

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1941.

A Liberal Defeat

A Liberal Government strongly entrenched in British Columbia since 1933 was virtually defeated in Tuesday's general provincial election. The Government, returned in 1937 with 31 out of 48 seats, found itself stripped of its majority, and will go back with a following of no more than 19 or 20. The returns are not yet complete, and do not include the soldiers' vote. In any event, the result means either another election—which no one wants—or a coalition with one of the Opposition parties.

The C.C.F. captured fourteen seats, six from the Liberals, including the latter's twin-seat stronghold of Vancouver-Burrard. The Conservatives increased their strength to 12 or 13, capturing four Liberal seats but losing Victoria City which elected three followers of Premier Pattullo.

If we are to judge by the Liberal campaign, the result of the election will have federal as well as provincial repercussions. A full-page advertisement in a Vancouver paper featured this appeal: "Canadians! Be Proud of your War Effort. Canada's War Effort is Unequaled in World History by Countries of Equal Population! ... Only the Liberals can give you a Strong Government. Avoid Chaos—Keep United our War Effort—Vote Liberal!"

This appeal has a familiar ring. It might have been coined by Mr. Mackenzie King himself, or some of his publicity experts at Ottawa.

Whatever difference existed between the King Government and Premier Pattullo over the Sirois Conference fiasco, there is no evidence that it interfered with the working of the party machine. Indeed, Hon. Norman McLarty, Minister of Labor at Ottawa, was accused of taking undue advantage of his presence in British Columbia recently to give Mr. Pattullo a "leg up" in his campaign. Nor was the province by any means forgotten in the matter of war contracts. Reasons for the slump in Liberal prestige must be sought elsewhere. The war issue certainly played a part, but not exactly in the manner implied or anticipated in the advertisement above quoted.

Words In Season

Speaking at a recent ceremony at Victoria University, Mr. Lester B. Pearson, Assistant Under-Secretary for External Affairs, appealed for more action and less complacency in this country. From the outbreak of the war until a few months ago Mr. Pearson was attached to Canada House, London, and he could speak with authority on the courageous spirit shown by the British people. He went on to say that the events of the past eighteen months have completely obliterated any complacency that might have existed previously, and he contrasted its disappearance in the Motherland with its apparent capacity for survival in Canada. He had nothing but words of scorn for people here who, living more than three thousand miles from the real battle front of freedom deluded themselves with the notion that they were doing enough for the common cause by singing some verses of a patriotic song or pasting "V" placards on the windshields of their motor cars.

Mr. Pearson also deprecated the prevalence of the notion that it was not impossible for the British Commonwealth to lose the war, and pointed out that in a contest of the present kind a draw would be almost equivalent to a defeat. It is encouraging, comments an exchange, to find that a high official in one of the key departments of our Government is not infected with the spirit of complacency which seems to hold in its grip so many august personages at Ottawa.

The habit of wishful thinking, which since the beginning of the war has been all too fashionable both in Canada and Britain, is now in process of getting another body-blow from the serious reverses of the Russian armies, which have brought the Germans to the gates of Moscow, and more than ever before we are faced with the hard fact that victory over the sinister forces of the totalitarian States can be achieved only by much greater exertions on the part of the democratic nations than they have yet put forth.

Butter Price Control

The Dairy Products Board fixed minimum prices for butter in the spring but they remained the minimum for only a few days. The dairy traders soon foresaw a shortage and in May their prices went six cents above the Government minimum which has been submerged ever since. This jump in butter price immediately caused a diversion from cheese production; hence the 22 per cent. rise in butter output in September. But this diversion has not imperilled Canada's cheese deal with the United Kingdom. There will be enough cheese to meet Britain's needs, and enough butter to satisfy the domestic appetite. Dairy

farmers in the Eastern Townships, in Ontario and in the Prairie Provinces began this summer, with prospects for a large "make" of cheese. In the calendar year 1940 this country produced a total of 142,000,000 pounds, of which 102,000,000 pounds went by agreement to Britain, leaving 40,000,000 pounds for domestic consumers, which figure represents the average annual cheese-eating in Canada. Britain asked for 10,000,000 pounds more this year, the new agreement calling for the delivery of 112,000,000 pounds within the year ending March 31 next. This meant dairy farmers had to produce 10,000,000 pounds more than last year. In the early summer weeks it looked as though this would be an easy task, for weekly gradings were well ahead of those of a year ago. Then the weather-man began to get in his work. To make sure that Britain would get its cheese the Dairy Products Board issued an order providing that all cheese made after May 25 in Ontario and Quebec would be exported. The mid-summer drought made things worse, and the board has been obliged to keep its order in effect up to a few days ago. Now that it is certain the full 112,000,000 pounds of cheese for the United Kingdom is in sight the board has hinted that the order will be rescinded at an early date.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Nova Scotia Provincial election Tuesday.

