

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1939.

Hallowe'en Observance

Lost in antiquity are the origins of the Hallowe'en observances which will be perpetuated this evening. The two chief characteristics of ancient Hallowe'en were the lighting of bonfires and the belief that of all nights in the year this is the one during which ghosts and witches are most likely to wander abroad.

The Christian significance of the festival lies in the fact that it is the vigil of Hallowmas or All Saints' Day. It is perhaps too much to expect the youngsters to observe it in a religious manner, either in Charlottetown or elsewhere throughout Christendom.

Embargo Action Predicted

It is now a foregone conclusion that the arms embargo will be repealed by the United States Congress. The Senate last week voted overwhelmingly in favour of repeal and in the House of Representatives there is assurance that there is a "small but safe majority" in support of the President's policy which will permit European belligerents to buy United States armaments on a "cash and carry" basis.

The Montreal Gazette predicts that removal of the arms embargo, plus the provision of strong naval protection in the Atlantic, would mean the playing of a much more effective war role—or neutrality role, if that is preferred—than has been contemplated so far in the official United States programme.

Naval Losses

Writing on the loss of the aircraft carrier Courageous in the monthly review, The Navy, Francis Edwin McMurtrie, editor of Jane's Fighting Ships, a distinguished author and journalist, explains how it is that warships, even when protected by a screen of destroyers, are necessarily exposed as part of war's great adventure.

Mr. McMurtrie thinks there is good reason to believe that a submarine was sunk after the attack on the Courageous, as reported by the Admiralty at the time, suggesting that there were two German U-boats, which on such dangerous expeditions are wont to hunt in pairs.

with what happened during the first year of the last Great War, keeping in mind the fact that today the submarines as well as the means of fighting them have gained greatly in efficiency. On September 22, 1914, the torpedoing of the Aboukir, the Cressy and the Hague in the North Sea, by a single submarine, resulted in the loss of nearly fifteen hundred lives.

Another major naval mishap of the year was the internal explosion on the 15,000-ton battleship Bulwark at Sheerness on November 26, completely destroying the vessel and taking nearly eight hundred lives.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Hallowe'en. The City Police should have plenty help from the military police to keep down rowdiness this evening.

The McGuigan residence on Weymouth St. has been rented as officer's quarters for the Signallers, who will be located in the Judge Stewart residence.

The New Brunswick Government at the request of the Federal Government has called for the registration of skilled and semi-skilled workmen for whom there would be a demand to man war-time industries.

Why Ontario Government should bar war-time civic elections, while the Federal Government and Provincial Governments permit Federal and Provincial elections is something beyond the ordinary comprehension.

We are now advised that the Rowell-Sirois report on Dominion-Provincial Relations will be submitted to the Government a month from today. That should enable the Government and public alike to become familiar with it before the forthcoming khaki election, provisionally slated for February or October, 1940.

Few people are aware that Madras is historically connected with a famous University in America. Elihu Yale, a native of Boston, was educated in England and joined the East India Company as a clerk.

Today the remains of Mr. A. E. MacLean are to be laid to rest. Probably no more popular member ever represented this Province than Mr. MacLean. He never accomplished any great work, but he was everlastingly busy over small things, things which the average member considers a nuisance and a hindrance.

It is announced that a Russian ready to instruct the soldiers in skiing, a yacht offered to any member of the Government who may need one, entertainers prepared to help the soldiers forget the horrors of war and make their leisure hours bright, a Nova Scotia firm offering to place its fish cannery and schooners at the disposal of the Federal Government are some of the varied offers of war help which have reached the capital and which are being classified by the voluntary service registration bureau headed by Dr. E. H. Coleman, Under Secretary of State.

One of the most noted of the present-day English Jesuits, the Rev. Martin Cyril D'Arcy, master of Campion Hall at Oxford University, has become the head of the Department of Philosophy at the Fordham University Graduate School.

