THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1941.

Belated Exit

A man who ruled Germany for forty years and paraded during much of that time as the war-lord of Europe, has died in exile at Doorn. His passing leaves not a ripple on the surface of world affairs. His real exit from the stage took place twenty-three years ago when he ceased to be Wilhelm II, "the Kaiser", and became a refugee in a foreign country. To all intents and purposes he has been dead ever since. It is said that he continued to the last to nurse dreams of restoring the Hohenzollern dynasty. He was never heard to express one word of regret at the wholesale carnage he caused. Surrounded by sycophants—for he remained enormously wealthy—he probably never knew what verdict history had passed upon him. His colossal egotism never deserted him. The crowning irony is that this evil old man—the true begetter of Hitler and of all the blood and tears with which Europe is drenched today—came peacefully to his death at 82 "as he wished, without long suffering." It is perhaps not a Christian attitude to reflect with satisfaction on the judgment awaiting him elsewhere; but there is biblical precedent for anticipating it without undue regret.

War Loans

In his admirable address at the launching of the Victory Loan campaign in Charlottetown, Mr. LeRoy Holman, chairman of the provincial committee, emphasized the necessity for creating popular enthusiasm as was done in the war loan campaigns of 1917-18. He pointed out that the $600,000,000 objective of the present loan was actually exceeded in the last war, and there was no reason why there should not be the same enthusiastic response on this occasion.

In the current issue of the Monetary Times it is recalled that in the last war the then Minister of Finance in 1918 asked for $300,000,000, and the public response was $660,000,000. The year following the people of Canada beat their own record and subscribed over $700,000,000.

This magnificent record was achieved when Canada had neither the wealth nor the population which she has today. Looked at from this standpoint, the objective of the present Victory Loan, large as it may seem to be, is easily within our capacity as a nation to achieve.

Archdeacon Scott's Appeal

Archdeacon Scott, beloved Padre of the 1st Canadian Division in the last world war, has addressed an eloquent appeal to young Canadians to enlist for active service in the present struggle.

"It is, of course," he writes, "a great thing to send to the war our munitions and tanks and airplanes, but Canada needs men. She needs the souls and bodies of men, fired with an enthusiasm which nothing can quench. She needs the hearts of young men, ready to die, if God wills, in the greatest cause that has ever been put before the world."

Addressing himself to parents, Archdeacon Scott says:

"What would parents wish to give their sons? Money, position, education, health, a loving home —all these precious things they would like to transmit to their boys. But if, by withholding their sons from service, parents give them a sense of shame, then they are bequeathing to their boys an attitude of mind which will undermine their whole lives. No matter how prosperous they may be outwardly, they will be left with empty and outraged hearts.

"Home and family love and Christian education, and all the precious things and opportunities which Canada offers us in life now stand in jeopardy. The cause is so great, the risk so tremendous, that, unless we put our whole energy and the best of our manhood into the struggle, our inheritance may be lost for ever."

The Essential Thing

The soldiers who have reached Egypt in the evacuation of some fifteen thousand troops from Crete, attach little importance to the parachute troops of Germany. They state that parachutists and glider-landers could be handled except for bombers used in advance and during the landings. In other words the weakness of Dunkerque has been repeated — not enough fighting planes to keep off the German bombers, and not enough British bombers to break up his concentrations. Time, however, should remedy this. Britain has been building planes in huge numbers and aid from the United States and the Dominions is being added. Over the British Isles no air-superiority on the part of the Germans is apparent though the occasional raid occurs, and blow for blow, German cities are paying for the damage and loss of life in British cities.

Conjecture now is rife as to the next Nazi move. Britain always has the sea-route around Africa available and already has used it to some degree to reach Egypt. The possibility of an attack on Malta or Cyprus is discussed. There also is the position of Turkey to consider. Her friendship with Britain may not stand the strain of Nazi threats which are expected at the least to demand that German troops be permitted to cross Turkish territory in an attempt to attack Syria or possibly Cyprus which is recognized to be heavily fortified by the British.

