

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Subscription Rates \$5.00 per year (in advance) delivered to City. \$6.00 per year (in advance) mailed to E. E. Island. \$8.00 per year (in advance) mailed to Canada and U.S. Members Audit Bureau of Circulations

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1939

"Deeper In The Mire"

Under the above heading the Financial Post emphasizes the "staggering magnitude of Dominion Government expenditure proposed for the 1939-40 fiscal year."

Some newspaper comment suggested that the estimates tabled this session were lower by \$2.5 millions than the peak figure of the previous year. Cuts of \$6 millions in the item for public works; \$2 millions in ordinary defense estimates, and \$200,000 in the appropriation for agriculture were given prominence. If these facts are of value at all, says the Post, they indicate the way in which our financial wind is NOT blowing.

The facts are these: Estimates tabled call for an expenditure of \$457.2 millions. This is equivalent to \$100 for every family in Canada. The corresponding figure a year ago was \$418.9 millions or \$174 per family.

True, the 1939-40 figures include capital commitments of \$29.4 millions for national defense which are to be amortized over a 10-year period. At the same time they EXCLUDE such items as:

The cost of the wheat bonus. A new item which may run as high as \$50 millions.

The C.N.R. railway deficit which last year cost \$42 millions and is this year running some \$15 to \$20 millions higher.

Grants-in-aid to the provinces, and public works projects entered into as employment measures. Last year over \$50 millions was asked for these in special supplementary estimates. With an election in prospect the chance of reducing or even meeting this figure in 1939-40 is slim.

Then there are additional estimates to meet the ordinary cost of government. These totalled \$11.4 millions last year. They were added later in the session.

Add these items together and the net result is obvious. Namely that the cost of running Dominion government machinery and paying the federal piper is still soaring to astronomical heights — heights barely reached during the stress and crisis of the Great War. In fact 20 years ago the cost of running the ordinary machinery of government was a mere \$178 millions annually. Today it has skyrocketed nearly 250% despite a gain of less than 40% in our population.

"There can be no confidence," says the Post, "in the fiscal soundness of Canada's position so long as government expenditures are allowed to soar in this unconscionable manner. Nor can there be much confidence in this sincerity of political leadership which permits these expenditures to continue skyward at a time when our national books of account are deeply in the red and in face of an existing tax burden higher than anything this country has previously been asked to bear."

A Meaningless Boast

Dr. Grant, M.P., was frank enough to confess in his speech in the House of Commons on Tuesday that the new Canada-U.S. trade treaty "has yet to prove its beneficial effects." So many Liberal speakers are taking the proof for granted that the King's County representative's caution is noteworthy. But the Doctor went on to spoil the effect of his statement by declaring that the 1935 treaty with Washington was the means of "saving this country from ruin."

Hon. Mr. Cahan, who preceded Dr. Grant in the debate, showed that the increase of our exports to the United States of commodities on which there had been no change in the United States customs duties under the 1935 agreement, was far greater than the increase of our exports under the schedule of commodities on which the United States tariff was reduced by that agreement.

In compensation for all the tariff concessions which we made to the United States, comparing our trade for 1935, before the agreement came into effect, with our trade for 1938, we gained merely \$2,253,000 of export trade under the reductions of duties made by the agreement.

On the other hand, on the exports on which no reductions of duty were made there was an increase of \$6,523,141.

Mr. Cahan's statements were not disputed. If they were wrong, Dr. Grant had a brilliant opportunity of refuting them. If they are correct, they prove pretty conclusively that our King's County representative was just "talking through his hat" when he boasted about the 1935 treaty saving this country from ruin.

Empire Partnership

Over in Britain, apparently, says the Ottawa Journal, they hold old-fashioned ideas about what constitutes an Empire partnership. They seem to think it involves obligation on the part of all the partners concerned to help defend and fight for the other partners. To help defend and fight for any one of them.

That, at all events, is the idea of the present British Government, and of Prime Minister Chamberlain. Said Mr. Chamberlain to the House of Commons: "If any other part of the British Commonwealth were attacked we should without hesitation go to its aid."

"Without hesitation." There would be no debate over there about whether or not Britain should remain "neutral." No talk about "letting Parliament decide." No mention of a "vote of the people." One hostile foreign move

against Canada, Australia, New Zealand or South Africa and Old England would be in the battle.

