THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1946

Wells, Individualist And Patriot

H. G. Wells was a theoretical socialist and a practical individualist. He and G. B. Shaw were of the same type and character—willing and anxious that everyone should share and share alike other people's income and assets, while excluding their own. Both were strenuous backers of the copyright law, which prevents anyone but the author and publisher sharing in profits derivable from books, even to the third generation, and both have been reputed to be immensely wealthy, with incomes of over $200,000 per annum. Both have been adverse critics of Britain and the British way of life; yet both proved themselves wholeheartily loyal and practical admirers of Britons and most things British.

Two books of Wells are supposed to delineate his own life and ideas, viz. *Kipps* and *Mr. Britling Sees It Through*. "I don't 'old with Wealth," said Sid Pornick. "What is Wealth? Labour robbed out of the poor....There's no social differences—till women come in." "Money—money like everything else—is a deception and a disappointment"; while "the path of social advancement is, and must be, strewn with broken promises."

When he essays the part of Mr. Britling, Wells is every inch a patriotic Englishman: "Nobody planned the British estate system, nobody planned the British aristocratic system, nobody planned the confounded Constitution. It came about; it was like layer after layer wrapping round an agate; but you see it came about so happily in a way, it so suited the climate and the temperment of our people and our Island, it was on the whole so cosy, that our people settled down into it. You can't help settling down into it."

This does not prevent him having his fling at himself and his fellow Englishmen—"that favourite topic of all intelligent Englishmen the adverse criticism of the British." "He was inordinately proud of England, and he abused her incessantly"—even on his death bed accusing the Royal Family of being Fascists!

The sum and substance of the whole matter is summarized by Mr. Britling in these cogent sentences:

"If ever there was a bigger lie, my dear Daddy, than any other, it is that man is a reasonable creature.

"God...is the only King"... Then after a time he said: "Our sons who have shown us God."

Why Prices Increase

A correspondent in a mainland exchange gives a striking illustration of the economic fact that the cost of living, like that of everything else with certain exceptions, is based on cost of production, and that a general increase in wages cannot keep pace with a consequent increase in the cost of living. Many people appear to be at a loss to understand why this is so. In the figures given below, "normal cost" is manufacturer's cost of an article, plus profit, before the cost of production has been increased by an increase in wages. Round figures are used for the sake of conveniences:

BEFORE WAGE INCREASE

Normal cost	1.00
Selling commission 20 per cent	.20
Retail markup, 60 per cent	.72
Retail price	1.97

AFTER WAGE INCREASE

Normal cost	1.00
Wage increase 10 per cent	.10
Selling commission 20 per cent	.22
Retail markup 60 per cent	**.79**
Retail price	2.11

It will be observed that each time an article is handled the cost increases, and each increase is a percentage on the immediately preceding cost. It will be observed also that while the workman received 10 cents more for making the article he pays 19 cents more for it when he buys it at retail. In other words he gives 19 cents for 10 cents.

If the increase in cost of production were 20 cents he would pay 38 cents more for it than he would had there been no increase above normal.

The Accident Toll

No fewer than 9,028 persons were killed in motor vehicle accidents in Canada from Sept. 1, 1939, to June 30, 1945, according to a return tabled in the House of Commons by Hon. J. A. M. MacKinnon, Minister of Trade and Commerce. The number of persons injured through traffic accidents from January, 1939, to Dec, 31, 1944, was 149,019.

Fatal accidents from drowning from September 1, 1939, to December 31, 1944, totalled 5,097.

Fatal accidents at level railway crossings from January 1, 1939, to December 31, 1944, numbered 727.

Injuries at level railway crossings from January 1, 1939, to December 31, 1944, totalled 2,264.

Persons who died in conflagrations from September 1, 1939, to December 31, 1944, totalled 1,221 on basis of data for three years. Eighty-seven per cent were in homes.

There were 22,488 persons killed from other accidents from September 1, 1939, to December 31, 1944. The number of injured was not available.

EDITORIAL NOTES

About the only people working these days are farmers, newspapermen and Exhibition officials and staffs.

