

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1897)
President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester B. McLure
Vice-President: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.

The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink.

Our Car Ferry Service

Through the efforts of Mr. McLure, M. P., Prince Edward Island is to have representation on the railway committee in the House of Commons, and it will be noted, from the agenda given in Thursday's despatch from Ottawa, that the first subject slated for discussion is the P. E. I. car ferry and terminal estimates.

There is no question where the Conservative members of the committee stand on this issue. Mr. Bracken's campaign colleague in the last election, Mr. Henry Borden, K.C., made it crystal clear when speaking in Charlottetown on May 11. "Your transportation problem," he said, "has always been a difficult one. Difficult because it has been tackled in a piecemeal manner and on the basis of political expediency. We must put an end to that. One of the aims of Confederation was that there should be no barrier to inter-provincial trade. Your geographical position has imposed such a barrier. We see no reason why that condition should not be rectified and promptly. We believe that the water route from Borden to Cape Tormentine should be in effect a national highway.

Accordingly, the Progressive Conservative party pledged to the residents of Prince Edward Island that the increase in cost of moving farm products and other essential freight, by truck or rail, occasioned by this water route over the normal cost of moving such farm products and freight for the equivalent mileage on land, will, as a matter of national policy, be borne by the Government, without waiting for the completion of the additional ferry to which I have already referred."

This was the policy endorsed by Mr. Bracken as party leader; and it sounds precisely like the policy preached by Premier J. Walter Jones at the Dominion-Provincial Conference at Ottawa last August. Speaking of the Confederation Treaty the Premier said: "Clause 28 states specifically that ferries between Provinces are a charge on the general Parliament. How has that agreement been carried out? When Mr. Howe presented his submission yesterday he referred to transportation and communications, but ferries were not even mentioned. I have shown that ferries for truck and bus carriage have hardly been considered, and where it was possible to ferry them, excessive prohibitive charges were made. Equitable treatment should carry them free of charge, or almost so. Ferries should be national highways under the terms upon which we entered Confederation."

The Premier added that "if the (Confederation) agreement had been consummated in 1945 instead of 1873, it would have included adequate communication for railway cars, trucks, buses, and automobiles by ferries located in at least two points on Prince Edward Island and probably communication by air for mail and passenger travel; or else we would have remained out of Confederation."

That is the basis on which the railway committee of Parliament should consider our car ferry appropriations. Now that we are to have an Island spokesman on the committee, we may get somewhere in presenting our case.

Situation In Greece

Yesterday's despatches report that the Greek crisis has been ended by Archbishop Damaskinos, the Regent, taking over the Government personally as provisional President. London newspapers point out that the resignation of the Greek Prime Minister, Admiral Voulgaris, had been expected for some days. His Government's position had been finally rendered untenable by the refusal of the Centre and Left parties to take part in the elections on the 20th January—the date fixed by the Voulgaris Government. Then "a service" or "caretaker" Government was tried. It failed to enlist sufficient support to enable it to carry on until the elections. The Regent has now presumably turned to the Party Leaders and placed responsibility on their shoulders for uniting to support him in a Government which will insure the maintenance of law and order and progressive economic recovery during the remainder of the pre-election period.

Among the principal tasks of such a Government, will be to fix a definite workable date for the elections, to deal with inflation and the black market and to procure the speedy release or trial of thousands of political prisoners still lingering in gaol. Commentators add that the United Kingdom Government's attitude was clearly defined in the statement issued on September 10th by the United Kingdom, United States and French Governments, the three Governments which

have agreed to send observers to superintend the elections. It is stressed in London that, in the British view, the recommendation in the tripartite statement "to all parties in Greece to collaborate sincerely and willingly with the interests of their country before them," applies with particular urgency to the present Government crisis.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Daily newspapers go into 94 per cent of Canadian homes.

Mail service across the Atlantic by rocket in 25 minutes is envisioned by one scientist. "The development of rocket propulsion will eventually make it practicable to deliver mails from Europe to America in 25 minutes," the scientist predicted in an interview.

Happy is the ruler whose people seek him. The Sarawak Government announces that Sir Charles Vyner Brooke, "White Rajah" of Sarawak, will leave London soon to resume his powers. The announcement said Sir Charles had received a message from the people of Sarawak following their liberation in which they affirmed their loyalty and asked him to return.

The doctors have again gone on record unanimously as they did in 1927, that the old Prohibition Law is unworkable, and doctors' scripts unethical, but seeing the Government's intentions are good in attempting improvement, have agreed to help out by issuing six-months' warrants to those desiring them. After all, a doctor is about the most responsible and permanent citizen in every community, and who are more to be trusted in signing permits?

