

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1944

Lest We Forget

Writing in an Ontario exchange, a veteran of the First World War recalls a matter which is anything to the credit of all concerned, and which it is to be hoped will be remedied as soon after the present war as possible.

In September, 1924, the Director of the Army Historical Section, in a preface to the late Sir Andrew Macphail's medical history, wrote: "The Historical Section of the General Staff was reorganized in June, 1921. It was charged by Privy Council with the task of collecting and safeguarding all papers concerning the Canadian forces in the Great War, 1914-1918, and with the reduction of the mass of evidence into a comprehensive history for official publication."

So far, apart from the aforesaid medical history, which of course was intended for medical men, one general volume, compiled by Colonel A. E. Duguid and Captain J. I. P. Neal (who compiled the excellent maps) was published in 1928—that is 20 years after the Armistice and 17 years after the Historical Section had been assigned the task of producing the official history. This volume is confined, almost exclusively, to the organization and services of a single division for the first year of the war. It is understood that the intention was that it should be the first of a series of six or eight "general" volumes, containing the "comprehensive history" of all our divisions.

Six more years have passed and it is now 26 years since the Armistice and 23 since the Historical Section was given the duty of producing the history. Yet no further volume since the first has yet seen the light. As things stand, Canada alone of the self-governing nations of the British Empire, has yet to produce its war history. Great Britain has a long series of naval, military, air, social and statistical volumes; Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa and Newfoundland all got out their stories years ago. Australia's historical record, in particular, is notable for its comprehensiveness and high standard, comprised in twelve volumes.

In startling contrast with the pitiful record of our Army Historical Section, the Historical Section of the R.C.A.F. has already produced its first volume for the present war, carrying the story of the R.C.A.F. overseas to August, 1943. The Air Force has thus accomplished in 12 months what it has taken the Army 26 years so far, and possibly many more years yet. If the Army Historical Section is to be entrusted with producing the story of the military side of the present war, after the last war has been disposed of, then at the present snail-like progress the lads who are now fighting may expect the account of their feats to appear not earlier than a century or two hence.

Three Mountain Peaks

Three mountain peaks in the Peace River flock are to be given the names, "Churchill," "Roosevelt" and "Stalin." So, British Columbia will mark the achievements of the three most notable men of our day.

The peaks are all tall peaks, marking the stature of the statesmen whose names they bear. They are all about the same height, too—9500 feet. So, there can be no heart-burnings because one of the statesmen is put in a position to have his peak look down on the others.

There have been men whose names stand out like mountain peaks in the history of the world. It may be that Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin will prove to be such men. But whether they do or not, at least we shall have mountain peaks in Canada honored by their names.

Those "Decent Germans"

A London correspondent of the New York Times traces the changing British public opinion in the matter of the Germans. The British, he said, accepted the 1940-41 blitz and its destruction of civilians as something to be expected of modern war. The bombing of Coventry and other Cathedral cities did something to alter this attitude, but even confirmed and detailed stories of German atrocities in occupied countries left many thousands of British men and women who said "there must be some good Germans."

The flying bomb, says this correspondent, changed that attitude in a week, and the British people began to realize that "there would be no peace on earth until the German nation that had employed it was rendered impotent ever to wage war again." Then came the V-2 rocket bomb, the Germans' "biggest psychological blunder to date," and the final proof even to those who had said "there must be decent Germans" that the whole German nation must be held responsible for the acts of its military leaders and its scientists.

So the British today, says the Times writer, are demanding hard, stern terms for Germany. Straw votes are a doubtful guide to public opinion, but the Times tells of a poll of 3,400 readers of the London Sunday Dispatch which produced this result: 93 per cent were in favor of Allied occupation of Germany, 79 per cent in favor of reparations and 76 per cent in favor of partition of the Reich.

Furthermore, 71 per cent thought Germany's schools should be staffed by foreigners, and 78 per cent thought German labor should rebuild Europe. Also, 92 per cent favored the

abolition of German war industries, 88 per cent favored control of Germany's oil and essential ores and 90 per cent favored the prohibition of any German army or navy and control of all German use of aircraft; 40 per cent favored the deportation of at least 10,000,000 "guilty" Germans for segregation; 36 per cent favored sterilization, and 10 per cent were for plain massacre.

These things must not happen again — the British people are determined, again to quote the Times' report, "that no Prussian militarist shall ever again have the chance to dream and scheme for another world war."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The last lap of "dear November", then Christmas month.

A well-known citizen says: "Since the C.B.C. is now monopolized by propagandists, the only satisfaction I have, and it is not always satisfactory, is resorting to short wave."

Hon. P. J. A. Cardin, "the Sly Fox" of Quebec Liberalism, does not believe in burning his boats so long as there is hope of the Liberal party surviving. He says he will vote against Mackenzie King, but remain on the Liberal benches.

