THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1945

Farm Income Taxes

What the *Financial Post* calls "disturbing implications" are contained in the following figures representing the breakdown by provinces of farm income taxes assessed for the tax year 1942-43:

P. E. I.	$1,539
N. S.	5,690
N. B.	459
Quebec	5,205
Ontario	79,834
Manitoba	34,661
Sask.	205,835
Alberta	63,113
B. C.	43,876
TOTAL	440,212

"These figures", says the *Post*, "show that the income tax levy on Saskatchewan farmers ($205,835) was almost 50 per cent of the total from all Canadian farmers. This figure is not in itself large, but it looks huge when it is seen that it is larger than the total farm returns from Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia, Alberta and the three Maritime Provinces all put together.

"Ottawa reports assessments of just under $200,000 from these seven provinces combined. Ontario reported less than $80,000 of farm tax income for the entire province, while Quebec is credited with just $5,205 for its 150,000 occupied farms which, in the year to which these government returns applied (1941), were reported as having a net cash income of $118 millions. The public has a right to be told the reason for the apparent extravagant disparities in assessments between various provinces."

The *Post* would appear to be exaggerating the difficulty of getting at the reason for the figures it cites. Saskatchewan is a province of huge individual farms—thousands of acres in many cases—and these big farm owners naturally have to pay large income taxes. Provinces like Quebec, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, on the other hand, possess few large farms and individual farm incomes are for the most part negligent. The statistics of farm production values by provinces do not show this variation, but it is an important one to bear in mind when speaking in terms of income tax assessments.

Mr. Bracken's Views

Public interest centred last week on the hearings at Moncton of the Royal Commission to inquire into the application of income taxes to Co-Operatives. The co-operatives, naturally, are putting forward their strongest arguments. In this connection it is worth noting the views recently expressed by Hon. John Bracken, leader of the Progressive Conservative party.

Mr. Bracken, who supported and encouraged co-operatives among the farmers of Manitoba while Premier there for many years, had this to say:

"We are not going to try to destroy private enterprise by unfair taxation. They are going to put a double tax on co-operatives. We are opposed to double taxation of co-operatives or any other organization—that is only just and fair. I never heard of a co-operative that wanted an unfair advantage. Let us tax all on the income received.

"I stand for encouragement of co-operatives as the best answer to monopolies and cartels and as an alternative to Socialism and the wheat pool would not be there if it were not for certain actions I took when Premier of Manitoba.

"I am opposed to taxation of patronage dividends (of co-operatives) as unfair taxation, but if we are to fight double taxation of co-operatives, we must also fight double taxation of private enterprise."

The Progressive Conservative leader's stand would thus set up income taxation based on the principles in use in peacetime England. His views commend themselves as eminently sensible and the proper answer to the question, an answer which does not require the expense of a Royal Commission to be found out.

Prolonged Life Expectancy

The average expected span of life of Canadians was considerably higher in 1941 than it was in 1931, according to figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This applied to all age groups with the exception of men in the sixties and seventies where in each case the expectancy period was less in 1941 than it was in 1931. The explanation is not given. In all groups the average expected life span is higher for females than for males.

The figures showed that the one year old Canadian girl has extended her expected life by 3.09 years and the one year old boy, by 1.53 years, namely to 68.73 and 66.14 years respectively. At the age of ten, the average Canadian girl may look forward to another 61.08 years. Among males of ten years of age, the expectancy of life in 1941 was 58.70, compared with 57.96 in 1931. At twenty years of age, the average Canadian woman has in prospect 51.76 years of life, compared with 49.76 in 1931. Among men of the same age, the longevity period was 49.51 in 1941 as against 49.05 ten years earlier.

An analysis of the causes of the increased expected life span in the various groups is not given. In the younger groups it is no doubt due to the effective measures that have been taken to reduce child mortality: greater care in the matter of cleanliness, hygiene and feeding, together with the successes of medical science in discovering means to prevent or to rob of their terrors certain diseases.

The far less leisured way of living in the present age, the incidence of mortality due to the increased use of motor vehicles and other such factors, it might have been expected, would tend to offset the mortality rate among adults due to the effects of ill health in an earlier generation, but this is not shown to be the case. Their period of expectancy of life is prolonged in virtually every group.

