# THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1946


## City Council Meeting

The reports submitted at the annual meeting of the City Council last night, and particularly those of the auditors and the finance committee chairman, Coun. MacDonald, will be studied with much interest at this time.

It is certainly encouraging to note that there has been a decrease of some $63,718 in the net debt of the City during 1945, and a surplus of revenue over expenditures of some $19,222. After deducting previous deficits and adjustments since the external audit was taken six years ago, there remains a net surplus of $8,864. This would indicate that a sound financial policy has been followed in recent years. It does not necessarily mean that there is not room for improvement, but surpluses and debt reductions are signposts showing that we are moving in the right direction. The Council, and particularly the finance committee, are to be congratulated on their efforts in this regard.

Our Councillors serve without remuneration and are not infrequently subject to criticism. This sometimes irks those who receive it, but needlessly so. Often it is a sign of healthy public interest. If there were more well-informed criticism there would probably be less of the other kind. It is not criticism so much as indifference on the part of the public that is to be feared. Council meetings are rarely attended by citizens, even when important business is on. That is unfair to those whom we elect to represent our interests municipally, and who, regardless of their qualifications otherwise, are usually conscientious in their efforts.

Congratulations are also due to the Water Commissioners on their excellent report, which appears elsewhere in today's issue.

## Progress In Research

One of the factors which contributed to Canada's remarkable showing as a producer of munitions and other war products is revealed in the January issue of "Industrial Canada" which devotes space to an illustrated description of the research and control laboratories maintained by Canadian manufacturers. There is no doubt that research work carried on in the laboratories of the National Research Council, the Ontario Research Foundation and various industries throughout the country contributed vitally to Canada's war effort. Its continuance into the years of peace is important if Canada is to maintain its position as a leading industrial nation. In this number of "Industrial Canada" the extent to which Canadian industry is equipped with facilities for research work, the originating of new products, the testing of materials and the control of production is clearly shown. These laboratories and the trained workers who man them will undoubtedly be an important factor in Canada's post-war progress.

## Rural Electrification Test

Last spring it was decided to put the feasibility of Manitoba's rural electrification plans to the test by building electrical service to 1,000 farms in selected areas and extend service to 42 towns and villages. A progress report on the results of this test has now been issued by the Manitoba Power Commission.

While construction is not yet completed in the test areas, sufficient work has been done to show that the findings of the Enquiry Commission were substantially correct, that a large measure of rural electrification in the province is physically possible and should prove a financially sound undertaking, according to this progress report.

The test encountered difficulties in the form of material and labor shortages, transportation difficulties and in some instances unfavorable weather. In fact, sufficient line material was not available for the complete test and the project had to be reduced to 674 services. However, even on this limited scale certain factors became immediately apparent. For example, it became clear that among 50 per cent of farmers, electrification must compete with other essentials such as farm equipment, new cars or trucks or improvements to their buildings—while these farmers may indicate a desire for electrical service they hesitate to sign contracts because of the pressing necessity of other requirements. The test, however, disclosed that tenant farmers applied for service in encouraging numbers, and this group will not present as great a problem as anticipated.

Experience in rural electrification in the United States has emphasized that active consumer participation has a bearing on the success of these projects. Apparently that experience is being used to good advantage in Manitoba. Farmers are being offered the opportunity to take part in preliminary and construction work. Indications are that farmers may wire their own buildings. Experts in at least one instance gave instruction to young men in a test area in wiring farm buildings. Special courses in wiring and line work are being discussed. Farmers will read their own meters when the service is installed. All these active and close contacts with the electrification project gives farmers a sense of partnership and interest.

At the moment appliances for farm homes are in short supply. However, the report makes clear that educational sales promotion is necessary if farmers are to derive the full benefits of hydro service. For example, 90 per cent of farmers wanted to purchase an electric iron, whereas only 15 per cent were interested in electric ranges. Of course, very few farmers have seen electric power at work on a farm—they will probably expand its uses when it is more generally available.

The program for 1946 contemplates extension of service to 1,500 farms and 33 towns and villages. The original goal of 5,000 farms was dropped because of a shortage of materials.

A study of the Manitoba project is recommended to our own provincial authorities, if and when the plans of the Advisory Reconstruction Committee for rural electrification are put into effect.

## —EDITORIAL NOTES—

If we are to have a French Vice-Consul here, it will be merely a return to former practice discontinued about 30 years ago.

