THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure
Vice-President: J. E. Burnett, F.J.I.
Secretary: Lieut. Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O.
Editor and Managing Director: J. E. Burnett, F.J.I.
Associate Editors: Frank Walker and Lieut. Ian A. Burnett, R.C.N.V.R. (On Active Service)

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 1944

Conference Postponed

The Dominion-Provincial Conference, which at one time had been expected in the Easter recess, will not likely be held in 1944, says Canadian Business. Or, if this year, very late in the season. Reasons for this are many. One is that provincial elections will be held this year in Quebec and in Saskatchewan, possibly in other provinces. The purpose of the conference will be to reach an agreement on the establishment of uniform social welfare measures, of which the administrative responsibility will rest largely with the provinces. This is what the Speech from the Throne said: "A considerable measure of social security is already provided under federal and provincial legislation, but the working out of a comprehensive national scheme, in which federal and provincial activities will be integrated and which will include nation-wide health insurance, will require further consultation and close co-operation with the provinces." It added that when suitable arrangements had been made with the provinces, the Federal Government would bring before Parliament a health insurance scheme, a more generous old age pensions scheme.

But the provision of family allowances was definitely promised in the present session, without reference to an agreement with the provinces. Study of the distribution of children throughout Canada and the probable cost, at $9 per week per child, have shown that costs may be well in excess of $200 million a year. Family allowances may be as far as the Federal Government will go in new social welfare measures, which are mainly post-war in their application at the present time. There are 3,600,000 children in Canada under the age of 17 years. If the entire population is covered in the family allowance scheme, the cost will be about $388 million a year.

If the Federal Government strikes off its 1944 agenda the proposed Dominion-Provincial Conference, it will be clearing the decks for a federal election. This view is held in many sections of responsible Ottawa opinion. Later in the year, later than expected, Mr. King will go to London for the conference of Prime Ministers of the British nations. This places the possibility of an election well into the later months of 1944, if it is called this year. But political observers realize that the dominant factor in Canadian political developments in the immediate future will be the Allied operations against Germany in western Europe. When will the second front come? Not only must that question be answered, but the related question of how long it will take to defeat Germany as well, before speculation on the next Canadian election can become definite. An election in the fall cannot be ruled out entirely.

All But One

A columnist in the Windsor Star notes that "all the Liberals voted for daylight saving to be retained in Prince Edward Island and all the Conservatives voted to abolish daylight saving. Thus did the Island politicians prove that parties line up for or against according to parties and not according to the way the individuals think.

"So much of the legislation in Canada and in the provinces is jockeyed around by parties. Just because one party thinks something good, the other party feels it has to oppose the idea and try to pick flaws in the suggestion.

"It is utterly silly to think of daylight saving causing parties to divide on partisan lines. It shows what a joke the parties can make of legislation when they allow it to split them down the middle on questions like that.

"But, it has always been the way. If one party makes a suggestion, the other parties condemn the idea, even though they know it is good."

In fairness to Mr. Ramsay, First District of Prince, it may be added that he did not vote with his Liberal colleagues but with the Opposition on this issue.

Another Coal Inquiry

There is to be another Royal Commission inquiry into the Canadian coal industry. In announcing the Government's decision prior to the recessing of Parliament, Hon. C. D. Howe outlined the duties of the commission as "studying all aspects of the production and distribution of coal in Canada, to report to the Government with recommendations for such alterations of the prewar coal policy as its findings may indicate as necessary or desirable."

This definition of the commission's functions, says the Globe and Mail, is not to be taken as the precise terms of reference. Neither, unfortunately, can it be taken as assurance of the Government's determination to solve the long-standing fuel problem. On the record of Royal Commissions and of special Parliamentary committee investigations into coal, the natural conclusion will be that another commission is but the substitute for action.

There is no other fragment of the national economy which has been so thoroughly studied, so frequently investigated and so widely reported on as coal. It is no exaggeration to say that "the production and distribution of coal in Canada," or some phase of these operations, have been almost constantly under examination from the last war to the present one. There was the special committee of the House of Commons in 1921-22, there was the McGregor Commission of 1932-33, and there was the Royal Commission on anthracite in 1936-37, to mention but a few.

