THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1942

Complaint From N. B.

The Union of New Brunswick Municipalities has petitioned the Dominion Government in no uncertain terms asking that more adequate recognition be given the Province in the establishment of war industries, and that a survey be made by the Dominion Government with a view to improving existing economic conditions.

The resolution points out that New Brunswick has contributed more than its quota in men and women for the armed forces, and more than its quota in Merchant Marine as well as to the different service organizations throughout their various drives; that the Province "is constantly being drained of its remaining men and women by industries located in Central Canada"; that with its vast natural resources New Brunswick is ideally situated for the construction of ships and barges, gun shields, boxes, etc., and that other war requirements including guns, shells, airplane parts, etc., could be manufactured to advantage in the province.

Much of what is stated in the resolution could be applied also to Prince Edward Island, which has fared even worse than New Brunswick in the matter of war activities, and is under the additional disadvantage of crippled transportation as a result of the loss of the *S. S. Charlottetown*. Innumerable resolutions have been passed about these matters, but without much effect. Perhaps the New Brunswick municipalities will succeed better in making themselves heard at Ottawa.

New Fishery Subsidy Plan

Discussing the operation of the government plan of contributing toward the cost of constructing Atlantic Coast fishing "draggers," or converting suitable existing vessels as "draggers", officials of the Department of Fisheries explain that the basic feature of the plan is that a subsidy of $165 a gross ton will be paid on new vessels which comply with the requirements and, in cases of conversion, a subsidy of 66 2-3 per cent of the total conversion cost. The maximum subsidy payable on any one converted vessel is $12,000.

Another important feature of the plan is that owners of subsidized vessels, in computing income and profit taxes, will be granted a special depreciation allowance of 20 per cent a year on the value of their craft, less the subsidy received.

The subsidy plan has been brought into operation, the officials said, as a step to promote more effective utilization of the manpower remaining available in the Atlantic fisheries, which has been sharply reduced by enlistments and the movement of workers to war supply plants. Last year the number of commercial fishermen at work in the four Atlantic provinces was only 39,000, in round numbers, as compared with more than 46,100 in 1940, a drop of about 7,100. Further reduction in personnel has been adding to the difficulty of obtaining, with regularity, the supplies of fish required for the Dominion's own purposes and to help meet the food needs of the British people. Draggers have not hitherto been used in Canada's eastern fisheries but they are employed to advantage elsewhere and it is believed that the plan of assisting Atlantic fishermen to put such craft in operation, by government contribution toward construction or conversion cost, will be an effective aid in grappling with the vital wartime production problem and will benefit the fishermen and the country alike.

The People's War

The Department of Public Information has published an attractive book, with the title Canada and the People's War, telling the story of "how for three years the Canadian people have fought and toiled to add fuel to the flame of liberty." It is of large format, handsomely illustrated and packed with information. The war is described as the age-old and continuing fight for freedom from oppression and tyranny, and no attempt is made to minimize the peril in which Canada, in common with other nations which have dared to oppose Axis aggression, stands.

For the first time in history the North American continent is menaced by invasion —"the oceans and the icy wastes of the north are no longer insuperable barriers to conquest." It is on the gathering strength of this continent that the hopes of eventual liberation for the oppressed peoples of the world are based. The services to the Allied cause given by the Canadian people are recited—how the economy of this peace-loving country has been converted to one of total war; how more than half a million men have been put into uniforms; how a great force of airmen has been raised, who have proved their skill and daring in all parts of the world; added to which there is the splendid record of the Canadian Navy.

The part played by Canada's agriculturists in feeding the people of the United Kingdom and Allied countries also comes in for the highest praise. For a country with a relatively small population the record is indeed "great", as claimed, but it is emphasized that "in the light of what remains to be done it must be bettered." The valiant example of the Russians, the Chinese, the Greeks, the Jugoslavs and other nations which have sacrificed all for the cause is suggested as a gauge by which Canadians should measure their own effort.

