THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded 1887)

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 1938

Western Plowing Match

It is regrettable that the efforts made to revive the old time plowing match in this Province have met with so little success. Throughout the Western Prairies, says an exchange, such matches are neither new nor uncommon; and an interesting description is given of a match held recently by the farmers of the Selkirk district, Manitoba. Some twenty contestants engaged in the match, individually plowing measured and adjoining half-acre or two-acre plots in a hundred-acre field. These Selkirk plowing matches were instituted sixty years ago. They have come down from the days when the pioneers cleared the old river lots of the Red River settlements, and are held in alternate years on the east and west sides of the River, so that partiality may not be suspected between neighboring municipalities. The match on the east side this year was organized by the St. Andrew's Agricultural Society, and was attended by some 800 persons. Good eating for the competing plowmen and their attendant admirers was provided. Horse-shoe pitching contests went on concurrently with the plowing match.

Tradition survived where conditions changed. At least one bearded and immense son of the pioneers retained in his descent memory of when neighbors drove in buggies and waggons to the Plowing Matches, and were thought to be getting ahead when they discarded Red River carts and stone boats. Only one buggy and one waggon stood unhitched at this year's Match. The two scarred vehicles stood mutely though honoured among hundreds of shiny automobiles. Change had overtaken the plowing itself. Five men competed behind walking-plows, but fifteen drove the tractors that, in low, pulled the three- and four-bottomed gang plows which turned the prairie earth at from two to three miles an hour. A few pails of oats and a few bundles of hay fed the teams of horses with glossy coats, but a capacious motor-tender was needed to feed gasoline to the tractors.

Mostly older men most skilfully followed the walking-plows and a younger generation engineered the plowing by tractors. The older order did the harder work and showed the greater skill, for its plowmen not only handled their plows but had to guide teams wobbling in and out of furrows. The younger order is not less attractive because it can set its course and let the tractor do most of the work. Its young men are vibrant and keen. They are tanned to the bone and intelligently enthuse over the values they set on their respective tractors. On these hardy young agricultural workers the dust of the soil is smeared in oil. But for the sporting interest, to feel that fascination of the human element in toil with Nature, the audiences radiated most often in the part of the field where the walking-plows competed.

Mr. Hungerford's Submission

Strong arguments against the campaign for unification of Canada's two big railway systems were advanced on Wednesday by President S. J. Hungerford of the C. N. R. before the Senate railway committee. Mr. Hungerford pointed out that it is incorrect to assume that the income deficits of the Canadian National arise out of the operation of the property. On the contrary, the property has a very great earning capacity under normal traffic conditions. For the 15-year period, 1923-1937 inclusive its operating revenues exceeded its operating expenses by $361,346,000 or an average of $24,090,000 per annum. Even in the years of depressed earnings, 1932 to 1937 inclusive, the system earned $71,567,000 in excess of its operating expenses, an average of $11,928,000 per annum. In the five most prosperous years, 1925-1929, the property earned $225,287,000 over its operating expenses, an average of $45,057,000 per annum. These figures relate to the all-inclusive system. The deficits, it is explained, arise not from the operations but from the heavy burden of interest charges.

With regard to the asserted economies from unification or amalgamation, it is Mr. Hungerford's expert opinion that they are largely unrealizable. Railway savings purchased at the expense of the development of Canada and of a wide disturbance in the already disturbed labor and material markets of the country would be too dearly obtained. The country instead of being better off would be worse off. Yet it is only to the extent that a program of drastic reduction in expenses could be achieved that the country would be warranted in inviting the perils of monopoly.

Instead, Mr. Hungerford favors a supervisory tribunal with powers to compel co-operation between the two roads. There is no doubt that his views on this subject merit, and will receive, the most careful consideration of Parliament.

