

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1943

Critical Food Situation

Discussing editorially the importance of increasing farm production and the difficulty of achieving this goal under present conditions, the Financial Post says:

For the present situation many unfavorable factors are to blame. One of them, the weather, we cannot control, but the others, a continuing shortage of labor and farm machinery, we could have controlled had the situation been faced realistically several months ago.

Despite the fact that producing food is just as vital as the building of tanks or the training of soldiers, the agricultural industry which grows our food has received only secondary consideration with regard to labor and machinery. Fully 25 per cent of its labor has been diverted to the armed forces and the war plants, and the output of farm machinery, the machine tools of the food front, has been drastically reduced.

The situation is going to get much worse because it can possibly get any better, and there can be no future improvement unless prompt remedial measures are adopted. It is too late to do anything about increasing livestock feed production this year. That must wait for next spring's seeding. But more labor and farm machinery can be made available now to ensure best possible use of our present feed supplies and livestock holdings and to make the necessary fall and winter preparations for a much larger crop acreage next year.

Archaeologists in Luck

Archaeologists in England are making hay while the blitz lasts. In other words they are eagerly seizing the literally "heaven sent" chance of excavating for Roman and Ancient British souvenirs on those bombed London sites now cleared of debris.

This exploratory work centres mainly on sites somewhere east of Blackfriars in what Londoners know as "the City", that being the oldest part of the huge wilderness of bricks and mortar known as London. They have staged a very attractive exhibition of such war-time souvenirs at the London Museum and called it "The Present Discovers the Past." An astonishing fact about these ancient relics of perhaps ten centuries or more ago is their modernity. For example, there is found to be little if any difference between the method in which a modern dance floor is laid and that of an Iron Age floor.

Even the foundations of a Roman granary bear striking resemblance to those of a twentieth-century ferro-concrete building. The Roman had very similar ideas about road-making and road-blocks to those of modern engineers, and the bayonet, which our fighting forces are using to such purpose now, is a direct descendant of an Iron Age weapon.

Three Cannie Lawyers

Here is the story of the three cannie lawyers, all members of a prominent legal firm to which brief reference was made in these columns during the Ontario election campaign.

The senior partner is Mr. Daniel Webster Lang, K. C. in 1934, and again in 1937. Mr. Lang, who is a Liberal, was a candidate for the provincial Legislature in the constituency of South York. He was defeated on both occasions, but has not exactly retired from politics. At present, he is treasurer of the Liberal party.

Next in the firm, in order of seniority, is Mr. Daniel Roland Michener, who was Rhodes scholar from Alberta some 20 years ago or more and who, while overseas, was called to the bar in the Middle Temple. Returning to Canada, Mr. Michener took up the practice of law in Ontario and presently became Mr. Lang's partner. He is a Conservative and, in the recent election, was the unsuccessful candidate in the Toronto constituency of St. Davids.

A third member of the firm of Lang and Michener is Mr. E. B. Jolliffe, who was born in China, son of a United Church missionary and who went to Oxford as a Rhodes scholar. Mr. Jolliffe is leader of the C. C. F. party in Ontario and on August 4 was elected member for South York the very constituency which his senior partner failed to carry on two occasions.

Shangri-La Again

When reporters asked President Roosevelt as to the whereabouts of the base from which U. S. planes last year bombed Tokyo, he told them, "Shangri-La." That was his way of refusing information. Everybody—or nearly everybody—thought his allusion was to that remote Tibetan town situated on a cliffside by James Hilton in his famous book "Lost Horizon." It seems altogether probable that President Roosevelt had that in mind.

But—and this is the strange truth of the matter—there really is a Shangri-La, and has

been for a long time. And, like the one in Hilton's book, it is somewhere in Central Asia! This fact is brought to light in a letter to The New York Times from William L. Richard of New York City.

"The name of Shan G'ri La, as it should be written," says he, "is as old as the hills. In Tibetan-Chinese vernacular it has existed in Tangut and Czechuan Province, China, as the designation of a secret mountain trail leading from the vicinity of Batang, Tibet, to Lhasa, the capital, since A.D. 730 at least." Mr. Richard goes further to recount that as recently as 1912 the Shan G'ri La Buddhist monastery was fortified by the Tibetans and besieged by the Chinese under General Chao Erh Fung, Governor of Szechuan Province. The retreating Tibetans blew up the monastery, and its sacred books, the Kanjur and the Tanjur, were burned.