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

Time to get ready for Victory Bonds.

* * * *

The response to the P.E.I. Hospital appeal is generous.

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The annual Maritime Conference of Presbyterian Youth organizations takes place at Charlottetown this week-end. Restrictions on travel will mean a reduced attendance, but those who can come are promised a good time both spiritually and socially.

* * * *

Canada rejects 44 per cent of recruits for the army because of physical unfitness, while in the Moscow district of Russia the rejections from military service two years ago were two-fifths of one per cent, Dr. Harold M. Harrison of Toronto told a service club recently.

* * * *

Fairly well authenticated reports have it that Hon. J. A. Mathewson, K.C., Quebec Treasurer, will be named Justice of the Superior Court of Montreal, replacing the late Chief Justice R. A. E. Greenshields.

* * * *

"Personally, I'd rather stay home and knit and sew," declares Maj.-Gen. Knox, herself a wife and mother, who is visiting here. "But that isn't my job today. We women are in the army simply because there aren't enough men. But putting on a uniform doesn't change us into men and that is what the public, which is always ready to criticize, must realize." By the same token would discarding the military uniform change men into sissies?

* * * *

Hon. J. E. Michaud, Federal Minister of Fisheries and New Brunswick representative in the Ottawa cabinet, has undertaken to try to obtain for Saint John a new immigration shed, to replace that burned in the West Side dock fire several years ago, and a "seamen's pool" building, where merchant seamen, who have "deserted" their ships, can be detained by the immigration department until they have secured another berth. An immigration shed surely could not be included among war necessities, yet one never knows when a live wire politician sets out to obtain something.

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The Dominion Bureau of Statictics shows 15 companies engaged in the distillation of liquor in Canada during 1941. Seven of these were in Ontario, six in Quebec and two in British Columbia. Whiskies and other potable spirits produced by these distilleries in 1941 and put into bond for maturing totalled 7,674,305 proof gallons, compared with 7,907,908 gallons in 1940. These spirits had an inventory value of $4,219,685 in 1941 and $4,187,673 the previous year. Spirits bottled or shipped in bulk for 1941 totalled 6,225,865 proof gallons with a value of $19,889,218, compared with 7,226,704 gallons at $17,175,651 in 1940. So no ceiling restricted prices or profits.

* * * *

The British Air Ministry and the Ministry of Agriculture are finding their tight little isle too tight. Agricultural debate in Commons has revealed the two departments competing for the last reserve of arable land — England's great parks and playing fields. Earl Winterton, Laborite M.P., suggested that London's vast commons be farmed by waiters from fashionable restaurants and hotels, but Capt. F. F. A. Heilgers, Conservative, retorted that more could be done if the House were "a little more firm" with the Air Ministry's desires to turn farm land into airfields. Shocked members heard Laborite A. G. Walkden suggest that playing fields of famous public schools be plowed and planted. They must have forgotten this was partly done in the Great War.

* * * *

Sir Isaac Brock, K.C.B. soldier and administrator, born this date 1769; eighth son of Mr. and Mrs. John Brock of Guernsey; obtained a commission in the 8th Regiment and by 1797, at the early age of twenty-eight was Lieut.-Col. of the 49th Regiment; saw service in Holland and in 1802 sent with his regiment to Canada; stationed successively at Quebec, Niagara and York; promoted Colonel in 1805, and Major-General in 1811; and became president and administrator of Upper Canada; was heart and soul of the defence of the war; with brilliant audacity captured Detroit; and two months later defeated the invaders at Queenston Heights on the Niagara frontier; during the engagement he fell mortally wounded.