A Many-Sided Intellect

Once when Mr. R. B. Bennett was Prime Minister, a delegation of wine makers waited upon him to discuss conditions in their industry. They presented their case. Mr. Bennett surprised them by giving them a serious and enlightening talk on the making of wine—which he does not drink. The incident, says the Ottawa Journal, came to mind the other day when someone in the House complained that Mr. Bennett occupies too much of its time.

It is quite true that the Leader of the Opposition uses much of the House time, but he does not waste it. He talks on a host of subjects, and any regular and consistent reader of Hansard is astounded at the breadth of his knowledge, the scope of his interests. There is literally no subject he cannot discuss—and discuss fluently, intelligently. He knows more about the detail of departments than some ministers. His marvellous brain teems with facts neatly arranged and instantly available. He is persuasive in defence and devastating in criticism—because he knows his case, presents it with incisive logic and backs it with information.

Checking Hansard for three ordinary House days, the Journal finds that over that period Mr. Bennett spoke at some length on these subjects: The municipal loans bill, the determination of market values for the imposition of dumping duties, Mr. Gardiner's remarks in the Saskatchewan election, the transport bill, the copyright act amendments, the matter of oil leases and mineral rights on Indian lands, the Defence Department's coal contract at Kingston, the delivery of seed wheat in Saskatchewan, Turner Valley oil, and Canadian paintings in the National Gallery. In addition there were many brief, pertinent observations, questions in the passing of estimates. This was by no means an exceptional performance; such is the contribution of Mr. Bennett to Parliament week after week and month after month, and no one can doubt that it is a contribution of national value because Mr. Bennett throws light upon every subject that comes within his sweeping powers.

And the Leader of the Opposition is indefatigable in his attendance. He does not know now any more than when he was Prime Minister, except by report, the eight-hour day or the forty-hour week. When the House had to adjourn on Thursday evening for lack of a quorum there were seventeen members present—and one of the seventeen was Mr. Bennett. He listens and reads and studies, and that is his life. It is a life of extraordinary benefit to this country. Mr. Bennett, in fact, deserves that much-abused adjective, "unique.' There is no other of his kind.

Editorial Notes

Corpus Christi.

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Marlborough died this date, 1722.

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The grocers Wednesday half-holiday has started for the season.

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Tourists are already in our midst, judging by the car markers in evidence.

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Interest in the Home Improvement Plan should be stimulated by the feature page of advertisements in today's issue.

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Canada's War Memorial, which will be placed on the Central Plaza in Ottawa, where the old Post Office is now being demolished, will not be erected until some time next year. Work on enlarging and improving the Plaza will be completed this year.

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The French Chamber of Deputies have voted $886,400 to entertain King George VI and Queen Elizabeth on the occasion of their visit beginning June 28. Originally only $221,600 was voted, but in order to make the reception memorable an additional $664,800 was voted.

* * * *

Lloyd George's vitriolic intervention on behalf of the Labour candidate in the Stafford by-election did not seem to help the Labour cause. The Government vote went up and the opposition vote down. As a statesman Mr. George is evidently a spent force, though he may yet be called upon as an orator at a crisis to rouse a spirit of enthusiastic patriotism as he did in 1916-17.

* * * *

The Commonwealth loan of £10,250,000 was over-subscribed by £128,000. Federal Treasurer Casey described the result as excellent and expressed satisfaction that it will not be necessary to call upon underwriters. The actual number of subscribers over 10,000 was the largest for any loan in the last six years. Of the total raised, £4,000,000 will be used for defence and the balance of the loan for works and farm debt relief purposes.

* * * *

Every place seems to be getting government orders save and except Charlottetown, Summerside and other Island towns. Ten thousand gas masks for the Canadian Army will be assembled this year at the arsenal in Quebec City. The various parts of the gas mask are obtained from factories in different sections of Canada and the finished product will be produced at Quebec. The masks will be tested there by the chief inspector of arms and ammunitions. They could equally well be assembled at Bruce Stewarts.

