

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1945

British Agricultural Policy

In addressing the members of the Senate and House of Commons on Monday the British Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee, referred to the British agricultural policy designed, as he said, "to see that the workers on the land get a fair return in price for their efforts and that the food of the people shall be obtainable at a reasonable cost."

As a first step, the Government finds it necessary to give compulsory directions for growing sugar beet and potatoes, and exercise supervision to ensure an increase in livestock and maintenance of a large tillage acreage.

The local committees will also act as the Minister's agents in measures of control to ensure that land is properly farmed and efficiently managed.

Farmers failing in efficiency will be subject to a period of supervision in which compulsory orders may be served. In the last resort they may be disposed of, though with the right to appeal to an independent tribunal.

To eliminate price fluctuation, as occurred between the wars, the Government proposes to achieve stability by a system of fixing minimum prices—eighteen months ahead for cereals, potatoes and sugar beet, and two to four years ahead for livestock—the latter in view of advance breeding and other commitments.

The Situation in Java

Reports from Batavia indicate continued Indonesian armed resistance to the British "cleaning up" operations at Sourabaya. That operation is being pursued carefully and methodically. The Allied Commander-in-Chief, Major-General Mansergh, is concerned to keep unavoidable casualties down to the minimum, in which he has been successful.

It is pointed out in London that the operation at Sourabaya is local and punitive. Major-General Mansergh explained the motives of this action in a leaflet dropped on Sourabaya on November 9. The Indonesians at Sourabaya treacherously attacked the British forces. British personnel were killed and wounded. Interned women and children were massacred. Finally Brigadier Mallaby was foully murdered whilst trying to implement the truce, which had been broken in spite of an Indonesian undertaking.

It is worth remembering that the British forces in the Netherlands East Indies are acting on behalf of the United Nations. They are fulfilling the tasks assigned to them by the Potsdam Conference. They have been set three objectives, and three only: to disarm the Japanese, to rescue prisoners of war and internees, and to maintain law and order. The British forces are not to be deterred from pursuing these three courses, from which they are not deviating. They are not attempting to settle the political future of Indonesia.

The violence of the outbreak at Sourabaya has called for stern measures, which fall strictly within the compass of the third objective, and have been taken with reluctance. At Sourabaya, the British forces encountered a hotbed of Nationalist extremism, led by irresponsible young men intoxicated by the xenophobia virus inoculated by the Japanese. The late so-called Indonesian Government failed utterly to control these firebrands. It remains to be seen whether the new "Government" under a Sumatran lawyer, Sjahrir, reputedly a man of strong personality, will prove more successful.

Behind the independence movement in its present aggressive phase, observers more and more detect the hand of the Japanese. Evidence has accumulated that the Japanese built up a

secret organization, not only in the Netherlands East Indies but throughout South-East Asia, the aim being to stimulate and support the independence movement, not for the sake of the peoples concerned, but to create trouble for the Allies. The Japanese intention was, it is believed, that a mushroom crop of weak, independent states should grow up throughout the Far East, only to eke out a precarious existence until they—the Japanese—were ready to swallow them up. For the Japanese are confident that they will return. The Japanese have secretly provided these independence movements with arms and instilled into the more impressionable hotheads their own hatred of the West. The seed thus sown has borne fruit. It is emphasized in London that the problem is therefore to disarm and isolate the Japanese, so long as they are not repatriated, to take possession of the arms which they have distributed in defiance of the surrender terms, to bring the Terrorists among the Nationalists to book, and to treat the remainder by the application of an antidote to the Japanese poison. That antidote is to set an example of moderation and justice, coupled with firmness.

In Peace As In War

In his message for Navy Week, now being observed throughout Canada, Hon. Douglas Abbott, Minister of Naval Services, emphasizes the fact the Navy League activities have been a very definite factor in the maintenance of the war-time morale of men whose comings and goings over the great waters provided a contribution to victory so great that the war most certainly would not have been won without it. "No man can tell what the future will hold for us," he adds, "but the past has shown clearly enough how important it has been for us that the control of the sea should remain in the hands of those pledged to the maintenance of that peace which alone is our true security."

