

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

Liberal Press Opinion

Conservative leader Hanson has had again to bring to the attention of the Government evidence of patronage in connection with war contracts. He cited a specific case at Moncton where the works superintendent of a construction company told an applicant for employment that he could not get a job there unless he had a letter from the local dispenser of party patronage.

"The Government would do well to make every effort to prevent the exercise of patronage on war work. It has given its pledge to the public, and no doubt sincerely, to eliminate all patronage in anything related to the war."

Mr. King's Counsellor

The strange case of Mr. Brockington is still engaging the attention of Parliament. He was chairman of the C.B.C. at the time the Government got into trouble through preventing Mr. George McCullough, publisher of the Globe and Mail getting the use of radio to promulgate his views on leadership.

The Plight of Europe

A gruesome picture of a starving Europe is painted by Walter Davenport, in the current issue of Collier's, based on researches in the files of Herbert C. Hoover, former President of the United States, who has taken a prominent part in relief measures during the last Great War and in the present one.

Crops last year were considerably below normal, and the winter which followed the outbreak of war was exceptionally severe. Spring came late, and frost killed successive plantings. The passage of the mighty military machine through western Europe devastated the food supplies.

When there is a failure of fodder, the cattle have to be slain, and the carcasses are promptly shipped to Germany to be put in cold storage. Russia, too, is believed to be greatly concerned about next winter's food supplies.

Reich toward Poland. Fifteen million people have been packed into an area which formerly had a population of only ten million. The section is mainly industrial and has to import its food. "They will eat what Germany and Russia give them in payment of their labour."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Gibraltar captured by the British this date 1704. It has been "the rock" base of control in the Mediterranean from that date to this.

The Carry-on-Canada Corps is gaining impetus not only here, but all over Canada. It is a compliment to the originators and promoters that the C. B. C. has adopted a programme advocating its policy.

The new British Labour Minister, Mr. Bevin has assumed authority to conscript all doctors for any job the Government sees fit to send them. Here, according to the C. M. C. there are some 9,000 doctors waiting to be called for just such jobs of necessity and mercy.

The Paris newspaper Le Temps has warned the Government that a famine is imminent in France and has protested against the Germans requisitioning French food supplies for army use. "Coming events" etc. Economists all over have been predicting an European famine in 1941-2.

According to "Osservatore Romano", both the British and French governments gave an undertaking to respect the sacred character of Rome, but left open the possibility of taking reprisals. This means that if Italy, now lined up with Germany, should be guilty of any atrocity, she cannot expect to have Rome immune from air raids.

Though in not a few instances farms have been depleted of necessary help, there is still plenty man power in the province for all ordinary, and even extraordinary, purposes. But so far it has not been regulated and adjusted. That will come in due time when registration takes place, and national and provincial organization becomes effective.

We are now told the Nazis in Paris have assailed "red fingernails, plucked eyebrows and other fantasies" on the part of women-folk. If that be all the havoc they have caused in "Gay Paree" they have been more considerate than they were of Dunkirk, Amiens and other cities where the British took their last stand in behalf of the Allied democracies.

It used to be said things were going to the bow-wows, now it may rightly be claimed they are going to quadrupeds of a larger growth. No sooner is it reported from Summerside that an elephant has started housebreaking, than Montreal announces that a five year race-horse has been taken to the pound as a stray. It was arrested while trying to pick-up a mouthful of breakfast on Terrehone avenue.

National War Service Gardiner is already in a position to announce that several provincial governments have indicated their willingness to provide, in part at any rate, the premises and staff for national registration, the ministers of education offering all schools in their respective provinces for the use of the registration officials.

Something would still be left of democratic freedom in conquered France if an editorial in the Temps, published at Vichy, is allowed to use the following language: "For failing to make the necessary effort in time and for failing to stand effectively with the free peoples when it was still possible to save the democratic order in the world, Americans now see themselves obliged to consent to ever harder sacrifices in order to improve their own defense, without having the certainty of succeeding before the peril has reached their own continent."

Millions of particles of soot or similar substance fell for several minutes on the English southeast coast during the final British retreat from France. People and growing flowers and vegetables were spotted. It was at first thought that the particles were a huge quantity of oil burned at French Channel ports to prevent it from falling into the hands of the Germans and that they were carried over in the clouds and by changes in atmospheric pressure suddenly released. Subsequently a correspondent of The London News Chronicle in France cabled that artificial fog caused by German smoke screens had become so thick that at midday people had to use pocket torches to find their way about. It was then suggested that the rain of soot may have had some connection with that. Of the German smoke the correspondent wrote: "Its effect is quite different from that of ordinary smoke screens, which drift in long clouds but remain more or less local, leaving clear spaces between them. The new product creates an evenly distributed lead-colored fog, smelling slightly of sulphur and incense, and cuts off vision at a few hundred yards range up to a height of several thousand feet over long distances. It leaves a black, sooty deposit on whatever it touches. The fog sets a formidable problem for gunners and other defensive troops who cannot see their targets till they burst on them without warning at short range."

