THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1943.

Prohibition's Drawback

Like everyone of his predecessors, from Premier Peters onwards, Premier Campbell in his "Swan Song" as head of the Government confesses the impracticability of making Prohibition wholly effective, or even comprehensive. Premier Saunders, it may be recalled, similarly declared that it was impossible to enforce prohibition, the bootleggers always being one move ahead of the enforcing officers. Away from the responsibility of administering the Act, and from his place on the bench, Mr. Saunders suggested fewer restrictions on the padlocking of bootleg premises, and Premier Campbell replies that that will be attempted, though the difficulties in the way, where there are third party interests, are manifest.

The traffic, moreover, is not confined to specific premises or individuals, it is general in both urban and rural communities. A clergyman the other day complained that a young man of his congregation, of Godly parentage, was being lured to destruction through association with a gang who "could take their liquor like gentlemen" and apparently be none the worse for it, whereas the youngster could not and was neglecting his business and home. He did not know whether the gang consumed vendor's or bootleg liquor, moonshine or extracts. What he was aware of was that the youngster's mother was heartbroken over her son's waywardness. How many other mothers are similarly distressed? And this in a so-called Prohibition Island, as a former Speaker of the House, used to remind us, "entirely surrounded by water." One of the troubles is that our Prohibitionists themselves have fallen from grace. In the old days there was a strong self-convinced phalanx of Prohibition advocates who both preached and pracised absolute abstention. That generation is almost extinct; now for the most part we have merely political Prohibitionists who use the cry as a means to an end—that end being largely their own financial gain, political and otherwise. Redemption is not hereditary much though one would like it to be. Each sucessive generation must go through the process, and that is why we have churches, that is why it is so essential the young should be brought up to exercise self-control and taught how to keep as far as possible the straight and narrow path, and why hope is held out of salvation to those who having gone astray, may seek to return—but

"Make not the path offensive to our God
By spreading it with carpets."

Make-believe is not righteousness nor merely political prohibition, individual or community, salvation. As the Premier put it, that is but a balloon expanded by wind, where pressure on one part simply makes a bump on another part, and when the pressure is removed the balloon resumes its windy rotundity. This, of course, does not relieve the Government of blame for lax enforcement. The Premier assumed sole responsibility for the enforcement of the Prohibition Act, and amended it to suit his purposes. The best enforcement the law ever had was when, under the Mathieson Government its administration was placed in the hands of a commission of clergymen. This did not commend itself to Liberal politicians, consequently when Mr. Bell assumed office he substituted politicians for parsons, Premier Campbell going one better replacing the political commission by a solitary politician with power to investigate his own administration. That is the sort of Prohibition we have today, and that is one reason why both Judge Saunders and Premier Campbell regret laxity of observance and difficulty in enforcement.

Labrador Lands

The question has been revived of the prospects of Canada purchasing Labrador from Newfoundland. The St. John's (Nfld.) Evening Telegram shows that numerous interests are involved. It says:

During the hearings of the Labrador Boundary Case before the Privy Council, it was shown that Newfoundland had for many years made grants of land in the territory to various parties. These included the issue of 17 licenses in 1898, 17 in 1901-02, and 17 in 1903. Altogether, the timber grants issued in those five years totalled 10,782 square miles. In 1910 a grant was made to the Hamilton Pulp and Lumber Company of 4,810 square miles and others to the same concern of 560, 486 and 107 square miles, totalling in all 5,963 square miles The area was acquired under a 99 years lease at the rate of $2.00 per square miles and the payment of a royalty of 25 cents per 1,000 feet board measure. It was subject to the provision, that the concern should complete the construction of sawmills with a cutting capacity of 1, 192,000 feet every twenty-four hours and should continue to work the same.

The timber-rush outlined above, comprising 16,745 square miles, by no means includes all the land claims that have been staked in Labrador. Some are known to have lapsed under the provisions laid down in the Crown Lands Act for failure to pay rents or royalties or for other infractions of the conditions to which the licenses are subject, but beyond the fact that over 10,000 square miles are still held, detailed information on the present situation is not available.