In addition to its work among naval ratings and merchant seamen, the Navy League sponsors the Royal Canadian Sea Cadets and, in co-operation with the Naval Service, sends many thousands of cadets to its summer camps. In barracks the cadets are taught many useful subjects as well as the importance of self-discipline and respect for authority—necessary training in peace as in war for the all-important responsibilities of citizenship.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The amount of newsprint required to publish Canadian daily newspapers for a year would form a continuous strip five feet wide and over one million miles long.

It is understood the Federal Government has no intention of filling the position of manager of the War Labour Board, vacant through the death of Mr. John R. MacKinnon. Consequently there will be no vacancy in Belfast district yet awhile.

"Take from the 'haves' and give to the 'have-nots,'" used to be a slogan of Socialists. But the reverse is the policy now being pursued by the British Labour Government who are urging the "have-nots" to further tighten their belts to provide exports for the "haves."

The Maritimers "in action" may be the description of local and other members of Parliament discussing public affairs at Ottawa. It is quite a change for the better to have vocal members effectively using their voices on behalf of their constituents. Better pay \$3,000 extra to have active representation than \$2,000 extra to keep their mouths shut in office.

Mr. A. R. Ross, Montreal, President of the Customs and Excise Officers Association, visited Saint John this week to discuss the matter of readjustment and re-classification of personnel with members of the N. B. and P. E. I. branch at a meeting in the Royal Hotel. It was stated that due to changing post-war conditions it was necessary the Government should readjust positions in the Civil Service.

George Gissing, English novelist of the realistic school, born this date 1857; he was a natural successor of Dickens, an appreciation of whom he wrote, and a forerunner of H. G. Wells who has followed in his footsteps depicting and condemning the conditions under which the average lower middle class citizen in a working class community, lives, moves and has his being; typical works are Demos, The Unclassed, The Nether World, New Grab Street, The Old Women; The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft, to some extent autobiographical, show Gissing in a brighter mood.

When General Crerar visits us there should be a good representation of all branches of the active forces to do him honour, for his distinguished record is something for Canadians to glory in. At the front, where he feared no foe, and was regularly on the front line visiting the hard-worked infantry, the General was looked upon as the beau ideal of Commander-in-Chief. Let us show our appreciation by giving him a rousing welcome on his visit for the purpose of saying farewell to the troops who served with him as well as under him.

Interest is gradually being aroused in civic affairs in the city now that the war is over and post-war problems have to be faced and solved. It is a matter of great satisfaction to find that young men are beginning to show enthusiasm for service in public life, prepared to make sacrifices to have things done and progress recorded in the improvement and development of the city, and through that, the Province generally. This is the time to inaugurate a real, live forward movement based on practicability. But it must be borne in mind nothing will be accomplished unless those entering the campaign are prepared to make personal sacrifices to see that the City's best interests are served.

Notes By The Way

For the first time in years none of the major theatres of war is operating. Nothing is an exacting hunt-tant shows in Java and China.

It looks like any open season for Santa Claus. But it is more than scientists to liquidate the old man.—(Ottawa Journal).

"My debts are large, my failures great, my shame secret and heavy; yet when I come to ask for my good, I quake in fear lest my prayer be granted."—Rabindranath Tagore.

Whether Hitler lives is relatively unimportant. The political-military machine he controlled has been built and he could not rebuild it. The important question is whether Hitlerism lives. In Germany there has been much disillusionment, if not repentance. But there is altogether too much evidence that large quantities of poison remain.—(Christian Science Monitor).