British occupation of Syria is being urged in London for the purpose of forestalling the Germans and also to counteract the strong leaning of the Vichy government toward the Nazi control.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Halifax is going to have its Victory Bond inauguration, Monday, King's Birthday holiday.

* * * *

Summerside, being run economically and progressively, is able to loan $40,000 to the Federal Government to help to win the war. 'Nuff said.

* * * *

Everybody is doing it! Doing what? Buying Victory Bonds. Well, everybody who can raise the needful by hook or by crook.

* * * *

A number of youths who have failed to pass the medical test for enlistment are looking for gainful employment and, alas, not with very great success.

* * * *

In Moncton Mayor Storey suggested that "Torch Day," June 17 should be substituted as a public holiday for June 9th, King's Birthday. But the suggestion comes too late.

* * * *

Three price control experts from Washington, in informal talks in Ottawa are, laying the foundation for what is expected to develop into a complete integration of the price control fronts in both Canada and the United States. With both countries adopting wider controls to keep prices from rising, simultaneous action on both sides of the border will be a factor in making the controls efficient and effective.

* * * *

The Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association at an executive meeting at Toronto adopted a resolution reaffirming its faith in what it termed "the primary importance" of the daily newspaper as an advertising medium. The association also adopted a report of the institutional advertising committee providing for a continuance of the educational campaign in the coming year. The campaign will stress the important place occupied by life insurance in wartime as well as the peacetime economy of the nation.

* * * *

Adam Smith, political economist, born this date 1725. First gained prominence as a moral philosopher due to the publication of his work, "Theory of the Moral Sentiments" while he was professor of logic in Glasgow University. His great work "Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations," sprang into instant popularity, claiming even Pitt as a disciple, he endeavouring in his early career as peace minister to apply the principles laid down in the book. The moment the war clouds of the French revolution lifted, the influence of Adam Smith's ideas began to manifest themselves in the reform of the British commercial system, and the repeal of the Corn Laws and the Navigation Laws was the outcome. His theories in practice led to congestion in the cities and poverty in the agricultural communities, the beneficiaries being for the most part middle men importers and exporters who bought in the cheapest and sold in the dearest markets.

* * * *

This Canadian Press bulletin failed to reach us on time, but better late than never:

Operation of political patronage in the selection of public employees was attacked in the House of Commons tonight by Conservative House Leader Hanson, and defended by J. F. Pouliot (Lib., Temiscouata).

"The patronage system I do not like," Mr. Hanson said. He recalled the years when he was a member supporting the government of the day.

"A member was little better than a labor agent," he said, "and when I satisfied one man I made nine enemies. My outer office was filled with people wanting a job."

"Mr. Bennett (Rt. Hon R. B. Bennett, former Conservative Prime Minister) promised too many," Mr. Pouliot interjected."

The discussion arose in committee on a clause in the new Succession Duties Act which provides that staff required for administration of the act will be appointed by the Governor-in-Council rather than by the Civil Service.

This is the system followed in the income tax branch which will take on administration of succession duties with necessary increase in staff.

Mr. Hanson said he understood Finance Minister Ilsley had brought people from his own province, Nova Scotia, to work in the income tax branch, some of them knowing very little about income tax work.

"Very few people do know anything about it," interjected W. Ross Macdonald (Lib., Brantford City).

Revenue Minister Gibson who is responsible for the income tax branch, said the difficulty there was to obtain qualified staff. It was often necessary to advertise. If Mr. Hanson had any persons in mind he could recommend, the Minister said he would be glad to hear from him.

Mr. Pouliot said those who were against patronage were those who were afraid to accept their responsibilities as members. He believed the members of Parliament supporting the government of the day should be permitted to make nominations for government service vacancies and take the responsibility for making proper recommendations.

M. J. Coldwell, acting C. C. F. House leader, said "the further we get from the patronage system the better it will be for the government of Canada."

He said he hoped the time would come when political victors would be too big to demand any spoils of office.

