

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1942.

Easter

The highest symbol of the things we are fighting for today, against such desperate odds, is embodied in the Easter anniversary. It has been said with truth that our Christian civilization is at stake in this war; it is equally true that Christianity is never more surely alive than when it is threatened with danger and extinction.

The Legislative Session

The legislative session created little public interest this year, one reason doubtless being the all-important issues of the war, with which everyone is, or ought to be, preoccupied. The terms of the Dominion-Provincial financial agreement were discussed pretty fully, the Government finding it difficult to refute the Opposition claim that had their Public Accounts of 1941 been properly prepared, showing the true deficit on current account, we should, on the basis of fiscal need, have received a much more substantial subsidy.

That there has been little or no exercise of "budgetary control" was forcefully pointed out on many occasions. The Government sought unwisely to economize by cutting out grants for exhibitions. Hon. Dr. MacMillan strongly opposed this. He received no support from Liberal agricultural representatives who preceded him in the Budget debate; but after his speech the Government called a caucus of its party supporters, reconsidered its decision, and restored the exhibition grants.

Last year the Opposition was instrumental in getting \$10,000 cut off the Estimates for Falconwood maintenance. The vote was exceeded, but Hon. Mr. McIntyre was able to show that he had been more economical in his administration of this department in 1941 than in the preceding year—evidence that his curtailed budget had had at least some beneficial effect.

The most striking feature of a somewhat colorless session was the effectiveness of the numerically small Opposition, both in its contribution to the debates, and in forwarding worthwhile legislation.

Our Champions At Ottawa

We are not altogether unchampioned at Ottawa, however silent our Queen's and King's County members may be. Published in today's issue is an excerpt from the Hansard report of the House of Commons debates for March 26, registering the complaint of two representatives with regard to the transportation handicaps of this Province. Hon. Grote Sterling, whose constituency is in British Columbia, raised the question of the Prince Edward Island car ferry and terminals in the absence of Hon. Mr. Hanson, who had intended to ask some questions and make a statement thereon. Mr. J. R. MacNichol, representing the constituency of Davenport, Ontario, followed up with a strong plea on behalf of our Province. We may be thankful that while the Conservative members in the House are few, they are neither tongue-tied nor indifferent to our grievances.

Hon. Mr. Howe—the Government member who misled us into believing that the S. S. Charlottetown could be salvaged—made some statements which are full of inaccuracies. Hon. Mr. Ralston was naturally better informed, but the most significant part of his statement was that there is a car ferry available in Lake Michigan which can be cut in two and thus taken through the St. Lawrence canal locks. "The difficulty there," Col. Ralston said, "is

that in putting her together we have to preempt for some little time a dock down the river, but it seems that the situation is not insurmountable.

One may well ask, why was this undertaking not started last summer? Mr. MacNichol, who has been a frequent summer visitor to this Province, took occasion to give us an excellent boost from the tourist publicity standpoint. The Campbell Government, which proposes to spend \$12,800 in tourist advertising and literature this year, should send him a letter of thanks.

Well Merited Honor

Pine Hill College honours itself as well as the recipient in its decision to bestow the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon the Rev. Hugh Miller, B.A., M.A., B.D., of Trinity United Church, Charlottetown. Mr. Miller is known and esteemed throughout the Maritime Provinces, where he has held different pastorates with outstanding credit and distinction. He has brought to his duties a high sense of social responsibility as well as talent and scholastic attainments, and his sincerity and conscientiousness have impressed themselves upon all classes of our community. That he will ably uphold the dignity of his new degree—the highest in the bestowal of any college—goes without saying. In congratulating him upon this well merited recognition, The Guardian is not unmindful of the many courtesies received by newspapermen at Mr. Miller's hands. Never one to court publicity, he has been unfailingly generous in giving help and cooperation when required. The same comment may well be applied to his association with every class and organization in the City and Province.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, Easter, the Queen of Festivals.

We are now rationed automatically, as it were.

Now we may eat prime beef with clear consciences.

After today no sugar loaf from the baker though we may make our own within the limits of our sugar ration.

Today, wear a flag for the sake of the sick, and help the good ladies of the P. E. I. Auxiliary.

