

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1946

Many Handicaps

It is an unfortunate coincidence that the past few days have seen a lamentable breakdown in more than one of our most important public services. The failure of the authorities to have the car ferry Prince Edward Island overhauled before the opening of the busy tourist season is of course the outstanding cause of complaint. For this failure there seems no adequate excuse. The required work on the ferry could and should have been rushed to completion. There is no doubt that our tourist trade has suffered as a result of this negligence, but even more important has been the tie-up in freight and other transportation which is vital to the Province. Our whole transportation service, badly enough disrupted due to the interminable delay in completing the new car ferry, has been brought almost to a standstill. It is safe to say that in no other Province would such conditions be tolerated for twenty-four hours. The Dominion Government, which is the ultimate source of responsibility, would be inundated with protests.

While the Borden-Tormentine ferry service has been so badly bungled, the Wood Islands-Caribou service, which could handle far more traffic if the available additional steamer were put into use, is still being operated with one small boat. Months ago the Government was being pressed to make subsidy arrangements for the operation of an additional boat, which had been repurchased and refitted by the company.

Weather conditions this week interfered with our remaining link with the mainland, the air service. Such conditions are likely to recur at any time, leaving us stranded completely.

Added to this unsatisfactory condition have been the repeated breakdowns at the plant of the Maritime Electric Company, putting essential services in Charlottetown and elsewhere out of commission for hours at a time, not to speak of still longer periods of inconvenience to citizens generally. The company is installing new equipment, it is true, but here again the repeated delays in completing the required change-over have become intolerable. The company should have obtained priorities on its required equipment, and the work should have been rushed to completion as a matter of vital importance to the community.

This is the way things happen when there is apathy in high places. It is said that misfortunes rarely come singly. But there is another saying, equally true. It is to the effect that "it lies not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings." Had our politicians, our boards of trade and other organizations been more alert to our interests at Ottawa and refused to take alibis for answers in pressing our transportation and other grievances, we would be better off today.

The Soviet Iron Curtain

"Report on Russia," a recently published book by Paul Winterton, lifts the curtain on one vital reason for the fear and suspicions harbored by the Russian people towards other Allied nations. Mr. Winterton is correspondent for the London News Chronicle, and served in Moscow during the critical years 1942-45. He was there first in 1928, and made repeated visits since. He has always been and still is an admirer of Russia, which adds weight to his discouraging indictment of Soviet policy.

News of Britain and the other Allied countries during the war years, Mr. Winterton writes, was held to a minimum, while every effort was made to encourage the opposite. While Allied newspapers were packed with news of the Soviet Union and a "deep reservoir of goodwill" was being developed towards that country, nothing of a similar nature was allowed in Russia. The only publication devoted to presenting the Allied side was *British Ally*, a twelve-page illustrated paper, whose circulation was held to 50,000 in a nation of 190 millions. Moreover, unlike similar periodicals in the Allied countries which presented the Soviet view, *British Ally* contained no controversial material. At no time did the Russian people receive any indication of the part the Allies played. They were encouraged through every means at the disposal of the Soviet government to believe that Russia was fighting, and winning, the war single-handed.

A grudging and fleeting recognition was given to major events. Before the invasion of the continent, there was constant reference to the failure of the Allies to lend support. Montgomery's desert campaign was dismissed; Allied bombing of Germany almost ignored; British efforts to run supplies to Murmansk mentioned only in praise of the Soviet navy's part in them. The fall of Rome received half a column of inconsequential reporting. The surrender of Italy was covered in *Red Star*, the Soviet Army newspaper, in a small item with a tiny headline; the liberation of Paris in a four-inch paragraph with no indication that British or American troops had played any part in it. The

American destruction of German forces in the Rhine-Marselle triangle—one of the most spectacular incidents in the war—the Remagen bridgehead, the fall of Coblenz, Werms, Kaiserlauten and Ludwigshafen with the capture of thousands of enemy troops was reported in *Red Star* as follows: March 14, 18 lines; March 15, 33; March 16, 21; March 18, 20; March 20, 27; March 21, 23; March 22, 31. There was no map and no explanatory copy. "Never in the history of joint military operations," writes Mr. Winterton, "have the spectacular and finally decisive achievements of a country's allies been so deliberately, consistently and dishonestly hushed up."

It was impossible to do a good straight forward job of reporting. Correspondents were not allowed near the front lines. They had no contacts they could go to for information in Moscow. Maps were not supplied nor was there proper identification of areas of combat. The press department was understaffed, inefficient, uninterested, lacking in authority and frequently obstructive. It suffered, as one correspondent noted bitterly, from a form of "galloping paralysis." Censorship was not censorship as Allied correspondents were accustomed to in Europe. Lines were deleted and new lines added. All-important words like "not" were removed. Punctuation was altered to suit Soviet views. Stories with even the suggestion of criticism were killed. Complaints were useless.

All this was part of the Soviet plan which has been followed since the Revolution. The country has been fed a diet and now the truth cannot be told. The suspicion, directed against Britain and America, is based on fear. It is fear which has dictated the "political Chinese wall" with which Russia has surrounded herself. The curtain has lowered and Russia has no intention of raising it. Even education has been tinged with militarism.

