THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 1939

ST. DUNSTAN'S CLOSING

The large and represe[illegible]e attendance at yesterday's commencement exercises of St. Dunstan's University was an indication of the interest taken by all our people in this splendid institution of learning, which every year seems to be covering wider fields of activity and usefulness. The memory of even our oldest citizens can scarcely go back to the time when there was no St. Dunstan's, yet the youngest graduate must have seen, in his own brief experience, many evidences of its progress.

A recent development at St. Dunstan's has been short courses in cooperation with the federal and provincial governments, the details of which were outlined by the Rector, Rev. Dr. Murphy, in his report of the year's activities. As will be seen from the prize list, the regular courses include instruction in such practical subjects as physics, sociology, biology, economics, chemistry, and commercial training. A new science building and new athletic grounds are being added to the facilities of the institution. These developments are being made without sacrifice in any way of the ideals and purpose of the University, which continues to emphasize the higher things of life and the classical tradition in education.

The graduating class this year was complimented upon having upheld the very best traditions of the University. We can imagine no higher tribute to their academic record, nor a more promising augury of their future success.

STAR CRITIC ENTHUSIASTIC

Commenting on Miss Helen Jean Champion's book "Over On The Island" to which reference was made in these columns last week, Mr. S. Morgan Powell writes in the Montreal Star:

"This is an exceptionally attractive form of travel book, because Miss Champion writes informally, does not attempt to produce a minor Baedeker, and believes largely in letting the land and the people and their folklore explain everything. Miss Champion has read her history thoroughly and, what is more, she has explored beneath the surface and she has dug up many choice little historic anecdotes that prove strangely illuminating; she has considerable gifts of description; a delightful sense of humor; a keen eye for the seemingly insignificant detail; and an acute sense of accurate appraisal,—gifts which she utilizes to most effective purpose in her book.

"If you take this tour with her, there is very little on The Island that you are likely to miss. She seems to have gone everywhere and to have seen everything, and to have grasped the historic significance of places, incidents and records with a clarity that communicates itself to the reader. I do not recall having read any Canadian book of travel in which such a wealth of amusing stories are told with more gusto. I am convinced that this book will find an enthusiastic public and that it will serve the purpose of introducing a new body of tourists to Prince Edward Island. The new roads throughout the Island have turned it into a genuine tourist's paradise, and I can enthusiasticaly share Miss Champion's eulogies of its many charms and irresistible lure. With the finest beaches in the whole Dominion, it deserves to be better known than it is. You get closer to the coombes of glorious Devon when you drive through the Island's lovely roads and lanes than in any other spot in this broad Dominion of which I know."

DAIRY INDUSTRY ACT

A legal decision of importance to the dairy industry and to purchasers of dairy products in Canada has been handed down by the Appeal Court of Manitoba. The Court has ruled that the provisions of the Dairy Industry Act are within the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada. This decision is the result of a prosecution taken by the Dairy Products Division, Marketing Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture, against a Winnipeg concern for having manufactured butter containing more than 16 per cent water.

The trial was held on November 3, 1938, at which time counsel for the defence argued that the power to enact that particular section of the Dairy Industry Act which was deemed to have been violated was not specifically given to the Dominion Parliament under authority of the British North America Act. Defence counsel maintained it was purely an enactment dealing with property and civil rights and as such exclusively within the legislative competence of the provincial legislature. The presiding magistrate handed down a judgment in favour of the defence. The stated case on the question of the validity of the legislation was presented by the magistrate.

The Appeal Court of Manitoba held that the purpose of the legislation in question was to protect the public from dishonesty or fraud and was in effect "criminal law." As such the Parliament of Canada has authority under the British North America Act to enact and enforce such legislation with the provinces. It was ruled that subsection 2 of section 6 of the Dairy Industry Act is within the powers of the Dominion. This subsection prohibits the manufacture of butter containing over sixteen per cent of water, or less than eighty per cent of milk fat. The decision of the Appeal Court of Manitoba directs a continuation of the trial of the defendant creamery company for having manufactured butter which was illegal under the Dairy Industry Act.

