

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
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General Crerar's Visit

Prince Edward Island is to be honoured next week by a three days' visit from General H. D. G. Crerar, C.I.I., C.B., D.S.O., general officer commanding the Canadian Army in Europe during the war.

In an interesting sketch of General Crerar appearing recently in Maclean's Magazine, Mr. L. S. Shapiro, who accompanied the General home, quotes a letter from General Eisenhower, written shortly after the great offensive in Europe had been completed.

Supreme Headquarters ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
Office of the Supreme Commander
20 March, 1945.
Dear Crerar: I have previously sent out general messages of congratulation to the several parts of this Allied force, covering our more recent operations.

The praise so lavishly heaped on General Crerar by Eisenhower was echoed by Field Marshal Montgomery when he signed a citation which read in part: "The planning and execution of the operation 'Veritable' (the code name for the operation beginning Feb. 8) was the responsibility of General Crerar, and it was due to the complete success of this operation that the final assault across the Rhine by the Second Army was carried out with such speed and so few casualties."

At 57 General Crerar has returned home, the most distinguished field commander in the Dominion's history. "I have completed the course," he said in his interview with Mr. Shapiro. "There are younger men, good men, brilliant men the Canadian Army has developed in this war. I don't see why I should stand as a bottleneck to their promotion in the service. I will take a holiday—I haven't had a real holiday for the past seven years—then I will see how I can most usefully serve my country in some capacity outside the regular Army."

Rural Electrification

So far as the immediate future is concerned, the Petricodiac tidal power scheme may just as well be forgotten if the report of the engineering firm which made the survey is to be believed. Such being the case our farmers will expect a definite announcement from the Jones Government in the near future, as to the possibilities of implementing by other means one of the main planks in its election platform, namely, rural electrification on a province-wide scale.

Our farmers themselves have spoken with no uncertain voice on this subject. In a brief presented by the P. E. I. Federation of Agriculture to the Legislature in March, 1944, we find the following: "Some mention has been made in the press of electric power to be generated from the large waterways of adjoining provinces. We sincerely hope that through time, such a public utility may be established and that power from these large streams may be distributed throughout the Maritimes at a cost comparable to that charged in the Province of Ontario through hydro-electric. We feel, however, that such a project is still in the realm of doubt and that it will be many years before electricity from those mainland projects will become a reality. In the meantime, there is a well grounded feeling of optimism among the people of this Province that there is sufficient electric power going to waste in the streams of Prince Edward Island to practically take care of the bulk of our requirements. Streams like the Morell, the Dunk River, Winter River, the West River at Bonshaw and other waterways have been mentioned, and there is no question that a very considerable amount of power is going to waste on many of these waterways, which could be utilized with outstanding advantage in the interest of our rural people. We feel, too, that if power is available in this Province, our own resources should be developed immediately for the purposes indicated. "We would, therefore, respectfully suggest to the Provincial Legislature that an immediate investigation and survey be made by com-

petent and independent electric engineers, of all streams of any possibility and that a report covering these investigations be presented to the Government for further analysis and action. It is only by securing expert and scientific opinion that assurance may be given on the feasibility of electrical establishment. If a number of these waterways may be used to serve certain areas, then we feel that electrical facilities from these streams should be carried into operation even though, in some cases during the summer season, supplementary assistance in the form of Diesel power may have to be established. We believe that in any program of post-war reconstruction rural electrification should be given a prominent place."

Government members threw cold water on this proposition in the House, and failed to carry out the suggested survey. Accordingly the Federation, in its brief presented to the Legislature in March 1945, a year later, had this to say: "We would again refer to the resolution presented last year in connection with rural electrification, and urge the spread of electric service in the rural districts, with a minimum of delay. We are still convinced that there is substantial electric power going to waste in the streams and waters of Prince Edward Island, and feel that a thorough, modern up-to-date research be made into these possibilities. Modern equipment, modern methods, and modern ideas may have the effect of changing the whole picture insofar as the production of electrical power is concerned. There are areas in this Province, which contain substantial water power to which it will be many years before a centralized system will be able to extend its services. Why not investigate these local possibilities first, and if there is a possibility of development, provide means for the establishment of electrical services from local streams."