Amherst was so over-doing it in pre-election war work, that an investigation from Ottawa resulted in 600 men being discharged as unnecessary.

The S. S. Prince Edward Island Car Ferry is to be converted into an oil burner. The work, in the hands of Messrs. Bruce Stewart & Co., and Messrs. Stanley, Shaw & Peardon, will be carried out without interference with her route schedule.

British Columbia is so full up with Government contracts that thousands of men are being attracted there from all over Canada. One firm is employing 21,000 men, and the auto traffic is so congested that it is necessary to stagger the meal hours to prevent chaos on the pavements.

Sir Archibald Sinclair, British Secretary of State for Air, is considering a plan to send here some of the Royal Air Force's ace bomber and fighter pilots who could be used to train and stimulate recruiting. The output of the Commonwealth Air Training Plan is 60 per cent. higher in the second quarter of this year than in the first quarter and 100 per cent. higher in the third quarter than in the first. Sir Archibald said that there is a plane available for every crew that comes over and stressed the necessity of hard work by workers in aircraft factories to produce machines for these crews.

Sir Robert Bridges, poet laureate, born this date, 1844. Originally a physician, he practised at various London hospitals before he retired in 1882. His poetry never made a popular appeal though highly appreciated by a limited cultured class. His best known publications are "The Spirit of Man," and "October and Other Poems." The work on which his nomination to the laureateship was based was his then collected poems, Poetical Works (1898-1905).

O youth, whose hope is high, Who dost to truth aspire, Whether thou live or die, O look not back nor tire.

The Canadian Trade Mission to Latin America have reached an agreement with the Brazilian steamship line, Lloyd Brasileiro National Steamship Company, for establishment of a regular steamship schedule between Rio de Janeiro and Sydney, N. S. Canada. At a meeting of the Brazilian Merchant Marine Commission and the Canadian Mission, which is headed by Trade Minister James A. MacKinnon it was decided that a regular service be established. Previously Lloyd Brasileiro vessels have made calls in Canada but only when they carried cargo for the Dominion.

Maintaining that the standard of education is unbalanced, Maj-Gen. H. F. H. Hertzberg, C. M. G., D. S. O., M. C., commandant of the Royal Military College, Kingston, urged recently that more playing field and gymnasium facilities be provided today's students "because there is too much book learning." A sound, balanced educational program, in which as much attention will be paid to moral and physical phases as is devoted to the mental angle, is required to prepare our sons and daughters to take their rightful place in the world, Gen Hertzberg urged. He complimented the province of Quebec on its legislation forbidding minor children to attend theatres. Holding that children are better off enjoying outdoor sports than sitting in crowded picture houses, he suggested that other provinces might well follow Quebec's example in this theatre legislation.

Old age is not the only rigid period of life. The most rigid of all ages is youth. Thus: "Few choices and patterns of experience characterize the young, the immature or the intellectually impoverished. Things are black or white, right or wrong, yes or no. The nuances, classifications and logical networks of the adult mind are taken on gradually." In other words, the opposite pole to old age is not always youth. When it comes to the closed mind, the fanatical mind, we are now informed that the perfect example is the young people. The trait disappears in the grown man. It may reappear in old men. Stand-pattism in old age is only a form of second childhood. Not that a person need turn pale and shrink when accused of having a closed mind, whether old or young. Some one said long ago that a closed mind is better than a mind open to every passing wind of doctrine, to every intellectual fad. Closed minds have the virtue at least of holding fast to an idea once it gets inside. But a mind may be so open that ideas go in at one ear and out at the other,

NOTES BY THE WAY

The soldier must give his country his time his labor, his endurance and perhaps all of this worth while in order that he may be of service to his fellowmen. There is something for factory workers to think over. — Chatham News.

A retiring veteran of thirty years at Columbia says that today's students are more serious than those of a generation ago. They might well be looking at the world that yesterday's graduates have made. — New York Sun.

Moscow's ostriches are scared in air raids, and the lions just don't react. But the elephants, Pioneer Pravda told its juvenile readers, are wonderful. When some incendiary bombs fell nearby, they filled their trunks with water and squirted on the bombs till they went out. — Sault Ste. Marie Star.

