THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20, 1943

Navy In The Lead

The Navy this week is taking a leading part in the Victory Loan campaign, and as an example to all and sundry the ratings of *H.M.C.S. Queen Charlotte* took just thirty minutes to oversubscribe their own $4,000 loan objective. This fine achievement was featured in Monday's Canadian Press report from Ottawa, and has won Canada-wide recognition. Yesterday they put on an excellent demonstration on the Market Square, and others will follow during the balance of the week.

One feels that Lord Nelson himself would be proud of such lads as we have training here for the arduous and dangerous task of fighting Hitler at sea. They are all eager and anxious to complete their training. In the meantime they are contributing generously out of their own limited funds. The Victory Loan campaign means a lot to them; but surely not more than it should mean to all of us.

That Air Conference

There appears to be some misunderstanding over the Empire air conference which has just concluded its sitting in London. The assumption seems to be that it was a gathering at which the Commonwealth nations prepared to hammer out an air plan, one with which they may later "gang up" against the United States and Russia and other United Nations.

The assumption is wrong. This air gathering in London was purely of a preliminary and exploratory character, and so far as Canada is concerned there is no intention whatever of trying to "gang up" with anybody against anybody. Canada has certain air cards which she would be foolish not to use; but equally Canada would be foolish if she didn't realize that other nations have air cards, too, and that to start making final decisions or taking sides at this juncture, without the United States and Russia being consulted, would be a course of folly.

This statement is borne out by Hon. C. D. Howe, who attended the conference and who has reiterated previous declarations that it was merely a clarifying "family discussion" on the background of the question. Only "broad principles" were discussed. Another and larger conference will be held without delay.

One of the reasons why Canada is interested in post-war plans, Mr. Howe explained, is because it will be the Government's duty to make careers for a certain number of the 300,000 men and women now engaged in flying, servicing or building aircraft.

Social Security

A matter enjoying the attention of the Mackenzie King Ministry is the question of creating a new department of social security in which all details under that category would be administered. Such a department, it is suggested, might be sufficiently broad to take in not only unemployment insurance, the one all-Dominion social security measure, old age pensions, pensions for the blind and vocational training, which are administered by the provinces with the assistance of federal grants in aid, but also Indian Affairs. One of the problems that is being considered is whether such a department should administer benefits to war veterans as well or whether the civilians and war veterans' programs should be kept under a separate administration. Admittedly after policy is determined, the overriding problem is one of financing—a problem even more acute than a constitutional question. If health insurance is to be adopted singly, or even the broader scheme, in the midst of the war, the financial arrangements between the Dominion and provinces will have to be based on the present revenue agreements.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Wholesale prices of all commodities in Great Britain rose by 42.8 per cent during the first year of the war; by 9.4 per cent in the second year; by 3.6 per cent in the third; and by only 2.1 per cent in the fourth year.

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The British Ministry of Health is building 3,000 farm cottages, two of which are now ready for occupancy. The $3.50 per week rent which workers will pay for these cottages includes water and light.

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Mobile baths are being used in some industrial centres in Great Britain where war movements of population have resulted in an inadequate number of baths. There are fifteen mobile bathrooms operating throughout the country, able to supply, free of charge and with towels and soap included, up to 2,000 baths a week.

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"London Economist," leading English financial and economic newspaper in a very good analysis of Canadian political situation accepting the argument that this is now a straight C.C.F. Pro-Con fight—says that the only asset of the Liberals is "the prestige of Mr. Mackenzie King." This will be a surprise to Canadians.

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Appealing to Canadian business men to take a more active part in politics, civic, provincial and federal, Premier Drew of Ontario said in Ottawa that racial and class prejudice are among the most vicious and dangerous threats to continued democratic government in Canada.

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Isn't this converting blackouts into unnecessary make-believes? A province-wide blackout test was held following announcement that Saint John dock areas and any waterfront scene of shipping activity would remain illuminated at such times. Port, naval and civilian authorities, at a meeting, agreed that blacking out docks and ships during these tests was unwarranted owing to consequent delay in essential work! Newspaper production, for instance, is an essential work yet at critical times the setting power is jeopardized by blackouts, while the docks, the most conspicuous parts of a city to be safeguarded, are allowed to go full blast.

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The need for greater co-operation among various governmental departments in efforts to ensure perpetuation of Canada's wild life was stressed by Mr. John R. Dymond, director of the Royal Ontario Zoological Museum recently: "Approximately 91 per cent of Canada's area will produce wild life, while 69 per cent will produce nothing else as a permanent crop," he said. For wild life to flourish, its proper habitat must be restored or maintained. Laxity of management of Canada's natural resources was alleged by him. Wild life is of far more importance to Canada than has been considered heretofore," he declared, and insisted that wild life and reafforestation should be the urgent business of provincial governments.

