

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1946

The B. I. S.

The anniversary of Saint Patrick, which falls on Sunday this year, is a fitting occasion on which to pay tribute to an organization which has an unbroken record of charitable and benevolent activities in this Province for over a hundred and twenty years. We refer, of course, to the Irish Benevolent Society. It was established in Charlottetown under the patronage of His Excellency Col. John Ready, an Irishman of great distinction who arrived here in the year 1824 as Lieutenant Governor.

A record of the Society's first quarterly meeting has been preserved, with the names of the first officers, who were re-elected for the ensuing year. They were Francis Longworth, Esq., president; J. B. Palmer, Esq., vice-president; Messrs. Cornelius Little, assistant president; Dennis Reddin, treasurer; Charles Des-Brasay, secretary. Committee of Charity: The Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, Messrs. Daniel Brennan, John O'Brien, Thomas Daley, John Cardiff.

Other early presidents of the Society were Messrs. William Mitchell, James Reddin, Hon. Edward Palmer (later Chief Justice), Dennis Reddin, Charles Quirk, William Longworth, Hon. Edward Whelan, Hon. James Warburton, Cornelius Little, Daniel Brennan, James Byrne, John Kelly, and W. C. DesBrasay.

From the start, the aims of the B. I. S. have been threefold: the relief of the poor of all creeds and races; the perpetuation of Irish national sentiment; and the performance of works of benevolence. The familiar emblem of harp, crown and shamrock engraved on the seal of the Society, has become almost synonymous to our citizens with these objectives.

For many years now the Society has sponsored a St. Patrick's performance in aid of its benevolent fund. This year they are presenting an Irish-American comedy, "Cinderella O'Reilly" at the Prince Edward Theatre on Monday and Tuesday next. The entertainment will be well worth the admission price, but more important than that is the opportunity it affords all our citizens of expressing in a practical way their appreciation of what this grand old Society means to the community.

Farm Dilemma

A grave dilemma plainly faces the Canadian Government in deciding whether or not to encourage expansion of our wheat acreage. Although food reserves are down so low that farm economists say there is no more than enough to carry live stock through to the new crop; although the United States is expected to urge increased acreage on the Dominion in view of growing alarm over a world famine—there is still hesitation in Ottawa. For a jump in wheat acreage means a sharp curtailment in vitally-needed live stock production and a sacrifice in moisture-saving summer fallow, or in coarse grains; that is known to be at the root of Federal obstinacy in holding out against expansion.

Another grim reminder on hand from the period after the First World War is noted by the Hamilton Spectator. Canada's vastly swollen wheat acreage brought golden profits to the west and to the entire country. That was the day of \$2.00 wheat; of heavy immigration, and of a limitless agricultural vista which was no less helpful to our manufacturing industries.

But as Europe's war-seared farmlands came back into production, the market for our wheat slowly closed on us. Economic "self-sufficiency," fostered largely by the dread of being again dependent in war-time on outside sources of foodstuffs—Germany was a notable example—struck one customer after another off our list. Surpluses piled up in Canada's prairie elevators and prices collapsed. Even the great regulating hand of nature, in the terrible years of drought in the thirties, could not raise the world price. Canada, whose exportable surpluses once virtually set prices, was not now the factor it had for so long been.

Number One Northern wheat had been over \$2.50 a bushel just after the war; in 1926 it was \$1.51, but by 1932 it had collapsed to 59 cents.

What that meant to the buying power of the prairies could hardly be estimated. Farmers' incomes were slashed by two-thirds and more. It reacted everywhere. They had learned a lesson in wheat acreage expansion that would not easily be forgotten.

The Worker Loses

In a recent issue of the Monthly Survey, the official publication of the American Federation of Labor, there is an arresting illustration of the cost of a strike to the average worker. If workers earning one dollar an hour are

offered an increase of 12 cents by the management, refuse it, and strike for an increase of 18 cents an hour, the possible monetary benefits of the prospective six cent an hour higher wage begin to shrink rapidly as the strike is prolonged. For instance, if the workers stay out on strike for eight weeks in order to obtain an additional increase of six cents an hour, they will lose wages of eight weeks of 40 hours at \$1.12 an hour, or \$358 in all.

