THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1941.

Dairy Problems

Tuesday's meetings of the Central Farmers' Institute were, as usual, well attended and resulted in much interesting discussion, as well as the adoption of resolutions bearing on forest conservation, regulation of potato acreage, mussel mud supply, chemical fertilizer costs, and other matters of timely importance, to which the attention of the authorities, federal and provincial, is directed.

The progress report of the branch institutes given by the secretary, Mr. W. D. Ross, shows that the organization is widely distributed and representative of some of the best farming communities in the Province. This gives point to Mr. Ross' argument that more use should be made of the Central Farmers' Institute as a clearing house for agricultural problems, and in contacting the Government on such matters.

The problems of our dairy industry are of concern not only to those directly associated with cheese and butter production, but to the whole Province. It is our basic farm industry, on which the whole structure of our agricultural system rests. Hence the importance of yesterday's annual meeting of the Provincial Dairymen's Association, and in particular the comprehensive report of the Dairy Superintendent, Mr. W. L. Brenton, which we publish in full in today's issue. It will repay very careful reading.

Mr. Brenton stresses the fact that ultimate receipts to the primary producer in this industry depend on low production and manufacturing costs, plus good salesmanship. It is our own fault if we fall down in the latter requirement, but production and manufacturing costs are in a different category. They depend on many things, including transportation, field crops, and market conditions. Our crops are usually adequate; our transportation facilities never have been. Market conditions vary with the times, the general trend during the past winter months being unfortunately to our disadvantage.

Another factor has entered into the situation, in the system of price fixing adopted by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. The Board pegged butter prices at the top, but not at the bottom, and so far as this Province is concerned, the result, Mr. Brenton says, has been to bring chaos into our butter transactions. This criticism is in line with the comments of butter producers all over Canada. Price pegging of export cheese, at least so far as this Province is concerned, has also been unsatisfactory. These are factors which can and should be remedied. In the meantime, they have accentuated the difficulties our farmers have been facing for some years past, of remaining in an industry which is essential to the system of mixed farming that has been followed here for generations, and for which our Province is ideally suited.

"What Is The Use?"

"What is the use of Parliament if it is not the place where true statements can be brought before the people? What is the use of sending members to the House of Commons who say just the popular things of the moment, and merely endeavor to give satisfaction to the government whips by cheering wildly every ministerial platitude, and by walking through the Lobbies oblivious of the criticisms they hear. People talk about our Parliamentary institutions and Parliamentary democracy; but if these are to survive, it will not be because the constituencies return tame, docile, subservient members, and try to stamp out every form of independent judgment."

The above quoted comment would seem to have particular application to our "tame" federal representatives from this Province, and to the attitude of the King Government towards criticism of any kind. It was, as a matter of fact, uttered by the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill in a speech at Waltham on March 14, 1939. Mr. Churchill was not then Prime Minister of Great Britain, but he has made statements to the same effect on several occasions since assuming that responsible position. Coming from this source, perhaps our representatives, and Mr. King and his cabinet colleagues, will give it their prayerful consideration.

The Highland Bagpipe

A contributor to the Weekly Scotsman takes exception to the statement, frequently made, that the Highland bagpipe is of foreign origin. On the contrary, he writes, the unmixed race who first inhabited Scotland, long before they knew of a foreign shore, made their own bagpipes. Aristides Quintilianus said so when he visited Scotland prior to the Christian era somewhere about the year 56 B.C. The first Highland pipe, it seems, was made from wood grown in the Highlands. It grew or developed from a pipe to a bagpipe, and finally to "the great Highland bagpipe." Black oak, ash, elm, and various other Scottish trees were used for bagpipe making. Horn, bone, lead, etc., were used for mounts in the earliest times. The bag was made of sheepskin often with the wool preserved upon the skin, and reeds were found in the morasses, which existed in great abundance in the Highlands.

"With the composition of its music and the Highlanders who played it," argues the Scotsman correspondent, "this is abundant proof that the instrument is purely Highland, and its classical music can be found in no other country in the world.

"Today," he concludes, "hundreds of pipers' fingers are itching to play our victory march at home and over the seas. Aye! and we must not forget that on every battlefield in the wide world where British soldiers have fought, the great Highland bagpipe has been associated with the deeds that have won His Majesty the King's far-flung Empire. "Wha then daur meddle wi' the origin of the heilan' bagpipe?"