* * * *

The Mayor and City Councillors were "at home" to their friends and opponents last evening, when, evidently, "a good time was had by all."

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The tragedy at the Airport at Moncton recalls the fact that it was Airmen from there who imported similar liquor here and caused disaster. Evidently "canned heat" is too readily available at that airport.

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After Friday Halifax will be the storm-warning centre for the Maritime coast instead of Toronto. Is this the beginning of a decentralization movement on the part of the Federal Government.

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The standard of law and order must be pretty low in British Columbia when ex-service men can take possession of a 560 room hotel and defy the authorities to put them out. Either the Civic, Provincial or Federal Governments, and possibly all three, have fallen down badly on their jobs, and now there is the beginning of mob law.

* * * *

Minister of Justice St. Laurent will be about the busiest man in Ottawa for the next week or two, for he will have to sit in with the Prime Minister at the Dominion-Provincial Conference, and advise him on every move made by the respective Premiers. As Mr. St. Laurent enjoys the confidence and respect of most of his colleagues in Parliament, he will no doubt soon establish similar good relationship between himself and the Provincial delegations.

* * * *

The million pound penicillin factory being built at Speke, North England, is approaching completion. It will be the largest in the world for the production of the drug. The London *Daily Telegraph* states that the factory will be in use early in the New Year and will give employment to about three hundred people. A second large factory for the same purpose is being erected in County Durham, also in the North of England. These and other penicillin plants are expected by the United Kingdom Ministry of Supply to "meet all foreseen requirements."

* * * *

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, B.A., LL.D., President of the United States 1933-45, born this date 1882 practised law at New York 1907-10; member New York Senate 1910-13; Assistant Secretary of the Navy 1913-20; nominated for Democratic Vice-President, 1920; Governor of New York, 1929-33; elected President 1933, re-elected 1936, 1940, 1944; directed the U. S. during the critical pre-war period, and in conjuncion with Churchill and Stalin saw the war brought to a successful issue in 1945:

Our hero is a man of peace,
Preparedness he implores;
His sword within its scabbard sleeps,
But mercy, how it snores.

* * * *

"Windsor (is) a completely disorganized chaos of everything a human being can build . . . bad streets, slums, blighted areas, factories alongside of houses, no place for your children to play. . . ." This was the report last week (says *Time*) of pint-sized City Planner Eugenio Giacomo Faludi, whom Windsor had hired to present a frank opinion and a plan for improvement. The trouble with Windsor, across the river from Detroit's saw-toothed, towering skyline, is chiefly that it grew too fast (from 17,000 to 118,000 in 35 years). There are few parks, too many dingy warehouses, no zoning restrictions. Windsor decided to do something about all this a year ago, after Parliament passed a $275,000,000 National Housing Act providing partly for slum clearance and redevelopment of any Canadian city which would, among other things, produce a satisfactory long-range master plan. For a $10,000 fee and $16,500 in expenses Windsor put Planner Faludi to work. By last week Planner Faludi had spent just 47c more than his budget, and Windsor had its master plan, which is slated to cost an additional one per cent in taxation to realize $130,000.

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The Carnegie United Kingdom Trust founded by Andrew Carnegie—the Scotsman who became a millionaire steel magnate in America—to "promote the wellbeing of the British people" announces a quarter of a million pound scheme for the establishment of a Bureau of Current Affairs which will provide for the population as a whole the type of service given in wartime by the Army Bureau of Current Affairs. ABCA founded in 1941 has become a highly popular service. Platoon commanders keep men in touch with events by leading discussion groups based on ABCA bulletins which are now distributed not only to Army and Navy establishments throughout the world but also to Canadian forces. Mr. W. E. Williams who has directed ABCA from the beginning is resigning to become Director of the new Carnegie Bureau. The latter will not itself organize discussion groups but will provide service for many statutory and voluntary bodies expected to join the scheme. Press comment today stresses the value of this type of dissemination of knowledge for a healthy, democratic existence.

## *Notes By The Way*

**One obvious disadvantage of following the middle-of-the-road policy is that it gives both streams of traffic a sporting chance to hit you. — New York Sun.**

**There are millions of young humans** —do you realize it? —who have never seen a peace before. Perhaps they wonder in their innocent minds what their elders have got against war.—Vancouver Province.

**We have always believed that** exercise should be taken in moderation; sometimes we wonder whether it is not wiser to avoid exercise altogether.... Perhaps there is something to be said for preserving one's physical energy, and squandering one's mental energy, as a recipe for longevity.—Peterborough Examiner.

