

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1941.

In Battle Array

So far there has been little display of the panoply of war in our midst. The thousands of youths who have joined the various units have gone from our midst in comparative secrecy and silence.

Many of us had grave doubts about the advisability of the policy pursued at the outset of soft-peddling recruiting efforts, and rejoiced when in response to representations made direct to Ottawa, restrictions were considerably curtailed.

Scrutinizing War Expenditures

Though Parliament is shortly to adjourn, it is understood that the special Parliamentary committee on war expenditures will continue to function. Its chairman has been Mr. J. T. Thorson, Liberal M. P. for Selkirk, but this gentleman has now become Minister of War Services.

The business of the committee is to prevent waste, to see that organization is improved where necessary and to ensure that all monies are wisely used for the purposes for which they have been voted by Parliament.

In its first progress report the committee indicated some ways in which large savings could be made: as in the replacing of members of the fighting services doing clerical work by trained civilian clerks; in preventing waste in the handling of food supplies and in the large amount of salvage that could be obtained in all the services; in supervision of the large number of construction projects of all kinds; in providing civilian financing superintendence to ensure a close check upon all estimates for the Army, Navy and Air Force before they are endorsed by the respective ministers and passed on for the approval of the Government.

But there is a general feeling that much more remains to be done,—that a wider field of inquiry awaits the committee if it is prepared to go ahead on a "how to the line let the chips fall where they may" basis. That is the only way in which it can serve the public usefully. The public are not complaining of the heavy taxation for war purposes; they are subscribing generously, in addition, to the present War Loan and to other war purposes. They know that the nature of this war makes it extremely costly and that the Government requires enormous funds to finance Canada's part. But it is absolutely necessary, if public confidence and enthusiasm is to be maintained, that there be a full and frank accounting of these vast expenditures. Now that the committee on war expenditures has been established, it would be a betrayal of the worst kind if it failed to measure up to its responsibilities.

Improved Military Training

The four-months training plan under the National Resource Mobilization Act, long advocated by the Opposition, is proving satisfactory in more ways than one. Not only does it provide for more efficient compulsory training, but it has done much to stimulate voluntary enlistment for active service. Senator Dandurand, Government leader in the Upper Chamber, recently stated that only 10 per cent of the men who took the thirty-day training indicated their intention to enter the Active Army; but when the four-months training plan was instituted, and the trainees were informed they would be retained

for active service for the duration of the war, the percentage jumped to 40 per cent.

Explaining the plan now in operation, Senator Dandurand said that in the various camps throughout the country there are two groups of men being trained together: one group under the voluntary, the other under the conscriptive system. The men in the first group are attested for active service; they belong to the Active Army. There are 29 basic training centres, where elementary as well as advanced training is given. During the first two months all the men are on virtually the same footing in respect to their training; they are prepared for the specialized courses which they receive after the two months. While they are taking the elementary part they may indicate in which of the divers branches of the service they would prefer to receive specialized training. They are allowed, during this period, to transfer to the Navy, or the Air Force.

A strong point in the plan Senator Dandurand maintained, is that the two groups of trainees undergo the same daily exercise, live under the same roof, sleep in adjacent bunks, enjoy the same privileges and are given the same kind of treatment in all respects. This has helped to develop a healthy comradeship which is a great asset to the nation. The men called out are in constant contact with the volunteers on active service and become their friends and join them in various sports, day in and day out. In a word, they become members of the same army.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Tartan worn by the North Nova Scotia Highlanders is that of Murray of Atholl.

For the first time since 1917, Charlottetown welcomes an overseas battalion.

"The Torch of Victory"—will we go over the top to meet it tomorrow?

It was a great week-end, with the Highlanders once more among us.

Congratulations to His Worship Mayor Holman in succeeding in bringing the Highland Battalion to our city.

Dr. Norman MacLeod, preacher and author, who visited here in 1868, died this date, 1872; minister of Barony Church, Glasgow. Domestic Chaplain to Queen Victoria. Editor of "Good Words"; upheld the establishment of the Scottish Church; opposed strict Sabbatarianism; warm supporter of home and foreign missions; author of "The Old Lieutenant and His Son," "Reminiscences of a Highland Parish," etc.

Britain has a civilian defence army 4,000,000 strong, Hon. Herbert Morrison, home secretary, revealed in Parliament. "This army of the people, the vast majority of whom are unpaid and work voluntarily in their spare time, are typical of the character, spirit, energy and grit of the British people fighting with their backs to the wall," he said. The minister added that the ranks of fire-bomb fighters were increased recently by 2,500,000 men and women.

