THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1945

A Critical Conference For Us

The Dominion-Provincial Conference about to take place at Ottawa is probably the most important which has ever been held. It is intended to adjust the post-war relations between the Federal Government and the Governments of the several Provinces, especially with regard to finances.

The War has imposed a stupendous financial burden on the Federal Government, a burden that is continuing and will continue for some time, and will then only lessen according as the war commitments lessen.

Post-war re-establishment is also going to impose serious commitments on the Provinces—commitments that cannot be met with their provincial revenues.

This is especially the case with Prince Edward Island. This Province is going back financially at such a rate as threatens, even with no further commitments, to land us into bankruptcy.

The other Provinces are sending to Ottawa imposing delegations. The whole of the Ontario Government is going, accompanied by the Deputy Ministers, experts, etc. The same is true of Quebec and other Provinces.

Our own delegation is a puny one—only two Ministers will be present, and they will be the only ones with voices at the Conference. How well they are prepared is not known, but judging by the "agenda" published in the local Government organ, they are going to Ottawa hat in hand to beg for local works.

If it were not so tragic and so humiliating it would be amusing to learn that our delegation intends to ask at the Conference that a bridge be built across the river at Brighton, that a second road be built from Charlottetown to Borden, that the Grey Bus Lines extend their route to Prince Edward Island, and such other local schemes.

Have we got down to this, that our Government is going to grasp at the shadow and let go the substance?

The Dominion Government has made a gift of our Northern domain, immensely rich in all kinds of minerals—that whole pre-Cambrian shield which belonged to us as well as to the rest of Canada—and we have got out of it not a copper.

We are at the limit of taxation. We have no natural resources in minerals, forest or water power, such as the other Provinces have. We have no rich corporations which we can tax. We have no industries, no manufactures. We buy everything from Ontario and Quebec. We pay our money to the Insurance Companies and to the Banks, and this money is used to build up the industries of the large Provinces. And we go to Ottawa to ask for a bridge and a road!

If the Liberal organ correctly states the Government's views, our delegation will be the laughing stock of the other delegates. Our representatives at the Conference will rightly be told that they are not there to discuss provincial roads and bridges. They are there to make an adjustment of the financial relations between Ottawa and the Provinces, not to deal with local details.

Our delegates should have prepared, with great care and with the assistance of experts, a brief showing our past history and our past relations with the Dominion; the position and status of other Provinces with the Dominion, what resources they have, what has been done for them, etc. Our needs should be set out in full detail, what money will be required to meet them, and where the money is to come from to place us in a position to do the post-war things that must be done; also to show clearly how impossible, without a revision of our financial relations with the Federal Government, it is for us to do these things.

Let us hope that despite the lack of evidence to this effect in their party organ, our delegates have some comprehension of the meaning and significance of the gathering at Ottawa next week, and will make effective use of the golden opportunity provided of salvaging this Province, and remedying some of the long-standing abuses which we have endured since Confederation. Otherwise, our case is hopeless indeed, and we might as well—in the words of a former Liberal Premier—hoist our anchor and sail out to sea.

Recreation Facilities

The report of the sub-committee on Recreation of the Canadian Youth Commission, reveals the poverty of recreational facilities available in the average Canadian municipality.

A questionnaire was mailed to the mayor of each of 1,527 urban localities listed in the Canadian census of 1941. The smallest of these communities numbered 40 persons, the largest 350,000. The questionnaires went out to communities in each of the nine provinces.

Seven questions were asked, covering recreation programs both in and out of school. They included a request for a statement of the amount budgeted for recreation, and an enumeration of physical facilities and recreational leaders available. The last two questions asked how far schools are made available for adult recreation and whether the municipality has any machinery for planning recreation.

Eight questionnaires were sent to municipalities in this province and two replies returned. The secretary-treasurer of a town of 2,000 persons in Ontario wrote as follows:

"Three years ago, through church assistance and public subscription, the community built a community centre here that cost approximately $85,000. This has a large basketball floor which accommodates three badminton games at one time, or two volley ball games—a large stage for local and travelling dramatic troupes which accommodates on most occasions the dancing public. There is an excellent kitchen attached for serving banquets, such as Lions, Rotary, Game and Fish Association, etc.; space for two bowling alleys and some billiard tables, and a large lounge and Scout room as well as showers, rest rooms, etc. The centre is run on the budget system . . . each person in the community and surrounding small hamlets being assessed 25c per year which entitles them to a budget ticket to all budget events, dances, shows, musicales, etc., without further charge. Athletic periods are divided by ages, each age and sex having certain periods to use the building. The system works well and provides ample winter recreation for most of the community."