The despatch tells that when Mr. Chamberlain made his forthright declaration the House of Commons "cherred tumultuously." Mr. Chamberlain's idea, quite clearly, is the idea of the British people. It is the British people's way. Their idea of a partnership. Between it and the Mackenzie King Government's idea as expressed by Government leader Dandurand in the Canadian Senate the other day, there is all the difference in the world. The unfortunate part of it is that the European powers are aware of this difference. They know that the Empire chain is as strong only as its weakest link, and are likely to interpret isolationist speeches at Ottawa as evidence of growing Empire disunity.

Editorial Notes

Raleigh set sail for El Dorado, now British Guiana, this date, 1595.

As the Campbell Government has leased no space for exhibits at the New York World's Fair, Mr. John F. Wheat's position there will be somewhat anomalous.

The Secret Session of U.S.A. Senate's Military and Foreign Relations committee provided the best publicity President Roosevelt could have desired. Moreover he waited for the reaction before denying the reports.

Our fishermen will be interested to learn that the Dominion Government has made available \$20,000 as a contribution toward relief of Nova Scotia lobster fishermen who suffered damage to their boats and gear when violent storms swept their shores in late autumn. An order-in-council tabled in the House of Commons granted authority for the grant. Under the plan, Nova Scotia also will be expected to contribute \$20,000.

Nearly 40,000 gas masks distributed in England during last September's crisis over Czechoslovakia have been classed as private property in a court decision. A case against a man in Chesterfield court was dismissed when the public prosecutor failed to establish his contention a mask was "His Majesty's property" and the defendant should be punished for damaging it. The magistrate, however, said ruined masks probably would not be replaced free of charge by the government in case of war. Hundreds of masks have been damaged by children, otherwise rendered worthless, or appropriated as souvenirs by American and other tourists.

Lloyd's, the insurance underwriters, have doubled the cost of insurance against the cancellation of the visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth to Canada and the United States next May because of the tense international political situation. The premium is now 20 per cent, compared to 10 per cent three months ago. So far there has been only a moderate inquiry for policies, from souvenir manufacturers, hotels, shipping companies, railroads and business men whose trade would suffer if the King and Queen stayed at home because of war, illness, or anything else. The biggest volume of Lloyd's business in this connection originates here in Canada, with the United States second and Great Britain third.

They are having their own trouble over the border with propaganda broadcasting, and a bill has been re-introduced in the Senate and referred for study to the Committee on Commerce to check it. The measure, on which the last Congress took no action, would remove from broadcasting companies the right of control over discussions of a controversial nature, and provide for definite periods of time for "uncensored" discussion on a non-profit basis of public, social, political and economic problems, and for educational purposes. In such periods, exponents of all sides would receive equal amounts of time. The bill would require complete recording of applications for radio time and the reasons for rejections and for changes of programs dealing with public discussions. Censorship by government agencies would be limited to defamatory or objectionable language.

Appropos Education Week, a certain progressive New York school which places a lot of faith in intelligence tests was brought up short by one of its twelve-year-old pupils. One section of a test they gave his class consisted of sentences like this: "Apples grow on: vines, roots, grass, trees." The instructions were to underline the one of the four last words necessary to make the sentence logical—trees, in this case. Well, the sentence that caused all the trouble was: "Deserts are crossed by: horses, camels, mules, elephants." Most of the pupils obediently underlined "camels," but the lad referred to underlined all four words and added a sarcastic subordinate clause, "but never, obviously, by the dum-head who wrote this quiz." After a good deal of research in encyclopedias, books of travel, and works on zoology, the faculty decided to give him full marks, with a warning about disrespect for authority.

The British Press is practically unanimous in its praise of W. B. Yeats as a litterateur of the first rank. Some critics discount his stories to some extent though admitting they "were charmed." But they rightly claim his poetry is his chief glory. As he grew older he found that he had been too elaborate. He was constantly doctoring his poems, lyrics or narrative, not always to their advantage. "Yet," we are told, "one can sympathize with a feeling that is perhaps shared by readers of poetry as they grow older. The admirer of Swinburne and Rossetti in his youth comes to find 'Samson Agonistes' the favorite of his age. Yet it was the young Yeats that wrote one of those couplets that sing in the memory:

