THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1947

A Big Task

Almost one million Canadian servicemen and ex-servicemen and women are entitled to decorations and medals totalling several millions for services rendered Canada, and the world at large during World War II and the designing, minting and safe delivery of these medals probably represents the biggest tri-service headache of the post-war years. Considerable progress is being made, however. Figures recently made available in Ottawa reveal that to date the Royal Mint has turned over to service officials some 65,000 Canadian Volunteer Service Medals and 16,250 clasps. In view of the staggering amount of work involved it is thought likely that considerable time will have elapsed before all the medals will have been minted. It is not intended to hold distribution until minting of all the medals has been completed but in no case will any single medal be sent out until there is a sufficient number on hand to supply all eligible personnel. Officials at National Defence Headquarters also point out that if former members of the three services will advise the Record Section of the Service concerned of their present whereabouts, serious delays in delivery of medals will be avoided.

The War On Cancer

Cancer kills between 12,000 and 14,000 Canadians every year, being second only to diseases of the heart as a cause of death. Its cause and cure are still a mystery, although it has been found that if treatment can be given early enough, the progress of the disease can be stopped, or substantially delayed. To find the reason for cancer, and therefrom to deduce its cure, is the object of a great deal of intensive research all over the civilized world. Canadian medicine is carrying a measure of the burden, and its achievements in other fields give cause for a belief that in the end our contribution will not have been negligible.

To ensure this expectation, the National Cancer Institute of Canada has just been formed in Ottawa, by representatives of Governments, the medical profession, and the existing research bodies. It will act as a needed co-ordinating factor in the prosecution of cancer research, and will also stimulate its extension. The Institute will carry on educational work, and will doubtless be the chief liaison between the public and the organizations engaged in the actual research.

The Dominion Government has promised financial support, which will doubtless take the form of direct grants, and fellowships to train research workers. Most of the support for this extremely necessary work, however, will have to come from the people themselves.

Plowing Matches

Noting that four plowmen from Ontario are in the United Kingdom to compete in plowing matches of international scope, a writer in the Vancouver *Province* has the following comment:

"The Ontario men will use local horses, of course, and fear has been expressed that Irish teams will not understand the Canadian orders of 'Gee' and 'Haw'. This will not be because they are more familiar with Erse, but because their knowledge of English is better! They learn to turn to the right when told to 'come over', and to turn left at words 'Get back'! 'Whoa!' is the universal word for stopping.

"Furrows will be the same, though the Ontario farmer usually makes the 'high cut' ridges, the Westerner more frequently plows 'flat', turning the sod over completely, that no edges appear. This is one of the fine points of the art. Straightness of line is equally important, and aiming for perfection in these ends make the plowman a true artist.

"In breaking the first furrow of the field a spot across the field is 'sighted,' a building corner, a tree, a fence post or a stake. Each hand grasps a plow handle, the "lines" or reins are held in the same grip, the eye is set on the point at the other end, and does not leave it.

"Any deviation in that straight line is a disgrace. All others must follow it. There was a great pride in good work. It was worth a Sunday morning walk through the village to see.

"Despite Gray's Elegy no good plowman plodded home wearily. He had a good team, quick to his word and his touch. His step was rhythmic, the plow handles led him along; and if he were at all tired he would return sitting sideways on the back of the near horse!

"With other fine arts of the farm, stacking, thatching, scything, shearing, horse-plowing is fading into history. The day of the tractor has arrived. Two or three plow shares are set under or behind the engine and the speed is greater than the horse's walk.

"Nor does the tractor tire, it counts no hours. The boy can drive it; the girl may do, bringing history round in a high spiral when it is remembered that before the horse or the ox, the woman drew the plow with a rope over her shoulder.

"Times move. The horse team will follow the oxen as machinery improves, and the oat-fields will grow more precious grain. The 'plowing match', that grand assembly of fine horses and men, will pass into the romantic fields of village fairs, and many will feel that the tractor has taken the feet of the farmer another step from the soil without any guarantee that they shall not grow weary in other ploddings!

