

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1941

"Guns For Police"

Citizens and the people at large must have opened their eyes in bewilderment at the announcement that it is necessary to arm our police force against lawlessness. Our people have for hundreds of years been reputed the most law-abiding and exemplary in the wide Dominion of Canada, serious crime has been practically unknown, and most citizens could go to bed at night without even taking the trouble to lock their doors. Those in the country always had the latch string on the outside. Now it is announced that for their own personal protection our City Police must go armed. Charlottetown is not a cosmopolitan metropolis with a huge mass of transients coming and going, nor is its population composed of any considerable extent of foreign elements. To put it plainly and without varnish, Charlottetown is a comparatively small country town, inhabited by people whose ancestry can be traced back for generations as Island bred. Everybody knows every other body, and probably more about them than they know themselves. Moreover, Charlottetown is the capital of an Island. The average gangsters would not have the ghost of a chance of escape were they to run riot in our midst. We are a Christian, religious, Church-going people, none more so. Yet, notwithstanding it has been found necessary in the midst of a war to protect Christianity and civilization from outside attack, to arm our police against our own citizens.

There must be a manifest explanation for this, and while it may be traced back a good many years, yet it has come to fruition during only the past few years. In that period there has been a growing disregard for law and order while our law courts have been held more or less in contempt. Could one ever forget the shipping back to Montreal C. O. D. the remains of a detective here at the instance of the Government, who died under suspicious circumstances? Why, the authorities did not consider it even worth while to hold an inquest! This callousness has been characteristic of the present regime from the outset. It is needless to set out in cold type the fatalities that have occurred without anyone paying the penalty. They are fresh in everyone's memory. There seems to be little respect for law administration judging by the endless appeals and setting aside of judgments in lower court cases. It means one of two things, either the lower courts are incompetent or enactments such that a carriage and pair may be driven through them with impunity. Whichever it is the onus is on the Department of Justice. Where the source is tainted there is little hope or expectation of the average law breaker caring a hoot whether he respects the law or not. This feeling is growing to such an alarming extent that no longer do our citizens rest at night free from anxiety. The reverse is the case. Call is being made for locked doors and more police protection. The tragedy the other day has convinced the City Magistrate of the dire necessity of arming our police against the hoodlums and would-be murderers of our own race and upbringing. Think of it! A City of churches and Christian-reared people in an agricultural and fishing Island, deems it necessary to provide firearms for its civic peace officers, while at the same time contributing to missionary funds to convert the heathen abroad, and buying War Savings Certificates to keep heathens from invading our own shores! If this does not indicate there is just something amiss in our administration of justice, we should like to get another explanation.

Let Us Lend To End

If we are justly proud of the contribution our young men from here are making to the active service forces in this War, we can show our attitude no more effectively than by going "over the top" in the War Savings pledge campaign now under way. The purpose of this campaign — to enlist an army of 2,000,000 Canadians who will pledge themselves to invest regularly in War Savings Certificates for the duration of the War — is not only to divert as much money as possible into essential war expenditures, but to encourage systematic saving and thrift. Both objectives are of vital importance, and offer an outlet both for patriotic service and for safe and profitable investment.

Canada must raise this money, and it is our duty and privilege to subscribe to the utmost limit of our means. A dollar a week will purchase one \$5.00 Certificate monthly, at 3 per cent interest compounded half-yearly, and larger amounts will realize corresponding returns. When we reflect that every cent subscribed in this way goes to defeat the Nazi menace and restore world peace and security, can we hesitate a moment in pledging our fullest co-operation and support?

The Prime Minister announces that further contingents are ready to go overseas almost immediately, including the Third Division which is now in training in Canada. These boys require sustenance and maintenance, and the War Savings Certificates are just for that purpose. Our service forces will be strengthened and encouraged by the knowledge that those of us who are left at home are endeavoring, in this manner, to "do our bit."

This Province is almost exclusively an agricultural and fishing community, with very few industries benefiting from war expenditure. It is not to be expected that our returns would be commensurate with those of the larger Provinces where munitions and other war manufactures are providing abundant labour and money to carry on with, and from which the employees can make

contributions to War Savings Certificates. But that notwithstanding, when the number of volunteers for active service and the percentage of War Certificates are taken in conjunction, it will be found that Prince Edward Island is making its contribution to the war in as creditable a proportion as any of the other Provinces.

