

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1944

Family Allowances

Writing in the Winnipeg Free Press (Liberal) Mr. Grant Dexter attempts to give an estimate of the distribution of Federal money under the Family Allowances Act...

Table with columns: Province, Children 0 to 15 Years, Inclusive, Cost, Population, Net per Capita. Rows include Canada, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia.

In the foregoing figures the total cost would approximate \$250 million per year. Income tax exemptions are believed to amount to \$50 million...

As to age groups of children, there were in 1941, 4,250,379 children 5 years or under; 837,267 from 6 to 9; 661,653 from 10 to 12; and 654,592 from 13 to 15.

Taking the per capita cost of the policy at \$1.79 for the country at large, the variation against this average in each province would be as follows...

Quebec, undoubtedly, gains most but New Brunswick is a very close second and Saskatchewan a good third.

On a per capita basis the distribution, of course, would be quite different. Quebec, with 29 per cent of the total population will get 32 per cent of the money...

The other provinces fall between these extremes. The widest variation, as will be seen, is 4 per cent as between the relation of provincial to total benefits...

The variation between rural and urban benefits is more marked. Rural population is 5,239,000 and urban 6,251,000.

Mr. Bracken's Color

It has been complained of Hon. John Bracken that he lacks "color." In a recent broadcast, the Progressive Conservative leader replied to this criticism...

Dealing bluntly with the thing which compels the King Government to maintain a dual Canadian Army—one to fight and one to stay at home—Mr. Bracken said:

"The Government justifies its course by saying that any other policy would destroy Canadian unity. Does any man who thinks believe that Canadian unity can be saved by policies which let some sections carry an undue weight of the human cost of war while other parts carry less?"

"There can never be unity while the casualty lists light up the inequality of sacrifice resulting from the cowardly policies of the Government. There can never be unity when the Government's own agents encourage, solicit, urge and bully men into going away, while the Government's own policies shelter 70,000 men from the course its paid agents press upon others."

And there is no section of Canada where that view cannot be sold when public men put their country's interests before partisan interests.

Nature Studies

A fisherman near the mouth of the Blanche River, Que., was surprised last month to see a large bullfrog snap up and swallow two ducklings. He killed the frog and found that it was almost a foot long.

Various naturalists have observed that when meadow mice become very common they occasionally form part of the diet of large bullfrogs. Young ducklings, too, apparently are regarded as tasty morsels by these carnivorous amphibians, but it is doubtful that many are devoured in this way.

and at five days of age would be too large for the biggest bullfrog to swallow.

Another fisherman, a member of the crew of the schooner "Alcala," recently caught a seagull on his trawl line, and when he hauled it into his boat, discovered that it was wearing an aluminum leg-band.

Kittiwakes nest in Canada's Arctic, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and on the coast of Newfoundland. They are also found along the coasts of the Maritime Provinces in fall and winter, often keeping well off shore. This banding record has thrown additional needed light on the migratory habits of Kittiwakes.

A Nova Scotia farmer recently missed one of his hens. Whether she had been killed or carried off by some predator he did not know. After an absence of three weeks or so the hen returned to the kitchen door followed by a flock of nine sturdy young wild ducks.

Many more such stories could be told of strange doings in the animal and bird kingdom. There was the deer in Prince Albert National Park who acquired the habit of chewing tobacco and would follow teamsters for miles in the hope of getting a hand-out; the mother bear in Jasper National Park who regularly paraded her four cubs down the main street in Jasper town to the railway station to the delight of residents and tourists alike.

EDITORIAL NOTES

An election must be in the offing—the voices of both members for Queen's have been heard in the House.

It is reported that at the recent Liberal meeting at Mount Stewart, a resolution was moved and unanimously adopted by a standing vote approving of the proposed amendment of the Prohibition Act, favoured in the Legislature by Premier J. Walter Jones.

A nice instance of the punishment being made to fit the crime comes from Ipswich, where the magistrates decided that a mother who was summoned for neglecting her six children should be put on probation for two years on condition that she did not leave her home after 7 o'clock in the evening during the summer months or after 5 o'clock after October 1.

An overseas Chaplain writes: "The ordinary—sic—infantry private is a wonderful chap. One attacking platoon lost its officer, wounded in the first minute, then all the N. C. O.'s. A little private took over, picked up a Bren gun and, firing it from the hip, charged the German machine-gun post. The platoon swarmed after him, and with rifle and bayonet routed out the Germans. 'Take a stripe. No, I'm not fit for it' the private told me afterwards. Join with a section in church service. Can't have full-scale service in the front line, but the padre sits on the ground, gives a prayer and short talk while the men stay in their slit trenches. When they sing the hymn the other sections take it up. You can hear it wafted from field to field. It's an inspiring minute or two."

