

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES \$5.00 per year (in advance) delivered to City \$4.00 per year (in advance) mailed to P. E. Island \$5.00 per year (in advance) mailed to Canada and U.S. Members (incl) Bureau of Circulations

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1939.

Democracy In War-Time

A section of the Liberal press has been seeking to misrepresent any criticism of Government activities as being detrimental to public interests and to the effective prosecution of the war. In doing so they are fouling their own nests, both as newspapers and as alleged champions of "Liberalism". It is true that in wartime individual liberty must be curtailed and the whole man-power must be subject to planned and if necessary coercive organization.

We note that this is the very attitude taken by the London Spectator, one of the oldest and staunchest organs of Liberalism in the Old Country. The Spectator warns that "never was it more important than it is today that Parliament and the Press should continue to perform their functions with vigilance." The House of Commons, it says, continues to function as a democratic institution capable of debating any question of policy that arises, but it is limited in its power by the time factor.

Germany, says the Spectator, is a bureaucracy free from any such challenge. It can issue any orders it pleases, and it need waste no time on pacifying critics. But under British democracy it is essential to sound activity that public opinion be respected. Candid criticism cannot be dispensed with, and the free give and take of such criticisms in the Press is "an animating and health-giving influence" which has already proved effective in exposing incompetency in certain ministerial departments.

But even a free Parliament and a candid Press are not enough, says The Spectator. "The Government itself must be urged to prove its desire to uphold democracy, and to reform its departments to pay attention to informed criticism. Officials trusted with arbitrary power are too apt to acquire a team spirit of their own inimical to all opposition. But the more willingly the nation has entrusted extraordinary powers to the Government, the more it is incumbent on it to make itself the guardian of democracy, and the degree in which it is at one and the same time both firm and sensitive to public opinion will be the measure of its success."

Ubiquitous Tax Burdens

If it is any consolation to those countries which are at war—including, of course, Canada—it is worth noting that taxation in the United States, despite its vigorously proclaimed neutrality, is running neck and neck with the most heavily burdened belligerents. Nor does there appear to be any let-up in sight, either as regards taxation or the spending of public money which renders such taxation a necessary evil.

Before the Great War, back in 1913, federal, state and local tax collections in the United States amounted to \$22.66 per capita. France led with \$28.29, and Canada was third with taxes per capita of \$26.65. The United Kingdom was fourth with \$25.79, and Italy and Germany collected per capita taxes of \$14.59 and \$14.35 respectively. In 1919 the United Kingdom had gone into the lead with per capita taxes of \$90.26, and the United States was in second place with \$71.10. The other four countries were: Canada, \$49.99; France, \$63.36; Italy, \$23.98, and Germany \$19.27.

In 1938 Germany had assumed the lead with per capita collections of \$109.69. The United Kingdom was second with collections of \$107.80, and the United States a close third with per capita taxation had increased to \$76.76, France \$54.51 (for 1937) and Italy \$30.90.

Concurrent with the increase in taxation was also the increase in the per capita public debt. In the pre-war days of 1913 this ranged from \$59.28 per capita in the United States to a high of \$191.76 for France. In 1919 the United States public debt had risen to \$309.74. That for the United Kingdom was \$826.26; France, \$492.94; Canada, \$450.11; Italy \$216.00, and Germany \$109.18. Twenty years later, the United Kingdom's public debt per capita had risen to \$1,014.59. (This, of course, taking into account expenditures for defence which had already commenced.) Canada was second with \$602.70; the United States, \$432.65; France, \$414.17; Germany, \$192, and Italy \$178.50. In the case of Germany, however, the post-war inflation of 1923 practically wiped out both her pre-war debt and that incurred during the war, and there was also a question as to whether or not her floating debts had been included.

The conference board sums it all up: "War, depression, armaments and increased social ser-

vices during the past 25 years have raised the cost of government in nearly all principal countries to the highest levels in their history. The tax burdens as measured by per capita collections are from two to eight times as large as they were before the World War. Their per capita public debts have risen to about the same ratios. The proportions of their national incomes collected as taxes are from one and a half of three times the pre-war levels. As these burdens have increased, their reserves of tax-paying power have declined."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Rev. Dr. Parker, London City Temple, died this date, 1902—"Only a Christ could have conceived a Christ."

Children are beginning to wonder whether Santa will be too worried about the war to attend to their particular wishes and petitions.

Tomorrow the brow Scotsmen—"All that is left of them," that is—will honour their Patron Saint with the customary ceremonial tomorrow night.