The campaign has been planned so as to reach every wage-earner and home in this Province and country, and no income is too small or too limited to be unimportant in this time of national emergency.

May we appeal, on behalf of the workers who are giving their services voluntarily in this campaign, for the most generous response in a cause in which we are all so vitally concerned.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Dollars count from now on in saving certificate campaign.

He who is peace minded will hasten to contribute his mite or mighty dollars to the War Savings Certificate Campaign.

It may be mentioned that the R.C.M.P. though authorized to carry firearms, have never had occasion to do so in this province, except once in the prevention of run-running.

Hepburn may be a thorn in Mackenzie King's flesh, but he can finance as well as finesse all right. He indicates the Ontario Government will have a \$2,000,000 surplus by the end of March, any portion of which he declines to share with Premier Godbout or Campbell, et al.

Saint John Museum is very fortunate in having such good friends and supporters as Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Webster of Shediac. Mrs. Webster has just announced she will finance the department of Arts and Crafts and will pay the salary of the curator. In reply to a vote of thanks, Mrs. Webster said this was not a temporary but a permanent arrangement, so she must be intending to give an endowment. Dr. Webster intimated at the same time he would present his History of Canada library to the Museum—a most munificent gift.

Sir Isaac Pitman, inventor of a system of shorthand, born this date 1813. He was a schoolmaster and while teaching at Wotton-under-Edge, published his Stenographic Sound Hand (1837). He conducted for sometime a school at Bath, and then devoted himself to the development of shorthand, and also to spelling reform. His method of shorthand became very popular and was adopted for use by the staff of Hansard. He began publishing the Phonetic Journal in 1842 and continued it till his death in 1897. In 1894 he was knighted for distinguished service to education and trade and commerce. His advice: "Never waste a letter when you can write a sound."

There are no flies on Mr. Jap. He agreed to mediate between Thailand and Indo-China, but grabbed Indo-China's rice crop in payment. The Japanese plan calls for a practical monopoly, at least 80 per cent, of the rice crop being bought by Japanese agents, assembled in Saigon, and thence shipped to Japan. The remnants of the rice crop will then be sold to China, the Philippines and other possible buyers, but Japanese agents will get first choice. This practical monopoly of rice opens for Japan a new rich field, as Indo-China produces two or three crops yearly, and the rice will be sent to Japan both as food and as seed for next year's crop. Also the importation of such quantities of rice will relieve the acute shortage within Japan itself.

According to the January Monthly Letter of the Royal Bank, throughout Canada business conditions during 1940 were profoundly affected by war conditions. The transformation to war economy was effected without undue dislocation and barometers of business activity practically all recorded expansion during the year. There were few branches of industry where the increase in operations did not reach substantial proportions. Employment was at the highest point in history although Canada's war effort has not yet reached the peak of its activity. Merchants throughout the country reported retail sales considerably better than last year, many stores enjoying the most active Christmas season in ten years. Canada's foreign trade had a greater value in 1940 than in any year since 1928. Gains were reported over a wide range of commodities but the basic reason underlying the great advance was not far to seek—huge imports of essential war materials from the United States and an ever-mounting flow of war munitions, foodstuffs and other supplies to Great Britain. This growth in trade is not natural and has already had serious repercussions which will increase in intensity as the war is prolonged.

Strange, almost inconceivable happenings, are featuring life and death these days. Who ever would have dared to hope that poetry by the Editor of Punch would find a place in a Church Service and also be quoted by the Prime Minister of Canada in his broadcast on Sunday. Yet it has happened in the case of Lord Lothian. In his first speech as Ambassador at Washington Lord Lothian concluded with a poem by Sir Owen Sernan, and the Westminster Abbey authorities thought it appropriate enough to be included in the Memorial Service held there. It follows and it will be admitted it worthily deserves its place:

"You that have faith to look with fearless eyes Beyond the tragedy of a world at strife And trust that out of night and death shall rise The dawn of ampler life:

"Rejoice, whatever anguish rend your heart, That God has given you, for a priceless dower, To live in these great times and have your part In Freedom's crowning hour;

"That you may tell your sons who seek the light High in the heaven, their heritage to take: I saw the powers of darkness put to flight! I saw the morning break!"

