

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1941.

Conference Ends Ingloriously

What was to have been the greatest Dominion-Provincial conference in Canada's history opened at Ottawa on Tuesday morning in a fanfare of publicity, scheduled to "re-write Confederation" and bring harmony out of discord in our financial relations.

Premier King would have done well to have heeded the advice given him in January, 1937, by the then Opposition leader, Mr. Bennett. That was after several unsuccessful attempts had been made by the King Government to hold Dominion-Provincial conferences on the B.N.A. Act.

Prime Minister King conceded that a convention such as Mr. Bennett advised would "perhaps be the best procedure." But past experience had "illustrated the difficulty of getting any co-operation from the provinces to amend the constitution."

Then, as now, it was with Liberal conferences that the Prime Minister had to deal. Sad to reflect on the inattention paid by even astute politicians to the lessons of experience!

Mr. King has now to confess that if he believed that this week's conference on the Sirois report would have had such unfortunate consequences, "the invitations would never have been sent."

Mr. King, with paternal affection, says that it also "provided an opportunity for the Provinces to express their attitude towards the war." But inasmuch as all the Provinces have already, and repeatedly, expressed their attitude towards the war, and even complained of the tardiness of the efforts of Mr. King and his government in that connection, this will be small consolation to our taxpayers.

Banker Urges Caution, Thrift

Very sound counsel is given in the annual address delivered by Mr. Charles A. Roy, President of the Provincial Bank of Canada, at the annual meeting of shareholders, says the Montreal Gazette. The Bank, as disclosed in the review by the General Manager, Mr. J. U. Boyer, has had a satisfactory year, its liquid position is strong and the balance sheet affords evidence of the contribution made by the Bank and its depositors to the financial war effort of the Dominion.

dividuals as well as corporations, but he very wisely and very properly gives expression to the right of the taxpayer to assume that all governments will eliminate waste and postpone all expenditures other than those of an urgent nature. "Such a policy," he says, "would go a long way toward inducing the people to lend a full measure of co-operation by saving to pay their taxes promptly, and even to change their mode of living to save more money to buy War Bonds and War Savings Certificates."

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is quite evident that Premier Campbell had all the time "an open mind" in favour of the Sirois report.

Recent weather recalls boyhood days when you walked four miles home from school, worked till dark splitting wood, milking cows and shovelling snow, and didn't feel that you were being exploited by the privileged classes.

The final figures showing the number of Home Improvement Loans indicate that 364, representing \$107,582.44, were granted for Charlottetown. This is modest compared with other municipalities. In Kirkland Lake, Ont., 1,623 home owners borrowed the tidy sum of \$1,231,011.67, and the total population is only between 5,000 and 10,000, at most, 2,000 homes.

Mr. H. H. Hannon, Toronto, did not mince matters when he attended the London (Ont.) conference of farmers, etc., addressed by Hon. Mr. Gardiner. He declared "Canada is letting her farmers down and there is a deep-seated, country-wide conviction that the manner in which the federal Department of Agriculture is being handled is largely to blame."

The Premier approves of a supervisory commission on Provincial budgets. Most people do, provided it were possible the personnel would be independent of politics. But where would this, or any other province find itself were there Conservative local governments and Liberal Federal Government? Can we ever forget Prime Minister King's declaration that so long as he had any say in the matter "not a cent" would be given to a non-Liberal provincial government?

Edward Gibbon, historian, died this date, 1794. His masterpiece "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," took from 1764 to 1782 to complete. Later writers have shown that his treatment of the Byzantine Period of the empire was inadequate, and most modern critics disagree with the part which Christianity, according to Gibbon, played in bringing about the downfall. His style is stately and in keeping with the subject, and the historical panorama painted with a firm hand.

Notification has been issued by the United States Postal Administration to the effect that on and after the 2nd January, 1941, Money Orders issued in the United States for payment in Canada will be sold at a discount of 12%. For a Money Order issued in the United States for payment in Canada for \$1.00 (Canadian money) the remitter in the United States will be charged 88 cents (United States money). Money Orders issued in the United States for payment in Canada are drawn in Canadian funds, and can, therefore, only be paid for their face value in Canadian money.

