

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure
Vice-President: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.

Subscription Rates:
By Mail in P. E. I., \$4.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months.
City Delivery: \$5.00 per year; \$3.00 for 6 months.

The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1940.

Potato Bonus

With the laudable object of bettering the financial status of our farmers, the movers of the "per acre bonus scheme" have invaded the field of economic juggling.

The necessary increased taxation both directly on the farmer and indirectly on him through lessened purchasing power because of increased costs in those articles he must buy, may well offset any immediate advantage of the plan.

Partyism And Democracy

There is to be no free transportation for members of our fighting forces on Christmas leave. Notwithstanding the weight of public opinion expressed in favor of this concession, the Government has decided otherwise.

"Mr. HANSELL (MacLeod): On several occasions in this House during the present session hon. members have risen and urged upon the Government that it give free transportation to soldiers for Christmas leave.

Incidentally, Mr. Hansell noted that when the Weyburn member (Mr. Douglas) spoke on this subject on the previous day, there were only sixteen Liberal members in the chamber, with one Cabinet minister.

Government Sacrifices, Too

The statement that the Canadian people must prepare to tighten their belts for war purposes, go to the limit in sacrifices, has become familiar. But, asks the Globe and Mail, while public men, members of Parliament and others, are drilling the citizens for financial sacrifices, how much do we hear, what evidence is offered, to show that relief is forthcoming from the criminal extravagance of our governmental system?

Some references have been made in Parliament to the necessity of curtailing non-essentials, but nothing such as ought to be expected when warning is given at regular intervals of heavier pressure on the people's pocketbook.

sent approximately \$2 goes to war expenses and \$1 to Federal non-war purposes. The excuse is always trotted out, of course, that most of the latter is beyond control. So it is with the taxpayer's expenses, but he will have to do without things looked upon as essential to his way of living, whether he wants to or not.

"Encouraging" To Whom?

A Washington despatch yesterday quoted the U. S. State Department as finding it "encouraging to note that Canada does not intend to encourage the building up of domestic industry at the expense of imports." The reference is to the importation of United States fruits and vegetables, which will continue to enjoy free entry into Canada in competition with our own farm producers.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is not too early to make your Christmas purchases.

The debate on the Address at Ottawa has ended, and so, too, any chance of getting anywhere until next year.

Remember the poor at this season and think especially of the needs of the Dispensary and Salvation Army, who will look after those Santa Claus may forget.

The first fruits of the Union Government in Manitoba is the reduction of members' indemnities by \$37 each, of minister's salaries by \$80 each, and the wiping out of the \$2,200 paid the leader of the Opposition.

Messrs. Bruce Stewart and Co., Ltd., have sold out their interests in the old established firm of Kennedy and Co., Ltd. Hope this is an indication the firm are preparing the way for Government contracts, so much needed to keep our mechanics employed at home.

Martin Van Buren, eighth President of the United States, born this date, 1782. He succeeded General Jackson as President in 1837, and it was due to his uneconomic financial policy that the crisis of 1839 occurred, when many banks stopped payment and chaos prevailed on stock exchanges, in industry and trade and commerce generally.

In a general attack on the defence regulations as "encroachments" on personal freedom at stake in the present war, Col. George A. Drew says that laws for the control of subversive elements should not be enacted by order-in-council but by Parliament, that each person charged should have a fair trial, even though it might have to be held in camera, and that provincial Labor Ministers, the representatives of organized labor and provincial legal officers should have a voice in the drafting of regulations.

While no direct attempt is being made to control or to fix the level of industrial wages in war plants, the recent order-in-council passed providing a heavy penalty for "entitlement" will have the effect of checking the disturbing wage-bidding between war plants, a check that will be equivalent to putting a ceiling on wages.

A foreign correspondent is credited with the story that Hitler took the statue of Moses from the Louvre in Paris and set it up in his garden at Berchtesgaden. His entourage then was amazed to observe that every day the Fuehrer went and stood before the statue for a solid hour. Curiosity finally became too much for his aides, and a member of his staff one day tiptoed up behind him to see what he was doing. And Hitler was murmuring: "Tell me, Moses—how did you ever get your hosts across that body of water?"

NOTES BY THE WAY

At the time of Munich, Sir Neville Henderson reveals, Britain had a large stockpile of arms, including seven million anti-aircraft guns for the defence of London.

Late arrivals at the Bachman-nott concert are said to have created an utterly indefensible nuisance and marred the pleasure of those who got there on time.

Windsor will have a distinctly new experience if permission is given to allow women to drive taxicabs in this city. There seems to be, of course, no reason why this vocation should not be opened to the fair sex.

If the conflict lasts Canada may be expected to gain in population, through transfers of skilled labor from Great Britain and post-war immigration. Her economic structure will be stronger because her dependence upon raw materials will be lessened.

A peculiar circumstance is reported from the Hong farm on the trunk road on the edge of the Soo. It is about Great Lakes gulls, and something of a mystery. It is related that birds have got into the habit of turning up in the farmyard at chicken feeding time and day after day.

It was as if those Italian pilots had been invited to a duck dinner by Wellington Wimpy. "You bring the ducks, or a festive equivalent of chicken and cheese," said the pilot who had joined in the aerial assault on England.