The Provincial Public Health Department are busy finding ways and means of counteracting the Scarlet Fever outbreak. The first essential is to get parents and guardians to recognize the symptoms when their little ones show indication of indisposition. "A stitch in time" saves many a nine in subsequent doctors bills and after-effects on the convalescent. But, of course, better still, prevention being better than cure, immunization may be resorted to, the recourse which practically stamped out diphtheria.

The fishermen of England are not worrying overmuch so far as German U-boats and mines are concerned. "The attacks on our fishing fleet will not stop our fishermen from risking their lives to bring us food," Mr. F. Parkes, director of the Boston deep sea fishing company, of Fleetwood declared. The company has lost five trawlers as a result of the German submarine and mine campaign. "These attacks will only serve to make them more determined to continue their peaceful calling," he said.

"The devil's among the professors" of Quebec, evidently. Professor Adair of McGill has been blasting Mr. Chamberlain and Poland for not saving Czechoslovakia; and now Professor Guimont of Laval is similarly denouncing Prime Minister King and Ontario for favouring the deepening of the St. Lawrence. "As for Ontario and the West, from the economic viewpoint, the project is premature," he told a supper meeting of the Junior Board of Trade of Quebec. "As far as Quebec is concerned from the economic and political viewpoint the project not only is ruinous and illogical but in addition it threatens to break the national unity so vaunted in Canada and outside for some weeks."

A vitamin originally extracted from fish meal and alfalfa has been declared to be saving the lives of hundreds of mothers and babies. The substance, known as Vitamin K, has been known for about a year but the first clinical uses of it were reported before the Southern Medical Association meeting in Memphis by a group of University of Virginia physicians and Dr. Edward Clay Mitchell of Memphis. The vitamin, now made synthetically, is essential in the body's manufacture of prothrombin, a chemical which breaks down to form thrombin, the essential element in the formation of blood clots. Without it persons bleed to death despite all efforts of physicians to close a wound by artificial means.

General MacNaughton took pains to make it clear to the Canadian Press that he personally was not responsible for the discarding of the Highland uniform by the Highland regiments. The Department of National Defence corroborates this disclaimer, announcing that these regiments will be merely following the example of the British corresponding regiments in wearing battle dress for training and in the field. Service dress with kilts still will be worn for walking out purposes as long as serviceable. Newly-appointed officers will have one suit of service dress jacket with trowsers or service dress trousers for wear outside the theatre of operations, instead of buying the usual outfit with kilts. This change from kilts to battle dress has been carried out without demur in the British forces by some of the oldest Highland and Scottish regiments.

We quote this mystifying news item from that reliable publication, The National Police Review: "The new Justice Building in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, is one of the most complete and all-inclusive in the east. The new building, built in 1938, restores the original structure built in 1897, and destroyed by fire in 1907. The building includes offices and barracks for the local R.C.M.P. division; law courts, Jury room, Judges' chambers, Law Library, Barristers' Room, quarters for Jail Governor, Sheriff's office and Registrar's office. Cell blocks contain 54 modern, air-conditioned, well-lighted, sanitary cells; two cells for city police prisoners, and one dark cell for solitary confinement of vicious prisoners."

The reiterative qualities of the speech of Mr. Georges H. Heon, M.P., at the Ottawa Bankers' Club have a pertinent force, says the Montreal Gazette. They opportunely stress the fact that both the French and the English Canadian people, all tolerant, law-abiding citizens are absolutely loyal to the Crown and fully cognizant of their true situation within the British Commonwealth of free nations. And the special tribute the member for Argenteuil paid to his French-speaking compatriots, that they "know exactly where their duty lies, that they approve and will support each and every logical, motivated, necessary measure taken to preserve the inviolability of their territory and maintain Canada's status as a free nation within the British Commonwealth, was equally timely and just." Mr. Heon's forthright address will serve to remove whatever prejudice may exist anywhere against French Quebec. It will cleanse the minds of those who have had the idea—nourished by certain political extremists—that Quebec is a "separatist, self-sufficient, egoistical unit of Confederation."

NOTES BY THE WAY

In a discussion concerning the better and more desirable traits of character, the celebrated Jane Addams of Hull House fame, was once asked, "How would you define culture?" "That person is the most cultured," replied Miss Addams, "who is able to put himself in the place of the greater number of other persons." — Christian Science Monitor.

In this historic fight for freedom and democracy, how can Mr. Woodworth take a purely legal and negative attitude? How can he tolerate the idea of a triumphant and dominant militarism? Everything that he cares for, the improvement in international relations that he hopes for, all depend on the Allies winning in this struggle. — Winnipeg Free Press.