The British action (over the French coast) has thrown the total moral bankruptcy of the Vichy Government into a memorable and inescapable relief. The Government which could betray its ally as this Government did, and then convert itself into a tool, which this episode shows it to be, is no longer France. It is no longer France, if it were France, then France would no longer count, because that Government no longer counts. It may demurely say that it is not the British the matter is of no consequence, it is moral authority is gone.—New York Herald Tribune.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Alberta's phony credit houses should be wound up and \$35,000,000 a year of the people's money saved. That would be a good place for Alberta to start a "win-the-war" effort. (Lethbridge Herald)

Hon. H. C. Nixon, Acting Premier of Ontario, announces that because of the Dominion budget the Ontario Government will endeavor to reduce taxes. That is a wise policy to pursue in view of the fact that the Dominion Government will be sure to come back for more taxes next year. It is surprising what we can do without if we have to. (St. Thomas Times Journal)

Systematic tax dodging is a poor-spirited affair in peacetime. There are uglier names than that for it in wartime. When Canadians, rich and poor, are gladly paying steep taxes in order to help the national effort, their thoughts naturally turn to the question of their fellow-Canadians who, in recent years, have flitted to the tax-free islands of the West. (Winnipeg Tribune)

There have been complaints among Nova Scotians, this year, that the climate is not what it used to be. There are those who would prefer to see more sunshine and to feel more warmth. The season, they maintain, is late, and Summer will not come until such complaints should bear in mind that people who live in those places where the Summer is warmer and longer miss a privilege which we enjoy. (Halifax Chronicle)

The caller at an education office near Halifax discovered the staff in a state of confusion. Asking the cause, he was handed a grubby piece of paper from the morning's mail, and a finger pointed out the concluding words of an indignant parent's note to his child's principal sent to a special school. "Let me tell you there has never been any trace of mentality on either his mother's side or mine".—Manchester Guardian.

Horse ears began to make their appearance in this part of Canada during the winter. The electric cars came in the nineties. The buses have been steadily displacing street cars for several years, and in many cities have been responsible for the complete disappearance of the street car and its noise is gone. And the public wishes it so. (Major Morrison at last night's meeting. Thus do new days bring their own new ways of life for life is not static.—Hamilton Spectator)

Certain Summer resort communities which depend for their existence on holiday-makers whose chief interest is making money, are stricken by a mock modesty. Some of them wake up to the ludicrousness of their excessive puritanism before it is too late and they have driven away the money which has given them their livelihood. Port Dufferin moves into the awakened class. It has amended a regulation that bathers must not appear on the beach in evening dress, wearing only a bathing suit, and that men and women must wear more than trunks. Under the new ruling, trunks are approved for the men, and anyone wearing a suit through the street attracted only the attention of the police. It is belated recognition of the silliness of the theory that what is quite all right on one side of an arbitrarily drawn line is indecent on the other side.—Windsor Star.

A suggestive paradoxical epigram was made by the poet of a distinguished man of science and (with the proviso that it has no moral reference) I may be allowed to quote it. We were discussing food in the dining room, and the scientist said, "Nothing is so pure as purity. The whiteness of bread sacrifices savour and sustenance. Oiler is robbed of its full taste because the public insists on unclouded brightness. Even olive oil is spoiled by needless purification. Year by year it is being purified, science that purification robs a diet, sometimes virtually intangible and invisible. The synthetic product, and the much purified natural product, both miss essentials. The just moral seems to be: Use flour made from the newly invented milling process.—London Spectator.

That Ottawa is an exclusive name would be the guess of many inhabitants of the Dominion, particularly as it is the Capital. Yet a railway agent might well inquire of the intending traveller which of eight communities was meant when he said "to Ottawa." There are seven Ottawas along the border, in Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Nor is the repetitious use of place names confined to the Capital. Even Montreal, which would appear quite safe because the title clearly designates Mount Royal, the central physical feature of the Metropolis, has its counterpart in Mississippi, and a somewhat smaller scale, Canadian cities which hold their names exclusively are Winnipeg, Edmonton, Regina, Saskatoon, Moncton and Charlottetown.—Canadian National Railways.