Meantime many girls and even youths are being posted at Ottawa in connection with these new jobs which do not come under the Civil Service Commission.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Poise is discovering a hole in the sock in the presence of the austere shoe clerk, and remarking "Cute, isn't it?" — Detroit News.

Harvard has dug up another of those invisible comets. Our own feeling is that when you've seen one invisible comet you've seen them all. — Los Angeles Times.

In Petrolia district boys don't have to join the navy to see the world. An oil driller since he was 19, Andrew D. Wolsey died last week at the age of 60, and it is related that he worked in Mexico, Venezuela, Bornea, Persia, Africa, Java, Sumatra, Trinidad, Mesopotamia, Egypt and Canada. —Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

But, while this is sad enough, there is no member of the English-speaking world who would not prefer to visit a London free, even if physically ruined, than to visit it intact under the guidance of a Nazi guide and with the knowledge that the swastika was floating over Westminister Hall. Rather, far rather, accept the destruction than to accept defeat or surrender for the sake of maintaining the tokens of an age when the Anglo-Saxon world was made up of free men. — Winnipeg Free Press.

Hugh Charles, who wrote "There'll Always Be An England", drove his car to Bristol, parked it in a garage and then attended a business mission. When his job was finished, Charles returned to the garage—and found that it had been bombed and that his car was destroyed. "There'll Always Be an England", he announced, "but this now makes it a personal issue between Hitler and me." —New York Post.

A Toronto soldier who has escaped from a prison camp in France has written to say that "all we had for breakfast was a cup of black coffee without sugar or milk. It looked and tasted like coal dust screenings. For dinner we got boiled unsweetened rice, and for supper boiled lentils". And yet some of the well-fed people whom we are entertaining in our prison camps have had the temerity to complain about their rations! — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Almost as mysterious as Rudolf Hess' "escape" from Germany is the relationship between the University of Alberta and Premier Aberhart. Stories were flying around for days that the University was going to honor Premier Aberhart with an honoary LL.D. degree at Convocation. Then the University Senate met and announced there would be no honoary degrees this year. Weeks ago it was announced that Premier Aberhart would make the Convocation address. Wednesday it was announced that the Premier would NOT make the Convocation address. — Lethbridge Herald.

In the hard struggle ahead, the resolution of the Canadian people will be supported by the clear knowledge that they are fighting in a noble cause and helping to save the world from a terrible fate. They will need the support of their convictions and their confidence that such a cause cannot ultimately fail. And they may well reflect that what they are fighting to save is simply everything that is worth living for — freedom in all its forms, a way of life that leads forward, with great possibilities for the advancement of human welfare. Supporting their country's war effort with those high purposes, Canadians can hope to attain the unity and co-operation so necessary to the mobilization of their maximum power, and they will find it easier to remove any impediments to that supreme effort.— Winnipeg Free Press.

Stories by two Herald correspondents helped a bit to restore our faith in humanity at a time when the nations of the world are flying at each other's throats. One told of a dozen or so farmers in the Milk River district who took their tractors and implements into the fields of two neighbors who, by reason of sickness or death, could not seed their own crops and did their seeding for them in a most workmanlike manner. The other told of a rancher in the High River district who tied a team to the fence near a mudhole on the highway so that motorists who might become stuck could pull themselves out. How fine it would be if nations learned to live together as do these neighbors, doing good to each other instead of evil! It is well that we have these practical examples of the good neighbor in order that we may keep some of our idealism alive.— Lethbridge Herald.

In the course of two centuries the American Indian seems to have learned much about real estate values. A group of Mohegans in Connecticut has petitioned the State Legislature for an indemnity of $50,000,000 in respect of a million acres of land taken from their ancestors by the white settlers early in the 18th century. When the white man arrived the American Indian had a low opinion of land values in this country. He sold Manhattan Island at what seemed to him a boom price: $24 and a string of wampum. A tract on which Danbury now stands, 30,000 acres in all, was ceded by the Mohegans themselves for a sack of beans. The site of Colchester changed hands for "five or six shillings".— New York Sun.

