

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 1941.

Who Said Conscriptio?

As far back as 1669 we had compulsory military training in Canada. The laws and regulations of the Militia in force during the French regime and at the beginning of the English period, showing the onerous character of former military service obligations, are published in the report of the Public Archives for the year 1940, prepared by the keeper of public records, Mr. Gustave Lanctot. In 1669, we read, military training was not only made compulsory, but companies thus established were required to supply their own arms, powder and shot! Men from 16 to 60 years of age were liable for service, for which no remuneration was received. All citizens, whether living in the cities or rural districts, were obliged to billet the soldiers free of cost.

Under the English regime, a Militia act was passed in 1758 by the Legislature of Nova Scotia, decreeing that every man, with certain exceptions, between the ages of 16 and 60, was subject to military service on pain of being fined. He was fined, too, if he failed to provide his own gun and the amount of ammunition necessary for the prescribed period of training. The Militia act of the province of Quebec, passed in 1777, was little less severe in its terms.

It was, indeed, a sturdy brand of patriotism in the Canada of those days. Voluntary contributions to war efforts were even more impressive than the compulsory, as is shown by the collection of documents relating to the period of 1789 to 1800, when the Motherland, abandoned by her allies, was valiantly carrying on the struggle alone against France. "The Canadians of that period did not subscribe to loans; they offered their money simply as a gift to the Mother Country and many of them bound themselves to repeat the amount each year the war lasted," it is explained. By so doing Canada was following the example of England, where gifts to the total value of more than seven million dollars—a large sum for those days—were made to the government, "in its defence of all that is most dear to us as Britons and as free men." King George III headed the list with £20,000.

Nova Scotia was the first to adopt the plan, followed by New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec. Detailed lists of subscribers and the amount of their contributions are given, with sums varying from hundreds of pounds to a few shillings.

What may be regarded as a precedent for the current Lease-Lend bill is found in the documents revealing that in 1798 Great Britain, through the agency of Canada, lent both guns and shot to the United States. At that time French ships were preying upon American merchant vessels, from which they seized British goods, and the government of the United States ordered the American navy to capture the French armed ships. In this connection President John Adams requested the sale, loan or gift to the United States of certain French guns then stored in Halifax. The Duke of Teck responded by lending, on certain conditions, 25 guns and 1,876 shot, which were transported to Charleston, S. C. Later King George III, "as evidence of good will towards the United States," made a present of this material, setting aside the loan contract. Today the United States is reciprocating in handsome fashion, in this the Empire's hour of need.

Fantastic Guesses

The Hess incident promises, says the Montreal Star, to become all things to all men. Everybody has an interpretation to offer of the No. 3 Nazi's dramatic flight to England, usually in terms of his own wishful thinking. The latest, and most absurd, offering comes from Senator Gerald P. Nye, the North Dakota Republican who went out of his way recently to say unfriendly and untrue things about Canada.

Senator Nye sees in the Hess flight to Scotland "a possible lever for getting the United States into the war." He delivers himself of this masterpiece of intellectual exercise to cast another jibe in the direction of "perfidious Albion": The United States might be brought into the war, he says, "if the British could succeed in getting Hess to say that the Nazis intended action against America, once they finished in Europe."

This can conveniently be placed under the heading employed so effectively by a New York newspaper: "File and Forget."

War Financing

The Minister of Finance estimates that in the present fiscal year Canada's direct war effort will cost the Canadian people \$1,450,000,000. It is necessary for us to bear the cost of equipping, supplying and maintaining our military, naval and air forces, but we also have the privilege of helping to finance British purchases of war material and other essential supplies. Canada is a major arsenal for Britain. The men who are holding the front line, whether in the air,

on land, or on the sea, cannot succeed unless we support them with our treasure. Anything we can do is insignificant in comparison with the sacrifices of those who are daily risking their lives. They are prepared to give "the last full measure of devotion." We are only asked to "lend" our money at current rates of interest.

Moreover, a portion of this loan will make it possible for Canada to send to Britain munitions of war, raw materials and agricultural products, and the loan will give new impetus to agriculture, commerce and prosperity. It will invigorate our war effort. Britain herself cannot find all the necessary dollars with which to pay for her enormous purchases of Canadian products. Her deficit in balance of payments with Canada will exceed one billion dollars this year. Canada must provide her with the Canadian dollars to meet the deficit.

