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The New Leader

Hon. George Alexander Drew, K.C., LL.D., Premier of Ontario, carried everything before him at the national Progressive Conservative Convention on Saturday, winning the party's leadership contest by an overwhelming vote on the first ballot.

Premier Drew at fifty-four has already distinguished himself in many fields, notably as a lawyer, parliamentarian and writer on military affairs. As leader of a rejuvenated Conservative Party he stands good chances of becoming Canada's Prime Minister after the next Dominion election.

A striking example of Mr. Drew's alertness and breadth of vision was afforded in two addresses which he delivered here in August, 1934, on the occasion of the opening of the municipal airport at Summerside. At that time he took issue with the popular theory that there was ample security in land and naval armaments and warned that we were nearer to another war than we had been even in the months previous to the opening of the 1914 conflict.

A strong advocate of Imperial ties, Mr. Drew is also an outspoken champion of fuller co-operation with our great neighbor to the south. On this issue, as well as on that of Communism, he may be depended upon to give vigorous leadership, at a time when a firm hand at the helm in our international relations is of paramount importance.

Scots and Pipes

Most of our long-cherished beliefs are being ruthlessly shattered, writes Napie Moore in The Financial Post. Now we are told by one, Georgie Henschel, via a BBC overseas broadcast, that most of the world's supply of bagpipes are not made in Scotland but in Camden Town, London.

Taxes Must Come Down

To Canada's overburdened taxpayers, the Progressive Conservative Convention resolution dealing with tax reductions will be welcomed regardless of politics. The need for such reduction is evident from the latest report of the Comptroller of the Treasury for the five months ending August 31, which shows an increase upwards to the tune of some \$32,750,000. At this rate, they will be up by about \$78,000,000 annually.

But it is not only the rising rate of Government spending that is worrying the taxpayer. The fact is that the Government is taxing so severely that it is having surpluses beyond its own planning. But these surpluses it will not share with the taxpayer, by lowering his taxes. The explanation at Ottawa is that lower taxes would only free more money for spending. And more money being spent will only raise prices and make inflation worse.

The very argument that the Government is better able to handle the taxpayer's money than he is to handle his own would in itself suggest a questionable assumption of State paternalism. But when the Government imposes economy upon the taxpayer but neglects to practise economy itself, it suggests a form of State deception. It is like a child being told by his parents that he must not do a certain thing, and then discovering his parents doing the very thing that is supposed to be forbidden.

But the matter goes deeper than this, says the Montreal Gazette. The Government's bureaucratic advisers do not recommend a withholding of tax relief from the citizen only because they say tax relief would be inflationary; they withhold tax relief because they hold that it would in any case be unnecessary. Mr. Abbott was quite frank about this in his last budget

speech. He said: "It (income taxation) has been reduced to levels which under present circumstances, offer no serious impediment to work or initiative—at least, none that could be removed by any further reasonable reduction."

The Conservative policy is diametrically opposed to this attitude, and in the concrete proposals embodied in the Convention resolutions the voice of accused public opinion is heard in no uncertain terms.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Fire Prevention Week. Fires do not happen, they are caused, and by removing possible causes we are saving property and perhaps life.

International standardization of screw threads does not seem a very impressive aim but the saving in stocks of spares for imported equipment alone would make it worth while. In coordinating the production of several countries it is vital.

In this atomic age even stealing chickens has become fraught with risks undreamed of by earlier generations. The experience of the Saskatchewan thief who made off with radio-active birds would seem to put grieg-counters in the class of burglary tools.

A witness before the Prices Commission described it as consumer resistance when customers ask the price and leave without buying. That seems to be the wrong way of expressing it. It is not the consumer who resists but the price which prohibits.

The proposed French-Italian customs union and abolition of visas will be a long step towards the Utopia imagined by a British statesman in which he could travel from London to Moscow simply by buying a ticket. On this continent that ideal is not far from reality.