The men and women fire-watching on their factories or places of business are not there mainly to defend their own or their employer's livelihood. They are doing this job, partly boring, sometimes extremely dangerous, to see that fire does not consume the country's wealth, the country's tools, and the country's hopes of victory. Those who watch over a vital factory know that their hands will quickly be used elsewhere if it should be destroyed, so it is not really their living that is directly at stake. But if many factories were lost to fire there would come a time when the country would be too impoverished to replace them, and thus it is the life of the country and of the people as a whole, rather than any section of them, that is being defended by the fire-watchers. — Manchester Guardian

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR

"We cannot allow our goods to be sunk in the Atlantic. We shall be beaten if we do. We must see this job through. This is our fight."—U. S. Navy Secretary Frank Knox.

The Rising Generation

By ABEL VINEBERG
(In Montreal Gazette)

Nine-year-old Giselle Sicard of the municipality of Ste. Melanie d'Aillebout in the county of Joliette, judical district of the same name, is one of those naughty little girls who in fairy tale days would have been punished by the good fairies by having to wear too-tight shoes until she repented. These not being fairy tale days little Giselle with the aid of brother and sister was allowed to continue in her evil ways of disobeying school teachers, and, with the approval and aid of her mamma, took up considerable attention of the school commissioners, the school inspector, and finally of Mr. Justice Alfred Forest of the Superior Court, who on Saturday gave judgement in the matter of little Giselle after a grave review of the trouble which has swept like the fiery cross through the dales and glens of this doubtless pretty neighborhood. His judgement was finally to the effect it was not a matter for the wisdom of the Superior Court.

The matter came to His Lordship when the School Commission held an emergency meeting, and solemnly decreed that little Giselle could not go back to school unless she made the amend honorable by apologizing to the the teacher, and promising to be a better girl in the future. As her parents expressly forbade her to take back water in the affair of honor with the teacher she was not admitted, and her father, Armand Sicard, a farmer and leading citizen, launched an action asking that the Commission be ordered to erase the aforesaid resolution from their records, and let little Giselle go back to school without conditions, or promises of amendment.

For the last four years difficulties have arisen among the families at Ste. Melanie d'Aillebourt, the Lepine, Perrault and Sicard families having made common cause against the girl school teachers. His Lordship found. One of these teachers became so discouraged that she resigned, preferring to teach 35 children elsewhere than to minister to the much smaller school at Ste. Melanie. At the commencement of the present school year, the school commissioners decided to have order restored, and engaged as school teacher Miss Rollande Perrault, who was a distinguished graduate of a normal school, told her to be good to the children, generous and just, but to maintain severe discipline, and take no sides with any clan, and mete out justice to all.

"A SERGEANT-MAJOR'S JOB"

His Lordship did not mention what salary the commissioners paid this paragon of teachers, but presumably it would be about $300 a year for a task which, as outlined, would have taxed the resources of a regimental sergeant-major. Miss Perrault started off with conciliation, concealed the steel within a glove of velvet, but the spirit of insurgency broke out in quick order. Giselle was a ringleader, the child's forte being to laugh with her little brother, and wander about the school and environs at will despite the teacher's injunctions, and generally raise Cain when they should have been assiduously studying.

The matter came to a head on October 16, when Giselle began to throw things about with a reckless disregard for values, and consequences, and school equipment. When Miss Perrault remonstrated the rebel told her to watch out, or her Papa would see to her case. Faced with a crisis, the teacher ejected Giselle from the hall of learning, her parents were notified, and the commissioners informed in a letter to Arcade Brault, secretary-treasurer, who called an emergency meeting of the Commission. At this meeting on the 24th a resolution was duly passed telling Giselle's Papa that Giselle had to apologize publicly in front of all who had witnessed her conduct of the 16th instant and promise to be a better girl in future. Papa did not see eye to eye with the Commissioners, and sent his little pet back to school on the 31st with a formal prohibition against making any excuses, and when the school inspector backed up the commissioners, he had resort to law, it being the dull season for farming.