Monday statutory holiday but observed here only by Law Courts, Government Offices and Banks.

The legislators return to their homes after an enjoyable break in the routine of their daily occupations.

It was Premier Bell who initiated the policy of taxing everything "tangible and intangible." It is another Liberal Premier who includes in the latter "the sick and the dying."

It is not every Red Cross Association has a President so indefatigable and generous as the Hon. W. J. P. MacMillan, M. D. (McGill) LL D. (McGill). His heart and soul are in the work. And now he has endowed it to the extent of \$600 per annum.

His many friends here extend to Mr. L. D. Murray hearty congratulations on his appointment to the secretaryship of the Bank of Nova Scotia, as reported in our Thursday's issue. There is only the Presidency left to cap his marvellous success in the career of his choice.

Did the Temperance Federation really mean what they said in their protest against taxation of liquor for revenue, or was it merely pro forma? They readily accepted the ipse dixit of Mr. MacKay, M.L.A., that the protest might be too late, and left it at that. How different the Exhibition Associations! They interviewed the Government the next day and got the exhibition grants restored. Being vitally in earnest, of course, made all the difference.

Oliver Goldsmith, poet, dramatist and man of letters, died this date 1774; studied for Anglican priesthood at Trinity College Dublin; subsequently went to Edinburgh and Leyden to study medicine; after having failed in everything he undertook, turned book seller's hack in which he developed friendships with Johnson, Burke, Reynolds, Garrick and others; his "Vicar of Wakefield" is one of the masterpieces of English fiction, and his comedy, "The Stoops to Conquer," still maintains its popularity on the English stage; in poetry his outstanding production is "The Deserted Village"; he was beloved by everyone and Johnson said of him that "he left scarcely any style of writing untouched, and touched nothing he did not adorn"; "For just experience tells, in every soil, That those who think must govern those that toil And all that freedom's highest aims can reach, Is but to lay proportioned loads on each."

Confusion and impatience are reported prevalent among Montreal employers in the Montreal district over the new Dominion regulations barring entry of men of military age into employment in a long list of "restricted occupations."

As part of the mobilization of manpower program, the Government has forbidden employers to give or workers to take jobs in specified restricted industries unless the employee is under 17 or more than 45, has been discharged from or rejected by the armed services, or can procure a special permit from a National Selective Service officer. The confusion appears prevalent more among industrial employers than those in merchandising and commerce, where the majority of positions can be filled by either women or older men. But generally there is said to be confusion as to how employers should proceed to adapt themselves to the new order, and a demand for guidance and clarification as well as early appointment of officials to handle application of the law.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A paint that glows in the dark is being used for marking the obelisks in London's back-out, and it foreshadows germless houses in the future. To "activate" the paint, ultra-violet rays generated by special filters filtered through tubes are thrown upon it, when the object painted gives out a bluish glow and becomes visible in the dark. The system is being applied to four stations in London's West End, stair-risers, bull's eye signs and indication strips for the depot. The principle of fluorescence, or the generation of light by any substance under ultra-violet rays, was discovered by an Englishman, Sir John Herschel, many years ago. Its wartime application may lead to its extensive use in painting the walls of rooms with fluorescent paint, which gives off a steady, glowing light, approximately three times more effective than filament lighting. It can be so arranged that the wavelength of the exciting light not alone causes the paint to fluoresce but also kills off bacteria in the atmosphere. — By Robert Williamson.

It is interesting in this connection to notice that the capital city of this province consumes 43 per cent of the total electricity although it has only 17 per cent of the population. The usual explanation when this is pointed out is that unemployed persons tend to flock to the city in search of work. We are by no means convinced that this is so. Young unemployed men and women may go to Toronto to seek their fortune, thereby adding to that city's burdens; but middle-aged unemployed and married unemployed with children are much more likely to stay where they are knowing full well that such fortune as is likely to be their will turn up as quickly in their native haunts as in the metropolitan centers of Toronto. — Peterborough Examiner.