* * * *

The Australian Governor-General, the H.R.H. Duke of Gloucester, will return to England early next year, where he will act as Councillor of State during the King's visit to South Africa.

* * * *

The International Conference on World Order sitting in Cambridge has agreed that differences of opinion between Russia and the West underscored a need for a commission to study thoroughly the Church's position concerning political and social tensions.

* * * *

Polish war veterans are to be substituted for German prisoners of war who have been working on farms in Ontario and the West. The new help on being recruited in Italy must sign a two year agreement to serve on a farm. This is equivalent to the indenture system which the British Parliament ordered discontinued when involving East Indians in British Guiana and Chinese in South Africa — which Churchill characterized as "yellow slavery."

* * * *

A golden eagle was "tried" in absentia at Perth, Scotland, recently by the Perthshire agricultural executive committee on charges of carrying off 40 lambs. The members refused to announce the verdict, but an official said it would be submitted to the Scottish Board of Agriculture. Golden eagles are protected in Britain and permission to kill them must be obtained.

* * * *

Sir Walter Scott, poet and novelist, born this date 1771; his first literary work consisted of translations of German poets and collecting Scottish ballads; *The Lay of the Last Minstrel, Marmion, Lady of the Lake, Rokeby, Lord of the Isles,* published in quick succession placed him in the front rank of narrative poets; he then turned to novel-writing, and produced the series known as *The Waverley Novels;* he is known as the creator of the historical novel, and his works are now English classics:

Love rules the court, the camp, the grave,
And men below and saints above;
For love is heaven, and heaven is love.

* * * *

Mr. Wickham Stead, former editor of *The Times,* London, holds similar views to those expressed here the other day on the drawbacks of open sessions of the Peace Conference. Broadcasting over BBC on "World Affairs" he said: "Now I am not at all sure that public controversy between leading statesmen of East and West is the soundest method of promoting harmony or agreement among them. However careful they may be to argue reasonably, and not to score points off each other, they are apt to be driven into positions from which they cannot easily retreat without appearing to "climb down' or to 'lose face'."

* * * *

Woollen stockings, as sheer and as lustrous as nylon or pure silk, were forecast by Mr. J. P. Abbott, M.P., a member of the Australian Wool Board, as being the type of stockings women would be wearing in preference to all others. Mr. Abbott said that wool could easily become the pre-eminent fibre of the world, and added that the Wool Board was working with great success on a process to make all woollen goods both shrink and moth proof. "I think that we can even take the 'tickle' out of wool, for the Board has developed a chemical that will make wool as smooth and as lustrous as silk," he added.

* * * *

Saskatchewan is returning to some of the old pre-C. C. F. ways, as for instance, the restoration of the twelve-man jury in both civil and criminal cases. For reasons of economy during the depression juries were reduced to six members, but it was found the difference in cost was not substantial. Consequently, by an amendment to the Jury Act at the last session of the Saskatchewan Legislature, provision was made for a jury of twelve in civil matters, to become effective on proclamation. The Federal Minister of Justice was petitioned to have the Criminal Code amended to provide the larger jury in criminal matters also, and proclamations have been issued bringing the two amendments into force on September 1.

* * * *

Mr. Solon Low, Social Credit Leader, is charging the Liberals with courting the Communists. Mr. Justice Minister St. Laurent, acting Government leader indignantly denied the accusation but Mr. Low stuck to his guns. "I did not charge Mr. Mackenzie King personally with deliberately courting the Communists in the 1945 election campaign," said Mr. Low. "What I did say was, the Liberal Government is alone responsible for the alarming growth and spread of Communism during the past ten years. I further stated that the Liberal party deliberately courted the Communists prior to and during the 1945 election campaign." Continuing after noisy Liberal interjections, Mr. Low said, "My statements are based on an imposing array of factual evidence which I would glady present here if the rules of the House did not forbid it. I stand by what I said and will present the evidence I have in this House at the proper time and before the highest court of the land, the people." "What the member said was unutterable nonsense," stormed Veterans Affairs Minister Ian Mackenzie. "Page Tim Buck" called Angus MacInnis, C.C.F. member.