For the most part, and regardless of the bountiful recommendations these surveys brought forth, the policy on coal has been a subvention here, a subsidy there; always some form of Treasury bonus to meet a special plea or circumvent an "emergency" in some section of the industry. Never has there been a forthright attempt to employ the accumulated surveys and recommendations in facing the coal problem for what it is, a national problem. Unless there is the intention of evolving a national fuel policy, there is little to hope for from another Royal Commission now.

EDITORIAL NOTES —

Spring has now set in, and in a month's time planting will be general.

* * * *

Prospects are bright for a continuance of all summer work at Bruce Stewarts, full speed ahead.

* * * *

The railway locomotives should provide quite a lot of repair work as soon as the freight tie-up has been straightened out.

* * * *

Drafting married women for urgent domestic service jobs in hospitals and institutions is the latest example of Britain's woman-power shortage. Since single women are in essential war jobs, married women are now being called to fill the critical need for 30,000 women in this work.

* * * *

The five sloops of the Royal Navy which destroyed six U-boats in twenty days are the first sloops to come into prominence. The sloop is still swifter and bigger and more heavily armed than the frigate and seems to be at least one answer to the U-boat. Sloops are one of the family of convoy-escort ships that have grown up since the war and have contributed so much to the doom of Doenitz and his U-boats.

* * * *

Pupils who attend school in Brandon, Man., learn more than reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic —they have lessons in old-fashioned etiquette as well. For the past two years courses in "good manners" have been part of the school curriculum. Superintendent T. A. Neelin and his staff believe that such courses will have far-reaching results and will later stand the pupils in good stead.

* * * *

There is a sign outside the Newark office of the Ministry of Information Emergency Information Service which says, "American Information". The result has been a constant stream of enquiries, including one from an American who wanted to know why the telephone operators say "you're through" before he has started.

* * * *

Penicillin "The Wonder Drug" has reached India. Capable research workers have evolved a quicker growing method in India which takes a quarter of the time hitherto taken in laboratories elsewhere. Wheat-bran, is the secret of their success. It has now been discovered that the penicillin growth on a wheat bran medium has an average activity of 30 oxford units per gramme, whereas the mould produced from sugar or glucose solution, the method used in western laboratories, yields only three to four units per cubic centimetre.

* * * *

Gibraltar ceded to Britain this date 1713; it is a naval base of vital strategic importance to Great Britain and her Allies; it was captured 1704 during the war of the Spanish Succession, by a combined Dutch and English force, under Sir George Rooke, and was ceded to Great Britain nine years later by the Treaty of Utrecht; several attempts have been made to retake it, the most celebrated being the great siege of 1779-83, when General Elliot, afterwards Lord Heathfield, held it for three years and seven months against a combined French and Spanish force; during tunnelling operations in the present war a cavern of great beauty with stalactite columns, apparently sealed for many years was rediscovered and now designated "Lower Mickey's Cavern."

* * * *

Canada, "a supposedly enlightened democracy" habitually spends less on educating its young than it does on alcoholic liquor, according to an editorial in the Winnipeg Free Press. Canada, as a whole, in 1937 spent $108,899,000 on education, says the editorial, and, while admitting "there has, of course, been a further recovery since 1937," points out that "it has been estimated that the Canadian liquor bill in 1939 was $153,000,000. Last year it was put at $250,000,000." The editorial continues: "These are surely figures which will bring all thinking Canadians up sharply. The only real asset this country or any country has is its young. Yet we spend less educating our young than we do on alcohol."

* * * *

According to a usually well-informed Ottawa correspondent there is doubt whether the present session of Parliament when it resumes after Easter-tide will continue right through to August to finish its heavy legislative duties, or prorogue in July and have another special session in September. Should good fortune attend the greatest invasion in history the King Government may be tempted to conclude the sessional program and appeal to the electorate either late this year or early in 1945. Mr. King on the last day of the recent sittings indicated that resolutions standing in his name would be called and it is notable that three of them are related to post-war legislation. It is apparent the government is not disposed unduly to delay the social security and rehabilitation measures. One of the Prime Minister's resolutions calls for the establishment of a department of reconstruction to cushion the nation against the shock of demobilization; another looks to the creation of a department of veterans' affairs to deal with pensions and the re-establishment in civilian life of the armed forces; while a third would set up a department of social welfare to deal with social security and the welfare of the people. These three measures would form the basis for the government's post-war program to promote the interests of the returning forces, those at home who will also want the assurance of employment, and also provide the administrative machinery for the national health insurance scheme.