Andrew Celsius, Swedish physicist, born this date 1701; was professor of astronomy at Uppsala from 1730 to 1744; he measured the arc of the Meridian in Lapland; devised the centigrade thermometer; author of many works on astronomy translated into almost every European language.

The Prime Minister says he did not hear the remarks of Mr. Wilfred LaCroix, which he moved should be expunged from Hansard, "because of noise in the House at the time." He might have admitted also "because the hon. member spoke in French," which was perhaps the case.

It does not do to take things literally. A country merchant wrote to the Wartime Prices Board: "I don't like to appear like I wasn't cooperating, but I just don't see how ceiling prices help the war effort. I have pasted our prices on the ceiling, but it's awful hard on the customers. They can't read them standing on the floor, and I don't have a ladder high enough."

People in England are again to be permitted to dance "in the wee sma' oors ayont the twal." Dances, which for the past five years have had to end before midnight, will probably continue into the early hours—with the approval of the majority of the police chiefs and licensing magistrates. The first move was made by Darwen (Lancashire) magistrates, who granted an extension for a works dance until 2 a. m. This is the first time in the war that the young people of that cotton town, with a population of 37,000, have been able to go on dancing after midnight.

"Some years ago," said Mr. Vernon Bartlett, M. P., in the British House of Commons, "I was present at an international conference of agricultural experts in Paris. One of the German delegates had never visited Paris before, and the French went very much out of their way to make a good impression. They took him and his fellow delegates not only all round the agricultural areas of France, but to Montmartre and Montparnasse, gave him the best champagne and the best Burgundy, took him to the best shows and all the rest of it. When they took him to the station to see him off and say good-bye, they asked him what had impressed him most in France. He hesitated, and would not express an opinion. One of them said: 'Surely something about France must have impressed you.' Finally, he said: 'Yes, I was impressed by the small size of your pigs.'"

American soldiers in Germany are forbidden to talk to Germans. To halt violations on the part of members of the armed forces, the army imposes fines on guilty soldiers, the amount running from \$25 to \$65. The crime of fraternizing quickly became known as the \$65 offense. According to Lieut.-Col. C. P. Russell, executive officer of the 36th Armored Infantry Regiment, third Armored Division, there are few infractions now and they are on the decrease. American soldiers who are veterans of previous campaigns in Africa and Europe were accustomed to talking with civilians along the path to victory. Civilians in those areas were friendly and only awaiting liberation from their Nazi masters. But in Germany it is different. It may be difficult for the American soldiers to get accustomed to the new rule, but they are doing so. They know it isn't worth \$65 to exchange words with a man so glibly as to fall for the oratory of Hitler.

Mob law, as we know from experiences in the Southern States is likely to be more drastic and culpable than fair and responsible. According to a cable from Rome, the Allied Government Commission of inquiry into the lynching of Donato Carretta, Fascist vice-director of Regina Coeli prison, on September 18, published a report completely vindicating Carretta's character. The investigation showed that he even took the gravest risks to favor anti-Fascist prisoners in the Regina Coeli, that the accusation screamed at him in the courtroom came from a pathologically hysterical woman, and that he had done nothing to provoke the crowd. The conclusion of the commission is that it was "a typical mob crime." "As for Carretta," concludes the report, "the commission has established that he was a capable and very honest functionary, inspired by sentiments of humanity toward prisoners, and it has been proved in the clearest way that during the German occupation Carretta did wonders (si prodigio), even at the gravest risks, to favor political prisoners."

Notes By The Way

No doubt many a husband will smile his satisfaction on learning that a new traffic law in Vancouver states back-seat drivers must not interfere with the man at the wheel of the car. The idea might spread. — Toronto Globe and Mail.

Once upon a time, a Spanish king sent a page with a love note to his mistress, along with his ring for safe conduct. The king's rive washed the page, seized his note and ring; the corpse of the page was found in an alley whereupon the irritated king issued a royal decree, prohibiting the killing of, or interference with his pages, thus diplomatic immunity was created. — New York World and Journal.

The Odessa Public Library, founded in 1829, has reopened after a lapse of three years. The U. S. S. R. Bulletin reports. Before the war the library possessed over two million volumes, rare manuscripts and old editions. A large part of the books were saved by the heretics in a library workshop. Kudach and Korchin.

The Macdonalds score heavily — and justifiably — in judicial appointments in the new Canadian Herald. With the naming of H. J. John Macdonald of Edmonton to the Ontario Court, the Macdonalds members of the bench in Alberta, though some of them spell the name differently.

It is surprising how many ration books are still lost or temporarily mislaid. Over a three-month period 6729 were reported lost in Ontario. A letter from the ration books have been found on the floors of movie houses and concert halls, and among the discarded papers in the pockets of young men. Some pay a visit to the cleaners in coat pockets or are appropriated by the boys who are sent to serve as ferry or street car tickets. — From Consumers News.