Following are two extracts from a letter received recently from England, showing the indomitable spirit of the people: "Daddy's bakehouse is still standing, although the roof is cracked in two, but his shop was completely burned out with the rest of the building in which it was located. So, as well as being homeless, we have no income, but Daddy says it gives him a holiday he has been needing for years!" "I travelled back by bus and sat next to a very nice girl. She told me their house had been bombed and burned out, and that they had lost everything, and she said, "Oh well, other people are much worse off—none of us was hurt." And it is the same everywhere you go. The people are marvellous."

Sir James Barrie, while writing his last play, "The Boy David," worked into the dialogue two remarks made to him by Princess Margaret, and promised to pay the Princess a penny for each stage performance. How that story ended has now been told in Denis Mackail's official biography, "The Story of J. M. B." Barrie, old, ill, dispirited at the comparative failure of his play, and perhaps feeling that Princess Margaret, now a King's daughter, was less informally approachable, had not the heart to carry his jest through. The King discovered this and sent an official-looking document saying that if the obligation was not met his solicitors would take up the matter. This put new heart into Barrie, as it was intended to do. He had a magnificent legal document made out, and obtained a bag of bright new pennies, meaning to take them to the Palace and pay Royalty's royalties in person. When the time came, however, he was much too ill to go. Once again the King came to the rescue. He sent for the agreement, showed the Princess where to sign, and sent it back to Barrie on his deathbed.

Receipts of gold in the United States from Canada during 1940 amounted to \$2,622,501,000 or 55.2 per cent of the record total imports of \$4,749,467,000 as compared with \$613,501,000 in 1939, an increase for 1940 of 328 per cent over 1939, notes Mr. D. S. Cole, Canadian Trade Commissioner at New York, reviewing 1940 trade returns of the United States in the current issue of the Commercial Intelligence Journal. A large proportion of the receipts from Canada, however, were for British account. Shipments from the United Kingdom totalled \$633,100,000 as against \$1,826,463,000 in 1939, showing a decline of 65.3 per cent. Other leading sources of gold imports were France, South Africa, Sweden, Japan and Australia. According to a recent report of the Federal Reserve Board, states Mr. Cole, the heavy movement of gold to the United States has now diminished to the level of new gold production, and capital which has been flowing into the United States is now flowing out as a result of loans to foreign countries and British liquidation of United States assets. It is expected that the flow of gold from foreign countries from now on will be largely limited to the current gold output of those countries.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The proposal to send firearms seized from American gangsters to Britain as part of the aid scheme has been described by a high New York police official as a "sound and constructive idea." It seems to us more than sound; it is divinely just. For our country has been so beautifully balanced that the guns of one set of gangsters should be used against another set of the same unwelcome and anxious gentry? The gangsters from whom the firearms have been taken will themselves appreciate that point, and some of them may even feel rather proud that their favorite automatics should be deemed worthy of advancement from furtive uses in sordid crime to honorable and active participation in the defence of the Atlantic. — Glasgow Herald.

Turning out old junk a day or two ago, I came on the admirable booklet, authorized by the French war office describing and demonstrating the impregnability of the Maginot line. It was published in December, 1938, and I well remember the impression it made. Its chance re-reading tempts to no cynical reflections, it may provoke some salutary ones. No more can we be lulled into a sense of security by defensive works, or the certainty of American help, or even the present predominance of our air force and our navy. For all these we may be thankful, but, if we have not realized we are fighting an enemy against whom no effort can ever be permitted and no vigilance for a moment relaxed, our fate will inevitably be the fate of the men who M. Maginot's ingenious but easily structure was designed to protect. — London Spectator.

Though Herr Hitler may imagine that Germany has "never harmed" the United States, America will know better. Never harmed us? The Germans have trampled through our world. They have ordered our commerce from great areas of the seas, reducing them to a savage anarchy. Their violence has forced us to colossal efforts of wasteful rearmament, taken our time, absorbed our energies and money that might have been far better spent. But indirectly they have done us, and all civilized men, a far deeper hurt. They have imported the total disregard for all truth and integrity into the relations of peoples. They have wrecked our society, debased the great culture of the West, shared, thrown back to the masses, the humanitarian and scientific inquiry, materially impoverished the world of which we are a part. They have spread their physical desolation across great areas which were a part of our civilization's heritage; they have killed and tortured our friends, and in doing this to our world they have done it to us. No harm? "Ask not for the angels to come down," quotation from John Donne, for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee." — New York Herald-Tribune.