Notes By The Way

There is apparently no limit to the punishment Canadian newspaper men can take. The party now visiting Britain has just consumed haggis in Glasgow. —Brockville Recorder and Times.

A college in United States reports that girls' grades top those of men. Another bit of evidence that chivalry is not dead— the men simply want the women to be first. Or it could be that their minds are on the women more than on their work, and in that case it might be a feminine conspiracy to discredit the male sex. You never know where you are with that kind of statistics. —Kingston Whig-Standard.

Britain cannot have the security of the Suez Canal left to chance, or divide with anybody the duty of protecting it. Let it be clearly understood that there can be no compromise so far as the Suez Canal is concerned. If Britain parted with it, an essential part, a vital chain of the Empire would be gone. The Suez Canal is as much a part of the Empire as the homeland itself. If, as Mr. Bevin recently said, the Middle East is the throat of the Empire, then the Suez Canal is its jugular vein. In all the negotiations which are to follow that paramount fact must be borne firmly in mind. —London Express.

Carol Coombe, the London actress, is offering her lovely little island in the Bahamas, freehold, to the first person who offers over 3,000 pounds for it. The island—Stranger's Cay— is in the New Providence Group. It is about 250 acres in extent, has a fine temperate climate, a sugar-cane plantation, big-game fishing, fresh water, flamingos, hummingbirds, a coral reef—and no income tax. Its owner is in private life the wife of Mr. Robert Armstrong-Jones, barrister. Telling how she came to own the island, she said: "It was at a party, some years before the war. I had always wanted to own an island, and I mentioned my ambition. Another guest— a City business man —said: 'I've got some dam' island out in the Bahamas. . . . So my husband bought it for me." —London Daily Mail.

We were in a women's shop the other day and found a good sized pile of articles made of shirtings and bearing the name of a manufacturing firm which has always concentrated on the production of men's shirts. The saleslady said her shop could buy all it wanted of these articles, made of the same shirting that goes into the manufacture of men's shirts, but that many of them were left on its hands because women whose tastes change rapidly no longer wanted to buy them. In other words, while men cry out for shirts they cannot buy, the firms normally producing them seem to be using large quantites of shirting in the manufacture of shirt-like garments for women that they do not want and that cannot be sold. The thought is inescapable that this shirting has been diverted from men's wear to women's wear because it is more profitable —Brockville Recorder and Times.

The weather has hardly been warm enough to entice people to seek enjoyment in and on the water, yet the toll of drownings have been heavy under the circumstances. Only in rare cases is there any excuse for drowning. It is so easy to be safe if only ordinary intelligence is used. The Windsor Star gives a few simple rules which, if followed, will make vacations happy instead of tragic. They embrace nothing new, but they have the essence of common sense: "If you cannot swim, stay out of deep water, and be sure you know where the deep water is. If you can, know definitely how far you can travel without undue effort and keep within that distance of safety. Don't go into leaky boats and no matter what kind of craft you are in stay still. Standing up in boats, or rocking them, are among our chief killers. Above all, stay out of the water for at least an hour after a meal." Within the limit of these precaution, there is ample opportunity for full enjoyment of the water. —Kitchener Record.

This state, which escaped the war, should have been in a position to reduce taxation before any of the belligerent states. Doubtless the Minister for Finance had his own reasons for not introducing an interim Budget, with this object in view and he will, therefore, be all the better placed next month to announce substantial concessions. Already some of the industries in the belligerent countries are getting on their feet more rapidly than Irish industries are. Heavy taxes are an impediment to industrial progress. In regard to food, clothing and other necessities the people had to manage with what they could produce themselves during the war years. We suggest that the same rule of cutting our cloth according to our measure should be applied to public finance— that the expenditure should be limited to the community's capacity to pay. The spending departments should, if necessary, be rationed just as the government has rationed the householder and the shopkeeper.—The Irish Independent, Dublin.