Seeing the funny side is an asset in the humdrum work of the courts. "The flower of gratitude does blossom, but seldom I found out in 20 years as a Member of Parliament," said Chief Justice Paul Mercier of the Circuit Court Montreal when he had to deal with an action for the pressing and repairing of clothes. "It is like having a hunting dog. You give him a good steak when you have it; when you have no steak the dog bites you." The plaintiff was a man named Mr. Lavoie, who sued Mr. A. Bellemare, a barber, for \$29 for suits pressed and repaired. Mr. Bellemare had control of patronage in 1938 and 1939 in the East End, as His Lordship commented, and got a job at the botanical gardens for Mr. Lavoie. While Mr. Lavoie was working there, he went into Mr. Bellemare's barber shop and suggested to the barber that he must have some suits to press from time to time. Mr. Bellemare agreed, and sent his clothes to him from April 25, 1938, to February, 1939, when Mr. Lavoie lost his job at the gardens. He then sued Mr. Bellemare. Mr. Bellemare said that he had offered to pay Mr. Lavoie at different times, but the latter had told him not to bother, that it would be all right, and he, Bellemare, had come to the conclusion that Lavoie was grateful to him for getting him the job at the gardens. It was then His Lordship gave vent to his feelings as to gratitude. Mr. Lavoie admitted he had no licence as a public valet. "I will give a judgment in equity in this case," said the judge. "You had \$75 costs for your lawyer. That is pressing you, a chance to press flowers when you were at the gardens, Mr. Lavoie. Judgment is for \$5 and your lawyer."

NOTES BY THE WAY

It is probably futurist speculation to inquire what Hitler would do if Italy asked for a negotiated peace; what the Italians themselves, reverting to the king as the head of their government, would do to Mussolini if peace were proposed, and whether the British would want to come to terms with Mussolini or would prefer to keep on to Mussolini as a Nazi liability. — Chicago Tribune.

Mary was having a bath prior to dressing to go out for dinner. Suddenly the floor tilted and the bath slid from the back of the house down into the street. In her terror she caught on to the side and landed right on top of a heap of debris. "I was too dazed to know who brought the blanket—but I hope I never see him again!" she said. — London Free Press.

In a "total" war such as we are now forced to conduct, mothers and children are in the front line, through annual bombing or through economic straits and pressure of evilly they suffer. Our American friends are kind, generous, warm-hearted. Their instinctive urge to relieve suffering does them credit. But war is what the own soldier, Sherman, said it was, and the best way to terminate suffering is to end the war as quickly as possible. The British blockade is sure way to defeat the enemy, and must be maintained for the sake of those who hope to live in Europe after the war in peace and in freedom. — London Free Press.

On the testimony of the Minister of Finance—who should know better?—New Zealand is experiencing the almost inevitable result of financing public undertakings by the creation of bank credit. Any such operation should lead to an all-round increase in commercial and industrial activity. It may do so if the device is judiciously used at a time when opportunity is being missed, and there is a dearth of credit for private operations. If these conditions are absent, the credits very shortly appear as swollen bank deposits. The British blockade is a sure way to defeat the enemy, and must be maintained for the sake of those who hope to live in Europe after the war in peace and in freedom. — London Free Press.

At present the American public is roughly divided into three groups—those who want the United States to declare war, those who want aid sent to Britain short of war, and those who do not see the sense in it. The first group is the largest. All three groups can readily unite in a program of utmost help to Canada, whether in equipment or in ships or in money. The ultra-nationalists agree to defend the Monroe Doctrine, and Canada is part of the doctrine. Many of them approve of the joint defence measures. It is evident that in joint-defence undertakings it is to the advantage of one member to have the other member strong. So these changes have already been made in the Neutrality Act so as to exempt Canada from its provisions. On the grounds that the American response to the call for aid to Canada, although a Dominion is also an American republic, the dauntless effort of the Canadians deserves not merely applause but also substantial support. — Buffalo News.