Hearing it as recited by Mr. Mackenzie King it was not so effective, but then the Prime Minister fell very flat in what was supposed to be an inspirational address.

NOTES BY THE WAY

In the year ending October 30, 1940, Hen No. X13351 laid 339 new-laid, brown eggs averaging 27.1 ounces each. This was a record for Canada and brought pride and satisfaction to the owners of Hen No. X13351, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Day, at the Pointe-aux-Lacs poultry farm. For Hen No. X13351 is of the Barred Plymouth Rock family, a "utility breed," and when she outlaid the Leghorns and Game birds she did something. — Vancouver Province.

Not the least important recommendation made by the tourist conference held in Ottawa was that a common system of highway markings should be adopted by all the provinces. Even without the international tourist trade, this would be a sensible course for the provinces to pursue, because the different markings and signs now in use are confusing to interprovincial Canadian travellers as to any one else. And so are the different provincial traffic laws and regulations. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Of course the national debt must rise. But debt limit is a useless barrier, since Congress in effect fixes the size of the debt by its appropriation and tax measures. Much as we may dislike to see it expand, there is no need to worry so long as the burden—not the total—does not grow out of proportion to the national income. As the president cogently points out, the rise of \$30,000,000 in the national income under the New Deal was accompanied by an increase of only \$400,000,000 in annual interest charges. It might be added that in Britain the national debt is almost twice as large as the national income, while our debt is only 60 per cent of our income. — New Republic, New York.

The power of the strongest Government which ever ruled this country has reached its limits. The Cabinet's price for caviare. Prices of the mere necessities of life are determined: even the onion and the lemon have been put under the thumb of the Whitehall. Whether we can get them or not, we must never offer more than the appointed price. Yet from caviare the Government recedes it feels that authority will prevent some of us offering all we have for a taste. "Give us the luxuries of life and we will dispense with the necessities of life," says the Government. However, are one of the graces of existence which we have to dispense with in war. Let it in respect to the rest of other fishes. — The Central Canadian Telegraph and Morning Post.

Africa is traditionally the continent of conquest. The elder Pliny Rebels said it is accustomed always to produce new and monstrous things. It has already contributed a few picturesque queer sounds, or even words that do not inhere in them, but that turn to a fascinating story and to future stories! But just the same it is still true that methods of education, are important. We read words, and with the war going on, our children must still be taught. Perhaps out of this war will come a better knowledge of what to teach and how to teach. We have already become aware of the need for teaching science and the mechanical skills in a machine age. The government is calling not for young men who read, but for young men who understand machines and can handle them. Vocational training is the desperate need of the day, so far the Island hasn't done much about it, but it must in the not distant future. However, the ability to read well, will always be a basic skill. No one who reads well can claim he is, or need the opportunity of higher education, or that his life is too narrow. Through books he can roam the world at will and establish contact with the best. His education is limited only by his capacity. But it must be understood that the ability to read well does not mean the ability to read words, or sentences or even entire passages without a mistake in pronunciation or definition. It means that the reader must give the gist of portions of a book, or an entire book in his own words.

Nazi troops have been singing a war song about "driving towards England," but the words of the invasion song still remain to be translated into act. A Dutch farmer, who has probably heard it sung so often that the tune sticks him, reported by The Hague correspondent of a free Dutch newspaper published in England to have been waiting a long time to be served in a Hague store. When his turn came about some two German soldiers strode in. Then, with a gesture and a wink to the storekeeper, he waved the Germans forward and behind "you and he attend to these gentlemen first; they are in a hurry for they are going to England." That neat bit of ridicule rebuffed the two Nazi "gentlemen" and they were driven from the store. The farmer was arrested by military authorities and sentenced to eighteen months in prison for "causing disturbance to the German army." Kitchener Record.

The new order, which is the old slavery, may come to Lorraine. Some day they will be driven from their homes, may go. By request and decree this unhappy province becomes the German Westmark. But there is one spot where which no decree of Hitler can ever make anything but French. It is a magic circle of land in an ancient village. On it stands a humble cottage, the shrine of many pilgrims. Near by is a grove where once towered a giant beech, known as "the Fairy Tree." To this tree in former times came the children to make their wishes and to weave garlands under its branches for the Virgin. Among these children was a little maid called Jehanette, destined to be remembered forever. For the village is Domremy and the maid was Joan or Arc. She was born in the cottage. There in her father's garden and under the beech she heard the Voices and saw Vain. — New York Times.