Mr. Winterton's verdict is that we should remain strong because Russia appreciates only strength. We should attempt by every means to foster friendship but realize, when we do so, that nothing much can be done until the Soviet Union changes its attitude.

EDITORIAL NOTES

His many friends in newspaperdom will join in congratulating Mr. A. R. Coffin, of Truro Daily News, on being included in the King Government's honor list, as M.B.E.

Patience is a virtue, we are told, seldom possessed by men and never by women; though God take the sun out of the heaven, yet we must have patience. This must be our testing time in Charlottetown, with the Maritime Electric Co. applying the test.

Recently we were told in Parliament that atomic energy would be available for heat, light and power within the next five years. We do sincerely hope that the power companies and other big interests will not unite for the purpose of occasioning unnecessary delay.

Lady Baden-Powell has had a highly successful visit to the province, and the Scouts and Guides, together with their executives, are delighted with its inspiring and stimulating effect on the movements.

George Henry Borrow, English author and philosopher, born this date 1805; having spent a wandering life, Borrow acquired a wide knowledge of humanity, and, being practically self-educated, his method of expression is distinctly individual; his principal works are *Lavengro*, *The Romany Rye*, *Wild Wales*; in philology, *Romano Lavo Lil*: "I am invariably of the politics of people at whose table I sit, or beneath whose roof I sleep."

A case of exporting Mother Earth. Well known as an essential item in the manufacture of pottery, china-clay is also used extensively in the production of paper and paint, soap and cement, textiles and tooth-powder, rubber and oilcloth. From the English pits of Cornwall and Devon, producing more than a quarter of the total output from all countries, it was, in normal times, shipped throughout the world, constituting Britain's second largest raw material export.

Scrapping and reorganizing bureaucracies is developing. A joint statement by Canada, Britain and the United States, announced termination of their Combined Food Board, effective Monday. Its work will be continued by the International Emergency Food Council of 19 countries including Canada which was established June 20. Until the council was formed, it had been planned to continue the C.F.B. to December 31.

It is evident Premier Duplessis and the National Unionists in Quebec retain the confidence of the electorate. The capture of the Liberal sat of Cookshire by a substantial majority may be taken as a vote of confidence in him and his party for the part they played in the Federal-Provincial Conference. Recent newspaper comments in such outstanding English newspapers as the *Gazette* and *Star* prove that neither the English nor French sections of the population approve of the centralizing policy being forced on the Dominion by the Mackenzie King Government.

"The brain must have rest. It's like a telephone exchange with five times as many telephone wires as there are people in the whole of the world. Your brain consists of ten thousand million cells, each of them like a tiny battery with a wire running from it to carry the current. As we walk, and run, and read, and write, those telephone wires are humming with messages to and from the brain. When the brain is tired it gets its messages muddled. It may tell you that nine eights are sixty-four. You may forget things, or drop things, and not hear what people are saying to you. Your mental batteries are run down. They need to be switched off so that they can charge up again, and it's sleep that switches them off—or nearly so."

Notes By The Way

Britain's automobile industry boomed while that of the United States stagnated because of strikes. This is an economic lesson which should go home to all working men of America.—Vancouver Sun.

Perhaps we are too hopeful in a mercenary world, but we still look forward to the day when the top salary in the United States will be paid to someone other than a movie director.—Windsor Star.

The naval cadets at Edinburgh University have described England as "Atleesia a country low in morale through constant demands for a 40-hour week." They might be comforted by looking across at Truro, a country which has the 40-hour week and would be quite reconciled to it if only industry and labour would arrange to work that much.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Few navy regulations are more strictly enforced than the prohibition against liquor aboard ships, says *Newsweek*. The suggestion that a sailor should be permitted to have a drink on the U.S.S. *Appalachian* press ship for the atom-bomb tests was firmly rejected. So was the plea that setups be permitted through constant demands for a 40-hour week. "Liquor will not be permitted aboard the *Appalachian*, but luggage will not be inspected."

Now they're making a radio-clock which will waken the owner in the morning by turning on the set to a pre-determined program. What with all the programs of super-charged good cheer and franticly optimistic gossip sessions between husband and wife which seem to fill the air around getting-up time, it wouldn't surprise us if a lot of potential customers would stick to the old alarm, fire-house jangle of the old alarm clock.—Calgary *Albertan*.

In a cool corner, where the joining garden walls bring shade to the heat of daytime and the sun touches only in the early morning and evening, the maidens have had a barbeque and grow luxuriantly. Here they catch all the moisture which drips from a changing eye when the rain falls; here the bright, small globes of dew linger in this secluded spot. The garden is a little from their green a soft wave of verdure that seems arrested at the point of spilling on to the lawn.—Victoria *Times*.

A man who has admitted to committing approximately 100 crimes since he gets out of jail he will "settle down with the wife and kids." This gives the weight to W. S. Gilbert's assertion that—
When the enterprising burglar's When the cut-throat isn't occupied at crime,
He loves to hear the little brook a-gurgling,
And listen to the merry village chime.—Peterborough Examiner.