Algoma, and indeed the whole of Northern Ontario, should have an special interest in the brave struggle the people of Finland are putting up to preserve their independence in the face of the power policy of Soviet Russia. This is not only because there are many Finnish residents of Northern Ontario (about 1,200 in the Sault and total of about 1,500 in Algoma, for example). But also because Finland is a country which in many of its features is very much like Algoma and much of the rest of Northern Ontario. — Sault Ste. Marie Star.

Architects with a social vision still draw pictures of cloud-pleating buildings of the future set in spacious parks. The students of population movement on the other hand see a de-centralizing process under way from the cities into metropolitan areas. This is bound to be in considerable measure a drift away from tall apartment houses to small private homes. Yet the two things are not mutually exclusive. Urban population may grow static or even thin out a bit, but the city in itself may concentrate its people into taller and taller hives. — New York Times.

What Canada is interested in is the conduct of the war, and on this the public opinion is sensitive, acute and resolute to correct abuse. If Dr. Manion can successfully prove that in large and important matters since war broke out there has been favoritism, partisanship or inefficiency, he will render the country a very great service and he will properly earn a rich reward. An electorate which would recoil with violence from any government that fell into any such error. — Winnipeg Free Press.

Aboard a steamship somewhere on the Pacific Ocean are three bears and two beaver en route to New Zealand. The animals have been taken from Jasper National Park in Alberta, and are being "down under" at the request of the Wellington Zoological Gardens, Wellington, New Zealand. During the long ocean voyage the animals will be fed and attended by a member of the ship's crew. Food supplies provided for the journey include a pound of poplar wood, vegetables, fruit and bread. Each beaver will receive six sticks of wood, a quarter of cabbage and four carrots per day, while the daily menu for each of the bears will be a pound of apples, a pound of carrots and two loaves of bread. — Canadian Resource; Bulletin.

The first consideration is, of course, to have available at the earliest possible moment an enormous reserve of material and man-power alike, for although the scope of the air effort must still be largely a matter of conjecture, it is clearly no lack of tasks on which it can be usefully employed. Sir Kingsley Wood's account of R. A. F. achievements during the first four weeks of war leaves us in no doubt as to their value, especially in the hunting and spotting of submarines and in reconnaissance work generally. Incidentally, recent Admiralty reports of German air attacks on British warships suggest that the time may come very soon when the submarine menace having been substantially removed Germany may try to attack convoys from the air. British escort vessels will be able of course, to put up a stout defence against aerial attack, but it may be found necessary to provide aerial escorts of fighters as well as a safeguard against enemy bombing planes. — Glasgow Herald.

Members of the Legislature are supposed to represent the views of a majority of their constituents at all times, and minority as well when they can do so in the public interest. That is how they get into the Legislature—by popular vote. But Mr. Cross notifies municipal councils that upon this matter of municipal elections there is no use in ascertaining the will of the people; the Government has made up its mind and that is that. There will be no elections next year, for the Assembly will do as it is told, and whether or not there will be elections in the next year will be determined by a committee not responsible to the people at all and yet we are supposed to be participating in a war for freedom and democratic principles! — Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

The main complaint regarding the increased income taxes are not that the taxes have been increased but that the Government did not see fit to lower the exemptions so that the single person or the childless couple with bel-w \$1,000 or \$2,000 would pay a trifle in direct tax to Ottawa. No one would suggest that these exemptions are very much, or that because they pay something, the plutocrats who now pay much should then pay less. But there is no doubt that we would have better government if the

Shop - Keeping In Pioneer Days

THE STORY OF BEDEQUE'S FIRST STORE

By E. S. D. From the Day - Book of William Schurman, merchant on the Island of St. John, begun 1784

(Continued from yesterday's Guardian)

An early account with Samuel Jameson commenced in 1784 is rather interesting for several unique items: "Two silk handkerchiefs 0: 10: 0 one paper of ink 0: 1: 0 half Quier paper 0: 1: 0 three nutmegs 0: 1: 6 one pair of mits 0: 1: 3 five pounds and half 0: 5: 6 One pound of candles 1: 1 one pound of coffee 1: 6 July 23, 1785, gaus for muskets net 1: 0 three bundles of shingles 0: 7: 6 to frate of shingles 0: 8: 6 Schurman closed out the account with the following note "April 1, 1786, the receipt of Samuel Jameson the full contents of my Account."

