

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1947

The Senate's Function

Highly questionable, in the opinion of the Ottawa Journal, is the logic of Prime Minister King's recent statement that if the C. C. F. party ever took office at Ottawa the people would want the Senate to protect it from C. C. F. policies.

"I do know of no one who had a clearer conception of the functions of the Senate than Mr. Arthur Meighen. I have listened to him when he was leader in this House, analyzing, criticizing and almost destroying by his forceful argument the reasons advanced for the introduction and passage of government bills.

"That is the way the Senate will function, irrespective of the party in power. But any time that a government seeks to use its majority as an instrument of tyranny to deprive provinces, religious denominations, corporations or individuals of their rights; then under our system of government the Senate has a power that it must exercise.

How much better this, suggests the Journal, —how much more cogent and understanding, than loose talk—and from a professed Liberal—about the Senate being a bulwark against some possible C. C. F. Ministry!

World Economics

The United Nations has just published some figures which define the world's basic economic problem with great clarity.

United States exports are now nearly 2 1/2 times larger in volume than before the war. No country in Europe, however, not even Great Britain, has reached the levels of its 1937 trade.

Europe's gold reserves have dwindled. It is a conservative estimate to place the present stocks at one-third the 1937 figures. In France, for example, reserves have fallen from \$2,566,000,000 in 1937 to \$695,000,000 last May.

While Europe has been losing its gold, the United States has been accumulating it. Treasury holdings have jumped from \$12,760,000,000 in 1937 to \$20,933,000,000 now.

These figures prove conclusively that the Marshall Plan is not an act of charity on the part of United States for Europe but springs from the deeply-rooted needs of the U. S. economy today.

Military Plans Too Vague

War, Hon. L. B. Pearson is supposed to have told M. P.'s at its secret meeting before adjournment, is not likely to start tomorrow (says The Printed Word). It is still a possibility at any time. Our military plans seem extraordinarily vague.

Casualties In Two Wars

In a period of 30 years, Canada participated in the two worst wars in all history—during which conflicts more than 100,000 Canadians gave their lives. That was the major price paid by this Dominion in defence of human liberty and for the survival of our Country as a free land.

In the First Great War, 59,521 Canadians were killed in action, died of wounds or from other causes. Actual battle deaths totaled 51,748, those from disease numbered 6,767, and other deaths 1,006.

In the Second Great War, more than a million men—to be exact, 1,041,808—were in the armed and associated services, along with 45,691 women in uniformed organizations. There were 41,992 Canadians killed in action or died of wounds. The casualty ratio was thus much lower than in the First Great War.

Likewise the wounded in the First Great War far exceeded the corresponding toll in the Second Great War—172,050 as against 53,145. Expressed another way, close to one in three was the wounded score in the 1914-1918 struggle, compared with about one in 20 in the 1939-1945 conflict.

Moreover, fewer Canadians became prisoners of war in the first "show" than in the second—about 3,000, as against approximately 5,000. The whole comparative statistical picture goes to prove that the First Great War was more costly in precious human values than was the Second Great War, despite the almost doubled service personnel involved and the longer period of hostilities.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Water Commissioners claim to be "The Elect" of the community. How the "Mighty" have fallen in the discharge of their duty!

Ottawa plumbers have reached an agreement setting wages at \$1.25 an hour. It is understood, of course, that this includes time spent waiting for tools.

Lord Dufferin, Governor-General, visited here this date 1873, and received a rousing reception which included a State Ball at Government House.

Charlottetown's citizens have an invaluable asset in the proximity of Rocky Point. A delightful ferry trip and an afternoon on the beach are within the reach of all.

The Council of the Board of Trade has been assured that it will be a few years yet before a dial telephone system becomes a reality in Charlottetown. Everything comes to him who waits.

One's reaction to the complaint of Mr. Rochette of Quebec that while in New York his chauffeur, limousine and 32 \$100 bills all disappeared is to ask how he happened to have that much cash out of the country in the first place.

New Brunswick claims to have a new seed potato contract from Argentine, but regrets that it is only for 320,000 crates as against 750,000 crates last year. Evidently British Columbia has "batted in" on their market.

Hopes that Canada's civil service would be reduced from its wartime strength have proved illusory. In 1946 no less than 52,500 civil servant appointments were made. Only in 1943 were more government employees engaged.

Something has got to be done about these railway level crossings. The risks to limb and life are too great to be tolerated these days when so many motor vehicles travel our roads. The latest accident involves Provincial Government employees and truck, and should demand consideration from the powers-that-be.

The lions and lambs of the Provincial Liberal organization have reached the stage of lying down together, if not loving each other. Anyway it is pleasant to have them present an outward appearance of harmony in face of the criticisms levelled at their nomination policies.

The report that the post-war hoober meeting for their annual international convention at Windsor, Ont., arrived by train and automobile recalls the famous definition by "King Hobo" Jeff Davis. He declared that a hobo works and wanders. A tramp wanders and doesn't work. A bum neither works nor wanders.

General Ulysses Simpson Grant, twice President of the United States, died this date 1885; was Brigadier General in the Civil War, becoming Commander-in-Chief in 1864, and finally defeated the Confederates at Five Forks in the following year, after which they surrendered, ending the war; elected President in 1868, and re-elected in 1872.

