

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887) President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. Melure Vice-President: J. E. Burnett, F.J.I. Secretary: Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O. Editor and Managing Director: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I. Associate Editors: Frank Walker and Lieut. Ian A. Burnett, R.C.N.V.R. (On Active Service)

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25th, 1943

Same Old Hun Vandals

The latest chapter in the story of Hun vandalism has been uncovered in the smouldering ruins of Naples. The Royal Society of Naples, comprising four scientific and philosophic academies, had one of the world's finest libraries. Its shelves were filled with rare and beautiful books. It was a repository of the recorded hopes, dreams and strivings of mankind. It was these things, but it is no more. The libraries and their 200,000 priceless books were destroyed by fire by the Germans before they left Naples.

The Germans, of course, had an excuse for this wanton vandalism. On Sept. 19 a German soldier was killed in the Via Mezzocannone which runs along the University of Naples and the Library. The Germans shot a civilian, beat three sailors to death and descended upon the university with trucks loaded with gasoline and hand grenades.

German soldiers went from room to room and floor to floor in the library and university. They soaked the books and rugs and furniture with gasoline. Then they went methodically, if hurriedly, through the building, throwing hand grenades into the rooms. The fires burned for three days and when they had burned themselves out nothing was left but ashes.

Herbert L. Matthews of the New York Times has described the burning of the Naples library as the worst piece of vandalism the Germans have perpetrated since they burned the Louvain library in the last war. The Russians, who have seen similar exhibitions of wanton destruction in scores of their own cities, might be inclined to argue this point with Mr. Matthews and produce considerable evidence. But that German armies in retreat get into pyromaniacal frenzies which know no limits is something over which there can now be no grounds for disagreement.

A Sure Cure

Some recent campaign speeches by C. C. F. candidates for election recalls to "Printed Word" a rhyme entitled "The Socialist," which appeared in an English journal many years ago. It runs:

Oh, he preached it from the house-top, And he whispered it by stealth; He wrote all kinds of stuff about The awful curse of wealth. Yes, he spouted it and shouted it, And made the rich man wince; But an uncle left him money— And he hasn't shouted since.

Australia's War Effort

"Austerity has been the keynote not only of Government policy but of everyday life," says Frederick Palmer, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Melbourne, in a review of the economic conditions in Australia. "This policy," he says, "was largely forced on the Commonwealth by a shortage of consumer goods of all kinds due to the demands of the armed forces and to the diversion of manpower and productive equipment from civilian to military requirements. The effect of the diversion of manpower is apparent from the fact that two out of every seven men in the Commonwealth over the age of 18 years are in one of the armed forces, that vast numbers of young men have been taken into the auxiliary services, and that the number of persons absorbed into purely wartime factories reached an all-time high level as the war production plans of the Department of Munitions materialized."

Early in 1942 steps were taken to enroll every British subject resident in Australia. At the same time a change in the classification of industries was brought about, these being divided into three main groups on a priority basis. A committee of the War Cabinet was set up to review completely and periodically the whole question of manpower in relation to the fighting forces, production, and essential services.

To implement the proposals of the fighting services and the plans of the Allied Works Council, it was decided to create a civilian army of engineers known as the Civilian Construction Corps, which envisaged the employment of 35,000 men, most of whom were compulsorily enrolled and selected from the 45 to 55 age group, though men from 18 to 60 could also be directed to serve in the Corps. As a further step toward the conservation of manpower, a measure of labor "rationalization" was introduced. A reduction was made in bank hours, and overlapping of deliveries of merchandise from departmental stores, etc., was cut down. Women were placed where men had formerly been, for instance a Women's Land Army was recruited and is now doing excellent work.

To meet the increased cost of war, particularly following the entry of Japan into the conflict, Australia's budget underwent some radical changes calling for higher taxation. For many reasons it was decided to introduce in the Commonwealth a uniform tax plan. This replaced the former multiple taxing systems of the Commonwealth and States, and is to operate for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. Under this system the Commonwealth is the sole income taxing authority, and now collects income taxes formerly collected by the states, in addition to its own customs, excise and other taxes. In consideration of the states vacating the field, the Commonwealth Government pays compensation yearly to each state equivalent to the average of that state's collections from income tax for the financial years 1939-40 and 1940-41.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Welcome to the Minister of Defence — may he have a bumper house tonight.

Summerside continues its lead in patriotic endeavour—you cannot keep good men down. Congratulations.