* * * *

Preparations are under way for the great Boy Scout Jamboree and Rover Moot at Camp Buchan, Mt. Buchanan, on July 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Chief Executive Commissioner J. A. Stiles, O.B.E., M.Sc., Ottawa, will be in attendance, Premier Campbell will preside and Lieutenant-Governor DeBlois will formally hand over the Camp, which he has provided, to the custody of Executive Commissioner Stiles and Provincial President L. D. Murray on behalf of the Boy Scouts Movement. About 450 Scouts and Rovers are expected to be under canvas for the three days.

* * * *

In comparison with the situation in the United States, business in Canada has been maintained at a relatively satisfactory level, comments the current monthly letter of the Royal Bank of Canada. Moreover, it adds, in a number of important branches of Canadian industry, there is evidence of the beginning of a recovery. Gold production in Canada is approaching a level five times that of 1929 and copper production is more than twice the average monthly volume of 1929. Employment remains well above the corresponding months of last year. While the total volume of building is down, residential building is on a par with last year, and in some parts of the country is going ahead. In March, the latest month for which figures are available, many branches of retail trade were about ten per cent ahead of last year. The tourist trade also shows a preliminary increase of 10 per cent.

NOTES BY THE WAY

The men who go whaling in the Southern Arctic seas apparently are not ill-paid and must gather quite a sea harvest in a short season. The 700 members of the crew of the Union Whaling company's fleet which has returned to Durban, South Africa from the Antarctic are all smiling and happy. Perhaps it was because they will receive between them $525,000 in wages. "It might seem a lot," said one Norwegian gunner, "but that must last us until the end of the next season. The Norwegian members of the crew are entirely dependent on whaling and cannot do other work. The South Africans can now take on shore jobs until next season."—Brandson Sun.

Hobbies are reputed to be good for people, and some individuals have shown unbelievable persistency in pursuit of their favorite sideline. Among the latter is Hugh Russell, of Montreal, 79 years of age, who has spent 23 years in making a hand-written copy of the Bible and is sending the bound volume of 1,987 pages, 10½ inches long by 10 inches wide, to the exhibit in the Canadian Pavilion at the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow, Scotland. It is the only manuscript copy of the Bible in existence all written by one hand. The completed volume is 3¾ inches thick and weighs 13 pounds. It is bound in black Morocco leather and all the pages are gilt-edged. On the front title page is the signature of the Duke of Windsor, who wrote it there in 1919 when he visited Montreal as the Prince of Wales.—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

All power to Mr. Justice Denison Murphy for his remarks when an outburst of handclapping greeted the announcement of the verdict in a case before the Spring sitting of the Court of Assize. Mr. Justice Murphy brought the applause quickly to an end when he said: You ought to be ashamed of yourselves. This is not the way we do in Canada. We administer justice—not mob law. He is so perfectly right that comment is superfluous. And it is to be hoped that all who heard his remarks—and all who read them—will remember that a courtroom is not a play-house—that the central figures are not actors; that personal feelings should not—must not—enter into the administration of justice, otherwise the base upon which law and order rests will be riven.—Kamloops Sentinel.

Only a small proportion, it may be, of the Jews who would desire to escape from the misery, the meanness, and the brutalities of Europe can go to Palestine. But many of the young can go, and they will go if within reasonable time a Jewish state is set up with boundaries that are tolerable for defence and generous in extent. Even so, no Palestine that is conceivable in the near future can solve the problem of Jewish misery which Europe is deliberately creating. That requires a readiness in other countries with large spaces to accept immigrants, and this they will do so long as they fear that the Jewish settlers will merely increase the populations of their towns. But the question is there, not to be evaded, and it is to be hoped that at the coming international conference on refugees the United States will raise it thoroughly. For the Jewish problem has been created by us all, and with us all is the responsbility.—Manchester Guardian.

