

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1939.

Essential To Unity

Canada's Weekly thus sums up the Dominion's war aims and efforts as outlined in a recent broadcast by Prime Minister Mackenzie King: Our aims: 1. To end Nazi aggression. 2. To meet the challenge to democratic institutions and to individual liberty. 3. To retain Christian civilization. The war, said Mr. King, would be prosecuted through: 1. Careful planning, cool judgment and a balanced strategy. 2. Assuming a greater responsibility for the defence of Canada. 3. Placing special emphasis on training air force personnel. 4. Recognizing that Canada's economic contribution may be supremely important. 5. Organizing effectively the country's production and distribution. 6. Adhering to sound financial policies. 7. Strengthening Canadian unity. Important to the carrying out of all these aims is one thing Mr. King neglected to mention. That is governmental action on a strictly non-partisan basis and recognition of the loyal co-operation received from the leader of the Official Opposition, Dr. Manion has had occasion to complain of evidences of favoritism and partisanship in the distribution of war contracts, and also of the fact that he has never once been consulted or advised of any matter relative to the Government's war activities since Parliament prorogued. This is not the way to maintain public confidence or strengthen Canadian unity. The King Government and its followers have no monopoly on the patriotic spirit which motivates the Canadian people, and it is essential that this fact be realized more clearly than Mr. King seems yet to have done.

News From Germany

Analyzing its own reliable news dispatches from Germany in recent days, the New York Times comes editorially to the conclusion that they give anything but a rosy picture of present hopes and conditions within that country. One correspondent is quoted to the effect that while the Nazi Government is still firmly in the saddle, "there is no doubt that the German people, who have been under a heavy strain for more than six years and who are now subjected to the strain of war and war conditions, are acquiring jumpy nerves." Blackouts, rationing, the difficulty of getting even little necessities of life, curtailed transportation, growing regimentation and the bureaucratization of every phase of life, plus the anxiety of families who are trembling for their sons and fathers in the field, are weighing ever more heavily on all, especially since the German people have been assured all these years that Hitler would keep them out of war.

German authorities are quoted in disproof of the glowing forecasts of the great caravans of goods that were soon to be rolling into Germany from Russia. Only in food, iron, manganese and lumber can Germany count on any increase of supplies, and these are hampered by inadequate transportation. In such basic war materials as copper, lead, zinc, nickel and tin, not only is Russia unable to export anything, but she must import large quantities for her own use. Even regarding oil, of which Russia has large potential supplies, but supplies well under ground, "German hopes are melting."

The Times emphasizes one dispatch of a few days ago which spoke of "the general tax weariness" affecting the Reich's revenues and causing particular concern. Another dispatch quoted the semi-official weekly Suedost Echo as admitting frankly that it has been found impossible thus far to maintain German exports at the level which it was hoped they would reach, despite the war. Still another dispatch remarked upon the enormous recent increase of paper marks into circulation and the consequent trend toward an inflationary lift in prices.

Sugar

Sugar is a commodity much in the public mind in these war days. The National Revenue Review accordingly digs up some interesting facts concerning its present production and past history. Canada imports over twenty million dollars worth of sugar and its products each year, nearly all of which comes from British Empire countries—the British West Indies, Australia, Fiji Islands and British Guiana. The sugar is refined in Canada by an industry which received a great impetus during the years of the World War. A large proportion of this sugar comes from the sugar cane, although there is a growing utilization of the beet sugar production. During the past fiscal year Canada's sugar imports totalled approximately 9,557,504 cwt., valued at \$20,281,515. Early classical writers referred to sugar as Indian salt or "honey contained in the reed." India and Arabia were the only known producing countries of the ancient world. The cane was later carried into Egypt and China, and the enterprising Egyptians soon taught the world how to refine sugar through the use of ashes. A later development in refining consisted in dissolving the raw sugar in limewater and adding the blood of bullocks. The blood coagulated and drew out the impurities. Today animal charcoal is used in the refining process. The desire for sugar grew slowly but steadily. The Venetians sent a shipment to London in 1319 in exchange for wool, but it remained a rare luxury. That famous Venetian Marco Polo,

who lived at this time, in his writings mentions the wonderful sweet that he had found. In the fifteenth century Venice began making loaf sugar, which sold at a very high price. As late as 1842 there is a record of sugar selling for as much as \$2.50 a pound. The demand for this new luxury greatly stimulated the search for a new route to the Indies. By 1494 the Spanish and Portuguese had planted sugar cane in San Domingo, and at the beginning of the sixteenth century it had been introduced all through the West Indies and South America.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This is the greatest day of all for the fox ranchers, the sale of selected breeders at the Fox Show.

Archdeacon Richard Hakluyt, geographer, friend of Drake, Raleigh, Gilbert and others, the first to promote the settlement of Virginia, died this date, 1616.