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Owing to the breakdown of the electric light at Candlemas, the groundhog had an excellent opportunity of seeing its shadow. But, as a matter of fact, we have had no winter at all so far.

* * * *

Congregational singing without organ accompaniment proved wonderfully effective in City Churches on Sunday. Should electric dislocation continue much longer, it may be as well to have string orchestras in readiness to help out.

* * * *

Lent does not start till 19th, which is Ash Wednesday, but meantime in the city we have to begin practising Lenten fasts and sacrifices at the instance of the electric light and power plant.

* * * *

Evidently Amherst has more taxis than it has business for. A group of Amherst taxi operators have protested to the town council the granting of further taxi licenses. They said that with eight companies now operating there was hardly enough business and asserted that 10 taxi cabs could look after all the business offering.

* * * *

Agriculture Minister Gardiner is still convinced cheap feed is the solution to increased hog production. He told Moose Jaw farmers that newspapers might put forward the idea that high income tax was the cause for low hog production "but you never heard a farmer talking about it." In an address at the Moose Jaw Board of Trade, Mr. Gardiner said that the main reason for low hog production was low feed supplies.

* * * *

General Piet Arnoldus Cronje, Transvaal military leader, died this date 1911; during the South African war he led the Boer forces with masterly technique, out-manoeuvering the British in various situations, and inflicting a severe defeat at Magersfontein in 1899; in the following year his force was defeated and he himself captured at Paardeberg. Cronje lived to take an active part in South Africa politics after the founding of the Union of South Africa under his former Boer colleague, General Smuts.

* * * *

In 1919 the brothers Ross and Keith Smith, Australians, determined to enter for a flying prize of $30,000 put up by the Australian government for the first crew to fly a British aircraft to Australia from England in 30 days. They won by making the run in 27 days, both were knighted and given an interest in the firm which sponsored them. Sir Ross is now dead, but Sir Keith celebrated the 27th anniversary of his pioneering flight when he arrived at Darwin in only five days recently by modern British flying boat on the same day as he had completed the long 27-day trip with his brother in 1919.

* * * *

Mr. Vincent J. Scaefer, of Schenectady, N. Y., is the research scientist who last November succeeded in manufacturing an artificial snowfall by dropping dry-ice pellets from an airplane into a moisture laden cloud. Since the initial experiment Schaefer has been "snowed under" with requests to "make it snow." A class of school children in Long Beach, Calif., some of whom never have seen snow, forwarded a bundle of postcards asking "Would you please make us a snowstorm?" St. Moritz, Swiss ski resort, asked about chances of obtaining more snow than it has and a score of ski centres in the United States put in similar bids. About the only ones who didn't want snow were several residents of Buffalo, N. Y., on Lake Erie. They implored Schaefer to see what he could do about dropping their usual winter share of snow and blizzards into the lake instead of the city.

* * * *

Viscount Alexander told the members of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy meeting at Ottawa, that he once posed successfully as a mining engineer. He was in Burma and had to travel in 1942 thence to England as a civilian—not as a soldier. The Governor-General said he had pondered the advisability of calling himself a government official but that the idea hadn't appealed to him. And besides, here was an opportunity to call himself a mining engineer, "as an expert in a profession which I have always wanted to belong to. "And there was another reason," Viscount Alexander chuckled. "I thought it quite possible that I might be questioned as to my work and activities, in which case I could truthfully say that I had been working in the Yening Yaung oil fields in Burma. I had every right to say that, because in order to prevent the oil fields from falling into the hands of the Japanese, I had the wells sabotaged under my personal supervision."