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Lord Palmerston, British statesman, born this date, 1784; when Foreign Secretary under Earl Gray he made an alliance with France in 1830 which ended the long enmity of England and France; he assisted in establishing the Belgian kingdom; and put down a revolt in Turkey; was dismissed in 1851 by Queen Victoria for unauthorized action regarding France; became Premier in 1855, after which he was much less aggressive in European affairs, attending more to domestic problems then agitating the public mind: "What is merit? The opinion one man entertains of another"...."You may call it an accidental and fortuitous concourse of atoms."

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We are living in strange times when "city homemakers" consider it repugnant to clean fowl bought from farmers. A resolution protesting the Wartime Prices and Trade Board regulation that poultry can only be offered for sale undrawn was adopted unanimously by the Business and Professional Women's Club in the Admiral Beatty Hotel, Saint John, and will be forwarded to provincial and federal authorities. Miss Lesley L. Pickett, the president, was in the chair and Mrs. E. E. Fowler, as a club member, explained how impractical it was for local dealers to handle the undrawn birds if the customers demanded them cleaned, and spoke of the ways to handle undrawn birds. As homemakers, many members expressed their repugnance to having to clean the fowl. The members failed to see where compelling Saint John citizens to buy the undrawn birds could be regarded as a war measure.

Racial Appeals

(Sydney Post-Record)

Premier George Drew of Ontario spoke to the point when he told a convention of insurance agents in Toronto a couple of days ago that racial and class prejudices were "among the most vicious and dangerous threats to continued democratic government in Canada." Mr. Drew emphasized this proposition by adding that those legislatures which have enacted laws making it a criminal offence to arouse race hatreds, have simply given expression to "ordinary decent feeling" and are deserving of all praise.

No country in the world stands more greatly in need of such a warning than Canada at the present moment, for Canada is a country of many races. War is the most disturbing influence that can be unleashed against social order and political sanity, as has been demonstrated repeatedly in the history of civilized countries. And the post-war situation is almost as bad in this regard as the period of conflict itself. Nor is the reason far to seek. War administrations necessarily get in conflict with popular sentiment because it is their responsibility to adopt restrictive measures, to impose enormous taxation burdens, to curtail the peacetime pace of civil freedom, to enforce odious regulations for the national safety, and for the efficient carrying on of military operations at home and abroad. Every vestige of paternalism, and with it every hope of retaining public favor, departs from any government which fearlessly discharges its duties for a democratic nation at war. For these reasons every war government becomes a post-war political casualty.

Although these abnormal conditions are certain to disappear when society again finds its base, when war and its economical aftermath have spent their disturbing force, they nonetheless persist long enough to give those who traffic in class prejudice and restless ignorance the opportunity to divide and obstruct the nation seriously in its progress toward normal goals of post-war reconstruction and expansion. Those who are old enough to recall the events of 25 years ago, know how correct a picture this is of the surge and subsidence of war-induced social and political discontent. These are by-products of war with which the well-balanced majority of the people must have the patience which is essential to the long vision required in the solid work of nation building. But there is a limit to the harm the post-war agitator can do. And there is every reason to believe that the fomenters of class and racial divisions, of half-baked economic theories and crack-pot political groups, will disturb Canada much less after World War II than they did after World War I. Even nations learn by experience. Group politics cost Canada the loss of nearly 10 years of economic progress after the last war. That is something the electorate of this country are not likely to forget.

Use Of The Azores

(Winnipeg Free Press)

A long history lies behind the acquisition this week by the United Nations of air and naval bases in the Azores from which our anti-U-boat campaign will be waged henceforth with ever-growing speed and efficiency. In it there is twined the whole story of the exploration of the New World and of the Far East and of the set of chances which more than 200 years ago brought Great Britain and Portugal into the oldest of their alliances.

Portugal, with its long Atlantic coast-line stood in the very forefront of those adventures which brought with them the thrust of the European powers into the Orient and the discovery of the New World. But the Portuguese were not the first to discover this big group of islands which lie 1,000 miles west of Lisbon. In these days that distance can be traveresed by ship in less than two days and by air in a matter of hours. But the first adventures who tossed and fought their way out from the Pillars of Hercules into the Atlantic were the seamen of Cartsage. When they went no man today knows. Only the discovery of Carthaginian remains on the islands tells us of those first voyages. The next voyagers were Arab. These, too, laid no permanent hand on the islands.

