

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1939.

More Liberal Harmony

Notwithstanding Canada's much praised political truce, a bitter family quarrel within the Liberal party has broken out in the City of Toronto, where Hugh Plaxton, M. P., whose liaison activities in connection with the Bren gun contract will be recalled, has declared he will be in the running again, as an Independent Liberal, for the Trinity constituency, which he carried in 1935 by a narrow margin. This announcement has greatly disconcerted the Liberal organization in Toronto and has evoked the following statement from the President of the Ward Five Liberal organization: "We are all very much surprised at the attitude of Mr. Plaxton in the face of the declaration of the Prime Minister that all political activities should be suspended during the war."

Several months ago when the Liberal nominating convention was held in the Trinity riding of Toronto Mr. Plaxton was turned down and ex-Attorney-General A. W. Roebuck, M. L. A., selected as the candidate of the party in the next Federal election. Mr. Plaxton did not attend that convention and appeared at the time to take his dismissal without protest. Two or three months of reflection, however, seem to have changed the spirit of his dreams and he now announces that he will be in the running, with the following militant statement: "Comrade Roebuck and his gang have to be turned out of this district if the principles of Liberalism are to be represented fairly at Ottawa."

Obviously, comments the Post-Record, Mr. Plaxton considers that the principles of Liberalism were properly represented in connection with his activities relating to the Bren gun contract. Whether he will actually be in the running when the campaign opens is very much in doubt, notwithstanding his present attitude. If however he should persist in the course he now announces, the Bren gun muddle will play a prominent part in the Trinity campaign. Trinity (it may be added) is no cinch for a Liberal candidate, having been overwhelmingly Conservative in every past election save that of 1935. In 1935 Mr. Plaxton got 10,000 votes out of 28,000 in a four-handed contest, his margin over the Conservative candidate being 965. Obviously there are not enough potential Liberal voters there to share between two rivals, and insure the election of one of them. Possibly Mr. Plaxton is banking on his nuisance value to land him somewhere.

Helping The Blind

One war which never ceases to be waged is the fight in the humanitarian field. For twenty-one years, ever since the close of the last war, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind has carried on, and the twentieth annual report of the organization, recently issued, tells an inspiring story of the success which has rewarded its efforts. It records the employment of hundreds of blind men and women in remunerative occupation; the provision of a magnificent library service of Braille and "talking books"; arrangements made for the teaching of handicrafts, typing and Braille reading to those who lost their sight in adult years, extensive measures taken for the conservation and restoration of sight, and the machinery available through which blind citizens may receive a variety of services calculated to lighten their handicap as far as an extent as possible. The managing director of the C.N.I.B. is Colonel E. A. Baker, C.B.E., who lost his sight during the Great War. It is under his guidance during the past eighteen years that the Institute has made such remarkable progress.

The importance of the work may be gathered from the fact that at the end of March this year there were 10,821 blind people in the Dominion. The number in Newfoundland, which is one of the divisions of the Institute, was 231.

Passing The Buck

According to a dispatch from Ottawa women from every part of Canada, wives of officers and men of the first expeditionary division, are deluging the Federal Government with letters inquiring if they will be allowed to accompany their husbands as far as Great Britain and remain there for the duration of the war. The Dominion Government is reported to have put the question up to the British Government which, comments the Winnipeg Free Press, (Liberal) is "a very fine example indeed of passing the buck." Our Winnipeg contemporary continues: "During the last Great War this exodus was quite general, although it may be fairly argued that those who stayed at home and did their job here contributed at least as much to their country's and Empire's war effort. This time all the arguments which existed before against the wives taking up residence in the United Kingdom exist, and a great many more. "There is the problem of food supply. The United Kingdom must import the large proportion of its food. The strain of accomplishing this is on the Navy and Merchant Marine, and every extra person is that much extra strain on a service already taxed. There is no question of any food difficulty in Canada. "In this war, as was not nearly so much the case last time, the United Kingdom is on the fighting line. The Government is making provision for the safety of its people. Extra provision would just mean that much more responsi-