* * * *

Federal Health Department officials, while pointing out that mental health facilities are far below requirements and training facilities for psychiatrists and psychiatric social workers need to be greatly expanded, believe there has been a considerable measure of progress since war's end. Planning committees will report to a meeting to be held in Ottawa this spring when it is hoped to shape a definite program of development which will pick up where it was dropped at the beginning of the war. In assessing the need for trained personnel, officials point out that approximately 100 full-time doctors are needed to bring Canadian mental hospitals up to efficient strength. Even this would give a ratio of only one full-time physician to 200 patients. Some 120 psychiatrists are needed to staff mental health clinics—based on the need for one such clinic, carrying a psychiatrist, a psychologist and a social worker for each 100,000 population. And 200 additional psychiatrists are needed in private practice—a conservative figure, it is said as far as caring for the psychoneurotics and various borderline groups in the community. As to prevention, it is in work with these maladjusted people who are still in the community, that the hope lies of alleviating not only individual suffering but also this increasing burden on the nation.

Notes By The Way

Fairy tales of the future will probably start out something like this: "Once upon a time, in a deep, dark international conference, there lived a Russian who had a veto. - - -"—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

Admiral Byrd points out that no woman has ever set foot on Antarctica. Several incurable bachelors are reported applying for tickets.—Edmonton Journal.

Adversity simplifies our tastes and sharpens our desires. Back in the 'twenties we heard without undue excitement, promises of "two chickens in every pot and two cars in every garage". Today Canadians—or at least the adult male portion of the population—are all agag at the promise that, sometime in the near future, there may be two pairs of pants with every new suit.—(Kingston Whig-Standard.)

There is a new recreation on the horizon—roto-bowling. As the name implies, the game has much in common with ordinary bowling. It is played on an alley ninety-four feet long and fifty-two inches wide, and the object is to knock down as many as possible of the ten pins. The alleys are carpeted with felt and the metal-core pins are incased in rubber, making the game practically noiseless. The sides of the alleys are cushioned like those of a billiard table and there are two stationary "hazard pins" about halfway down the alley. The oftener the player can bank the ball off these, the higher his score. The eighteen-pound, hollow aluminum ball is not propelled by hand, but is ejected from a specially built machine which starts it whirling at speeds up to 4,500 revolutions per minute before releasing.—(Kitchener Record.)

Arriving late, the news photographer surveyed the banquet scene. He couldn't possibly get a shot of the 167 employees who were receiving gold watches for long service; they were too spread out. Quietly slipping from his head table the president of the corporation—one of Canada's largest—came over to welcome and assist the late comer. They shook hands and exchanged names. The photographer didn't catch the president's name; or if he did it failed to register. He settled on the idea of a head-table shot. "I guess that's where the big-shots sit?" he asked. "Yep," said the president grinning and starting back to his place, "such as they are." It was an hour later when the photographer learned to whom he had been talking. "How was I to know?" he parried. "His suit was as shiny as mine."

News items from Springfield, Ill. The first all-woman Circuit court jury in Sangamon County history was sworn in to consider an automobile damage suit. "The 12 women argued all night long and then reported they couldn't agree. They were dismissed." Such a stalemate shouldn't surprise anyone who has ever attended a business meeting of a woman's club. When a bunch of women get together to try to agree on anything, the going is long and hard. The trouble with an all-feminine jury is not that women don't take their responsibilities seriously, but that they take them too seriously. It's a major problem to make up her mind about anything. Multiply that by 12—and you're bound to get a stalemate. —Calgary Albertan.

The suburban town of La Grange has just completed its second year without a traffic fatality. This fact has been noted with commendation in the national publications of the National Safety Council. In the last year, new stop signs have been erected in La Grange at dangerous crossings. Otherwise, the police chief, H. A. Oakes, has made no special gestures, such as highly publicized safety drives, to achieve this enviable record. Instead, he bears down on his men for steady, day by day enforcement of the rules against speeding and other traffic hazards, as the best protection for motorists and pedestrians alike. Thus his formula is to enforce the law and play no favorites.—Chicago Daily News.

Cheer up! It won't be so long before we have the first reports of the peach crop being ruined. —Brockville Recorder and Times.