We have not a thing against Lindsay. In fact we regard it as a splendid sort of town. Drive over there occasionally and now and then have done a little visiting. So we consider it advisable to explain that it was unconscious humor which caused one of our reporters to record this fact: "His many friends here will be sorry to hear that Provincial Treasurer Gordon E. Boughton, who has been on duty in this section for several years, has received notice that he is being transferred to Lindsay."—Peterborough Examiner.

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Admission Of Defeat Gestapo In France

(London Free Press) Dispatches from London indicate that more than 17,000 "political" arrests have been made in France since the Republic surrendered to Germany. The majority of these victims of Heinrich Himmler's secret agents are probably Frenchmen whose assertions of anti-Nazi opinion in recent years have annoyed Hitler. But there may also be included, a number of German expatriates who fled the German terror, hoping to find easy safety in France.

It is a peculiar coincidence that announcements of these activities of the Gestapo should come almost on France's "Bastille Day," the historic French holiday celebrated every year for the past 151 years to commemorate the storming of the Bastille fortress—symbol of monarchical tyranny—and the striking off of the chains of feudalism. Today their is neither Liberty, Equality nor Fraternity in France, unless it be the fraternity of those millions of men and women who find solace in sharing grief and misery. The Marseillaise sounds no more in Paris. German bands play Teutonic music in the Place de la Concorde, and the heart of France reveals the ruthlessness of the Nazi peace terms. It is evident that the 151-year-old slogan, "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity" is being rapidly changed to "Labor, Family and Fraternity." The extreme French Rightists are in the saddle. Petain and Laval are aiming to reproduce in their country conditions resembling those in existence in Germany for the past seven years.

Petaim has formed a new ministry, the ministry for youth and family under Jean Ybarnegaray, a family man who has been associated with Col. Francois de La Rocque's Fascist "Croix de Feu" (Cross of Fire) party. When we look back at Hitler's Youth Movement and see what has been done to the young men and women of Germany, we realize the horrible fate that impends for French youth.

On top of all this Petain's Government moves from Vichy to Versailles where the swastika flies. Under the shadow of that baleful banner the new French Government will inaugurate the regime of French Fascism. The French people, as their eyes are opened to the iniquities of the German terms, may develop a philosophical revolt, but physical resistance is unlikely. Hitler's steel helmeted robot soldiers are on French soil and German tanks and dive bombers are ready to crush revolt at the first rumblings of discontent.

ONE SOLDIER'S MAIL. ALDERSHOT (CP)—A soldier, returning to camp after being evacuated from Dunkirk, found 30 letters awaiting him. All the letters had been to France or Belgium and had followed him around.

that was free now find themselves in a death-trap. Napoleon, in the only peace he ever made with Great Britain—that of Amiens—sought the surrender of the French exiles. The demand was indignantly repelled. To give up these men to certain death would be, said Charles James Fox, "the worst and basest act I am capable of conceiving." But such an act came easy to the puppet government of Vichy which, in relation to Hitler, has no will but the will to obey.

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THE INVISIBLE SIDE Fifty chemicals, some of them recent discoveries, are used in processing the fabrics used in the clothing that fills the average wardrobe, states a writer in the current issue of C-I-Oval. Woolens and cottons, rayons and silks would not look, feel, wear or be purchasable in such a variety of forms if these chemicals were unavailable since everyone enjoys the effects of their invisible contributions.

WYNBERG, South Africa.—Caught and held astride the dowell of her bedroom by an athletic miss, a hefty porch-climber was arrested and committed to a charge of housebreaking.

SEND ME YOUR WOOL TO BE SPUN IN YARN AND WOVEN INTO BLANKETS. Charges are: 23 cents for single yard doubled 26 cents per pound. Blankets cost \$2.00 laundered; and if laundered \$1.85.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned and marked Tender for erection of Living Quarters, Charlottetown will be received up to 12 o'clock on the 24th day of August, 1940, at the Charlottetown Airport.

Each tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque on a chartered Canadian Bank, payable to the Receiver General of Canada, in the amount of ten per cent (10 per cent) of the tender price, payable to the order of the Receiver General of Canada, which cheque will be forfeited in the event of the tenderer refusing to enter into a contract on the basis of his tender if called upon to do so, or failing to satisfactorily complete such a contract. The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

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NOTICE RIFLE AND MACHINE GUN PRACTICE will take place at CHARLOTTETOWN RIFLE RANGE Between 1st of August and 1st of September. The danger area consists of all land inclusive of the following boundaries.

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