The City of London, the Commercial Centre that is, is to be rebuilt at a cost of \$600,000,000 over a period of 25 years, and with a ring road north and south 80 feet wide to relieve traffic congestion. The Corporation's proposals which are primarily those of businessmen reject the plan already devised by the Royal Academy Reconstruction Committee as impractical. They aim to preserve the city's character as the commercial core of London while providing a dignified environment for St. Paul's Cathedral. The report suggests allocation of some areas for blocks of flats, proposes to respect the sites of the famous city churches of the Guildhall, Mansion House and other well known buildings, and would leave St. Paul's less encompassed than formerly, particularly on the south, east and west sides.

Field Marshal Paul von Hindenburg, German soldier, died this date 1934; was outstandingly, along with Ludendorff, the greatest German officer in the 1914-18 war; was a typical Junker in appearance and by temperament; he stopped the Russian invasion in East Prussia in 1914, and pushed his army on beyond Warsaw; he became the German hero, and a book was published showing him marching into London; honours were heaped upon him, and a wooden statue of him was erected in Berlin into which it was considered a pious act to drive nails of homage; when his Hindenburg line was pierced in several places, he recommended on Oct. 3, 1917, to German headquarters that the war should be brought to an end; in his autobiography he claimed that Germany lost the war, not by the enemy's skill and bravery, but by the outbreak of revolutions at home, due to the failure of the political rulers; he concluded his book with a firm belief in the restoration of the German monarchy.

Notes By The Way

"We often find ourselves confronted with difficult situations. Hitler tells his people. A triple-plaited cord, a masterpiece of understatement.—Ottawa Journal.

First, we wish we were sufficiently well informed on the De Gaulle controversy to write intelligently about it. Second, we wish somebody were, so that we could read about it.—Detroit Free Press.

Persistent use of gas by the Japanese against the Chinese may bring retaliatory attacks which the Japs will not like. The Allies now have aircraft able to fly over Japan and these carry atomic bombs.—Brookville Recorder and Times.

Lady Tweedsmuir recently paid tribute to the Women's Institutes of Canada. She said: "The Women's Institutes movement is one of the greatest gifts to the Motherland and, like the seeds sent for our gardens from Canada, has grown."—Amherst News.

Evidence that many people will not or cannot address their properly is provided by the statement that approximately 100 letters a day are addressed to the wrong address. The postal authorities, surely a little extra care could be exercised in this important business of supplying the boys on the battle fronts with letters that mean so much to them.—Toronto Globe and Mail.

It happened in Matabeland (so a correspondent writes, and one can only hope it has not happened before in print). A lion covered a group of supper dishes in a quest of supper. Leaping into their midst, he with six blows of his powerful paw brought them all dead on the veld. "That," he said, turning to his wife, "is the end of the time is exactly 18 1/2 minutes past nine."—Manchester Guardian.

The peak of war production would be over before October 1, and before the end of the year there would be a goodly quantity of consumer goods in the market. It was predicted to retailers attending the Chicago Midsummer furniture mart, that for pieces all over Germany, into the millions, speakers agreed. Thomas F. Kelly of the Hoover Company (former Canadian) reported surveys showing as high as 4,000,000 prospects for vacuum cleaners.—Moncton Times.

When farmers in that area of Canada bounded by Central Manitoba on the west and a line in Quebec drawn through the St. Lawrence are welding the hoe or scythe in this summer, they are asked to go to the Agricultural Station, comes from the Agriculture Department Board. The reason for what is that milkweed is the pest needed by the United Nations for a buoyant, waterproof fibre to replace kapok in the special order of the armed forces.—Brookville Recorder and Times.

The first Royal Canadian Navy Band ever to visit the United Kingdom played during the Empire Day at St. Paul's Cathedral recently. It is known as the H.M.C.S. "Niobe" Band. Niobe being the name of the R.C.N. base in Scotland. The band will make six broadcasts over the BBC in the near future, and will be transmitted to the forces as well as the public. The bandmaster is Lieut.-Commander H. G. Cuthbert, R.C.N.V.R., of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, who organized the band and has been in charge of it since.—London Calling.

To provide materials for the millions of meals served on Canadian National Railways dining cars, the significant shopping operations on the part of the company's department. For instance, the year's Canadian butchers were called upon to supply 1,500,000 pounds of meat; more than half a million pounds of fowl were bought; 4,257,000 eggs were needed; 290,914 cheese were needed; half a million loaves of bread; 1,000,000 coffee tins; 1,000,000 pounds and tea 16,135 pounds; nearly 300,000 pounds of sugar were used.—C.N.R. Bulletin.

The man mainly responsible for the development of the "robot" bomb is an Austrian professor, Herman Oberth, inconspicuous except for a small moustache. Now in his 50s, Oberth was once the sound-and-seal-effects man in charge of the use of fire-works and explosives for UFA films. Reportedly an anti-Nazi, he has been working on flying bombs and rocket machines for the past seven years under special orders from Hitler and Goering. Oberth called on Gen. Kesselring with a mass of blueprints and models. Kesselring, after witnessing some tests, submitted a report to Goering, with the rest of the Wehrmacht's scientific laboratories and a special panel of Nazi research workers, radio men, aeronautical engineers, and inventors were put at his disposal as consultants. Shortly thereafter European scientific circles began to hear of new experiments in the Oberth catapult-plane technique. Newsweek Magazine.