The endless speculation on whether Princess Elizabeth is to marry Prince Philip of Greece must be highly distasteful to all immediately concerned. Romance must find the going tough in an atmosphere of gossip, of idle and sometimes malicious comment, of fulsome flattery, too. Elizabeth has had to learn early that a princess seemingly destined to be queen has no private life. Her dutiful subjects-to-be can argue that they have a very real interest in her matrimonial plans, if any, because her husband automatically will be Prince Consort and in a position to wield influence in very high quarters, but love's young dream never was intended to stand the scrutiny of battalions of writers of letters to the newspapers, of politicians in quest of a new topic.—Ottawa Journal.

When he stopped his car for a traffic light near the Queen Elizabeth Way, Malcolm McDuffey, of Milton, picked up two young men who thumbed a ride ostensibly for Toronto. Soon after proceeding on his way, one of them shoved what seemed to be a gun against McDuffey's ribs, ordered him to drive up a side road, beat him up and made off with his car. The vehicle was found the next day in Hamilton. This sort of thing occurs so often that the wonder is that people pick up hitch-hikers at all. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

TEMPERANCE EDUCATION NECESSARY

Sir,—The breweries of Canada are preparing for a greater boom. New and vast and up-to-date plants are being constructed. Victory Mills Ltd., for example, are building a $2,000,000 plant on Toronto's waterfront, and other companies are either building new or extending. They have the money and they plan to get more. Even during the war when other corporations were cut to the quick with taxes of one kind and another, the brewers were enormously increasing their profits. They found a way in spite of the excess profits tax. Their stocks have never known depression.

Their goodwill advertising is another indication of the coming greater boom. Not a newspaper, or magazine of any importance across Canada but carries those full-page ads of most attractive and interesting quality, conveying the impression that the brewers as a class are the benefactors of their country. By law they are forbidden to publish their goods but they want all Canada, and especially the young and rising generation to remember their firm names and to believe that without them and their contributions to society, Canada would be poor, indeed. These full-page, illuminated ads cost money; but they have money to spend where it talks. It runs into five or six millions, annually.

This is their campaign of education at the present time. Before, when they were allowed, they told us how fine was liquor as a pick-up when a man is tired, how effective a cure when a man in sick, and what a blessing when a man is blue with trouble. Liquor, they said, is not a luxury at all, but a necessity in every household. Now that they are debarred from direct advertising they resort to this other shrewd device, which is one of the most artful ever hatched.

What do the brewers, as a class, care what happens to this country and its people so long as profits continue to flow in? What do they care if they can get priority on building materials if returned men with wives and children have to live in basements, attics, shacks or crowded like sardines in a tin in homes with friends? Those returned men, and some of them cripples for life for their country's sake, and the brewers prate about their loyalty.

What do they care if the women are now drinking as they never did before? That is just what they want. But read Dr. Seliger's article, page 45, in the February number of Reader's Digest, how he finds in his waiting room "every afternoon a group of tragic women—housewives, professional women, business girls, ranging in age from 18 to 70, some wearing mink coats and some poor," all ill from drinking and looking for help. In every part of Canada drinking is greatly on the increase among women and girls; and often those women are mothers of families. What do the brewers care, so long as their profits flow in? What do they care if drink separates husbands and wives and homes are broken up?

This is Health Week and Wednesday is Social Health Day. It is a fact to which every doctor can testify that intoxicating liquor is the chief agency in causing syphilitic infection in many cases. Some authorities put it at over 50 per cent.

Dr. Silcox in his radio address Saturday night, emphasized the necessity for teaching our young people moral self-control. It is a fact, as every one knows, that drink robs men and women of self-control and makes them reckless; and besides it inflames the passions. Look at the statistics and you will find the more drink consumed the more social disease infection. Benefactors of society, forsooth! Is there any class we could better do without? And this can be said of the retailers, the bootleggers, and those who sell lemon extract for beverage purposes. They all fatten on human weakness.

Dr. Seliger is quite right when he says: "Our best weapon is education." More effective than all other means put together is scientific temperance education, and the place for that is in our schools. It is not fair to our boys and girls to send them out into the world where greedy, unscrupulous self-interest will try to take advantage of them, without knowing what effect alcoholic liquor has upon the human body. Educators have found this method so important that there are more than a dozen reliable text books available on the subject. What the law cannot do, persistent scientific education in our schools could do.