Every fisherman knows what unsatisfactory attention is given to the painstaking accounts of his angling exploits. He is familiar with the vacant stare of reluctant courtesy, the weary indifference of the skeptic, the weary indifference of the angling spouse and, hardly better, the preoccupied enthusiasm of the fellow-fisherman impatiently waiting his turn to tell a better tale.

Of this unsatisfactory condition of Canadian Government, in spite of its immediate concern with more important matters, has duly taken note and formulated some remedial steps. No less concerned than the bureau in charge of Mines and Resources has decided to take a special census of the fisherman. The census card will be given to the fisherman at the time of his entry into the national parks, and this card he will be asked to record his achievements. His name and address will be of course, he on it, the name of the lake or stream fished, the species caught, their number and length, the hours spent fishing and what lure and method were used. This would seem to be an admirably complete questionnaire, but to mere statisticians, completeness is now added the touch which shows how thoughtful of its guests the Ottawa intends to be. "The fisherman is asked to record their failures as well as their triumphs," says the dispatch, "as these are just as important to the limnological service of the parks as their successes." This sympathy and minute attention to the needs of some of the best catches are never mentioned, save with the distant, bulging eye, are sure to be appreciated by the fisherman. The great United States ever showed such interest in the Little Fellow? — New York Times.

Pierre Laval has at last spoken for publication, and his speech justly may be considered as one of the most amazing to come out of the war. It is an open confession that the traitorous part he played in bringing about France's capitulation was premeditated and deliberate. It is an equally creditable admission of a cowardly championing of France's collaboration with Adolf Hitler in his European order. He declares that from the beginning he was a defeatist, that he openly predicted Germany's triumph. He now regrets that France was "hurled into a war that was lost in advance," and shamelessly boasts that he went to the Germans determined to teach his fellow-Frenchmen that France could regain her strength only through Nazi "regeneration" of the continent. And what he has the temerity to add that the underlying motive of his confession today is to warn the people of the United States "by the sad example of my own country," to "reflect well before you throw yourselves blindly into a great adventure, and toward the same destiny that befell my nation." Laval had much better remain silent. Out of his own mouth he has convicted himself as a Quisling and placed himself in the front rank of the traitor class of traitors. Moreover, he has shown that he and the men of his yellow stripe are engaged in an effort to lead the French people blindly along a dark road where all hope must be abandoned that France will ever be freed from the servitude of the Reich. Perhaps the machinery of oppression is efficient enough in France today to make the effort succeed. On the other hand, maybe it will fail. It may even set off a more active resistance to these self-appointed masters of France's destiny. — Montreal Gazette.

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR
"The enemy sunk the Hood; we have sunk the Bismark. It is an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But our strength is gathering, and soon for every eye and tooth of ours that they take we shall take two eyes and two teeth of theirs." — Right Hon. Malcolm MacDonald, British High Commissioner.

Parliament's Record And Orders - In-Council

(Ottawa correspondent, Financial Post)

After sitting for just over seven months, Canada's Parliament is scheduled to adjourn. Under other circumstances Parliament would prorogue, but Prime Minister King has said he will recall members to consider the St. Lawrence waterways agreement as soon as it has passed Congress.

In the face of the grave situation confronting the whole Empire, it is but natural for Canadians to ask: What has Parliament done?

Direction of the war effort has been affected by Parliament action in one major aspect—the budget. Otherwise the war policy and regular way to accumulation for foreign governments are carried out by Order-in-Council.

What has Parliament done since the House reconvened last November? It has considered and taken action on some 97 bills.

Of the bills brought before the House, 58 were private bills and 16 were public bills introduced by private members.

Less than 30 bills were sponsored by the Government. Several bills were necessary amendments to existing legislation. Others were necessary but of minor importance.

The major legislation brought before the House by the Government since the war began has been brought down by Hon. J. L. Isley, Minister of Finance.

There was the Succession Duty Act; the Income War Tax Act; and an amendment to Excess Profits Tax Act.

Nearly all the bills introduced by the Government had to do, directly or indirectly, with the war effort, and in particular with financing the war.

Aside from the Budget and the legislation implementing its provisions, measures taken to further the prosecution of the war are found in the Orders-in-Council tabled in the House.

It is apparent from an examination of these orders-in-council that much of the war effort is arranged for or accomplished in this way.

Through this medium, the Government has regulated and created a multitude of war agencies.

It set up the Wartime Housing Ltd. to relieve the acute housing shortage in a number of war industry localities.

