

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1947

Betraying A Trust

Mr. Robson Black, president of the Canadian Forestry Association, says that the outside world will be looking more and more to Canada for forest products, since this is one of the comparatively few countries with large forest resources.

The output of the sawmills is worth \$216,000,000 per year, and the output of pulp and paper is worth \$400,000,000. Of the latter amount, \$74,000,000 is paid for transportation, \$19,000,000 for fuel, \$20,000,000 for electricity, and \$36,000,000 for chemical and mill supplies.

It is tragic in the circumstances to note the totally inadequate protection which is afforded to Canada's forest resources. During the past summer the losses from fires that raged in various parts of the country—particularly in the Maritimes, in Ontario and British Columbia—have been staggering.

The Board of Governors of the CBC, attended by Dr. Steel, is holding hearings to decide on applications for licenses for French language stations in Saskatchewan. Under a system of independent stations the difficulty would not arise.

The doom of the big warship, the "battle wagon", has been repeatedly forecast. This time the arm chair admirals say that with the use of rocket missiles the need for great ships will disappear. What brought them into existence was the need for greater gun platform to absorb the recoil of the big guns.

A Strange Request

Members of the Calgary Trade and Labour Council recently passed a resolution asking the Provincial Government to penalize persons who accept work during their vacation period.

As the Calgary Herald points out, it is a sensible thing for any worker to relax on his holidays but what he actually does "is entirely his own affair." If the law steps in, however, there is absolutely no end as to what absurd lengths we might witness.

We could, as the Financial Post comments, literally strangle ourselves in our own red tape. Anything and everything we might do could be termed a form of work. Fishing, golf, gardening, landscape painting, even drying the dishes, might be proscribed, because there are professionals that could be hired to do all of them.

The real object of this shortsighted resolution, of course, is to limit production and producers, to string out each job as long as possible. That is a negative approach, dangerous and absurd at any time. Right now, when the whole world is short of goods, foods and services, when we must produce more or see our democratic civilization collapse, further restrictions would be tragic.

Employment High, But--

With employment at its highest level in history, it is not surprising that labor's income in Canada for the first four months of 1947 is well ahead of the record a year ago, notes the Toronto Globe and Mail.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reveals, gives it considerably greater significance by breaking down the income figures for the various categories of industry. Wage and salary income in the construction industry has risen from \$59,000,000 a year ago to \$79,000,000—an increase of nearly 34 per cent.

While "income" has soared 34 per cent in the period under review employment has gained only 18 per cent. And there has been no corresponding increase in the amount of construction work completed in that period.

The housing situation has become even more alarming. Housing contracts awarded dropped from \$56,000,000 to \$34,000,000 in the first four months of the year and Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, in reporting that drop last month, saw no immediate hope of improvement.

EDITORIAL NOTES

First quarter of the harvest moon tonight.

Boulogne fell to the Canadians this date 1944.

Snow on the Prairies reminds us that there may still be a shortage of fuel to keep our own fires burning this winter.

The directors of the Tourist Industry of Canada will convene here tomorrow, arrangements being in the capable hands of Col. W. W. Reid.

It seems too bad that the strong, silent service of the Bank of Canada here should have to be removed to Halifax to make room for the strong silent man of the Provincial Government.

Holyrood Castle, Edinburgh, was floodlighted for two nights during their recent Festival of Music and Drama. Ordinarily such use of power is banned to conserve fuel.

When Deputy Minister of Reconstruction J. F. Connolly addresses the Community Planning Association of Canada in Montreal he will be able to report a good deal of new construction on the Island, but little of it planned.

A contemporary opines that due to the increase in baker's bread there will be a return to the use of the bread mother used to bake at home. That is questionable, as it is the cost of the material and not wages that has occasioned the advance.

Nationalization seems to be the order of the day at present. The Australian Parliamentary Labor Party approved the Cabinet's recommendation to nationalize all private trading banks.

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Women's rights grow apace with judicial interpretation of the law of meum et tuum. Male court attendants winced and women in the courtroom nodded approval when Judge Eugene J. Saratorious held that a wife short of ready cash has "a legal as well as moral right" to rifle the pockets of her sleeping husband.

It must be borne in mind that the decrease in the number of coal cars imported last month may be compensated by the increased importation of both oil and gas later—so many homes and business premises having changed from the one to the other. So far as exports are concerned, there was a reduction of only 47 cars, compared with 1946, due no doubt to the previous early shipments to supply the British demand for our certified disease free potatoes.