—EDITORIAL NOTES—

In Detroit a youth of sixteen has been arrested on a charge of killing his mother, because "she wanted him to go to a church supper", instead of visiting a school chum.

* * * *

Hippolyte Adolphe Taine, French historian and critic, died this date 1893; a distinguished man of letters whose works are published in English, German and Italian as well as French, he enjoyed the friendship and admiration of litterateurs of his generation; his works include *Histoire de la Litterature Anglaise, Origines de la France Contemporaine; La Fontaine et ses Fables, L'Ancien Regimes* "A society cannot be founded only on the pursuit of pleasure and power; a society can only be founded on the respect for liberty and justice."

* * * *

An attempt to trace those who call themselves Saxon and those whom others call Saxons is a very confusing task. The way they spread in the Dark Ages and the way their rulers apparently left them to govern other people, complicate their history. It is not, however, far from the mark to say that the inhabitants of modern Saxony, those who call themselves Saxons now and are called that by others, are not the descendants of the fierce pirates who took over Britain as Anglo-Saxons south of the Tweed and left their name to many places such as Essex, Middlesex, Sussex and Wessex, respectively the east, middle, south and west Saxon territories. Present-day Saxony is a comparatively new creation, having nothing in common with the pirate race which played havoc with southern Britain in "days before time."

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The R. C. N. announce the opening of the navy's first dry-cleaning plant at the R. C. N. barracks in a Newfoundland port, offering three-day service and prices that will assure its popularity. Only ship personnel may have clothing cleaned at the plant at first but there are hopes the service will be extended later to shore-based personnel, including Wrens. Prices, established by naval order, will be low. For example, a two-piece uniform will be cleaned and pressed for 50 cents, or sponged and pressed for 30 cents. The navy has been providing dry cleaning service at H.M.C.S. Stadacona in Halifax but the plant is a private one taken over and operated by the navy. A new plant at the training base at Cornwallis, N. S., has not yet opened. The Newfoundland plant will be directed by WO. J. C. Gourley, London, Ont., who had 12 years' experience in laundry administration before joining the navy. The work will be done by Newfoundland civilians.

* * * *

Neutrals, however well intentioned they may have been, are looked upon as suspect by the Allies who are not disposed to allow them to have a definite deciding say in post-war settlements. Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Portugal, Argentina and possibly Eire have been banned from the San Francisco world security conference. Even a declaration of war—the price of admission to the peace table for other neutral nations—apparently has been turned down in the cases of these countries. Only a change of government, it is reported in responsible quarters, might win some of these countries a place back in the good graces of the major powers and a seat—with a vote—in the projected world security league. An exception may be made of Eire because of the food and other produce she supplies to the Allies, and the large number of her nationals who voluntarily enlisted in the British and Dominion forces.

* * * *

At the beginning of the flying bomb attack on London a daily conference was instituted between the Ministries of Health, Works, and Labour, and the War Damage Commission; this later becoming the inter-departmental London Repairs Committee, with its own Statistical Branch. The Committee receives, through the Ministry of Health, regional reports on damage, and arranges with the Ministries of Works and Labour for the immediate dispatch of the needed materials and men. The following are among the measures taken by the Government to ensure adequate supplies of both for the London area: (1) The transferring of dumps of building material from all over Britain. (2) The mobilization, through the country's employment exchanges, of all available building workers. (3) The withdrawal of a quota of maintenance staffs from big industrial undertakings outside London. (4) The temporary release of skilled workers from the forces and other industries; for example, in October, 1944, a special nation-wide appeal was made to all with past experience as slaters and tilers. The force of building workers of all kinds in London area has increased from twenty-one thousand in June, 1944, to a hundred-and-thirty-two thousand now—that is, about one third of the building labour of the whole country. Thirty-five per cent of this force came from the provinces. In addition, four-thousand-nine-hundred service men, most of them with special building qualifications, are engaged, as well as nearly two thousand American troops.

Notes By The Way

Vancouver was the fastest-growing city in Canada until last Thursday. Then the barriers went up in the face of thousands of Canadians who had hoped to settle here. Now they can't come unless they can prove that their presence is essential. It is Air Vice-Marshal Stevenson's job, as administrator of emergency shelter, to repel all unwanted boarders. First reports from his office indicate that he is doing just that. Affably, but firmly, he is telling people that there isn't any room for them here. It is hard to refuse a wife who has come from Toronto to be near her sailor-husband. It is tough to tell a father that he can't bring his family out from the east to live with him. Yet Mr. Stevenson can't be lenient.—Vancouver Sun.