FOOTNOTE TO HISTORY

A distant chapter of Canadian history is recalled by the news that the King has approved of the display of the coronet and cypher of Field Marshal the Duke of Connaught on the buttons of that famous regiment the Rifle Brigade.

The duke was appointed to the regiment with the rank of lieutenant in 1869 and his first experience of active service was in Canada, when his unit was sent there during the Fenian troubles.

He remained with the 1st Battalion until 1874, when he transferred to the 7th Hussars. However, he returned to command the 1st Battalion in 1876.

Between 1880 and 1916 he held many staff appointments and was again on active service when he commanded the 1st Brigade, 1st Division of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, being present at the action of Tel-el-Kebir.

In May, 1880, he was appointed colonel-in-chief of the Rifle Brigade and in June, 1902, field marshal. The duke is thus not only senior field-marshal of the British army, but also senior colonel-in-chief as well.

The anniversary of his fiftieth year as colonel-in-chief was marked in 1930 by a review in Hyde Park of the 2nd Battalion and the three Territorial Battalions forming part of the corps of the Rifle Brigade.

Editorial Notes

Joan of Arc died 1431.

* * * *

The splendid work of the Red Cross in caring for and successfully treating hundreds of physically handicapped children commends itself to everyone in the Province. The response to their annual appeal for funds should be made with all the courtesy and generosity of a grateful public.

* * * *

In Montreal it has been requested to have the decorations left up until June 15th, date of the departure of Their Majesties from Canada's shores. Thousands of visitors from the States and elsewhere visited Montreal for the King's visit and hundreds are still going there to see the decorations, special tours of the city being organized for the purpose.

* * * *

Instructions to be ready for a federal general election within three months have been given to the Quebec Conservative organization. It is said that this was only a measure of precaution, through its being the fourth year of the present parliament. In Ottawa, opinions widely differ over whether elections would be held this year or in 1940.

* * *

President and Mrs. Roosevelt will serve hot dogs to King George VI and Queen Elizabeth at Hyde Park. They will be the first Their Majesties ever ate "under that name," the British Ambassador said at a press conference when asked whether the King and Queen had ever eaten the popular American type of picnic food. "But under any other name they taste just as sweet," the Ambassador added.

* * * *

Those invited to the Embassy dinner at Washington for the British Sovereigns have been selected very largely in accordance with the order of precedence. But the Ambassador, Sir Ronald Lindsay, remarked with a touch of humor that "the dinner will be none the less pleasant." While King George and Queen Elizabeth are at the embassy the royal standard will fly over it.

* * *

As the result of the passing of the Mortgage Trust Bill, ordinary mortgages will be placed in the same class as those under the Farmers' Creditors Arrangement Act. That is, after its passing all interest will be reduced to five percent, and the valuation be reduced to 80 percent. The difference in the valuation over that amount will be shared to the extent of fifty per cent by the Government.

* * *

At the Royal Society of Canada, its 58th annual meeting was told that a large-seeded, drought-resistant plant will be produced shortly for Western Canada, designed to aid in maintaining fertility in dangerous dust areas. Dr. F. H. Peto, of the National Research Council, Ottawa, speaking before the Biological sciences section of the Society, said that a breeding program to produce this perennial plant through combining favorable characteristics of wheat and wheat grasses is being carried out by the Dominion Experimental Farms and the National Research Council.

* * * *

A gentlemen in the office the other day facetiously remarked that we in Prince Edward Island are "every day in every way spending better and better." In ten years our little city debt has been doubled, and in the same period our trivial (according to Mr. MacIntyre) Provincial debt trebled. Everybody is doing it, remarked our visitor, but the reason for the continuance of this pleasant policy is that nobody is feeling it. If each time we hit upon an excuse to allow our representative to open the treasury, we personally and at once felt the result in increased taxes, there would be little difficulty in balancing the budget, and once more we would elect and honour men who could (to use that distasteful word) economize. Tightening up the nations nervous system to bring stimulus and reaction closer together would be a painful experience and the necessity so vague, that as long as we get the stimulus and posterity gets the reaction, we may be expected to continue to "do" posterity to the best of our ability.