When duststorms have been raised in Australia, dust which takes in most of the inland area, red rain is common — rain which falls through the dust pall overhanging the country. When a really big storm blows up inland, 11,000,000 tons of valuable top soil is swept into the air, experts estimate. Some comes down on the ship of the winds of England. Sea and helps to thicken the red sediment which coats part of the seabed there, while some carried on and paints a pink tinge on the snow of the new Zealand. Soil erosion has affected 10,000,000 acres of Victoria alone. The State Rivers Commission spends \$100,000 a year on clearing sand out of irrigation channels. The cleared and roads covered. But the dust goes on piling up. Loss of productivity is estimated at \$500,000 a year. — Australian Press Union.

There is wide approval of the choice of Dr. Temple to succeed Dr. Arndt as Premier of the province. It is felt that his progressive mind and his democratic sympathies fit him for the leadership of the province. In the formative years that will follow the war, during the 13 years he has been Archbishop of York he has never lost touch with the people in which he is so deeply interested, particularly the Workers' Educational Association. His sympathy with the ideals of the Life and Liberty movement. It may be remembered that Dr. Lang, when he announced his retirement, said he was making way for a younger man because the lines demanded leadership an arduous and decisive man of mind which could not be expected of a man in his 70th year. Dr. Temple is 60. — Manchester Guardian.

There is a "famine" in horse-flesh for cats. Animals which food shops which a few months ago were able to offer good supplies are now open for only a few minutes each day, and the number of cats waiting to be fed is so large that they are often turned away. Hundreds of people have to wait for their animals' rations. The number of cats is estimated to be 100,000,000 in the Thames Valley town. Half that number were turned away when the shop put up a "Sold Out" sign. The number of cats in London is estimated to be 100,000,000. In pre-war days London got most of the available supplies. — London Evening Standard.

The sap is running, the pussy-willows are budding, the daffodils are coming out of hibernation and mother is picking out her new wallpaper and paint. — Spring is here. Yes, sir, dad tackle and the time has come that in a few days the ruzs will have to be taken outdoors and given their annual feeding; the lawn mower needs repairing; more garden space will have to be planted this year in view of the restrictions on canned vegetables; the cellar needs cleaning; the storm windows have to be removed, etc. — Poor dad — he gets a headache, and by the time gardening comes around, that old attack of lumbago will return and all the joys of Spring will disappear. — Be sure you get a good month's mudpots will be biting, the pike will be snapping at those trolls and plugs; the air will be warmer and drier, and the sun a new aspect. — Boy — ain't Nature grand? — Winchester P.Press.

The new regulation of gasoline for boats, from four to 60 gallons, depending on the horse power, for the season, as compared to pleasure passenger cars, 200 to 500 gallons, appears out of proportion. The utility of the motor boat resides largely in its general use as an inexpensive, pleasant, healthful recreation, to be shared with other friends, generally families, including their children; the number only limited by the capacity and size of the boat. It is also used as a modest means of transport to inaccessible beaches and islands where, with picnic baskets, a quiet, inexpensive holiday is available to many others who are deprived of it. The motor boat is also a real means of rescue, life saving and towing. Since with prevalent summer storms, the canoes and rowboats constitute for

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.

FISHERMAN'S PROTEST

Every one is quiet? Is it not near time that we speak up and have a say in this business of size limit? Just two years ago we had a size limit of 2 in. and now they have raised it to 7, and suppose it will soon be 8 in. That is if the people in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia want it, as I am told they are asked to have it raised from 6 1/2 to 7 in. If the fishery officials are sincere and want to conserve this great industry and also help the war effort, why not cut off the last two weeks in June as that would give the cod fishermen a chance to fish when the cod arrive and are not so scarce. Surely we can get our representatives at Ottawa and our Island Government to make every effort to have this 6 1/2 in. limit left on for the duration of the war. I am Sir, etc. Fisherman.

FARM PRODUCTION

I have read with keen interest "Agriculture's 1942 Program", as outlined in The Guardian's news columns. It is good to see the determination on the part of the Dominion Government to give a rather more generous deal to our primary producers. One or two of my political-minded neighbors have asked me if this change-over in the official attitude towards our basic industry is not also an example of the democratic technique "too little, too late"? My reply is that it is a move in the right direction and that rural Canadians may be relied upon to respond to the limit of their energy and their economic equipment!