**At St. Dunstan's Institute for the** Blind, in London, the chairman, Sir Ian Fraser, announced recently that scientists were already working on the construction of Radar apparatus for the special use of the blind. It is understood that this apparatus will act as a substitute for sight to an extent hitherto considered impossible. — U. K. Information Service.

**The pace of reconstruction in the** Soviet Union appears to be the fastest in the world. Not only will the great Dnieper dam at Zaparozhe be restored this year, but already the half-ruined Donetz coal fields are again producing more coal than anywhere else in Europe. Of the twenty-five million people who lost their homes through the German invasion, two and a half millions already inhabit newly-built houses. — From Ottawa Citizen.

**Only by actually working on real** jobs is developed that essential attitude toward work and life. Schools cannot inculcate the loyalty to standards of quality, the respect for the work, which come from personal association with older men whose skilled hands and fund of experience alone can awaken in youth the ideals of craftsmanship. A revived system of apprenticeships is a solution for the scarcity of skilled workers. It is also a solution for the discontent and irresponsibility which are so often deplored in the young people of today.

**Naval history was made at** Southampton when Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty; Lord Cunningham of Hyndhope, First Sea Lord; and Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge, Third Sea Lord, visited the United States aircraft carrier, Enterprise, there and the Admiralty flag was hoisted in the ship, says The London Times. It was the first official visit paid by the Board of Admiralty to an American warship and the first time that the Admiralty flag has been hoisted in one, and Mrs. Alexander presented the flag to the Enterprise as a memento. —Precedent.

**Treasures from Oxford Museum** of History and Science — including a clock face belonging to Cardinal Wolsey—are missing. They are in a safe place. But the two men who knew the secret are dead. The men were Dr. R. T. Gunther, curator, and Mr. Albert Joyce, the janitor. When the war began they hid ten astrolabes (brass navigating instruments used by sailors a thousand years ago), Cardinal Wolsey's clock face, and some ancient watches. Where they hid them no one else knows. Dr. Gunther and Mr. Joyce died in 1940—and their secret went with them. —London Daily Mail.

**Culled from an English news**paper is this strange but authentic story of a little village in Somerset named Woolley. From this tiny hamlet in the lovely countryside near Bath, 13 young men went overseas to fight in the First Great War. And when it was all over they all came back. Twenty-two years passed, and 13 more lads from Woolley went forth to serve their country in the Second World War. A memorable celebration has just been observed by the village to mark the remarkable fact that these 13 men have also returned home safe and sound!

**There's an old saying that there's** nothing new under the sun, though we may be excused for doubting ever since Hiroshima. Down Texas way, in the general vicinity of San Antonio, there is being established a flying dude ranch. The Lethbridge Herald reports. A flying colonel who trained thousands of young Americans to fly during the Second Great War has bought a ranch, is building an air field on it, putting up the usual cabins for the "dudes," and inviting them to fly in and enjoy themselves. Incidentally he will operate a flying school where, no doubt, young Texas cowboys will learn to herd cows from astride an aerial mustang.

**It is only out of a sense of truth** and stern duty that I am compelled to advise the people of the Prairies that the Spring already is pushing up through the earth of the British Columbia coast. They are stirring in the earth and break the crust of Winter—the green, fleshy shafts of daffodils, the laughing yellow faces of primroses, the first chilly white snowdrops and even a venturesome violet or two. I do not expect anyone east of the Rockies to believe this in a region where the color of violets is confined to the citizen's cold nose, where the white of snowdrops flecks the the frozen ear and daffodils grow only in florists' shops at a dollar or two a dozen. I state it, therefore, only as a fact, knowing that facts are the last thing we ever believe, any of us. — By Bruce Hutchison in Winnipeg Free Press.

**Few of the 250,000 Americans** who died in World War II left instructions as to where they wanted their bodies to lie. At present they are buried in neat military cemeteries, 267 of them overseas, beneath orderly rows of white markers, says The Minneapolis Star-Journal. Many bear inscriptions crudely carved by their buddies. Inscriptions like "God Bless Bill," or "Here Lies Monty, a Good Marine." As far as final disposition of the bodies is concerned, the government has made its decision. Wishes of next of kin will be carried out and the government will pay the bill. Authorizing legislation is pending which Congress is expected to pass at an early date. It is estimated that at least 70 percent of the next of kin will request that bodies be returned to the United States for final burial. Cost of exhuming and trans-shipping may run to $200,000,000.