If the strike is successful and the wage increase of 18 cents an hour is granted (instead of the 12 cents which was first offered) it will take the workers three years at six cents an hour to offset the loss of wages during the eight-week strike.

If a compromise is reached and only three cents above the original offer of \$1.12 an hour is secured, it will take almost six years to make up the loss.

Income taxes on these extra earnings would tend to prolong, in practice, the time it would require to equalize the loss of income during the strike. Strike pay and subsequent overtime would also affect the calculations, but the fact remains that a strike is often as damaging to workers as it is to management.

Finally, "if the extra 3 cents or 6 cents breaks the price ceiling," continues the A. F. of L. publication, "workers may take losses they can never regain. For every family with savings or life insurance, each dollar will be reduced to 95 cents or 92 cents in buying power."

This warning by the official organ of the powerful American Federation of Labor deals only with the strikers' losses. No one has yet figured up what the general taxpayer loses while production of vitally important goods is held up.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The affiliation of the Labour Party in Canada with the Russian Soviets was suspected before last Federal election; in fact, the policy pursued by the leaders was to encourage labour to support the re-election of the Mackenzie King government, as more was to be expected through them than from the other two parties. Now Mr. Mackenzie King has let them down, and Moscow has become violent at what is considered a betrayal of their cause.

Telephone communication between London and Paris was inaugurated this date 1891—considered an amazing achievement in those days, but only a prelude to a London-New York telephone service, and an anticipation of wireless communication; now scientists are investigating "thought" communication or "second vision", which they believe to be the next objective, and only one step removed from the conception of actual communication with the spirits of the departed.

Mr. S. A. Boyer, assistant to the President and Director of Public Relations, New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, says: "The New Haven has always considered newspaper advertising by far the most direct and economical channel to the minds of its passengers, its shippers and the public. Newspaper advertising has made for us an indispensable contribution to the public understanding and goodwill so essential to successful railroad operation—a contribution that could have been made so effectively through no other medium."

Buried deep in news from Vatican

City is a paragraph that has brightened our holiday day. It concerns the presentation of the new Cardinal Spellman. The Master of Robes held out the hat on a silver tray, "What an august prelate. 'Just take it?' Even cardinals, princes of the church, after years of familiarity with purple and gold, can be faced with situations for which they have no precedent. When they are, they go blank. 'What do I do next?' That is going to be a big help the next time we see a new cardinal in the hat."

One of the ways in which local residents cheered each other in years past during these winter months was by the exchange of dove purple with gay flowers springing from its roof. It attracted the majority of whom were women and who shimmered and glistened in the sun. It was a delightful and crazy. Its sure success was guaranteed in their eyes by the traditional virtue of this surely is the end which most designers seek. A hat, which a man like Mussolini would be a failure. Like the peacock and her feathers, both represent the "splendor-splendour school" which as President Truman said leaves much to be desired. And that after all is the intention. —Windsor Free Press.

The following from The Examiner of Nov. 23, 1881,—sent us by a reader—shows the distance of the road we have travelled to benefit farmers now compared with then: "The market today was small and brisk. Prices as follows: Beef (small) per lb. 5 to 12 cents; do, (quarter) 3 1-2 to 7 cents; Mutton per lb. 4 to 8 cents; Lamb per lb. 4 to 8 cents; Veal per lb. 3 to 7 cents; Ducks each, 20 to 30 cents; Fowls each 15 to 20 cents; Chickens per paid 30 to 40 cents; Butter (fresh) 20 to 24 cents; do (tub) 16 to 19 cents; Eggs 22 to 23 cents; Hay per cwt. 40 to 45 cents; Potatoes per bushel 35 to 40 cents; Flour per cwt. \$3.25 to \$3.50; Oatmeal per cwt. \$3.25 to \$3.50; Oats per bushel, 35 to 38 cents; Geese each, 40 to 60 cents; Sheepskins, 70 to 85 cents; Pork per carcass, 6 1-2 to 8 cents; do, small, 8 to 11 cents; Turkeys each, 50 to 90 cents; Turnips, 18 to 19 cents per bushel." Would we like to return to those days? Yet the population was 40,000 greater than now, and everyone appeared happy and contented. In the same issue The Examiner said editorially: "We are persuaded that the establishment of savings bank within reach of all would promote habits of thrift, and be regarded as a real accommodation. We are becoming quite a wealthy people. A large proportion of our farmers come, from time to time, upon little amounts, which they can afford to lay by; and we hope that ample means for doing so will be provided."