bility for the Imperial forces. There is no such question in Canada, or so small a one in comparison that it cannot be discussed in the same voice. It is not to the point for the women to proclaim that they are ready to undertake the risks. If they could with sole reference to themselves, then it might be their own affair. But as a matter of fact they cannot. Once overseas, their protection would become the responsibility of the British Government, and that Government has quite a bit on its hands as it is."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The cenotaph ceremony and parade on Saturday was solemnly impressive.

Premier Campbell now enjoys an international reputation as an after-dinner orator.

From now on vessels using the St. Lawrence do so at their own risk, Lloyds insurance ceasing when ice become probable.

Dr. Manion, as well as Mr. King, strikes the right note on British and Canadian war aims and prospects.

R. L. Stevenson born this date, 1850. "There is nothing so monstrous but we can believe it of ourselves."

It is reported that the new Godbout Liberal Government contemplate raising a loan of a hundred million dollars to consolidate past debts and provide means for new enterprises.

"Dr. Leacock's description of the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada, drilling on McGill campus, is rather unique. He says: 'And in the pauses of their drill they sit in little groups upon the grass, like children in a daisy chain, to listen to a sunburned sergeant read from a manual of Active Service in War.' Good heavens!—J.R.S. in the Gazette."

Marriage restrictions affecting members of the Royal Canadian Air Force have been lifted and all ranks contemplating marriage now may proceed with their plans. Previously a member of the force had to have a certain number of years on his service record before he could get permission from his commanding officer to get married.

The Montreal Gazette thinks the Leader of the Opposition has made out a good case for remedying in war contracting and patronage. It says Canada's major part in this war has been defined as industrial and economic but the disposition of the Government appears to be to place the whole of the economic burden upon the public without making any attempt to lighten the weight or ease the strain.

Canadian cheesemakers are turning out higher grades of cheese under the encouragement of the high grade cheese premium instituted June 1, dairy branch officials of the Agriculture Department reported. Through legislation adopted at the last regular session of Parliament, all cheese of 93 score manufactured on or after June 1 draws a premium of one cent a pound, and 94 score cheese enjoys a premium of two cents a pound. The premium will cost the Government roughly between \$500,000 and \$600,000 this year, it is estimated.

Sales of fertilizer materials and mixed fertilizers, including exports and excluding sales for the production of mixed fertilizers in Canada, totalled 637,796 short tons during the year ended June 30, 1939, compared with 613,502 short tons during the preceding twelve months. Total sales consisted of 100,703 tons of fertilizer materials and 232,825 tons of mixed fertilizers sold in Canada and 269,040 tons of materials and 35,228 tons of mixtures exported. Comparative figures for the preceding fertilizer year were as follows: sales in Canada of fertilizer materials, 106,774 tons; mixed fertilizers, 216,603 tons; exports of fertilizer materials, 254,869 tons, and of mixtures, 35,257.

Canadians are assured of ample supplies of turkeys for celebration of Christmas and New Year, according to the Agriculture Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Numbers of turkeys on farms at June 1 were 21 per cent higher than at June 1, 1938, and farmers' intentions to market turkeys were reported as 28 per cent greater. Increases in production were greatest in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces. The increased production resulted from ample supplies of low-priced feed and fairly remunerative prices received for turkeys in 1938. Americans will also be able to celebrate their Thanksgiving and Christmas season with plenty of turkey meat. The production of turkeys in the United States this year is about 22 per cent greater than last year and 15 per cent higher than 1936, the previous largest crop. Turkey production is subject to rather wide variations. The number of turkeys can be increased rapidly from one year to another. Changes in the size of the turkey crop are caused by the feed supply, the price of feed and the price of turkeys. The conditions were favorable during the past spring in both Canada and the United States.