Domestic pigskin may become a permanent factor in the hide and leather picture. Before the war pigskin came from Europe; United States pig hides went along as by-products of the meat industry. The hide shortage during the war was developed which it is hoped will be economical in peace. The United States pigskin industry is now producing 1,000,000,000 square feet of pigskin a year, and the potential shoe uppers, wallets and purses.

Eighteen police horses from Ontario farms were recently sent to Canada for constabulary duty in the British West Indies islands of Barbados and Antigua. Of this shipment, the six horses going to Barbados averaged 15 hands, 11-1/2 inches in height and ranged in age from four to seven years; the 12 horses for Trinidad averaged 15 hands, three inches, with an age range from six to six years. Since 1933, both Trinidad and Barbados have obtained all their police horses from Canada.—C. F. R. Bulletin.

Now that the terrible urgency of food donations has ended, tributes are required to the men whose service has been too lightly regarded. In the clinics were nurses, both professional and volunteer, who endured long hours through long hours to build up the banks of life-giving fluid. They were about their work quietly, cheerfully and with efficiency, and unobtrusively that they have been too often overlooked. It is to these women that no more of our credit for the success of the blood donation system belongs.—Windsor Star.

There are many openings for chemists in Brazil where their services are required in various industries, particularly in agriculture and the oil production and refining industries. Chemists, agronomists and veterinarians have approached the government with a request that their occupations be given the same status as other liberal professions. They also request to include training and experience in the manufacture of chemical products and by-products of varying degrees of purity; analysis and assay work; the preparations of management in the chemical and chemical establishments; teaching in advanced courses of chemistry; and in chemical engineering. The following manufacturing industries are obliged to employ chemists: Manufacture of chemicals in establishments having control laboratories; manufacture of explosives, coal and oil products, vegetable and mineral oil refineries, soap factories, pulp and paper mills.—Brazilian Trade Bulletin.

"One meal a day is sufficient for anyone," says a little chickweed, a few dandelion leaves, spinach and some other vegetables and some fried fruit or honey—all uncooked.—of bread. That was seriously recom-mended by a speaker in a recent broadcast in the BBC's "The Service," a woman speaking, too, on the eighth day of a month's fast she was undertaking. She is Mrs. Moore Paiblena, doctor, dietitian, authoress and traveller, who has had a long and interesting career. She is a girl of sixteen, and she is neither still being and she is neither an aesthetic nor a crank. Here are some of her achievements. In the Caucasus on scientific work she spent almost six months on horse back. Then she piloted aircraft and later became a parachute jumper. In 1932 she crossed Russia from Engragrad to Tiflis in the Autumn rain—nearly 3,000 miles—and though for twelve days and nights she hardly slept at all she did the Russia's newspaper, motorcyclist. While travelling in the Himalayas in 1937 she came across two remarkable men living in a cave. She took them to be quite young. She learned that one was 116, the other 119. They had retired from the world, and for 30 years had lived on one meal a day and practised deep breathing.

The signs that the world is getting back to normal do multiply. The first shipment of Brazil nuts in three years has just landed in New York and it is just possible some of them will find their way into our cupboards for Christmas. The Winnipeg Free Press comments on a new York bar a couple of baseball fans got into an argument over baseball and stitches were taken to the head of one of them. In Watertown, Mass., some people at a party wondered how many seeds there were in a watermelon, so they counted them and found 1,002. In British Columbia, the forward-looking are again discussing measures to conserve the province's timber resources. Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., edged toward its accustomed role of defending timber-bears. Our neighbors to the south have turned another ancient pastime into a modern craze. This time it is bubble-blowing. The perfume manufacturers are touching new highs in esoteric labels for their concoctions. Down in New York, the Communist Party has been ordered into another session of "Marxist self-criticism." Yes, peace is breaking out all over.

A World Without Religion

By A. P. G.-E. in Montreal (Gazette)

No man can live without religion, neither can the world be without religion. But for the purpose of our discussion let us suppose for a moment that by some strange chance all the outer sciences that have sprung from beliefs were suddenly to disappear. For the vast and varied symbols of religion should vanish from the sight and memory of men; would that be the end of religion?