A pleasant tale comes from the Canadian Travel Bureau. The 14-year-old son of an Illinois woman holidaying in Canada lost a bill-fold containing \$13. It was returned by a Canadian lad through the medium of the Foreign Exchange Control Board, and the mother was so pleased that she convinced six other women that Canada was the place to spend a vacation. — Goderich Signal.

British soldiers are learning to play baseball and they are getting a taste from Canadian players who coach them for a while and then play against them. The scores in these games are not wholly representative of the play, but the interest of the Canadian players who claim many of the British soldiers can field and bat smartly haven't got to the point where they can instantly take advantage of the breaks. — Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

In his speech Hitler avoids direct reference to this country, but he points unambiguously to it in seeking to assure the Reich that the enormous effort we will make, the billions to be expended, will be without influence on the outcome of the war. That of his hearers whose memory goes back to the World War will note the ominous parallel to the assurance which the Kaiser's government gave the German people regarding the United States effort then. — Philadelphia Bulletin.

Rebellion continues to spread through the occupied countries. The Gestapo, the concentration camp, the firing squad, and all the other engines of suppression are being used to compel the demand for "collaboration" as signally the propaganda and promises failed to win it. In every suppressed state an army of liberation is being made by the tyrants themselves. Once the tyrants' power is seen crumbling these armies will be on the move. — Edmonton Bulletin.

September 13, known in the Army as "Quebec Day" is an annual reminder of one of the oldest paradoxes in military history. That date is, of course, that on which, in the year 1759, Wolfe stormed the Heights of Abraham and was killed in the act. A great deal of reckless bravery was shown on both sides in this conflict, and the curious result was that the regiment which shot Wolfe, the 28th, and was killed in the act. A great deal of reckless bravery was shown on both sides in this conflict, and the curious result was that the regiment which shot Wolfe, the 28th, and was killed in the act. — Manchester Guardian.

With a Japan which is still bent upon conquering China and establishing domination over Eastern Asia we cannot possibly co-operate. We do not want to fight Japan. We do not want to assist in the Pacific weapons and ammunition that ought to go to the more important battle-field in the Atlantic. But we will fight if Japan pushes us too far. We shall certainly not be led, pending Japan's decision on that point, into a resumption of the policy of appeasement or into a betrayal of our friends in the East. We have a point, at which we are no longer willing to buy off Japan from new excursions at the price of helping her to finish off our enemies. With new allies in the East, our position in the whole Pacific area is stronger than it was a year ago. Our eyes are better, too. We can see now that it is wiser to show our strength than to pretend that we are helpless. — New York Times.

Price Administrator Leon Goodenson recently defined "good times" in precise and correct terms relating to business activity, but "good times" go beyond the economist's conception. Production distribution, consumption of goods are not the whole of "good times" are children skipping happily to school or dancing to the hurdy-gurdy tunes. "Good times" are the days when you get off to work with a whistle in your hand or a song in your heart. They are expressed in the laughter heard above the subway rush, the good-natured jostling of a football crowd, by the friendly lamp that unafraid, waits in your front window to light your late return. "Good times" are a united and purposeful people joined in a deep and willing affection for the things of daily democratic living—and a devout determination to preserve them. "Good times" are the days when the Government is heard on the very steps of the Federal Building. "Good times" are periods of repose full of inner peace—the peace of those who have made their decision and made it on the side of right. — Christian Science Monitor.

A bilingual friend of ours from the Province of Quebec tells us that the French-Canadian people are looking for aggressive war leadership. He has been close to the French people for some years, having worked with them on various matters. He not only knows the leading French business men, but he also has a deep knowledge of the habitant. He thinks that Mr. Ernest Lapointe is way behind the people in their thinking. He believes that Mr. Lapointe could go to the people of Quebec and explain the grave peril in which Canada is today and that he could have the solid backing of the French in any exhortation he might make for a greater war effort. With Mr. Lapointe supported by the clergy, the response to their leadership would be mag-

PUBLIC FORUM

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

GIRL GUIDES' CANVAS

Sir—On Saturday of this week, the Girl Guides of Charlottetown plan on making a house to house canvas of Charlottetown for the sale of War Savings Stamps and Certificates. One year ago, they made a similar canvas and met with great success.

The War Savings Committee wish to thank the Girl Guides for their worth while work on behalf of Canada and the Empire and trust others will again be ready on Saturday to welcome the young ladies and be prepared to invest generously in War Savings Stamps.

I am, Sir, etc. E. T. HIGGS Provincial Chairman Charlottetown, Oct. 22, 1941.