Harmens van Rijn Rembrandt, Dutch painter, died this date 1669; was pupil of Peter Lastmsa, and became the greatest of the Dutch school of artists; excellent in realistic portraiture and portrait groups, and in effects of concentrated light; his works suggest the mystery of things unseen. His masterpieces include: The Wight Watch, The Anatomy Lesson, Portrait of his daughter-in-law Magdalen van Loo, Paul in Prison, The Money Changers, The Woman Taken in Adultery, The Good Samaritan.

Since the end of the war Britain has found homes for a quarter of a million refugees. This was stated by Mr. Christopher Mayhew, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, at a meeting of the International Refugee Organization in Geneva last month. During the past twelve months homes were found by the I. R. O. for 250,000 refugees and displaced persons. Of these Britain has received 70,000. This is nearly three times the number absorbed by any other country.

According to Newsweek, military aid for Western Europe, and perhaps some Pacific countries, probably will be added to the present program of economic help through ECA some time next year. A formal military alliance between the U.S. and Western Europe also is a probable 1949 development. Some influential Republican congressmen are inclined to favor a big increase in the Army, Navy, and Air Force next year on the theory that war with Russia is a virtual certainty.

The Government's Canadian Commercial Corporation placed \$55,800,000 worth of orders in Canada for foreign countries in the last fiscal year. In the same period, it placed 45,000 orders for the National Defence Department, totalling \$82,000,000. The Corporation acts as purchasing agent for some Government departments and for foreign countries which request this help, and it also helps Canadians to sell or buy abroad. In all, it placed \$171,000,000 worth of new business in the last fiscal year.

Friends and admirers of Mr. Clarence Charters, formerly of The Charlottetown will be pleased to learn that he is making progress in his literary work out in Vancouver. His booklet The Charm of Green Gables has been included in a special collection of Canadiana at the University of British Columbia which contains many of L. M. Montgomery's books and eventually will include them all. The song "When It's Summer at Green Gables" is becoming popular in Vancouver and on the West Coast generally where there are so many Islanders. It may be mentioned that the booklet is published by The Photogelatine Engraving Co., Toronto, and is on sale at the Abegweit Gift Shop here, while the distributors for Vancouver are the Hudson's Bay Co., who also carry the sheet music of the song. The author has received requests for autographed copies all the way from Scotland.

At a conference sponsored by the National Recreation Association, New York, emphasis on the family marked a discussion group of "the family plays together." Family recreation is essential for the unity of the family and for spiritual growth, it was agreed by the family discussion group. It was held that forces which threatened the family in present-day life gained effect because families did not have good times together, owing to neglect of constructive interaction among members of families. The ideal of family enterprise had been allowed to die, in the face of outside activities competing for family interest, mainly spectator diversions, the group agreed. As answers to this situation, the recreation officials declared that as a basic matter recreation should be regarded as a way of living, and not as a thing apart. The conviction was expressed that every member of the family ought to bear some responsibility in living up to this way of life. The enjoyment of everyday living must be learned.



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

THE YANKEE GALE

This date, October 4, is a black letter one in Island history. It marks the ninety-seventh anniversary of the "Yankee Gale," which commenced on the evening of October 3, 1851, and continued next day and night with great fury, wrecking more than seventy vessels engaged in the Gulf fisheries, on the rocks and sands of the North Shore. The lives lost were estimated at one hundred and sixty. Nineteen of the wrecked vessels hailed from Gloucester. Commencing at the eastern end of the Island and continuing westward to Savage Harbour, fifteen vessels were driven ashore, besides a large barque from Europe in ballast. From Savage Harbour to Richmond Bay the stranded vessels numbered seventeen; in Richmond Bay, there were twenty-four, and from the latter place to North Cape, seventeen came to grief. Twenty-two vessels lost the whole or part of their crews. The "Traveller," Newburyport, Mass., lost eight; the "Statesman," Newburyport, ten; the "Dennis," Maine, nine; the "Balens," Portsmouth, N.H., ten. "Skip Jack" came in with twelve bodies. The "Flirt," Gloucester, Mass., lost thirteen; the "Mary Moulton," Castine, Maine, fourteen; the "Brothers," St. Andrew, N.B., all on board; the "Mary," St. Andrew, N.B., all on board; an American schooner, wrecked off Bonaventure Point, all on board; a British vessel, wrecked off Rustico, four bodies in cabin and six in forecastle; a British vessel laden with merchandise, all hands lost; the vessels founded off Stanhope, crews of both lost; a brigantine wrecked on North Cape, all on board lost.