Let the same world be here, but with no sacred books, no confessions, no temples, no churches, no priesthoods, no holy days, no forms of worship; would there then be any such thing as religion? We may predicate of such a world that it would be a wilderness of interferences. We can think of questions that would come up about most palpable things. For example, the world we have conditioned would be full of the same bitter grinding hardships that now prevail.

How much hardship? What purpose has it? Is it a discipline or just fortuitous bad luck? Our world would still be a world of pain, for it is essential to the government of the world? Given a life of pain, is there any mental or moral benefit that can make it so easy and its burden light? How questions like these would be asked? Every form of wickedness as now would be here. Its black mark would be everywhere on human lives.

So we might go on for ever raising questions, but there would be no answers outside responses such as a presumptive reliance on the fact of nature. And the conviction would without doubt deepen in us that underneath the dimness of our bewildered and confused minds, the fires of a great reality.

But we are not left to surmise, to infer, or to speculate, as to the fact of religion. It is the direct fact of our being. It is a divinely real and positive element in the nature of man. It is a condition or accompaniment of every exercise of our moral and spiritual powers. It is not an adhesion but an original possession.

Religion is vividly real when we regard it objectively—see it on the inside as it were; when its ideals are visualized in character, character as seen and known in Christian living. The fact is that men should ever be unwilling to claim the great relief of its privileges of religion; should ever seek to rid themselves of its obligations. This last they cannot do. The obligations it binds upon one it binds upon another. They are fact bound by it. It is to hold upon their consciences that cannot be broken—that resists the utmost strain and pressure of evil desires and wicked deeds. The ship may tug and strain at the chains and hawsers that hold her; but when the pier is of iron, the hawsers many piles of twisted steel, the chains powerfully wrought links, the ship is fast. So that the base self may not fret and strain at the authority that binds them as responsible beings to the right, good and true—in a word, to God—yet shall they never be able to break so much as a link, so much as a strand of the divine attachments.

The Poet's Corner

Elephants Tonnage of instinctive Wisdom in forest Trunks like questions And legs like tree trunks

On each forehead A buxom bonhead And round each leg A jangle of bells. Deep in each brain chart of tropic Swamp and twilight Of crepered curtains.

Shamble in shoddy Finery forward And make their salaams To the tiers of people— Dummies, with a reflex Muscle of laughter When they see the mountains Come Mahomet. Efficiency of earnest. Obstinate of darkness.

When You're Worn Out and Worried

and drug around each day, unable to do the work—cranky with nerves—irritable, miserable, don't know it on 'em. Your kidneys may be out of order—for impurities and poisons, backache, disturbed rest, frequently follow. To help your kidneys working properly—use Doan's Kidney Pills—and see for yourself if that "old" feeling is not soon replaced by clean-headed energy and pep. Get one Doan's Kidney Pills today.

We work made to obey and serve God; we can never cast off from Him. The world of men and women cannot live and prosper without religion. Religion gives to the world its meaning and purpose and when men ignore it or are indifferent to it they miss the transforming power by which the world can become the paradise in which rational beings can peacefully reside.

287 WIN MEDALS LONDON.—(CP)—Thirty-two women are named in the latest list of Imperial Service Medal awards to retiring members of the Post Office staff. Of a total of 287 there are 22 medallists in Scotland and 18 in Wales; 16 are in Manchester and seven in both Birmingham and Liverpool. London's total is 91.

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NOTICE, CIVIC TAX APPEALS

The Board of Appeal from Civic assessments and valuations will meet on Monday, November 26th, 1945, at 9:30 A.M. in the Court Room in the City Building in Charlottetown, to hear all appeals from Supplementary Assessments.

Charlottetown, November 10th, 1945. J. A. FULLERTON, City Clerk.

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