The annual meeting of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, held in Ottawa recently, brings into prominence once again the work done by this organization. Canada's story has not been a prosaic one, and the chapters are punctuated by events of the most stirring kind. The board sees to it that these events do not fade out of the public memory. During the past 20 years some thousand places, where Canada's growth flared into more than ordnary drama, have been examined by the board; 256 of them have been labelled "decisive" events, and have been commemorated by a tablet of monument. Several museums have been established. During 1937, 18 sites were marked throughout the Dominion. There are still about a hundred sites worthy of such recognition This work is carried on quietly and unobtrusively, but it is none the less important. It is good for the rising generations to know about the wise and brave deeds of the men and women who have gone before. The present is built upon the past, and if the traditions of heroism and foresight are kept in memory, Canada's future can be as glorious as her past!—Winnipeg Free Press.

I suspect easy solutions and very pleasant ones. Only very occasionally will it be possible to put in shorter hours and higher wages, lower taxes and balanced budgets, all together at one moment. I do not think France and New Zealand have hit that occasion. I suspect good bargains between nations or classes—they are usually boomerangs. In a lasting bargain both sides gain equally. I suspect any immediate personal interest. For even a six-pence held near the eye will blot out the Bank of England. I suspect any solution that does not stand an ethical test. The sermon on the Mount is perhaps too fine a sieve for today, but the decalogue is a mesh that can do thorough work. That at least we have not outgrown in standard. Do not think that education weans you from the spiritual law, either. I suspect any solution in which one factor is modified and the others are all assumed to remain the same. Only in Wall street booms is each man a millionaire if he sells out, on the assumption that none of the others do so at the same time. I suspect any method of getting the best of two worlds at the price of one. I suspect every solution that carries over nothing from the past, just as I suspect every one that merely snuggles down in the old way.—Sir Josiah Stamp.

News that farmers in the vicinity of Pictou are planting 300 acres of peas this year—an increase of almost 100 acres over that planted last year—to spuply the pea canning factory at the shiretown, is proof enough that another industry of potential possibilities has been established. As an experiment, five acres of corn are also being planted for canning purposes. As a result farmers of the district find an outlet for two products that would otherwise be denied them. While the success of the enterprise depends almost wholly upon the support given it by the public, it is encouraging to note that steps are being taken to found such industries. The pity is that there are not more of them within the confines of the county, with consequent greater economic stability.—New Glasgow News.

All the world wants oil. It seems that coal can no longer be classed as black diamonds. Intensive exploration for oil will be increased in British dominions now that Mexico is debarred. New Zealand believes it can furnish oil and first thinks of the British market—and cultivates it.—Brandon Sun.

COMBAT RHEUMATISM

Rheumatism is often caused by uric acid in the blood. This blood impurity should be extracted by the kidneys. If kidneys fail, and excess uric acid remains, it irritates the muscles and joints causing excruciating pains. Plan to help prevent rheumatism by keeping your kidneys in good condition. Take regularly Dodd's Kidney Pills—for half a century the favorite kidney remedy. 106

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That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

PREVENTING CHILDREN FROM BECOMING IDIOTS

The saddest sight in life is not the adult who is confined in a mental hospital because, of every ten that enter, perhaps six may come out cured. These mental patients have their complete development mental and physical, and have lived for years a normal life.

The saddest sight is that of the little child who has not, nor will he ever have, his full mental and physical equipment. He is doomed at birth to a life where everything must be done for him and as he gets older others may have to be protected from him. He is the child whose thyroid gland is absent or nearly absent and little or no thyroid juice is being manufactured. He is an idiot.

Fortunately research workers have been experimenting on these children who have little or no thyroid gland, and have found that just as the removal of all or a greater part of the thyroid gland will slow up these overactive (mental and physical) thyroid or goitre patients, so will the use of thyroid extract in these slow or non-developing children cause them to develop mentally and physically.

Unfortunately this condition — lack of a thyroid gland—cannot usually be discovered until the child is six months to a year old and sometimes the youngster may be two or three years old before the condition is discovered. The earlier the treatment is given, the sooner the child begins to catch up or approach his normal mental and physical development.