And like a sunset were her lips, A stormy sunset on doomed ships. Is it too much to say that his choicest verses for their impeccable loveliness may stand by the side of those of Keats and Shelley; 'A monk of literature,' snarled George Moore. A priest of literature, rather, who never dishonored his high calling."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Great care must be exercised in shopping in one of the Chinese bazaars in Shanghai, or one is liable to fall victim to the wiles of unscrupulous shopkeepers. You admire a vase; you take it in your hands to examine it more closely—when suddenly it crumbles in to a hundred pieces. The shop-keeper is in a hurry since you don't know that the vase was barely hinged together so that it would fall apart when touched, you have to pay for the broken most valuable vase in the whole shop.—Evening Post and Mercury, Shanghai.

William Seabrook suggests for improving one's sleep that you "pick up the thread of a former dream, pick up the thread of a dream you had the night before, or a week before, and it works equally well." A number of others report that they pick up the thread of dreams broken up by waking. How many of us have at times wished we could continue with such a pleasant, interesting dream cut midway by wakefulness! Here is evidence it can be done. We can control our dreams, at least to some extent.—Ray Gilles in Sleep.

In his early days Cesar Ritz, the great hotel-keeper had been a waiter in a famous Paris restaurant. One of the oddest clients was a titled Englishman, who used to lunch there, and being near-sighted, and having only an imperfect knowledge of French, he would request Cesar, at one of his tables, to read the menu from one end to the other, explaining when necessary any obscure passages. He would listen to the reading of his list over some of the items, nodding his head with approval. And when the reading was finished he would order Cesar to read and called potatoes. Invariably.—John O'London's Weekly, London.

It is only a few months ago that the federal mines branch recorded the first shipment of gold from one of the new producers of yellow metal at Yellowknife, Yellowknife, in the Northwest Territories, lies on the north shore of Great Slave Lake at the mouth of the Yellowknife River. It is one of the richest gold mines of the continent. However, it is quite a bit different from the gold rush to the Klondike which had prospered in the late 1800's. It was the long, arduous trail on foot or with a packhorse; today men travel largely by airplane and in a matter of a few days that it is over before the general public hardly knows that it is begun. Yellowknife combines old-fashioned mining with modern conveniences. It has a dentist who fills prospectors' teeth with prospectors' gold. It is full of romance. Two hundred miles from the coast, it is a circle powerful mining interests and penniless adventurers are writing a new chapter in Canadian development.—Kitchener Record.

It is stated that Scotland Yard have indirectly been informed that the Duke and Duchess of Windsor expect to be in England next March. The information was elicited during communications between the Yard and H.R.H. regarding the manner of the police escort. When the report became known at some of the West End clubs, the immediate inclination of members was to demand that the Duke of Windsor's part with the international situation. Next March is the date the pessimists have fixed by common consent for the European crisis, and the fact, or supposed fact, that the Duke and his Duchess talk of being in this country, then was the cause of a confirmation of the crisis expectation. Obviously, if there is to be any real trouble in Europe in the near future, it might be highly inconvenient to the Duke of Windsor anywhere outside his native country. But it was pretty widely known, long before any March crisis, that H.R.H. after the visit paid him in Paris by the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, might be expected to return to the early part of the New Year.—Ottawa Journal.

Approximately 90 per cent of the nickel used in the world now comes from Canada; 10 years ago the principal producing corporation in the industry, which citizens of the United States had previously been in the majority of British subjects and members, through the greater part of the investment remained in the ownership of citizens of this country. This shift in personnel was hastened by the fact that the British for the reason that it put in their power control over the policy of the corporation, and nickel is essential to making arms and munitions. A report that a deposit of nickel in Celebes Island, Netherlands East Indies, is to be developed by the Hollanders, it may be significant that the metal is to be extracted by a new process worked out by the Krupp establishment in Essen. Twenty thousand tons of the Celebes ore were treated according to the new technique in the Krupp works in Germany and the results of the test are declared to have been "remarkably successful."—New York Sun.