## PUBLIC FORUM

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

### P. E. I. FLORAL EMBLEM

Sir,—I notice that many of the flowers suggested as our Island Emblem are water plants, hence are only common in watery regions. Would it not be well to select a flower common to all parts of the Province? My suggestion is the Golden-rod, the species known as the "solidago juncea". It is most beautiful and common to the whole Island.

I am, Sir, etc.,
NATIVE.

### NO P. E. I. CANNED FISH?

Sir,—In scanning the market offerings of canned goods in a Maritime business publication, I was struck with the extract taken from the canned fish section which shows market offerings as follows:

Chicken Haddies, 1's, per doz.—None.
Clams, 1's, per dozen, $2.70 to $2.75.
Herring, 1's per doz.—None.
Lobster 1-2's per dozen—None.
Mackerel, 1's per doz.—None.
Sardines, per case—$6.65 up.

It is astounding that no canned fish produced on the Island is being offered for sale on the Canadian markets, and I understand that no sales can be made without first begging permission from some official in Halifax.

What is more astounding is the fact that while nothing produced on P. E. I. is offered for sale, two products manufactured by companies in the Bay of Fundy area are undoubtedly on the market, and at good prices. Could there be any coincidence in the fact that the Administrator of Fish and Fish Products and his assistant at Ottawa, reside and do business in this area? Surely in this democratic country no official would stoop to manipulating distribution to further his own ends. Nevertheless on the face of these offerings of canned fish, it would seem that some explanation should be forthcoming as to why our P. E. I. products are obviously eliminated from competition with kinds of canned fish produced elsewhere.

I am, Sir, etc.,
MERCHANT.

### TWO-WAR VETERANS

Sir,—We are hearing every day by means of Government propaganda over the air waves and in the press of the tremendous efforts that are being made by our Government on behalf of the People of Canada to restore to normal conditions the veterans of our Armed Forces.

There is, however, one class of veteran for whom very little is being done, we refer to the veteran of two wars, and what little legislation has been passed in his favour, namely the dual service pension order, has little to recommend it and it certainly will not meet with the approval of the majority of our citizens.

This "order", which a veteran can only take advantage of when he is in receipt of an income of less than $125. per year and has attained the age of 60 years, or is totally incapacitated through physical reasons allows the veteran $30. per month if he is single and appears to believe that a fair standard of living for a veteran of two wars is $40. a month for a single veteran and $70. a month for the married veteran, this by a Government that recently voted M.P's an increase of $2,000 per year in salary, free of income tax, over and above the $4,000 they were already being paid!

We of this organization feel that we are entitled to ask the Committee on Veterans' Affairs in the House of Commons to give the most generous consideration possible to a "submission" recently submitted to every Member of Parliament and every member of the Committee by this organization, and we might add that from the replies received from the M.P.'s, we feel assured of very strong support in the House.

It should be borne in mind that the service of these veterans to Canada and the Empire has shortened their reasonable expectancy of life owing to the exposure to battle conditions, coupled with strenuous home war service, in which in the majority of cases they were separated from their homes and families for lengthy periods and at considerable sacrifices.

It is a recognized fact that these men cannot compete on the labour market if there was one, and owing to age they are absolutely debarred from taking advantage of any of the provisions of the Veterans' Land Act including the section dealing with small holdings, so that the problem for the great majority of these veterans of two wars is one of security for the few remaining years left to them, and any "just" reward, free of any "means test", will be of a diminishing nature as, in spite of the old song, "Old Soldiers Never Die", we are losing them daily as they answer their last Roll Call.

We are, Sir, etc.
THE VETERANS OF TWO GREAT WARS
J. Claughton, Secretary,
Calgary Branch.

Replies from similar Organizations across Canada are requested by the Calgary Branch Veterans of Two Great Wars.

### HONEY OUTPUT LESS

Honey production in Canada in 1945 was only 26,035,000 pounds, about eight million pounds below the average output in the five years 1940-44. It is hoped that in 1946 production will reach over 43,000,000 pounds. Among the provinces Ontario is the largest producer with Manitoba in second place and Saskatchewan third.

## Venture In Prophecy

(Windsor Star)

Official denial has been given the report that Major-General Kurt Meyer's wife and family will come to Canada when he begins to serve his life sentence in one of our penitentiaries. As to the possibility of parole, Ottawa maintains a discreet silence.