It would doubtless take a ponderous volume to exhaust all the issues of a domestic and foreign law raised by the suggestion that the United States make the refugee foreign-flag shipping available to the British. If the question is not whether the United States should wholly new in the long history of neutrality, it is at least unusual; there is much in the books about the neutral shipping business, but nothing about neutrals being belligerent ships. Most of the ships in question, however, are not admittedly belligerent. It is estimated that the United States has 100 vessels in American ports, totaling from 500,000 to 750,000 tons. Only two of them, however, are German and only twenty-seven Italian. Many of the fifty-seven under the Danish flag belong to "German-occupied" countries, the occupation of which the United States has not recognized. The rest belong to France, which in the German's own theory is still an independent nation. The owners of some of them are said to be anxious to sell them. In such cases where ships of the occupied countries or of France were concerned, would the Germans have any right whatever to intervene? Doubtless they would not take the trouble, having more direct and brutal methods of applying the pressure at home. But could they object on the grounds that the United States expropriated the ships, whether the owners wished to sell or not? The Mexican oil case is a precedent. The United States admitted rights of expropriation, where proper payments is made. One still has not reached the international law of neutrality, which could only be applied to the United States had acquired the ships; certainly one has not approached any of these "acts of war" about which the Nazi spokesmen talked so fearfully. — New York Herald Tribune.

Two of the most hopeful true stories we have ever read have come from the last two naturalization courts held in Halleybury. One was that of a man who told the judge that it was his children who are attending public school in Kirkland Lake, who brought home to him the importance of being a Canadian citizen, and in giving them the same privilege, the other was that of a man, also from Kirkland Lake, whose papers had been withheld at a previous court on account of his poor knowledge of English. This man attended the English class for New Canadians at the Collegiate night school, and at a recent passed his second test with flying colors, and is now one of us. — Kirkland Lake News.

According to the Observator Times of Oct. 31, the Park audience at which some Italian officers were blessed was a general public audience at which all sorts of Catholics were also present, and the usual general benediction was imparted. We trust the news agencies working in Rome will in future be careful not to flash round the world messages which, in the momentary news value merely because they convey an incorrect, and accordingly arresting, idea. — London Tablet.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

GREEK FUND NEGLECTED

Sir.—It appears to me there is one fund that has not received the support of our people that it deserves, namely the Greek War Relief Fund. It is quite apparent to any thoughtful person, that the courage and initiative of the Greek people has accomplished a great feat. If we possibly can, we should, in some small way, show our appreciation for what they have done. There does not seem to be any committees appointed to carry on this work. The writer, with a number of others that I have spoken to, has not been able to find any support towards this fund, and I cannot help but think that the Red Cross, Carry On Canada Corps, C.E.S.L., and the various churches could very well move in the matter and see what could be accomplished before the 25th of this month, at which time the various churches of the province is concerned.

Making inquiries at the Royal Bank of Canada, I have been told their home bank if they have present time fifty-one dollars (\$51.00) contributed to this worthy fund, and the City Government has contributed to support many classes as far as the province is concerned. I am hoping that there will be some united action taken by the people of the Province and that we should have the support of the province that has such that they could dispose of, should make a contribution of them to the proper authorities when the committees are organized. Hoping that something can be done, I am, sir, etc.

W. H. DENNIS, Minister of Agriculture.

SURPLUS TUBERS AS FEED

Sir.—Mr. James J. Hanns, who is in the employ of the Swift Canadian Company, Moncton, N.B., who has been engaged by said company for several years, dropped into the office and asked me if it were true that there was a large quantity of potatoes on the Island for which there was no profitable sale at the present time. He said that he had such was the case; and he asked why it is the people do not feed the potatoes to their cattle. He went on to say that in his experience, in buying cattle throughout the country, he found in many cases where cattle were fed large quantities of potatoes, it is excellent beef, white in color, texture good, but the meat is a little soft, so that it would be better to feed with the potatoes, a portion of cracked grain. He told me that the cattle are started with about a peck of potatoes a day, which is increased to one-half bushel, and in many cases with large animals, the quantity is increased up to one bushel per day. Under this condition of feeding, the cattle require very little roughage, such as hay and with cattle receiving about six quarts of crushed barley meal or oats a day, there are wonderful gains made, and, with Mr. Hanns' experience over the number of years that he has been engaged with the above company, he had no hesitation in recommending the feeding of potatoes. He sighted the case of one farmer in the province, who is carrying over 40 head of cattle and a large portion of feed for these cattle consisted of potatoes. I am just passing on to the farmers of the country the opinion of Mr. Hanns, with the hope that it would be profitable to feed some of the surplus potatoes that are on hand. Mr. Hanns also mentioned the fact that the price of beef cattle was now very strong, and indications were that in the future beef cattle would be in strong demand. I would be glad to hear the opinion of the farmers throughout the province in regard to Mr. Hanns' proposition. I am, sir, etc.