John Dougherty risked the biggest raise on a poker hand made anywhere. Dougherty and Ike Jackson were playing for the poker championship in the West in 1889. In a few minutes \$100,000 in coin and currency was piled on the table between the two players. Jackson, short of cash, wrote down his ranch and 10,000 head of cattle, and with this document raised Dougherty a hundred thousand. Dougherty had to be equal to the emergency. He called the paper and pen, wrote rapidly for a moment or two and handed the paper to Governor Prince of New Mexico, at the same time drawing a revolver on his distinguished spectator. "The Governor," he said, "you sign this or I will kill you, but I love my reputation as a poker player better than you or anyone else." The Governor signed. Dougherty threw the paper on the table and said, "I raise you the Territory of New Mexico," he said, "there's the deal." The Texan threw down his cards with a mighty curse. "All right," he said.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of current events of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

THE MILK QUESTION AGAIN

Sir.—In editorial notes you point out that one chief reason for Premier Chamberlain's removal of Morrison from the Agricultural Portfolio, was the unpopularity of his Milk Bill. In England milk is adjudged a household necessity, and as a substitute for intoxicants Milk Saloons are being established by hundreds, with a phenomenal success. Britain, unlike P. E. Island refuses to allow combines to exploit the people's needs.

You also refer to New Jersey, in U. S., the home of good milk, where the Milk Board have refused to allow combines to exploit the people's needs. There may be wisdom in saving on relief allowances. To make relief more, or even as attractive, as living in a wage-slavery comfort, would invite increased preference for easy living instead of living by work. Yet in many cases relief is not given to those who need it when it can be bought in abundance for 10c a gallon, 2 1/2c a quart, killing two birds with one stone, in helping the needy farmer to get the better and feeling price for his milk, and helping those who are poorly nourished and in actual need.

I am, Sir, etc.

LEWIS P. TANTON

LABOURER'S COMPENSATION

Sir.—Some time last winter an article appeared in this paper concerning compensation for Prince Edward Island, and on reading down the paragraphs I expected to come across something that was really going to happen and an Act passed at the time of sitting of the House of Assembly. "But" the writer could not seem to arrive at any satisfactory idea to help the laborer in case of accident or sickness without hurting the Farmer. This should be a very easy problem to solve. Personally I would suggest that the labouring class make four weeks in each month or twenty-six days as is done in the other provinces, whereby they would gain two extra months each year, which would mean over and above enough for accident policy collectively if handled in a right way and when the worst comes we will be ready for the open season.

I have in mind one district which is four miles long and requires ninety-six months of extra help at the low average of Twenty Dollars per month which would mean approximately \$320.00 per year; enough money could be collected throughout the Island in one year to build the proposed York Point Bridge.

I am, Sir, etc.

EASTERN TRAVELLER

Canada's War Policy

(Montreal Gazette) The Prime Minister has stated to Parliament that the policy of the Government concerning foreign wars is the same now as it has always been and as it always will be, namely, that Parliament must decide. This is not, and never has been, and never will be, the policy of the Canadian people. Their policy was exemplified in the case of the South African War and later, and more emphatically, in the fatal days of August, 1914. Parliament can never express itself upon an issue of this kind except in the voice of the people, and the people do not wait for Parliament. They did not wait in 1914 and the Government did not wait. True, it is not the policy of Parliament was called and held, but its principal if not its only function was to give its formal sanction to already undertaken. Canada was already at war, already preparing to place its army in the field. If a like emergency were to present itself in the future, the same procedure would have to be followed by any Government whether it liked it or not. Public opinion led the Government at the time of the South African War, and if it did not lead the Borden Ministry in 1914 it was because that Ministry needed no spur and was never in any doubt as to what the people of this country required of it.

The Poet's Corner

TO A MUSICIAN

Musician, with the bent and brooding face, White hair and thunderous eyes; you are not playing Merely the music that dead hand did trace. Musician, with the lifted resolute face, And scornful smile about your closed mouth straying, And hand that moves with swift or fluttering grace, It is not your man's music you are playing. The grave and merry tunes he made Each marionette and dance he made endure, But change and mastered, and these things you're saying, These joys and sorrows are not his but yours. —J. C. Squire.

For a Delicious Cup of Orange Pekoe Tea Mr. Tea Pott Says: Use BRAHMIN Full Flavoured Tea

King George The Sixth

Chapter Nine

Cry havoc and let slip the dogs of war." —Shakespeare.