It has established Wartime Merchant Shipping Ltd. to build and needed cargo vessels for the Atlantic and West Indies routes.

It has created the Wartime Requirements Board, supposedly to bring about order in meeting requirements for essential materials.

But the Board is already defunct. It has regulated the marketing of dairy products, and provided minimum butter prices and a bonus on cheese.

Of regulations have been formulated a steel controller has been appointed. New models of refrigerators, automobiles, radios, etc., have been "frozen." Regulations have been laid down respecting machine tools. A plan for marketing apples has been set up. Similar arrangements have been made for canned goods.

All are but parts of one stupendous whole. Whose body nature is, and God the soul; That change'd thro' all, and yet in all the same. Great in the earth, as in the etheral frame. Warm in the sun, refreshes in the breeze. Glows in the stars, and blossoms in the trees. Lives thro' all life, extends thro' all extent. Spreads undivided, operates unspent; Breathes in our soul, informs our mortal part. As full, as perfect, in a hair as heart; As full, as perfect, in vile man that mourns. As the rapt seraph that adores and burns; To Him no high, no low, no great, no small; He fills, He bounds, connects, and equals all. — Alexander Pope.

How Are Your Eyes?
If you are having symptoms of strain, headaches, sore eyes or dizziness — consult a specialist.
At your service with years of experience and a thorough refracting service.
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War Trade And Gold

(Hamilton Spectator)
Mr. D. S. Cole, Canadian Trade Commissioner at New York, in a report to the Dominion Department of Trade and Commerce, gives particulars of American imports from the various Empire countries together with a comparison of the present situation with that prevailing before the war. As might be supposed, in the year 1940, imports into the United States from Germany practically dried up, and since their occupation by the Nazis other European countries have sent only a negligible amount. But the total value of imports for the year actually shows an increase of 11.6 per cent, as compared with 1939. Canada, which is the leading source of supply for the United States markets, exported goods to the value of \$400,562,000 to that country, an increase of no less than 20.4 per cent, over 1939. The United Kingdom, in spite of the aerial blitz and submarine activity, shipped goods to the value of \$135,681,000, a decline of only \$15,929,000 from the 1939 total. Mr. Cole justly observes that the figures indicate "the striking persistence of imports of United Kingdom goods into the United States despite an enormous war effort." Imports from British Malaya increased by 79.8 per cent, over those of the previous year; while there were declines in the case of New Zealand, Jamaica, Trinidad, and Tobago, and Bermuda.

Another interesting section of the report is that which deals with the receipts of gold by the United States during the year 1940. Canada has sent \$229,511,000 worth across the border, as compared with \$613,501,000 in 1939. The total amount of gold received by the United States from all sources during the year was \$479,467,000, or 10 per cent more than 1939, and the largest amount ever recorded for any country. Imports for private account gave way to accumulation for foreign governments as central banks after the European war began to spread. But it is stated by the United States Federal Reserve Board that the movement of gold to foreign governments has not diminished to the level of new gold production and that capital which had been flowing into the country is now flowing out as a result of loans to foreign countries and British liquidation of American assets. It is anticipated that the flow of gold from foreign countries will henceforth be limited, in the main, to the current gold output of those countries.

lobster. A bonus has been provided for wheat acreage production. Export of fir logs has been prohibited. Fixed prices for timber were established.

All of these things were done by Order-in-Council. Government by Order-in-Council did not end there.

A Director-General of Priorities was authorized to give wide powers. The Government also made it obligatory to secure a license on new building in order to restrict consumption of materials and the use of skilled labor on non-essential projects.

Controls were set up for exports on basis of destination. This involved another permit branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Regulations were laid down respecting ship repairs. An order was issued "freezing" wages at the 1939 level and providing for a cost-of-living bonus in lieu of an increase in the basic wage rate for industries coming under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act.

Patents and industrial designs have been more or less "enlisted for the duration" and an order was issued protecting the owners.

Orders-in-council were issued respecting purchases on behalf of the Governments of Belgium, Netherlands and Greece.

Many others, and less important orders were issued, all having to do, directly and indirectly, with the war effort.

The decentralization of Parliamentary authority as gone a step further in 1939.

In addition to direct legislative action by Parliament or the issuing of an Order-in-Council a number of controllers have been given mandatory powers by the Government.

These controllers have, in the main, issued very few orders. This does not indicate inactivity on their part. They have regulated by suggestion or by agreement many regulations designed to conserve foreign exchange materials necessary for the war effort.

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W. R. SHAW, Secretary,
P. E. I. SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.
L-476-6-14-31.

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