The Federation's request was strongly endorsed by the Opposition in the Legislature. It is to be hoped, therefore, that when the House meets next spring a full and authoritative report on this subject will be available.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Ours is a plain duty, as we face the grave days ahead, to work without ceasing to make a free Press the true torch of world peace."—Harry S. Truman, President of United States.

The experts' report on the Petricodiac power project damns it with faint praise. That being so, we may as well forget it as a hydro-electric prospect for this province, and seek one that will be both provincial and adequate.

Attorney-General Large who has been in Ottawa for the past ten days is expected home Saturday. It is not known whether he will return again to the Capital when the Premier leaves for the Federal-Provincial Conference.

Appropos forthcoming civic elections. "While an undergraduate at Oxford I was once asked by a college servant if I was taking any interest in a current election," writes D. W. Brogan, historian and critic. "I replied, not quite truthfully, that I wasn't. I believe, sir, that there were people in Ancient Greece called 'idiotes,' was the merited rebuke."

The Navy is still our first line of defence, and even should the atomic bomb succeed in blowing up the land, the sea will remain for the Navy to patrol. In Navy League Week it is well to dwell upon all that the Navy has meant to us in succeeding ages, especially the crowning achievement in keeping the seaway open between here and Europe for the conveyance of men, meat and tools to defeat the Nazi fanatic, who had turned Europe into oceans of blood and valleys of rubble.

The explanation offered by the City for non-application for the operation of the War-time Housing Ltd. here is that no lots are available for building. But that did not prevent an enterprising citizen or two acquiring property and building on the backyard, and in one instance, tearing down residences already in existence. Before next election the Councilors will have to think of a better alibi than that. Then, who was it informed Hon. Mr. Howe that the housing situation here was not too serious? "Surely not Messrs. Douglas, McNaught and Grant!"

Professor A. M. Low told a Leeds (Eng.) audience the other day that dusters and vacuum cleaners would soon be obsolete. A simple electric device in the ceiling would remove every particle of dust from a room, he said. Then, another simple device in the kitchen would enable the housewife or servant working there to see who was ringing the front door bell, so undesirable callers might be ignored. There'll be less use for can-openers, too, because the wife who has stayed too long shopping, playing bridge or watching a movie, will be able to hurry home and bake a roast in four minutes, complete with vegetables and trimmings. He told women in his audience not to sit idly waiting for these and other improvements, but to get out and demand them.

Sir Thomas Gresham, founder of the Royal Stock Exchange, London, died this date 1579; a graduate of Cambridge, he became a partner in the Mercers' Company, and created such a reputation as a financier, that he was employed by the Crown in the reign of Edward VI, and afterwards in those of Mary and Elizabeth in negotiating foreign loans; at his death he left his residence to form the headquarters of the Royal Exchange and a college for lectures in divinity, astronomy, music and geometry, the governors to be nominated by the London City Council and the directors of the Mercers' Company; the college ultimately was merged in London University, while the present Royal Exchange serves to perpetuate the memory of one who enjoyed the unique reputation of being a scholar, financier, statesman and philanthropist in three reigns.

Notes By The Way

It seems that the little nations still give a lot of trouble but we should reflect that they would probably give a lot more if they were bigger.—(Vancouver Province).

Four years ago the Japs lost their heads, and now they have lost their arms. That should help to keep them harmless.—Stratford Beacon Herald.

Despite accusations regarding French "inefficiency," the output of French coal mines has reached 83 percent of the 1933 level, even with the handicap of a shortage of power for pumps, supplies, and breakdown machinery, says a New York Times article.

Small fruits, once regarded as imported luxuries in Southern Alberta, are now bringing farmers on the prairie a good deal of money. The Lethbridge territory tens of thousands of dollars annually. In spite of the labour shortage last year, one barrel of strawberries harvested and sold \$5,000 worth of strawberries from a patch only a quarter of an acre.—Family Herald and Weekly Star.

Another war secret was revealed when the navy issued certificates of appreciation to 5,000 fishermen who helped to fight the submarine menace in the Atlantic by using radio beacons to keep the "navy" and ships informed of their positions. The service was performed at no small risk, but when an enemy submarine was sighted or sunk through their aid, the amount to a big haul for the fishing fleet.—Springfield Republican.

