

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1938.

Sabotaging Our Federal Claims

Recently it was announced that further presentations would be made by some of the provinces, including Prince Edward Island, before the Rowell Commission which sat here last February. On that occasion the brief presented by the Campbell Government asked for an additional federal subsidy of \$600,513 annually on the basis of pressing fiscal need.

It was shown in detail that "the number and variety of provincial taxes in this Province is unusually great, and that in almost every branch of taxation our rates are considerably higher, and our scale of exemption considerably lower, than those prevailing throughout other Provinces"; also that with regard to expenditure and revenue "the inequalities of the situation seem to be growing, rather than lessening."

The whole gist of the brief was that a balanced budget could not possibly be achieved without additional federal aid if public services were to be maintained at a minimum reasonable standard. One Ontario newspaper, the Globe and Mail, quoted this brief as "making out a strong case for the Island's incapacity to maintain a government."

It professed to see no reason why, in the circumstances, "3,140 square miles of land containing 93,000 people should be a Province," and it advised us to sell out and turn the Island "into one of those paradises where modest millionaires go to preserve their coupons and breathe the salt sea air."

Recently the Globe and Mail adopted a different method of prejudicing the Island's case before the Rowell Commission. It published a "survey" of provincial finances on the basis of which it stated editorially that Prince Edward Island, along with Ontario and New Brunswick, was able to meet its expenses "from current sources of revenue."

Obviously if this were true we have no "fiscal need," no claim for further aid from Ottawa, and the brief presented by Premier Campbell was arrant nonsense. But the Public Accounts of the Province show conclusively that it is not true. An authoritative organ, the Financial Post, quoting from the Public Accounts, presented the true picture when it stated recently: "Prince Edward Island's deficit in 1937 was even higher than in the previous year, amounting to \$120,744 as compared with \$24,654 in 1936. It was also double the amount budgeted for due to the fact that ordinary expenditures exceeded estimates by \$78,937. The over-all deficit or increase in net debt amounted to \$351,798, as against \$215,522 in 1935."

These are the facts so far as the last two years' financing is concerned. What object the Globe and Mail had in misrepresenting them we do not profess to know. But we can find even less explanation for the appearance of the Globe and Mail's misstatement in the local organ of the Campbell Government, quoted not for the purpose of refutation but as gospel truth! The idea, presumably, was to back up the fatuous indorsement of the Government's financial record, passed by the Queen's County Liberal Association. But where does it place the Government in its dealings with the Rowell Commission on Dominion-Provincial relations?

What chance has Premier Campbell of proving our claim of "fiscal need," when his own party organ accepts the statement of an adverse Ontario newspaper that we have no fiscal need, as we are already able to meet our expenses from current revenue?

No doubt our contemporary is aware of the inconsistency of the Government's attitude in view of its pre-election pledges. But that is no reason for sabotaging the Island's claims at Ottawa.

Canadian Defence

The memorandum on the defence policies of Canada prepared for the Canadian Institute of International Affairs by Mr. C. P. Stacey, a graduate of the University of Toronto, who continued his studies at Oxford and later his doctor's degree at Princeton with a thesis on "Canada and the British Army, 1846-71," has been published in revised form in the Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science. The present situation is reviewed in detail, and one is led to the conclusion that, in spite of what has been done to improve it, neither on the land, nor in the air, nor on sea can it yet be considered to be remotely satisfactory. However, it is a comfort to know that both the government and the public are now fully alive to the necessity of greater effort and large expenditure, and that, given time, Canada will eventually be in a position where she can make an effective contribution to the defence of this continent, and even, should the necessity unhappily arise, supply a trained force of creditable strength for overseas service.

An interesting discussion as to what is likely to happen in the event of Japanese aggression against this Dominion or the United States, together with a consideration of what might reasonably be required of Canada as a neutral nation, provokes the comment that the Canadian navy is still the weakest spot in the Dominion's defensive organization; that "if an emergency comes, it will in all probability come suddenly, and if naval preparations have not been made in advance, Canadian coasts and shipping will be without protection."