EDITORIAL NOTES

Is there going to be another boom in home building in the city?

* * * *

Citizens had better be prepared with sea boots and boats in case of a sudden thaw.

* * * *

Hon. R. J. Manion would be an excellent appointment as Canadian High Commissioner to Eire were he prepared to accept the position.

* * * *

No more Bingo! Instructions have been given to the police to put a stop to all Bingo games, whether or not the proceeds are for religious or charitable purposes.

* * * *

Admiral John Byng shot this date, 1747. He was sent by the British Admiralty to relieve Minorca which the French had attacked, but withdrew without engaging in battle; in consequence, Fort St. Philip surrendered. Byng was tried and shot, as Voltaire said, "pour encourager les autres."

* * * *

"Back to the land" used to be a popular slogan, and today, "back to barn manure" would appropriately take its place. Farmer after farmer at the Institute meeting insisted that what the land required more than anything else as fertilizer was the manure from the live stock fed on the farm. Chemical substitutes are good in their way, but can never give the same results as "home grown products." Besides it is much more economical.

* * * *

Mussel mud used to be an old time and cheap stimulater for our farms. When the Hon. Murdock MacKinnon was Minister of Agriculture he did much to provide mussel mud for farmers in different parts of the province, arranging for the digging and transportation at absolutely minimum rates. When he was succeeded by the late Hon. Mr. Lea this policy was abandoned, and imported lime then had its innings.

* * * *

Tremendous strides have been made in dairying in the last few decades, says Brandon Sun. Science and chemistry have invaded the bovine realm and brought improvements in sanitation systems and housing conditions, with the resulting increase in quantity and quality of milk. Modern refrigeration has minimized the dangers of contamination. Strict regulations regarding tested cattle have lessened the old fears of infection and disease in milk. All these factors combine to make dairying a primary industry in a rising young country where opportunities for agricultural pursuits are infinitely great.

* * * *

Criticism which leads to improvement is constructive. In time of war it is necessary, and the Government should welcome rather than resent it. No member of the Government has any right to assume that those who discover and point out administrative faults are any less patriotically determined to support a maximum war effort than the Government itself is determined to exert such an effort.

* * * *

Evidently New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are not very sympathetic to any scheme for the restriction of potato production. Yet it was New Brunswick's over production last year that practically ruined the South American seed potato market last Fall. What are wanted at the head of our governments are men with vision and resource who can see a little farther ahead than their nose. A good way to accomplish the end in view would be for the Provincial Government to give a subsidy on every acre of potatoes up to five, and impose a special tax on every acre above five. That would tend to encourage the farmer and exclude the gambler.

* * * *

A likely prospect for Senatorship is Captain John L. Read. He is probably one of the livest wires in public life, and has ever the best interests of the Province at heart. Not only is he "the Father" of the Car Ferry, he is the one when others were in despair made a practical success of it. In farmers organization, in fox organizations in Boards of Trade his voice has been heard advocating constructive measures, and denouncing what he considered impractical or uneconomic policies. It goes without saying that were Captain Jack the choice as Senator Hughes's successor, Prince Edward Island would hold a considerable share of the limelight at Ottawa, as it did when his father, Captain Joe, represented Prince in the Commons.

* * * *

Mr. Hanson and Mr. Brooks are about the only two Maritimers who make their voices heard in the House of Commons on behalf of their constituents and the public generally. Criticizing Mr. Howe for his neglect of the Maritimes, Mr. Brooks said "we from the Maritime Provinces feel the minister has more or less overlooked us." The Maritime Provinces were the logical place to build wooden as well as steel ships. Both the Maritimes and British Columbia had the advantage over St. Lawrence River shipyards in that they were open all the year and could launch new vessels without interruption. Out of 220 plants which had received capital assistance from the government to enable them to handle war orders only one was located in New Brunswick. "I say we have been treated unfairly in that regard and it is time some consideration was given that part of Canada," Mr. Brooks declared. There was some shortage of power in New Brunswick but more could be generated either from hydro or coal. Mr. Brooks said the government was considering expenditure on development of the St. Lawrence River for power but that project would be of no assistance to the Maritime Provinces whose taxpayers would have to bear their share of the cost. We cannot keep Canada united with one section prosperous and another section struggling for existence," Mr. Brooks concluded.