Wartime alcohol restrictions in Great Britain are again being advocated not in the interests of temperance, but of the U.S.A. Owing to some unexplained reason, while distillers can get insurance on whiskey in their own warehouses they are refused it in Government bonded warehouses. Before long, it is claimed, nobody is likely to be permitted to grow barley or oats except for human consumption, and restriction will be imposed on distillation for liquor purposes. The export of liquors will be handicapped by the curtailment of shipping facilities, the increase of freight and insurance rates. Already New York interests report a heavy falling off of imports. The only immediate hope of increasing the supply of Scotch for the United States, it is claimed, is that an embargo be placed on drinking in the old country, as was done in the last war. So far, however, consumption of whiskey has gone up since the blackout restricted many other forms of entertainment. But if it keeps going up and the agitation for some wartime form of prohibition increase consumption may be officially restricted, leaving more for export.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Time fights with the Allies, more relentlessly than tanks and planes. It has fought with them all through the months of tension that recorded the depredations of Nazi treachery and conquest. It has fought with them as slowly, much as they detested the philosophy of force, the realization grew that there could be no prospects of orderly, decent life for the generation of the next, while the power just of the totalitarian cliques was unchallenged by the weapons they had chosen. Time has given the German cause allies who distrust them and think only of the foot at hand; it has given British friends who need no mere diplomatic explanation of what is at stake. — Hamilton Spectator.

Many of the world's best thinkers are proposing a political reconstruction under the form of a democratic federation, which would carry the League of Nations idea to a new effectiveness by the elimination of national sovereignty in foreign affairs and the League. Others would revive the League. Others would create a permanent and unchallengeable alliance of democracies. These are questions of method. The objective of all is collective security to enforce peace and assure justice to every nation, politically and economically. Sure it is the only thing that will make victory worth the cost. — Vancouver Sunday Sun.

A statistically minded friend estimates that the entire population of the world could be comfortably housed in Illinois. Assuming that there are 1,500,000,000 people on the planet, each would have 100 square feet of space within the boundaries of the State. If five constituted a family they could occupy a lot 50 by 100 feet. The calculation does not allow for streets, stores or factories, but if part of the people were housed in sky-scraper hotels and apartments ample room would be provided for the necessities of a civilized community. — W. Feather in Santa Fe Magazine.

A special dispatch to The Star from Regina brings news that "Saskatchewan business lies under a golden flood of fall buying and cash payments making insignificant any record for any fall since 1928. Business, houses and financial institutions see each day a surge of mail, bearing cash and orders, the like of which they have not received for many a day." Regina clearing house figures for September doubled the record for the same month of 1938. Farmers are buying heavily of commodities of which they went short for a number of drought-stricken years. These include bedding, kitchen utensils, clothing, automobile and tires, reported to be excellent. — Toronto Star.

Recently a Canadian National Director, so the story runs, was a guest at the Braeside Inn, P.E.I. He expressed delight with the accommodation up to the point where his morning sleep was rudely disturbed by snorting motor-boats. "I'm sorry you were awakened," explained the manager, "but it was not by motor-boats. It was those noisy, snorting jitneys belonging to the railway that arouses everyone near in this part of the town, in the early morning." Further comment from the railway director is not reported. — Eastern Chronicle.

The facts are these: That the prompt lifting of the present embargo on manufactured implements of war will be of large assistance to England and France in the war thus upon them by Hitler. That this assistance up to the point of decisive factor in whether they win or lose the war. And that, leaving aside any pro-British or French and anti-Hitler sympathies throughout this nation, the cold-blooded, selfish and legitimate interests of the United States require a democratic as against a Hitler victory in Europe. — Washington Star.