This Canadians can easily do if they are prepared to throw their treasure into the scale against Hitler. Let us put the loan over with such a spectacular success as will demonstrate that the civilian population is wholeheartedly behind the fighting forces in its zeal to make a practical contribution to victory.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This is a short week for business, closing on Friday night.

Shall we go fishing, or stay home gardening? Is the question ranking in the mind of many urban citizens these days.

Amherst tailors have got contracts for making R. C. A. F. pants—live wires these Amherst City Council and Board of Trade.

The late Rev. Hensley Stavert was possibly the best known minister in the province. Apart from his ministerial duties, he was largely, for years, the mainstay of the Sons of Temperance, and in their interests travelled the length and breadth of the Island from one year's end to another.

Still on we go missing opportunities for providing jobs for our citizens. Under the War Savings Act, a Frederickian man was appointed manager for the province, and now another New Brunswicker has been appointed inspector under the new unemployment insurance plan with headquarters here.

English only allowed in U. S. A. The Electric Boat Company, of L. I. builder of submarines for the Navy, have posted a notice that all conversation among its 5,000 workers must be in English. A company spokesman said there had been complaints that some of the workers of foreign extraction were conversing in their native tongues.

In the early months of the last Great War both the Liberal and the Conservative executives at Ottawa agreed to abandon propaganda and close down their organization for the duration. The Conservatives lived up to their agreement, the Liberals did not. Now again we find the Liberals by reorganizing their Federal Federation making political hay while the war sun shines.

Lord Bessborough, former Governor-General has been having frequent destructive visits of the Nazis at his estate, Stanstead Park, near Portsmouth. The chapel has been destroyed by bomb explosions and some windows in other parts of the home have been blown out. Two German planes have crashed on the 1,000-acre grounds since the outbreak of hostilities. No details of the various bombing attacks are available but they were spread over a long time.

Does worry kill? The death of Cornelius G. Vanderbilt Jr., president of the Vandro Contracting Company of West New Brighton, S. I., whose body was found in Richmond Creek, S. I., on April 29 a few hours before he was to have testified before the Richmond County grand jury, was due to natural causes, presumably following a heart attack he suffered while rowing in the creek, according to announcement made by Dr. Mandell Jacobi assistant medical examiner of Richmond County. Mr. Vanderbilt was to have been a witness in the Amen investigation of paving contracts on Staten Island, and had been worrying considerably.

Kent in England is the home of the family of Prime Minister Winston Churchill and, by virtue of the sense of kinship of some American citizens collaterally related to the Prime Minister, the residents of the county will receive from these Americans some relief in combating the ravages of Nazi attacks. The Churchill family in U. S. A. will send the relief directly to their relative, the British Prime Minister, who will make it available to Kent authorities. Plans for obtaining donations and tightening the family affiliations of the American members of the Churchill family were completed at a luncheon in New York on Thursday. The honorary commander of the Churchill Family, as the organization is tentatively called, is General Marlborough Churchill, U. S. A., retired.

At a meeting of educationists in Quebec, Miss Beryl Frux, president of the Protestant Women's Federation quoted from the report of the Research Committee of the C.T.F. that "to put it bluntly, more than half the teachers in Canada live on the lowest level of self-supporting penurious existence." Over 10,000 Canadian teachers (of the total of 64,000) are paid less than the Quebec mean legal minimum wage (\$460 yearly) for juvenile female workers in industry. Over 19,000 teachers, more than a quarter, are paid less than the Quebec legal minimum wage (\$602) for experienced women in industry. About 25,000 are paid less than the girls who are employed at \$713 a year to put the binding on the school books. Nearly 37,000 (about 62 per cent. of the total) are paid less than the Quebec legal minimum wage for unskilled factory workers, that is \$933 a year. Finally, 53,500 teachers, or over 85 per cent., are paid less than skilled union work-

NOTES BY THE WAY

The sergeant major had the reputation of being a very good man. He was asked to give an answer: A young officer made a bet with a brother officer that in less than 24 hours he would ask the sergeant major a question that would make the sergeant major accompany the officer on his rounds, in the course of which the cook-house was inspected. Pointing to a large copper of water just beginning to boil, the officer said: "Why does that water boil only round the edges of the copper and not in the centre?" "The water round the edge, sir," replied the sergeant major, "is on guard; they have their breakfast half an hour before the rest of the company." — London Tit-Bits.

