THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22, 1943

Cheese Production Estimates

On the basis of information provided by provincial delegates at the recent Dominion-Provincial agriculture conference, officials said that while 1944 cheese output promises to be 20,000,000 pounds greater than in the average pre-war year, it still will be down 10,000,000 pounds as compared with 1943.

Following are the estimates of production by provinces, compared with 1943 output:

Prince Edward Island, 752,000 pounds, unchanged; Nova Scotia, none, since no cheese factory has operated in the province for years; New Brunswick, 771,000 pounds, unchanged; Quebec, 46,624,000, unchanged; Ontario, 93,285,000, down 10 per cent; Manitoba, 3,526,000, up eight per cent; Saskatchewan, 419,000, unchanged; Alberta, 2,236,000, down 10 per cent; British Columbia 777,000, up 10 per cent.

A Fine Tribute

Following the announcement that Prime Minister Churchill had been stricken with pneumonia, this fine tribute to him appeared in the New York Post:

"After the doctors and nurses have their way—and we'll bet they didn't get it without a roaring fight—Winston Churchill must lie alone with his thoughts for a few hours today.

"We can't know all that passes through his mind. But for most of his 69 years that mind has been about equally preoccupied with making history and writing it. And so we can safely assume that he is thinking in terms of history and of his own place in the tremendous record of his times.

"That will call for many books. One item we wish to contribute today: that Winston Churchill will stand as the perfect example of how an intelligent conservative, a conservative by birth, education and conviction, could hate and fight fascism with all the passion and power of his being. By that demonstration alone, he has done a great deal to save the democratic way of life. He proved how it was possible for men to differ on many fundamental questions, and yet fight together for each other's freedom. We needed that proof.

"That is why liberals and conservatives both, free men everywhere, hope from the bottom of their hearts today for his quick recovery."

It is reassuring to note from yesterday's despatches that this hope is being realized. The Prime Minister now seems to be well on the road to recovery.

Greatest Property Owner

The British Government, because of the **war, has become the greatest property owner in Britain.** It already possesses assets valued at $3,315,000,000 and a good deal more. But because no central record is kept, the House of Commons Select Committee on National Expenditure has not been able to estimate the full extent of state capitalism in the United Kingdom.

The government now owns land on a big scale, land for airdromes especially. It owns buildings by the thousands—factories, workshops, barracks, camps, offices, houses, hospitals, hostels, warehouses, cold stores, general stores, air raid shelters, gas, water and electricity installations and railway sidings. It has huge quantities of plant and machinery for a great variety of purposes, including tractors and agricultural machinery, National Fire Service vehicles and fire fighting equipment.

It possesses ships, dockyards, floating docks, jetties, wharves, launching ways, slipways, harbor sheds and grain elevators. And it has furniture and equipment for a wide range of buildings.

In short, it is by far the biggest "capitalist" in the country.

"The total expenditure which these assets represent," says the select committee's report, "is very large, and the future of so much state property will raise considerable financial problems. Moreover, the eventual decisions about the retention, adaptation, or sale of such property, will be governed to a considerable extent by major considerations of policy which, so far as the committee can find out, have not yet been determined."

Chances The Japs Missed

General Auchinleck, commander-in-chief in India, said the other day that the Japanese last year missed their best chance to invade India, that India now is safe from any serious attempt at invasion.

The Japs missed last year also their best chance, in fact their only chance with hope of success, to invade Australia and New Zealand. They missed, the day of Pearl Harbor, their only chance to seize the Hawaiian Islands—had they sent in troops on the heels of their air attack they would have found little in their way.

Tokyo had been preparing for war for years, had careful and exact plans. Apparently those plans did not go so far as the actual invasion of Hawaii, New Zealand, Australia and India—and yet it must have been clear to Hirohito's war lords that they could not settle down to enjoy their loot while these islands and countries could be used as bases against them.

Probably what fooled the Japs, suggests the Ottawa Journal, was the failure of Germany to live up to her part of the Axis plot. Berlin was convinced in the Fall of 1941, and no doubt convinced the greedy Japanese that Russia was on the verge of complete collapse, that after Russia surrendered Britain could be knocked out of the war before help from the United States could become a factor. And, of course, everybody knew the Americans wouldn't really fight! So no doubt the wily Japs decided they could show their strength in a great swoop southwards, sit down in Malaya and The Netherlands East Indies while their enemies humbly begged for terms, pick up India and Australia, New Zealand and anything else they wanted, at their leisure. No doubt they actually thought at that stage that they would dicate the peace terms in London and Washington. Fortunately for us, and unhappily for the Japs, fate had other plans.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

The shortest day, according to the calendar.