I note that Dr. G. S. H. Barton (Deputy Minister, Dominion Department of Agriculture) makes reference to the starting fact that "Apart from wheat, the whole country has less than a month's feed supply on hand before the crop of 1941 was harvested." It is also the fact that "the hazards of climatic conditions cannot be ignored." It is only that these vital considerations should be brought forward, so that their dangerous implications can be blended into the production plans of our farmers, alike in the East and West. I recall the thought-provoking fact relative to the aforesaid "hazards of climatic conditions", that this country's greatest wheat crop (559,000,000 bush) in 1928, and its minimum last year (171,000,000 bush) in 1937, both came from the same number of seeded acres, i. e., 25,300,000 acres. What has happened before can be repeated. Who knows?

A noted farm leader from the prairies (John H. Wesson) appeared before the agricultural committee of the House of Commons last week, and among other things, said: "Among the factors of building-up reserves to feed starving people when the war is over, there is the prospect that the surplus will not be there in three or four years. I am not afraid of the wheat surplus bogey." Those are my views, Sir. Meantime the West is apparently going "all out" on the feed grain and bacon for Britain front. Minimum price-tags on the finished products has, at least, given them the green light at last? I am, Sir, etc. ON THE HOOR!"

Ceiling Needed On Speeches

(Port Erie Times-Review) Donald Gordon has made a speech. This is hardly news for the energetic chairman of Canada's Wartime Prices and Trade Board has made many speeches since he was given supreme control by the cabinet over Canada's business structure. What is news is the revelation of Mr. Gordon's conception of his duties. That speech in question was delivered before a joint meeting of Montreal service clubs and broadcast over the C.B.C. In the course of it Mr. Gordon said: "Selfish or private interest must be ruled out completely. The competitive system must go, to be replaced with one which is based entirely upon the criterion of maximum production with the most efficient use of labor, machinery and materials to operate steadily without cease except for necessary rest or maintenance." This is the close of his address he called for each citizen to "regard himself as his brother's keeper, and let it be known that the evader of wartime regulations is a criminal." The war-time association, to be hurried away to the punishment he so richly deserves." He also said that Canadians must accustom themselves to a standard of living based upon bare essentials. Stripped of rhetoric that an unkind observer might describe as hysterical, Mr. Gordon's speech is in part quite sensible. The question remains whether he was the man to make it. It is still to be remembered that Mr. Gordon either as deputy governor of the Bank of Canada or as chairman of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, is a civil servant appointed to carry out certain duties. There was grave doubt as to the

many, a considerable hazard, here the motor boat justifies its good reputation and is first to the aid and last to leave in case of rescue. — J. M. Letter in Ottawa Journal.

Kidney Acids Rob Your Rest

Many people never seem to get a good night's rest. They turn and toss—lie awake and count sheep. Often they blame it on "nerves" when it may be their kidneys. Healthy kidneys filter poisons from the blood. If they are faulty and inefficient, they stay in the system and sleeplessness, headache, backache often follow. If you don't sleep well, try Dodd's Kidney Pills—for half a century the favorite remedy. 103

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A Thought A Day For A People At War

"This is not a time for talk but for action." — Henry Wallace, Vice-President of the United States.

propriety of the government's action in instituting the price ceiling regulations by order-in-council instead of holding them a few days for discussion in parliament; but at least the announcement of the policy was made by the Prime Minister himself. If one is to judge from the tenor of Mr. Gordon's speech, he considers that it is now his duty, not only to carry out the policy of the Government as regards the price ceiling, but also to formulate that policy and the policy of several departments other than his own. In the few sentences quoted he touches on commerce, munitions and supply, the Department of Labor and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. It is a wider field than any cabinet minister, except the head of the government, would attempt to cover. Canadians are resigned to accepting a reduced standard of living and doing all else necessary to achieve victory. Being grateful and by civil servants, however, is fast becoming one of the horrors of war that could profitably be eliminated.

What About The Fishermen?