The Army wins a great victory in the desert, and the name of General Wavell is being given prominence. The Navy contrives to keep open our route through the Mediterranean, and the name of the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Cunningham, is being published by the Admiralty. Recently the Air Ministry published a pamphlet giving the official account of the Battle of Britain, the greatest of our military successes. Not once does the pamphlet mention the name of Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding, the man whose brain won the Battle of Britain. It was Dowding who led the eight-gun fighters which brought down Goering's bombers and fighters in their thousands. It was he who devised the fighting tactics which shattered the Luftwaffe's formations, who directed the air war from his Fighter Command headquarters. Dowding, in fact, stopped invasion last autumn, and upset Hitler's plans for a blitzkrieg. Wavell and Cunningham have upset Mussolini's plans. Why does the Air Ministry carry its "no name" policy to such ridiculous lengths? And why does the Admiralty make the omission doubly foolish. Sir Hugh is now in the United States. We sent him there to do important work in connection with the purchase of American aircraft. Surely it would help our cause if the Americans had a clear picture of the part which their visitor had played in the Battle of Britain. — Daily Herald (London).

Not the least welcome passage in President Roosevelt's remarkable speech looked beyond the struggle to the settlement. What struck me in the speech which seemed to be assuring us shall not happen again. "When the dictators disintegrate... our country must continue to play a leading part in the post-war world reconstruction for the good of humanity." Some hope that these are not idle words may be found in the fact that Mr. Roosevelt has made it a point of business that Mr. Wilson lacked. This man, before the struggle ceases, may have fired Senate and people with a passion to play their part in the task of rebuilding. The phrase covers a large variety of possibilities; we may find some encouragement in the fact that the President and such men as Mr. Wavell, Mr. Hacking, Mr. Winant, who now represent the United States, understand what President Wilson never understood—that the problems of Europe are largely political and the problems of the world, not the mentality of Wall Street, but the experience of the New Deal. Mr. Roosevelt spoke of the four freedoms that he would establish—above them the freedom from fear which includes them all. In the foreground are the two political evils we are chiefly fighting, the fear of a tyrant and the fear of a tyrant's armies. When the immediate fight is over, the perspective will change, and we shall have to face the fact that in this modern world the electric cables which have brought despotism back. Fascism found it easy to enslave the masses because behind its brutalities it stood the promise of a New Order of economic security. — From the New Statesman and Nation.

Arriving on the Yankee Clipper is Sir Campbell Stuart, a Canadian who became one of Britain's frankest and most effective propagandists. He is chairman of the Imperial Information Advisory Commission of Great Britain. A native of Montreal, he fought in the world war, joined Northcliffe's entourage and made a brilliant career in the managing editorship of the London Daily Mail and managing director of the London Times. In the world war he was director of propaganda in enemy countries. He is a bachelor, 55 years old, slender, elegant and one of the clubbiest of Britons. William and Mary College made him an honorary Doctor of Laws in 1937. — New York Sun.

Women's lingerie production is to be severely curtailed under the Government's concentration of industry plan. "When the plan goes into full operation," a leading hosiery manufacturer said, "production will be restricted to two-thirds of the total manufactured in the six months ending on November 30 last year. Women today are more discriminating in their choice of undies than ever before. It may be, however, that they will have a restricted choice before many weeks have passed and they will certainly have to cut down their buying." — London Daily Sketch.

The heroism of the men who maintain the electricity supply in spite of almost nightly raids was Lord Lytton's main theme when he spoke at the annual luncheon of the British Electrical Development Association, of which he is president. Any bomb that falls in a built-up area may cause some damage to the electric cables on which our domestic comforts and vital industries depend. Maintenance of supply is greatly helped by the new improvements in the distributing system, but it is possible because of the courage, skill, and labor of the men operating the supply. Among several instances Lord Lytton told of the 1,500 switched on out of one hundred one morning when hundreds of high-explosive bombs fell in one area and the substation was damaged by blast and flooded from burst mains. Workers in the raid, a relief staff cleared the damaged cables and restored all the important supplies before daylight. He suggested that these men might well accept as their own the motto of the Dutch Royal House — "I will maintain." — Manchester Guardian.