Some of these grants cover as well as the timber areas the water powers situated within their boundaries. In other words, they comprise the prime visible resources of Labrador. Were Canada to make a purchase proposition, a first condition would be that Newfoundland gave the Dominion a clear title. In other words, the claims of the licenses would have to be satisfied. And what sum would satisfy them?

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

All Fools' Day, consecrated from immemorial ages to the practice of making "an April fool" of one's friends by deceptive jokes, usually of a practical nature.

* * * *

Helping to solve the stipend problem, Rev. M. Mitchell, Congregational minister at Tillingham and Steeple in Essex, England, is more than a parson. He reports for duty every day at 6 a.m. at a local bakehouse to assist with the bread-making and also covers 15 miles a day as a postman.

* * * *

John Frederick Denison Maurice, Fabian Socialist, professor, preacher and editor, died this date 1872; ordained 1834; became editor of the Athenaeum, the leading literary and political weekly in London; appointed professor of Moral Philosophy, Cambridge 1866; leader of the Christian Socialists and joint-editor of "Politics for the People"; founded the Working Men's College and Queen's College for Women, London; friend of Charles Kingsley and Thomas Hughes, author of "Tom Brown's School Days"; wrote, "The Kingdom of Christ", "Religions of the World," etc.

* * * *

Chicago Tribune and its proprietor Col. McCormick are anti-British and have been ever since the war began. Nevertheless here is the tribute the Tribune paid Britain on the recent occasion of Premier Stalin's demand for an immediate "second front" in Europe: "Great Britain saved Russia in the twelve months between the fall of France in June 1940 and the Nazi attack on the Soviets in June 1941. The critical battle was not in Stalingrad in 1942-43, it was over London in 1940. The Soviet Union cannot fully repay the British people by any sacrifice yet made or to be made."

* * * *

"The Courts of Justice, (writes W. Valetine Ball), are illumined by eight lamps: the lamp of integrity, which has burned brightly for several centuries; the lamp of independence, which has been totally extinguished in some foreign countries; the lamp of dignity, exemplified by the very appearance of the Judge; the lamp of wisdom; the lamp of patience; the lamp of courage, which is necessary when decisions are given contrary to public opinion; the lamp of humour, which it is impossible and, indeed, undesirable to exclude; and, lastly, the lamp of truth, which burns but dimly at the commencement of a suit but which finally outshines all the others."

* * * *

The London Observer's learned military correspondent wrote last Sunday: ". . . the Allied answer (to the Axis) was given unequivocally and unconditionally at Casablanca. One cannot stress this too often. The Second Front in Europe was under-written, by implication if not in so many words. The time set for it was nine months. However, a great expedition to Europe is possible only in spring or summer; therefore the time limit available reduces itself to six months at the most . . . The half-year which now lies before us may be the most fateful that mankind has ever faced..." For the Canadians this bursting spring brings the fateful test. It is revealing no military secret to say that in all the plans for the grand offensive the Canadians will play a very big, if not the central, role.

* * * *

Our former fellow-citizen Professor F. Clyde Auld of Toronto, told the Board of Trade club of that city that Philosophies and doctrines which are the antithesis of democracy are being "actively propagated" in many Canadian institutions of learning. "Natural law, natural justice, the law of God, are terms which are contemptuously disregarded by many teachers of our citizenry," he said. "These commonplaces of the 'modern' classroom are a philosophical fifth column against which we must fight." Asked after the meeting if he would amplify his statement, Professor Auld said: "All I would like to say is that not enough stress is being laid upon democratic principles." Dr. H. J. Cody, president of the University of Toronto said later that "as far as we know, and I am reasonably sure of my observations, no Nazi principles are being propagated at the University of Toronto nor is it true that democratic principles are neglected here."