Dr. J. A. Clark, retired Superintendent of the Experimental Station, who has been receiving many congratulations on his recent engagement, leaves soon by plane from New York to attend an important meeting of representatives of the United Nations in Hungary.

Alice Christina Meynell (nee Thompson), English poet and essayist, born this date 1853. She was a sister of Lady Butler, the famous battle artist. Her poems include, Preludes, Poems, Later Poems, and her essays The Rhythm of Life, The Children, and London Impressions; she also has to her credit a Life of Ruskin, and an anthology.

My human song must be
My human thought. Be patient till 'tis done.
I shall not hold my little peace; for me
There is no peace but one.

From Newfoundland comes the announcement that the vacancy in the Commission Government caused by the death of Sir John Pudester has been filled by the appointment of Dr. H. L. Pottle. Dr. Pottle will become commissioner for Education and Home Affairs.

Food prices will rise to even higher levels next year than housewives have been paying in 1947, predicts Mr. Walter C. Berger, president of the American Feed Manufacturers' Association. "It will cost us a little more to eat in 1947-'48 than in 1946-'47," he claims, "but no one will starve and there will be no call to cut back either our animal or poultry numbers in order to feed our people."

New plans for strengthening the position of Britain's lace industry have been incorporated in the report of the Lace Working Party, relates The Brandon Sun. The report does not recommend an immediate large-scale re-equipment, since technical advances in lace machine construction during the last 25 years has been very limited.

Notes By The Way

A botanist, seeking to improve upon nature, has a scheme for making maple syrup sweeter. After which he will set out to improve the flavor of strawberries. — Ottawa Journal.

As a producer of food on the hoof, Australia probably leads the world, proportionate to population. That great under country has 14,000,000 cattle, compared with some 10,000,000 in Canada, while its sheep number 110,000,000 compared with Canada's 3,800,000. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

In areas of the American economy competition is forcing price cuts or product improvement. But there are large areas where monopolies or shortages prevent free competition. In such areas powerful groups—like the coal operators and miners—can agree among themselves and extort new high prices from consumers. The American people have only begun to awaken to the dangers in such monopoly situations. They tend to destroy the price flexibility which is a basic safety valve of a free economy. They increase the boom-bust danger. — Christian Science Monitor.

For a variety of reasons the Canadian people have generally regarded the immediate situation in the world as primarily a British crisis. They have hardly begun to realize yet that it is equally a Canadian crisis. The first reason is obvious enough—the Government, week by week, up to last week, gave no indication of alarm about the Canadian position. The second reason, equally obvious, is that Canada is momentarily enjoying the greatest boom in its history and the people are so busy enjoying it that it is difficult to realize that anything is wrong, or that the boom rests on a foundation which could collapse overnight.

Appearance on the streets of Regina of new trolley buses is a welcome sight. They are an indication that the day is not far distant when all the rickety old street cars, lurching and clattering down the tracks, will sway and rock to the car barns for the last time.

After observing the Canadian scene for a few days, a recently arrived immigrant from Britain offered the opinion that the waste of food in this country is "criminal." And he designated the serving of bread at every meal, without regard to whether it is wanted, as "really wicked." Canadians must accept this criticism meekly because it is true. There is a great deal of unnecessary waste in this country. There is a tendency to lose sight of it, because "enough and to spare" has become so much a part of the Canadian philosophy of plenty that it is regarded as a minimum requirement. Those who have come from lands where necessities are really scarce have the proper perspective. There is no cause to resent it. Indeed, there are good reasons why Canadians should try to acquire it. — Windsor Daily Star.

A new anti-biotic (a substance produced by a living body which has a destructive effect on other micro-organisms) discovered by research workers in Britain may prove a cure for whooping cough. Hitherto there has been no real cure for this complaint which causes more deaths among children than any other child disease. The anti-biotic which is called Aureospirin is stated to have been used with great success on animals injected with the germ. It is also claimed to have proved very effective in the treatment of animals infected with typhoid fever. One advantage of Aureospirin is that it is easily produced and does not deteriorate in storage. The organism which produces the new anti-biotic was first isolated from the soil of a garden in Surrey, England.—UK Information Office.

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The best estimate in New Brunswick's big and important potato belt is that this year's crop will be close to the 16,000,000 bushels produced in 1946. That's a tremendous accomplishment, because the late wet spring delayed planting until the eleventh hour, and the unusually heavy rainfall of the early summer held a constant threat of blight.

The farm value of their 1946 output is placed at \$9,618,000 in the annual report of the provincial department of agriculture. The prices were poor last year. The present market outlook is far more favorable and a comparable crop should bring them several millions of dollars more. (In 1945, 11,253,900 bushels sold for \$14,864,000.)