Oriental dictionaries give Shan as meaning "mountain" G'ri as "secret", and La "a pass." This description aptly fits the place in Mr. Hilton's story. Perhaps he got it out of the dictionary. In any case, real people named real places similarly long before dictionaries were compiled.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Farmers are so busy on the land these days, Premier Jones on the advice of Prime Minister King thinks it an opportune time to "put one over" on them.

Sir Astley Paston Cooper, English surgeon, born this date 1768; professor of comparative anatomy to the Royal College of Surgeons; president of the College; performed the famous operation of tying the abdominal aorta for aneurism in 1817; author of several noteworthy surgical and anatomical works, the best of which are "Hernia" and "Fractures of the Joints."

In times past, when Kings and other autocrats were in grave danger of being poisoned off by their own retainers, they used first to throw portions of their meals to the dogs before themselves eating—hence the expression "trying it out on the dog." This is evidently what Mackenzie King is doing in his own case. He threw Ontario to the dogs, now he is throwing P. E. I. to a similar fate; next it will be Saskatchewan's turn, and by then he will have to risk his own fate.

In the "depth charge" war savings drive just completed, New Brunswick maintained its notable record of achievement in patriotic campaigns. The people of the province were asked to buy enough war savings certificates to pay for 600 depth charges at \$90 each, or a total of \$54,000. The actual purchases amounted to \$66,300—the equivalent of 1,070 depth charges with which to blast Axis submarines.

The direction of the new Notre Dame College, Montreal, will be entrusted to Sister Saint George, B. A., B. Ed., Ph.D., former dean of Notre Dame College, Ottawa. The new dean is sister to His Excellency Mgr. MacGuigan, Archbishop of Toronto. Before going to Ottawa Sister Saint George was connected with Notre Dame College, Staten Island, where she completed her work for her Ph.D. in philosophy at Fordham University. Sister Saint George is already known in Montreal, since she taught for several years at Villa Maria Convent and some time previously had been on the staff of St. Anthony's Academy.

Where do we stand as regards the electrifying of the farm? In the swing toward power-farming the agriculturists of New Brunswick are relying upon electricity to ease their work in the barn and the dairy, while gasoline engines are utilized in the heavier work of the fields (says the Telegraph-Journal). Some other provinces have advanced further than this, but electricity has only been available in N. B. for a comparatively few years and there are still some farming communities not wholly served in this respect.

The use of this power is much on the increase and eventually every farmer will be in a position to adapt it to his needs. Now that shortage of labor is hindering production in the rural districts the desire for this kind of power and the machines operated by it is on the increase. Particularly this is true in the matter of milking. Few good milkers are available now and the dairy man must arrange to have machines do this work. In milking cows by this machine, the farm help simply turns on the switch, places the milking machine in position and slides the suction cups on the teats. It is said that the process is quicker than by the hand milker. There are many other ways in which the farmer can use electricity. Besides lighting, it will recharge his car, truck and tractor batteries. The future of farming will depend greatly upon electricity and as soon as the war ends it is believed electric services will be extended and improved so that everyone in New Brunswick may benefit.

This is how the Maritimes are libelled by that almost impossible outfit, the King Government, according to Saint John Telegraph Journal: "With the exception of a few people, such as those newly-arrived in this part of Canada, those in the theatre gasped with dismay. Then, as at a huge joke, they laughed—uproariously. And several citizens immediately voiced strongly indignant criticisms. Such was the reception of Saint John audiences of the latest edition, shown in the Capitol Theatre this week, of the series of a weekly moving picture short feature produced under the title of March of Time. A brief glimpse of a Halifax street was the one redeeming aspect of the film—redeeming in that it may save those who live outside the three eastern-most provinces from the almost certain impression that the Maritimes consisted of vast wastes of land as yet unexplored, dotted here and there by dying villages of 'natives' who, because they had long been out of touch with the rest of Canada, still were fast in the shackles of old-fashioned customs. It appeared to the Saint John audiences as though the producers of the March of Time film must have sought out the most out-of-the-way places in the Maritimes in order to present this picture of backwardness and poverty. And, whether by accident or design, present the three provinces in the most unfavorable light possible."

Notes By The Way

Edmonton had a "cray" hat contest. And the winner naturally didn't know she was playing — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

Biblical students will remember Acts xxviii, 12: "And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three days."—Vancouver Province.

Lady Louis Mounbatten has become a trustee of the Kinsmen Trust to provide scholarships and educational facilities for Canadian and U. S. boys and girls after the war. —Fredericton Gleaser.