While it is reassuring to have the promise of

President Roosevelt that the United States will not leave us to our fate in the event of attack, "national dignity requires that the Dominion should not rely for safety merely on the kindness or the interest of a powerful neighbor." Moreover, there is the question, raised in the States, regarding the possibility of aggressive nations using Canada as an avenue of attack on the American republic, and as a base for bombing operations. While such suggestions need not be taken too seriously, adequate preparations should be made to render the Dominion "in a real sense a partner" in the defence of the continent.

It is held that the best contribution that can be made to national and imperial defence is the provision of an adequate air force, with up-to-date combat planes, built in Canada, for home service, or overseas if required; also the manufacture in Canada of war material and equipment of various kinds—though it is not likely that tanks or heavy guns will be produced in this country. The Dominion must arm today, not merely as a "sensible precaution against the manifold menaces of a world in turmoil," but also as a necessary support to "her new international pretensions as an independent British state in North America."

Editorial Notes

Rebellion broke out in Lower Canada this date, 1837.

Court mourning for Queen Maude of Norway will be over before Christmas.

We have had such an open, agreeable Fall so far that it is hard to realize that we are within a month of Christmas.

"Who goes aborning goes asorowing", evidently does not apply to Premiers, whatever the consequence may be to the taxpayers.

The Mother Country has placed a preliminary order with Canada for 100 bombers at a cost of \$10,000,000. It is stated that should these prove satisfactory the order will be increased in the course of five years to \$500,000,000.

Having acquired a British estate and domicile, there is nothing now to prevent Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett's elevation to the House of Lords. But he would be of far greater service to Canada were he elected a member of the House of Commons.

Perhaps the reason for the German newspaper attacks on Canada is the fact that the Mackenzie King Government has advised the Mother Country they are prepared to admit several thousand exiled German Jews into this country. The Nazi leaders have no use for anyone, or any country, exhibiting humanitarian sentiments.

The Ontario Associated Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce have approved holding of certain statutory holidays on Monday, irrespective of the date upon which they fall. The resolution was sponsored by Colonel P. L. Healey of Hamilton. The holidays suggested were Victoria Day, the King's Birthday and Dominion Day. Originally included in the resolution, Remembrance Day was deleted by common consent.

It has just been announced that Mr. W. W. N. Wardrop, barrister, Vancouver, a former member of parliament, has been appointed Assistant Chief Commissioner of the Transport Commission in succession to Mr. S. J. McLean, C.M.G., who retired after 20 years service; while Mr. Wilfred Humbury also from Vancouver, has been appointed a member of the Board in succession to Mr. John A. Stoneman, who retired after ten years service. They are both appointed for a term of ten years.

This is the Montreal Gazette's sad conclusion after weighing the merits and demerits of the Trade Treaties: "There has been a three-way reduction of trade barriers in which, apparently, the principal sacrifice has been made by this country. That sacrifice, however, is limited to the duration of the Canada-United States agreement (three years) and both Canada and Britain have retained their right to afford mutually preferential treatment. On the whole, it is still possible to hope that there will be no net loss to this country, though it is impossible to guarantee so happy an issue." Not much of the spirit of optimism there.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Times announces that the signing of the Anglo-U.S.A. Trade Treaty puts an end to Canadian preference in the British market, and the end also of the plan to make the British Empire as nearly as possible a self-contained economic unit. Thus, by one dip of his pen, Prime Minister Mackenzie King has undone all that Prime Minister Laurier and his successors strove for over half-a-century. It is declared that Mr. Cordell Hull and his aides refused to consider any exchange of concessions on the basis of a preferential tariff for Empire produce, claiming that U.S.A. must be free to make any arrangement she deemed desirable with other countries.