Notes By The Way

Ministers are asked by a United Church official to "preach more urgently." Come to think of it, it is quite a while since we have heard a brimstone sermon in a pulpit. —Windsor Star.

If we want to keep our comparative advantages in various lines of production, and at the same time to let other countries keep theirs, we must have expanding international trade, with imports as well as exports increased.—Agriculture Secretary Clinton F. Anderson.

Artillery radar is now accurate that its error is less than the ballistic error of the guns, says "Radio," a report on Science at War. This means that if the target is not hit "blind" with the first shot, it is twice as likely to be hit the second time, which is not quite accurate, not the aim.

Less talking by parents and more strapping would solve the problem of juvenile delinquency, says a writer having written on other words, moral discipline and less coddling. That's an old-fashioned remedy, but it used to work pretty well.—Ottawa Journal.

Now somebody has invented a special kind of typewriter that can ease. What's the use of that now? The war is over and bureaucratic demands are dropping. It's hard to occupy or whatever the term is, are likely to lessen. The invention was brought out six years ago later.—Brantford Expositor.

Justice Chevier, presiding over a case in which it was clear that a motorist was blinded by approaching lights and crashed into a road transporter, made the statement that a motorist who refuses to dim his headlights is a criminal. In that event there is a case of a criminal using the highways of Chatham News.

It will be many years before Canadians again look on bulging granaries as a symptom of distress. It seems almost incredible that, when we were viewing our huge carry-over of wheat as a crushing burden on our national credit, we were concerned with the threat of actual bread shortages, unless we are content to remain deaf to the pleas of a hungry country on the verge of starvation.—Windsor Star.

Mr. T. Athol Robertson has received from Mrs. Roosevelt a letter of thanks and appreciation for the tribute paid to her husband in the 1945 issue of the Scots Year Book. Her letter also contains greetings to London Scots. As Mr. Robertson states in the Year Book, "I am proud to be a part of a country on the verge of a new dawn. As a small boy he wore the kilt. I was connected with the Murrays.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

A cross between a chicken and a turkey has been produced at Glenfield Veterinary Science Research Station in New Brunswick. The birds look like large chickens, but walk like turkeys. Some of the birds are being used in research station says that production of a large and fat turkey is still in the experimental stage.—From Australian Newsletter.

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The reactionaries want high prices for the American consumer. And they want to make America an island of plenty in a devastated world. But American farmers are cream of export about the only alternative is a planned curtailment of farm production in the thirties. American farmers also depend on the maintenance of our export areas to support employment and hence food consumption at home. The isolationists and Republicans are the first to attack any attempt to restrict agricultural production. But today they are in effect telling the inhabitants of our export areas to starve and go away and die. They are attacking the structure of peace at its most fundamental level by telling the starving people of the world that there is to be no real order and no real security, but a scramble for food and mere survival. President Truman is right in holding that the future peace and prosperity of the world depends on the reconstruction of a stable world, and that we must begin by meeting the food crisis. —New York Post.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

POTATO SHIPMENTS

The attention of potato shippers is directed to the following wire received by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture from Wartime Food Corporation Ltd.:

"Prepared to ease present restrictions on movement of potatoes out of Maritimes. Effective immediately will allow each shipper to ship one car outside Maritimes for each car shipped to Maritime points. Shippers must apply direct to us as previously, and allow number of cars to be shipped and date expected shipment. In addition they should advise us car numbers covering intra Maritimes shipments. Would appreciate your advising shippers in Prince Edward Island."

I am, Sir, etc., W. R. SHAW, Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

CIVIC AFFAIRS

Considerable controversy has taken place over the question of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police being given the contract of keeping law and order within our City. The City Council has not yet been discussing this in caucus but were very reluctant in making anything public and no doubt lining up against such a move, as is evidenced by the outcome of one of their recent meetings, when the Mayor, who is a member of the Council, and the new councillors voted their opinions on this move.