NOTES BY THE WAY

This farmer came out to see how the hired hands were getting along. We had a jug of water and a jug of oil under the same shock of wheat. The farmer got thirsty while he was out there and he reached down under the shock of wheat to get a drink; but he would not take his eyes off the hired hands for fear they would miss a lick. I guess. He fumbled around under the shock of wheat, and he got hold of the wrong jug. He got the jug of old black oil. Still watching the hired hands, he brought up his arm, pulled the cob out and turned up the jug—glug-glug — and got his mouth full of old black oil; but he would not spit it out — not this fellow—no, sir. He just waited until the binder came around again and he hailed it and got down under it and oiled the whole machine. — Senator Josh Lee of Oklahoma the U. S). Congressional Record.

Gardening seems to breed sympathy and understanding. This tends to make gardeners helpful to each other. This spirit of helpfulness prompted a gardener who "season after season, broke her back in digging dandelions out of her lawn to tell the Eastern Chronicle (New Glasgow) of another method which she had discovered to be a restful operation." The Eastern Chronicle, in that spirit of public service which characterizes newspapers, passed the word along to its readers, with the comment "Recommended." The information may be helpful to other gardeners and the Halifax Chronicle passes it along in turn: An ice-pick dipped in gasoline and thrust into the heart of the dandelions will kill the weeds with little damage to the surrounding grass. The remedy sounds simple enough and if it proves an effective way to avoid the strenuous stooping and digging and pulling ordinarly employed, it will be a blessing to many a gardener. — Halifax Chronicle.

For generatons the monarchy has been an institution which the King's American subjects have regarded as their surest bond with all other British peoples. Now this monarchy ceases to be an impersonal abstraction, a symbol that is represented by a name and a photograph; it takes on the reality which it has always had for the Englishman. For the first time Canadians see their ruler on their own soil; see him as a quiet and simple man; and in his presence in their land all of the history which has linked them to the Crown and the British Empire takes on a new and more impressive aspect. One can understand the delight and the pride of Canadians in having at last an opportunity to know as well as to acknowledge a King. One can also imagine the pleasure and satisfaction that George VI and Queen Elizabeth found in their reception. This is only the beginning of their tour. Happily it will carry them among friends in the United States as well as in the Dominion. And Americans will join with Canadians in welcoming them. — Baltimore Sun.

Since Munich the British people has enlivened its political discussion with a great number of epigrams, chants, Limericks and rhyme in other forms treating of Continental political conditions, the perils that beset the empire and the personalities of politicians at home and abroad. Some of them are said to be strikingly well turned; most of them do not reach print, and are doomed to quick erasure from memory. This fact distresses those students of the popular mind who find in the talk of the man in the street the true index of national feeling, and an appeal has been made for collection and preservation of this "modern folk song." The appeal is notable for one passage. It reads: "Due caution will be exercised in the case of words which are libelous or treasonable." If this means that libel and treason are to be excluded from the files, the collection preserved will have little historical value. Libel and treason are the sap and essence of anti-government compositions; ribaldry is their uniform. A bowdlerized version of satirical political ephemera would be as useless as a guide to popular feeling in the period of its circulation as it would be tiresome. — New York Sun.

In general, there's been a drop in magazine sales in recent months with the European rumpus blamed. It seems the newspapers nowadays do such an excellent job of interpreting events, as well as reporting them, that they've invaded the mags' field, with the time element all in favor of the daily journals. — New York Post.

From the point of view of the democracies it is perhaps to the good that the "final form of the Axis should thus be put beyond dispute. Where there was previously a good deal of obscurity, in spite of "positive" assertions from Berlin and Rome, there is now certainty. We know definitely where Italy stands, that we are expected to regard the Axis as firm, permanent, and comprehensive. To those who have taken an optimistic view of the final position of Italy towards the democracies this new development will no doubt come as a disappointment. But perhaps the conduct of British foreign policy will be simplified now that it need no longer be adjusted to the possibility of wooing Italy away from her associate. — Glasgow Herald.

New Brunswick sardines, which are sold all over the world have in the past four years exceeded in importance the lobster industry of that province. A year's output is valued at more than $1,526,000. New Brunswick might incorporate the sardines on its coat-of-arms, or give it some other official recognition. It is an appetizing, wealth-bringing little fish. — Montreal Gazette.