* * * *

Here is another instance of the incompetence or neglect of Bureaucrat Hon. Humphrey Mitchell. Mr. John Diefenbaker (Prog. Con. Lake Centre) protested in the House of Commons against what he said was an incomplete return of correspondence between Arthur MacNamara, director of National Selective Service, and Divisional Selective Service Boards. Labor Minister Mitchell said if any letters were left out he would see they were produced. Mr. Diefenbaker said replies of only three boards to Mr. MacNamara's letter interpreting the arrangements for postponement of call-up of farmers had been in the return and that replies of four or five boards did not appear. "I protest against this action," he said. "It is a patent denial of the rights of this House." "I have never and do not intend at any time to mislead this House," said Mr. Mitchell. He suggested Mr. Diefenbaker might have brought the matter up in a "more gentlemanly way." When Mr. Diefenbaker protested he changed his words to "more friendly." "If there has been any slip-up," said Mr. Mitchell, "and there may have been—we are not all perfect as my honorable friend—if any letter has not been brought down I will see that it is produced." Yet, as responsible minister, he it is who is responsible for the correspondence and its production, when called for in the House

Notes By The Way

One army prospect taking his physical examination was asked by the doctor if he could read the fourth line on the eyechart. "Read it," xclaimed the prospect. "Why, I know the guy personally. He played right guard for Fordham last Fall." — From the Boston Globe.

A certain very happily married college professor, delivering a graduation address, had this to say to the listening students: "Gentlemen, many of you will marry. Let me entreat you to be kind to your wives. Be patient with them. When one of you ask your wife to go riding with you, do not worry if she is not ready at the appointed time. Have a good book nearby. Read it while you wait. And, gentlemen"—his kindly smile showed a trace of irony—"I assure you that you will be astonished at the amount of information you will acquire."—Hamilton Spectator.

It is rather astonishing what has been done in Canada by many people to adjust themselves to wartime circumstances. Some are disposed to use the word sacrifice, but at most Canadians have sacrificed little indeed, if that term is allowed, compared with the suffering, want and privations of millions of men, women and children in the enslaved countries of Europe. Perhaps such problems as we have had in our country will make us a stronger, more resourceful people than we were before the war began. — Kingston Whig-Standard.

A colleague tells me of an incident which, he says, shows how strictly the rule as to the queueing up of people waiting to board buses is respected and enforced in London. A bus was approaching a stopping place in Whitehall and while it was in motion a Naval officer jumped on. He was still on the platform when the bus stopped and the conductor said: "Sorry, sir, but you've forgotten the queue." The Naval officer promptly apologized. "Oh, good Lord, so I have. I'm sorry," he said. Then he got off the bus and went to the end of the queue. The officer was Lord Louis Mountbatten, Chief of Combined Operations.—Belfast News-Letter.

There is an old saying that Spring has come when you can put your foot on three daisies at once. This would never do in Canada. We are thankful for small mercies here, and if only the dirty snow and ice, which have long since worn out their welcome, will melt, we will look upon our sear and withered grasslands with as much affection as though they were the greenest meadows in Arcady. We seize brooms, and sweep away the sand which the departure of Winter leaves everywhere in our Canadian cities, as merrily as ever our ancestors danced round the Maypoe. Life in our hard climate has made us humble in our demands.—Peterborough, Examiner.

There is a squabble on in Toronto over remarks made by Col. George Drew, in an educational controversy. Col. Drew is quoted: "There's been a little too much carrying the ideas of democracy, to the point that children have as much right to express opinions as the teachers. Firm measures supported by the mandate of the strap still have an important place." It is true enough there is a modern school of thought against corporal punishment of youths, but there are also a lot of old fashioned people who still see the benefits. "Spare the rod and spoil the child," has been sound reasoning for a long time. If it has gone out of fashion so widely, then it may explain the growth of juvenile delinquency so much heard of.—St. Catharines Standard.