* * * *

In charge of the first Canadian paratroop unit in England is Major G. F. P. Bradbrook, of Regina, says Montreal Gazette's correspondent, a keen young officer who might best be described by the trite phrasing of well-set-up. Until he joined the unit, he had never taken a parachute jump. "Don't let anyone tell you it's a picnic," he was saying. "We were scared stiff on that first jump, and anyone who says he wasn't scared is just a liar or he hasn't got the intelligence to be scared. But I've got to hand it to our British sergeant-instructors. They were absolutely wonderful. They worked their special brand of psychology on us for that first jump and you never saw anything so slick in your life. They kept talking to us about everything under the sun except the jump—about the weather, and the party they had last night, and the terrific hangover they've got and how drinking isn't worth it—they just kept gabbing away until the time came to jump. Then they said, 'Okay, jump!' and we were away almost before we had time to see what we were jumping into. Those British instructors certainly have what it takes." The other lads had the same thing to say about their instructors, but most of them thought the second jump was a greater ordeal than the first. "You sort of look forward to the first one—it's a new experience," they said. "But you know what it's all about on the second jump—that's the tough one. Of course, they get easier as they go along.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A thought is that the jeep will make a dandy post-war baby carriage for the kind of tough baby our posterity will have to be.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Veal doesn't appear to be as scarce as beef. The slaughtering of calves is certainly not going to ease the meat shortage in the long run. Kitchener Record.

As reinforced, the Flying Fortress is giving a spectacular account of itself on the several fronts. This is not to be confused with an earlier model, which was only a Maginot Line with wings. —Detroit News.

I like the story of a Norwegian air squadron which had a field day" in the Dieppe raid. As each pilot landed he went to the guard room and took a drink from a bottle of whisky afterwards writing down on the blank label his name and the number of planes he had brought down. At the end of the day the label was full . . . unlike the bottle, of course. —Sheffield Telegraph.

A Toronto man is appealing his conviction on a charge of having a sugar ration card for his dog "William," on the ground that a dog is a citizen, being registered and taxed. It is suspected that 'William," or "Bill,' if you like, has no hankering after sugar, would be content with a soupbone perhaps. And if he were entitled to a sugar ration book, so would every other dog in the country, not to mention horses. So goodbye sugar for "William,' unless his owner shares his quota with him.—Montreal Gazette.

Allied occupation of Madagascar has unleashed a flood of crocodile tears in the Vichy and Paris radio studios. Hitler's stooges have pulled the tops full out in denunciation of our action and Canadians particularly will be interested in one thing the Paris radio had to say. It was this: "For us last evening the world stopped. We cannot think of anything but Madagascar, which is captive as New Caledonia is captive, as Syria is captive, and as Canada is captive. This astounding statement shows how badly the Nazis have misread the signs of unrest and disunity in Quebec. —Winnipeg Free Press.

Standard cloth for civilian use is to be ordered by the Federal Government. War production has placed a great strain on manpower and machinery, and standardization is necessary to obtain the maximum output from that section of the industry available to meet civilian needs. Prices will be reasonable and patterns varied and while higher priced materials is eliminated, low grade cloths of inferior wearing value are excluded. "The Australian civilian will be lucky if it is able to get cloth of this quality for the duration of the war," said the Minister of Supply (Mr. Beasley). —Australian News-Letter.

Parliaments are elastic, capable of giving and receiving blows of fortune. They are a pool of potential leadership, capable of quick recovery, of rapid substitution (like a good football team) when occasion demands. They are slower, but they are also more enduring, and in a war which is already protracted and shows every indication of being much more so, it is more than likely they can and will outlive any dictator. Calgary Herald.