In the Medical Press, Paris. Dr. R. Le Fort reports the history of a child who, in 1925 at the age of 2 1-2 years, showed the symptoms of idiocy due to lack of thyroid juice or extract. There was apparently a complete absence of the thyroid gland. A part of a human thyroid gland taken from the neck of a man who had been suddenly killed was immediately transplanted into the abdominal muscle of the child. Four days after the operation the child had lost much of his useless fat and the expression on its face was greatly changed. The teeth which were much behind in developing began to grow rapidly and its intelligence improved. The child continued to improve although not so rapidly so that at the age of 14 it had the mental and physical development of a child of 9. However it is still improving showing that the thyroid graft is still manufacturing juice.

The lesson for parents is not to hesitate to speak to their physician if their child seems heavy, slow, and not as bright as they think it should be.

Trifling With Trifles

(Globe and Mail)

The plan of the Special Commons Committee on electoral reforms for keeping all election results secret until the whole Dominion has voted rates the public "I. Q." rather low. It rates the character of the party platforms and the quality of the men who peddle them still lower. The idea that the election results in the Maritimes influence the ballots still to be cast on the West Coast is an old one. It has existed too long for the amount of evidence there is to support it.

There is a difference of four hours etween the closing of the polls in the Maritimes and at the Pacific Coast, three hours over a large section of the Prairies. What percentage of the electorate in these areas delays voting until it can learn which way the wind blows off the Atlantic seaboard we don't pretend to know. For that matter it is doubtful if any of the politicians sponsoring the secrecy restrictions have ever taken the trouble to find out. That there are enough voters who sheep-like follow the Eastern trend to swing an election or turn victory into an eleventh hour defeat is just a shade on the side of absurdity.

But if there were, why are there? To suggest that amount of indecision and weakmindedness remains after the customary long-drawn-out Federal campaigns is a poor advertisement for the quality of the campaigns. The only other reasonable explanation would be that the mass of the public thinks it has something to gain as individuals by backing the winner. That is spreading politics a little too thickly, notwithstanding the patronage to which we are growing accustomed.

Province by Province the Canadian voters are a fairly independent lot. There are "traditional" Liberal and Conservative Provinces. But looking back over the record of "upsets" tradition has suffered in both East and West there is no evidence of any Province ever having been led, or misled, according to the Committee's view, by some other. And if inter-Provincial issues were the only factors to be considered it would be more logical to say: "As the East goes, the West opposes." The more one considers the records and the issues, the more obvious is it that the Special Commons Committee is trifling with trifles. It is a pity, for there are a lot of reforms it could sponsor if it had the courage.

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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.

"THE LAKE OF SHINING WATERS"

Sir,—There appeared in The Guardian of June 8th a letter under the heading "Clifton and Tourists", signed by "K". I heartily agree with all this article contains, except the closing lines which are used as a P.S. and read thus—"Since the above was written I have heard that the "Lake of Shining Waters" is placed in Cavendish in the Tourist Guide Book." I am not taking issue with the Travel Bureau, for I believe that organization has been misinformed with regard to the proper location of the "Lake of Shining Waters." While it is quite true that a lake or pond exists in Cavendish, this is not the place that was in the mind of L. M. Montgomery when she wrote "Anne of Green Gables." In proof of this statement, let me quote from an article from her own pen, written about 25 years ago and published at that time in a magazine called Everywoman's World. This intensely interesting article was named by her "The Career Of My Life", bearing the title "The Alpine Path". In reference to the passing of one of her ancestors, (she writes) thus, "Very peacefully she sleeps, in a little, old family graveyard on the banks of the Lake of Shining Waters—in other words, Campbell's Pond at Park Corner." Again she says—"Cavendish was Avonlea, Lovers' Lane—a beautiful lane through the woods on a neighbor's farm. The Shore Road has a real existence—between Cavendish and Rustico. The Lake of Shining Waters is generally supposed to be Cavendish pond. This is not so. The pond I had in mind, is the one below Uncle John Campbell's house in Park Corner." Further, Mrs. Ella Campbell, Park Corner, is in possession of a document, given over the signature of L.M. Montgomery, as follows:

"To whom it may concern:—This is to certify that the pond at Park Corner, commonly known as Campbell's Pond, is the body of water I had in mind when I described the Lake of Shining Waters in Anne of Green Gables. (Signed) L. M. Montgomery McDonald, Oct. 27th, 1936."

