

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1940

Compulsory Military Service

October 1st is the date set for the commencement of the system of military training for all able Canadians aged nineteen to forty-five years, which is equivalent to the introduction of universal compulsory military service in Canada.

As Defense Minister Ralston clearly explained in Parliament, this compulsory military service has been introduced merely to give every man an elementary training, in order that in case of necessity, he can defend his hearth and home.

With the introduction of compulsory military service a large army will be produced for Canada, which will be divisible into three parts. Firstly, there is the active army service (C. A. S. F.).

Secondly, there is the non-permanent active militia (N. P. A. M.) which has always existed in Canada, and which, at any time, can be ordered to service within the country, but which is not obligated to take part in fighting outside its boundaries.

Always A Menace

A warning against the common housefly has been sounded by the publicity and extension division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Said the department: "The common housefly is notorious for the part it plays in spreading dangerous diseases, such as typhoid, infantile diarrhoea, tuberculosis, cholera and dysentery. It is a menace to health because it breeds in filth and may pass directly to foodstuffs."

Newfoundland Defenses

Commenting on the conference last week between Canadian defense officials and representatives of the Newfoundland Government, the St. John's Evening Telegram says that while it is in complete accord with an agreement whereby Newfoundland will co-operate fully in a general plan of Empire defense, the country should be clearly informed of everything to which it may be committed by the proposals. It adds:

Recognition of Newfoundland's situation as "the first line of defence of the North American Continent" is at last acknowledged by our two great neighbours to the West, as well as by Britain. It might literally be said that "the stone which the builders rejected has become the head stone of the corner." It has never been understandable that while along the sea route to the East have been established and maintained such strongholds as Gibraltar, Malta, Aden, Singapore, Hong Kong as well as numerous other defence or supply bases, an island possessing such strategical advantages as Newfoundland, standing at the meeting of the important trade routes between Britain and the countries on the western shores of the Atlantic, has not been made to serve a similar purpose.

It is fortunate for the Empire that though complicity in respect of looking to its defences led to its being caught off guard, this did not

apply to matters concerning its trade and commerce. The result was that once war became imminent, Britain and the Dominion could apply to the needs of war the vast wealth and resources which represented the fruits of their intensive industrial efforts during the years of peace. The speed with which preparations were made even to face alone the might of the enemy has amazed the world, and it has presented Germany, far less foresighted in this respect, with a disconcerting problem. Now are launched further defence plans which mark the initial move in the consolidation of the Western nations, first to bar the way of the aggressor in this part of the world, and ultimately to restore freedom to those countries at present helpless victims of this system of oppression.

EDITORIAL NOTES

All set for Labour Day holiday, Monday. There is going to be heavy traffic on the car-ferry today and tomorrow, Sunday.

Taken all in all, the summer has been remarkably good both as regards weather and crops, including tourists.

An amnesia victim in Toronto told the police he thinks he is Jewish—"whenever I see a Kiltie soldier it brings something back to me, but I don't know what," he told them. Perhaps the sight of a Gordon Highlander would enlighten him.

John Bunyan, religious leader and writer, author of "The Pilgrims Progress," died this date 1688.

"There was a man, though some did count him mad, The more he cast away the more he had . . . The man so bravely played the man, He made the fiend to fly."

Such is the fate of conquered France. Her standing armed forces, including militarized police, have been reduced almost to the 100,000 men permitted under the armistice with Germany. The permanent army remaining will be composed of professional soldiers recruited from time to time as needed and will include about 20,000 mobile guards, or military police.

Everybody welcomes our Royal guests. Both have royal blood in their veins, the Governor-General being a direct descendant of George III, and the Princess Alice of Queen Victoria. The Earl's grandfather was H. R. H. the Duke of Cambridge 10th child of King George III; while H. R. H. the Countess is the daughter of H. R. H. the Duke of Albany, 8th child of Queen Victoria.