It remained for the vigor and imagination of Henry the Navigator, one of the truly immortal princes of Europe, to lay hands on them for Portugal. That great monarch, whose driving energy laid the plans which for a short time drove Portugal to the front rank among world powers, sent trusted and skilful men westward to find and take permanent possession of the Azores which had appeared vaguely on maps since about the year 1351. In 1432, they were firmly in Portuguese hands. And in 1943, when the Pope divided the world between Spain and Portugal, the line of demarcation of the two great maritime empires was drawn from the North Pole to the South Pole, 100 miles west of the Azores. It was this papal decision, incidentally, which gave Portugal the right to the coast line of what is now Brazil, and has made of that country the only Portugese-speaking country of South America.

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The association of Britain and Portugal comes later in history, and only after many clashes brought on by the growing importance of England as a seapower. The Azores were for centuries a great assembly point for the convoys which carried the riches of South America back to Spain and to Portugal. The English freebooters and adventurers tenaciously fought their way into the trade and won their own place in it; and among the bloody episodes which marked the growth of English power was the action fought by Sir Richard Grenville in the Revenge against 53 ships of Spain. The battle was fought off Flores in the Azores.

But in the 18th century a great change took place. Portugal, which has seldom had cause to love Spain, joined the Grand Alliance against France and Spain in the war of the Spanish Succession. She was hard pressed in this war, her people suffering great privations and loss of trade; and it was perhaps this need which brought about the Methuen treaty of 1703.

The terms of that treaty have changed substantially in the intervening 240 years. It was originally a commercial bargain. But the preferences granted under it lapsed in 1831 and were replaced by other clauses, one of which brought Portugal rapidly into the war of 1914-18 on the Allied side. But the preferences lasted enough to change the social habits of England. Up to 1703, the popular wine drunk in England was French claret. After that time the one-third preference granted to Portugal made port, not claret, the predominating wine of England; and up to the outbreak of this war 50 per cent of Portugal's total export were wine, the bulk of which moved to England.

* * *

Ever since the outbreak of this war, Great Britain has done everything in its power to strengthen the ancient bonds that have kept her and Portugal together, but Salazar, the shrewd dictator of Portugal, has been reluctant to make a move which might embroil his country in hostilities. Now, however, with the tide of battle swinging in Europe so firmly in the Allied favor, Salazar's doubts have been resolved and he has made his first step towards the assumption of an active role. It is unlikely that he could contribute anything which will help us more than the use of the Azores; and Salazar counts on the fact that, playing this important pawn, his country's role in the world will be rendered more effective when the battles finally sweep over those portions of the remnant but important Portuguese colonial empire now occupied by Japan.

The Poets' Corner

A WORKER'S PRAYER

If there be good in that I wrought,
Thy hand compelled it, Master, Thine.
Where I have failed to meet Thy thought,
I know, through Thee, the blame is mine.

One instant's toil to Thee denied
Stands all eternity's offence;
Of that I did with Thee to guide,
To Thee, through Thee, be excellence.

Who, lest all thought of Eden fade,
Brings Eden to the craftsman's brain,
God-like to muse o'er his own trade
And man-like stand with God again.

The depth and dream of my desire,
The bitter paths wherein I stray,
Thou knowest who has made the fire,
Thou knowest who has made the clay.

One stone the more swings to her place
In that dread temple of Thy worth:
It is enough that through Thy grace
I saw naught common on Thy earth.

Take not that vision from my ken;
Oh, whatsoe'er may spoil or speed,
Help me to need no aid from men
That I may help such men as need.

—Rudyard Kipling.

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YOUTH TRAINING COURSES

The following Youth Training projects will be conducted during the autumn of 1943 and up to March 31st, 1944. All courses will be held at Charlottetown. Students will be allowed one round trip fare on bus or rail, also an allowance for board and lodging while attending course and giving attention to the training satisfactory to officials in charge. Age limits 16 to 30 years. Application forms for Enrollment and any information desired may be secured by applying to the undersigned. Parties intending to enrol should do so promptly, as courses will open at an early date.

GIRLS' COURSES

1 Three (3) six weeks courses for girls, first to open early in November. Training in Home Management, Handicrafts, Home Nursing, Cooking, Health and other subjects.

2 Two courses in Farm Mechanics and Training for Farm Work, Tractor and Car operation and repair. Care and operation of Farm Machinery. Hitching and handling of horses. Care and feeding of animals. Milking of cows, operating cream separators. Care of milk. Care and repair of harness. Length of course six weeks. This course is designed to train suitable young women to render a service in carrying out necessary farm production programs.

COURSES FOR MEN

BLACKSMITHING One (1) five months course in general blacksmithing, woodworking, sleigh and wagon building. Course to qualify for operation of general blacksmithing and repair work. Course to open early in November.

CARPENTRY Two (2) six weeks courses in Carpentry, building construction and general farm repair work. First course to open in early January

MECHANICS Two (2) six weeks courses in farm mechanics, Operation and repair of tractors, car and gas engines. Care and repair of farm machinery, harness making and repair. First course to open early in January.