Frank Dorman, worker in a war plant, is credited with a "perfect record. His job is to file small pieces of machinery preparatory to final grinding and polishing, and in the two months he's been working not a single faulty part has been returned to him. —P. S. He's blind. —Cambridge, Mass., Recorder.

In years to come when the oil resources of the continent approach the depletion point, the farmers of Canada and the United States may provide the fuel for internal combustion engines. If and when this stage arrives, agriculture will find an almost insatiable market for its products. —Calgary Herald.

Reporter: "And how did you start your career, sir?" Financier: "I had nothing to do so I rented a empty room and put up a sign 'Bank'. A man dropped in and made a deposit of \$250. The next day another man dropped in and deposited \$300. And here I am with a confidence man's trust a point that I put in \$50 of my own money." —Atlantic Two Bells.

It is reported that many men are coming back to the wearing of hats. In recent years there has been a strong vogue in the way of going bareheaded about the streets of our cities. At the peak of the vogue many young fellows could be seen hatless in the death of Winter and even in cities of the North where the cold is a frightful and unmitigated. —Fort William Times-Journal.

The "Let's Get It Over in a Hurry" is a decided right for the actual fighting but that's not the beginning of our problem. People ask me when we shall win this war and I reply that I shall never know. I shall not know whether we have won because until we have had at least two generations of peace will the world know whether we've attained our desired end. —Arthur Hays Sulzberger, publisher of The New York Times.

Good news for prisoners of war is contained in the announcement that under changed regulations tobacco and cigarettes may be sent to them by friends and relatives through tobacco companies, just as smokers are sent independently to men overseas. While there have been few if any complaints from prisoners regarding tobacco and cigaret supplies, their margin of safety could not have been great, and anything that can supplement Red Cross and other gifts will help shorten the days remaining before liberation. —Windsor Star.

Even the experienced and intelligent are not always free from the weakness of false quotation. In Collier's George Creel remarks of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's "day" that it would in a Presidential campaign "be as open to derisive attack as Herbert Hoover's 'chicken in every pot.' But Hoover never said it! He did speak of the likelihood of two cars in every garage, which was a perfectly sane probability at the time. That saying reminded somebody of the expressed desire of Henry of Navarre to have a chicken in every peasant's pot every Sunday. In no time the chicken in every pot was pinned on Mr. Hoover, although the real author had been dead more than three centuries. New York Sun.

Pigs are not naturally dirty. In nature they normally live in the neighborhood of swamp and river banks, or in damp woods. They have very few of the usual mechanisms of sweat glands for maintaining a constant body temperature. They are poor by comparison with other mammals in that they do not naturally wallow in mud, which soon dries in a hard cake in their skin. This prevents the rays of the sun from scorching the skin and it also introduces an effect similar to the evaporation of perspiration, which is effective in regulating temperature. If pigs are kept in a small confined sty, which is not maintained in a clean condition, they will in hot weather wallow in anything they can find. Given suitable surroundings, they are, however, from a sanitary standpoint of view, more cleanly by instinct than the other farm animals, as may be seen by observation. —Notes and Queries.

To prevent Hollanders from listening to Allied broadcasts, British authorities ordered that all privately-owned radio sets be turned in. Severe penalties were imposed for failure to comply. The story was in earnest because they said "radios are a strong and dangerous weapon in the hands of the Dutch." The net result was that the weak and the compliant, who gave up their radios, cannot be reached by the Nazis over the air. The strong, the clever, the defiant, the unimpaired, still listen to London. —Max Blokzill Dutch Nazi commentator, complains that the number of Hollanders listening illegally to Allied broadcasts is "several times as large" as the number tuned in to him and his masters. It's hard to keep a brave people down. —Montreal Herald.

A valuable work in child training is being launched in the nature lore program that is being carried on under the auspices of the Windsor Playgrounds Association. Under it children will be taught not only to observe the beauty of nature's gifts but also to take an interest in the protection of such things as park trees and shrubbery, Victory Gardens, and wild life. Nothing, of course, can take the place of home training, and it is not intended that this should. It can however, supplement that phase of education, and there never has been a greater need for it than at present when vandalism, with its bad example to boys and girls, is all too common. By teaching children to protect things that are valuable, or merely beautiful, much can be done to offset the trend to thoughtlessness that already has made its appearance, and will go to extremes if unchecked. —Windsor Star.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of any subject of current interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily concur with the opinions of correspondents.