Possibility that recently married women teachers whose husbands are serving overseas may be able to return to the teaching profession is foreseen already by several educationalists in Montreal. Although no move in this direction has as yet been undertaken the feeling is that although there is no shortage of teachers on the Island of Montreal at the present time there likely will be as the war goes on. The argument is that these married women, who have had recent teaching experience and are well-trained, would be a logical choice if a shortage of teachers occurred.

New control over commercial reproduction in any form of the uniforms, badges and decorations of Canada's defence services are provided in amendments to the Defence of Canada Regulations. Only with the written permission of the Defence Department may such reproduction now be made for any commercial purpose if the reproduction is so similar to the original as to be mistaken for it. The regulation is said to be directed primarily against certain objectionable forms of advertising featuring pictures of members of the forces and against the sale of imitation military badges of various kinds. Manufacturers of ordinary reproductions which are obviously unobjectionable to the Defence Department are unlikely to find any difficulty in getting the permits required under this new regulation, it is said.

Mr. Robert Little, Fredericton, has been elected president of the Fredericton Fur Farming Club in succession to Mr. L. C. Young, Fredericton. The Club passed a resolution submitted to it by the Canadian National Fox Breeders' Association, calling for the removal or relaxing of restrictions on the free importation into the United States of Canadian fox pelts. Last year, club members were told, the United States placed quotas on various nations exporting fox pelts to that country. Since this year Norway's exports to the republic will be negligible, Canadian exporters would like to see Canada's quota either increased or, more preferably, all restrictions regarding the importation of Canadian pelts removed. The resolution will be forwarded to a committee of the Canadian National Fox Breeders' Association, which is pressing Ottawa to negotiate with Washington for a lowering of the barrier against Canadian fox pelts.

At the time of the Plebiscite Premier Campbell claimed that the loss of revenue from tourists' liquor business was not an unmitigated financial catastrophe, because, he stated, most of the money obtained from liquor went off the Island to breweries and distilleries as we had neither of these industries here. In Massachusetts Mr. Joseph T. Zottoli, associate justice of the Boston Municipal Court, has made a careful study of the profit and loss angle in his paper, "The Problem of Alcoholism in the Courts." He shows that, though the State alone receives about four million dollars a year in liquor revenue, this is thrice wiped out by State liquor-caused expenses, running annually to about thirteen million dollars. Then, of course, there is the ordinary alcohol-caused tax expenses. Perhaps Massachusetts is not unique in this respect. It may be that other places are actually losing and not making money by permitting liquor, home-brewed or imported, within their borders.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Sound waves of African tom-toms travel more than 1,000 feet a second, or 21 miles in about one and a half minutes. — New York Herald-Tribune.

Candidate Wilkie has made his first serious campaign mistake. He has his picture taken sitting on a bed with his boots on—thereby losing the women's vote. — Kitchener Record.

Mrs. Alfred E. Smith has been seen wearing a Wilkie button. So it would seem that Al is still on that walk he started four years ago. — Toronto Star.

A signal triumph for Britain and the rehabilitation of France as a great Power might notably change the spirit of Nippon's dream. But from the viewpoint of the Japanese converts to totalitarianism things are going pretty enough with their Western World models to justify optimism. — Philadelphia Bulletin.

Those isolationists who have succeeded in inserting into the campaign platforms of the two political parties declarations that no American soldier will be permitted to fight overseas might appropriately look at a map of the country and consider whether it can be effectively defended at home. How many scores of thousands of planes, guns, tanks and trucks will be needed if we come down to fighting enemies with air and naval bases in Alaska, Greenland, the West Indies, Mexico and Central and South America? Defending the British Isles from invasion will be a task of a different order from defending the sprawling United States if an invader is ever able to bring his forces across the ocean. — Toronto Telegram.

Ho hum — how agriculture is advancing! We just finished reading of an advanced farm home in Western Ontario where the men have ice cubes in the jug of drinking water they take to the field along with them. Not that we have anything against the idea, out it is a long way removed from the habits of the 10th Congress. It is a long way removed from having a refrigerator in the kitchen and there were no refrigerators of that kind along the 10th. Nor was there any place within 100 miles where ice could be cut. — Peterborough Examiner.