At Tracadie the schooner "Fair Play," Portland, Maine, was driven ashore, minus seven men, among them the captain, his three sons and a brother-in-law. The "Franklin Dexter," Dennis, Maine, came in with ten bodies. The vessel belonged to a Captain Wickson, his four sons and a nephew forming part of the crew. On learning of the disaster, Wickson at once came to the Island, found his way to Cavendish where the bodies had been interred, had them exhumed and placed in a large box which was put on board the "Seahall," about sailing for Boston. Capt. Wickson himself went by steamer, arrived home and anxiously awaited the schooner's arrival, but he waited in vain. The "Seahall" ran into another storm and was never afterwards seen.

At Rustico a dimasted vessel grounded at some distance. The crew fastened lines to empty casks, which being thrown over, floated to land where the lines were fastened and four men got ashore. Shortly afterwards a tremendous wave lifted the hull bodily, driving it so near the bank that the others were saved. Near the same place three vessels came ashore within a mile of each other with thirty-six dead. Some vessels came ashore with bodies fastened in the rigging, their clothing in shreds.

On shore the tide flooded areas never before seen under water; fields where harvest had been recently gathered were inundated; bridges and mills were carried away, great forest trees blown down, and for days the roads were made impassable by windfalls. On the beaches, the windrow of wrecked vessels was a ghastly sight. The vessels were so completely broken as to be indistinguishable. Such bodies as came ashore were generally nude, and several were washed up weeks after the storm. The care given to the destitute survivors was noted gratefully in the New England press, and from Capt. Chas. L. Williams, master of

Soviet Policy In Talks On Berlin

(By W. N. Evers)

The problem facing the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France and the United States in Paris is not that of currency and trade and the communications of Berlin. It is something which is in a way simpler; and at the same time far more dangerous.

For eight weeks of patient negotiation, first in Moscow, then in Berlin and then again in Moscow, has made it clear that the Soviet Government does not intend to reach a settlement over Berlin.

It is engaged not in negotiating an agreement but in conducting an offensive. And the "conversations" have simply been used as a tactical device in the carrying out of that offensive.

That is the situation. It could hardly be more dangerous. But the facts are only too plain. When the Moscow talks began M. Stalin and M. Molotov tried first to turn the Berlin situation to their own advantage in the West.

They suggested that in return for the lifting of the Berlin blockade the Allies should postpone carrying out the reform in the Western Zones. This had been decided on in the Six-Power London Conference in the Spring. The result would have been to disrupt the new economic recovery, to provoke acute political discontent, and to throw out of gear an important part of the machinery of the European Recovery Programme. It was an impossible proposal, but a sharp revelation of the Soviet purpose.

So the first phase ended with agreement in general terms on the subject of currency, trade and communications. It consisted partly of an agreed "directive" to the four Military Governors in Berlin on the basis of which they would work out practical arrangements; partly of the schooner "Bell," appeared the following tribute in the P. E. I. Royal Gazette:

"Sir—Allow the undersigned on behalf of his fellow-sufferers to express their hearty thanks for the sympathy and assistance received from the inhabitants of Princetown Royalty, whose kindness no pecuniary reward could repay, and to whom we shall ever feel under the greatest obligations, as their hospitality was extended in such a way as to cause us to feel we were really among friends who exercised Christian virtues that would put to shame many of our countrymen, or at least many sailing under the American flag. We sincerely hope that any American who sees this will remember that in October, 1851, three hundred men from American vessels were cast ashore in Richmond Bay, all of whom received every attention that could possibly be rendered them had they been wrecked within sight of their own dwellings."