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

Thanksgiving Day will be celebrated on October 8, the second Monday of that month, according to an announcement from Ottawa.

* * * *

Remember next week will be "Clean-up and Flag-Flying Week," when everyone should see his duty and do it.

* * * *

Taxation in Britain plays havoc with big estates, as may be seen from the fact that Queen Elizabeth's father, the Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne, left about $302,000, not very much considering he was one of the old nobility and territorial grandees of the first rank.

* * * *

In another few days we will be into Old Home Week with all its attractions, revival of old memories, renewal of old acquaintances, and the initiation of many guests to the beauty and charm of Abegweit—"on the crest of the waves"—this earthly summer paradise which we stay-at-homes so undervalue.

* * * *

As Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Armies in Italy, our new Governor-General, Sir Harold Rupert Leofric George Alexander is known to not a few of our officers and men who fought under him there, and all have a good word to say of him. He is an Ulsterman with all the grit and determination which characterizes that aggressive race, and has made a success so far of everything in warfare he has undertaken. His family seat is at Castle Caledon, Tryone, Northern Ireland.

* * * *

Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, born this date 1900; was Lady Elizabeth Angela Marguerite, daughter of the 14th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne; Lady of the Garter, Lady of the Thistle, Grand Master of the Royal Victoria Order, Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire, Royal Victoria Chain, D.C.L., D.L., Hon. Col. of numerous regiments, including the Toronto Scottish Regiment; became Queen December 11, 1936, being crowned December 12 of the following year; family, two daughters, Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose.

* * *

Government employees are not being demobilized. For a moment it seemed as though we might have an unemployment problem in Ottawa, but with Mr. Claxton's Baby Bonus staff, the inability of the Income Tax Branch to keep up with its work, the additions to staffs being made to deal with housing problems, and a general refusal of heads of departments and understrappers to think for a moment of reducing their staffs, Ottawa still remains the silly sort of a boom town which it has been since the War got going. Literally thousands of Government employees could be let go tomorrow, without any interference with necessary Government functions.

* * * *

There is a growing demand for an illustrated handbook of Charlottetown which should be met with as little delay as possible. The Guardian had a letter yesterday from a large advertising agency in Toronto asking for a series of photographs, either skyline or aerial views, general illustrated views of the City as it looks at present, and, for the historical part, some illustrated matter as the city was in by gone days. Here is a sort of publicity which our City Council and Board of **Trade would** find it would pay to undertake.

* * * *

First of a fleet of aircraft to be flown to Paris by the R. A. F. Transport Command for civil passenger and cargo service in France, the C-47 Datoka which took off from Dorval airport on Saturday last, arrived in Prestwick, Scotland, Sunday morning on the first stage of her trip. Although the plane is the first destined for use in France, it is only one of a large number of aircraft, converted for civil use, which are being delivered to European countries which are at present incapable of producing commercial planes to meet current requirements. Planes have already been delivered to Norway, Belgium and other continental countries as well as to Australia. The planes at present being delivered to France will have a distinctly cosmopolitan background by the time they reach their destination; they are being supplied from the United States and ferried to Canada by American airmen of French descent; modified from military to civil use by French-Canadian technicians and mechanics at the Cartierville airport; flown to France by the R. A. F. with a stop in Scotland, and piloted and navigated by French aviators who escaped from France after the German occupation and who have been flying out of Canada for the last four years with R. A. F. T. C.

Notes By The Way

There are two main types of people—those who know and those who don't. It wouldn't be so bad if those who know—were right. — London Free Press.

"This England" was the heading the London Daily Mail put on a Brighton item about a woman who went to collect her ration books. Startled to find only the office staff about, she asked: "Where is the queue?" She was told she could have her books immediately. "No, thanks," she said, "I'll come back when there's a queue."

That destiny was writing his future was indicated by the late FO. W. J. Maitland, D.F.M., son of Hon. R. L. Maitland, K.C., and Mrs. Maitland, when he was a boy of 12. This untitled poem, written by him at that age, was found recently by his parents in a boyhood scrapbook:

We are the heroes of the air,
We fight and laugh and die and roar;
To come near us no foe would dare
For such a stream of lead we pour.

Our planes go crashing to the ground;
Our men fear not the sight of Hell,
And some of us lie beneath a mound
Who for their King and Country fell.

Oh, how the dusky tempest blew
And the battle in the sky kept on.
As through the air the bullets flew
Until the brightness of the dawn.