One often wonders how it would feel to return to earth after a quarter of a century's removal by death. Some idea may be obtained from the experience of Frank Endrukut who was released from Philadelphia penitentiary after serving 32 years imprisonment for killing his youthful sweetheart. The thing that impressed him most was the development of roads and road traffic. "I've seen an occasional automobile in the repair shop of the penitentiary," he said, "but now I find cars as thick as a swarm of flies—crowds of them that block the streets and roads. In the old days one could cross the streets leisurely at any section, now coloured lights are needed to give people a chance to go from curb to curb. I've thought a millions times of the changes I would find should I live to get out, but I never visioned the sight I now see of roads filled, and air beginning to be filled, with mechanized fliers. I feel stunned, but hope to get accustomed to the new conditions."

NOTES BY THE WAY

At the peak of the war scare, Secretary Ickes, still proud of his one-man ban on helium for Germany, wanted to issue a statement regarding the possibility of aggressive nations using Canada as an avenue of attack on the American republic, and as a base for bombing operations. While such suggestions need not be taken too seriously, adequate preparations should be made to render the Dominion "in a real sense a partner" in the defence of the continent.

The constructive co-operative policy that seemed to be actively evolving from Mr. Roosevelt's "quarantine" speech has been dashed. It is academic just now to talk of its revival. Before the United States can be brought back to exercise the great influence for peace in the world that she commands we in this country must earn her respect and confidence. At present we unhappily enjoy neither.—Manchester Guardian.

Grandfather cut firewood in the timber. Waiter besides that he will take in zero weather. Carried lines over his shoulder and whipped his hands around his body to keep him warm. Grandson thinks he is roughing it if he has to drive a sedan without a heater.—Wall Street Journal.

"A new means of making money illegally is the kidnapping of dogs. After the thieves have picked up a few likely-looking pups from the city streets, they sit back and await the return of the animals. Then they very innocently deliver and collect. Of course, stealing a dog is a crime, but the money for its safe return is not equivalent to kidnapping by any means, but it is theft just the same.—L'Evenement-Journal.

Fortunately, human beings can grow as long as they can breathe. Men and Women in their 70's are charmingly young. The journalist who writes for the journal when he was 40 and he was making entries when he was 83. The quality of the observation and expression in the later writings gives the impression of a man who has seen it all. Feather in The Santa Fe Magazine.

The distressful incident in which the promising colt, Thingumbob, broke his leg and had to be destroyed recalls the statement of a veterinarian who frequently reports that man has broken his leg and broken his leg. It should be that he had broken his leg and fallen. The tremendous strain on the muscles of the leg in these fine-drawn thoroughbreds the bones are unusable. The strain on the muscles is excessive.—Hamilton Spectator.

"We can never place enough of our youths in school of learning that will prepare them to take over important industrial posts later. For several years more, we fear, Canadian industry is bound to feel the effects of the crisis it has gone through. Looking to the future, many industrial leaders of the country have expressed their belief that more trained men are not prepared to take over the positions made vacant for some reason or other by the present economic crisis. The trained man, the one who steps into a position, learns preliminaries and routine and then really gives worthwhile services. The man who has not been trained to learn from experience, is what Canadian industry needs now. "What better way to avoid embarrassing shortages of trained men than to start now and prepare a new generation of good workers in industry as well as on the land?"—La Presse Montreal.

Chancellor Hitler was credited by Edna Ferber, famous American author, with having done more to unite the Jews than any man since Moses. Miss Ferber discussed the subject of racial intolerance and bigotry in the light of her own experience. She writes: "Paradoxical though it may seem, in spite of the degradation of the body, the humiliation of the spirit, the agony of the mind, the torture of the soul which has been visited upon the Jews of the so-called civilized world in the past few years, the gorgeous irony of it is this: that the Jews have managed to strengthen, to unite, to solidify and to spiritualize the Jews of the world than any man since Moses." Discussing the subject in general Miss Ferber expresses the belief that the persecution to which the Jews have been subjected throughout history is responsible for the unity of the Jewish race, and that it would disappear as a type if the persecution were removed. "It is usually the persecuted Jew who naturally tries to compensate for oppression," she writes it has always been my contention that the Jew, left in peace for 200 years throughout the world would lose his aggressiveness, his tenacity and neurotic ambition, would be completely absorbed and would vanish as a type from the face of the earth.—New York Post.