A visit to Boston via Ottawa may have its advantages, but candidates for the vacancy on the Bench do not think it is cricket.

Now that we have a deputy Provincial Secretary and a deputy Provincial Treasurer, the next move no doubt will be for separate portfolios as well.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have discontinued the issue of gas respirators, because it is felt "danger of a surprise enemy gas attack on the Atlantic coast is apparently slight."

The Railway employees will no doubt follow the example of Bruce Stewart's, and make a name for themselves by going over the top in record time. The new divisional manager has already advised them that our trains must be run according to schedule, not five or ten minutes late.

Federal civil servants whose statutory annual salary increases have been more or less automatic now will have to qualify for them through meritorious service and increased usefulness, under the terms of a Treasury Board decision recently announced. It applies to both permanent and temporary employees of the federal government. The Treasury Board also announces that as from October 1, 1943, the salary increase to \$70 a month for Grade 1 employees, payable after 18 months' service, must be recommended on the new rating forms. Hereafter it has been payable on a certificate from the deputy head.

Sunday labour on the farm is prohibited in Ontario, and three farmers of York Township are being prosecuted for gathering "the fruits of the earth" on that day. The Lord's Day Act preserves the effectiveness in Ontario of the Act to Prevent Profanation of the Lord's Day, 1845, which is part of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada of 1859. This old act makes it unlawful for any person to "do or exercise any worldly labor, business or work," of their ordinary calling on Sunday, exempting the conveyance of travellers and mails, the sale of drugs or medicines and other works "of necessity" or of charity. The penalty ranges from fines of \$1 to \$40 and costs, and no alternative jail sentence is mentioned. But since the charges were made the justice department have taken cold feet, and intimate they will withdraw the charges when the hearing takes place on Wednesday.

Geoffrey Chaucer, first great English poet, died this date 1400; in early life was successively page, valet, esquire, soldier, diplomat, civil servant (comptroller of petty customs in the port of London); his works include "The Book of the Duchess," "The House of Fame," "Troilus and Criseyde," "The Legend of Good Women," and last and most important "The Canterbury Tales"; besides an absolute poetic position, Chaucer is important for his influence on language and metre; that English was substituting French in common use in his day is shown by the statute of 1362, that English should be employed in the law courts, but there were many dialects of English, and Chaucer's first great vernacular literature helped to create a central speech.

Look who that is most virtuous alway, In private and in public, and most attendeth ay, To do the gentle deeds that he can, And take him for the greatest gentleman.

Ottawa atmosphere shows a definite change. Even the most confirmed pinkos in the Government service now realize that it is not going to be possible to turn Canada into a Socialist state, in a Socialist world, and there are the first signs of a real attempt to lessen bureaucratic interference in the life of the ordinary man. Unfortunately, the vast machine of unnecessary bureaucracy is not easily reduced in proportions, and even those Ministers and leading civil servants who are anxious to cut its operations down are unwilling to take the drastic step of abolishing whole bureaus and thus discharging large numbers of employees. Urgent need at Ottawa is for a general clear out of the accumulated dead wood. Every department has acquired a certain number of highly paid officials, who no longer have any functions—either because of changed policies, or because of their own proved incompetence. Each of these still keeps an office and a staff, and there has not yet been a single case of one of them being cleared out.

Says the Letter-Review: Canadian Federation of Agriculture passes a resolution asking for more Government marketing agencies for foodstuffs. Two stories might illustrate the unwisdom of this: Western farmers resent the present low prices paid for wheat sold to Britain, and cannot even find out at what price their wheat is being sold. Canadian Bacon Board is vainly trying to persuade the Government to permit payment of a subsidy on bacon for domestic consumption, so that the price to Britain can be increased without breaking the price ceiling, and making cost of living trouble in Canada. Simple fact is that, in a democratic country, Government marketing agencies for foodstuffs merely mean that levels of all farm products would become matters of political controversy. In the international field, prices paid Canadian farmers would become matters of controversy in other countries. If the farmers think this is a good idea, they are very wrong. If there is anybody of opinion which should stand against Government marketing, it is the farmers. Does the Federation believe that it can keep consumers, in this country and abroad, from complaining about the prices they pay Canadian farmers, if those prices are fixed by Government order, and can be altered in the same way?

Notes By The Way

The camera cannot lie. No, but a smart photographer can catch you with some funny expressions on your face.—London Free Press.

There isn't really much choice. During a depression the wolf is at the door, and during a boom the collector is there.—Povanian News.