The poem was written when young Maitland was a student at St. George's College, Vancouver. Six years later he was flying the war planes about which he wrote. He was posted as missing December 16, 1943, in a raid on Berlin. —Victoria Colonist.

The judge in an English assize court said that if young women did not want to be kissed at late hours of the night they had better not allow men they had not seen in their lives before to accompany them home. "Sometimes," he said, "they complain when they are kissed, and sometimes they complain when they are not. If women want to save themselves from unpleasant experiences, the best thing is not to walk out in the dark with young men they have not seen before. Young women do not allow young sailors to walk home with them to discuss Plato. They are young fools." — London Daily Mail.

Gen. Joe Stilwell made a speech before 1,400 officers and civilian officials of the Detroit Ordnance District at the Book-Cadillac. After his speech was over, Gen. Stilwell agreed to answer questions. One of the questions was whether he thought that the Communists in Russia and those in China would join forces actively and aggressively in the near future. Gen. Stilwell, mindful of the stars on his shoulders, weighed the question solmenly. Then he gave his answer—loudly, clearly, for at least two minutes. But his answer was in voluble Chinese, after which he smiled, winked and sat down. — New York Post.

No one, so far as has yet been shown, disagrees with Hon. R. P. Vivian, Ontario Minister of Health, that doctors must remain independent, no matter what form of health insurance is introduced into Canada. Why he even mentions the point is rather obscure, unless he is trying to make a subtle attack on the Dominion Government's proposals. Each such reference builds up the impression that there is some deep plot to make physicians mere employees of the state. Nothing of the kind has ever been proposed by any one in authority. The health insurance program adopts as a cardinal principle the right of the individual to choose his own medical attendant. No doctor in private practice can either be hired or fired by any governmental agency. This fact should be thoroughly understood and generally known. — Windsor Star.

Young men with high technical training along aeronautical lines, in other branches of engineering and the sciences, will certainly find Britain a land of opportunity. In spite of all that was said, especially at the start of the war, about obsolescent British methods, industrially Britain has the know-how, a way of doing things which enabled her to emerge from the war as the greatest per capita producer of all the nations. Recently a British authority announced that there would be at least two research men placed in industry after the war for every one employed by Government projects. —Toronto Globe and Mail.

It remained for a British scientist to learn the secret of making wool unshrinkable. What his preparation is no one knows, but we do know that it works. He made it available to the British Government during the war and it solved a great many problems connected with clothing the troops. It is understood only a couple of men besides the discoverer know how to make the preparation. In a factory which they have set up wool which has been washed and combed is received, treated and sent back to the textile company owning it, ready for further processing. It is said that a pair of socks made of the treated wool can be washed for two or three hours in soap and water which would shrink socks made from untreated wool to infant size, yet the treated wool socks come out of the wash soft and springy and as large as ever. —Lethbridge Herald.

It is said that in 1882, Bismarck told Hirobumi Ito, framer of the Japanese constitution, that with one Japanese asset the German empire could dominate Europe in 20 years and the world in 50 years, says Mai. Comptom Pakenham in Newsweek. The magic was shinto, emperor worship based on folklore. Thirty years later, Premier Count Okuma declared: "Everything we have done has been with the aim of identifying the individual with the throne and the ancient spirit of Japan." To enter the modern world, Japan armed itself with a largely spurious set of traditions, myths and ethics. The samurai (warriors) were abolished and the despised heimin (common people) now permitted to bear arms in the emperor's service, were soaked in these ideals. Having spuriously indoctrinated the masses with that philosophy for 60 years, the Government now finds that it must carry on the game. It would be almost impossible for a Jap to understand his leaders' complying in defeat. He probably would go to one of two extremes—either burst out on a violent revolutionary rampage or, as he so often does in everyday life, say shikata-ganai (to hell with it all), and sit down in a state of comatose despondency.

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.

CHARLOTTETOWN CITIZENS THANKED

Sir,—This is being written as an open letter to the people of Charlottetown, which I hope will be made public to them.

In this small way, I want to take the opportunity of expressing our extreme thanks for the kindness and generosity of the people of Charlottetown to the officers and men of H.M.C.S. "Huntsville" during our stay in your fair city.

We wish you all to accept our heartfelt vote of appreciation for the numerous kindnesses you showed us, and the kind and generous way in which you were all willing to take us, total strangers, into your homes. Words cannot adequately express our feelings, so we merely say, many, many thanks to you, one and all, people of Charlottetown.

As the Huntsville heads for the Pacific theatre of war, we all have fond and happy memories of Charlottetown to carry away with us.