W. H. DENNIS, Minister of Agriculture.

SHOWS FARMERS HOW

DERBY, England.—(CP)—Farmers refused to tackle a 1,000-acre tract of land lying idle here, so the Derbyshire war agricultural committee has put under cultivation. The committee has put under cultivation a 1,000-acre tract of land lying idle here, so the Derbyshire war agricultural committee has put under cultivation. The committee has put under cultivation a 1,000-acre tract of land lying idle here, so the Derbyshire war agricultural committee has put under cultivation.

DODDS KIDNEY PILLS. TREATMENT OF BACKACHE, RHEUMATISM, GRAVEL, BRUISES, BURNED TROUBLES, AND ALL THE PAINFUL AFFECTIONS ABOUT THE KIDNEYS.

Round Trip BARGAIN FARES TO SUMMERSIDE. FRIDAY, JANUARY 24th & SATURDAY, JANUARY 25th. Mon., January 27, 1941. \$1.20. From CHARLOTTETOWN Proportionately Low Fares from other stations. Children of Five and under Twelve years of age HALF FARE. Tickets Good in DAY COACHES ONLY. For Further Information Consult any Ticket Agent. CANADIAN NATIONAL TO EVERYWHERE IN CANADA.

Dr. Manion's Appeal

In Letter to Globe and Mail To the Editor of The Globe and Mail: About two months ago I began a series of letters to Irish, American and Canadian journals with the object of having men of Southern Irish-Catholic origin impress upon the people and Government of Eire that the vast majority of their relations and friends on the American continent are solidly behind Britain in this war for freedom against the evil threat of Hitler. My considered opinion was, that if anything could open the ports of Eire to Britain for defence against the dictators it would be the pressure of this kind from the millions of Southern Irish extraction in Canada and the United States. By personal response to myself, and by public statements recently made by prominent Irish clerics and laymen, I am convinced that leadership is all that is needed to bring an overwhelming support to the idea, but to be effective this action must be immediate. A few days ago I wrote again to the New York Herald Tribune suggesting American and Canadian Irish-Catholic organization for the purpose outlined. I now suggest this same organization to my fellow Canadians, impressing the urgency of speed upon them. May I solicit the support of the Canadian newspapers for the idea, assuring them at the same time that my sole object is to help British whose people are nobly fighting the battle of all free men, fighting with a unity and courage that will inspire the world in coming ages, fighting to preserve Christianity, democracy, liberty throughout the world.

Canada has been in the war beside Britain since its beginning. Here is a method by which Canadians may continue to lead, at a time when the opening of the ports of Eire to Britain may weigh the scales just enough to bring results of the greatest importance. I have no method of reaching the whole press of Canada in this appeal, and therefore I am sending it to only two journals, The Toronto Globe and Mail, and the Ottawa Journal, they being chosen with no other object than that, so far as I am aware, they published my letter of a month ago to the New York Herald Tribune, without my drawing it to their attention. I mention this only, in this manner, to assure other newspapers that their assistance will be deeply appreciated. Results are what we all want, and I shall be glad to get suggestions from any source, personal or public, as to the best manner in which to advise Mr. de Valera and his Government that millions of organized American and Canadian fishermen are hoping that Eire will join Britain at this hour of liberty's call for help.