What Russia needs now is the backing the United Nations are according her, and the mutual sympathy and practical aid the United Nations freely extend. Russia will become the mightiest weapon of war, and the most enduring instrument of peace. Canada has provided Russia with $50,000,000 worth of tanks in addition to large shipments of other war equipment without reimbursement. This is not an act of charity, but one of justice to a great people whose friendship we reciprocate. Let us believe that when the dramatic moment comes to voke a peace council. Russia's share in forcing the bloody rulers to retreat where they will no longer pollute the air that kind and just men breathe will be generously acknowledged. — Montreal Star.

The death of Prince Eitel Friedrich Hohenzollern, second son of the late Kaiser Wilhelm, in Potsdam, Germany, after a heart attack at the age of 59, leaves five of the Kaiser's seven children: the former Crown Prince, Princes Adalbert, August Wilhelm, Oscar and Princess Victoria, the Duchess of Brunswick. The Kaiser's youngest son, Prince Joachim, committed suicide in 1920. The heavy-set Hohenzollern scion served as commander of a cavalry division in the First World War and made his headquarters far behind the front lines. He married Duchess Sophie Charlotte of Oldenburg in Berlin on February 27, 1906. They were divorced on October 20, 1926. — Hamilton Spectator.

Scotland and its people are given credit for a few things and bitterly blamed for a good many more. So we are not greatly surprised to learn that Scotland is responsible for the first highway tax which was in effect some four centuries ahead of our modern gasoline tax. In the early Sixteenth Century, the Canongate was one of the first paved streets in Edinburgh. It was also the main street of the medieval Scottish capital. Soon after the paving of the Canongate was finished, James V. of Scotland in 1535 issued a proclamation governing all traffic on the newly-paved street and the law applied equally to private and government owned vehicles. Empty carts and wagons using the Canongate were compelled to pay a tax of one-half penny every time they travelled along the street. Loaded carts and other vehicles paid a tax of one penny to "repair and maintain the causeway." History does not record whether the ancient tax was actually used to repair the roads or whether, like the modern gasoline tax it was just an excuse to provide an ample supply of spending money, but either way it was the Scotch that originated the scheme. And the Stuart King who started it was a Tory too.—Huron Expositor.

Our Car Ferry Rights

By Confederationist

IV.

I said in my last that our voice in the Commons had become feeble to the point where it is hardly heard.

Only one voice has been heard there this year in respect to our communication with the Mainland, —tnat of Doctor Grant.

The first serious attempt to implement the Federal Contract with us was that made by the late Honourable Robert Borden who always showed himself sympathetic to this Province.

Before he came to power he promised that if elected he would take the proper means of ascertaining the best possible way of implementing the Federal Contract.

After he attained power, he immediately took such steps and the piers at Borden and the present car ferry were the result. But that was twenty-six years ago and what was then a great step towards improvement on former conditions is not satisfactory today.

When some years ago, the question as to a new car ferry arose, a delegation was sent from this Province to discuss the question of improvement. The delegation met Mr. J. Hingerford at his home and spent a considerable time discussing the question. At last Mr. Hingerford said, "What would you say as to a causeway across the Straits." The delegates asked whether such a causeway was possible. Mr. Hingerford replied that he had had his engineers working on the problem and that they had given him their opinion that such a causeway could be built, and that the cost was not considered excessive. Mr. Hingerford then promised to have the matter further looked into, but that in any case the delegates could be assured that if the causeway could not be built, immediate steps would be taken to build a new car ferry.

Mr. Hingerford subsequently announced that although the engineers were still of the same opinion respecting the causeway, the stone for the purpose was not available at hand and that the costs of transportation of such stone was considered prohibitive. The new car ferry "Charlottetown" was built.

I will return to the subject.

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.

THE PROHIBITION DEBATE

Sir,— Spectators at the Provincial Legislature yesterday afternoon were treated to the interesting sight of a number of the elected representatives held at naught the expressed will of the people of the province. At any time, and much more now when democracy is challenged by powerful forces of evil, this snapping of scornful fingers should give citizens food for thought. There should not be a single negative vote when the moment for decision on the "50 script limit" arrives.