India has an old and rich culture which has contributed much to world civilization. But it should be remembered, that culture does not include the traditions of democracy. On the contrary, it is based on absolute rules, religious hostility and a caste system which are the very opposites of democracy. Yet, until the Indian people learn the ways of democracy, of tolerance of compromise, of live-and-let-live, they will profit little from their independence and might find themselves worse off with it than without it.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

The late Arnold Bennett had a disconcerting habit at literary gatherings. He would select a chair and sit in it, and the festivities settle himself comfortably and promptly fall asleep. He had been coughing happily from taking a cough remedy, and he was extremely tired to leave so early—and went back to sleep.—Omnibook.

A new air-conditioning system which gives workers in the most highly polluted atmospheres, for example in chemical factories, as fresh and pure as in the country, was recently put into production in Britain. The system is operated by means of units fixed to the wall or ceiling and plugged into an electrical point.—Fort William *Times-Journal*.

The New Jersey Council of Citizens has taken a firm ground in contending that the name of President Truman's official residence should be changed from "The Sacred Cow" but its suggestions of "American Eagle" or "Charlot of Freedom" sound already called fourth comment in a presidential airplane. Maybe it's a good occasion for compromise. "The Sacred Cow" or "Mother's Day Special" or "The Portable Shangri-La" or do we hear any other suggestions?—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The Poet's Corner

AUTUMN

Now doth the old earth turn to take her rest,
And cloas great quilts of colour to her breast,
With here a patch of red, a burst of gold,
And there a blaze of yellow fold on fold;
Patches of bronze and ochre, riot of flame,
Rejoice as the banners of high fame.

All these and many more she gathers round,
Then, like an Indian brave whose hunting ground lies far,
Lies not far as she rolls her blankets tight,
Stretching her feet to the flickering fires of morn,
That constant and unwearied vigil keep,
Contentedly she turns her to her sleep.

—Arthur S. Bourinot.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The *Charlottetown Guardian* does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

DAYLIGHT TIME

Sir,—In regard to Mr. Seaman's letter of a few days ago, I would like to give my opinion of this matter of Daylight Saving and the farmer. He wonders why the farmer should find fault with D. S. T. The one and only reason is that it interferes with his work and the reamer. He wonders why the farmer should find fault with D. S. T. The one and only reason is that it interferes with his work and the reamer. He wonders why the farmer should find fault with D. S. T. The one and only reason is that it interferes with his work and the reamer.

A Spate Of Honors
(Globe And Mail)

The Dominion Day honors list is reported to represent the "final" list of awards resulting from national wartime service. On quantity alone it is well that this be so. When honours, supposedly intended to carry recognition of meritorious or otherwise special service to the civilian, are scattered so thickly, their intrinsic value is lost. The 1,100 announced yesterday bring to more than 1,500 the civilian honorees distributed in connection with the war.

It was, in fact, as a result of the adverse criticism of the Government's excessive generosity in the awarding of honours in 1943 that Prime Minister King announced the suspension of civil awards until the war's end. Then, in 1945, the whole question of civilian honours was re-examined. The number then was 285, or less than a quarter of yesterday's total. More than 100 civilian awards had been made prior to 1943 and had, therefore, more honours per capita than there are aldermen, justices of the peace and Senators. Not sharing the administrative snobbery of high administrative circles, which have long professed a distaste for honours and titles, this newspaper believes that the honours bestowed by their contributions to the sciences, the arts, business and other fields of human endeavor, deserve special recognition as such recognition is not given by classes or by professions, but only on individual attainments. Properly so, the standards must be kept rigidly high.

There are some men and women in the Dominion Day list who fully warrant inclusion. Among these are business men who of public knowledge have given outstanding service to their country. There are women whose voluntary contributions have already been noted in the press of this Province and the nation. There are too a few men of science and of intellectual attainments whose accomplishments Canada can take pride in. And in their own special field, there were war correspondents whose recognition is fully earned.

"Hounded" by HEADACHES

Blinding pain, constant throbbing can make life misery. Many headaches may be caused by the failure of the kidneys to remove the waste products of filtering poisonous wastes and excess acids from the blood. Kidneys fail and poisons remain in the system, headaches, backache, rheumatism, diabetes, etc. may develop. Low Dose's Kidney Pills help your kidneys clear out trouble-making poisons and excess acids so that you feel better—rest better—work better. Get Dose's today. 14c

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But in what way have these relatively few Canadians been honored? Even the congratulations which are owing them on such an occasion are meaningless for them. If there is to be any honor left to the honored it is well that we pause to reassess our standards. As one reads the Dominion Day list it seems more to resemble a political "pay-off" if political service can be paid for with a ribbon. At least it gives substantial support to the report that Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe is to quit his job. It would be no trouble to compile a list of 1,100 young airmen, many of whom are still looking for work and the recognition of a steady pay-check who were more deserving of notice than the 1,100 who fill out the Government's list. But regardless of merit these now have a common status with those who earned it. And that is unfortunate. Such extravagant abuse cheapens the awards, and inevitably produces a public revulsion against the practice. This was so after the last war. It was hoped that the lesson had been learned and would provide the necessary restraint.

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