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.

INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS

Sir,— It may be news to many people that the income tax exemption of $108 per child we hear about includes the savings portion so the actual allowance is really $54 per year.

If it weren't for the payroll deductions the small taxpayer would have been in for a further surprise as there seems to be a nigger in the wood pile. The tax for a married man is figured on income over $660 and apparently exemptions for dependents are reduced by other factors as we find that for a $1,300 income the rate with one child is the same as for the childless, $31 fixed and $31 savings. Not until the taxable income is over $1560 does the exemption amount to $54 for a single child, and with three children an income of over $1,860 is required in order to benefit to the extent of $54 each.

Instead of $108 as we thought, the chart shows outright allowances for each child to be much less on the lower incomes:

Income	One Child	Two	Three
$1300	none	$ 7.00	$ 9.33
$1400	30.00	22.00	19.33
$1500	45.00	37.00	29.33
$1870	54.00	54.00	54.00

I think the married man with a wife at home bringing up a family should be entitled to a little more consideration. Don't you?

I am, Sir, etc.
J. W. GILBERT.

P.S.— Here is the fixed or outright tax as given on the income tax form. Typewritten copies were sent to a few newspapers and they apparently found my figures to be correct:

Income	Child-less	One Child	Two	Three
$1300—Tax	$ 31	$ 31	$17	$ 3
$1400	65	35	21	7
$1500	98	53	24	10
$1570	121	67	26	12
$1870	186	132	78	24

In addition to the above, there is an equal amount of savings portion tax from which certain insurance and mortgage payments are deductable.

IN PRAISE OF DR. GRANT

Sir,—In your Public Forum of 8th instant appeared a letter under above heading the object of which seemed to be to get a dirty dig at our Federal member Dr. T. V. Grant, at the expense of our transportation difficulties without which our daily papers would afford very dull reading.

I am wondering if the chap who wrote the letter referred to, had been our Federal representative since 1935 would he have succeeded in securing the Basin Head boat harbour at a cost of $50,000, and which will remain as a monument to Dr. Grant's memory for all time to come? If he would have built a new boat harbour at Red Head, a new boat harbour at McFarlane's Cove, a new boat harbor at Georgetown, and a new wharf at Murray Harbor? If he would have put modern conveniences in the stations at Montague Murray Harbor, Murray River, etc?. If he would have seen to it that every wharf and boat harbor in King's County were thoroughly repaired every year and that nothing was neglected in the line of Public Works in King's County, as every fair-minded Elector admits to the credit of Dr. Grant since 1935?

The writer of the letter referred to, shows his lack of information when he states that the Government saw fit to grant a pension to the Captain who was held responsible for the sinking of the S.S. "Charlottetown," and I am not going to waste my energy in trying to educate him, but for the benefit of others who might pay attention I should like to point out that the Government did not grant a pension to the Captain. The pension which the Captain received was his own. He had paid out of his salary a percentage of his wages for a great many years, into the Railway Brotherhood, to provide himself with a pension on retirement.

I understand the only things which would debar the Captain from getting his pension would be dishonesty and drunkenness, and no one can accuse the much beloved Captain of any such misfortunes as these.

I am, Sir, etc.,
KING'S COUNTY ELECTOR.
April 10, 1944.

Locking The Stable Door

(Halifax Chronicle)

The failure of appreciation of the value of the school teacher in war by the Dominion autorities has had a serious effect on the training of the young. From Fredericton comes a Canadian Press despatch reporting the Director of Education for New Brunswick as saying that more than 30 schools have been closed owing to lack of teachers.

Provincial Departments of Education for along time protested the essentiality of school teachers. Children need school care. Teachers are vital to the war effort at their posts. It was only last June that the authorities decided that teachers were to be frozen in their profession. But that was like locking the stable door after the horse had been stolen. The situation in New Brunswick is the result.