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR
The people of the United States are translating their sympathy and understanding in effective and material aid in everything that we can give for the cause of England. — Mayor Fiorello La Guardia of New York City.

An Unfair Answer

In the House of Commons this week Mr. F. D. Shaw (Social Credit), of Red Deer, asked some questions, and the answers were given by Hon. J. G. Gardiner as Minister of War. Mr. Shaw asked: "How many daily and how many weekly newspapers in Canada have offered free advertising space to the Government in connection with the war campaign?" Mr. Gardiner answered "None."

Mr. Shaw asked, further: "From how many daily and from how many weekly newspapers in Canada has space been purchased for this purpose?" Mr. Gardiner replied: "By the Government, none." Mr. Gardiner must have known that while his first answer was technically correct it was unfair and incomplete. In the first place the war services campaign was not conducted by Mr. Gardiner or by any Government department, but by a national committee. Thus all Mr. Gardiner knows about it is what somebody has told him. The Department of War Services approved the campaign, and that was all.

In the second place the question was so phrased as only to cover (at least Mr. Gardiner so chose to interpret it) display space—"advertising space." It is perfectly true that the newspapers were paid for display advertisements—paid by the national committee, not by the Government. But this paid matter was but a small part of the publicity they gave the campaign. Mr. Gardiner lets the impression go out that the newspapers, in this patriotic appeal, were cold-blooded and commercial. It is not true. One wonders if Mr. Mackenzie King approves of this misrepresentation.

DOCKERS' CANTEENS

BIRKENHEAD England.—(CP)—Canteens for dockers at Liver-pool and Birkenhead provide accommodation for 800 men at once having three course meals at a shilling apiece.

TO USE OVER AGAIN

HULL England.—(CP)—Two hundred pounds of shrapnel collected by Hull students after bombing raids was handed over for remaking into shells.

CALL OFF STRIKE

MANCHESTER.—(CP)—Several hundred engineering apprentices on strike for 10 days returned to work on the advice of their leaders.

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

G. F. HUTCHESON G. F. HUTCHESON

NOTICE TO FARMERS

We have just received a shipment of

FORMALIN FOR SMUT ON GRAIN

A cheap but thoroughly effective remedy. Grain growers would be wise to act promptly in order to have seed properly treated before sowing.

One pint to every 40 gallons of water.

Full directions given with every order.

PRICE 40 CENTS LB.

We also carry the new and improved

CERESAN

A dust disinfectant for wheat, oats, barley. One pound treats 32 bushels. Get your pound to-day.

1 Lb. Tin \$1.10. 5 Lb. Tin \$4.40

MACS CONDITION POWDER FOR HORSES AND CATTLE

Tones up the system, cures all skin troubles and gives a glossy coat of hair. For swollen legs, Purifying the Blood and as an Eradicator of worms it is an unfailing remedy. Price 50 cents per package.

THE TWO MACS DRUGSTORE 140 Great George Street Mail Orders Given Prompt Attention.

Ridiculous Posmposity

(Globe and Mail) There is a far Canadian city which has been deprived of its name. It is now known as "An Eastern Canadian Port". The population of this city knows that Canada is at war. Its harbor is full of ships one day and a most desolate next. It is the seat of Canada's naval power and it is in this port that the Rear-Admiral commanding the Canadian Navy flies his flag.

There is another Admiral in that port. He is there actually, not theoretically. He commands a British battle squadron, which includes some very powerful units of the Royal Navy operating in the North Atlantic. Because he may not infringe upon the dignities and prerogatives of the newly created Rear-Admiral commanding the newly expanded Canadian Navy, the British Admiral may not establish a suitable headquarters ashore. Instead, he is obliged to operate from a small vessel which is just removed from the wharf by the interposition of the British gangplank stretched across it. Thus propriety etiquette and prerogative are preserved, and no challenge is made to the authority of the Canadian Rear-Admiral.