Most noticeable was the brushing aside by Dr. W.J.P. MacMillan of the relevant facts and the introduction of arguments which can be described only as picayune. Dr. MacMillan's concern for the "poor old people who believe a bottle is of great value" was touching. He failed to remark on the large number of young men who are ruining their lives and bringing grief and despair to their families, by this same narcotic. "The Legislature has no right to dictate" to the doctors in the matter of administering alcoholic liquors," the doctor stated. According to this argument doctors should have special privileges for anti-social practices. Any person guilty of anti-social behavior should be restrained, no matter what his profession. Dr. MacMillan indicated certain limited uses for alcohol, as a medicine, but very limited. Ten prescriptions a month for each doctor would far exceed such requirements. On the other hand the doctor, as the only medical man in the Legislature, failed his fellow-members miserably in that he refused to give them the whole truth as he, in the front rank of his profession, certainly knows it.

I am, Sir, etc.
R.E. SHAW.
Sec'y. Temperance Federation.

The Poet's Corner

FROM: LYCIDAS

Alas! what boots it with uncessant care
To tend the homely, slighted, shepherd's trade
And strictly meditate the thankless Muse?
Were it not better done, as others use,
To sport with Amaryllis in the shade,
Or with the tangles of Neaera's hair?
Fame is the spur that the clear spirit doth raise
(That last infirmity of noble mind)
To scorn delights, and live laborious days;
But the fair guerdon when we hope to find,
And think to burst out into sudden blaze
Comes the blind Fury with the abhorr-ed shears
And slits the thin-spun life. "But not the praise"
Phoebus replied and touch'd my trembling ears:
"Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil,
Nor in the glistering foil
Set off to the world, nor in broad rumor lies:
But lives and spreads aloft by those pure eyes
And perfect witness of all-judging Jove;
As he pronounces lastly on each deed,
Of so much fame in heaven expect thy meed."

—John Milton.

ROYAL OBSERVER CORPS

MANCHESTER — (CP) — The Royal Observer Corps, Britain's volunteer eys and ears against air attack, is being re-organized. Members will be given definite ranks, uniforms to wear on duty and each must pass an efficiency test every six months.

Great Prospects For Cheese

We expect to be able to pay you TOP PRICES for your milk this year.

We can sell all the cheese faster than we can make it, start sending now as we may not be able to handle all the milk later on. Parties wanting to haul milk on the old established routes we had last year get in touch with us at once. We have had very satisfactory results with our Cheese last year. We guarantee you highest returns for your Milk Products.

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Resignation Row

(From the Winnipeg Tribune)

Another open pit yawns in that Ottawa graveyard known as Resignation Row, and the tombstone is to bear the name of Colonel John Thomson, the Goverment's Director of Economy Control.

Just beyond is the empty sarcophagus that was to contain the mortal remains of Brigadier Harold Riley. He was pronounced particularly dead by the Minister of National Defence, guaranteed certifiable Category E. But within a fortnight, that bodysnatching Minister of Labor, Humphrey Mitchell, robbed the graveyard, brought Riley to life by sleight of hand and put him in charge of national call-up. Whereupon the Department of National Defence, always glad of a miracle made him a Major General. And still, at the witching hour, certain other ghosts haunt the eerie shades of Resignation Row—Chester and Duncan, Sifton and Woodward—spectres that Ottawa delights not to dwell upon in thought.

Colonel Thompson, somewhat like Brigadier Riley, resigned for "purely personal reasons" which, Major General LaFleche suggests, are concerned with health. "It is purely a question of overwork", says the Minister of National War Services.

Overwork, that is the mot juste. It has nothing to do, for example, with some things that Colonel Thompson "never said" about departmental waste and crazy extravagances.

No, it is just "overwork".