When the World War commenced, young Prince Albert, the present King George the Sixth, was a midshipman on the Collingwood. Although he was only nineteen years of age and in the midst of his training course in the Royal Navy, he realized the full extent of the serious strife which embroiled the whole civilized world. Time again, he urged his superior officers that they should permit him to serve his people before his regular course of training was completed. However, only a month after the war started in all its fury he suffered a recurrence of the illness that had previously troubled him and it required immediate medical attention. In face of the young Prince's strenuous objections he was removed to the hospital ship Rohilla and then he was landed at Aberdeen, where he was operated upon for appendicitis, though subsequently it was disclosed that this was not the entire cause for the pain and suffering that Prince Albert had endured for several years.

Nevertheless, just as soon as he was on the road to recovery, he began to demand that he should be given an assignment. He made this request only a short time after the surgical operation and the Naval Medical Board did not grant this certificate. Prince Albert did not conceal his disappointment. He was the type of young man who regarded his duties to the realm as sacred in very much the same manner as his beloved father, the late King George the Fifth, who had shared all the dangers and privations during the war like any humble citizen of the land and who not only gave up all luxuries during that momentous time but he accepted every burden in a way that planted hope and faith in the hearts of his millions of subjects in all four corners of the world.

The persistence of the young Prince brought results and in the month of December, 1914, he was given an appointment in the Operations Division of the Admiralty and several weeks later he received a medical certificate which permitted him to rejoin his ship. In February, 1915, he was back aboard his ship at Portsmouth and he took part in the manoeuvres of the Fleet at Scapa Flow. However, his serious ailment began to recur and he suffered frequent attacks. Still he refused to go ashore for treatment. This continued for nine months and the only relief was that he could not endure it any longer. In fact, it is reported that some newspapers at that time hinted that his health was even worse than indicated in the official reports and it was necessary to deny these alarming statements in the press. While on shore leave, Prince Albert did not remain inactive, and now and again he appeared at official functions in order to relieve his busy father, though he did a considerable amount of work under a severe handicap of poor health.

Just as soon as his health improved, he was back at work in the Operations Division of the Admiralty and there remained for three months in the early part of 1916. In May of this same year he received the happy news that he could return to active duty aboard his ship and Prince Albert complied with the order immediately. Several weeks later he fought like a hero at the great naval battle of Jutland and for his bravery under fire he was mentioned in the official despatches.

(continued next week) (Reproduction Prohibited, 1939) Educational Features Syndicate

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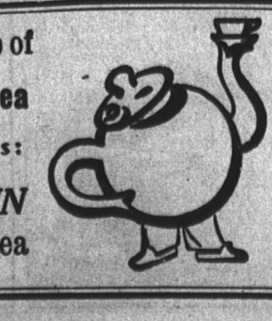
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Canadian Education Week

(Under the Auspices of The Canadian Teachers' Federation) (FEBRUARY 5th. to 11th. 1939)

An Opportunity to Know Your School WITH CO-OPERATION Provincial Department of Education Provincial Universities Provincial Teachers' Associations Provincial Parent-Teachers' Federations Provincial Teachers' Federations, Etc.

PRESENTED BY—Teachers, Trustees, Parents, Pupils. Canadian Education Week is to be observed this year in all Provinces from February 5th. to February 11th, along the same general lines which proved so successful last year.

In addition to national publicity, the Dominion Committee has arranged for a radio broadcast, using a coast to coast network on Tuesday, February 7th. from 10.45 to 11 P.M. (E. S. T.) Dr. M. E. Lazerte, Director of School of Education University of Alberta will be the speaker.

Arrangements have also been made to have a fifteen minute broadcast at the following times from C. F. C. Y.

The following speakers will be heard: Monday—8.15 P.M. Mr. J. F. Leightizer. Wednesday—8.15 Lt.-Col. C. C. Thompson M.C., V.D. Thursday—8.15-8.30 Mrs. J. Augustus MacDonald. Friday—7.15 K. M. Martin, K.C.

The purpose of Canadian Education Week briefly, is to acquaint the general public with some of the objectives, achievements, and possibilities of the schools of our Dominion.

Its primary object is to get as many persons as possible to visit the schools, to see them in actual session, and to obtain first hand information of the work of our educational system.

Education is one of the most fundamental and important of our social services. Its progress, at all times, depends upon the attitude and support of the public. Whatever the opinions of the people may be whether favorable or adverse—it is well that they should be founded upon accurate knowledge and information of the actual services our schools are rendering.

This is frankly, therefore, an invitation to visit your schools and to co-operate in every way possible to make Education Week a success. Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation.

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