Remember the boys and old friends overseas. Post Office announces that the "deadline" for overseas Christmas mails this year will be November 10 for continental Europe points and November 15 for the United Kingdom. The statement warns against deferring mailings until the last moment because this would cause congestion at the post office and possibly make it impossible to provide sufficient cargo space on last ships leaving in time for Christmas Day delivery.

As already noted, but not emphasized in the reports from Ottawa, the Government has placed a resolution on the order paper to increase the members' sessional indemnity from \$4,000 to \$6,000, to take care of the war-time Income Tax imposed upon them. The claim is that with that reduction members are unable to make ends meet. This is an amusing commentary on the Government's own assertion that the cost of living has not increased to any appreciable extent.

There is a great and growing demand for office accommodation in the city on the part of returned men. Why does not the Federal Government vacate some of those they were occupying and are now practically unutilized, the staffs having been reduced almost to nil, and the work likewise? If the powers-that-be would look over the offices they are renting, we are positively sure they would vacate not a few to the advantage of all concerned.

Jonathan Swift, D. D., Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin, novelist, died this date 1745; best known as the author of Gulliver's Travels; keen, hot-headed politician and controversialist; poet and critic; made a host of friends and many enemies; one of the most quoted of English writers.

Hobbes clearly proves that every creature is in a state of war by nature. So, naturalists observe, a flea Hath smaller fleas that on him prey; And those have smaller still to bite 'em, And so proceed ad infinitum; Thus every poet in his kind Is bit by him that comes behind.

Agriculture has always occupied an important place in Canadian economy and while, in large measure, the tendency has been to emphasize the Dominion's industrial growth during the war years the fact is that the investment in farming has also shown a marked increase since 1941. Official figures of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics relative to farm capital, that is land and buildings, implements and machinery and livestock including poultry and animals on farm farms, show that from 1931 to 1941 there was a decline of almost \$1 billion but that this was more than made up in 1942 and 1943, due chiefly to an increase in the value of livestock and a substantial appreciation in the value of land and buildings. During the past year the value of implements and machinery declined but this was much more than made up by an increase in land and buildings.

Mr. Frank B. Clarke is an enterprising and aggressive business man and agriculturalist, and pity is there are not a hundred more such in our province. But, of course, even he does not know everything, is liable to make mistakes, though always ready to admit them if shown his error. His criticism of Bruce Stewart & Co.'s part in munition manufacture is not altogether fair. For instance, the voice of the people forced that firm into the war work, it being claimed that this Province was the only one left out in the cold. It took a great deal of pressure on the part of the Board of Trade, the City Council, the Provincial Government, (then headed by Premier Thane Campbell), and the newspapers to induce the powers-that-be at Ottawa to give our main engineering industry an opportunity to share in the work, and if the war ceased before part of the contracted work was delivered that was no fault of Bruce Stewart's.

Notes By The Way

Putting an idea across in writing is no easy matter. The printed word carries weight and makes faces.—Kitchener Record.

The argument that because England and the British Empire served together and died together they should be able to play together, is not quite applicable since the same argument might be advanced in times of so-called peace when minor warfare with consistent loss of life is not an infrequent occurrence on the North-West Frontier of India and in Palestine.—Daily Telegraph.

Did you ever see a fat postman? If you did, he was probably riding in a car on a rural route. These dependable, spry, lean citizens who trudge hundreds of miles a year, carrying their loads of mail for delivery and picking up other loads, from their boxes are living examples of the fact that while you can starve off your fat, you can eat, keep lean, fit and happy by just keeping a long walk every day.—Detroit News.

Loyalty to Canada does not mean Canadian isolationism, nor any loosening of the real bonds which bind Canada to the British Commonwealth. On the contrary, Canadians, the better member of the Commonwealth Canada will be. If the individual Canadian's sense of partnership in the Canadian community is dull and nebulous, his sense of sharing in the Commonwealth is equally dull and nebulous, the more tenuous.—Winnipeg Tribune.

The atomic bomb, and its effects on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, have done much to convince the world that Doctor Einstein was not mad when he said that a mere mathematical highbrow, whose theory of relativity few persons could understand, might one day be used to blow up the world. He was not mad, and he towers over mankind as an authentic intellectual giant, possessing what is probably one of the greatest minds of our age.—Hamilton Spectator.

The adoption of a systematic, continuous and intelligent policy of reforestation is urgently needed. For a white pine needs half a century to mature and a white spruce almost as much—and these are the two most valuable trees that we have in Canada. The white spruce grows faster and we get a supply of white pine for carpentry, or white spruce for the pulp and paper industry, from the woods and neglect to replace them by planning a new crop.—Guelph Mercury.