(Halifax Chronicle) When the National Selective Service scheme was announced last week the Prime Minister made it clear beyond any shadow of a doubt that agriculture was to be considered as an essential occupation. Agricultural workers are "frozen" in their present industry and may not shift from the farm to war industries or other occupations. Farmer's sons and agricultural workers generally will not as heretofore be liable for compulsory military training and service, although they may voluntarily enter in the armed forces if they so desire. This is as it should be. Agriculture is one of the country's primary industries. We must produce not only the food which is required for our own use, but very much of what is consumed in Britain as well. Further inroads upon farm labor would seriously hinder us in one of our major war tasks. The special treatment which the Government has given agriculture is an effective and practical application of the principle of selective service. But in the Maritime provinces the fisherman plays a role scarcely less important than that of the farmer. Fish is one of the most important staples of our diet. It is a valuable export, and one for which there is at present a great demand in the British market. It is difficult to draw any real distinction between the role of the fisherman and that of the farmer in the vitally important matter of supplying the nation with food. But in the Maritime provinces the fisherman's question asked by Mr. Gordon in the House of Commons on Wednesday last holds a very special interest for the people of this province. Mr. Middle has enquired whether "persons wholly or mainly employed in fishing enjoy the same exemptions from military services as persons wholly or mainly employed in agriculture." The reply of the Minister of Fisheries will be awaited with the most intense interest. The exact position of the fisherman is not entirely clear from the Prime Minister's remarks of last week. When Mr. King said specifically was that there were three exceptions to the "freezing" of agricultural labor, and one of these exceptions was "seasonal employment in other primary industries, including lumbering, logging, forestry, fishing and trapping." That is to say, an agricultural worker might engage in any of these other industries without obtaining express permission to do so, on the theory that these other industries are as essential to the war effort as agriculture itself. By the same token it would seem that workers in the fishing industry might be subject to the same regulations in respect of military service as the farm workers. But the matter certainly needs further clarification, and Mr. Ignor has rendered valuable service in bringing the matter to the attention of the Government at this time.

Easter
We have for Easter a large stock of Hot-plates, Toasters, Percolators, Flashlights, Electric Clocks, Radios, Heating Pads, Room Heaters, Table, Vanity and Bed Lamps, Electric Irons at \$3.50 and \$4.95. The most modern Electric ceiling fixtures. Also artificial flowers, bridge and shower gifts at surprisingly low prices. House wiring and repairing. BROWN ELECTRIC SHOP 117 KENT STREET PHONE NO. 971

Curtin's Silly Sniping (Sydney Post Record) The outside world is at a total loss as to the motives prompting Hon. John Curtin, Premier of Australia, to start the nasty and senseless vendetta he has directed against Prime Minister Churchill with regard to the appointment of Richard G. Casey, previously Australian Minister to the United States to the post of Minister of State to the East. Mr. Curtin's contention is that the British Government should not have made this appointment because Mr. Casey was doing a better job at Washington than anyone else could do there for Australia. The fact is, however, that before the appointment was made Mr. Curtin sought and obtained Mr. Casey's approval, although the latter was reluctant in the matter to the very last. The whole tenor of Mr. Curtin's end of the controversy indicates a state of mind which betrays dissent and sniping to co-operation. The position Mr. Casey himself takes is that it was and is his desire to give the best service possible to the cause of the Empire and the United Nations, and that his personal preferences are entirely a secondary consideration. Nevertheless he has issued a statement which makes it clear that he has accepted the Prime Minister's invitation because it opens up to him the field in which he can do the most for the general cause. Here is what he says: "I do not believe it is in the public interest that I should discuss the various factors that led me to accept Mr. Churchill's proposal. I discussed the matter with all those who could bring a useful point of view to bear and generally the suggested appointment was welcomed in the general interest. If I had thought that Australian interests would suffer I would not have considered the proposal for a moment. I regard the matter solely from the point of view of my duty in respect to the conduct of the war in the interests of Australia and of the Empire generally." Mr. Curtin's thinly cloaked animosity toward Prime Minister Churchill is difficult to understand. His antagonism toward Mr. Casey seems even less restrained. Mr. Curtin looks like a misfit. Public life has no abiding place for a politician who is given to fostering personal and political resentments.

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