These indisputable statements by the talented authoress should serve to correct the misleading impression erroneously attributing the Lake to Cavendish, and establish in the minds of those who may not know, that the Lake of Shining Waters in reality, is in Park Corner. In my opinion, the Travel Bureau would be well advised to make this correction in the Tourist Guide Book and thereby give credit where credit is due.

Tourists and others, visiting the National Park on its completion, may view with delight the natural beauty of land and sea, together with artistic touches by Park artists, but if they desire to see the "Lake of Shining Waters" in all its scenic beauty and restful loveliness, it will be necessary for them to visit Campbell's Pond at Park Corner.

I am, Sir, etc.,

X. Y. Z.

GUESTS OF QUEEN

GLASGOW — (CP) — Perhaps most enthusiastic visitors to the Empire Exhibition were 80 unemployed of the Clyde Valley—guests of the Queen who had toured the district with the King after opening the fair.

The Poets' Corner

FAIRY MUSIC

When May is here, and every morn
Is dappled with pied bells,
And dewdrops glance along the thorn,
And wings flash in the dells,
I take my pipe and play a tune
Of dreams, a whispered melody
For feet that dance beneath the moon
In fairy jollity.

And when the pastoral hills are grey
And the dim stars are spread,
A scamper fills the grass like play
Of feet where fairies tread
And many a little whispering thing
Is calling to the Shee.
The dewy bells of evening ring,
And all is melody.

—Francis Ledwidge.

To Guard Coast From Sea Invasion

(By Francis E. Carey Associated Press Staff Writer)

WATERTOWN, Mass., June 13—(CP)— Death will ride a flat car from coast to coast if United States shores ever are threatened by foreign invasion from the sea.

A new type eight-inch railway mount in which has been developed all artillery improvements made by the United States since the Great War, is practically completed at Watertown arsenal.

Gun and mount weigh 113 tons and can be sped rapidly from the Atlantic to the Pacific coastlines with mechanism to send a 200 lb. projectile whistling 20 miles across the water toward challenging warships. The gun will fire four shots a minute, and its projectiles travelling 2,400 feet a second, are capable of smashing eight-inch armor plate.

The gun barrell itself is little changed in principle from the first breach-loaders, but years of experimentation since the Great War have eliminated, in theory at least, the old bugaboos of mobile artillery—unsteadiness and inaccuracy.

Outriggers, imbedded in the earth, will limit after-shock motions to inches instead of feet. Massive jacks, suspended beneath the gun's turntable mount, manouvre the mount to its track firing positions.

Watchful of its man-power, the army also has improved the loading mechanism, substituting a fixed loading tray for the old moveable table, which was slow and dangerous to the gun crew.

Discusses Question Of Immigration

SAINT JOHN, N.B., June 15—(CP.)—"So far as we in Britain are concerned, we regard the question of more migrants from the Old Country to Canada as a question for you, not us, to decide," asserted Sir Francis Floud, British High Commissioner to Canada, speaking today before a combined luncheon gathering of Saint John service clubs.

If and when Canada is prepared to resume a policy of accommodating British settlers, "we shall be only too glad to co-operate," he said. "We have the machinery and the financial resources, and there are large numbers of our young people ready and desirous of coming."

However, he added, "we should never dream of suggesting that you absorb our unemployed or unemployables." The Old Country was quite well aware that Canada had its own unemployment problem.

Use Minards Liniment for bites.

LONDON—(CP)— The Football Association has received 556 entries for the English cup competition on 1938-9. Corinthians, famous London amateurs who included Canada in their world tour, have entered.

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