The oil industry is faced with something of a Japanese stand-off: one chance to lose and one chance to win. If the price of crude is not cut they are accused of conspiring to hold prices up and subjected to monopoly investigations; and if they cut them, as they recently did, they are upbraided for "hitting below the belt" and threatened with government regulation. The Interstate Oil Compact, which expires September 1, 1939, is a voluntary agreement to limit the crude production of the six states of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, and Kansas. Its weakness is that while these states account for 80 per cent of the country's crude production they have jurisdiction over only about 40 per cent of the national refining capacity. Secretary Ickes is said to be preparing to introduce a regulatory bill in the next Congress and the members of the Oil Compact hope that the Pacific Coast states may be included in their agreement, so that regulation of the refining and crude production will be voluntary rather than under federal law. The recent cut in crude was brought about by price cutting of gasoline and the latter's weakness is laid in turn to oversupply caused by running too much crude through refineries to get an additional stock of heating oil for the winter season. The tendency of all government regulation is to expand and to be influenced by political rather than economic considerations. The current railway wage controversy is a case in point. The control of refining is desirable, the earning capacity of the oil industry

Hands Off The Colonies!

Germany has her answer to her demand for the restoration of the colonies she lost to her victors in the Great War, the colonies now administered under mandate by the League of Nations. Britain and France have said flatly the colonies will not be handed over to the tender mercies of the Reich. It is quite possible that but for the recent Jewish persecutions the outcome of this demand might have been different, but no one at this moment, as the London Times puts it, "feels disposed to risk transfer of any backward race to the sort of administration which finds favour in Germany today." Public opinion in Britain, in France, the United States and most other countries would resent actively any transfer of colonies to Germany in the light of the situation that has developed since the Munich conference.

But in a suggestion made by the London Times there may be the germ of a solution of the problem. The Times proposes a common undertaking in uncivilized Africa by the powers concerned with African colonization; in other words a trusteeship of a common undertaking in which Germany "might well find an honorable place side by side with the other colonizing nations." Something conceivable might be worked out along that line. Certainly for anything else the time is not ripe and Germany herself has made it impossible.

A Marvellous Contract

(Winnipeg Free Press) It was obvious that if Major Hahn, the Toronto promoter, was going to make Bren guns for the British and Canadian governments he would have to have more than a bright idea, the goodwill of the Department of Defence and a signed contract. He would also have to have a factory. So he got himself a bankrupt boiler factory, created share values and begged them to be the best. The interesting feature of the evidence that has been presented to the Royal Commission at Ottawa, General LeFevre in evidence said that he informed responsible people that Major Hahn, and his group controlled plants suitable for munition-making. This was way back in 1936. The financial evidence is that Major Hahn made a down payment of \$500 on the old Inglis plant in September, 1936, before he got any letters from the Department in Ottawa giving him some standing as a munitions-maker. The next payment he made was on Nov. 9, 1936, the day before he was made an official representative of the government. On that date he paid down \$2,500, and from that time on there was apparently no much doubt he was going to have some thing big. The money he put in after that was pretty safely invested.

All told, however, he and his group paid \$231,196 in order to obtain complete control of the John Inglis company, plus an obligation to pay \$18,000 more. Possession of this stock was obtained in two transactions. They got 191,262 shares for nothing as vendor shares, and 58,333 shares for which they undertook to pay \$6 a share. They apparently did pay into the treasury \$231,196 and have still an obligation to pay in the remaining \$18,000. Having thus got subscribed and pledged capital of \$249,196 the group paid out \$100,000 cash for the old John Inglis company and thereby acquired the plant, and

not or were in process of getting this was the now famous cost-plus ten-per-cent contract to manufacture a total of 12,000 Bren guns for the British and Canadian governments. This contract, which has been represented as a bit of tough bargaining by the Department of Defence which has saved the government, according to Mr. Ian Mackenzie, more than a million dollars, was estimated to be worth at least a million and a half dollars. The contract is indeed a wonderful deal when it looks so marvellous to everybody connected with it. It is almost magic. The Government saves a million dollars. The promoters estimate they are going to make a fortune.