NOTES BY THE WAY

It is to be devoutly hoped that war-time restrictions will not lead to any fantastic advance in the price of oranges, public resentment having already reached its zenith over the seven, eight, or ninepence demanded for lemons before the controlled price of two-pence was fixed. When one considers the purchasing power of a shilling or florin nearly one hundred and twenty years ago, present-day prices for these fruits however appear trifling. (In 1822 oranges were selling in London at one and two shilling each.) — Port of London Monthly.

In Michigan last year 1,622 persons were killed in automobile accidents. There were more automobile fatalities in 1940 than in 1939, more in 1939 than in 1938. What can be done about it? One thing must be done! We must be made to realize the shocking import of these figures. The public, and particularly the authorities, must not lapse into tacit acceptance of such conditions as just a phase, a necessary accompaniment of our modern civilization. We shall have automobiles, more and more of them. But the automobile itself is not the blameworthy factor in the accident record. The makers of automobiles have done their part by increasing year by year the possible safety of their operation. The failure is on the part of the driver, not of the machine. — Detroit News.

Speaking of Sweden I am glad to be able to recommened what the A.A. would call the shortest practicable route to anyone thinking of visiting Stockholm. The new British Press attache at the Stockholm Legation is taking it. You go, to begin with to Cape Town by sea; then to Cairo by air. After that, of course, the rest of the journey, via Istanbul and Moscow, is simple. Not long ago, it may be recalled, the personnel of the Friends' Ambulance Unit which was stranded in Sweden after the fall of Norway, reached the Libyan front by the same route reversed. — London Spectator.

When we write or speak of the war we usually deal with the sacrifice, hardship and loss that it entails. We seldom speak of the benefits — perhaps because we are not proud of the fact that it seems to have taken a war to bring them But in Canada advantages there are. The war has already cut Canadian unemployment in sometning like half. Plants and camps are filled with men whose physical fitness and morale are on definitely improved standards. Industry is humming, reaching new production levels — breaking trails for new conquests. The drives of national effort that answer war's demands show us how petty a lot of our problems have been. These things are happening in wartime. But they will inevitably have determining influence in peace. We have seen what we can do when we have to. — Vancouver News Herald.

The Germans are hated in every country. This is not less true of Italy, the ally of the Nazis, than of those peoples who are their victims. If once the bitter detestation and longing for vengeance bred by the Nazi system found an opportunity, Germany would have to withstand a great popular force. An army crossing Europe would collect behind it and in front of it all this great submerged power created by brutal exploitation. To the Germans at home the discovery of all this passionate hatred would come as a shock, for no people has been taught so successfully to believe what it is told. In this way the Nazis are undermining their own power of resistance. So long as victories seem to vindicate the judgment of their rulers they will put up with great disappointment and severe hardship. But if some great demand is made on their courage and resolution, the collapse of their faith in this Nazi doctrine that Germany is giving Europe final peace, the discovery of the immense unsuspected volume of anti-German passion among the people of the world, would put a great strain on their endurance. — Manchester Guardian.

The Nazis are as adept at stealing fish as at employing bank vaults to judge from reliable reports just received in Washington. The hope of Norwegians that they might be allowed at least to eat fish, even though other foodstuffs were requisitioned for German use have been dashed. The country's supply of dried stock-fish — 7,000 tons— has been seized, while all domestic sales of klipfish have been stopped. Germany wants fish to use in bartering for products needed by the Reich. Accordingly, the Nazis have demanded 10,000 tons of klip-fish for themselves and an additional 9,000 tons for Italy. (Norway's entire supply of klipfish is only 13,000 tons.) And on top of these requisitions, the Nazis have ordered that at least 150,000 tons of fresh fish must be supplied them by Norway in 1941—in other words, all the fish that can possibly be caught under the best of conditions during the entire fishing season. — Norwegian Press Service.