Assurances given by M. Stalin and M. Molotov during the conversations. And it was of a character which, given good faith and goodwill, could easily have brought a rapid and complete settlement of these particular questions and have so made possible a Four Power meeting for discussion of other issues.

But in Berlin Marshal Sokolovsky tabled demands which were plainly designed to be unacceptable. The currency arrangements which he proposed were incompatible with the agreement reached in Moscow. This might have been a misunderstanding, but the differences were not beyond adjustment. But in addition the Marshal made further demands. Instead of all restrictions on communications between Berlin and the West being lifted, he required that new restrictions be imposed by agreement.

And they were of a character which would have crippled any attempt by the Western Allies to deal with any new rupture of land communications created on the pretext of a "technical breakdown" of road and rail lines. He further insisted on arrangements which would have placed the administration of Berlin's trade with the West entirely under Soviet control.

Instead of the restoration of the status quo, the Marshal was, in fact, demanding Western agreement to a new system which would have given the Soviet Military Government a complete stranglehold on the economy of all four sectors of Berlin.

It was a clear revelation of the offensive character of the whole operation. The "negotiation" was merely a new move in the Soviet attempt which began last December to force the Western Allies out of Berlin by making their position in the city untenable.

There was still just the chance that Marshal Sokolovsky was showing "too much zeal" that he was going beyond his instructions; that new conversations in Moscow might result in new orders being sent to him.

It might be only a faint hope. But the Three Powers were determined to seize even the slightest chance. The Moscow talks were resumed. M. Stalin was conveniently away and would not interrupt his holiday. And two conversations with M. Molotov made it plain that Marshal Sokolovsky's deliberately impossible demands had been made with the full approval of his Government.

The wrecking policy was not simply his, it was theirs. And so the three Ministers met in Paris to face the grave but inescapable conclusion that the Soviet Government had, from the beginning, intended the negotiations to succeed; that it had been dragging the conversations on for purely tactical reasons; that it is not abandoning but intensifying its offensive in Germany against the Western Allies, without the least intention of seeking any kind of settlement or any kind of reconciliation.

It is not the immediate state of affairs in Berlin, but the fact of that Soviet offensive, which dominates the situation and makes it so potentially dangerous.

Notes By The Way

Children should be encouraged to read their home newspapers, and teachers and parents would do well to draw their attention to items of significance which appear every day, bearing upon citizenship, loyalty to their own community, and other features of municipal life which are in value in building the character of the child—and which can be found in the home newspaper. — Chatham News.

The success of recent shipments of crayfish tails to the United States has been so marked that a Sydney and an American firm are now planning to ship thousands of cases of the delicacy every year. The United States steamer Pioneer Gem left for the U. S. recently with 1,500 cases. A sister ship, the Pioneer Glen, left two days later with another cargo of crayfish tails. Dealers expect to catch the end of the summer market in New York. — Australian News.

We may still have to put up with a considerable amount of annoyance from Russian brasserie, but if we perceive its underlying causes, it is possible for us to gradually turn things to our own advantage without resorting to violence and without giving Russia any opportunity of putting herself into the desirable position of being a martyr to "capitalistic imperialism" or anything of the sort. — Halifax Chronicle.

A stranger went into a public house in Manchester and saw several customers grouped around a dog sitting on its haunches smoking a cigarette. The stranger looked on for a moment in amazement. "By gosh!" he exclaimed to the man next to him. "That's wonderful, isn't it?" "It's marvellous," agreed the other man wistfully. "Fancy a bloomin' dog bein' able to get 'em! 'Aven't 'ad a packet myself since Friday." — Manchester Guardian.

A Trenton, Ont., service club was holding a carnival and hamburger steak for hamburgers could not be obtained. The local egg grading station operated by French officials had a piecewise sized eggs fried and placed in a round bun would be a good substitute and suggested that the sandwich be called an "Eggburger." Fifteen officials were ordered. They went over like wild fire. By the end of the evening sixty-nine dozen were sold. More could have been had they been available. — Farm News.