The missiles of Italian bombing planes have been discovered by accident a new archaeological site at Siwa, 350 miles southwest of Cairo. War's role as an archaeologist has usually been the reverse and negative one — that of raising historical sites, not exposing them. Conquerors have had the habit from time immemorial of smashing civilization's structures and mixing exciting pickings for scholars-diggers of the future. The site of Troy has many levels of successively buried civilizations. The Greeks helped make one of those submerged layers. Both

PUBLIC FORUM

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

SCRAP EARNS MONEY

Sir:—It is interesting to read of the salvage of waste. During the last war, the Women's Conservation Committee of the Red Cross in Sarina made something like \$8,000 by the collection of waste-paper, magazines, scrap iron, rags, etc.

The town was divided into four sections, a collection being made in each district once a month. Since last spring, this work has been carried on again, on similar lines. Residents of each district must have paper and scrap on the boulevard by 9:30 a. m. when a large truck marked with Red Cross emblems on each side, collects. During the previous war, the material was housed in a warehouse, by the railway and shipped to Kalamazoo, Mich., in carload lots. This time arrangements have been made with a local dealer. All material is weighed on the town scales and duplicate weight slips handed to the Committee.

We have an agreed price list and arrangement, provide that should the price obtainable for material increase, the price will be raised to the committee. The local dealer bears all expense of collecting and forwards a cheque each month to the committee. The list of material which can be turned into money has grown (fat is clarified and sold to local firms, bottles to paint dealers, basins to farmer, etc.). Monthly income collected, is monthly income promises to surpass that of the last war.

The work of the Committee is voluntary and the income goes directly to local Red Cross Society. As in the former war, Women's Institutes are as listed in sale of waste products.

I might mention that after the last war the Women's Conservation Committee, was turned into the Women's Conservation Art Committee and the proceeds used to buy material for the Canadian artists for a public collection. I am, Sir, etc.

FRANCIS M. FLINTOFT Secretary, Con. Conservation Committee, Sarina, Ontario.

TEACHING READING

Sir:—It was so nice to see "Old Teacher's" signature in the "Guardian" of January 28 and to know that he is still fighting the good fight for better reading in the "Island." I brought back those almost mythical pre-war days when one could get terribly wrought up over education when one's capacity for learning was up with one's mind to absorb daily by the news from abroad.

But just the same it is still true that methods of education, are important. We read words, and with the war going on, our children must still be taught. Perhaps out of this war will come a better knowledge of what to teach and how to teach. We have already become aware of the need for teaching science and the mechanical skills in a machine age. The government is calling not for young men who read, but for young men who understand machines and can handle them. Vocational training is the desperate need of the day, so far the Island hasn't done much about it, but it must in the not distant future. However, the ability to read well, will always be a basic skill. No one who reads well can claim he is, or need the opportunity of higher education, or that his life is too narrow. Through books he can roam the world at will and establish contact with the best. His education is limited only by his capacity.

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FEEDING THE "HUNS"

Sir:—In Saturday's issue of the Guardian appeared a letter in the Public Forum column, headed: "Those Huns Again," and signed "Farmer's Wife." Now I believe that a woman's place is in the home and discussions of this kind are foreign to my nature, but there was a tone in that letter that sort of roused me. It was anything but constructive, and coming at a time when there should be nothing but co-operation between Country and City, and whatever harm it will do it is bound to do no good.

Besides my woman's intuition tells me that one of my own sex did not write that letter. I know of no woman in this province who harbors such sentiments, and only two or three men, and that by reputation only.

I feel obliged to answer the letter because I am sure that Mr. Gaudet, president of the Fish and Game Association, is doing a splendid work in promoting a "Save the Partridge" campaign, particularly in distributing grit throughout the country districts.