German prisoners of war are being sent to work making belts in Michigan. It may cause nostalgia among them, when they reflect that the folks back home are in a greatly better of a jam just now.—Windsor Star.

A very dangerous practice is that of removing the small glass "reflector buttons" which are used to point out danger spots to motorists at night. One-third of these buttons are stolen each year, creating hazards for night driving. Parents should point out to their offspring the gravity of the offence.—Niagara Falls Review.

In the past the pattern was for the Russians to retreat in the summer and advance in the winter. This year, having advanced in the summer, they have carried the habit over into succeeding months. If all goes well, by the time snow flies again they should be appreciating German frontiers.—Brantford Expositor.

A small, ambitious group of government employees believes that the future belongs to the feather. Feathers—100 percent protein—are considered to be excellent material for plastics. The Federal Feather Committee, headed by H. L. Shradler, of the Department of Agriculture is convinced these plastics may assume many forms, from surgical sutures to bumper noses and from lamp bases to thread for textiles. Or by a simpler process, feathers could be used for insulation and sound proofing.—Wall Street Journal.

A Fleet Street friend, recently back from Ireland, tells me that Dublin is now a-days almost as push-bike-minded as Holland. Even the taxis seem to be using a propelled cycle, no doubt because of the petrol shortage. Not only are the open air cycle parks crowded with these machines, but the manner of stores are turning themselves to storing or parking bikes. Dublin has a charming gun famine but chocolate is plentiful. It being recalled, however, at just double the price indicated on the packet—obviously enough, another street scene reported from the banks of the Liffey is mustard.—Nottingham Evening Post.

The heart of a modern skyscraper is the gearless elevator. Stop it from pumping people and freight to the many levels of a recent skyscraper at Rockefeller Center and the skyscraper becomes a cadaver of concrete and steel. Yet when a strike deprives us of the elevator it gets scant attention from its passengers. New York's 50,000 elevators carry about 17,500,000 passengers a day, considerably more than twice the number of people living in the city. This seeming paradox is explained by the fact that everyone who comes up must come down, and that makes two rides. Some people have many ups and downs in a day, messengers and salesmen, for example, and their elevators thus carry almost thrice the combined traffic of subways, street cars and elevated trains.—New York Times.

In the Ohio valley in the frontier days corn was plentiful but wheat was scarce. The Cincinnati Enquirer. Then in July when the wheat was threshed, and it was done by hand, the way with a flail, a quart or so of the golden kernels was gathered up by the housewife and boiled until the kernels were soft. The new wheat so cooked was served with cream and sugar. In those days people were accustomed to cereals; in fact they did not eat bread, but this fresh wheat prepared in this manner was a great treat. Possibly it would not be so good now because we have so many excellent breakfast foods. Nevertheless in the old days it was held in high regard, and it is good to eat it again. Certainly our grandfathers told about it with gusto. They remembered it as a rare delicacy.

Refugees by the hundreds of thousands are being "walked out" of Szechwan province, under supervision of the Chinese Industrial Corporation in West China. The corporation is a "re-education center" designed to help those who arrive in the west without food or money and in a semi-starving condition. They are to be grouped in groups of about 50. Many belong to families of soldiers—a grandmother, a typical group. Each family has a wheelbarrow for possessions, planning to take their families. The groups travel 10 miles a day. Paochi, in Szechwan province, made a home town by the war, is seat of the refugee resettlement program. From there workers are sent to the co-operative lime kilns, brick yards, coal mines, timber, weaving and spinning projects throughout Free China.

Educators in this country, as in the United States and elsewhere, have noticed what they call a "renaissance" of interest in geography. The global character of the war has undoubtedly stimulated this quickened interest. The men in the armed forces are keen to know something about the countries to which they may be sent. Civilians at home with relatives in distant lands are also eager to learn about the world. Then, too, there is general curiosity as to why the loss of the enemy occupiers of seemingly remote countries affects the supply of commodities and foodstuffs which the average household has taken for granted. Because of this, wide-awake teachers, say the educators, should "teach geography for its own sake." Such an approach, which is essential if there is to be a warless world of human brotherhood.—Halifax Herald.

COMMANDER AT 30 General James Wolfe was only 30 years of age when he took over the command of the British army sent against the French fortress of Quebec.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of questions of interest. The CharloTTetown Guardian does not assume responsibility for the opinions of correspondents.