R. J. MANION, Ottawa, Jan. 2

The Poet's Corner. THE VAGRANT. I will leave the dust of the City street and the noise of the busy town. For the wintry moor and the high hill and the peat-stream flowing brown. I will keep my watch by the campfires where the white cliffs lead to the sea. And dawn shall wake me with golden hands and the rain shall walk with me. I will seek the place where gypsies roam and strange, wild songs are sung. I will find once more the magic paths I knew when earth was young. And the stars will give me comradeship and the wind will be my friend. And I will send you the fairy gold that lies at the rainbow's end. Stretch not your hands nor bid me stay. I hear the white road's call. The sun hath kissed the buds from sleep, and I am one with them all. But I will send you a golden cloak and a mail of silver shoon. And a dream that the fairies spin from stars on the other side of the moon. —Pauline Slender.

MEDAL CRITICISM. LONDON.—(CP)—Complaining of the design of the George Medal a News Chronicle writer suggests the picture of St. George slaying the dragon might be difficult. "Dragon-Slaying Made Difficult."

Swine Breeders Attention! Now is the Time to Guard Against FIG WORM. By using the most effective Remedy on the market, MACS FIG WORM TONIC POWDER. It will thoroughly abolish all traces of worms and improve the health of your herd. PRICE 35c PER LB. We carry a complete line of Cattle Remedies. GASSY STOMACHS RELIEVED. Every person who is troubled with gas in the stomach and bowels should get a bottle of DR. EVANS STOMACH MIXTURE and see how quickly it will relieve all distressing symptoms. Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture taken at meal time, not only prevents all bad effects from gas, but it promotes the functional activity of the stomach, assists digestion and improves the appetite. Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture is sold AT THE TWO MACS ONLY. PRICE 85c PER BOTTLE. GET YOUR BOTTLE TODAY. THE TWO MACS 149 Great George Street

The Proper Decision

Halifax Chronicle, (Liberal) Jan. 14. The Dominion-Provincial conference to consider implementation of the Rowell-Sirois report, begins at Ottawa today. It will be a large assembly. At least 50 provincial ministers are to attend, with 34 permanent officials and advisers; and the dominion government will have a large representation. But people's minds are on something else. They are concerned with the war, with producing and paying to help the war effort. With attention concentrated on so vital a task, it is a poor time to talk about rewriting the constitution.

The delegates at the conference will serve their country best if they decide to defer action on the Rowell-Sirois report until a happier day when it can be considered in more tranquil circumstances. The delegates lack any mandate. Their constituents are absorbed in the supreme concern of the day: the war. It would be a madness, then, if the authorities sought or secured a snap verdict to appease political pressure in the West. The Dominion government, a number of theorists who would centralize business, government, and industry more solidly in Ontario and Quebec.

Lacking a mandate, or indeed a good and sufficient reason, the Dominion government, aided and abetted by some members of Provincial governments, would use valuable provincial taxes, revenues and autonomies, impose remote control and leave the provinces with the whim of the Dominion government. The total public debt would be just the same. That operation of itself would not increase the credit of the country one whit. Another difficulty in the Rowell-Sirois proposals lies in the loss of provincial autonomy to enter legitimate and advantageous business transactions which may involve borrowings. This would be impossible unless the Dominion government granted approval and agreement. And if, politically or otherwise, the personnel of the Dominion government and the provinces were at loggerheads, difficulty and trouble would arise. Nor is it expected that the administrators at Ottawa and in the provinces will always be of the same political stripe.

EXPRESSES HOPE

WINNIPEG, Jan. 15.—(CP)—Wallace E. Brown, President of the Winnipeg Rugby Football Club for the last two years, expressed hope at the club's annual meeting here that the Canadian Rugby union "will immediately take steps to create a condition" which would permit an all-Canadian East-West rugby final each fall.

CANT HAPPEN AGAIN

CANBERRA.—(CP)—Since the airplane crash last August in which three federal cabinet ministers were killed, Australian ministers have made it a rule no more than two ministers would fly together.

TOO MANY FOXES

DERBY, England.—(CP)—Hunting has ceased in Derbyshire since the outbreak of war and foxes are on the increase, pothunters are complaining. The Ministry of Agriculture has given permission to shoot the pests.

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