There is in the aggregate enormous waste of electricity in homes. People may be reading, writing, sewing, or playing cards in one part of the room, but they have lights in the window and in the corners as well as overhead from the centre; they leave lights burning in the kitchen, in other rooms downstairs, in the bed-rooms and bath-room upstairs, and in the basement. There is opportunity for a valuable conservation of power there —in more than a million homes. And must you have toast every morning? An electric toaster, in proportion to its size, consumes a large amount of power. Terrible as it may seem to some people we can do without toast for a year or two. Great numbers of war sufferers haven't even got bread. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

The dissension between Moscow on the one hand, London and Washington on the other, as to the early establishment of a second front in Europe is more profound than its ostensible cause. It is the result of twenty-five years of tragic history: Allied intervention in Russia at the close of the first World War; Communist-supported agitation in the democratic countries; the arbitrary and sometimes brutal nature of the Soviet regime, with its repressions and purges; the inevitable clash between an oriental Marxism and an occidental capitalism; the existence of groups in democratic countries who worked for a truce with Hitler because they hated Stalin more; the inability, in more ways than one, of the West to speak the language of Eastern Europe; the record of appeasement in which neither Russia nor the democratic nations appear with clean hands.—From the New York Times.

"R. B." came home, and Calgarians were glad he was back. Although he is not a native of the city, "R. B." is regarded generally as one of the city's sons. It was in Calgary that he rose to prominence in the political field; he has always been one of the city's most public-spirited citizens, and it was Calgary he represented in the House of Commons when he was Prime Minister. When "R. B." decided to make his home in England, Calgarians young and old were sorry to see him go. But when they saw him pitching in to do his bit with the Red Cross, helping to win the war, they were glad to see him over there. And when he was named a viscount, Calgarians were mighty proud. So it was good news to the people of Calgary to hear that "R. B." was back, and it rather tickled them to hear that he "sneaked in" without telling anyone exactly when he was coming. It pleased them, too, to see him walking around downstairs, stopping to chat with old acquaintances. Now that he is back, Calgary people would like to see him stay. —Calgary Albertan.

Are you studying to be an ancestor? Then run to the nearest shop and get a load of the big news in costume jewellery—heirlooms instead of gadgets. War-time metal shortages have caused a highly gratifying revolution in the budget jewellery field. Since manufacturers are unable to get any more of the brass, chromium and base metal with which we once loaded our groaning lapels, the new costume jewellery is mostly sterling silver, sometimes with a gold or platinum plate, in dainty old-fashioned designs.

An American Tribute

(Globe and Mail)

A useful corrective to the notion that the British Army has made a very small contribution to the wearing down of the Nazi war machine can be found in the reading of a book, "Retreat to Victory," by Mr. Allan A. Michie, a well-known correspondent for American papers, and particularly of the chapters dealing with the now almost forgotten Battle of Crete. The details of this grim conflict were at the time shrouded in mystery, but Mr. Michie, who was a personal witness, gives a vivid and interesting account of it, and sets forth its results in a proper perspective.

On the surface it was a very serious British reverse, as the defending force had to be evacuated wth a loss of about 50 per cent of its strength and ten naval units, and the Germans got possession of a valuable new base. But Mr. Michie appraises the battle as a vital step in the great delaying defensive action which the British have been fighting ever since the retreat from Dunkirk. By his account the capture of Crete cost the Germans at least 17,000 men killed and wounded, some 200 fighter and bombing planes, and about 250 troop-carrying planes. The Luftwaffe had its fighting power substantially weakened for the Russian campaign, which began in the following month, and Germany's First Parachute Division, the only one then organized, through losing 25 per cent of personnel killed, was so badly battered that it could take no effective part in that campaign until the end of September, 1941, when the Russians had more or less stabilized their front.

The conclusion of Mr. Michie is that the heroic resistance of the British army in Crete, fighting with inadequate equipment and devoid of any aerial support except from some fifty R.A.F. planes operating from Egypt, helped very materially in lessening the striking power of the German invasion of Russia, and upset Hitler's timetable for the balance of the year. This was no small service to the Russian armies and it should not be forgotten or glossed over by the disparagers of Britain's contributions to the common cause.