NO REAL FOOD "SURPLUS"

Sir,—I note by the news columns that Lord Lighthow, speaking for the last time as Viceroy of India, told the Assembly of the Chamber of Princes that he believed in the ideal of federation as the solution of India's political problems. He also "urged" the states to grow more food so as to banish the threat of famine and pile up reserves very intolerant. No doubt the immediate cause of the present food position in that great country is the occupation of Burma—with its vast export rice tonnage—by the enemy. On the other hand, it has to be remembered that many millions of people throughout India are undernourished and hungry. All attempts of the United Nations are to succeed in their plans for "The Four Freedoms," there is an immense job ahead for the food producers, not only in India and China, but throughout the world. In pre-war days as you know, our people were very intolerant of anything in the nature of a surplus, or food reserves. There was no machinery (national or international) to take care of the immediately unwanted supplies—and they either "eat their head off" or "rot" in the dumps, or destroyed the price-structure by being "dumped" on a glutted market. Just as soon as the appropriate form of machinery is "in being," to handle these so-called "surpluses" locally or in the wider fields of national and international trade, short of the silly game of ruining the primary producers, it will be safe to go ahead. Otherwise, optimum production is an invitation for the farmer to destroy valuations both at home and abroad.

There are no real "food surpluses" I have just come in from Ontario's bin or in stores, or discountaire (Yonge St.) and even here in so-called "well-fed Canada," observed plenty of folks who obviously were ill-clothed and undernourished! So we've a long way to go, to get this old world on a basis of "freedom from hunger" and want? I am, Sir etc. W. P. D.

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Clip These Coal Tips

If you've never used soft coal, be sure to ask your coal dealer for an instruction card showing the best firing methods. Burning soft coal or mixtures of hard and soft requires a different firing technique.



How To Burn Soft Coal

If you've never used soft coal, be sure to ask your coal dealer for an instruction card showing the best firing methods. Burning soft coal or mixtures of hard and soft requires a different firing technique.

Is GETTING UP



Getting You DOWN?

If morning finds you only half rested, still weary... If your sleep is broken by fitful tossing and turning... If you can't seem to settle down to relaxing rest... your kidneys may be to blame. When your kidneys get out of order, your sleep usually suffers. To help your kidneys regain a normal condition to help you enjoy restful sleep—use Dodd's Kidney Pills, a favorite treatment for more than half a century. Dodd's Kidney Pills are easy to use and are not habit forming. Ask for Dodd's Kidney Pills at any drug counter. Look for the blue box with the red band. 127

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IN FLANDERS

"I'm homesick for my hills again—My hills again! To see above the Severn plain, Unsubdued against the sky, The blue high fields of Cotswold lie: The giant clouds go royally By jagged Malvern with a train Of shadows. Where the land is low Like a huge imprisoning O I hear a heart that's sound and high. I hear the heart within me cry: 'I'm homesick for my hills again—My hills again!'" —F. W. Harvey

THROAT SORE?



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NATIONAL WAR FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Table with columns: BEFORE REVOLUTION, FREE TUITION. Rows: Jean Jacques Rousseau, The Duke of York's Royal Military School, etc.

Fifth Victory Loan Public Meetings

Table with columns: Date, Location. Rows: Oct. 25th Borden, Oct. 26th Vernon River, Oct. 25th No. Wiltshire, Oct. 27th Cardigan, Oct. 26th New Glasgow, Oct. 28th York, Oct. 26th New Glasgow, Oct. 28th Souris.

All meetings begin at 8 p.m. Patriotic and inspirational films will be shown. Prominent speakers will briefly present the story of the Fifth Victory Loan. Lojally promote and assist the Campaign by your presence.

NATIONAL WAR FINANCE COMMITTEE.

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to be held under the auspices of the P. E. I. Fox Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association

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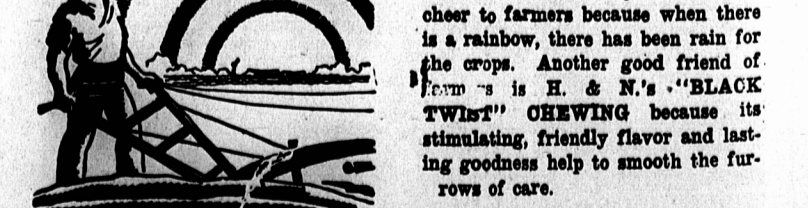
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For further information write the Secretary, Lieut.-Col. D.A. MacKinnon, D.S.O., Charlottetown, Prince.

R.S. Humphrey, Kensington, Vice-President. W.R. Shaw, Department of Agriculture, Secretary.

RAINBOW



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