What Mr. Leo Dolan has said about stories circulating in the United States calculated to scare off tourists who might contemplate a visit to Canada has, at first hearing, a fantastic sound. But with the ears attuned to detect Nazi propaganda on all sides, it has also a familiar sound. Indeed when Mr. Dolan attributes it to Nazi influence across the border, it appears not only possible, but highly probable, that these stories are indeed being spread. To us it seems puerile when somebody warns citizens of the United States against coming to Canada because they may be killed, or that they are being swarmed by Nazi propaganda every day from Nazi propaganda sources. Evidently they work on Hitler's maxim that the bigger the lie, the better chance it has of acceptance. — Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

The boys who drive for the motion picture studios present being called chauffeurs. They were once called drivers. Most of the actors call their drivers by name and chat with them. Recently a woman star, to whom a special car and driver were assigned, let a week go by without bothering to learn his name, and always addressed him as "chauffeur." He thought that was long enough, so he swung around in his seat, grinning yet determined. "Miss," he said, "I'm no chauffeur; I'm a driver." "Why," she asked, "what's the difference?" The answer was instantaneous and positive: "One hundred dollars a month and no dogs to wash!" — Los Angeles Times.

If ever a bumptious youth got plastered for his gall, it was Lindbergh. Even Tunney, the heavyweight champion pugilist told him what a jackass he had made of himself. We have registered a little wagger between the inwastard and the mullage-pot that Lindbergh aspires to be a

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of important questions of interest to the Charlottetown Guardian and does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

PRINCE CO. LIBERAL NOMINATION

Sir—My attention has been called to a letter appearing in The Island Farmer of recent date, and addressed to Dr. John F. MacNeill of Summerside, in which with considerable subtlety he advocates the nomination of Col. Ralston as a successor to the late lamented E. MacLean as Federal representative for the county of Prince. This sudden emergence of the general Doctor from political oblivion will come as a surprise to a great many of us. Only a few years ago that he announced both from the platform and through the press of the Province that he had carried on, and definitely retired from political life; others could carry on if they wished, others could bear the heat and burden of the day if so minded; but from this day forward he was through with politics and hereafter he would sit in the shade and let others attend to the problems of Government.

Now he comes forth in the capacity of adviser to the free and independent electors of the county of Prince and under the guise of patriotism or military necessity openly and brazenly suggests that they select Col. Ralston as their representative to the great Imperial Parliament and ably held by the late A. E. MacLean.

This great High Priest of political wisdom advocates under the plea of patriotism, that we go outside, not only the County, but the Province and bring in an outsider and a stranger and confer on him the greatest honor within the gift of the people of the County of Prince to bestow.

Dr. Johnson has said Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel. It can also be made the refuge of a scoundrel. If there was a death of good and capable men available there might be some justification for going abroad to select a candidate but with such a surplus of worthy and capable men as we possess the idea is the essence of idiocy. If Col. Ralston's services are so essential to the Government, if his abilities are so great, is it not rather singular that a seat cannot be found for him in the Province where he belongs? Or is it a case of prophet having no honor in his own country? It would like to remind the general public that the late Mr. Ralston was yet fully awakened from his political sleep, that we have right here in Prince County men who contributed as much towards winning the last war as did the late Col. Ralston. For instance there is Captain John L. Read the worthy son of the illustrious Captain Joseph Read, who so ably represented Prince County during the progress of the last war.

While that war was still raging and when the Russian Government, our ally therein, bought the line-bling steamship the Earl Grey from the Canadian Government to further enable her to prosecute her obligations in that war, Captain John L. Read was the man who so bravely commanded her and delivered her safe and sound in a Russian port, notwithstanding that the North Atlantic was infested with German submarines as thick as starfish in Monterey Bay.

With a man of Captain John's calibre, why go beyond our own shores to make a selection? In my opinion it would be a fitting tribute to the memory of the late Captain Joseph Read to tender his son with the Liberal nomination. I am, Sir, etc.

A PRINCE COUNTY ELECTOR.