There is a right and wrong way to do everything, even to feeding Hungarian partridge. For several years my young brothers have been feeding partridge during the winter, and quite often during periods of deep snow, despite a plentiful supply of buckwheat, oats and barley at their disposal. Numbers of the birds would sicken and die, often with a full crop. We all know now what was the trouble—they lacked grit. This winter the boys found some and that was left over from a cement project last fall, and a plentiful supply is put out for the partridge and kept clear of snow. As a result of the addition of grit to the menu, we have had no losses this winter among the 30 odd birds that have been fed near the house. With the exception of two that a large hawk killed. The partially eaten body of one was recovered, and it was quite fat, or at least had been in splendid condition before its demise. A trap ended the hawk's career and we anticipate no further trouble from this source.

I, for one, feel that our district at least has profited greatly by the timely advice through the medium of the press, and trust that readers of your valued paper will pay no attention to the writings of one who apparently still possesses the mentality of the small boy who cannot resist throwing a snowball whenever the opportunity affords. I am, Sir, etc.

FARMERETTE..

HOG WEIGHTS, LIVE AND DRESSED

Sir:—The discussion on the Bacon Board Scheme has gone to rest, for a while at least, apparently straining at a nail and swallowing a camel, but there is something that I don't swallow and it is this: On November 8, 1940, I shipped to a local packing company two hogs weighing live weight, 238 lbs., and 198 lbs. fed. The tall weight I got

DON'T TAKE RISKS

Fire is man's oldest servant but it remains untamed—and as treacherous as a tiger. It strikes swiftly—unexpectedly, bringing tragedy in its train... a careless match, or even a bit of defective wiring, is enough to set it free—don't risk your home or place of business... protect yourself against the ever-present hazard of fire by the only known means... adequate insurance in strong reliable Companies.

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Able Official Carries On

(Globe and Mail) Prime Minister King is to be commended for acting with promptitude to ensure continuity of administration in the Department of External Affairs, which is a peculiarly important branch of government at the present juncture. Pending the selection of a permanent successor to the late Dr. Skelton, he has asked Mr. Norman Robertson, who now holds the rank of counselor in the department, to serve as Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs. He probably could not have made a better choice, as Mr. Robertson, although only 37 years of age, is rated one of the ablest civil servants in Ottawa. After graduating at the University of British Columbia at the early age of 19, he spent three years at Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar and did postgraduate work at Washington and Harvard Universities. Later entering the Department of External Affairs by the normal channel of the civil service examination, his marked and varied abilities attracted the attention of Dr. Skelton, who soon was giving him important responsibilities.

In recent years, Dr. Skelton regarded Mr. Robertson as his right-hand man in the department, and as their views upon foreign policies and administrative methods have been virtually identical it can be predicted that the work of the department during the interim period of Mr. Robertson with the same skill and efficiency as under Dr. Skelton.

Like Dr. Skelton, Mr. Robertson is somewhat of an expert on international affairs, and his standing in the former role can be gauged by the fact that since the war began he has been a member of both the Foreign Exchange Control Board and the Economic Advisory Committee. So highly were his abilities regarded by the authorities of Harvard University that some ten years ago he was persuaded by them to leave the civil service and accept an academic appointment which they offered him. But Mr. Bennett, who set equally great store by his talents, induced him to return to the Department of External Affairs, although he could only offer him, under the rules of the civil service, a smaller salary than Harvard was paying him.

Canada is fortunate to have available as successor to Dr. Skelton a young man of such proved merit, who moreover was willing to make financial sacrifices to serve his native country.

Mr. Robertson, as noted in the Guardian recently, is a son of Prof. Lemuel Robertson and a grandson of Alexander Robertson of Marshfield, P. E. I.

was 154 lbs. and 127 lbs., which came to \$29.43, Grade B. On Dec. 31 of the same year I shipped through the club two hogs weighing 228 and 198 fed—as they were going to a packing company on the mainland and required to be fed. All weight returns were 169 lbs. and 155 lbs, grade B1; amount received \$32.1. I have butchered hogs for 50 years, I found that when starved for 24 hours the difference in live weight and dressed weight was no more than 40 lbs on hogs ranging from 200 to 300 lb. That's what the mainline company gave me when deducting 10 lbs. off for feed. I am satisfied with their returns. I tried it out for fifty years and the mainland company proves my statements. Anything else cannot allow. I am, Sir, etc.

MALCOLM GILLIS, Glen Valley, P. E. I.

The Guardian has made inquiries with regard to Mr. Gillis' comment.

(Continued on page 8, col 8)

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. Call in and discuss your difficulties. G. F. HUTCHESON

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