As in duty bound the City Council are pressing for an explanation of what the Water Commissioners euphemistically describe as the "Mount Edward Road incident"—whereby the citizens were deprived for a whole day of light, heat and power. As a publicly elected body handling one of our most important of public utilities, one would have thought they would have been instant in informing the ratepayers of the cause of the trouble, and the steps taken to prevent a repetition. Instead they suggest they will deal with it in a report next year.

The British Labor Government has decided not to resume the business of life insurance by the state, according to Current Topics, the publication of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association. The scheme was instituted in 1864, its object being to provide insurance for moderate sums with government security at low cost in competition with the industrial insurance companies and friendly societies. The insurance was offered for sale by the post office. However, the venture did not prove very popular, and after several inquiries by a large number of committees, and several amendments, including a lowering of the premiums, the system was discontinued in 1929.

The assistant postmaster-general stated recently, in an answer to an inquiry in Parliament, that the life insurance business transacted by the post office had always been very small, and that it was not considered desirable or necessary for the post office to re-enter the field.

Notes By The Way

An editor asks: What is the use of athletic sports? He must be a bachelor. When he turns to and wrestles with the furnace and carries out the ashes, he will realize the use of athletic sports. And if he ever does a midnight marathon in a relay race with twins he will thank his athletic training for the bottom of his heart. — Chatham News.

Our thoughts naturally turn to the marriage of England's last previous full queen Victoria. Meeting Albert, Prince of Saxony, whom she had not seen for some time, the Queen found him "grown, changed and embellished." It was "with some emotion," Victoria related, that she now beheld Albert, "who is beautiful." In less than a week she had proposed, "a nervous thing to do," but she knew that he would never have presumed to take such a liberty. She told Albert that it would "make me too happy if he would consent to what I wished. Albert did not hesitate; he received the offer with the greatest demonstration of kindness and affection. The Queen then went on to tell him that she was "quite unworthy of him," and that she "greatly regretted on his part," to which he graciously demurred. We are unlikely to have from Princess Elizabeth's diary any such accounts as this of events that Victoria described with pleasant candour. The world, however, is full of young naval officers together, will like to think of this as a love match rather than any union dictated by politics, national or international. Two young people in love and preparing for an early wedding, are always good news, warming to the heart, especially in the world chilled with its many depressing troubles. — New York Times.

We hear many walls of indignation from the poor pedestrian who is forced to pick his hazardous way through this high-speed age, says The Christian Science Monitor. But the Automobile Legal Association of Boston sends us an urgent plea for justice to the maligned motorist who in 1946 travelled 249,000,000 miles in the United States, yet killed only 87 people per 100,000,000 miles of vehicle travel. This does not mean that every harmless pedestrian becomes an irresponsible maniac the moment he gets behind the wheel.

This was one of Franklin D. Roosevelt's favorite stories. Two rather rowdy young dinkies, in whose minds shrilling police sirens were insolubly connected with great personal trouble and inconvenience, were walking along Pennsylvania avenue in Washington, one morning when they became suddenly aware of a long black car bearing down upon them, preceded by sirensounding motorcycles in awe-some numbers. "What's that?" asked one of the Negroes. "Why, you wall-eyed ignoramus," rejoined the other, "dat am de President of de United States!" "Yeah?" said the first Negro. "What he done?" — Wall Street Journal.

Canadians may soon have to abandon the well-worn story about how the farmer spends his savings on building an up-to-date barn for his livestock instead of a modern home for himself and his family. Prairie farmers at least are heading for a new deal on farm housing. A rural housing committee which met recently in Saskatchewan has asked the Dominion and provincial officials, farmers and architects in the search for the best types of farm homes. For some obscure reason, city-bred Canadians have always assumed that the farmer and his wife were indifferent to the "house pride" of suburbanites. The prairie farmers have started the ball rolling and those in other provinces would do well to follow suit. By the time building materials are plentiful every thrifty Canadian farm family should be able to plan for a home that will be as much help and joy as the cream separator, electric milker, tractors and all the other modern farm gadgets. — Vancouver Province.

One or two readers have questioned the strict accuracy of the title "Republic of Ireland" used in an editorial the other day. Authority for its use was a speech by Prime Minister de Valera, who referred to the Irish Republic, says The Edmonton Journal. Prior to 1937, when a new constitution went into effect, the 26 counties of Southern Ireland were known as the Irish Free State. In that year the name was changed to Ireland, in English, and Eire in Gaelic. The 1937 constitution describes Ireland as a sovereign independent state and makes no mention of the King or Commonwealth. However, it has remained within the Empire as a member nation in the British Commonwealth of Nations. Yet, as the International Year Book for 1937 says, "Ireland, under the new fundamental law, was a republic in all but name." In an important speech on foreign relations last October, Prime Minister de Valera said that the association of "the Irish Republic" with the Commonwealth had practical values.

WINDY WRITING MEMOIRS? LONDON, July 22 — (CP) — The Evening Star gossip column said today that the Duke of Windsor, faced with the alternative of increasing his income or substantially cutting his spending, is hurriedly completing his memoirs up to the time of his abdication in 1936.