The air rifle is not a harmless plaything, but a weapon that is deadly and dangerous to cats, dogs and children when placed in the hands of irresponsible youngsters. It contributes nothing to the joys of childhood, but does often develop a ferocious instinct for the hunt. The irresponsible parent if a child's mind were centred on wholesome pursuits, public opinion would be quick to condemn the sale of these air guns be prohibited. — Hamilton Spectator.

Recent demonstration of a bus body constructed entirely of plywood, including even the window frame parts, made a bus weighing a full ton less than the conventional metal-bodied one. But, although this may point the way to saving weight and metal, bus builders and operators should go slow and remember the old wood on railroad coaches. They were light, but they splintered and collapsed under the weight of passengers, wrecking a savage toll of passengers.

For some time chemists have been working on fire retardants for such inflammable materials as clothing, lumber, etc. A new proposal that walls, ceilings, doors and window frames be coated with fire extinguishing materials, called Retex, will be interpreted as possibly encouraged by the results obtained in wartime fire tests. Retex is a new paint mixture includes calcium carbonate and a resin made by treating paraffin wax with chlorine. When exposed to high temperatures, this coating breaks down chemically, giving off carbon dioxide gas which, being heavier than air and incapable of supporting combustion, tends to smother the fire automatically. If tested, this new compound, it may save wives a lot of agony by safely extinguishing the offending rag.

Plans for the early release from civilian war work of women demobilized from teaching were announced by Mr. R. Butler, Minister of Education. Women who are now being employed in training course for the teaching profession if they were not immediately released for employment essential to the war effort. Though release could not be guaranteed to any particular applicant, because of the need to go on doing essential work in the civilian national service could now apply for admission to the emergency scheme, or to a two-year course at an order on a university, or to start on a university course, or to start on a university course, or to start on a university course.

Intelligent consideration of housing policy leads straight into town and country planning. The two things cannot be separated. Only a person uninterested in the very essence of the subject could say, "Housing is urgent; let us deal with the desperate shortage and then we can come back and deal with planning." Town and country planning is thoughtful guidance and building development, and it has been shown that produces results injurious to dwellers in town and country. Houses are the biggest part of a fabric of towns. Whenever you build houses you are producing some kind of environment, good or indifferent; and the arrangement you produce will last perhaps for hundreds of years. If your experiences were that doing without conscious planning had hitherto produced reasonably good or better results, you might continue without worrying much. But that is not the case. Housing without planning has produced devastating results both in town and country. And I don't mean just spoiled the landscape, I mean spoiling the lives of the people who are thinking about when we urge the tremendous importance of housing. — F. J. Osborne in Municipal Review.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of any subject of general interest. The opinions expressed are those of the contributors.

EDUCATION DEFINED

Sir,—The discussion now appearing in the columns of The Guardian regarding the relative importance of Latin and Science on the school curriculum must be of very great interest to many of your readers. I quite agree with the views of Mrs. Frank that more Science should be taught in our public schools, and that this subject has much more practical value than Latin. It is true of course that for the few a knowledge of Latin is very important, but it is not a knowledge of the language which is a very admirable accomplishment and bestows certain cultural benefits upon its possessor. It is not a knowledge of the language which is a very admirable accomplishment and bestows certain cultural benefits upon its possessor. It is not a knowledge of the language which is a very admirable accomplishment and bestows certain cultural benefits upon its possessor.

Polish soil despite the fact that they were later disarmed, imprisoned, executed or deported by those whom they aided. We want our record to remain to the end of the war as clean as it had been from the beginning. We are fighting on, true to our traditions and obligations. We trust that we shall reach our final goal which always has been a free and independent Poland.

With those feeling the Poles all over the world celebrate this year's Independence Day.

Prof. Dewey's definition of education, she says, is to help the child to realize it or what it really is, namely, a rather materialistic conception of the world. She interprets it to mean growth, as it is here worded it means the child's growth in the present. Man, a much higher and more creature, spends a large portion of his time preparing for and contemplating the future. He contemplates the rainbow and in his life is only weakly described by the poet when he writes about "The vision that never was on sea or land, the conception and the poet's dream."

If John Dewey had world's his definition somewhat as follows it could be drawn to a basis. Education is a preparation for future living, as well as a process of living. — I am, Sir, D. J. MULLIN, St. Peter's.

Poland Celebrated Independence Day

(Ottawa Journal) On the 11th of November, 1918, Poland regained her independence after 123 years of foreign occupation. On this day France, Great Britain and the U.S.A. triumphed over Germany in the war. At the same time the rising Polish state checked Germany from the East and prevented the coming of the Bolshevik revolution with the communistic upheaval in Germany.