A young man entered a jewelry store to buy his girl's engagement ring. He picked up a sparkling diamond and asked its price. The jeweller said, "How about that other ring and asked, 'How about that other ring?' 'That, sir,' said the jeweller still more gently, 'is two whistles'—Coronet.

As a result of the discussion at Postal Conference held in Ottawa in September, 1945, at which representatives of various postal organizations, including revenue postmasters, were present, it has been decided that revenue postmasters in offices where the revenue is over \$3,000 a year will be relieved of reaching the age of seventy. In order, however, to give postmasters the opportunity of adjusting themselves where necessary, it is decided that retirements would not take effect until January 1, 1948. Postmasters will be given the actual months' notice before the actual retirement date.—Postal Bulletin.

United Kingdom clock manufacturers intend to make eight million popular priced watches yearly as part of their peacetime program. The clock will go to all parts of the world. One of the largest United Kingdom clock-making firms reports a wide-spread demand for the metered-priced watches, especially from China, Africa and India. The present strength of the industry will be augmented by the addition of a number of new watch factories. Besides clocks and watches they will make instruments for civil aircraft, cameras, binoculars, microscopes, navigation instruments and car dashboard instruments.—Vancouver Province.

This much is certain. If lotteries are forbidden in Canada after the war, the Canadians will do one of two things. Either they will engage in futile, under-cover lotteries, most of them thoroughly dishonest, that will send their money out of the country to lotteries in Ireland and other such countries. It seems to us that better money would be sent to be kept at home. If Canadians are going to buy lottery tickets (and they will), no matter what the law says, then they might as well buy them right here in Canada. And they might as well buy them in the open, under reputable auspices, with some chance of getting a fair deal.—Calgary Herald.

If the American public refuses to view the removal of General Patton as a mere rebuke to an individual and insists that it be the first step toward a new policy, it is a good sign. The new Germany and a new Germany brighter. For General Patton is simply a singularly uninhibited product of a system that has been a casualty of a mistaken policy, both sides, particularly the North, and the only way to get rid of the bad generals in World War II, was to proceed as just as ingeniously as possible to the removal of the political task of nurturing the flower of democracy amid the rank and file of professional soldiers. Christian Science Monitor (Boston).

Trees in the Tiergarten, Berlin's central park, are to be chopped down. The firewood and the park will be used as a dump for bomb-created rubble, according to German architects who are drawing up plans for the reconstruction of Berlin. Once the rubble has been spread over the surface, the area will be replanted to produce a sort of elevated park. The scheme was hit upon after a survey indicated that it would take ten daily trains of fifty cars each sixteen years to cart all of the rubble out of the city. Since this was impossible, the only alternative was to leave the rubble in the city. The process of sorting this trash has been going on steadily for six months. Bricks are scraped and stacked and used for new construction. Girders and other metal pieces are salvaged for scrap, forming the main source of raw material for the Berlin metal industry. Whatever cannot be used is dumped in the Tiergarten. Under the proposed plan, it would cost \$5,000,000,000 to build Berlin completely. Allied sources estimate that 1,300,000,000 family dwelling units in existence in 1939, only 300,000 were still intact by the summer of 1944. Of the rest, 400,000 had been totally destroyed and 800,000 damaged. There was fun and frolic during the subsequent air raids and in the Battle of Berlin.—Theodor G. Roberts, in The Marseilles.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

SPANISH MOSS

Sir,—Today I had the advantage of visiting one of the state's many moss collecting centres and seeing at first hand how they process Spanish Moss, which when finished goes into our auto seats, household furniture, etc., as upholstery.

Unlike our Irish Moss, this variety or species grows on trees in almost every part of Florida and can be had for the taking. Moss gatherers, armed with long rakes, forks, etc., comb down the product from where it grows on trees and load it into trucks, just as Prince Edward Island farmers load hay. Once the trucks are loaded they start for the nearest market, unload their moss, and then back to gather more. I have been reliably informed that two men working together can, in a single day, earn as much as \$20 each. And that's good money when one considers that the moss costs nothing for the picking. The industry is controlled by a handful of men of whom the big boss is named Herbert H. MacARTHUR, Plant City, Florida, Nov. 17, 1945.

