party colleagues pounded their desks drowning out the voice of Prime Minister Mackenzie King who was reading a statement on northern air development. Liberal members on their feet laughed as Dr. Bruce bowed first to the speaker and then to the prime minister.

* * * *

The appointment of Federal election officials is taken for granted to be preliminary to an early election, and Mr. Ilsley seems to confirm this in his claim that, election or no election, the new loan campaign in October will go ahead. Indeed, it is presumed that the loan will be raised in October to be followed with the election in November or early in December. As to the prospects, The Printed Word summarizes them thus: The Progressive Conservatives may win 57 seats, of which 35 would be in Ontario, and the Liberals 50, of which 16 would be in Quebec, 15 in Ontario. The C. C. F.'s would have 85 or 90 seats, 30 of which would be in Ontario. The remainder would consist of Blocs, Social Creditors, and other Independents. If it turns out something like this, the only possible coalition would be between the C. C. F. and the Liberals. These two would have a majority over all. We hardly fancy the Brackenites joining the C. C. F., and the Pro-Cons and Liberals between them would not have enough. "It would be a strange parliament. It is doubted if it could function—unless the Liberals (or Pro-Cons) find unexpected support in Quebec, or among Quebec members, and are thus able to carry on. If, as seems probable, a second election is soon necessary, the obvious course will be the formation of a Unionist party. It is becoming clearer every day that the issue in this country is the issue of C. C. F.-ism *versus* Capitalism. The two old parties must merge. Divided they will meet the fate of the Kilkenny cats."

Notes By The Way

Despite strict police surveillance forty out of 200 cases of Jamaica rum shipped to Halifax have disappeared. Evaporation? — Windsor Star.

As it turns out, the modernizing of Turkey was an uneven job. It took the veils off the girls and left them on the foreign policy. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

British soldiers on the Burma frontier vouch for the existence of a fish that walks, but there's nothing in the rule book as to whether the angler must throw one of these critters back if it's bow-legged.—Windsor Star.

A man who owns a thriving tobacco shop and newsstand tells us that more than 60 per cent of his sales are to women. About the only place left to the men for their exclusive use is the poolroom — and no doubt it will be taken over too as soon as the girls think of it. —Ottawa Journal.

The Norwegians are said to have reached the definite conclusion that, after what happened in 1940, they will never again be caught without an efficient and well-equipped air force of their own. They now have the nucleus of such a force in the squadrons, trained largely in Canada, which are rendering such courageous and useful service overseas. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Because of relaxed travel regulations, the beautiful Rainbow Bridge at Niagara Falls again is serving its purpose and presents an animated picture of increased traffic back and forth. The neighborly spirit of the river responded instantly to easier communication regulations. No doubt all international bridges present similar scenes of renewed activity.—Toronto Globe and Mail.

Horror Films are believed to have a harmful effect on young minds, and it is interesting to observe that New South Wales has enacted legislation which will prevent children from seeing these offerings. The crusade against this type of public entertainment springs from no narrow fanaticism; it has disturbing statistics in juvenile delinquency to support its case, and the movement is becoming general. —Hamilton Spectator.

Everyone knows from experience that it is more difficult today to obtain a copy of Pride and Prejudice than to buy a bottle of gin. The causes behind this book famine (and new books are as scarce as old) are revealed by a memorandum issued by the Publishers' Association this week. Stocks are being very rapidly used up; the number of books disposed of in 1943 exceeded by almost 50 per cent, the number of books printed.—London New Statesman.

Goebbels invented the Nazi slogan Festung Europa — the Fortress of Europe. Lately he has spoken only of the "fortress of Germany." The old theme has been transposed from the higher key of Europe to the lower key of Germany. One may hope that after Festung Deutschland a Festung Preussen will spring in due time from the fertile brain of Dr. Goebbels, and after that a Festung Berlin, and then a Festung Wilhelmstrasse. That will be the end. — Ottawa Citizen.