An impressive synopsis of the British Army's active service ration issue has been published in the newspapers. Civilians have possibly been impressed by its substantial character, and by the fact that the ration is "eight kinds of jam." But, apart from the fact that this campaigning generates a hearty appetite, ex-servicemen are warriors of 1914-18, well well enough fed, but it is a fact that the quality as well as the quantity of supplies varied according to proximity to the front line.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Hitler speaks, in all the flush of his eighteen days' victory over Poland. What gives his words the weight with his own people is the triumph behind them. This speech has been punctuated with bullets and bombs. The appeal he makes is as bold and impudent as he addresses the jury. But he is not defending himself. He is demanding that the policeman should be punished in the same way as he has overruled Poland. Now he complains that it is he who is being attacked. He has made Russia his accomplice in the deed. And that unholy alliance becomes an exciting prospect which every one is asked to applaud.

If there's going to be an aerial dog-fight, the British people want to see it. That's the only conclusion to be drawn from the fact that you read that air raid wardens are having trouble driving people indoors when the raid sirens blow their warning. Even children are intent on staying above ground to see what goes on. There is nothing new about the phenomenon. In the last war the people often preferred to stay above ground to see that they could watch the progress of the raiders and see how the defenders fared against the opposing planes. Sometimes they were attracted to a spectacular ground in which planes would loop and swoop as they strove for advantage.

Addressing a farmers' group in the northwest some years ago the late Charles M. Schwab proudly informed his hearers that he also was a farmer but could not make any money out of it. He then told a story on himself, saying that in one year when farm prices were unusually high he offered to permit his wife to run the farm on his property at Loretto, Pa. Mrs. Schwab was pleased with the idea and Mrs. Schwab watched her from time to time and expected to get complaints, there was none. One day she approached Mrs. Schwab and asked out of sheer curiosity, "Well, dear, how is the farm getting along?" "Why fine," replied his wife, "I have put my earnings into a special bank for myself." "Great," said Schwab. Then in an afterthought, he asked: "How are you doing with the expenses?" "I'm not bothering about them," answered Mrs. Schwab. "I'm saving them up for you to pay." — Wall Street Journal.

Reports are current that some American companies not already in the Canadian field are planning to enter the market there. Doubtless the final decision of the Government as to these corporations will be determined by the fate of our pending industrial legislation. That Canada is thus enabled to make to the winning of the war will have direct consequences for American industry which Canadian connections, not the least of which may be their dilution, once the war is over. — Providence Journal.

The virtues of the German people, as we have learnt to know them in the years when they were permitted to be our friends and to respect them when they were respected, are not the least of their stubbornness and sobriety. That they should come to be officially represented by this cliché of a "bawling" and "bawling" man is a bewildering paradox, which in less tragic times would be cause for mirth. But when Herr Hitler has himself to Sir Neville Henderson, an artist, not a politician, laughter is damped by the reflection that the same boast was made by Nero. — London Times.

The restoration of a Provincial Government bounty on bears in New Brunswick, after a lapse of several years, is a commendation of farmers, guides and sportsmen in all sections of New Brunswick who have been the victims of the destruction of game animals has been traced to the activities of Bruin. There have been reports of calf moose being killed by bears this season in Victoria county. As the Department of Lands and Mines, through imposition of a closed season on moose, is endeavoring to protect these valuable big game animals and restore them to their former numbers, it is proper that measures should be taken to make the protection as complete as possible. In this respect the bounty will be a help. — Perth Victorian.

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How Are Your Eyes? If you are having symptoms of strain—headaches, sore eyes or dizziness—consult a specialist. At your service with years of experience and a thorough refracting service. Call in and discuss your difficulties. G. F. HUTCHESON. G. F. HUTCHESON.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

SEED POTATO PRICES

Sir,—Your recent letter in The Guardian signed Citizen is very instructive and has shown many of our citizens things they were not aware of. I wish to thank Citizen for his information and interest in the public good. Also I wish to thank "One Who Benefited", even although I consider he is an office chair farmer, for his viewpoint, and even although I know that for every one who he claims to plant five acres of potatoes with \$30 worth of fertilizer and harvest 200 bushels of seed to the acre there are several who put from \$30 to \$25 worth of fertilizer to the acre and harvested in the vicinity 150 bushels to the acre.