The rulers with gangster minds who counted on Britain being too gullible and too soft and too unwilling to jeopardize her financial position to meet the challenge to her existence as a world power are learning their mistake. They have aroused a virile and conquering race who will not stop short of complete victory should they be compelled once more to fight for life and freedom. — Toronto Star.

To a pious people like the French-Canadians the prayer that Providence "may continue to guide you safely through the future" appeals intimately. Gracious, tactful sensible, the speech had also the high and unusual merit of brevity. Unless the King is unusually lucky, he will have to sit patiently through a good deal of stodgy talk. He has set an example to orators deaf to the footfalls of time. — New York Times.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

SIGHING IS NOT ONE OF THE USUAL SIGNS OF HEART DISEASE

While shortness of breath is one of the early signs of a failing heart, it should not be forgotten that eating too much acid food — meat, eggs, fish, cereals — can lower the alkaline condition of the blood and cause breathlessness. Also, a nose which is partially blocked may cause breathlessness.

For a long time it was thought that sighing was a sign of heart failure as it is an extra effort to get rid of the impure air from the lungs. However, Dr. G. K. Maytrim, Rochester, Minn., in Journal of Allergy, states that sighing is a normal reaction to fatigue and mild emotional states, yet it is possible for sighing to assume considerable importance. Sighing is not due to any organic disorder but is entirely due to a nervous or emotional state. It has sometimes been mistaken for asthma and some of these patients have undergone the usual tests for sensitiveness to various substances as usually done in hay fever and asthma.

As a matter of fact, research workers have found that sighing is a very rare symptom in heart disease.

"Shortness of breath, or the inability to take a deep breath is the chief symptom. A feeling of constriction, tightness, weight or pain is usually present in the chest and palpitation of the heart is often present. Fatigue and nervousness are common and many of the patients have recently undergone some nervous shock or serious worry and cares."

"Anxiety regarding their state of health is almost always present. Sighing, shortness of breath, occurs more often among women than among men and it usually occurs in the more active years of life."

As there is no real or organic trouble, the treatment consists in explaining to the patient that it is his nervousness or emotional state that produces the attacks of breathlessness. It should be explained that this sighing or shortness of breath is the normal effect of fatigue and emotional stress.

While drugs are not really needed, a quieting drug may sometimes be used to control the nervous irritability.

If, then, you think you have a failing heart because you sigh so much it would be good sense to have your physician examine you. If no heart disease is present, remember that remaining as calm as possible during the ordinary and extraordinary affairs of life will prevent sighing and shortness of breath.

Mayor Houde's Triumph

(Globe and Mail)

Mayor Camillien Houde of Montreal is smiling broadly these days because he put the "haughty Federal Government men" in their place and established the right of Mayors to ride in vehicles "immediately following their King and Queen rather than three, four or even five cars back." We have the Montreal Gazette's word for it, and Monsieur Houde's smiling portrait.

"Original plans," the story goes, "were for the Federal Government officials to ride in the automobiles behind Their Majesties in the Royal procession through the greatest city in the greatest dominion in the Empire, but Camillien got wind of it. Either the Mayor of Montreal rode behind the Royal couple, and represented the citizens of Montreal, from Jean Baptiste Trudeau to the biggest property owner, or Montreal was out of it. That was his ultimatum. He delivered it to Ottawa as soon as he heard the plans. And his time limit for an answer was three hours."

Official Ottawa fumed. It was a critical moment. Supposing Monsieur Houde declined to attend the civic banquet, or, attending, refused to wear his chain of office or flourish a plug hat, the indignity would be insufferable. He might indeed ignore the King and Queen altogether and thereby destroy the effect of the visit and tour. There was too much at stake to allow the incident to be treated lightly. So Mayor Houde carried his bluff, established an order of precedence to his satisfaction with so profound a result that when His Majesty reached White River, for example, he asked at once for the Mayor, and the citizens had to hold an immediate, unofficial election to produce such an official.