Happily for us the records of the last war show pages as dark as this for the Allies, especially during the German onslaughts; but eventually their power to strike back with even greater vigour succeeded in turning the tables on the enemy. The events of the last weeks show that the same dogged spirit still exists in the sons of those men who tried their best in Flanders in 1914. In dark days we have the facts of history to console us. So long as the British continue to prosecute the war with the same objective in view, their victory is assured. — Trinidad Guardian.

Herbert Hoover is probably the world's chief living authority on famine. He supervised the relief of a large part of Europe in the last war. Since then he has maintained a steady observation of European food supplies. His observations tell us that the world is ready on the verge of widespread starvation, and the winter still months away. Even today in Poland women and children are dying for lack of food. Germany has packed 15,000,000 people into Polish areas that have supported only 10,000,000 in the past, and it is allowing these people only enough food to keep them alive and from going to the Reich. If 1,000 die daily they will be the weak ones, the aged and the children. They cannot work for the Reich, so they do not matter. The world is waiting to see what will happen in Europe next winter. Then, says Mr. Hoover, Germany will ration its new possessions, including France, and keep the lion's share of the available food for its own people. Ready Norway is eating no meat, only fish, and no Norwegian farmer may feed grain to his cattle. Denmark is slaughtering its great herds because the farmers cannot be fed. Belgium and the Netherlands "are already gaunt. Milk and beef are mere memories." Even Russia is worried about her food supplies and took the last year because she wanted the Danubian wheat. Everywhere the story is the same — crop failure, then the destruction of crops by warfare, farmers carrying guns instead of planting their land. Only Britain and all the European countries can be adequately fed. And the winter coming on. — Vancouver Sun.

The War Cry of London, the counterpart in England of the Salvation Army's War Cry here, leads off its issue of July 20 as follows: "Famine, that most dreadful of scourges, is now freely spoken of as a prospect for millions of Europeans. It is impossible for people in such favored parts of the world as the British Isles to imagine even faintly what it means. Beer and Polyanina, if you wish, are the staple of the world as we know it. In a state of siege, with a blockade in effect, with bombs dropped and a murderous invader glaring from across the Channel, still the War Cry speaks of 'such favored parts of the world as the British Isles.' It sounds encouraging to us. These people don't terrorize easily. — New York World-Telegram.

A rising popular movement in Germany is demanding that a new non-alcoholic "people's drink" be devised which will be a substitute for beer. It seems a good enough idea. Canada, for instance, has an infinite variety of such soft drinks. A man can take his choice not only between beer and a soft drink, but between an infinite variety of soft drinks. The one which, in the long run, a man comes to like, gets his coin. Question: Can a state sit down still the War Cry of the world as we know it. In a state of siege, with a blockade in effect, with bombs dropped and a murderous invader glaring from across the Channel, still the War Cry speaks of "such favored parts of the world as the British Isles." It sounds encouraging to us. These people don't terrorize easily. — New York World-Telegram.

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Navy Ways

(Special To The Guardian)

Drinking the King's Health

Officers of the Navy and the Royal Marines always drink the King's Health when seated at table. There are two theories for the origin of this unusual privilege. The most popular is that when William IV was serving in a warship, while Duke of Clarence, he bumped his head against a beam of the low wardroom in responding to a toast, and that remembering this when he came to the Throne, he bestowed the privilege for the convenience of his old shipmates.

Another theory is that, when George IV dined aboard a warship, all the officers rose to drink his health. He motioned them to be seated, saying, "Gentlemen, pray be seated, your loyalty is above suspicion." In any case, in the days of the old sailing ships, the space between decks and beams was very low and this, coupled with the brevity of a ship, must have made it very difficult to stand holding a glass. In old days sea officers were even heavier drinkers than their brethren ashore, and many of them not on duty used to be carried by their Marine sergeants and put to bed in a state of insensibility.