Mr. Justice Forest came to the conclusion, after hearing many witnesses, that the Sicard children are precocious, intelligent, better endowed than the average, probably due to the fact that their mother had been a school teacher for nine years previous to marriage, who ruled her household with authority, but had her own ideas on the generation of school teachers which had succeeded her. If she had shown as much judgement as spirit, said His Lordship, instead of listening to neighbors whom she held in sovereign contempt, and engaging with them in quarrelling with the school teachers, and interfering with their teaching there would have been no trouble. When the mother did not interfere, as she had not done for two years, her children got along very well at school, but once she started complaining to the school inspector, difficulties followed, rivalry started, and disorder recommenced.

CHILDREN ADMIT LYING

The trend of modern childhood His Lordship found to be discouraging, especially the conduct of two little girl witnesses, one aged 11 and the other 14, who had shown an effrontery which had shaken even teachers who know the present day youthful mind. The little girls had told the Court that when the inspector was investigating the situation they had not told the truth because they were not under oath, nor at confession, and even during the trial, after they had sworn to tell the truth, it had been the same, for they ultimately admitted the plaintiff had told them, that every morning at the hotel in Joliette, to say that Giselle was not worse than the other pupils. The little sister of Giselle and her little brother, aged 11 and 12 years respectively, who go to the same school, could not be taken seriously since both had ended by admitting that their mother had made them recite aloud two or three times the evidence they were to give.

From the children and their mentalities, His Lordship turned to school law to find that the school commissioners had been within their rights. He also raised the question whether it was not rather to the Magistrate's court that the action should have gone, since the Superior Court could interfere only when a school commission exceeded its powers, acted outside the law or committed an injustice so grave as to constitute the equivalent of fraud. Since there was no such offense charged here, and the commission appeared to have acted within the school law and the regulations of the Catholic Committee of the Council of Educations, His Lordship decided to dismiss the action with costs.

Gerald Debis represented the plaintiff, and Tellier and Tellier the school commission.
(Judgement No. 7018, district of Joliette.)

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.

"FROZEN ASSETS"

Sir,—Whilst the call has gone out nation-wide for every available dollar to be turned into the channels of War Savings Certificates or War Bonds, there is one thing the writer would like to bring to the attention of the bankers of this country, "Put the Unused Dollars to Work". In practically every branch of all the banks in Canada there are lying in a dormant state, unused accounts; the depositors of which have either moved away to some other territory and forgotten their accounts, died, or for some unexplained reason have lost trace of them.

These accounts some large, many small, after a period of two or three years has elapsed are no longer classed as active, and are transferred to a ledger "for record only", being no longer shown in the current bank ledgers where no deposit or withdrawal has been made during that time.

This money held in the keeping of banks and trust companies could well be put to work at the present time helping guard this country; protecting the lives of some of our boys on active service "by giving them the tools", by adding to the defence of Canada in being put to some war purpose for purchasing aeroplanes or some of the very vital supplies for the defence of our country and the Empire.

In this country of forgotten men, there are too it would seem, forgotten frozen assets in every branch of every bank in Canada where depositors transact business; which in this moment of extra effort to bring success to the new War Loan should be used. Yes! real money belonging to many individuals and companies alike, which is only in the safe-keeping of the banks and used over and over again by them. Money record only now, which has been lying dormant accumulating dust in bank vaults, in unused ledgers. "Dig it out," and help swell the total of the Dominion of Canada War Loan.

This amount in the aggregate is huge and whilst the money itself does not belong to any bank, the record of the deposit transaction remains, even the depositors would never have the same money returned—only specie of a like kind—what they deposited would have gone on so many interest earning missions during the two or three year period it would be hard to realize.