There is a Table of Precedence for Canada, amended Dec. 3, 1923, beginning with the Governor-General or officer administering the Government and tapering off by the time No. 33 is reached to members of the Legislative Assembly within their Province. The Parliamentary Guide declares "strict observance of these lists is insisted upon, for the principle underlying the maintenance of these lists is the protection of established rights." Mayors are not mentioned. It may be, of course, that this was an oversight or failure to anticipate the possibility of a civic function, honored by the Crown. But the Table is there, with ten Lieutenant-Governors between His Excellency and the Prime Minister of Canada, and dignitaries of State, Church and judiciary riding, standing or sitting ahead of Provincial Assembly members, and Mayors nowhere at all.

So it is apparent why Mayor Camillien Houde smiles so broadly. He has decreed that a Table of Precedence made at Ottawa is of no account in a city over which he presides, and as proof can point to the fact that it was he Their Majesties thanked. Thus is history made.

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.

TIMELY SUGGESTION

Sir,—In view of the fact that a large number of farmers may be unable to procure their 1939 motor license before June 15, and also that provision has been made whereby the Summerside school children will be transported to Charlottetown free on the occasion of Their Majesties visit, would it not be a gracious act in keeping with the spirit of loyalty and devotion in the hearts of all those desirous of seeing their beloved King and Queen, if those in authority granted permission, through the columns of the newspapers, to use the 1938 markers on that day, so that as many country children as can be accommodated may make the trip on that memorable occasion?

I am, Sir, etc.
COUNTRY MOTHER.

ROYAL PROCESSION, ETC.

Sir,—Two letters in the Guardian Public Forum deserve attention, viz "Provision For Spectators" and "Compulsory Voting."

In reference to the chances of everyone getting a fairly close view of Their Majesties, I should think it ought to be feasible.

I remember making the mental observation when the personnel of the committees appointed was announced that they were all outstanding persons with reputations to sustain, and with an understanding of the trust and responsibility imposed in them.

The route of the Royal procession to Government House is comparatively long—roughly speaking about twenty-five blocks. The route will be entirely closed to vehicular traffic. The "park" space and sidewalks on each side of each street ought to accommodate easily 2,000 persons. It will look better if the entire route be lined with people.

I think that "Inquirer" and all others of a dubious turn of mind may rest assured that those in authority will arrange affairs on that day to the best advantage of the greater number; but the police and other traffic officers should get the most whole-hearted co-operation from the visitors—and that consists principally in doing as they are requested instantly and precisely, and not in looking for special privileges.

There ought to be a great chance to see and hear Their Majesties in Charlottetown. Queen Square itself is spacious and beautiful, not many better in all North America. It ought to provide standing room for at least 10,000 people. All is wanted is co-operation and a generous display of the Christian amenities, such as placing children and the shorter in stature in front lines, etc., etc.

No doubt the committees in charge have arranged a program of songs and cheers at regular intervals, but there will be plenty happenings not down on the program—spontaneous outbursts of cheers and songs—it is hard to visualize crowd psychology. Their tour through Canada has proved that our beloved sovereigns are intensely human and sympathetic and their humility is unbounded. "Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the earth." So noble and yet so humble—little wonder that people burst into tears when they speak to them.

In regard to "Inquirer's" reference to "prominent people" being privileged for presentation, the "rank and file" must be resigned and take pleasure in the fact that one or more of those fortunate enough to be presented are their friends. Let us wish them well. "May joy go with them." St. Paul in his epistle to the Romans (chap. XIII verses 1 and 2) on "Authority and Higher Powers" says something which would appear to have a bearing on cases like this.

Their Majesties love to see their people and their people love to see them. It is a case of mutual admiration, and the reaction is the nearest to perfection imaginable. We will open our proverbial "iron vest" of reserve and modesty and give them a "Royal Welcome."

I am, Sir, etc.,
J. PENDERGAST.
Kensington.

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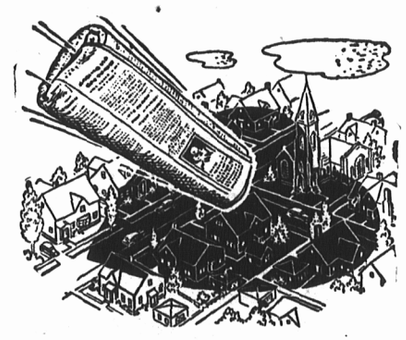

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The Charlottetown GUARDIAN

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