In wartime it is the responsibility of the Government to decide where a man or woman can be placed best for the effective prosecution of the war. During the prewar years the annual salaries in many provinces for public school teachers were disgracefully low. Conditions have been improved slightly since then, but not much. So it was not unnatural to find that teachers, when the opportunity of war industry offered itself, accepted new jobs with higher pay.

Had the Ottawa Administration applied complete compulsory national selective service for the forces, the farms and the factories, we would not be faced with the present difficulties concerning manpower. Even yet the steps taken with regard to teachers are not fully effective, for regardless of the importance of the school teacher, he is still subject to the draft for home defense. In many cases the Selective Service boards have shown fairness in postponements until the school year is over. But this does not get down to the heart of the matter. Voluntary enlistment of the male school teacher, regardless of essentiality is permitted.

In the case of the male school teachers there is little that can be done now. Most of the fit young men have been in the forces for some time. But if there had been an adequate overall plan for manpower the school teachers and their valuable contribution would not have been passed over.

The Poets' Corner

FLEET STREET

I never see the newsboys run
Amid the whirling street,
With swift untiring feet,
To cry the latest venture done,
But I expect one day to hear
Them cry the crack of doom
And risings from the tomb.
With great Archangel Michael near;
And see them running from the Fleet
As messengers of God
With Heaven's tidings shod
About their brave unwearied feet.
—Shane Leslie.

Another Shiffer Hillman Suit And Another Well Dressed Man

It pays to buy the best and have a man such as J. P. MacPherson measure you, one that has learned the business from the ground up. Personal appearance means a lot to you, there is no excuse for ill-fitting clothes. We do not want a deposit as customers will gladly accept proper fitting garments.

J. P. MacPHERSON & SON

166 Queen Street Charlottetown

Maritimes Rally Round

(Ottawa Journal)

The Maritimes Provinces are rallying to the support of Prince Edward Island in its demand for improvement of its connections with the mainland of Canada. The Halifax Herald has pointed out the impossibility of maintaining by ferry that "efficient and continuous communication" promised the island province when it entered Confederation more than seventy years ago and declares the Dominion has been "welching on its bargain." The Saint John Telegraph-Journal comes out flatly for construction of a tunnel as a post-war project, unless it is proved an engineering impossibility, and urges the Dominion government to give the question immediate study, to prepare plans so that work can be undertaken without delay when the time arrives.

* *

The Telegrapn-Journal summarizes in these words what it calls the Island's "strong and convincing case" for construction of a tunnel to carry both rail and motor traffic:

"1. Prince Edward Island was only induced to enter Confederation (this in 1873) by the promise of continuous and adequate communication, winter and summer, with the railway systems of the mainland. The ferry service, no matter how good it has been, has never been "continuous" in the strict sense of the word; has always been subject to interruption from one cause or another. The rest of Canada has a clear obligation to the Island.

"2. Prince Edward Island has been under a very heavy handicap due to the high cost of moving goods across Northumberland Strait. This has worked against progress and has prevented the full realization of the Island's potentialities.

"3. A tunnel, by removing barriers to development, would create new values, new industries, new sources of income from which the federal treasury would get returns both directly and indirectly.

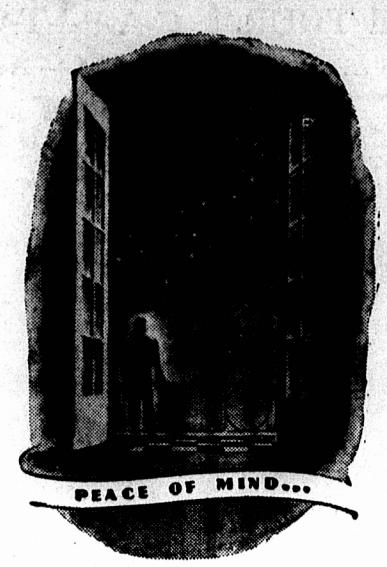
"4. Most of the money spent on the tunnel would be paid out in wages at a time when, most probably, public undertakings will be necessary to prevent temporary unemployment."

* *

The question has become acute in the Maritimes, and especially of course in Prince Edward Island, because there is now only one ferry in operation, and if it is hampered by ice or bad weather, as has happened in the past winter, or breaks down, the Island is isolated except for aircraft.