Saskatchewan now has its first woman mayor in the person of Mrs. John T. McOrmond. Mrs. McOrmond was duly inducted as mayor of the town of Sutherland on January first of this year. For the last nine years she has been a member of the town council. Born in Kingston and with a degree from Queen's University, Mrs. McOrmond moved to Sutherland in 1912 with her husband, John T. McOrmond, who is an operator with the Canadian Pacific Railway. She has three sons and a daughter. All three sons have served with the R.C.A.F.—Regina Leader-Post.

Turkey has permitted herself to be known as "a satisfied nation." As such, she is climbing belatedly onto the Allied bandwagon as that vehicle now rolls irresistibly toward victory on its own momentum. There was a time when Turkey might have helped give the wagon a push. Her declaration of war against Germany comes too late to matter much. But even Turkish non-belligerency aided the Allied war effort to some extent. So there is a mild welcome for the new passenger. But naturally the car is getting more and more crowded as it approaches Victory Station. By entering the war before March 1, Turkey has bought a place at the peace table, but her position still strongly resembles that of a strap-hanger.—Christian Science Monitor.

The cost of employing women is greater than that of men for equal work. This is the conclusion reached by the Corporation of Edinburgh, Scotland's capital (population 439,010), which employs 4,000 women. The reason is that over a long period more women have to be employed on a job than men, according to the corporation. —London Daily Mail.

A new and practical branch of science, noise control, is fast being perfected, and seems likely to bring about a far-reaching development in city building methods, in transportation and in every day life.—Chatham News.

Life is apparently harder on Canadian men than on women. Between the 1931 and 1941 census, according to newly issued tabulations of the latter canvass, the life expectancy of one-year-olds showed an increase of over three years for girl babies and only one and a half years for boys. And the total life expectancy of the boys is still about two and a half years less than the girls—66.14 years against 68.73. For men at ages from 40 years up, the average expectable life span actually declined between censuses, whereas those for women showed consistent increases for all age levels. —Montreal Gazette.

You see we like our rains—they really more often resemble a Scotch mist than a rain—and the mists that occasionally roll in from the sea are an interlude that adds some spice to everyday affairs and takes us out of the humdrum. The lawns and trees are our scenic pride and we need a certain amount of moisture to preserve their health and beauty. We usually get just the right amount.—Vancouver Province.

Two Ontario newspapers are telling their readers how shocked they are by an American novel that, from their accounts, goes to an extreme in salaciousness. However well-founded may be the objections to the book, experience unfortunately shows that the authoress will profit from the attacks upon it by an increase in its sales. Someone once said that, if wide publicity were not given to such stories by their being vigorously denounced, they would be "obscenes but not read."—Edmonton Journal.

It might be appropriate to draw attention to the fact that the preservation of our beaver is also a factor of importance in its turn in the preservation of our forests. For the dams built by the beaver do a great deal to prevent a too rapid run off of the rainwater or the water from the melting snows of Winter. They maintain ponds and protect the level of streams and so protect moisture for the trees and reserve for our power developments. A few years ago two Algoma men who acted as guides for tourists were discussing routes with a party who wished to take a canoe trip. "Do you know," asked one, "if the beaver have been trapped out at such and such a spot?" And his companion replied that he believed they had been. "Then there is no use," said the first guide, "in sending this party by that route; for if the beaver are gone there won't be enough water for the canoes."—Sault Ste. Marie Star.

Germany's manufactured goods are not wanted here, but Britain and the Allied nations should make Germany pay by taking from her the raw materials which are needed in excess of their production. In 1937, Germany's production of important industrial minerals was as follows: Copper 33,00 tons. This exceeded the Spanish output, and was exceeded in Europe only by the Yugoslavian. Iron ore, 3,200,000 tons. Lead 78,000 tons, the equivalent of the production of Spain or Yugoslavia. Zinc 180,000 tons. To build up her war machine, Germany consumed all her production and was a heavy importer. The United Nations do not intend that Germany shall have any war machine after her defeat. They should, therefore, be able to draw upon these materials as they are needed.—London Daily Mail.