This is not a "chestnut"—Germany has decreed that distilleries must make brandy from chestnuts, while, according to British legal definition brandy is genuine only if distilled from grape wines by pot still.

Premier Campbell has returned from Ottawa where he has been in consultation with Prime Minister King, Premier Macdonald and others. While he was there it was decided to offer Prince County as a refuge to the Hon. Mr. Ralston.

French Canadians form about 50 per cent of the youths seeking to enroll in the Royal Canadian Air Force in Montreal. Due to the large number of French-speaking applicants, the force prefers bilingual recruits as service-police and disciplinarians, for which a call has been issued.

Addressing the members of the National Press Club at Washington, Cardinal Villeneuve declared that "the happy relations which exist between the United States and Canada are a great lesson to Europe." He reminded them there was "no Maginot or Siegfried lines to separate us, but an unfortified border of over 3,000 miles. Let us be grateful to God for such friendly feelings and let us hope that they may ever continue." At the same time he characterized the war as a battle fought for Christian civilization and affirmed the loyalty of French-Canadians to the Crown and to Canada.

Environment rather than heredity is responsible for much of the insanity in modern cities, Dr. Robert A. L. Faris, assistant professor of sociology at McGill University, told a meeting held in the McGill Union. Dr. Faris based his conclusions on the findings of survey on the incidence of insanity, organized and supervised by him in Chicago. Speaking of the various types of mental disorders, Dr. Faris said that generally paralysis was found in districts where home life had broken down and vice was widespread; alcoholics were found largely in low-rent areas, and manic depressives were scattered almost equally over all districts.

Death and resignations have struck deeply into the present Parliament since it was elected in October, 1935. There have been 31 vacancies in the House of Commons of which 23 have been caused by death and eight by resignations. Death took its toll of the Senate as well and there are now 12 vacancies leaving a standing of 52 Conservative appointees and 32 appointed by Liberal administrations. Standing of the House of Commons is now: Liberal 173; Conservatives 39; Social Credit 15; Co-operative Commonwealth Federation 7; Independent 2; United Farmers of Ontario-Labor 1; vacant 8.

It is considered possible that the British will send some of their naval units for repairs in Canadian drydocks where they would be far removed from the danger of aerial bombing while unable to repel attacks. There is a 1,225-foot drydock at Saint John, N.B., and another large drydock in Quebec, both of which could be used for repairing large capital ships. However, the channels approaching these docks might be inadequate for a ship with the 860-foot overall length and the thirty-two-foot draft of a ship like the Hood. Nevertheless, if German air attacks against Britain develop to serious dimensions, it is considered likely that Canadian yards would be used to overhaul many British naval vessels.

At the annual meeting of the Ogilvie Flour Mills Co. Lt. the President, Mr. J. W. McConnell welcomed back the Hon. C. A. Dunning, former Minister of Finance. Replying, Mr. Dunning stressed personal aims for the future direction of Canadian business which he regarded as paramount. The former finance minister said: "In the years which lie ahead I am not thinking so much of increasing dividends as of promoting that co-operation in industry which it seems to me will be demanded on the part of every one concerned in seeing that this country moves on into the future with its business forces intact." The former minister referred to the immediate future of Canadian industry as a time which would call for the "brain, heart and will" of a united people.

Approach of the Christmas season is once again stimulating the grocery business, states Canadian Grocer in its current issue. In September and October it did not require any such an approaching event because of the scramble to get merchandise following declaration of war. That business has, however, levelled off because of the huge quantities of merchandise bought at the time by the trade. Buying is now being concentrated more on the seasonal lines for the holiday trade which looks to be a good one in view of the fact that business generally has speeded up and that better prices are prevailing on the whole for farm products. Price competition among retailers continues keen in the grocery business, no doubt due to the fact that a number in the trade stocked up at lower prices. This applies especially to canned foods. Strength is apparent in the raw sugar market and if this advances further there might easily be an upward tendency in refined. There is, however, no shortage as raw sugar is coming along more freely and beet is being rapidly produced in different sections of the country. Three or four more package tea firms have advanced their prices to both the trade and consumer.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The municipalities of Ontario had a hard time developing the autonomy which they enjoy. It required a good deal of struggle on their part to gain the rights which they possess. These have been progressively encroached upon by the provincial authority until today it has nearly all the right to elect their own representatives and thus to control the administration of their own affairs. We do not believe that the municipalities will be stamped by the vagaries of a provincial administration which is notoriously unstable in its decisions and there is every reason to believe that the proposed legislation will be considerably modified before it actually takes form. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