Drastic And Alarming

(Montreal Gazette) The Prime Minister's announcement of wage and price controls fulfills unofficial predictions in that the measures outlined are both drastic and alarming. In at least one respect they are also distinctly alarming. So far as a price ceiling is concerned the formula is simple. As from November 17 prices of all goods have been no such direct will be pegged at the levels prevailing between September 15 and October 17, and the ceiling will also cover a number of public services. This action is timely and the only occasion for regret is that it was not taken months ago, that is to say before the average price had taken place. Mr. King offers an explanation as to why this was not done, an explanation which may be satisfying from an administrative point of view but is not beyond criticism from the standpoint of the consumer. Incidentally, the Government has taken the wise course of establishing a ceiling over all commodity prices rather than over a number of what are usually called key commodities. In this respect the Government has a decision upon a question which is still being debated in Washington and generally throughout the United States. The Government has a number of thinking and clarity of purpose in dealing with the wage problem. The Government was advised very strongly early in the war to freeze a basic wage level which was high then and still is. The advice was not taken. The adequacy of the basic wage rate was acknowledged in the famous P. C. 7440 but the Government, through the same instrument, repudiated that acknowledgment in establishing the cost-of-living bonus system. The bonus was advertised as a check upon inflation. It proved to be no such thing and could not possibly have so operated. It was a direct and positive inflation accelerator. The policy failed and largely because of that failure the action now proposed was made necessary. Instead, however, of recognizing this fact the Government takes the extraordinary course of making the cost of living bonus universally mandatory. The basic wage level is maintained, but this means little or nothing in the face of a general wage increase which has another name and smells no sweeter. The bonus is extended to cover all employment and is subject to adjustment every three months. The occasion for any such adjustment is presently obscured by the fact that the wage ceiling should prevent any further rise in the cost of living whereas the bonus itself, plus other influences which the Prime Minister has enumerated, are fairly certain to prevent any price recession. However, the adjustment is part of the announced policy. There is also, what is to be expected, special concessions in the interests of agriculture, including the wheat grower who would otherwise have been caught between the upper and the nether millstones. There is evidence that the Government has been puzzled over the effect of an obligatory cost of living bonus on firms which cannot pay it and survive. Consideration was given to this problem with the result that what are described as small firms are to receive some sort of sympathetic treatment. What are

WORDS OF CHALLENGE

A THOUGHT A DAY FOR A PEOPLE AT WAR

"Every Canadian has an individual responsibility in this hazardous conflict, where the stakes are the life and happiness of each man and his brother. The quicker the victory, the sooner will come peace and the hour of liberation for all men."—Ernest Lapointe, Minister of Justice.

small firms? The only true yardstick in a case of this kind is not the size of the business but the margin of profit, if there is a profit at all. In other words, the universal bonus order should be made applicable only to institutions and firms that can meet this substantial addition to their costs and still keep their heads above water. There are some that cannot hope to remain in business if this extra charge is put upon them, indeed the number is probably very large. Having in mind the very narrow margin of profit which war taxation has left, the position in this regard ought to be clarified. As already stated, the Government appears to be aware that rigid application of the cost of living bonus order must result in considerable business mortality. In this awareness there should be some ground for hope that a more reasonable attitude will be adopted than has been that of the official announcement. Apart from this objection, and apart from the curious official obsession in regard to the bonus, the Government's action has a great deal to commend it. We have been heading for inflation, and inflation would mean disaster.



FROM: ENDYMION As does the nightingale, uppeered high And cloistered among cool and bunched leaves— She sings but to her love, nor e'er conceives How tip-toe Night holds back her dark grey hood. Just so may love, although 'tis understood The mere commingling of passionate breath, Produce more than our searching What I know not; but who, of men, can tell That flowers would bloom, or that green fruit would swell To melting pulp, when fish would have bright mail, The earth its dower of rivers, wood and vale, The meadows runnels, runnels pebble-stones, The seed its harvest or the lute its tones, Tones ravishment, or ravishment its sweet, If human souls did never kiss and greet? —John Keats.

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Backache may be the first sign of kidney trouble. When your back aches, look to your kidneys. Don't fail to heed this warning—it is too important. Take prompt action to correct backache, or its cause. At the first sign of backache turn confidently to Dodd's Kidney Pills—for over half a century the favorite remedy for kidney ailments. 107

Dodd's Kidney Pills

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SEND OR BRING US YOUR HOGS. IT IS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE
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ISLAND SOLDIERS OVERSEAS are ordering more tobacco and many are asking especially for their old favorite
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