That Body of Ours

REDUCING WEIGHT BY EATING LESS OR USING GLAND EXTRACTS A middle-aged man finds himself getting overweight, particularly about the abdomen, and feels that he has two choices: if he wishes to regain his figure, he can reduce his food intake or he can take more exercise. As he is fond of food he decides that he will take more exercise and not lessen his food intake. What happens? The exercise naturally makes him hungry and he finds that he is eating more food, he is losing no weight, in fact, he may be gaining weight. Thus an individual, though very active, may become much overweight by this overeating. There are, however, some cases of overweight, perhaps one in twenty, where more than food and exercise must be considered if results in reducing are to be obtained. These are what are known as the gland types of overweight, particularly those cases due to lack of the juices of the thyroid gland in the neck, or the pituitary gland in the brain, or the sex glands. The various processes of the body—breathing, circulation of the blood, digestion—would still go on if these glands were not present in the body. But these glands or the juices of these glands have a "regulating" effect on the body processes, keeping them from going too far. When they are lacking they are called the normal rate. In the case of the thyroid gland in the neck, if not enough of this juice is present, the blood stream, the individual will get overweight, over the body. In addition he is apt to become forgetful and lack some alertness of mind. When the pituitary gland is not making enough juice, the excess fat collects in certain places, namely, that is, across the shoulders, breasts, abdomen, upper arms and upper legs. The forearms and lower legs are usually free from fat. Fortunately, whether the overweight is due to overeating and overexercising or to lack of one of these two gland juices, reducing the amount of food will always reduce the weight. When the excess fat is due mostly or entirely to lack of one or both of these gland juices, the use of the extract of these glands may also be necessary to reduce the individual to his ideal weight.

The Poet's Corner

My name is Legend and I weave quaint tales That linger while cold facts are held by time: The Poet's servant, taking hold Of annals whispered there, and To fit this flight or that, or dress new thought In old design, so changing even I varied first; and yet withal, who knows If I be not the almoner of rays The Sun of Truth has lanced from dawn of day. For Wonder nursed my childhood, to my mind With meanings and their consequence; and thus The harvest of long years I bruit Awakening in the men, I love to stir A fervent chord of music ever That trills accompaniment with leys of yore. —Amy Redpath Roddick.

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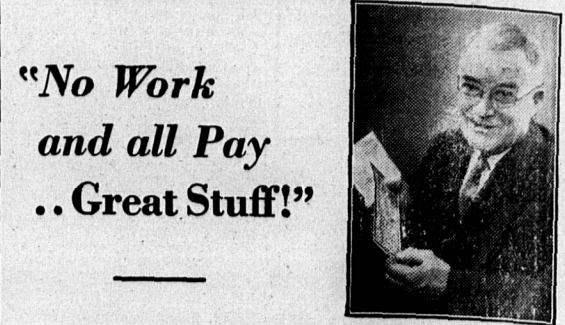
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\$150,000 in bonds which now stand against the plant. Major Hahn and his friends, when this transaction was completed, had a company and a plant. The company had working capital of \$249,196, against which stood the \$150,000 in bonds. But Major Hahn and his group had shares in the company worth (at \$6 a share, the price at which it was sold to brokers) \$1,500,000; or (at the price at which the shares were sold to the public) \$1,875,000. What gave the shares this value? It was not the bricks and mortar of the old Inglis plant, for it had been bought for \$100,000 cash and \$15,000 in bonds. It could therefore only be the value of the contract which Major Hahn and his friends had

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