I am, Sir, etc.,
W. I. GREEN

Stanley Bridge,
3/2/47.

BIRKENHEAD, England —(CP) —Rev. Samuel T. House, 101-year-old "Father of Methodism" and oldest member of the ministry, died here. He began his career in 1866.

Flash! Stalins Re-Election Conceded

(Exchange)

In the present election of the Supreme Soviet of Russia it is not surprising that the most nominated candidate is Marshal Stalin. His name is being placed on the ballot papers throughout the many republics which form the Soviet Union. And here at last is an election which can be safely predicted.

Neither he nor any other official candidate of the Communist Party need feel the anxiety of candidates in our parliamentary system which we call democracy and the Russians call something else. For in Russia they manage these things more efficiently than we do. They waste no time in election contests. They never endanger democracy by letting it get into the hands of the people.

The Communist Party draws up a list of candidates and no others are permitted on the ballot paper. Thus the fortunate elector is not beset by the doubts and hesitations of a voter in a western nation. He can either mark a cross opposite the name of the selected candidate or he can blot the name out. The Russian Government is able to say with accuracy and gratification that almost a hundred per cent of the ballots contain the necessary cross. Few Russians are bold enough to expunge the official name and it would accomplish nothing if they did.

Thus the principle of unanimity, which has run all through Russian history and is enforced by Russia in the United Nations, is assured in the domestic electon now under way. It will be once more an overwhelming victory for the Communist Party.

The membership of the Communist Party varies. Sometimes it rises to several millions and then, after a purge, may drop to less than a million. But it governs Russia, and it is governed by about a dozen men in the Politburo, and the Politburo is governed by Stalin and his three or four closest friends. Under such a system, though there will be plenty of election rallies and speeches and banners, the election will be swift and sure. None of the backward, anti-democratic and inefficient ideas of the West will be permitted to confuse the public mind. No opposition will endanger the state. Democracy will be safe!

A Great Journalist

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Disraeli has earned the rebuke of history because he took the title of the Earl of Beaconsfield, which had once been marked out for the imperial genius of Edmund Burke. Mr. J. L. Garvin, the ex-editor of The Observer London's famous weekly, went much further. He lived in Burke's home at Beaconsfield. Nor was he ever oppressed by memory of its great occupant. Men shrugged their shoulders at the audacity, and said it was just like Garvin. Now, having outlived his greatness, his restless spirit at last is still.

Garvin was the last giant in Fleet Street who belonged to the age of the great journalists like C. P. Scott, A.G. Gardiner, Massingham and Spender. Unlike them, he lacked a consistent philosophy. Moral grandeur was not his strong point. He was emotion incarnate. His flood of rhetoric — rich, exuberant, declamatory — boiled over at the slightest hint and, backed by vast learning, made his emotional comment a force in British politics for more than a generation.

When Garvin became editor of the Pall Mall Gazette as well as editor of the weekly Observer, Sir John Simon said: "He used to give us an electric shock once a week; now he gives us a epileptic fit once a day."

During the early years of his life Garvin followed Parnell's star in the fight for Irish freedom. Later, his hero became Joseph Chamberlain about whom he wrote a biography that belongs to the authoritative texts of British politics. In recent years he is best remembered for his support of appeasement; a support always sincere, often shrill, and almost invariably misguided. When he left the Observer during the war he was succeeded as editor by Ivor Brown, a product of the Manchester Guardian. Garvin spent his last years in Fleet Street as a rather forlorn pundit of the Tory press, writing articles that glowed only rarely with the splendid fire that had been his at the height of his power.

As a political analyst, Garvin left something to be desired. But no one who has read his memorable tribute to Byron, or heard his wayward and scintillating talk on English poets can doubt that here was a man whose measure was cast in a heroic mould.

Progressive Conservative CONVENTION

Of the 4th District of King's to nominate 2 candidates for the next General Provincial Election will be held in Murray River Hall, Murray River, at 2 P. M. on Tuesday, February 11th, 1947. Each Poll to be represented by 5 delegates.