"This whole subject," said the speaker, "has been smothered under a mass of sesquipedalian verbiage." As it happened, he was addressing a Brantford audience, so it goes virtually without saying that everyone at the meeting knew exactly what he meant. But it is possible that, had he been speaking in a less well educated community, some folk might have been floored by that "sesquipedalian." The dictionary gives it as derived from the Latin and meaning literally "a foot and a half long" — in other words, a lanchty, pedantic jaw-breaker.—Stratford Expositor.

The Century's Progress

(Winnipeg Free Press)

In the public mind, the gospel according to Marx and Engels has come to be related to a system of government — communism. Few, today, read either the one or the other, and where communism is practised the originators have long since been superseded by men like Lenin and Trotsky. The fact that Marx and Engels based their preachments upon the social conditions of their time is largely forgotten.

"The condition of the working-class in England in 1844," by Engels, was published just a hundred years ago. The Economist, in noting this, speculates upon what Marx and Engels would think if they could return to this world and survey the social scene of today. They would no doubt be astounded to discover that the much-heralded revolution had failed to materialize except in one of the most backward and least industrialized of countries. Marx, no doubt, would be more surprised than Engels, who lived into the closing years of the last century and who came to see that the revolution was by no means as certain as he had previously thought. But both would be amazed at the changes in present-day England, not to speak of the North American democracies.

The England that Engels wrote of in 1844 had a population of 20 millions, the greater part of which lived under harsh, primitive conditions. The barbarity of the industrial towns was matched by the illiteracy, filth and general destitution of the inhabitants. Typhus, yellow fever, diphtheria, smallpox and all the other ravagers of mankind flourished. The infant mortality rate was as high as 155 per thousand, and the average expectancy of life of one born in the laboring class was no more than 15 years. Child labor, long hours of work for adults, unsanitary factories and so on—all these were the normal in those days.

Today, they would find the 47-hour week obtaining even in wartime, minimum wages, factory laws which assure conditions undreamed of a century ago, social insurance, old age pensions, public education and health services, a tremendous gain in the general standard of living, a death rate of 49 per 1,000 births (which is still very high judged by North American standards), a life expectancy many times greater than in 1844. They would find that many of the killer diseases of 1844 have been completely eliminated.

While this is so, there would also be in evidence a great discontent with things as they are and a determination to achieve speedier progress in the future than in the past. In telling the sum of things that are wrong in the world of today, it is well to remember the progress made in the past. There are times, in listening to the complaints of contemporary leftists, when it might seem that progress has been steadily in the wrong direction, into the pit, not out of it. The reverse, of course, is true. And more swift and sure than in the democracies.

These are times not for discouragement but for confidence. And if warrant for confidence is desired, the record of the past will serve. It is in this regard, rather than as guides to the future, that the apostles of the revolution — Marx and Engels—are most valuable today.

The Poets' Corner

QUIET WORK

One lesson, Nature, let me learn of thee,
One lesson which in every wind is blown,
One lesson of two duties kept at one
Though the loud world proclaim their enmity—
Of toil unsevered from tranquility,
Of labor, that in lasting fruit outgrows
Far nobler schemes, accomplished in repose,
Too great for haste, too high for rivalry.
Yes, while on earth a thousand discords ring,
Man's fitful uproar mingling with his toil,
Still do thy sleepless ministers move on,
Their glorious tasks in silence perfecting;
Still working, blaming still our vain turmoil,
Laborers that shall not fail, when man is gone.

—Matthew Arnold.

POST-WAR SECURITY

TEKIMAN, Gold Coast — (CP)— Every native woman here who receives an allotment from a soldier puts part of it into the Post Office savings bank to provide a fund in readiness for her husband's return and to help in the war effort meantime.

WHERE THERE'S A WILL

ROTHES, Scotland — (CP) — Thomas Llewellyn of the Royal Army Medical Corps, wed his Scottish bride, Rose Phillis Bateson, on the road to the church. The road was blocked with snow so the minister, Rev. William Hannah, said he would marry them wherever he met them. He kept his word.

PORT ARTHUR, March 2—(CP) Frank Sargent, president of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association, said today he received two requests for the association to consider a special challenge series for the Allen Cup but it had ruled against it.

The requests had come from Quebec City and Vancouver and the decision to rule against such a series had been made because teams competing in it would not necessarily be "truly representative of the best in any section or sections of Canada."

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