But at best a ferry service over tidal waters cannot be as fast and efficient a service as modern conditions demand. Prince Edward Island has immense possibilities as a tourist centre, but they cannot be realized if, as happened constantly before the lid was put down on the tourist's car, visitors arriving at or leaving the Island often have to wait hours for a ferry.

Prince Edward Island is not unreasonable in asking that at least an inquiry be made into the tunnel project. In fact that province has been extremely patient over a long period of indifference on the part of federal authorities to its special situation.



Nothing else quite equals the peace of mind a man or woman enjoys through ownership of a Confederation Life policy, insuring as it does the future financial security of themselves and those who may be dependent upon them.

The fact that there are over 4,000,000 owners of Life Insurance in Canada is its own tribute to the desire for peace of mind through the benefits of Life Insurance.

BEFORE YOU INSURE CONSULT—

Confederation Life
HEAD OFFICE **Association** TORONTO
Branch Office:
Bank of Nova Scotia Bldg., Charlottetown
W. G. HOGG, Manager

NOTICE

The public is hereby warned that practice bombing will take place at any time during the night or day at the Tracadie Bay Practice Bombing Range, commencing Wednesday 12th of April, 1944. This bombing range consists of a circular area of 1,000 yds in radius, adjacent to the East Shore of Tracadie Bay as illustrated on warning notices in the District.

No unauthorized person is permitted to enter the danger area on or after the date mentioned.

Accidents Do Happen!

Accidents have no respect for either place or person. The Home, which is often considered the safest place in the world, actually is the scene of more accidents than any other. Every minute of the day there are people injured or becoming sick — people whose INCOME may stop but whose regular expenses continue in addition to the heavy extra expenses for hospital and medical attention.

For a surprisingly low outlay, you can arrange Accident and Health coverage to supply you with an unfailing source of INCOME should accident or illness disable you. Let your Great-West Life man show you the plan that will fit your special requirements.

Hyndman & Co., Limited
Provincial Managers
Offices: Charlottetown, Summerside, Montague

NOTICE

HIGHWAYS CLOSED TO MOTOR VEHICLES

Commencing April 11th, 1944, and until further notice, all highways in this Province are closed for motor vehicle traffic, except in such cases where the total weight of vehicle and load does not exceed 5,000 pounds.

Anyone driving on provincial highways contrary to this order shall be duly prosecuted.

Dated the 8th day of April, A.D., 1944.

By Order,

C. J. STEWART,
Acting Clerk of the Executive Council

We Have the Proper

TRUSS

For your particular case. To those of you who are unfortunate enough to have to wear a Truss we ask the question. Are you satisfied with the one you are wearing? Does it fit comfortably or is it an out of date style. We have just received a shipment of new style Trusses. All sizes and at prices to suit everybody.

Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture

Every person who is troubled with gas in the stomach and bowels should get a bottle of "Dr. Evans' Stomach Mixture" and see how quickly it will relieve all distressing symptoms.

Recommended Remedy for Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Sour Stomach, Heartburn and all stomach troubles Price 85c.

THE 2 MACS
149 Great George Street
Mail Orders Given Prompt Attention.

WANTED
4 SEWING MACHINES
Tailors sewing machines —second handed —
Kindly write this office giving model, etc.
"Y" Charlottetown Guardian

Farm For Sale

Almost 70 acres, modern home, good buildings, 4½ miles from Charlottetown.

H. C. NELSON,
Marshfield

For Foot Ailments
CONSULT
H. J. A. BROWN, D.P.
Orthopedic
CHIROPODIST
143 Great George Street
CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.

How Are Your Eyes?

If you are having symptoms of strain — headaches, sore eyes or dizziness — consult a specialist.

At your service with years of experience and a thorough refracting service.

Call in and discuss your difficulties Write or phone for appointments.

G. F. Hutcheson AND SON
F. G. HUTCHESON
G. F. HUTCHESON

Professional Cards

McLeod & Bentley
W. E. BENTLEY, K. C.
J. A. BENTLEY, K. C.
Barristers and Attorneys-at-Law
134 Prince Street

Morrell and Company
D. F. ARCHIBALD
Chartered Accountants
Eastern Trust Building
Charlottetown