Rough Compromise

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Mr. Ralph Bard, assistant secretary of the United States navy, made a good point in New York recently when he warned the people to be wary of production statistics which are given in percentages. A statement that our tank production has increased 100 per cent may mean a great deal, or it may mean nothing. Production has jumped from a thousand to two thousand a month, that is something; but if it has increased from one tank to two it means nothing, although both are 100 per cent increases.

Unfortunately, however, it is not always possible to satisfy the public thirst for knowledge of how we are doing. When the governments of Canada and the United States give their people facts about production the information also becomes available to the enemy. The people have a right to know how the men they elect are running the war. If the job is not being done satisfactorily, new people must be hired to achieve satisfaction. Democratic morale necessitates the fullest possible disclosure of the facts to the public.

In Canada during the early stages of the war the government released actual figures of production on a number of items. This drew a protest from the British government. As a result a change was made and in a number of categories of production actual figures have been withheld in favor of statistics of percentage increases. These figures, as Mr. Bard pointed out, do not begin to tell the whole story. They are at best a rough compromise. They tell us that some progress is being made while they disclose nothing of value to the enemy.

Once our production reaches overwhelming proportions it is probable that the governments will then adopt the policy of complete disclosure. It will be of considerable value in the propaganda war to tell the people of Europe that in the last month we produced 2,000 bombers while losing 200, that we have produced enough tanks to give us material superiority on every front in the world, and enough guns to supply all the Allied armies. Until that day arrives, we will simply have to get along with our present statistical system, unsatisfactory as it obviously is.

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Youth Training Courses

The following Youth Training projects will be conducted during the balance of 1942 and up to March 31st, 1943. All courses will be held at Charlottetown. One round trip fare on bus or rail will be paid, also an allowance for board and lodging. Age limits 16 to 30 years. Application forms for Enrolment and any information desired may be secured by applying to the undersigned. Parties intending to enrol should do so promptly, as courses will open at an early date.

GIRLS' COURSES

1. Three (3) six weeks courses for girls, first to open in October. Training in Home Management, Handicraft, Home Nursing, Cooking, Health and other subjects.

2. Two courses in Farm Mechanics and Training for Farm Work, Tractor and Car operation and repair. Care and operation of Farm Machinery. Hitching and handling of horses. Care and feeding of animals. Milking of cows, operating cream separators. Care of milk. Care and repair of harness. Length of course six weeks. This course is designed to train suitable young women to render a service in carrying out necessary farm production programs.

COURSES FOR MEN

BLACKSMITHING—One (1) five months course in general blacksmithing, woodworking, wagon building. Course to qualify for operation of general blacksmithing and repair work.

CARPENTRY—Three (3) six weeks courses in Carpentry, building construction and general farm repair work.

MECHANICS—Two (2) six weeks courses in farm mechanics. Operation and repair of tractors, cars and gas engines. Care and repair of farm machinery, harness making and repair.

AGRICULTURE—One (1) three weeks course in general Agriculture, including care and feeding of farm animals. Problems relating to soil and crops, horticulture and other subjects.

EGG & POULTRY—One (1) four weeks course in poultry management, grading and packing of eggs and poultry.

Applications for enrolment should be mailed at once. When applying state the course in which enrolment is desired.

W. R. SHAW,
Director of Youth Training,
Department of Agriculture,
Charlottetown, P. E. I.

10-6-4i.

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Farmers who delivered Hogs to us during the past few weeks, would observe we paid higher prices than other Canadian centres. We continued top prices notwithstanding reductions elsewhere, as we anticipated that prices for the new Bacon contract would be higher and afford the then current prices for Hogs.

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And just below the blink of early stars—

Mountains seen at evening—
Fishing-boats with orange sails—
And the soft liquid melancholy accents
Of the men and women of WALES—

These move in me longing,
Half joy, wholly pain—
These stir some quiescent memory, hiding
In a dusty curve of the brain,

A memory of something seen, heard, acted—
Set to music, written in rhyme—
Ages ago, in another space of our planet
And another aeon of Time.

—Audrey Alexandra Brown

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