Twenty - five thousand Leningrad children are spending the Summer in camps on the shores of Lake Ladoga and the Gulf of Finland, and in other healthful and beautiful spots. Older children will assist in agricultural work, attending special lectures on soil cultivation, cattle-breeding and poultry-farming. Several thousand are working in victory gardens. The children's camps are equipped with libraries, games and playgrounds. Doctors and teachers supervise the health of the youngsters, and those who have not fully recovered from their experience during the blockade will be cared for in special sanatoriums. All the camps are regularly visited by Heroes of the Patriotic War, actors, scientists and outstanding workers. — USSR Bulletin.

If you want to make an unexpected guest comfortable at the dinner table, this is a good story not to tell him, says Bennett Cerf in The Saturday Review of Literature. A man who lived three miles from the main road outside of Nyack left his house one afternoon at two, walked until he caught a bus, and rode on it to the Nyack ferry station. He took a ferry to Ossining, another bus to the railroad station, and a local train to Grand Central. There he transferred to a subway train for the end of the line at New Lots avenue, Brooklyn, where another bus carried him nine or ten miles farther. A brisk twenty-minute walk brought him to a solitary apartment house, where he climbed six flights of stairs and rang the bell of his friends, the Heimerdingers, just as they were sitting down to dinner. "For goodness sake," said Mrs. Heimerdinger, "what brings you here at this hour of the night?" "Oh,' he replied vaguely, "I just happened to be in the neighborhood."

From Los Angeles, fabulous city of Southern California, comes a story of money, European aristocracy and an American heiress which should stand as required reading for students of the American scene. Or, for that matter the Canadian scene, for we also have similar conditions though on a smaller scale. Barbara Hutton Grant, heiress to dime store millions, is suing her former husband, the Danish nobleman, Count Haugwitz-Reventlow, for custody of their nine-year-old son. They were divorced some years ago. In her claim the heiress declared that when she married the count, she transferred to his own private banking account the sum of $1,477,697 —a sort of a wedding gift on a generous scale. Subsequently "as the price for his consent to a divorce," she established a trust for him for the same amount. Thus the nobleman came into possession of the neat sum of virtually three million dollars of his wife's fortune inherited from her father, a dime store magnate. There is a word in the English language meaning understatement. It is litotes. We think it applies to Mrs. Grant's contention that the count is not a fit custodian for the boy because, forsooth, "the desire for money and the accumulation of wealth without work is paramount with him."—London Free Press.

P. E. I. Ferry

(Saint John Telegraph-Journal)

The Turgeon committee on reconstruction and re-establishment, in a report to parliament, recommended:

Improvements designed to make communications between Prince Edward Island and the mainland constant, reliable and adequate.

Now it has been announced that the federal government has awarded Marine Industries Limited a contract for construction of a new 7,000-ton icebreaking car ferry which will ply between Borden, P. E. I., and Cape Tormentine, N. B. Reports say the craft will cost $4,750,000 and be "the finest of its kind in service in any waters." We hope it is, and we also hope the vessel will be built in the shortest possible time, for it is badly needed.

Prince Edward Island's whole economy hinges on having a steady and efficient means of access to the mainland of this Dominion. It was the promise of this which brought the smallest province into the Confederation in 1873. The Canadian House of Commons pledged "steam service . . . between the island mainland of the Dominion, winter and summer, thus placing the Island in continuous communication with the Intercolonial Railway." Prince Edward Islanders know that the spirit and letter of this solemn pledge has not been kept—know that down through the years they have been penalized by lack of the sort of service which was their due.

The new ferry may help improve conditions, particularly if Ottawa agrees to demands for a sharp downward revision of fares and freight rates on the Borden-Cape Tormentine run. But the fact that this ferry is to be provided should not induce us to overlok the practicability of a tunnel. Because of engineering problems a tunnel under Northumberland Strait may be out of the question, but the proposition should certainly be examined carefully. As we see it, even a $4,750,000 icebreaking ferry is frequently going to find Northumberland Straits impassable during the winter months.

Points Of Order

(Official Report of the House of Commons of July 31, 1944)

Dr. H. A. Bruce (Parkdale): I am not intimidated by the threat the Prime Minister has made, and I now declare that this measure is a bribe of the most brazen character, made chiefly to one province and paid for by the taxes of the rest.

Mr. Mackenzie King: Mr. Chairman, I ask that the statement of the hon. member be withdrawn, as contrary to the rules of this House.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Golding): I think that statement is out of order, and I hope the hon. member will withdraw it.