The Poet's Corner

A BALLAD OF TREES AND THE MASTER
Into the woods my Master went,
Crisp for intent, forspent,
Into the woods my Master came,
Forspent with love and shame,
But the olives they were not blind
To Him;
The little gray leaves were kind
To Him;
The thorn-tree had a mind to Him
When into the woods He came.

GOOD UNDERSTANDING

PORT COLLINS, Colo. — (CP)—Bob Haack, Colorado State University footballer, should be a hard man to push over. Five feet, nine inches tall, he weighs a 131-2 shoe.

NEUTRAL LANGUAGE

LUXEMBURG, Luxembourg — To guard the neutral status of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, coins will be minted in French in the local dialect instead of in French as at present.

presidential candidate in 1940. That may not sound like a joke, but it is a good one. — Eastern Chronicle.

"NERVES" SHE CALLED IT

Losing interest—losing friends—who never went out any more—always too tired. "Nerves," she thought—but it was her kidneys, the very life of her body, that needed attention. Delay meant danger. She took Dodd's Kidney Pills at once. The improved action of her kidneys helped to clear away blood impurities and excess acids. Fatigue, headaches, backache, lack of energy, disappeared. 117

Dodd's Kidney Pills

A Kipling Memory

(Bookman in The Winnipeg Free Press)

Under the caption, "A Kipling Memory," Coulson Kernahan, contributor to "The Times" a recollection that readers will wish had been recorded at the time 1913. For then, Kipling's musing aloud might have been set down in his own words. Mr. Kernahan has been a voluminous writer of books which commanded attention such as "A World Without a Child," "God and the Ant," "For many years he wrote for most of the greater monthlies and weeklies. His books have been translated into eighteen languages and into Braille and Esperanto. He collaborated too, with Frederick Locker-Lampson in the anthology entitled "Elegantiarum." Now 80 years of age, he was once an officer in the Territorials.

With a third person whom he does not name, Mr. Kernahan was walking with Kipling one night in the late summer of 1913, under a crescent moon that "lay like a finger on the lip of night as if to command silence." "God and the Ant," that was a true word of yours to the Chief (Lord Roberts) about peace and silence. England and the mention of silence is to break it, and that the same often holds good about peace, for peace-lovers are generally followed by war, as history shows.

Kipling proceeded to give an account of the Russo-Japanese War. In April, 1898, the Czar invited the first Peace Conference and discussed means of securing universal peace. In the same year occurred the Spanish American War. The Hague was signed in July, 1899, two months later was the Boer War; in 1902, the Manchurian War; in 1904, the Russo-Japanese War. After the second Boer War in 1907 and Carnegie's gift in 1910 of \$10,000,000 towards universal peace, came the Italian-Turkish War of 1911. In that year, too, England and the United States, later joined by France, arranged a Treaty of arbitration for prevention of war; also that very year the Balkan War.

The Kipling added that the Balkan business was not over yet, and "God knows into what wars it may not lead us." "Europe and the world," his word on that night in summer 1913. Suddenly he turned aside and exclaimed: "A glow-worm, by Jove! The first I've seen this year. Look here you fellows." He squatted by a hedge and, like an officer making signals to his men instead of a spoken command, by a movement of the hand, said to the other two to do the same. The three squatted there together watching a glow-worm. Very soon he seemed to forget his companions and to be talking to the glow-worm itself about the miracle and boon of life shared by both. He was musing aloud, says Mr. Kernahan, who regrets that he can only give readers the gist of what they heard. "He saw in the minute creature over which he was musing, that which strangely related the minute creature to our own scarcely less minute existence; and as if he held too, that just as a dewdrop on a blade of grass may mirror the great sun in the sky, so the flickering and uncertain spark which — be it in man or in glow-worm — we can call 'life' is but the infinitesimal reflection of the one great Source of all light and all life."

"Then, not as he who turns aside from, but as he who contemplates the same thought, Kipling passed on in his musing, to find in the infinite

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