Attacking Churchill

(Winnipeg Free Press)

The most vituperative of the C. C. F. platform performers is Clarence Gillis, M. P. for Cape Breton South; this gives him high marks for this doubtful kind of human activity. In a recent speech at Hamilton he laid about him right lustily, making a number of statements about a variety of things for which he and his party will find themselves held accountable. R. B. Hanson, in a speech in Parliament critical of the C. C. F. party, quoted Mr Gillis as saying at this meeting that the people of Great Britain "would have to get rid of the Churchills to attain their ideals". This identified Mr. Churchill not only as politically undesirable himself but as the very type of public man unworthy of office and power. Mr. Gillis was so incensed at Mr. Hanson's remarks that he could not wait for an opportunity to reply in Parliament. He rushed into print with an interview in which he said that Mr. Hanson regarded Mr. Churchill as beyond criticism; but he wanted it distinctly understood that no man could claim exemption from his gentle attentions.

Mr. Hanson as we understand it, took no such position as attributed to him. He quoted Mr. Gillis's statement as a sample of the attitude taken by the C. C. F. towards public men, no matter how eminent, if they do not agree with Mr. Gillis and the other members of his conventicle. If Mr. Gillis and his associates do not know that Mr. Hanson scored heavily against them by drawing the attention of the Canadian public to this cheaply insulting remark about Winston Churchill, they will find out in due time how damaging it has been to them.

* * *

CANNING IS A "MUST" IN 1943

48 VESSELS PURCHASED

OTTAWA, March 29 — (CP) — Government departments have purchased 48 privately-owned vessels since the outbreak of war, said a return tabled in the Commons today for G.K. Fraser (Prog. Con. Peterborough West). Of these the army purchased 26 R.C.A.F. 20 and the navy and transport departments one each.

War 25 Years Ago To-Day

By The Canadian Press

April 1, 1918—Royal Air Force created by merging the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service. British forces in Mesopotamia reached points threatening Aleppo. White Star Liner Celtic torpedoed off Irish coast but reached port safely.

Mortgage Sale

There will be sold by Public Auction in front of the County Court House at Souris in King's County in Prince Edward Island on Saturday the Seventeenth day of April, A. D. 1943 at the hour of twelve o'clock noon ALL THAT TRACT piece or parcel of of land situate lying and being at Rollo Bay Cross Roads in Lot or Township Number Forty-four (44) in King's County aforesaid, and bounded and described as follows that is to say:—Bounded on the West by the Bear River Line Road; on the North by land in possession of Michael Sweeney; on the East by land in possession of Fidelle Deagle, Jr., and on the South by the Rollo Bay Road leading from Souris West to the Head of Rollo Bay and containing by estimation TWENTY-FIVE ACRES of land a little more or less and being that part of the farm formerly owned by Oliver Cheverie which is situated North of the Rollo Bay Road

The above sale is made under and by virtue of and pursuant to a power of sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the second day of December A. D. 1916 and made between Mary Cheverie of Rollo Bay Centre, in King's County, in Prince Edward Island, Single Woman, of the one part and Arthur F. McQuaid of Souris in King's County aforesaid, Executor and Trustee under the last Will and testament of Allan L. McDonald, deceased; and because of default having been made in the payment of the principal and interest secured thereby.

For further particulars apply to Arthur F. McQuaid, Solicitor, Souris, P. E. I.

Dated this Ninth day of March A. D. 1943.

ARTHUR F. McQUAID,
Executor and Trustee under the last Will and Testament of Allan L. McDonald, deceased
Mortgagee.

3-11-18-25-1-41

NOTICE

Sealed Tenders will be received by the undersigned up to and including Monday, April 5th for Secretary Treasurer for New Glasgow Dairying Co., tenders to state wages per year for putting out cheques once a month for six months and twice a month from May to October.

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LONDON —(CP)— First woman to fly Britain's heaviest four-engined bombers is 28-year-old First Officer Lettice Curtis of the Air Transport Auxiliary. Soon, it is hoped, the A.T.A. will have 20 women pilots capable of flying these big planes.

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