DO WE CARE FOR OUR CHILDREN?

Sir,—I would like to call the following fact to the attention of all parents who are interested in the proper development of their children. This war period through which we are passing makes very difficult the normal development of children and adolescents. Owing to duty overseas many are deprived of the companionship and guidance of their fathers, and the war and the atmosphere of war has a very definite effect upon our youth.

The Canadian National Committee for Mental Hygiene is sending to all principal cities across Canada Dr. S. L. Laycock, director of their Division on Education and Mental Health, to address parents, school teachers, nurses and all who are interested in the development of children and adolescents.

Dr. Laycock is Professor of Education and Psychology at the University of Saskatchewan, and is an outstanding man in his profession. He is also a veteran of the First Great War. He is to be in Charlottetown on the 31st of August, when he will address a public meeting held under the auspices of the Royal Edward Chapter, I.O.E.F. He has a message for parents of children who are normal, and children who deviate markedly from the average, either physically or mentally.

Charlottetown is fortunate in having the opportunity of hearing this man and for the benefit of our Province it is to be hoped that many of our citizens will be present when he speaks to us on August 31st. The place of the meeting will be announced later. I am, Sir, etc.

JANIE GORDON, Regent of the "Royal Edward" Chapter, Imperial Order, Daughters of the Empire.

The Poet's Corner

FROM, AUGUST, 1914

If there be any life beyond the grave, I must be near the men and things I love.

Some cover of quick suggestion how to save, Touching the living soul as from above.

An influence from the Earth from those dead hearts So passionate, so deep, so truly kind.

That in the living child the spirit starts, Feeling companionship still, not left behind.

Surely above these fields a spirit breathes, A sense of many watchers uttering their prayer.

Of the lone Downland with the forlorn woods Loved to the death, instinctively dear.

—John Masenfeld.

War—25 Years Ago Today

AUGUST 23, 1918—British advanced on 30-mile front and won a footing on the Thiepval Ridge as Australians captured Beaumont-Hamel and Chuignes. French under Gen. Mangin seized the line of the Oise and the Ailette. British bombed Frankfurt and Cologne.

On the Job

When there's no chance to smoke, no time to be lighting matches—make today's cigarettes, too! Never mind! Just chew your friendly chew and carry on!

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We must keep these Freedoms

War, with its restrictions, shortages and privations and above all its tragic sacrifices, must not be allowed to destroy the confidence of free people in each other and in their way of life.

Freedom of the Individual and Freedom of Enterprise mean freedom for each of us—to plan—to trade—to build for the future—to accept responsibility, and to live and work together as free men and good citizens.

It is under these freedoms, the most cherished treasures of free people, that sound and lasting banking relationships have been established. And, the basic reason for these relationships is that almost every citizen has day-to-day need of banking service in one form or another.

Our endeavour is to make each branch of this Bank a place where men and women may freely come with their banking problems and receive from trained and experienced people, helpful and practical co-operation and advice.

Our Managers will be glad to discuss with you, your war-time problems and post-war plans.

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Amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Act

Notice to Interested Employers and Employees

AT ITS 1943 Session, the Parliament of Canada amended the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1940. The effect of these amendments is to require that additional workers be covered under unemployment insurance.

On and after September 1st, 1943, employers must make contributions in respect of the following employees:

(1) ALL PERSONS engaged in employment hitherto insurable, regardless of the amount of earnings, who may be paid on an hourly rate, on a daily rate, on a weekly rate, or a piece rate (including a mileage rate).

(2) ALL EMPLOYEES paid on a monthly or annual salary basis, whose salary, including any cost of living bonus which may be received, does not exceed \$2,400 a year.

All employees, as above described, must pay their contributions as required by law.

The combined contribution for each employee earning \$26 or more a week will be in Class 7—63c a week.

To Employers: Obtain unemployment insurance books from the nearest local office of the Unemployment Insurance Commission as soon as possible, for employees above described who will become insurable on September 1st, 1943.

To Employees: It is in your interest to see that your employer makes contributions on your behalf from September 1st, 1943, if you become insurable through this Amendment.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION

HUMPHREY MITCHELL Minister of Labour

L. J. TROTTER, Chairman R. J. TALLON, Commissioner ALLAN M. MITCHELL, Commissioner

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G. F. Hutcheson AND SON

F. G. HUTCHESON G. F. HUTCHESON

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FIGHT