That is why the Poles celebrate apart from their National Day on the 3rd of May, the day of Nov. 11th or their independence day. The most essential element in the life of the Polish nation during its 1000 years of existence is the striving for freedom, which the Poles value before all else. "Free citizens in a free state"—this was their political ideal in their own areas state in Europe. The struggle for liberty was the essence of this same tendency, when the Polish state was conquered and partitioned by the Germans and Russians.

Today, the Poles are fighting again for their freedom. For them and for that of other nations. They fight with self-sacrifice such as shown in the recent uprising in Warsaw, and the 1939-40 when one fourth of Poland's 35 million people today, the independence of Poland is an endangered. In the West of Europe we are steadily approaching the day of total

Advertisement for Northeast Airlines, featuring a map and the text "Northeast Airlines" and "For Complete Information, Tel. 2061 or 340".

Advertisement for Turkey and Holly... and Christmas Seals. Includes an illustration of a turkey and a wreath, and text: "BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS!"

Advertisement for H. J. Mabon, Optometrist. Text: "H. J. MABON OPTOMETRIST Fitting and Supplying Glasses Etc. Montague, P. E. I. Office Hours: 10 to 12 A.M. 8 to 5 P.M. Holidays etc. by appointment. Office Connected with DRUGSTORE."

Advertisement for Storm Windows. Text: "Storm Windows We have ready for delivery—primed and glazed—the following sizes: 4 Light 10 x 20 4 Light 12 x 20 4 Light 12 x 24 4 Light 13 x 26 4 Light 14 x 28 4 Light 15 x 30 L. M. Poole & Co. Lumber — Building Supplies. Phones: 171 172 Charlottetown."

Advertisement for Notice. Text: "NOTICE The Board of Appeal from Civic Rates and Assessments has set Monday, December 4th at 9:30 A.M. in the Court Room in the City Building in Charlottetown, as the time and place for hearing all remaining appeals from Civic Rates and Assessments for the current year. J. A. FULLERTON, City Clerk."

Advertisement for Wanted. Text: "WANTED Young man 16 to 18 years of age for an apprenticeship position in Summerside in an essential industry. Opportunity for permanency and advancement to a youth possessing initiative and ambition, good health and Grade XI education are required by applicants. Initial salary sufficient to care for living expenses. Apply— NATIONAL SELECTIVE SERVICE"

Advertisement for Maritime Central Airways Limited. Text: "MARITIME CENTRAL AIRWAYS Limited To NEW GLASGOW 1.00 P.M. \$5.00 One Way (Plus Tax) RESERVATIONS-INFORMATION-TICKETS PHONE 540-2061"

Advertisement for G. F. Hutcheson & Son, Optometrists. Text: "G. F. Hutcheson & SON OPTOMETRISTS 'Specialists in the fitting of glasses for the correction of ocular defects.' 53 Grafton Street"

Advertisement for Professional Cards. Text: "Professional Cards McLeod & Bentley W. E. BENTLEY K. C. J. A. BENTLEY K. C. Barristers and Attorneys-at-Law 154 Prince Street"

Advertisement for M. Alban Farmer, B.A., LL.B. Text: "M. ALBAN FARMER B.A., LL.B. Canadian Bank of Commerce Bldg. MONEY TO LOAN BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, ETC."

Advertisement for H. R. Doane & Co., Chartered Accountants. Text: "H. R. Doane & Co. Chartered Accountants 53 Grafton Street, Charlottetown Phone 2080 Box 17 Randolph W. Manning, C.A."

Advertisement for Alex W. Mathieson, Money to Loan. Text: "ALEX W. MATHIESON Money to Loan Collection Office: 90 Great George Street BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, ETC."

Advertisement for D. F. Archibald, Chartered Accountant. Text: "D. F. ARCHIBALD Chartered Accountant Eastern Trust Building Charlottetown"

Advertisement for Attention Swine Breeders. Text: "Attention Swine Breeders Now is the time to guard against PIG-WORM by using the most effective remedy on the market. MACS PIG-WORM TONIC POWDER It will thoroughly abolish all traces of worms and improve the health of your pigs. Price 35 cents per lb. MACS AMMONIATED BRONCHIAL COMPOUND Believes acute Bronchitis, Spasmodic Cough, Bronchial Catarrh, Croup, and Colds. Price 50 cents a bottle. MACS FILE OINTMENT A safe and efficient remedy for internal and external piles. It is made only of the highest quality ingredients possessing remarkable therapeutic value for this purpose. It carries out its beneficial effect in three ways. 1. It soothes. 2. It lubricates. 3. It is astringent. Get a tube today. Price 60 cents. THE 2 MACS 149 Great George Street Mail Orders Given Prompt Attention"