A Blitzkrieg without speeding tanks is inconceivable. But if Belgium's new "Chinese Wall" of movable steel gates meets specifications and is incorporated into the defense of other armies, the tank will cease to speed. The tank can smash and surmount most stationary walls of masonry. It can usually straddle or avoid a tank trap or a mine field. The concrete stump or steel gate set diagonally upright can be used to block the Belgian gate is apparently the most ingenious obstacle yet devised. It is mounted on steel rollers like those used to level tennis courts, yet it has such a broad base that it cannot be overturned. It can easily be transported from place to place by tractor. Interlocking of these gates for mile after mile offers a formidable barrier across an entire country. Instead of smashing through the gate, the tank can only push it along with increasing difficulty. The result is to slow up the attack and immobilize the attacking units. There is no more vulnerable object than a halted tank. It is believed by the Belgians that it will take heavy artillery to batter down these gates. Tanks do not carry such artillery and could not stop to use it if they did. When tanks lose speed they have lost the battle. — From the New York Times.

During the last war the rumble of guns in Flanders was heard in the south of England. Wireless communication progressed after the war, a commentator remarked that it should be a matter of gratitude that radio had not been sufficiently advanced to carry the actual conflict to England listeners. The war began in 1914, only two years and a few months after the sinking of the "unsinkable" Titanic, which might have been saved if radio warnings were regarded as they are today and nearly all of whose passengers with certainty would have been rescued had not the operator of the Californian, a dozen miles away, put down his radio, and turned in. The commentator whom we have referred looked backwards but not ahead to the days when the sound of conflict could be carried as easily to the far corners of the Earth as across the channel. It is, perhaps, with mixed feelings that the announcement is heard that the British Broadcasting Corporation has taken equipment to the general headquarters of the British army in France with plans eventually to broadcast actual battles on the western front. For the present the BBO has a less ambitious program. Tommies will broadcast incidents from their lives at the front where they man pill boxes, trenches and big guns. These first broadcasts will be made on discs, which will be flown to London and broadcast from there. — Moncton Transcript.

The foreign exchange control Board is taking the proper course in going to the public with explanations of its regulations instead of waiting for confused citizens to learn for themselves in devious ways what the rules are all about. Letters have been reaching this paper asking for light, giving interpretations, and complaining that the banks are working a racket. Few of the writers profess to understand the regulations, but most of them are sure something strange is going on. This can be avoided by adequate use of the means of general publicity. Alluding to the banks' functions, an informed correspondent explains that under the terms of the Control Board's orders the facilities maintained by the chartered banks for handling exchange are now operated as agencies of the board. The entire expense of operation, however, is still paid by the banks, and it has been substantially increased since the war started. And here is an important point: The total daily purchase of foreign exchange from the banks' customers at Control Board rates are sold daily to the board at exactly the same rates. Conversely the total daily sales to the public are covered by purchases from the board at the same rate that the customer pays. The commission allowed the banks by the Control Board, far from being an excess profit, does not cover the expense involved. For their work in handling these transactions the banks are allowed a commission of one-eighth of 1 per cent by the board, and are specifically prohibited from

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.

"WE DON'T WANT" COL. RALSTON

Mr. Ralston has been announced that a bye-election in Prince County will be held on Jan. 9th, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of our late lamented representative A. E. McLean.

Imagine our surprise upon reading that the Liberal executive of East and West Prince met in Summerside, and Hitler-like, had decided to tender the nomination to the present Finance Minister.

By what authority did those executives delegate to themselves the right to take such action? As an old Liberal and a farmer, I wish to call upon the farmers and fishermen of this County to decide emphatically against the action of a clique, who for selfish interests are endeavoring to deprive the County of representation. (by proxy so to speak). Col. Ralston would have about as much interest in our County as the Sultan of Turkey would have.

We had one instance in Prince County when the present Prime Minister MacKenzie King received the bouquet of a seat by acclamation. Evidently the Prime Minister does not know there is such a place on the map now because when their Majesties visited the Province last summer, accompanied by the Prime Minister, as director of Borden and driving to Charlottetown and seeing the natural beauties of the fairest Province in the Dominion, they were hustled aboard of a ship at Tormentine, taken to Charlottetown and landed on an old wharf, and the only part of our fair province that they saw was the trip by motor from the Provincial Building.

Yes, Mr. King has forgotten the County which, when he was out in the cold, being defeated at the previous general election gave him a safe seat by acclamation. And what better would Col. Ralston be? None whatever. We Liberals of this County had a majority at the last general election of over four thousand or pretty safe plum for Col. Ralston, to accept the nomination here.

Now the object of a certain clique is to leave this County without representation, so they can control the patronage, and live as some of them have been doing in the past on the fish-pots of Egypt. Farmers are you going to put up with this state of affairs? Rise in your might, attend a convention of the whole county and nominate the best man you can get to be your representative. There are three farmers from this County in the Legislature, any one of whom if elected would make a good representative. There are also others who would make worthy representatives.