An enterprising Nantucket man had a small case pending in the local court, a contest with a neighbor over a matter of considerable importance, and decided to engage the prominent Daniel Webster for his counsel. "Why, you can't afford to hire me," objected Webster. "I should have to stay down there in your town for a whole week, and my fee would be more than the whole case is worth. I couldn't go down there for less than \$1,000. I could try every case in the pocket as well as one, and it wouldn't cost any more than to try one case. 'Very well,' there's your thousand dollars, Mr. Webster. You come down and I'll fix it for you to try every case in the pocket in the eloquent Daniel Webster was at loss for words. But he did agree, and when court opened he appeared and took part on one side or the other, in every case on the docket. The shrewd Nantucket hired Webster out to all his friends who were in litigation, and received in return about \$1,000. So he got the famous lawyer's services for nothing, and made a good profit as well.—From Nantucket, Boston Monitor.

The Leaning Tower

(Ottawa Journal) It is an odd circumstance that the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa should come into the war news—it is being used by the Germans as an observation post over the nearby Allied armies. That tower has stood for more than seven centuries, and apparently it remained for the modern Hun to put it to its first military use.

The Leaning Tower is one of the group of structures which make up the ancient cathedral centre of Pisa. Work on it was started in 1174, it is of marble throughout and the tower is 139 feet high. The walls are four feet thick at the base, and about half as thick at the top.

When the tower was measured in 1929 was leaning over of the perpendicular, and by 1910 it had tilted another foot. Many learned men have pondered over this queer freak of architecture, have wondered whether the tower leaned by intention or accident. The Encyclopaedia Britannica thinks it never was intended to lean, but took that still at work, and it suggests the designer of the foundations was at fault.

According to the London Daily Mail, a comparatively unknown professor who used to be a sound-effects man in charge of creating scenes with fireworks and explosives for German films, is developing Hitler's responsible for the flying-bomb idea. He is Prof. Oberth, described as a Nazi-hater. On the special order of Hitler and Goering he has been working on the flying bomb and on rockets for the past seven years. Parts of the new weapons are said to have been made by the Hermann Goering Works; but a great amount of the sections of the robot were manufactured in bits and pieces all over Germany, in small factories and even in individual homes by German men and women and foreign workers, most of whom had not the remotest idea what they were making. Assembly was done by all-German personnel in a group of factories said to be "somewhere in Eastern Germany."

German research workers have admitted that the special order of Hitler and Goering to give the real effects of the flying-bomb attacks on Britain, including the sending of messages to the military and reconnaissance and somehow return to the continent. On the basis of data thus obtained, the mysterious Professor Oberth may well try to develop more new rockets or rockets.

But throughout Germany, in the wake of the first wave of secret working on the development of the flying-bomb technique, is so-called "It's all very well, but what are we going to do with it?" on us to take a vengeance for our flying-bomb raids. If we can do this, so can the Allies. The flying-bomb attacks are said to have cheered them up at first; gave them a great psychological lift. But the German know that it takes more than Prof. Oberth's contraptions to save Germany. One man out of Germany is so-called saying in this connection: "I understand the military situation in Germany is very serious. It is a crustaceous animal Germany as with a very hard shell, like a crab, but soft inside. At the moment we are engaged in cutting through the hard shell."

Like a poor herdman, pilgrim far north of Volga, where his little boy Lay was, who on some glittering night arose And blessed his old wife in the dark and shut his eyes. On her he sobbed, and took his new-cut Star from the eaves—a sapling iron-shod— And set forth for the sepulchre. Yes, thence by great plains, Taurus passes bleak, And fire-ill caravans trail On, on—then never sapped his bony cheek. Month after month, intent and unblinked, Counting the waves that met his wind-clear eye— Thousands of miles to find it had —he walked!

But now—since thou hast kissed the very stone, Why restless still, gaunt shepherd come so far? morn because the ray that led thee from a long-annihilated star? —Herbert Trench.

LIVERPOOL, England.—(CP)—The first handful of French soil grasped by a British officer as he leapt ashore in Normandy on D-Day was presented to Lord Derby by a Bastille Day luncheon here. The peer is former British ambassador to France.

The Poets Corner

STANZAS TO TOLSTOI IN HIS OLD AGE

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SOURIS HOSPITAL Annual Meeting in United Church Hall Thursday evening, August 3rd. Election of officers and members to the Board of Trustees for year 1944-45.

CANADIAN LEGION Provincial Convention In Charlottetown on Wednesday, Aug. 2nd Convention opens at 10 o'clock A. M. in The Charlottetown Hotel.

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