According to Dean John Harvey of Temple university law school, if a husband deserts his wife, it is a fairly safe bet she does one or more of the following: 1—Talks too much about her operation. 2 — Comes down to breakfast in curlers and negligee. 3—Saves up and retells all the children's misdeeds. 4—Tries to keep up with the Joneses. 5—Criticizes too much. 6 — Shows no sense of humor. Addressing a club recently, Dean Harvey said that 17,600 husbands in the United States left their wives during last year, and added, "if a wife would try as hard to please her husband and would be as cheerful as he must be with his clients, patients and customers, the husband would never run away." That, of course, is the husband's point of view, and many wives will rise to remark that there would be much less trouble if their husbands were to try to please their wives as much as they try to treat clients, patients and customers. — Niagara Falls Review.

The current issue of Newsweek, the American news-magazine, carries a report on snuff sales in the United States. While the average person may consider that snuff was a product that enjoyed its heyday in the past century, there is a shock in the figures that illustrated the amount of snuff still being used in the land to the South. In 1940, sales of snuff amounted to 37,900,000 pounds, valued at millions of dollars. One manufacturing company, getting the largest share of the business reported sales amounting to $18,339,203 for the past year, and two other major producers reports sales reaching a combined total of several additional millions. Snuff is still in evidence in Canada, but few people would have realized the extent of this business in the United States, and probably its use in Canada may be as extensive. Apparently it is no longer snuffed but is substituted for chewing tobacco. — Timmins Daily Press.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

"A POLICEMAN'S LIFE IS NOT A HAPPY ONE"

Sir,—In one of our papers of the 11th, I read an account of the upbraiding of our city police force by Councillor Butler over an alleged improper arrest on one of our city streets, for not moving on and thus blocking the sidewalk.

I think, as a citizen, it is high time something was done about our sidewalk and doorway loafers; you never see this in the larger cities, so why have it here? On several occasions I have been embarrassed by the foul language used by some of the same sidewalk Romeos, and on one occasion 'phoned the police office about it.

I think it is near time our councillors stood behind the police force and showed some real courage, or what is plainly known as "guts," instead of, "yes-yessing" everybody who comes along. Let us all help keep our city right.

It's all very well for these same men to sit down and howl about this and that, but let them get out and do the work our police are doing night and day, and see how much better they would do.

They did marvelous work in the Trainor case, and deserve all the credit they received, so why should councillors jump on them if they do make an occasional error.

Trusting this will be published, and thanking you for your space in advance.

I am, sir, etc.,

MR. X.

POTATO PROSPECTS

Sir,—A statement in your issue of March 13 attributed to the Provincial Minister of Agriculture gives an incorrect impression of the stock of potatoes in Canada.

The figures quoted were from the Dominion Department of Agriculture, but 60 per cent of the excess over last year is in Western Canada, principally British Columbia, and will have no effect on Eastern markets.

Prince Edward Island is shown as having the same quantity on hand as a year ago, and we are experiencing a better demand.

The New Brunswick report shows an increase of 350 car loads, which is not burdensome. Ontario and Quebec have about the same as last year.

From an examination of these figures it will be seen that there is no need for any grower to get disheartened about the potato market.

With regard to the Minister's statement advocating the curtailment of potato acreage. The farmers of Prince Edward Island on the average plant five per cent of their land in potatoes, which is not excessive when taking the good with the bad. Potatoes have shown a profit over the last three years and have given the farmer a higher return for his labour than any other crop. If the acreage were reduced by 25 per cent it would have no effect on the North American market and would only permit growers in other provinces to increase theirs.

I am, Sir, etc.
POTATO SHIPPER.

DIPHTHERIA

Sir,—This enemy is here in Charlottetown and in Summerside as a direct result of carelessness or indifference and neglect of some parents. Last week four cases were reported in the capital, and this week one case was reported in Summerside. In this age, with the scientific knowledge that we possess in respect to its prevention, it should be considered a disgrace to have a case of diphtheria occur in a family and a crime should death result from the attack.

For the past twelve years the Dept. of Public Health and their predecessors have carried out active and regular campaigns against this enemy with most creditable results in greatly reducing the number of cases and almost completely eliminating the number of deaths. Last year for the first in our history, no cases or deaths occurred.

That good record unfortunately will not obtain for this year, but the knowledge that this enemy diphtheria is again in our midst will, I hope, prove helpful in convincing the indifferent parents that prevention is necessary. It is particularly important that babies of six months and upwards, and the younger pre-school children be protected, for over sixty per cent. of all deaths from Diphtheria occur in the age group under five years.