For whatever Britain loses in these night visitations she must replace, quickly, in American factories. It is not enough for us to send our heavy army bombs, good and welcome as such a step must be. It is not enough to scrape our cupboards and send the evidence of our previous concepts, so that the losses of the air raids can be offset and the offensive strength of the Royal Air Force maintained.

There appears to be an accumulation of evidence that France is stiffening up against German attempts to trample her into the mud. Berlin, and resistance may well be futile, particularly in Europe. But there seems to be an end to ready complacency.

The assiduous reader of English-Canadian newspapers cannot fail to have noticed that for several months they have considerably modified their tone with regard to the Canadians. They are pleased to recognize the originality and the value of our contribution to our common country.

the result of two different and complementary cultures. — Le Canada (Montreal).

PUBLIC FORUM

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

PIT PROPS

Sir:—Knowing that many of our people purpose cutting pit props during the winter, with the idea of sap-feeding them in the spring, and knowing that if the British Pit Prop Pool could not handle this lumber during 1941 it would be a calamity for our people, I wrote the Pit Prop Pool in connection with the matter.

I am, Sir, etc., W. H. DENNIS, Minister of Agriculture.

WATER TRANSIT OUR FARMERS ONLY HOPE

Sir:—In my letter of a day or two ago I endeavored to stress the urgent need for water shipping and elevator facilities for the importation of western feed grain to Prince Edward Island. I also pointed to the fact that the docking accommodation required for the large grain vessels that ply the St. Lawrence could also be used by ocean going ships, to provide the farmers and fishermen of this island with direct access to British goods.

Had the Dominion Government kept its promise to improve the Charlottetown harbour during the past summer, we should today be in a position to ship direct to the Mother Country much of the food so greatly needed by the British people.

During the past year Germany has gained control of every European country from which Britain has been obtaining the higher grades of food supplies such as those named above. These countries include Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, France and the Channel Islands.

Notwithstanding this fact, no effort, so far as the public is aware, has been made by either the Dominion Government or the Provincial Government to provide the means of direct economic transportation.

THE SIRO'S REPORT

Sir:—May I respectfully express the opinion that the propaganda which has been circulated for many years, and is being renewed by the United States economy (and which is a serious menace to the existence of this Nation, as the appointment of the Siro's Commission shows) is noticeable in Mr. Hyndman's letter when he refers to our parts of the Dominion and refers to "every section of Canada" instead of to each Province as an economic unit or member of Canada, which is trying to work out its own economic destiny as an economic unit, in co-operation with other parts of the British Empire under definite documentary principles, established to direct and control the General Government, which transacts its business under the name of Canada, which name

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does not include the Provinces and the subjects under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Legislatures, as shown in the British North America Act 1867, and in the Prince Edward Island-Canada agreement of Union.

I have been advised by high British legal authority that Prince Edward Island could, through the courts, compel Canada to furnish Prince Edward Island with similar services to those provided for any other Province, as well as enforce the carrying out of your confederation transportation agreement.

Whether or not the present government of New Brunswick will adhere to the stand of the previous government, respecting transportation, I don't know.

Your readers may have noticed also that the Commission admits that Canada's so-called "national economy" is "a part (not a part) of the economy of the United States and also that the Commission's recommendations are designed "to conform to the existing conditions in the interest of Ontario and Quebec, which comprise the majority of the population."

I don't know whether or not your readers have noticed that the British North America confederation is unique in that it is a federation of Provinces or parts of the Empire and not a federal union of peoples like the Australian Dominion and United States of America, and is not a unitary or legislative union like the United Kingdom, to be governed by the majority of the representatives in its Parliament.

INTRESTED NEW BRUNSWICKER. P.S. The Siro's Commission makes no distinction apparently in the meaning of the words "principal" and "policy" and completely ignores the fact that these provinces are "federally united." (B.N.A. Act.)

THE FRAGRANCE Sensation OF THE YEAR Apple Blossom Helena Rubinstein

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS THE TREATMENT OF BACKRACHE, RHEUMATISM, HEADACHE, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, URINARY TROUBLES, AND ALL THE PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT THE KIDNEYS

War On Home Front The Canadian government recognizes the danger of tuberculosis to the defence forces. Every recruit for the Active Service Force is given an X-ray for signs of chest disease.

Yes Sir! Whatever you want done, as a guest of the Mount Royal Hotel, is done quickly, efficiently, and pleasantly by an ever-watchful, unobtrusive staff.

The Poet's Corner THERE IS A BONDAGE WORSE, FAR WORSE? Than his who bondage, by roof, and floor, and wall.

YARDLEY suggests this gift of bath luxury... Lavendome and softener and perfume, and lavender dusting powder.

THE FRAGRANCE Sensation OF THE YEAR Apple Blossom Helena Rubinstein

SOME SMOKE SOME CHEW. AND SOME DO BOTH. BUT IF YOU CHEW YOU KNOW HOW GOOD "HICKEY'S" IS AND HAS BEEN FOR MANY A LONG DAY.

HICKEY'S BLACK TWIST 10c Per Fig Straight Manufactured by HICKEY & NICHOLSON Tobacco Co., Ltd. Charlottetown, P. E. I.