Plans for the aircraft for the reorganised King's Flight, now being built at the Weybridge factory of Vickers-Armstrongs, have been finally approved. The King and Queen will fly in separate planes and so two of the four being built are to have identical interior layouts. The Queen has chosen a quiet color scheme of blue, beige and ivory. Target date for the completion of the planes is next November, in good time for their use by the Royal Family when they visit South Africa next February. Four Vikings have been ordered at a cost unofficially estimated to be at least $1,250,000. One will have 20 seats for other members of the Royal retinue, and one will be a "flying workshop" carrying maintenance crews and spare parts. The fuselage of the planes used by the King and Queen will have two main compartments fitted with four specially designed adjustable chairs. Two detectives and a door attendant—a kind of aerial postillion— will be carried in each plane sitting on a forward-facing car-type seat at the rear of the plane. The King's and Queen's planes will each have a flying crew of four—two pilots, navigator, and radio operator— and two stewards. —London Daily Mail.

Trek From The Farm

(The Elora Express)

Quite evidently, Canadian boys and young men are not going back on farms. Although there are a few exceptions in the immediate neighborhood, the average Ontario farmer is past middle age, without a hired man and not too optimistic about his ability to increase production. There are also a number of farms in this immediate neighborhood on which nobody lives and which are turned over to grass farms, a policy which has been increasing ever since the first year of the war whatever the government experts say.

On the contrary the American editors who visited Elora last Saturday told us that in the United States the trend is toward the farm. We did not have time to inquire very closely into the reasons for this but we would suppose that the fact that in that country the farm organizations are particularly strong might be one.

There was considerable criticism during the war, even in papers as tolerant as the Christian Science Monitor, of the firm stand on farm prices taken by a strong agricultural lobby. But this, in connection with less rigid controls, is undoubtedly one of the main factors underlying the return to farming by the young men of that country.

And either the young men must return to a way of life which will offer them a fair return for their labor or we must bring in men and women who will, or else we must go hungry. And this, whether recognized or not is one of the most important problems of today.

Living Longer

(Metropolitan Life Bulletin)

In 1944, for the first time in our history, the average length of life (expectation of life at birth) of the American people, including military personnel within the country, exceeded 65 years. The actual figure, 65 1-8 years, is almost 16 years greater than at the beginning of the century.

As a result of this truly remarkable gain, the person of age 20 now has, on an average as many years of life remaining as the new-born child had in 1900. Even more striking is the observation that whereas according to the earlier mortality only three-quarters of the babies would attain age 35 under present conditions three-quarters of them will reach 57.

For white females in 1944, the average length of life was 68.95 years. White females who have attained their first birthday anniversary will live on an average, to age 71. For those who have attained their 49th birthday, the figure is 75 years.

The increase in longevity among white females in 1944, as compared with 1943, was two thirds of a year. It was more than 10 years over the average figure for 1919-1921 and almost 18 years over that for 1900-1902.

Although white males in 1944 reached a high level of 63.55 years in average length of life, their record was a little below the peak attained in 1942. The chief factor in this slight setback is the relatively high mortality from accidents among men in the military services. The gain in average length of life among white males since 1900 amounted to 15 1-3 years.

Can We Sell France Potatoes?

(Saint John Telegraph-Journal)

According to Mr. Jean Bustarette, French agricultural expert who is visiting this province, our chances of gaining a foothold on the French potato market depend on two things— first, the extent to which our varieties can be popularized in this country and second, our ability to demonstrate that our tubers will not carry to France any new plant diseases or insects.

The French prefer yellowish potatoes mostly originating in the Low Countries and Germany. Housewives in Canada and the United States would not consider such potatoes fit for the pot, as taste on this side of the Atlantic runs to mealy snow-white potatoes —the kind for which New Brunswick is famous.

It is possible, as Mr. Bustarette suggests, that we might be able to educate the French to the advantages of white-fleshed potatoes over yellow-fleshed potatoes. This would require a campaign of advertising and publicity. The success of such a campaign would not by any means be a foregone conclusion, as the people of France stick closely to tradition and have fixed ideas on most subjects — particularly on food— that are not easily changed.