Campaign of Falsehood

(Hamilton Spectator) Many reasons have been advanced for the surprising decline in tourist traffic to the Canadian West. Most persons had the impression that the situation arose from the war, they believed it was due more to misapprehension and perhaps ignorance of actual conditions than to any form of organized "sabotage" aimed at Canada. The facts, however, are otherwise.

Hon. T. E. McQuesten, Ontario Minister of Highways, in officially opening the Queen Elizabeth Way, said that a calculated campaign of whispered malice and demagoguery of falsehood by word of mouth was responsible. It was designed to create a false impression of the Canadian economic stability by slowing up the tourist traffic, and evidence of it was gathered for the Ontario Department of Highways especially engaged for the task. Their survey brought forth some interesting disclosures, which revealed that anything else but invidious was this campaign of untruth, and why Canada's tourist traffic slumped so sharply this year.

Most frequent among the deliberate falsehoods that were spread, according to the department's investigators, were the following: Food is scarce in Canada, is being rationed, and is therefore expensive, shipped overseas and less expensive than in the United States. Gasoline is 90 cents a gallon, and under surveillance at their hotels and wherever they travel in Canada. It is against the law of the United States to take money back to the United States. Exchange rates are generally increased, so that the American dollar is worth more than wiced out of the difficulties and inconveniences must be contended with at points along the border with entering or leaving the country.

Mr. McQuesten answered each of these malicious lies and declared that Canada has a bumper crop of food essential to the war effort, and never had more plentiful, and never more and its use more unrestricted than now. Special gasoline sells in Canada at 18 to 21 cents a gallon in the United States, which is considerably smaller than the Canadian gallon. As for "surveillance" at the only constant watch on this side of the line is to see that the American guests are extended every courtesy and enjoy their visit to this country. With regard to "all sorts of difficulties and inconveniences" at the border, Mr. McQuesten said that a check-up of 200 American cars at Niagara showed that, on an average, it took only seven states, while the entry into Canada was made in even less time. All these lies are still normal. A ten-dollar bill of the United States, by some magic, is still worth \$11 in Canada.

These are the irrefutable facts, and Mr. McQuesten wishes that his freestone tablet would, in one try with them, and thus help him to overcome the lies that have been so cunningly spread. Thirty-five American newspapers, editors and publishers, however, have just concluded an enjoyable tour of Ontario and other groups. They are in New York state, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan, all populous districts, and they can be depended upon to enlighten their countrymen.

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Labor Day Message

(By A. R. MOSHER)

(President of the all-Canadian Congress of Labour)

Shortly before Labour Day last year, the German war-machine, created by unscrupulous gangsters and brought to a high peak of murderous efficiency, began its relentless march over Europe. One nation after another, neutral or belligerent, has been crushed into submission, and now the British Commonwealth alone, with the British Isles holding the ramparts, is defending the cause of liberty and civilization. Into the struggle, unhesitatingly and voluntarily, Canada has thrown her resources of men and money and material, with the full support of her people.

The workers of Canada pledged their allegiance to the war-effort as soon as the titanic conflict began, and that pledge has been kept both in the letter and the spirit. They realize that the principles of freedom and justice and democracy, upon which the Labour movement is founded, are seriously threatened, and they count no sacrifice too great in the defence of those principles. They are aware that the first step taken by the dictators of Italy and Germany, when they seized power, was to destroy the organizations which the workers had built, to despoil them of their corporate property and imprison their leaders. For Labour organizations can exist only in a democracy; they must be free and independent bodies, through which the workers can express their aims and ideals, and promote their own as well as the public welfare.

The War Task

To the task of producing war-supplies and to meet the common needs of the people, the workers have given themselves unsparringly, and they will continue to do so. They are eager to serve Canada and the Commonwealth, anxious to make their utmost contribution to the winning of the war, glad to accept the responsibilities which are laid upon them. The organized workers particularly have reason for satisfaction on this Labour Day because of the larger measure of co-operation which has been obtained with the Dominion Government during recent months. The statement in Order-in-Council 2685, of June 19th, may be regarded as a great forward step for Canadian Labour; the acceptance of its principles by employers generally would go a long way toward establishing industrial harmony throughout Canada, and an increasing number of employers are realizing not only that the right to organize is fundamentally sound, but that the workers will and can co-operate more effectively through their Labour organizations than otherwise. In every industry where large groups of workers are engaged, there are problems in connection with their common interests which can be settled satisfactorily only through Labour organizations. The declaration of Labour policy by the Government supplies also a wholesome corrective to the improper view of the Labour movement, still held by some people, based upon a misunderstanding of the aims and purposes of the organized workers.