* * * *

There have been crowds of farmers in the city this week, but not having much to sell; nor, on the other hand, has there been much variety on which to spend.

* * * *

1,000,000 tons more cereals for bread and more than 250,000 tons more potatoes have been grown in Britain this year than in last year's record-breaking effort. This harvest is the greatest yield per acre of these products since official records have been kept.

* * * *

Australia is to give a Speaker's chair for the House of Commons at Westminster when it is rebuilt. Mr. Curtin, the Prime Minister, announcing this said the offer had been accepted by the British Government, but the matter was being deferred until the design of the new House of Commons and the timber to be used had been decided.

* * * *

Hearty congratulations are extended to the Hon. Cyrus MacMillan on his prospective entrance into the cabinet as Minister of Pensions when the Prime Minister reorganizes his ministry preparation to the general election. The only fly in the oitment of good wishes all round is the fact the last time Prime Minister King reorganized his ministry to include Dr. Cyrus it went down to defeat. This may, in fact, is almost sure to happen again.

* * * *

A vital war factory was built near a New South Wales town. It had to be staffed, and there was hardly enough housing for the local inhabitants, and none extra for operatives from outside. So the local manpower officer called up the whole town except for rural workers, and those running the vital services. "Everybody's short-handed now," lamented the Mayor. "I don't know what we're going to do." "Make munitions!" said the Manpower Man.

* * * *

George Eliot, (pseudonym of Mary Ann Evans), English novelist and poet, died this date 1880; among her friends were Herbert Spencer, Carlyle, and George Henry Lewes the last named inspiring most of her work; "Adam Bede", published in 1859 was her finest work; her place is among the greatest of English fiction writers; she excelled as a word painter of middle-class life and character, and her work is marked by much pathos and humour: "One must be poor to know the luxury of giving"... "Our deeds still travel with us from afar, and what we have been makes us what we are."

* * * *

The Montreal-Matin naturally takes it for granted that Mr. Bracken is indeed on middle ground between Liberal reactionaries and C. C. F. radicals. It comments thus: "Mr Bracken's doctrine is first and foremost based on the respect and welfare of the individual. And then it is a good thing that he takes something both from the left and from the right, in formulating up his creed. He well knows the danger of a socialist policy, but he is also aware of the risks of a laissez-faire policy, of compromise and partisanship. He chooses the middle course. On the one hand, he wants to assist the poor to improve their lot, and on the other he intends to prevent the powerful from exploiting the people, from acting against the common good."

* * * *

The Trafalgar Day celebration at the foot of Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square included the speaking of a new short poem, "Men of the Royal Navy," written for the occasion by the Poet Laureate, Mr. John Masefield. The verses were recited by Lieutenant Esmond Knight, R.N.V.R., the young actor who was partially blinded in the action between H.M.S. Prince of Wales and the Bismarck. They are as follows:—

Long since, I knew the sailors of the Fleet,
The Navy's lion-hearts, the undismayed;
Death's suddenest, most dreadful, they would meet
As an old shipmate who a visit paid.
Ocean has added to her death since then;
Science and purer courage are her need;
Man, grown in skill, is deadlier to men;
These, with grown virtue, dare the greater deed.

* * * *

Canada's wheat acreage reduction program has cost the Federal treasury already about $75,000,000, and the total will be at least $80,000,000 when all the 1943 payments are made. This money has accomplished a total wheat sowing cut since 1940 of at least 10,000,000 acres and has produced a corresponding increase in western summer fallow and coarse grain acreage to compete with Eastern Canada. Acres sown to wheat in 1939 totalled 26,750,000; in 1940 the acreage was 28,725,000; in 1941 it dropped to 21,880,000 acres; in 1942 there was a slight reduction to 21,586,000 acres; but in 1943 the full force of the reduction program was reflected in a cut to 17,500,000 acres. Under this subsidy plan, originally, there was paid $4 an acre for summer fallow, and $2 an acre for coarse grains and $2 an acre for ground sown to grasses and rye. In the first year the plan operated under departmental regulation but in 1942 an act was passed, and last year it was amended to place the payment on a flat $2 an acre basis for all areage withdrawn from wheat and put to other uses.