LAND OF SILVER Northern Lights have been seen as far south as Singapore.

The MacLeods Of Lewis

(From The Clan MacLeod Magazine, Edinburgh)

I

One of the many tragedies of the terrible warfare which raged in the Highlands during the 18th century was the extinction in the main line of the great and powerful family of the MacLeods of Lewis. They were descended from Leod's son Torquil who received as his patrimony a part of Lewis and Waterish in Skye, but owing to the Chiefs' making marriages they had acquired by the beginning of the 16th century, the whole of Lewis and the districts of Assynt, Gairloch and Colgach on the mainland.

The Island lands were held under the Earls of Ross and the Lords of the Isles up to 1693; but at that time the Lordship of the Isles was forfeited. Gradually the Island Chiefs obtained Crown charters of their estates, so that we find that Malcolm, 9th Chief, was granted a charter in 1611 under the Great Seal of "the lands and castle of Lewis and Waterish in the Lordship of the Isles with other lands erected in his favour into the barony and lordship of Lewis, the peace and castle of Stormachway to be the chief message."

Another charter was granted in 1641 to Roderick, 10th Chief, who was the last Chief to reign over the whole estate. He had a long and varied career, and was married three times. By his first wife, Janet Mackenzie of Kintail, he had one son, Torquil, who was known as Torquil Cononach, having been put out to fosterage among his mother's relations in Strathcona.

Rory, however, divorced Janet and married another woman, the alleged grounds of his being a son of Huchoon Morison, the Breithnach or Celtic Judge of Lewis. In 1651 Rory married Barbara Stewart daughter of Lord Avandale, and by her had another son also called Torquil, and surnamed C'ghre, or the heir. This young man was said to be of great promise, and in 1683 Queen Mary wrote the following letter to him:

"Torquil MacLeod: We greet you well. We are informed that some of the Isles are desirous to have you allied to them by marriage; and because you have that honour to be of the Stewart blood, we thought expedient to give you advertisement that it is our will and pleasure that you ally yourself to no party in marriage without our advice, and until we declare our opinion to yourself thereon. Subsequently you were married to Janet Mackenzie of Kintail, at Inverary, the 23rd of July, 1683.

Unfortunately Torquil Oighe was drowned in a great storm when crossing from Lewis to Skye in a galley about 1686.

Late in life Rory married his third wife, a sister of MacLean of Duart, and both his sons by her, Torquil, surnamed Dubh, and Torquil, later succeeded in temporarily getting possession of Lewis. Torquil Cononach naturally much resented being disinherited. Terrible feuds raged between him and Rory, and twice the old man was taken prisoner by him. On the second occasion Torquil surrounded the castle of Stormachway after a short siege, made his father prisoner and killed some of his followers. At the same time he took away all the charters and lands which were in the hands of the Mackenzies of Kintail. He then sent for his son, John and made him keeper of the castle and goaler to his grandfather.

On his death his son, Torquil Dubh, who had married a sister of Rory MacLeod of Dunvegban, took possession of the Island, although his rights were disputed by Torquil Cononach. The latter's two sons were now dead, but his daughter, Margaret, had married Roderick Mackenzie, a brother to Mackenzie of Kintail, and Torquil Cononach threw himself into the arms of that family.

Torquil Dubh with the help of many of the clan and of Rory Mor, in December 1686 attacked Loch Broom and Colgach (which had been given to Torquil Cononach at the time of a temporary reconciliation with his father) and overran the lands of these lands. Kinloch Mackenzie, a brother to Mackenzie of Kintail, and Torquil Cononach threw himself into the arms of that family.

Early in 1697 an Act of Parliament was passed by which all landowners were ordered to produce their title-deeds at Edinburgh by May of that year, or suffer the penalty of forfeiture. Again Torquil failed to comply, as all his charters and writs were by now in the hands of the Mackenzies. Shortly after he was seized at the instigation of Torquil Cononach who, to quote an old manuscript of the Mackenzies, "made him short by the head. The same manuscript goes on to say: "As he was beheaded there arose a great earthquake which astonished the writers and the shrewd tenants about them as a sign of God's judgment." After Torquil's death his bastard brother Neil took possession of Lewis, and assisted by Rory Mor and the MacLeans of Duart proceeded to uphold the rights of Torquil Dubh's three young sons.

(To be concluded)

ROMAN BREW

The art of brewing beer was supposedly introduced into England by the Romans.

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Old Charlottetown (and P.E.I.) EARLY EDUCATION GRANTS

1825 the Legislature passed an act for the encouragement of education in the different districts and counties of the Island, giving small grants of money to aid in the erection of the district school houses, and in payment of the teachers, but leaving the large part of the salaries to be made up from fees paid by the pupils. This act was a great stimulus to the cause, and many district schools were established. Grammar schools were opened in each of the County towns, and principals were appointed at salaries of £50 per year. In 1828 the Education Act was amended, and in consequence the number of schools increased, but in the Speech from the Throne it appears that "the curriculum needed broadening and enriching."

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