The formation of the National Labour Supply Council, with equal representation of organized employers and organized Labour, is another important event from the standpoint of Labour, which has urged that the Government provide some means for the fullest utilization of skilled and unskilled workers in war-production. This Council has already performed valuable service to the nation, and will prove to be of increasing usefulness as the war-effort develops.

Unemployment Insurance

One of the last measures to be dealt with by Parliament before adjournment was the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1940. Canada has lagged behind almost all the other industrialized nations of the world in adopting legislation of this nature, and the Act reflects the experience which other countries have gained. While many workers whose employment is more permanent than others will not benefit from it directly, the organized workers have for many years advocated this social reform, and they believe that it will be of considerable value. Here again, the workers find ground for satisfaction in the attitude taken by the Government, in the face of opposition from certain employers' associations. Above all, however, Labour Day is noteworthy this year because of

the great advances which have been made toward unifying the workers of Canada. One of the purposes of the All-Canadian Congress of Labour has been to bring Canadian workers together on the basis of their common interests as workers and as Canadian citizens. It has become the legislative and organizational centre for over two hundred affiliated and chartered unions, with many thousands of members, but its membership has more than doubled this year not only through the organization of a large number of unions among workers hitherto unorganized, but as a result of the affiliation of over 60,000 Canadian workers who are members of the Canadian branches of industrial unions affiliated in the United States with the Congress of Industrial Organizations. These comprise the workers in such important industries as coal, steel, rubber, automobile and electric manufacturing, wood-working, etc., and make the All-Canadian Congress of Labour the most representative Labour centre in the Dominion.

Better Co-Operation

By achieving unity among such a large body of Canadian workers from coast to coast, almost all of whom are organized on the industrial basis, the Congress has greatly increased its scope and effectiveness; it has provided a medium for the expression of the opinions of the Canadian workers under its banner, and an agency for organizing and legislative activity. As a democratic Canadian institution, it will play its part in strengthening the forces which are bringing Canada together into a great nation, and co-operate with all constructive elements within its borders.

Canadian workers are deeply loyal to the land of their birth and adoption; they appreciate the privileges and opportunities which Canada affords. Many of them are serving in the military or naval or air forces; others are engaged in the multitudinous war-industries, and still more are providing food and transportation and housing. All together they are helping to build a bigger and a better nation, and laying the foundations of an ampler life in the days after victory has been won.

Now amid the stress and strain of a great war, they are striving with all their energies to quicken and intensify the war-effort, and to increase the material forces which are so essential. But they are helping, too, by their faith in the principles for which the British Commonwealth is fighting, and by their fidelity to the cause of justice and decency in human relationships. They look forward to great changes to the solution of the economic problems which have harassed mankind through the ages, to the time when peace and security will be the birthright of every human being. Thus, on Labour Day, without forgetting the grim task which lies in the immediate future, they dare to look ahead to the new world in the making, the brave new world of their hopes and dreams.

Mexico has ordered a monthly government inspection of all airplanes.

Salvation Army parades have been forbidden in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

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THE TWO MACS

The Poet's Corner

I edged back against the night The sea roared assault on the wave-bitten shore. And the breakers, Like young and impatient hounds, Sprang with rough joy on the shrinking sand, Sprang—but were drawn back slowly With a long, relentless pull, Whimper, into the dark.

Then I saw who held them captive, And I saw how they were bound With a broad and quivering leash of light, As calm and unsmiling, She walked the deep fields of the sky. —Jean Starr Untermeyer

By soaring for 16 minutes 2 seconds near Alberton, G. Clarry recently broke the South African gliding record.

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