In the above account nutmegs sold at ten cents apiece; they are not mentioned again until 1800, when, almost incredibly one nutmeg is charged up at 35 cents. In the same year Major Hooper paid twenty cents for "1 stick Simentment" and thirty cents for half a pound of allspice. Molasses first appears in the book in 1787 at 80c a gallon, 1.50 in 1793, \$1.00 in 1807, and \$1.20 in 1813. Pepper sold at 90c a pound in 1784, 70c in 1800, and 80c in 1813. Ginger is not mentioned till 1800 when Angus Macdonald lavishly bought 2 1-4 lbs. of it at 60c a pound. Salt, which apparently wasn't in stock till 1795, varied between 80c and \$1.00 a bushel.

Candles and butter at 20c a pound had very small sales over the counter. Schurman took butter on account from Bedeque's women and gave a shilling a pound, no more no less, for practically the whole time he was in business. It was good value sometimes, yet during the years when it took ten to twelve pounds of butter to buy a pound of tea it must have seemed like a starvation price. Here's a typical account, showing how the butter paid the store bill in the old days:

"John MacDonnells" "1800 May 5 quart rum 0: 2: 3 2 lbs tobacco 0: 4: 0 1 lb tea 0: 6: 0 1-2 lb ginger @ 3/ 1: 6 1 paper come 0: 2: 0 1 paper powder 0: 0: 5 May 9 1 fill rum 0: 0: 5 May 31 2 lbs tobacco 0: 4: 0 June 25 1 quart rum 0: 2: 3 2 lbs tea 0: 8: 0 2 yds narrow ribbon 0: 0: 10 1 fill rum 0: 0: 5 July 12 1 quart rum 0: 2: 6 1 fill rum 0: 0: 10 3-1 lbs teal at 1/6 0: 4: 11 August 18 1-2 lb. papper 1: 9

CREDIT (on above account)

7 lbs. butter 0: 7: 0 July 10 13 3-4 lbs. butter 13: 9 12 3 lbs. butter 3: 0 2 lbs. tea 1: 0 Oct. 1 7 lbs. butter 0: 7: 0

From this it would seem that the pioneer housewife made butter to keep the family in tea, rum and tobacco.

Flour is seldom entered in any of the accounts except those where it is charged up against partnership of a schooner of which Schurman was a joint owner. In 1785 he charged the flour at seven cents a pound, but by 1793 it was down to four.

Lard, another home-raised product which naturally had little sale to the early settlers, was generally around ten cents a pound, and Schurman described it as "Hog's lard." Tallow too is seldom mentioned, one sale in 1794 was at 18c, and in 1806 it was 20c a pound. Cheese is only recorded once, 6 1-2 lbs. selling in 1807 for five shillings.

LADYLIKE LOOK

NEW YORK. (CP)—Coiffures with that "lady look" will be the mode for the holiday season this year.

class of people who know that they pay income taxes were increased in number and the class who think they pay nothing were by virtue of that fact reduced in number. — The Printed Word.

DODDS KIDNEY PILLS. BACKACHE, RHEUMATISM, HEADACHE, MIGRAINE, BLADDER TROUBLES, NEURALGIA, GRAVEL, SAND, STONES, GOUT, THE PAINFUL URINARY TRACT.

I. M. Fully Says said to my insurance agent the other day—look here, Mister Agent of the National Fire Insurance Company of Hartford, isn't it a nerve racking job trying to get insurance all day to a lot of people who don't want it? He said—"Why no! I don't try to sell 'em anything they don't want. I try to get 'em insurance all day to a lot of people who don't want it."

"Well, sir, I realized then that my agent has done me a big favor in giving me an intelligent picture of my needs, and then letting me use my common sense, without high-pressureing me. That's why I say—"Go to an agent you can trust—and be guided by his judgment."

W. K. ROGERS AGENCIES LTD CHARLOTTETOWN

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.

FARM-BUTTER PRICES

Sir:—"Any port in a storm," any trival hidey hole for a pursued rabbit, is a convenient refuge for "Primary Producers." Even an error of 1927 instead of 1937 he accepts as a bulwark of defense. Neither date is material: I am dealing with 1939.

As intimated in my last, to follow him in his intiations, on irrelevant creations of a flighty imagination would be a waste of time and space. The matter is too serious for bungle, and I have no inclination for comedy.

I will thank him if he will try to meet the actual texts and contexts of what I say, and have said in plain English, and give up quibbling and distorting my statements into phantoms of his own illusions, such as—"What he intended to convey." I intended just as I wrote.

Adroliely he says "I echoed there was no Export." He expected to get away from the fact that it was the statement of Mr. Jones that I "echoed", but to echo is not to originate or confirm. I did say, which he avoids as he would a hot iron, that there is no evidence of any butter held in Canada for English account, which is vastly different from his distortion to "no export."