An effective and easily applicable means could be devised between the various banks, their branches, and the Bank of Canada whereby the banks and branches in question could be the holders of War Saving Certificates or War Bonds for the individual depositors covering each account with enough War Savings Certificates or War Bonds as the case may be, made out to each depositor, and which, when or should they call to claim the deposit could be handed over to them in lieu of the money; on the other hand the banks could have a blanket coverage of all unused accounts by War Bonds thus releasing the money immediately for vital war needs.

In the first instance shown above this would be a sterling investment for the individual, secondly it would be a sound business transaction for the banks and lastly there is no one with a forgotten account who would kick at being the recipient of a whole lot more interest than they ever expected should they remember where they deposited their money.

Help the boys! Help Canada! Help the Empire!

I am, Sir, etc.,
"JOHN"
"The Lilacs", P.E.I.

Iran's Vital Role

(Canadian Institute of International Affairs)

Once more the tide of war is shifting to ancient Persia, or Iran, the name its rulers in 1935 requested foreign governments to use. Iran and its eastern neighbour Afghanistan have traditionally formed the barrier of mountain and desert plateau separating Russia from India and the Indian Ocean. Along its western border lie Iraq and Turkey. The threat of increasing German domination in Iraq and the suspicions of Nazi-Soviet collaboration in these regions make the position of Iran vitally important. Cheated of her plans for free access to the Mediterranean by the Nazi conquest of the Balkans, Russia might push south into Iran and through Iranian ports on the Persian Gulf gain passage into the Indian Ocean.

Such a step would be taken as part of an agreement with the Nazis to divide the Middle East or to forestall Nazi occupation of a Russian sphere of influence. For Britain Iran is important not only as a neighbour of Iraq and a barrier to India, but also as the world's fourth largest producer of oil. This oil, which is controlled by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, of which the British Government is the largest stockholder, is now chief source of supply for the British forces in the Middle East. Before the war the Iranian oil fields produced over 11 million barrels as compared with Iraq's 4 millions. They are situated in the south west close to the border of Iraq and are pumped through a short pipe-line to the excellent refineries of the port of Abadan on the Persian Gulf. It will be of major importance to keep them out of Nazi hands.

Iran has had its border disputes with Iraq, but it is closely tied to that country by special agreements and by the Pact of Saadabad of 1937 which linked Turkey, Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan in a pact of good neighbourhood, which was, however, not a military alliance. It is not an Arab state, but its inhabitants are Moslems who might be influenced to sympathize with nationalist movements in other Moslem states.

Since the outbreak of the war the Shah, Riza Khan, has preserved a silent neutrality, but German diplomatic activities in the Middle East have made their headquarters in the capital of Teheran. Trade ties with the Soviet have been close, although before the war Germany was ousting Russia from the dominant position. Britain and the Empire have taken the bulk of Iranian Oil, and the royalties of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., form an important source of revenue to the Government. But there have been difficulties between Britain and Iran over these revenues and over the disputed Bahrein Islands in the Persian Gulf. Iran displays anxiety to forestall too great British influence by frowning on the proposal to build a railway through from British India to British mandated Iraq.

There is little reason to believe, however, that Iran would welcome absorption by her northern neighbour, Russia. As a defence against such an invastion the country has only its formidable barriers of mountains. Teheran could easily be bombed from Russian bases across the Caspian Sea, and Russian armies might occupy the low-lying districts round that Sea in the north. A Soviet attempt to reach the oil fields in the south would meet with formidable difficulties of terrain and possibly effective guerrilla warfare. The newly completed railway from the Caspian to the Persian Gulf might be useful but vulnerable. Iran has a peacetime army of 35,000 with a wartime potential of 180,000, about 200 airplanes and 100 Skoda tanks. Whether she would choose to use such forces at this stage of the war is a question. Probably her best defence will be her skill at bargaining with Germany, Russia and Britain — a game which is very hard to win.

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Westminster; shelter that the spirit builds,
Your sons and servants sleep beneath your pave.
Through shattered windows, waking sunlight gilds
The tombs of those whose glory finds no grave:
O London, by the faith and land they kept,
You, too, shall rise, like Him that Mary wept!

—Adin Ballou in the New York Herald Tribune.

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