This week the annual Diphtheria Immunization Clinics are commencing in each of the City schools, and the co-operation of all parents having pre-school and school children is requested and required in order to make these clinics successful by protecting our young children.

Surely it is worth while protecting your child against this enemy to health. Surely it is worth a little effort on your part in bringing your little children to one of these clinics. Do not procrastinate when it may mean the lives of those you value so highly.

I am, sir, etc.,
B. C. KEEPING, M.D.,
Deputy Minister of Health.

"NERVES" SHE CALLED IT

Losing interest—losing friends—she never went out any more—always too tired. "Nerves," she thought — but it was her kidneys, the filters of her blood, that needed attention. Delay meant danger. She took Dodd's Kidney Pills at once. The improved action of her kidneys helped to clear away blood impurities and excess acids. Fatigue, headache, backache, lack of energy, disappeared. 117

Dodd's Kidney Pills

Liberty Bells

(New York Post)

The bells of St. Clement Dane in London are soon to be buried in sand because the church has sustained six hits from Nazi bombers and the heavy bells are a treat to pedestrians. These, of course, are the bells made famous in the nursery rhyme English mothers have sung to their children for 250 years:

"Oranges and lemons,"
Say the bells of St. Clements.

"I owe you five farthings,"
Say the bells of St. Martins.

"When will you pay me?"
Say the bells of Old Bailey.

"When I get rich,"
Say the bells of Shoreditch.

"When will that be?"
Say the bells of Stepney.

"That I don't know!"
Says the great bell of Bow.

All the bells in the rhyme are silent now because their tolling is reserved to warn that invasion is being attempted. St. Martins, Old Bailey and Bow have been hit; perhaps Shoreditch and Stepney as well. Yet one day, we are sure, the bells will ring cheerfully again. When will that be? That we don't know. But we haven't a doubt that after this struggle the bells will peal joyously again.

Examination Of Recruits

(London Free Press)

Disclosure at Ottawa that 18,829 out of the 200,000 men enlisted in the Canadian forces in the present war have been discharged, reflects upon the medical men who conducted examinations of these men, or upon orders issued by Ottawa. Either the physicians carried out their orders and passed men unfit for active service conditions in modern mechanized war, they were careless, or they made mistakes in diagnosis. Of the 18,8289, about 4,000 were let go because, as Defence Minister Ralston said, "they were unlikely to become efficient soldiers." Presumably it was other than physical deficiencies that necessitated this action. In war in these days a high type of mental fitness as well as physical health is a requisite.

In the case of men called for 30 days' training the first medical tests were made by civilian doctors who were paid $1 per man. In the United States military draft the plan has been for civilian medical men to undertake the tests free, but they have had difficulties too. It takes much time, thought and considerable experience for a doctor to pass on the whole physical makeup of any man. Army regulations call upon the recruit to declare physical defects of which he is aware. A superficial knowledge of the human body and mind suggest that this can only be the preliminary to a detailed examination.

What has happened has caused a waste of the taxpayers' money to the extent that it paid for training of unfit men and for subsequent medical treatment. The remedy lies in Ottawa insisting on stricter observance of its regulations by civilian physicians examining recruits and by army medical corps officers conducting army "boards" on enlisted men.

The Poet's Corner

SEA ROAD

The cliffs drop sheer along the stretch of beach,
Narrow and jagged in the sprawling sea;
The ocean rages just beyond the reach
Of road that curves and winds deliberately.
Shunting itself abruptly to the edge
Of sea horizon; twisting back once more
To wend along an overhanging ledge
Of crumbling rock above the lapping shore.

Aeons ago the sea gull made its home
Among the boulders on the cliff's rough face,
Securely nested high above the foam
Of water, in that safe, secluded place.
But now a road is carved along the way.
Known then only to sombre birds on high;
And travelers climb its rugged height each day
To gather to themselves the lonely sky!

—Billy B. Cooper, in New York Times.

IN MONTREAL

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THE Windsor ON DOMINION SQUARE

J. Alderic Raymond
President

wi

CAN'T STRIKE BACK

LONDON —(CP) —Peppered with machine gun fire from Nazi planes back and forth over the English Channel Coast, the Observer Corps cannot reply as defence equipment would attract attention. Their business is to flash warnings promptly and explicitly.

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