With a full realization of the danger of making positive predictions, we venture these. Within two years after he arrives in Canada, his wife and family will be admitted to this country. It will be done as quietly as possible, so much so that not until after they have been here some time will their presence become known to the public. Further, in less than twenty years, Meyer will be free on parole, and if he wishes, he will be permitted to violate that parole by returning to Germany.

No prophet is infallable. We can be wrong about this, but only the Government can make us so. We sincerely hope it does, but we doubt it.

## Persons Commit Crimes

(Brantford Expositor)

"The idea that a State commits crime is a fiction. Crimes only are committed by persons." That completely sensible dictum, contained in the indictment of the top-ranking German leaders now on trial at Nuermberg, should be fully and irrevocably established in international law.

On the basis of that principle, Hermann Goering stands changed with crimes listed in all four sections of the indictment; Hjalmer Schacht, former president of the Reichsbank, with having aided the master conspiracy to wage aggressions; Joachim von Ribbentrop with having encouraged Japanese aggression against the U. S. and of having approved the lynching of captured Allied airmen; Alfred Rosenberg Nazi "philosopher," with having been personally responsible for atrocities on the Eastern Front; Julius Streicher with having spread "racist" propaganda which inflamed the populace; Fritz Sauckel and Albrecht Speer with having been the willing executors of Hitler's scheme to depopulate conquered nations.

When it is said that the forgoing are charged, what is meant, in effect, is that the Allied prosecutors have made out cases against them in those terms. And the indictment is not complete in any of the cases!

To some observers the procedure may seem tedious, trying and unnecessary. Against that opinion it must be clear that either the accusation and the dispositions thereof must proceed in some ordered form or the term "trial" and the word "justice" will become legal and perhaps moral mockeries.

More is being done than simply to arraign these individuals on charges made against them; the whole Nazi philosophy and the vicious system it engendered are before the bar of justice. Further, the German people, through their leaders, are on trial.

## Infantry Still "Queen"

(Christian Science Monitor)

One sobering fact which may be deduced from recently published army casualty figures for the European theatre is that history does repeat itself. These statistics reveal that the percentage of total casualties sustained by the infantry in both World Wars varied only a fraction of one percent.

In World War I the losses of infantry amounted to 75.2 percent; in World War II, 75.02 percent. Thus despite the vastly expanded role of merchanization and air power, the inescapable fact remains that the brunt of battle is still borne by the infantryman whether he slogs along on foot or drops from a glider plane.

Though armed with a multiplicity of new weapons ranging from the M-1 Garand to the latest type of tank-busting bazooka, the infantry soldier's task is still fundamentally the same as it has been since organized warfare began, namely to seek out and come to grips with his foe. No one realizes better than the infantry soldier, his dependence on adequate artillery, armored forces, and air power. Yet, time and time again positions which had been bombed and shelled to rubble could be taken only after the most desperate kind of hand-to-hand fighting.

Thus should any further accolade be necessary for these men who struggled up shell-torn beaches or through mud and snow to storm their objectives, they can claim the distinction of having sustained by far the heaviest casualties as an added justification for the infantry's proud title of the "Queen of Battles."

### FIRST AIRPLANE FLIGHT

In the first airplane flight at Kitty Hawk in 1903, Orville Wright, flew 120 feet—less than the wing-spread of a large modern airplaine.

## The Poet's Corner

### DISPERSAL

The bunting breaks at the halliard
And the Commodore's word is terse,
Terse and sweet as the ships repeat
With fluttering flags, "Disperse!"
A warm wave sighs through the convoy,
Through the discipline - frozen ranks;
The chill ungrips and the floe of ships
Crumbles along its flanks.

The motor craft that was throttled
For days to a galling nine,
Starts to careen to a good fourteen
And drifts from her ordered line.
The breathless tramp on the quarter
Drops back to an easy eight
And the tankers part from the convoy's heart
At a lumbering peacetime gait.

This is the last dispersal
(Pray God that the word is true).
The single course of a welded force
Splays out in a freedom new.
Each to his port of choosing
And each to his favored track —
The channel clear of its close-sown fear
And the perilous tide turned slack.

Each to his own broad fairway
As the bloody page is turned,
But the quiet dead and the seas ahead
Clamor the truth we learned:
The each ship lives by the other
Whatever her turn of speed,
And a free world still means the selfish will
Bent to a consort's need.

—Frederick B. Watt, Ottawa, in Harpsichord.


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