Historically it is fitting that French people be early adherents to Canada. For the first immigrant to this country was Louis Herbert and his family who began farming at Quebec in 1617. He was not welcomed by the Indians for he believed that occupation of Canada by people from the old land would disturb the profitable fur trade which depended on the Indians for its supplies. But Herbert braved this governmental disapproval to become the advance guard of the thousands who have since followed his example. — Ottawa Citizen.

Now is the time of greatest danger to our forests. Dead leaves and dry timber make forests fire imminent. Every year some twenty millions of dollars goes up in smoke, the price of carelessness on the part of smokers and campers. Lives are lost and endangered, and many people left homeless in our forest areas. Much of the loss is unnecessary. It can be avoided by handling camp fires with care and avoiding smoking in dangerous areas. The utmost care must be exercised between now and snowfall to keep losses to a minimum. — Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

About eight thousand natives attended Friday's formal installation of Cyprian Bhekuzulu as Chief of the Ustatu tribe of Zulul. About 100 Europeans were present, mostly residents of Zululand, but the police are reported to have turned away many carloads from the scene. Lives and property were not in possession of the necessary passes. A Zulu impi several thousand strong danced and feasted on beer provided by the Native Affairs Department and drank kaffir beer. A Zulu who was also present and gave a special song of allegiance to Cyprian whose formal appointment was hailed with a tremendous roar of the Royal Salute "Bayete." — South African Newsletter.

Moving a building to save it can be a profitable venture in these days of stratospheric lumber and labor costs. A 32-unit apartment house in the way of a Los Angeles freeway, for instance, was sold at public auction for \$3,750 six months ago. House movers cut the sprawling three-story building into three sections and moved it several blocks to a new location for \$18,000. The new owner spent \$200,000. The new owner spent \$200,000 on having it placed back together and supplied with a new foundation. The lot cost another \$13,000. On this \$54,750 investment, the buyer had an apartment house returning more than \$100 in monthly rent in less than half the time it would have taken to build new. The transported structure is valued at \$100,000. — Wall Street Journal.

If the United Nations could agree to make Libya or all three of the former Italian colonies a joint trusteeship of developing these territories without subjecting their people to direct Italian rule. There would be not less but more room for Italian colonists if the combined resources of western Europe were available. The strategic needs of the western Powers would be satisfied. The interests of the native population from Winnipeg and other European than twenty hockey teams. Some official recognition of his skill should be made when he comes back home. — Fort William Times-Journal.

Chess players do not expect a cheer when they win. The game which has been played since the earliest days of civilization has been the butt of several thousand jokes throughout the centuries because of the fact that it is generally played in deep silence and moves are made only after long deliberation. Nevertheless, it would be pleasant if some action were taken to honor young Abe Yanofsky as Canada after playing with 19 other masters in the international tournament. At the time of writing the young man from Winnipeg had tied for third place, while an Australian leads. Yanofsky was tied for first place the other day, and he still has a chance to play back to first position. Who or lose, however, Yanofsky has been a brilliant contender. Were he to win, he would gain more respect from the Russians and other Europeans than twenty hockey teams. Some official recognition of his skill should be made when he comes back home. — Fort William Times-Journal.

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CORN WEATHER

I am the corn. Listen to me. How can you men who dwell in towns Know what the weather ought to be? Give me an ardent sun, pursuing Dawn mists while my tasseled ranks Rustle and bow to the south wind's wooing. Greet with hymn of thanks The splendid heat of the summer noon, Sing to the locust's ancient tune. As I lie in the arms of the autumn night, My roots spread wide and deep, And the pulse of my growth is pure delight While the hungry cities sleep. Out of the fertile womb of earth I bring the golden ears to birth. So I hear your complaints with a decisive glee. You fretful men who dwell in towns, How can you tell what the weather should be? —Una W. Harsen in Christian Science Monitor.

The Age-Old Story

I have set the Lord always before me; because He is my right hand, I shall not be moved. He shall not be afraid of evil tidings whose heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.