I would like to ask this gentleman who claims he benefited so much if he considers it was any particular benefit to sell potatoes at 45c per bushel delivered in Charlottetown through an association, when we have individual produce buyers who at the same time had the business ability and the sense to plant to get for many years ago, contracts of 50c per bushel at the farm, which is 8 cents per bushel above the association price. I would also like to ask this one who benefited if he is any better off when the association in the fall of 1938 was paying 55c for potatoes, and a buyer from Nova Scotia was here loading at several shipping points and paying 62 cents per bushel. If he cares to look a little further he will find that during that winter the association did not pay more than 80c per bushel for Cobbyer table stock potatoes when in Nova Scotia they were willing at one time to pay 90c to \$1.00 for any variety of potatoes to ship to the American market, and as we all know for an inferior quality of potatoes to the Island potatoes.

Of Economist in his raving, I would like to know where he has been all these years that he has only suddenly come to life when a farmer complains that he is getting the wrong end of the stick. Why does he shout profiteer when the case under discussion has no connection with war prices. He admits that he has seen farmers begging consumers to take potatoes at 15c per bushel. Also, whether he knows it or not, the farmers sold seed potatoes two years ago for 25c per bushel which is under cost of production. He has seen farmers work out a profit at those prices sitting with paper and pencil in office chair but from practical experience it would be otherwise.

As the number of ruptured is very large, many of whom cannot or will not undergo operation, and many of whom have a hernia unsuitable for operation, it would be well for the truss to be made by a physician if their youngster under four has a hernia. They should not wait, hoping that it will disappear without treatment.

The Poet's Corner

A VISION FROM THE SEA Far from the loud sea beaches Where he goes fishing and crying, Here in the inland garden Why is the sea-gull flying? Here are no fish to dive for; Here are the green trees rustling Here away to sea! Fresh is the river water And quiet among the rushes; This is no home for the sea-gull But for the rooks and thrushes. Pity the bird that has wandered! Pity the sailor ashore! Hurry him home to the ocean, Let him come here no more! High on the seacraft ledges The white gulls are trooping and not crying; Here among the rooks and roses, Why is the sea-gull flying? —R. L. Stevenson.

LEFT SEAT OF PANTS

LILLOET, B. C.—(CP)—Police have one clue in their search for the man who raided a watermelon patch near this Cariboo town. A large piece of cloth—about the size of the seat of a pair of trousers, was left on a barbed wire fence.

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That Body of Hours

By James V. Barton, M.D.

CAN A HERNIA BE CURED BY WEARING A TRUSS?

Two brothers consulted a physician regarding a "lump" in the lower abdomen which was really a "threatened" rupture or hernia. As they disliked the idea of an operation and the injection treatment was not in use at the time, the physician advised abdominal exercises—lying on back and raising legs (knees straight)—and the wearing of a light truss to prevent threatened hernia from becoming worse.

In one case the results were most satisfactory and the "lump" completely disappeared even when the truss was removed. In the other case the hernia became worse and operation was performed. Later, in the apparently cured case, there was no sign of hernia for fifteen years until a heavy "lift" was made and the hernia "came down". An operation gave excellent results as the abdominal muscles were in good condition.

What about trusses to control a rupture or hernia? In those whose abdominal muscle tissue is poor, in those who fear operation, and in those whose hernia is unsuitable for injection, the wearing of a properly fitted truss gives both comfort and safety. This is proven by the many thousands of ruptured individuals who have been wearing a truss for many years. Can a rupture be cured by the use of a truss and exercise as mentioned above? I have seen a number "apparently" cured by exercise and the truss, but as in the case above mentioned, the later history of the case might reveal a return of the hernia. Can a rupture be cured by wearing the truss alone, that is, without exercise? Dr. Ralph Coyte, in the British Medical Journal, says: "Concerning the chance for cure by wearing a truss, I should like to say that there does not appear to be any chance after the age of 4. Even before the age of 4, the chance of curing a hernia by simply wearing the truss is very small and depends on one important point. That is that once the truss has been applied no further protrusion pushing through be allowed until the truss is discarded which may be only after several years.

As the number of ruptured is very large, many of whom cannot or will not undergo operation, and many of whom have a hernia unsuitable for operation, it would be well for the truss to be made by a physician if their youngster under four has a hernia. They should not wait, hoping that it will disappear without treatment.

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