Where Are The Dead?

(Rev. Dr. W. E. Sangster, Minister of Central Hall, Westminster, in the Empire Review.) One of the shadows on our joy in these blissful days of peace is the painful realization that many fine fellows will never come home. In any large company of people talking excitedly about a glad cable from a prisoner in the Far East, or discussing a friend of the family who is in Civvy Street again, there is almost certain to be someone who asks the question, "Where are those dear ones now? Have they gone out like a guttering candle or will those who loved them see them again?"

The most satisfying answer to those questions, I believe, is in the Bible, but even before we turn to that inspired Book, there is much to be said for the view that the nourish hope in a life after death. Most thoughtful people—even if they do not accept the Bible as an "inspired word" of God—will, on grounds of reason alone, concede these facts: Life on this earth is incomplete. We are not men and women yet, but only in process of becoming such.

The injustices and inequalities of life plead for recompense. In face of the foul crimes and cruelties we witness at times on this earth, the moral law we find within us screams out for vindication. The almost universal desire to "go on" points the same way. The cry of every bitterly bereaved soul whom I have met is to see their dear ones again.

Notice this "go on" doesn't of itself prove that you will go on, any more than the desire for a good dinner proves that you are going to have one. But the argument, because you desire a good dinner it may not prove that you have one, but if you, and all most everyone you ever meet, were conscious of hunger, it is a very strong presumption that there is such a thing as food.

Let us open the Bible and see what light is shed upon the problem there.

The Bible is no Baedeker to the after-life. It goes into no details, but the important things are all plain. The fact of survival is affirmed again and again. It underlies all that Christ preached. He said: "My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you, but you do not know the way thither. He says in effect: "If seventy years of life, more or less, is all you can expect, I would be frank with you and urge you to make the most of it, but in my Father's house."

Notice this too, Christ never used the word "death" as we do. Where we use the word "death" He used

RETURNING Pale mushrooms in wet pastures grey with rain, Grey mist adrift in pointed confifers; And scent of ferns keen as remembered pain: To you I turn once more, returning ever To my dear land of high wood and deep river. Warp of my heart the slanted field's plowed breast; Web of my heart the golden-wing's quick flight, The crow's harsh clamour in the black pine's crest, The whip-poor-will's sad challenge from the night. To you I turn, returning home again, To mushrooms in high pastures grey with rain. —Theodore G. Roberts, in The Marseilles.

the word "sleep." To the mourners standing around the breathless body of a little girl, He said: "She is not dead, but asleep." To His disciples, concerning a man already laid in the grave, He said: "Our friend Lazarus is fallen asleep." To a company of people met to hear His teaching, He said: "If a man keep My word, he shall never see death." "Sleep" and not "death" was the word Christ always used to denote the end of physical existence, and He spoke of it as a transition to another plane of being.

What does the Bible say about the life of bliss beyond death? Three chief things. It is a life of employment, of development, and of enjoyment, too. Some people have thought of Heaven as an interminable church service with the choir doing most of the work. The late Earl Lloyd George confessed that that thought of Heaven frightened him more than the thought of hell.

There will be glad tasks to do in Heaven. God has high use for our ripened powers. It will be a life of service "unsevered from tranquility."

It will be a life of development, also. No static life will be ours. God purposes our perfection, and perfection is not imparted in a moment by a stroke of omnipotence. We shall grow in Heaven.

In Heaven also we shall know a joy barely dreamed on earth. It is plainly stated that every tear shall be wiped from the eye. Meteorologists tell us that in the stratosphere the weather is always fine. An airplane which mounts to the stratosphere can fly above all earth-born clouds. A soul which mounts to Heaven soars above clouding care.

The joy of meeting our dear ones will not be the first bliss of Heaven, but it may well be the second. When hope is dead—hope on!

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NOTICE, CIVIC TAX APPEALS The Board of Appeal from Civic assessments and valuations will meet on Monday, November 26th, 1945, at 9:30 A.M. in the Court Room in the City Building in Charlottetown, to hear all appeals from Supplementary assessments. Charlottetown, November 10th, 1945 J. A. FULLERTON City Clerk.

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