Rear-Admiral Bonham Carter C.V.O., D.S.O., R.N., is the man who is primarily responsible for keeping open the sea lanes of the Atlantic. Because he may not infringe upon the dignities and prerogatives of the newly created Rear-Admiral himself is not the sort of man who cares very much whether he flies his flag in the Eastern Canadian port or whether he is unfortunately billeted. But he does seem little unfortunate that the commander of a British battle squadron should in any way be inconvenienced or circumscribed by reason of the presence of the Canadian flag in the port. A certain amount of protocol is necessary in a national capital, where it is most important that no unfavorable treatment should be meted out to foreign dignitaries through lack of a standard code of practice. But as between colleagues engaged in a common task such formalities should of course give place to considerations of practical convenience.

In any event, courtesy and good manners are of vastly more importance than protocol. Canadian officers should of course give place of honor to the commander-in-chief of the British battle squadron must stay at sea, so that the authority of the Canadian Admiral shall be unchallenged.

This sort of thing is understandable in the case of two Admirals in the same naval service, for the status of one must be determined in relation to the status of the other, and their respective jurisdictions defined. But Admiral Bonham Carter is a Rear-Admiral R.N. and the chief of the Canadian naval staff is a Rear-Admiral R.C.N. The duties of the former are prescribed by the British Admiralty, and his authority is limited by the jurisdiction of the British Admiralty, while the duties of the chief of the Canadian naval staff are prescribed by the Minister of Naval Services.

It has been suggested that, with the addition of new craft and the further expansion of the Canadian naval personnel, the chief of the Canadian naval staff may be raised to the rank of a Vice-Admiral. Now a Vice-Admiral is a very mighty man indeed. The flag of a Vice-Admiral is the symbol of an authority which cannot be challenged by a lesser mortal, even though he does command a powerful British battle squadron. It may then be safe to let Admiral Bonham Carter come ashore.

Marseilles Led

The first chamber of commerce was formed at Marseilles in the 15th century.

Our Most Important Department

The preparations of medicines and the compounding of prescriptions has always had our special attention. Our experience and training along scientific lines has been such as to make this a matter of special interest to us.

The result is that we provide the people of this vicinity with every item of equipment and with the system and methods that the most modern science requires.

You cannot over-estimate the value of such service when you require medicines prepared, and the security afforded costs you nothing extra.

JAMIESON'S DRUG STORE

When in MONTREAL MEN of affairs naturally stop at the Windsor because of its convenient location and its well-established reputation for courtesy, comfort and service. The Windsor is recognized as the proper place for business and social meetings. THE Windsor ON DOMINION SQUARE J. ALDERIC RAYMOND PRESIDENT

TELESCOPE ARRIVES THANKS EXPRESSED FROM MAYOR CAIRNS WINNIPEG, Man., May 16.—Bernard H. Witts, the Canadian National sleeping car conductor, who some time ago sent his valuable astronomical telescope to the Mayor of Dover to be used in detecting enemy movements in the English Channel, has received an interesting acknowledgment from Mayor J. R. Cairns, of Dover. In thanking Mr. Witts, His Worship expresses his thanks "for your sympathetic interest in our old town. I am handling the telescope over to Dover Castle which commands a clear view of the Channel. The garrison commander is delighted to have such an efficient instrument placed at his disposal. It will be of the utmost value to him." Iran's Financing Iran has one of the world's most complicated systems of foreign exchange control.

Say to Your Grocer I Want BRAHMIN ORANGE PEKOE TEA You will enjoy its superior quality

INSURANCE IS Dollar Protection BUY IT WISELY Insurance coverage today is as complex as modern business. Therefore, it requires an experienced agent to handle it for you. It is important to have full and complete coverage. Adequate and safe insurance is dollar protection. Let an experienced agent survey your business from an insurance point of view. Like a check-up of your family doctor, it can do no harm, but may save your business life. Enquiries welcomed — no obligation. HYNDMAN & CO. LIMITED Established 1872 Offices: Charlottetown Summerside Montague Allison P. McLean, District Manager at Summerside.

MOW 'EM DOWN! The battle cry of Charles McCarthy is a good slogan for this time of year. In other words don't let any grass grow under your feet. Its good advice also to stick to old and tried friends in whom you have gained confidence through experience. Among many a man's friends can be counted the always steadfast. Hickey's Black Twist Chewing 10c Per Fig Manufactured By HICKEY & NICHOLSON Tobacco Co. Ltd., Charlottetown