Mr. MacKenzie (Vancouver Centre): On a point of order, I desire to call the attention of the committee to what occurred in this House the other day. This measure was submitted to the judgment of the House, and unanimously the House voted in favor of it. Now we have the hon. member for Parkdale, who was conveniently absent on that occasion, accusing this measure of being nothing but bribery.

Mr. Homuth (Waterloo South): Wait a minute. Mr. Chairman, I rise to a point of order.

Mr. Graydon: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. MacKenzie: Mr. Chairman, I am on my feet. I have the floor.

Mr. Homuth: I am on a point of order. I have the floor.

Mr. Graydon: I have a point of order, too.

Mr. MacKenzie: I am speaking on a point of order, and I do not yield.

Mr. Graydon: Let the hon. member sit down until I have stated the point of order. Mr. Chairman, are we all to sit down?

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Golding): Yes.

Mr. Graydon: All right.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Golding): The leader of the Opposition will have an opportunity to speak to his point of order.

Mr. MacKenzie: I am speaking to a point of order, and I say that anybody who terms this measure—

Mr. Homuth: I rise to a point of order with reference to what the hon. member himself has stated in speaking to a point of order. The hon. member referred to the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Bruce) being conveniently absent, and he must withdraw that statement.

Mr. MacKenzie: I say that when the hon. member for Parkdale calls this measure bribery he is reflecting on every single member who voted for it in this House.

Mr. Homuth: I rise to a point of order. The hon. member made the statement that the hon. member for Parkdale was conveniently absent the other day. He has to withdraw that statement because it is contrary to the rules of the House.

Mr. Graydon: That is exactly the point. I am speaking to the point of order.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Golding): I think the hon. member for Vancouver Centre will withdraw that statement.

Mr. MacKenzie: Certainly, sir. I withdraw it—either conveniently or inconveniently absent—

Dr. Bruce: When the hon. member for Vancouver Centre said that I was conveniently absent—

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Golding): That has been withdrawn.

Dr. Bruce: Well, I wish to refer to it for a moment—

Some hon. members: No.

Dr. Bruce: I wish to inform the committee that I had to return to my farm because of the muddled manpower policy of this Government. I am not able to get enough help to take off the crop and that was the reason why I had to return home.

Mr. Graydon: There were a lot of Liberals away doing their chores, too.

Dr. Bruce: I noticed a good many Liberals were home for the same reason. If I had been here I would have voted against the measure, since you, Mr. Chairman, know that my whip arranged with you to pair with me.

The Poet's Corner

FUTILITY

I saw a man pursuing the horizon;
Round and round they sped.
I was disturbed at this:
I accosted the man.
"It is futile," I said,
"You can never"——
"You lie," he cried
And ran on.

In the desert
I saw a creature, naked, bestial,
Who, squatting upon the ground,
Held his heart in his hands
And ate of it.

I said, "Is it good, friend?"
"It is bitter—bitter", he answered,
"But I like it
Because it is bitter,
And because it is my heart."

—Stephen Crane.

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This War—Four Years Ago

By The Canadian Press

AUGUST 7, 1940—Arthur Greenwood, British minister without portfolio, told the Commons that the Empire must dovetail its military effort with the U. S. defence program. Italians captured Hargeisa, British Somaliland. Hungary demanded return of 75 per cent of Transylvania from Romania.

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Annual Meeting and Nominating Convention
AT TOWN HALL, GEORGETOWN
FRIDAY, AUGUST 11th
At TWO O'CLOCK P. M.

At this Meeting a candidate will be nominated for the forthcoming Federal Election. Poll Chairmen are requested to call Poll Meetings immediately for the election of delegates to the Convention. Each Poll is entitled to send five delegates.

(Sgd.) LEITH TOWNSEND, President.
(Sgd.) HENRY MALLARD, Secretary.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

LT. COL. ERNEST H. STRONG, M. L. A.
Barrister and Nominated Candidate for Prince County in the next Dominion Election

will address the Progressive Conservative Poll Chairman and Members of the Various Poll Committees of Charlottetown and Royalty in the

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at the hour of 8 P. M.

All Members of Poll Committees please attend.

MAJOR T. B. ROGERS, President.
J. A. McDONALD, Secretary.