If the new councillors elected are not going to give us the action we expected of them, why could the situation not be handled in the following manner, and give the citizens of Charlottetown, (the ones who have the right to choose) their say in the matter, viz: Evidently as in the past, there will be an election shortly for a Water Commissioner to fill the vacancy created by the death of our esteemed citizen, Mr. Dudley Wright. When the ballot is being prepared for this election, have the question appear on the ballot and let the citizens vote on whether they wish this change or not.

Also, it would appear on the ballot to elect a City Manager appointed or not. Both of these questions could be settled in this manner, to the satisfaction of all concerned, and we would get whatever action the citizens decide upon. It is known that in the past, the Councilors are afraid of offending some of their friends (and other wise) and do not wish to appear to be taking sides. In other words, they want to be good fellows all round.

A great number of Canadian cities are asking for this change. Only recently, I think it was Chatham, asked that the R.C.M.P. be taken over by the city. It's time for a change in the city management of Charlottetown, in all departments, and I don't see any other way of bringing this about or settling it to the satisfaction of all concerned. I am, Sir, etc., "PROGRESSIVE"

FISH RADAR

A catfish's "whiskers" are a sensory organ that enable it to feel its way through muddy water.

FOOD FACTORY

A cow has only one stomach, but it is divided into four compartments, each with a different function.

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Report On England VII. Karl Marx on Trial...

By Leo Chernie

(This is the seventh of seven articles by Leo Chernie, brilliant young American economist and executive secretary of the Research Institute of America, whom the Overseas News Agency and The Guardian sent to Britain to study how the Labor Government is meeting the problems of reconverting the country from her war-time economy and adapting her industrial machine to changed world conditions.)

The British Labor Party, which for more than a generation has campaigned on the platform of planning, came into office with a minimum of plans. Like Roosevelt's New Deal, the Atlee Government has been improvising. And like the latter, it can't near-parallel, its policy is shot through with contradictions. Like the New Deal, too, its decisions will continue to influence British life long after its particular term of office. The Labor Party is assured a minimum three years and a probable five years to carry through its program. Lord Beaverbrook, belaboring the Conservatives for not opposing the economic program aggressively enough, threatens that the Laborites have ten years tenure before them.

On still another level of foreign affairs, the official British position on the United Nations shows that Britain today is the only hope of world government. British foreign policy is the only door through which a consolidation of the veto could possibly enter the Security Council. There are many effective voices for the smaller nations, but the voice of Britain is the only one of the Big Three who is potentially sympathetic.

Britain is the nation that has most to lose by World War III. History will record that it lost its empire, World War II. Its life itself will be at stake in the next one. An unpalatable truth may also follow from these same facts. Socialism, the form of socialism which organization prove impossible, can Britain turn to any other course than its traditional one of power, politics, balancing strengths, pitting the mighty against each other? Against this backdrop, the importance of what's happened in Great Britain lies in the fact that neither of these criticisms is accurate. The Laborites, if anything, comes closer to the truth.

It's plain that England is not yet tired either of regulation or of free enterprise competition. So far, the by-elections to fill vacancies which have occurred since the original Labor landslide would not have been so heavy for the Labor Party than did the first vote. With a clear majority, a clear stretch of office and a clear support of the people, the Labor Party will find no convenient excuses if it falls.

It is clear that we have understood the full importance of what's happened in England if I had visited England alone. But the Laborites, spent in Germany, are coupled with the background I have as an American, enabled me to appraise the consequences of the free enterprise system of capitalism in its own right. First of all, it is important to realize that the free enterprise system of capitalism isn't and never was in Europe. European capitalism never has been and now never will be organized on the free enterprise basis.

In most of the European states and in England as well, the industrial structure was almost a matter of government of the state as in Germany. The difference was not in responsibility to the state, but in ownership. The reasons are many and complex, but the conclusion is simple and inescapable: the free enterprise economy is a thing of the past. The sole question is: which way now? In England and in Europe, the same basic decision will be met. And in almost all instances, the choice will be between a social democratic economy and a communist state. The success or failure of England's Labor movement will weigh heavily on the Continentals.