JOHN J. BECK,
ETHAN STEWART,
Conveners.

Progressive Conservative CONVENTION

Of Charlottetown and Royalties to nominate 2 candidates for the next General Provincial Election will be held in the Legion Hall, Charlottetown, at 2 P. M., on Wednesday, February 12th, 1947. Each Poll to be represented by 5 delegates.

B. R. HOLMAN, President.
C. R. McQUAID, Secretary.

Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.)

ISLAND OVERSEAS CARGO

On Nov. 11, 1898, the Royal Mail Steamship "Lake Winnipeg", Captain Jones, sailed direct from Charlottetown to Liverpool, England, on her second trip of the season with $60,000 of Island farm and sea products. It was announced that another trip would be made in the latter part of December, providing navigation permitted. The steamer was subsidized by the Dominion Government and was equipped with cold storage facilities. Her list of cargo on Nov. 11 follows:

N. Rattenbury, 175 boxes cheese, value $1,075, 992 boxes cheese, value $6,124; 10 cases eggs, value $36; 5 bbls. oysters, $12.

Alberton Dairying Co., 166 boxes cheese, value $1,025.

Cogswell & Easton, 157 cases lobsters, value $1,570.

Prowse & Sons, 405 boxes cheese value $4,130.

L.P. Tanton, 8 bbls. parsnips, value $10; 41 bbls. oysters, value $164; 6 bbls. carrots, value $9.

H. Haszard, 470 boxes cheese, $2,961; 20 boxes butter $260.

N. Rattenbury, 1 box ham and bacon, $15; 1 bbl. oysters, $2; 1 bbl. apples, $2.

D. Ferguson, 41 boxes apples, $41; 35 bbls. do. $105; 98 bbls. do. $218.

Fruit Growers Association per E. Bayfield, 73 bbls. apples, $180.

N. Rattenbury, 10 cases lobsters $100.

N. Rattenbury, 1 bbl. oysters, $2; 1 bbl. apples, $2; 1 box butter $9; 50 tons hay, $350; 2 boxes lobsters $20.

Carvell Bros., 100 boxes cheese, $600.

N. Rattenbury, 150 pkgs. butter $1,972.

Carvell Bros., 171 sheep, $684.

B. Henderson, 757 sheep, $2,643; 86 cattle, $3,440; 8 horses, $800.

E. Wheatley 15 cattle, $675; 300 sheep, $1,200.

B. & M. Rattenbury, 50 cases bacon and hams, $3,750.

B. Heartz, 300 pkgs. butter, $2,320.

W. Matheson, 6 bbls. oysters, $24.

A. J. Biffin, 246 pkgs. butter, $2,460.

T. J. Dillon, 327 pkgs. butter, $3,270.

J. H. Myrick & Co., 446 cases canned meat and lobsters, $1,867.

Carvell Bros., 26 bbls. vegetables, apples and oysters, $100.

J. A. Farquharson & Co., 140 cases eggs, $980; 18 boxes potatoes $18.

H. W. Longworth, 1,0[illegible] cases mutton, beef and lobsters, $5,180.

Guild Bros., 1054 cases eggs, $7,378.

Carvell Bros. 355 bales hay, $1,250.

Sylvanus E. Gallant, 193 boxes cheese, $1,244; feed for stock, $600.

Total value, about $60,000.

The Poet's Corner

THE GRAPES OF WRATH

Speaking of wine
There is a little-known story of
Marshal Foch.
When the German envoys arrived
To ask for armistice
They were given their lunch
Apart, by themselves.
And by the Marshal's express command
They were served a very rare vintage.
And you might take care, said Foch,
That they observe the label. . . .
It was the year 1870.

—Christopher Morley.

LONDON —(CP)—If a minister wants to empty his church, he can do so by preaching for 55 minutes, Rev. H.W.R. Elsey wrote in the parish magazine of St. Michael's, Wembley.

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