The war was, after all, fought largely for posterity. Thousands of people in the world are enjoying the full blessing of peace. They will go through the rest of their lives enduring inconceivable hardships and suffering because of the conflict. No one can say that the war was fought for their sakes. The full fruits of our peace will be enjoyed by those who were not there, and who should go to any reasonable length to make their peace, shared by those who will be the chief beneficiaries.—Windsor Star.

Courtesy is never outmoded, and is always common sense. The man or woman who does not know how to show courtesy to his neighbor, his fellows works under a severe handicap; he will never rise to any position in which he has to boss other people, or to be bossed. Courtesy does not know how to do either without giving offence. No, polite and formal behavior is just as useful now as it ever was and it is becoming smaller, we may find that courtesy, and such things as kindness and respect, will be taken on a new importance.—Peterborough Examiner.

The Battle of Britain service held in Westminster Abbey is only the first step in commemorating the men and women who fell in 1940. Three years ago a fund was raised for erecting some permanent memorial, and the £200 subscribed, which was raised in a few weeks, is to be devoted to renovating and furnishing the easternmost chapel of the abbey, and to erecting a monument to the battle of 1940. It was made by a fragment of the bomb which fell on the Old Palace Yard, and is to be preserved in the scheme of restoration.—Manchester Guardian.

Digging postholes is a satisfying autumn task. On a clear, sunny day when there's a hint of north-easterly breeze, it's a joy to dig. The work says The New York Times. It isn't as if one needed to hurry. This is one of those farm jobs that a good farmer likes to get done in the Fall and have that much start on next Spring's rush. There are some natural qualifications about it. Digging postholes where the soil is full of sizable stones takes some edge from the enjoyment. And when one comes upon a granite boulder a foot or so beneath the surface a man is entitled to feel for a few moments that those who went to the stone-free, black, deep soil of the Midwest last century showed commendable intelligence. But if the soil is reasonably deep, with a gravelly subsoil, digging a line of postholes along the lower end of the meadow or across a corner of an upland meadow is far from being the worst job on the farm. It's good to see the straight line of brown piles of excavated earth; there's satisfaction in knowing that the postholes are deep and wide enough in diameter so the posts can be set firmly upright. It's good to pause occasionally and look at the fields and woods, the sugar grove on the hillside and the mountains across the valley. Chickadees call from the old hawthorn trees by the stone wall and a lone crow caws in melancholy vein from the big beech that shadows the large meadow. At the end of the afternoon when it's time for chores, and the countryman takes a last look at his work, he is content. A man who digs postholes

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

PATIENTS' APPRECIATION

Sir,—Would you kindly allow us a small amount of space in your paper to allow us to express our gratitude to Mr. W. Chester B. McLure, M.P. for his untiring efforts to have us transferred to hospitals on our native Province. Many of us are suffering from chest ailments such as tuberculosis and pleurisy, which requires a long term of treatment, and it is our sincere hope to have our hospitalization amongst our kintfolk.

We are Sir, etc. L.L.M. PATIENTS, Aldershot Military Hospital, Nova Scotia.

A Spendthrift Organization

(Times-Review, Fort Erie) During the fiscal year ended March 31, 1945, the Canadian Broadcasting Commission received a net income of nearly five and a half million dollars. This was made up of \$3,782,492 from license fees, \$1,899,160 from commercial business, and \$75,785 from miscellaneous sources. Yet over the same period the CBC did not live within its means, and finished the year with a net operating loss of \$72,747, which, presumably, must be paid out of the public treasury.

In these days when high finance embraces expenditures of billions rather than mere millions, the CBC may seem like a very insignificant sum; but it represents the total amount of income tax paid by thousands of hard-pressed workers in the lower income-brackets—many of whom had already been compelled to buy radio licenses to support the CBC.

Therefore, it is pertinent to suggest that the CBC should be put under restraint in the matter of expenditure so that it cannot under any circumstances, spend more than its assured income. It should be realized that the operation of such an organization can be maintained on a much more flexible basis than is possible for such a public utility as the Canadian National Railways system. In the latter case, most heavy overhead-items, such as track maintenance, snow clearing, etc., cannot be reduced substantially in the face of a decline in revenue. The CBC, on the other hand, should have much less difficulty in cutting its staff according to its loss. In fact, it would not be unreasonable to demand that the CBC reduce its staff to the level of the income of \$3,782,492 received from license fees; the \$1,899,160 paid by advertisers could then be used to pay the salaries of the staff. Radio listeners in the United States pay no licence fee for the privilege of operating their receivers; there, the entire cost of broadcasting is met by the money paid by advertisers for sponsored programs. In Canada, the entire cost of receiving is met by a compulsory contribution of over three and three-quarter millions annually to the maintenance of the CBC, and that should be sufficient. Any additional revenue received by the CBC should be used for programs ought to go into the public treasury.