But as an alternative, if the market possibilities warranted, it would not be hard for New Brunswick to grow a certain volume of yellow-fleshed potatoes especially for France.

The idea of producing different types of potatoes for different countries is one which merits consideration. Some countries like potatoes with a pink tinge, others like potatoes that we favor ourselves. We have accepted it as a fact that white potatoes are best to everybody because we regard them as best. This attitude may not be the one calculated to increase sales abroad.

It should be easy to demonstrate that our potatoes will not carry to France new plant diseases or insects. As for insects, if we have any that France doesn't have already, that could be taken care of by modern methods of fumigation.

WHOOPING COUGH DANGEROUS

Whooping cough causes five times as many baby deaths under one year as diphtheria, scarlet fever, smallpox, infantile paralysis and measles combined.

"Hounded" by HEADACHES

Blinding pain, constant throbbing can make life a misery. Many headaches may be caused by the failure of the kidneys to perform their normal duty of filtering poisonous wastes and excess acids from the blood. If kidneys fail and poisons remain in the system, headaches, backache, rheumatic pains, disturbed rest may often follow. Dodd's Kidney Pills help your kidneys clear out trouble-making poisons and excess acids so that you feel better—rest better—work better. Get Dodd's today. 142

The Poet's Corner

TO A GRADUATE NURSE

(Joe P. B.)

Be wary nurse—the road up which you go
Its long and steeper than you dare to think;
And since you leave in darkness, nurse, be slow—
Test every spring before your lips will drink.
Learn now the rose may hide a hundred scars,
The welcome breeze may herald storms ahead,
And though your eyes would trace the course of stars
Or gaze on gray horizons growing red,
Let caution rule your step that you may see
The gaping pit, the waiting bog, the wall
They built for you to scale. Go carefully
And hopefully; but if somewhere you sink or fall,
Remember where you walked you smoothed the way
That those who follow may discover day.

—William D. DeCoste, Canadian Army, (formerly of Charlottetown.)

MANCHESTER BANS FILM

MANCHESTER, England —(CP) —A film entitled 'Appointment with Crime" made with the co-operation of Scotland Yard, with a crime-does-not-pay theme, has been banned from cinemas here by the city watch committee because they say it glamorizes crime.

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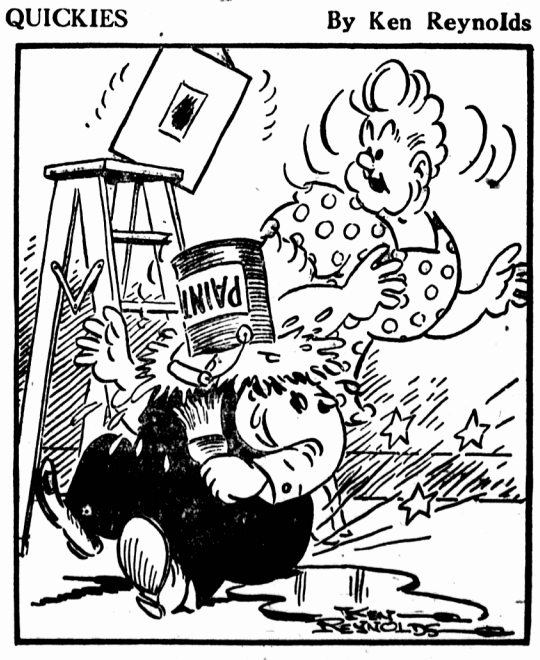
SALFORD, England — (CP) — Salford householders are to be allowed to keep their domestic brick-surface air raid shelters free of cost.

NOTICE

The following drug stores will close Thursday afternoon 12.30 to 6 p. m. Re-open 6 to 8 p. m.

Hughes Drug Co.
Reddin Bros.
E. A. Foster
Rankin's
Two Macs
Jenkins' Pharmacy
Johnson & Johnson
J. Ernest H. Worth
Victor Coyle

QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds



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