Why for almost twenty years has this County been represented in such an efficient manner? Because of the late lamented A. E. McLean for a number of years was engaged in farming and fishing, and knew the wants of the electors of the county. So farmers and fishermen who represent 75 per cent of the electors should not permit this little clique to pull the wool over their eyes, but nominate a candidate who will be a worthy successor to the late Mr. McLean.

I am Sir, etc.

FARMER 4th District of Prince

LABORER - MAYOR

LONDON (CP) —Councillor J. C. Edwards, 34-year-old builder, assistant, is the mayor-elect of Bethnal Green, London.

making any deduction from the rates set by the board in transactions with the public. The only additional charge permitted under the regulations is a nominal "per-tem" charge in the case of cheques and drafts in foreign currencies which is roughly equal to the bank's normal and very reasonable domestic exchange charge. It is therefore quite clear what happens to the 1 per cent spread between buying and selling rates. Upon United States silver coins the Canadian banks pay a premium of 7 per cent. The object of the Foreign Exchange Control Board is to ensure the orderly flow of Canadian external trade by controlling the buying and selling rates and preventing undesirable fluctuations in the exchange rate. —Toronto Globe and Mail.

Feminine Limitations

(Stratford Beacon-Herald) Speaking personally, lady drum-majors are one of our chief dislikes. We are strong for equality of the sexes, and are glad they can vote, be doctors, lawyers and even ministers, and hold down a multitude of other jobs, receiving equal pay for equal work. But not drum-majors. The drum-major is one of the most noble and imposing specimens of the human race. He represents many years of tradition at the head of a military band. He can twist and twirl that gaudy stick of his, and toss it up in the air and catch it in a manner that no woman could ever match. Whether woman knows it or not, her arm is different from a man's. This is why she cannot throw a baseball like a man or swing a mallet late a drumstick. Strutting at the head of a college band, the best of the girl drum-majors are gawky in their movements.

International Law

(Hamilton Spectator) The use of drifting mines to destroy seagoing vessels is proscribed by international law; but recent events leave little doubt that the practice is being resorted to in a wholesale way, and there is only one nation which can be held guilty of it. Germany, with its shipping driven from the seas, is indifferent to the fate not only of enemy ships, but of neutrals as well. It can succeed by methods of terrorism in a crisis of world-wide commerce, she is prepared to pay for the advantage of the sacrifice of any vessel of respect which may yet remain to her. The end justifies the means in the ruthless marine warfare to which the "cornered maniac" is now resorting we see the present war, in desperation and villainy. In fact, making war on the world, belligerent and non-combatant nations alike. Having torn up the treaty after treaty which, it had been hoped, would establish international relationships on a new and more humane footing, it is not surprising that, now that it comes to the immemorial codes of the sea, he sets every honoured tradition and legal usage aside.

The indiscriminate laying of mines is strictly forbidden by a Hague convention, to which Germany is a signatory with all other civilized powers. Had she signed that convention, she would have received the anticipated support and people there is no question that much progress might have been achieved towards creating an effective police system, such as is being suggested as a result of the harrowing experiences through which humanity is now passing.

The modern world simply cannot afford to entrust the safety and the arbitrary will and the insatiable ambition of an upstart dictator. Whatever may or may not be done at the close of the conflict, it is certain that this question of international rights will demand a permanent answer, and that mere written guarantees will no longer suffice without effective material backing.

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Royal Blue coat, wolf trim, fitted style, size 16, going at 15.95

Brown coat with genuine racoon trim, fitted style, size 18, going at ——— 17.95

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Also four untrimmed coats reduced to \$12.75 and \$14.95

DRESSES 25 Crepe Dresses Reg. \$5.95 and \$7.95 all the newest styles To clear ——— \$3.89

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COME IN, GET THE BARGAINS. While they last. All other merchandise reduced for this Sale.

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An Appeal to the Citizens of Prince Edward Island on Behalf of Our Crippled Children

The Rotary Club of Charlottetown will hold their annual Radio Auction on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7th over station CHCK.

This year we are making a special appeal to you for your support in order that our crippled children may be taken care of during the war period in the same efficient way in which they were provided for during peace times.

As members of the Rotary Club, we feel our responsibility quite keenly in this regard. We are unanimous in our determination to raise sufficient money to provide medical care for our crippled children as well as for other charities which we support.

Our merchants and many other citizens have already met this appeal by donating goods for this auction more generously than ever before.

We earnestly solicit your co-operation and would ask you to help in this worthy object. You can do this by bidding on the many useful articles which will be offered for sale.

We wish to thank the public for the generous support they have given us in all previous auctions and ask it again at this time as the need for funds is greater than ever before.

(SIGNED) Heath McInnes Acting President, THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHARLOTTETOWN

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