In further distortion he again tries to put in my text—"What he really intended to say." In reference to Mr. Jones' and his herd of cattle, I said exactly "what I intended to say," and nothing approaching the metamorphosis of "Primary Producers" day dreams or nightmares. I used both singular "herd" and its plural to shut off his quibbles on words. I wrote also that if it was on Mr. Jones' herd that I was dealing with, which it was not, I was dealing with "herd" not "waste time to give it attention."

The custom with breeders' herds is little different to the common dairy farmer. Each year he classified his increase. Very fine and promising bull calves, and milk producing heifers of good selection he reserves for the market and his dairy demand. All scrubs, culls, and those not wanted, he consigns to slaughter. This being a continuity of procedure he has a new stock of milkers freshening every year, and if his herds as he says, are ever increasing, it is impossible to sustain an argument that the number of "udders" are not increasing in the same ratio. Why then re-impose such a suggestion as that he can both "have his cake and eat it?"

In like manner he jingles with prices with which he is not familiar. Quoting the Guardian's tele-

The Poet's Corner THE WANDERING KNIGHT'S SONG. My ornaments are arms, My bedtime is in war, My bed is cold upon the world, My lamp you star.

My journeys are long, My slumber short and broken; From hill to hill I wander still, Kissing thy token.

I ride from land to land, I sail from sea to sea; Some day more kind I fate may find, Some night kiss thee.

—John Gibson Lockhart.

You'll Enjoy SHOPPING AT Simpson's NEWLY ENLARGED AND REMODELLED SHOWROOMS Cedar Chests THE FINEST ASSORTMENT YOU COULD FIND. PRICED FROM— \$15.95 to \$39.95 F. A. Stewart Jones 129 KENT STREET PHONE 602 THE SIMPSON EASTERN CHARLOTTETOWN ROBERT SIMPSON LIMITED

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graphic prices his vision, or conception of business he ignores the difference between buying and selling prices. He quotes the maximum prices in Montreal given by the Department of Agriculture, as "gleaned from Provincial agricultural departments." But when they refer to a dependable source in Montreal they give precedence for reliability to the prices of the "Canadian Commodity Exchange," whose prices also appear frequently in the Guardian. On these he will find the "jobbers' prices" that are about 28c to 28 1-2c, but jobbers do not pay the same rates to primary producers as they charge in jobbing sales. Nor do buyers purchasing for export, purchase from jobbers. They buy from the founts of production.

Swine Breeders Attention Now is the time to guard against PIG-WORM By using the most effective remedy on the market. MAC'S PIG-WORM TONIC POWDER It will thoroughly abolish all traces of worms and improve the health of your herd. PRICE 35 CENTS PER LB. We carry a complete line of Cattle Remedies. Gassy Stomachs Relieved Every person who is troubled with gas in the stomach and bowels should get a bottle of Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture and see how quickly it will relieve all distressing symptoms. Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture taken at meal time, not only prevents all bad effects from gas, but it promotes the functional activity of the stomach, assists digestion and improves the appetite. Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture is sold only at the Two Macs at 85c per bottle. Get Your Bottle Today.

Girth and Long Life (Baltimore Sun) Gentlemen who are in configuration at 40 suggest that each of them has swallowed a watermelon owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Raymond Pearl. A developing paunch is not beautiful. It lays the possessor open to the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune in the shape of ribald colleagues, whose remarks acquire additional verbiage as the waistline increases. Therefore, anything that can be said in its favor ought to be hailed with delight by that large proportion of the male population who are being forced by topographical reasons to substitute suspenders for unreliable belts. In a speech before the National Academy of Sciences the Johns Hopkins savant said something in mitigation of the paunch. Examination of 2,332 white men made by Dr. Pearl and his associate, Mr. W. Edwin Moffitt, revealed that the potbellied had, on the average, less pneumonia and cancer, and no more diabetes than the willowy and sylphlike. This does not apply, of course to extremes. Among those examined the enormous tended to be early, as did the cadaverous; but a modestly aldermanic girth is quite consistent with long life. However, there seems to have been nothing in the address to contravene the theory established by these scientists some years ago, to wit:

For Vitality always use BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE TEA

HAVING ANY LUCK? Whether you are bagging the odd duck or coming home empty-handed there is no reason to spoil the day entirely by forgetting to take along with you HICKEY'S BLACK TWIST 10c Per Fig EVERYWHERE IN THE PROVINCE HICKEY and NICHOLSON TOBACCO CO., LIMITED Charlottetown