AGRICULTURE One (1) three weeks course in general Agriculture, including care and feeding of farm animals. Problems relating to soil and crops, horticulture and other subjects. Course to open in January.

EGG & POULTRY One (1) four weeks course in poultry management grading and packing of eggs and poultry. Course to open in February. This course will be open to both girls and boys.

Applications for enrolment should be mailed at once. When applying state the course in which enrolment is desired.

W. R. SHAW,
Director of Youth Training,
Department of Agriculture,
Charlottetown, P. E. I.

— Notes By The Way —

When State control of medicine is started, you'll just tear off a coupon for a lumbago diagnosis, and five coupons for a tonsilectomy.—Windsor Star.

The shopkeeper's prewar motto, "The customer is always right," has given way to what might be called the eeny-meeny-miney mo policy: "If he hollers let him go."—Christian Science Monitor.

Overy sixty forest fires are reported to be raging in Northern Ontario. The extent of the flames suggests that too many careless smokers and campers fail to appreciate the havoc that can result from momentary acts of negligence.—Hamilton Spectator.

Hitler's a non-smoker, and there's a suggestion that when the time comes to give him the works he should be made to smoke one of Churchill's longest and strongest cigars. But for an even stiffer jolt there's Joe Stalin's pipe, or one of those German cigarets made of bull's wool and oakum.—Ottawa Citizen.

An Italian, Christopher Columbus discovered America 451 years ago. After four and a half centuries Americans—among them thousands with his blood in their veins—are rediscovering Italy. Columbus opened a New World in which political freedom could flower. Canadian and American troops are now fighting to cleanse Italian soil of Nazi tyranny and give the Italian people an opportunity, if they wish to avail themselves of it, to enjoy a similar freedom. Thus does history repeat itself in reverse.—Detroit Free Press.

Germans no longer die for their Fuehrer, says a cable from Stockholm from Gordon Young, published in The London Express. Noting first that death notices of German soldiers on the Eastern Front have been crowded out by notices of bomb casualties, the correspondent says: "The significant thing about this obituary column is that in the whole armful of Berlin papers before me today, there is not a single death notice which uses the formula which was almost universal at the beginning of the war, that soldiers have died for the Fuehrer and Fatherland.' 'They all leave out the Fuehrer now."

African elephants, the largest, strongest and wildest of all elephants, are being trained for farm and other heavy work on a farm at Gangala, Belgian Congo. It is run by three officers and 120 natives of a Belgian cavalry regiment. Every year about 20 young elephants take the place of a similar number of full-grown animals taught to draw plows and wagons, or to carry logs and water pipes. It is a thrilling spectacle when, seven abreast, elephants draw a monster plow across a field. Trained elephants called monitors aid in capturing the wild young. When a herd appears it is stampeded, and some of the young are lassoed.—Exchange.

An essay written in a scrawl as hard to decipher as that of Horace Greeley was handed to his teacher by a Toronto high school boy. After a vain attempt to read it the teacher expressed his opinion of it in a single word, written on the margin of the boy's paper. What the word was, the student could not make out. Neither could any of the other students he consulted. When asked to throw light on it, the teacher himself peered at the word through his spectacles for a full minute before answering, "The word is 'illegible.'" And he joined heartily in the laughter that greeted his announcement.—Exchange.

The requirements of total war, after all, are for a mighty army supported by a civilian economy and society operating at total efficiency. That means that the home front is fully as important to the military goals as is the militia front. It means as President Roosevelt has suggested, that the whole national war plan must be a seamless web with no hitches or holes between the civilian activities remotest from the front and the front where our total war power is brought directly to bear on the persons of our enemies. The military leaders are perfectly aware of this. It is true that they may make errors in their thinking on home-front issues. They share the proclivity to err with other humans. A vigilant civilian lookout for such errors is certainly in order. But until such errors develop to the point where the military leadership is clearly discredited, until General Marshall and his colleagues have clearly shown that they are losing the war by errors on the home front issues should be granted the front, their suggestions on home-greatest respect.—Baltimore Sun.

More than 100 German and Italian generals are now British prisoners.

Clip These Coal Tips

Keep Temperature Down

Tests show that for every degree over 68 degrees coal consumption is increased 3 per cent. Thus if you keep your home at 68 degrees instead of 76 degrees you will save 24 per cent of your fuel. Doctors agree that 68 degrees is more healthful.

RAINBOW

The rain bow has always been of good cheer to farmers because when there is a rainbow, there has been rain for the crops. Another good friend of farmers is H. & N.'s "BLACK TWIST" CHEWING because its stimulating, friendly flavor and lasting goodness help to smooth the furrows of care.

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