Notes By The Way

Hitler is a super-optimist if he thinks the Russian bear is going to hibernate this winter. — Kansas City Times.

Human beings can get along for a while without jams and jellies, but nearly every one is sometimes in need of human encouragement, a handclasp, or as costless a gift as a friendly smile. The world turns on its better relations, not upon its ill-natured ones.—Victoria Colonist.

Carol, once King of Rumania, has hired a press agent—he is not content with the decent obscurity to which events have consigned him, perhaps he thinks he can convince the Allies that they should restore him to his throne. He might better save his postage.—Ottawa Journal.

To throw away an empty cigarette package involves a stiff fine in Britain. In the matter of real saving and conservation we, in this country, or the people of the United States, haven't got to first base. And since the war started there has been no prodigality with paper worse than that of our own government departments!—St. Catharine's Standard.

Some High School Slang is not as new as it looks. To be "hep" means to be knowledgeable or vivacious, just as it did 40 years ago; it may be new on this continent to call a dull young man a "drip," but the English have done so since 1920. And to say that someone is in a "tizzy" when they are over-excited has been recognized English since about 1850; it is just getting to the High School crowd now.—Peterborough Examiner.

Last week Mme. Litvinoff, wife of the former Soviet ambassador to the United States, was packing in preparation for her return to Moscow. Gifts for Russian from American friends jammed her luggage, she said. In one parcel there was enough crystallized Vitamine D to care for 20,000 babies for one year. Offhand, we'd say that is the biggest gift of "sunhine" on record.—Kingston Whig-Standard.

Mark Twain once remarked upon the tendency of Eastern people in general, but of New Yorkers in particular, to discuss money and money matters at all times and in all places. He contrasted this with the general conversation of the people back in his old home town of Hannibal, Mo. "Why," he said, "in Hannibal we never talked about money. There was not enough in the place to furnish a topic of conversation."—Kansas City Star.

At a recent session of the Stalingrad Regional Soviet it was reported that 8,400 houses have been built or restored in the city. Volunteer builder teams have played a great part in this work. With their help, 42 schools, 10 hospitals, 11 polyclinics, eight mother and child consultation centres, 99 kindergartens and a nursery were repaired. Twenty-five kilometres of water mains were also put into operation.—USSR Bulletin.

The Russian don't fool when they intend to court martial "war criminals" and execute any found guilty. Moscow already reports the conviction and hanging of one "war criminal." The German was hanged from the same tree that the Nazis used to hang a Russian woman for killing poultry without a Nazi permit. There should be a lot more Germans hanged. And, when the executions start, they will include more than just Hitler, Himmler and those fellows. A lot of lesser gangsters have to be punished so the German people will understand what happens when a nation turns gangster and tries to murder its way to world-domination.—W. L. Clark in Windsor Star.

An advance step was taken by the clergyman in the Cumberland and Westmoreland districts a short time ago when they held a rural conference at Nappan to consider how best the ministry could help in making rural life more attractive. The discussion lasted throughout three days and when the conference was over, it was clear that much new information had been provided and that the clergymen had been given a new field in which to exercise their talents for leadership. It is not that men in the ministry can teach the farmer anything in the way of producing crops but that they can provide a greater inspiration in devising new ways for making community life more attractive.—Amherst. News.

With Christmas an event to anticipate weeks in advance annually, it is difficult to realize that here was once a time when the festivity was abolished in England. Parliament, in the year 1643, passed an act forbidding the celebration of the day, in spite of the protest of the King and the people. For 12 years there was no celebration of Christmas and all who attempted to celebrate were arrested and fined. In the year 1659 the state of Massachusetts, through the general court, enacted a law providing for similar punishment for anybody observing, by abstinence from labour, feasting or any other way any such day as Christmas. For 22 years this law remained enforced. Christmas being again officially recognized when the act was repealed in 1681. For years after the restoration of Christmas day celebration, the Puritans obstinately refused to celebrate.—Hamilton Spectator.