I am, Sir, etc.,
GEORGE W. JAMIESON
Able Seaman.
H.M.C.S. "Huntsville."

THAT BUS LOCATION

Sir,—Notwithstanding the fact that I may again be snubbed by the writer of "Current Comments", appearing in the evening paper, I wish to refer further to the necessity of transferring the bus terminals from their present location on Queen Street.

I do not think this "Commenter" had any justification for classing your editorial of July 26th as a "snub" to or against any correspondent who might entertain a different conviction to that of your paper. Furthermore, The Guardian editorial referred to did not indicate a different viewpoint to that of its correspondent's. It only suggested that the authorities get together and evolve some settlement that would be in the best interest of all concerned. I thought it was a splendid editorial, so much so that I read it several times and derived much benefit from doing so. I do not think The Guardian is in the habit of "snubbing" anybody, or attributing ulterior motives to correspondents, when it does not agree with opinions expressed by such correspondents.

I can assure you I have no biased reason for advocating removal of the bus terminals. I acknowledge and appreciate the splendid transportation service these companies are giving the people of the Province, but I think the public whom they serve are entitled to better and more humane accommodation when they arrive in the City and as they prepare to depart, than they are now receiving. Even hogs, cattle and other livestock arriving here, are accorded more respectable treatment than that meted out to country people coming to Charlottetown. It is all take on our part and no give to these people.

I am convinced too, that the people of Charlottetown should not be deprived of their rights, as citizens, to the free use of every street and sidewalk without this continual interruption of traffic and blockade to pedestrians, of our main street. The City Council did right when they decided to instruct the bus companies to locate elsewhere on or before August 11, and I trust they will abide by their decision and not recant and somersault as they did a year ago. Let them help the bus companies all they can, and let everybody who can, help do his little bit. But clear up this congestion on Queen Street before "Old Home Week" comes round

Here's a suggestion I would make to the authorities, for what it is worth: Give the bus companies permission to locate on Grafton Street, east centre, opposite the Capitol Theatre. Lots of space there to alight and re-embark as each bus arrives or departs. The City could supply a traffic director during necessary periods, and slow down signs might be placed on either side. There are lovely shade trees there that would protect passengers from the torrid sun while waiting, and from rain, unless too severe, and even then, better than where they are. Benches could be provided where people could sit down or they could loll on the grass in comfort. A temporary office could be built cheaply and speedily, where company business could be transacted.

Finally, let the City collect a reasonable rental and the companies proceed with their plans for a permanent home as soon as conditions permit. To follow this suggestion would give the bus companies a very desirable, temporary, location where the traffic would be taken care of, and congestion would no longer be a menace to the public, or a nuisance to adjoining business concerns.

I am, Sir, etc.,
CITIZEN.

The Poets' Corner

WHO KNOWS A MOUNTAIN

Who knows a mountain?
One who has gone
To worship its beauty
In the dawn;
One who has slept
On its breast at night;
One who has measured
His strength to its height,

One who has followed
Its longest trail,
And laughed in the face
Of the fiercest gale;
One who has scaled its peaks,
And has trod
Its cloud-swept summits
Alone with God.

—Ethel Romig Fuller.

PROCLAMATION BY
His Honour Lieut. Governor J.A. Bernard
Regarding BRIGHTEN UP WEEK IN THE PROVINCE

In honor of our returned heroes and as a welcome to our summer visitors I do hereby Proclaim and set aside the week of August 6th to August 11th a

BRIGHTEN UP WEEK IN THE PROVINCE

Attention to Homes and Schools with Paint and Whitening, a General Cleaning up Process, AND THE FLYING OF FLAGS will add Beauty of Appearance and Value to Prince Edward Island and will make our Province more attractive to ALL RETURNING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES as well as to those who seek Recreation and Rest among us.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Government House, Charlottetown, this Twentieth Day of July 1945.

J. A. BERNARD,
Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island.

7-28-30-8-2-4-7-9-6i.

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PRIVATE HOME ACCOMMODATION

Required For

Provincial Exhibition and Old Home Week

August 14th to 17th Inclusive

From present indications there is an urgent need of many private homes being available for guests this year. While the dates are AUGUST 14th to 17th Inclusive many people will be arriving ahead of these dates.
If you can take some guests during this period will you please write or phone The City Hall—Phone No. 53 or 54, giving number of rooms and whether single or double beds. Also please advise if you can serve breakfasts or other meals.
The Provincial Exhibition means a lot to our City and Province and it is hoped citizens will help our friendly visitors in every way possible.

J. E. BLANCHARD,
Mayor.
7-28-8-4-11-3i

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