London Letter

By Stewart Underhill, Canadian Press Staff Writer

The people of London are coming home, pouring back into a bombed-out city where they are limited to pouring housing.

Day after day, Londoners discharged from the services and those who left during the war escape the dangers of bombing, or because their homes were damaged or destroyed, are returning to jostle the stragglers and thousands of new comers. No. 1 problem is to obtain housing. All through London workmen are reding to patch up damaged residences, but in hundreds of homes the winter will be gloomy with cardboard or wood screens covering shattered windows while the tenant awaits new panes of glass.

After the major obstacle of shelter is overcome, an endless list of difficulties faces the housekeeper. Many laundries refuse new accounts, or take them three to four weeks to return clothes which treated with chemicals because of the soap shortage—seldom look as fresh and new as when they were sent out.

Coal is short, tradesmen seldom deliver, and long lines for the shops rarely so fully stocked as in provincial towns. Servants are virtually non-existent. It is impossible to place their children in schools, for due to bomb damage school space is one of the major problems of rebuilding.

After six years of war-shortages, Londoners would be surprised if their path wasn't blocked with various difficulties. They are being mainly with regained desperation. But the urgency of rebuilding is such that some of the fondest plans of rebuilding are being scrapped. Dr. Cyril Garbett, Archbishop of York, who favors a central housing ministry "armed with almost dictatorial powers," says that hopes of comprehensive town and country planning must be foregone and that "all efforts must be concentrated on the building of houses as quickly as possible. We dare not pull down the worst of the slums until more houses have been built." For homeless and housed alike, the dream era of "post-war" appears to have been advanced at least to "sweet spring."

CLOTHING DRIVE IN N.B.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., Oct. 16—(CP)—Provincial headquarters of the national campaign to provide clothing for European war victims reported tonight that 115,568 pounds had been collected to date in New Brunswick, excluding a large amount still unsorted or unsorted. Totals for various areas include Moncton, 21,358 pounds; Kent County, 850; Westmorland County, 2,397; Albert County, 218.

Attention Farmers AND Soldier Farm Workers. This is to advise that all soldiers sent out from this office or the National Selective Service, Summerside, to assist in harvesting, may remain until the work is completed, regardless of when their time expires. Farmers are asked to please notify this office when they have finished with these men so that we may make arrangements for placing them elsewhere. DOM-PROVINCIAL FARM LABOUR BUREAU 10-19-45.

Old Country Letter (By John Dauphino, Canadian Press Staff Writer) American slang is sneaking into the Scottish dialect and the Burns federation, celebrating its diamond jubilee this year, has declared war to the finish against the invader. The latest communique comes from Thomas Johnston, former secretary of state for Scotland. At federation headquarters in Glasgow he pronounced: "The cinema and Hollywood with its slang are rapidly affecting the speech of our generation. And I believe that the advocate of the Scots dialect will win." Critics elsewhere in the old country have viewed the federation's existence as a manifestation of parochialism. The federation itself contends the world will lose something if Scotland becomes merely a postal district. It is determined to preserve the Burns tradition and his poetry—to hand on to future generations the Scottish tongue and Scottish literature. The work it has done already has earned the praise of the Glasgow Herald's editorial writers. "Burns now is seen in his proper place in the tradition of Scots vernacular poetry, and as an inspirational fount for the English and continental romantic poets," they wrote.

RURAL DIET SURVEY FREDERICTON, Oct. 16—(CP)—A rural diet survey in Gloucester County by federal and provincial agricultural and public health groups has passed the half way mark officials said tonight. A similar survey has been started in Northumberland and will be extended to other counties. LEITE, Scotland—(CP)—A plan to spend \$750,000 (\$8378,000) on deep water berths and plans for discharging grain cargoes has been announced by Joseph Rank Ltd., flour millers.

The Poet's Corner. TELLING TIME. Some men can tell the time of day. By the slant of the sun In a field of hay. A man whose world is stone and steel Tells time by the sound Of the day at his heel. And some, though blind And deaf and mute, Can reckon the hour By the taste of its fruit. Not even the dead, With time on their hands, Have lost all count Of the golden sands. —John Robert Quinn in The Lyric.

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