Britain must look across the English Channel to the continent, whence the major threats to her security have always come. She must also look across the oceans to all the continents. For this reason neither an exclusive partnership with a European power, nor, on the other hand, an exclusive partnership with a non-European power, even if attainable, could furnish the British Commonwealth with a broad enough basis for security. In the United States acute and influential minds are also insisting that provision for American security must begin with a "nuclear" triple or quadruple understanding which can be the hard core of a world system. The establishment of a sound and settled relation between Great Britain and the United States has been a mighty achievement of the years of war, a deep foundation on which to build. The concrete purpose of the three-power talks which lie ahead is to strengthen tie with that other great country which has hitherto borne the brunt of war on the European continent and will exercise in the future settlement of Europe a share proportionate to its efforts and to its victories.—London Times.

Taxation

(From the Preview Word)

Most authorities agree that tax rates have had something to do with absenteeism in war plants. The take-home pay declines rapidly, in proportion, as a man works longer hours, and especially, if there is a penalty rate for overtime This is contrary to the trend in industry for long years. Time-and-a-half and even doubletime have become tradition. The Ilsley rates made them a contradiction.

For a number of years prior to the war-boom, many a workman was getting along on part-time. Today, with his rate of pay higher despite ceilings, he is perhaps inclined to continue part-time, especially as there is little on which he can spend his money.

Subject to more expert interpretation, the figures relating to a skilled worker on a payroll at $60 per week for a six-day week would be as follows: Assuming that he is a married man with no dependents, and is subject to the full compulsory savings, his take-home pay out of the $60 would be $42.80, less unemployment insurance deduction, war savings pledge, bond pledge, etc., etc., if any If he works just half a week his take-home pay would be $25.60 which is perhaps what he was making before the war. His argument is likely to be that he gets $8.53 per day to take home if he works three days per week. But if he works the second three days, his take-home pay is just $5.73 per day for those days.

It can be argued that no man working in a plant producing a vital, or even semi-essential war material, should be so unpatriotic as to argue it out this way as an excuse for him to loaf half the week. A great many workers — men and women — are working steadily, earnestly, whole-heartedly, patriotically. But humans are human and the percentage who use the tax rate as an excuse to take it easy in these times is sufficiently large to have aroused the interest and championship of some of the C.C.F. members of the House of Commons and to cause managers of war plants more than a little worry.

The Poet's Corner

BABYLON

The child alone a poet is:
Spring and Fairyland are his.
Truth and Reason show but dim,
And all's poetry with him.
Rhyme and music flow in plenty
For the lad of one-and-twenty.
But Spring for him is no more now
Than daisies to a munching cow;
Just a cheery pleasant season,
Dairy buds to live at ease on.
He's forgoten how he smiled
And shrieked at snowdrops when a child.
Or wept one evening secredly
For April's glorious misery.
Wisdom made him old and wary
Banishing the lords of Faery.
Wisdom made a breach and battered
Babylon to bits: she scattered
To the hedges and the ditches
All our nursery gnomes and witches.
Lob and Puck, poor frantic elves,
Drag their treasures from the shelves.
Jack the Giant-killer's gone,
Mother Goose and Oberon,
Bluebird and King Solomon,
Robin, and Red Riding Hood
Take together to the wood,
And Sir Galahad lies hid
In a cave with Captain Kidd
None of all the magic hosts,
None remain but a few ghosts
Of timorous heart, to linger on
Weeping for lost Babylon.

—Robert Graves.

SANTIAGO, Chile, Dec. 21 —(AP) — Gen. Enrique Penaranda, deposed president of Bolivia, arrived at Arica, Northern Chile today.

NOTICE

We will be open all day Wednesday and Thursday till 5.30. For the convenience of our customers we will remain open Christmas Eve till 9 o'clock.

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What $20.60 Will Buy Today

50 lbs. Sugar	1 pkg. Cake Flour
50 lbs. Potatoes	1 pkg. C. B. Soda
10 lbs. Rice	2 loaves Bread
10 lbs. Lard	1 lb. Shortening
3 pkgs. Cornflakes	2 pkgs. Cheese
3 tins Milk	1 doz. Oranges
1 pkg. Quaker Oats	6 tins Peas
2 pks. Rinso	1 lb. Tea
1 pkg. Soda Biscuits	1 jar Pickles
10 cakes Soap	2 doz. Eggs
1 pkg. All Bran	1 pkg. Salt
1 gal. Vinegar	2 pkgs. Macaroni
2 lbs. Butter	1 lb. Bacon
1 doz. Quart Sealers	2 pkgs. Parowax
2 pkgs. Shredded Wheat	1 tin Magic Baking Powder
24 lbs. Flour	1 lb. Xmas Candy

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