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

THE VETS' HALF ACRE

Sir,—From time to time, in the press or on the air we hear of serious discussion going on in one of the branches of government, in one of the bureaus of the government or in one of the associations about the difficulty of rehabilitation of returned veterans who are homeless and about the serious shortage of houses for all. The need for regulation and of government assistance seems to be generally recognized.

Why then is one phase of this very serious situation ignored? What can the reason be? When we were overseas and when we returned to Canada and were at the various depots we were given pamphlets which described in glowing terms the alluring prospect before us. We were told that if we would take half an acre outside of a city we would receive help from the government in building a house. Over \$5,000 we would have to finance ourselves, but up to that amount things were to be pretty easy.

In the short time we have been back most of us have looked around carefully—after all one does not tie oneself down to a mortgage without a careful appraisal of the situation. What then is the present state? The incidence of the purchase of half an acre a veteran, to be eligible for a small holding must purchase THREE ACRES. Now the obvious intent of the first promise was the reason it looked good to us because that one of us little guys could have a job in the city, but have a small place that he could call his own, in time, and where he could devote a few hours to a garden, or a few chickens, or a few ducks, or a few man with a job do with THREE acres? Also, at the present time land close enough to Charlottetown to enable a man to work there and live outside has become so expensive that three acres would take all or most of his savings. This situation must exist across the Dominion and I think it is obvious that the inevitable result will be that those who do manage to secure three acres and hold a job will have half an acre under cultivation and two-and-a-half acres going to waste. The rest of us will continue to live in hovels while politicians wonder why they are not getting a small family to support won't lay out his only \$2,000 (the gratuities and rehab. money) for three acres, that was going to (according to the promises we got) buy the last of our big pay-off on the house of my dreams.

Do you wonder some of us are dissatisfied and disillusioned? I am, Sir, etc.

OLD CHARLOTTETOWN (AND P.E.I.)

THE VOLUNTEER CORPS
In 1869 repeated rumors of an intended invasion of Britain by France brought to the notice of the British public the limited land force provided for such an emergency. Volunteer corps were hastily raised, armed and drilled for the defense of their country; tens of thousands were in a few months enrolled. A similar means of defense was suggested for the Provinces of British America. It was warmly adopted. The martial spirit was quickly kindled in Prince Edward Island, and, before the close of the year 1860, no less than twenty companies, mustering upwards of one thousand men, had been enrolled and officered, each company being furnished with arms, and subject to regular training by competent drill sergeants. Great encouragement was given for efficiency in the use of the rifle by a generous donation of prizes for the best marksmen. Among the most efficient of these volunteer corps, special mention must be made of the artillery company, under the command of Captain Pollard, who received most flattering compliments from General Williams, the hero of Kar., on his inspection of the company on the barrack grounds, on July 8, 1859. A thousand stand of rifles, equipment and an immense supply of ammunition at this time had arrived from England.

In the city, the Prince of Wales Rifles were organized, under command of Captain Neil Rankin, with John Lea and W. E. Dawson as lieutenants. The Dundas Volunteers were organized at Southport, under command of Captain Henry Beer, with Francis Stanley and George Stanley as lieutenants. The Irish Volunteers, a rifle company, under command of Captain John Murphy, with Richard Reddin and Owen Winters as lieutenants.

On May 24, 1860, the first review of a purely volunteer corps was held. The parade consisted of artillery, under command of Captain Pollard and Lieutenant Morris; the Prince of Wales Rifles, Lieutenant Lea; the Irish Volunteers, Captain Murphy; all under command of

There were enough Canadians bred in the Scottish and Latin tradition to honor any man who knew his humanities. And there (Continued on Page 8)

Lord Dufferin whose oratory still echoes along the corridor that runs from Halifax to Vancouver. And many viceroys had left memories that were cherished and served to be. But when news came that John Buchan was to speak for his King, thousands of Canadians rejoiced that here was coming a man who already knew and understood plain ordinary men and women and the deep unspoken certainties that join all Britons together.

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The Poet's Corner BEAUTY IS MORE More than dreaming, more than Whether squeezed between the eyelids like a tear Or struck like dagger to the heart, It lives in substance like a shining thing appears Like spindrift and deploys like rain. The curse Of dreaming is the sandbag touch The dreamer and unrhymes the poet's verse. While love too often dies with lovers, makes A separate peace with time. Beauty As love is blind, as dreamer to his goal, But Beauty burns like god's fire in the soul, And holds a cool white candle for the mind. —Harold Applebaum in the New York Times.

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