A good deal of pussyfooting in diplomatic circles surrounds the question of a Western Bloc of European nations. It can be denied until it is true. In social, economic and political terms, it exists and is recognized. But there are other vital questions which are being frequently stated with honesty. Will the Western Bloc exist united solely by the negative purpose of opposition to Russia? Will France, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg, and the other nations of Western Europe play a vital role in supporting social democratic life? Will France, Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg, and the other nations of Western Europe remain a group of nations united on any basis other than the late thirties repeat themselves, with the Bloc breaking up and each of the nations seeking its own way for protective favor? To what extent will England be able to use the diplomatic, economic and even military aid of the Western European nations to bolster its own continental or imperial position?

It would be foolish to pretend that the answers to these questions can be found in England and that what happens in England will determine the answers. The irony

John Uno

(The Times, London)

Many people are christened in haste, and it is not true that the very young gentlemen who have just as we read, drawn the name of Uno to the great lot of the front; but in one respect at any rate he would seem, in the Holmesian phrase, to break fresh ground in the annals of parental life. That children should in moments of enthusiasm be named after some joyful event is no new thing, but this is perhaps the first child to be called by one of those combinations of initials that have grown so familiar here in a wide and appalling field for conjecture. The mere sound must afford a warning against Saor, and the two S's are not necessarily a pleasantly Biblical suggestion, appear improbable, but there is still the little John Uno, who will live to lament that too ecstatic choice. The evil that parents do lives after them, but it is interesting that the name of Uno, who of the genuine vintage, are today a dwindling band, are today being revived. The name once in infant Maifekings are, middle-aged and have long since produced little Maifekings of their own to whom the name of Uno has been kinder than their parents were to them. The stock objection to these names that they date the recipient is rather crude, and apply to the still unconscious Master Uno, for he may have generations of successors, and a blessedly enduring institution. Yet it may be doubted whether any of them will be grateful. Small boys are a rather crude name, used to be about each other's names. But they will probably all be grateful. Small boys are a rather crude name, used to be about each other's names. But they will probably all be grateful.

It's giving me a rather crude name, used to be about each other's names. But they will probably all be grateful. Small boys are a rather crude name, used to be about each other's names. But they will probably all be grateful. Small boys are a rather crude name, used to be about each other's names. But they will probably all be grateful.

Against this backdrop, the importance of what's happened in Great Britain lies in the fact that neither of these criticisms is accurate. The Laborites, if anything, comes closer to the truth. It's plain that England is not yet tired either of regulation or of free enterprise competition. So far, the by-elections to fill vacancies which have occurred since the original Labor landslide would not have been so heavy for the Labor Party than did the first vote. With a clear majority, a clear stretch of office and a clear support of the people, the Labor Party will find no convenient excuses if it falls.

Revolt In The East

(New York Times)

The Indian disturbances, which were reaching a climax yesterday, were not so serious in the military sense as the famous mutiny of 1857. Success in England will be measured by the number and the cost of the homes that are built by the quantity and kind of food resources which are available. The quality and character of employment that is provided and the success of the government in raising the standard of living through conquering the problem of foreign exchange. Having seen England and assessed the problems at first hand, I don't envy the job nor do most observers there.

This much is now known. England will never again be other than a state operated by large bureaucratic instruments. Whether the methods will succeed require a minimum eighteen months to assess. Success in England will be measured by the number and the cost of the homes that are built by the quantity and kind of food resources which are available. The quality and character of employment that is provided and the success of the government in raising the standard of living through conquering the problem of foreign exchange. Having seen England and assessed the problems at first hand, I don't envy the job nor do most observers there.

The Indian problem often seems to be one of reconversion. The Hindu and the Moslem. Another element was evident this week—a strong feeling of indignation which is indiscriminate attacks on Occidentals, including American soldiers. The Japanese did their best to stir up popular sentiment in favor of Indians who fought in the war. India is now trying to punish. The Japanese version of a "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" may not have pleased the Indian people, but Asia for the Asiatics has a ring that appeals to many of the valley revolts throughout the world the colored races who live under white domination are seeing what is in store. Russian occupation of Manchuria, an ironic episode which has been a bitter pill for defenders of the colored races against the western exploiters. Shanghai is a political hot spot. The Indonesians are undercurrent. The Indonesians balk at the terms offered them by the Netherlands government, and the British take their soldiers out of Egypt. These incidents are only the visible vanguard of a deep sea of discontent that may represent half the human race.

The grave differences between Russia and her recent partners in the Declaration of Independence are their effective work, and the most that an American can hope for is that they will win out over East Marx.

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