

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
President: Lieut. Col. W. Chester S. McLure
Vice President: J. R. Burnett, F.J.I.

By Mail in P.E.I., \$3.00 per year; \$2.50 for 6 months, \$1.25 for 3 months; 50c for one month
City Delivery \$5.00 per year; \$3.00 for 6 months \$1.75 for 3 months; 60c for one month

The Charlottetown Guardian may be obtained at
Hotelling's News Agency, Queens Square, New York;
Old South News Agency, Corner Milk and Washington

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1942

"The Momentous Hour"

The following stanza from an "Ode Written During the Negotiations with Bonaparte in January 1804" by Robert Southey, is quoted in an exchange of letters peculiarly applicable to Hitler.

But peace was his good,
For all his evil had been nursed,
And peace was his good had been nursed,
And peace was his good had been nursed.

The first stanza of the same Ode is also not inappropriate at this time and might well have been written in anticipation of victory by the present Premier instead of by his predecessor of a century ago:

Who counsels peace at this momentous hour,
When God hath given deliverance to the oppressed,
And to the injured power?
Who counsels peace, when Vengeance like a flood,
Rolls on no longer now to be repressed?

There are here lines which perfectly fit the present stage of the war between Hitler and the United Nations over whom "Freedom hath her holy banner spread" and the whole stanza will be changed with timeliness when Hitler makes his bid for peace, as he will once he realizes his mad bid for world power has failed.

Wartime Controls

The ramifications of Canada's wartime economy are such that even the experts are finding it hard to see the wood for the trees. It is becoming more and more difficult to keep the primary objective in sight—which is that of winning the war.

The Government's wartime economy policy comprises five main points, namely: A price ceiling on goods and services; Wage and salary ceilings; Priority, allocation and rationing controls; Profit and income controls (in the form of a fiscal programme of taxation and borrowing); and Manpower controls.

How has the price ceiling succeeded in checking inflation? In the period April 1, 1941 to Nov. 1, 1941, the cost of living increased 7.1 per cent, from November 1, 1941 to Aug. 1, 1942, it increased by only 1.2 per cent. That in itself, he maintains, is a very satisfactory comparison but it is not the whole story.

One per cent of the cost of living adds \$35,000,000 to \$100,000,000 to the housewives' annual bills. Consequently a saving of 9 per cent in cost of living increase means the saving to the 2,500,000 Canadian families of from \$350,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 in fuel, food, clothing and other bills.

Mr. Gordon discussed also the task of allocating labour and materials to the most effective war uses. While full details of the curtailment program could not yet be made public, the questions involved would include:

- 1. Rationing of essential goods. The Government would be assisted in this problem by local rationing boards now being organized in municipalities to apply the principles and policy to be decided by the board with regard to specific commodities.
2. Standardization of products, prohibition of new style lines and elimination of waste in varieties of goods. In some cases existing brands and styles will be discontinued in the interest of greater economy of effort and more efficient use of distribution facilities.
3. Adjustments of quality, through use of substitute materials. This would "cause many difficulties in relation to established prices."
4. Curtailment of non-essential industries in favor of essential work. Essentially must be tested "in terms of what will win the war."

So far as manpower is concerned we have now reached full employment. Any further expansion of our war effort must come through transfers from civilian occupations and activities, and steps must now be taken to ensure beyond all doubt that our labor force is used in the most effective manner. Such a programme involves dislocation and disruption of the civilian economy. The job of government administrations will be to make the transition period endurable and to make the necessary transfers "at a speed commensurate with the urgent need, and yet manage so as to prevent the risk of any breakdown in the supply and distribution of essential goods and services."

This involves a master plan of action. Is there such a plan at Ottawa? Mr. Gordon does not say so. He does say that there must be such a plan if we are to succeed. The manpower demands of the armed forces and our war production program "must be met." Industry and Government "cannot be left to fight out conflicting claims." Unsupervised or unguided transfers between conflicting claimants for our labor force would cause disagreements between civilian and war industry, growing chaos among civilian firms and improper elimination of some more essential civilian goods and services, and maintenance of some less essential. That spells the end of our tradition of individualism. But it is part of the price we must be prepared to pay for Victory.

EDITORIAL NOTES

There has been no British mail for sometime.

In a letter from England an Island officer writes, "Don't forget to say a good word for the 'Y' and the 'Sally Anns', their canteens are a veritable God-send here."

Premier Campbell, who thinks so much of Dr. MacMillan that he keeps a record of the good things the Dr. says about him, must have rejoiced exceedingly reading his criticism of Mackenzie King.

What is worrying storekeepers and their assistants is not the reduction of hours of business, but what they are to do with, or in, the reduced hours throughout the winter. Of course both Madam Wife and Satan have their respective uses for idle hands.

Here is irony for you. Organized labor in Philadelphia rushed to the aid of the poor millionaire. Union members submitted essays in a contest sponsored by the Dairy Farmers Union, telling "How to live on \$25,000 a year." First prize was \$25.

The best way to keep the Conservative party together and active, is for its leaders and followers to refuse to be bribed by offers of office and emolument from its arch-enemy. It is a bad thing for party morale and discipline for the leaders to be falling over one another in search of safety-first jobs. Let us have a Coalition War Government, and then "all these other things may be added unto us."

Benjamin Jowett, English educator, essayist and translator, died this date, 1893; educated for the Church, became tutor at Balliol College, and subsequently Master; looked upon with suspicion by the orthodox because of his liberal views in theology; wielded enormous influence in Oxford, and was adored by the seriously-minded under-graduates; contributed to "Essays and Reviews"; best known otherwise for his translations of Plato, Aristotle and Thucydides; "Young men make great mistakes in life; for one thing they idealize love too much."

While latest reports show that 117,879 women in the 20-24 age group have already registered under National Selective Service regulations, authorities announce a fortnight's extension of the registration deadline, to enable women in rural areas to complete their registration. Complete reports have not yet been received from all the 195 registration points but of the total now received, 21 per cent were from women without dependents and willing to undertake any kind of full-time employment, while 6 1-2 per cent reported they are available for part-time employment.

The National Debt will be tremendous, writes Herbert N. Casson in the Efficiency Magazine, "but a nation cannot be ruined by a debt it owes mostly to itself. The pendulum will swing from concentration of power to decentralization. If a man thinks about that, it will help him to plan his future. We'll have many new industries. We'll have new synthetic products. We'll create a system of motor-roads. We'll develop aviation. We'll travel. We'll search for markets. We'll organize new adventurous companies." Maybe—with slave labor.

Discussing Prime Minister King's shilly-shallying on the conscription issue, Mr. Bruce Hutchison writes in the Victoria Times:—"The final step remains to be taken, the step of overseas conscription, and it must be taken at some time if Canadian armies go into large-scale battle. When the need arises Mr. King will have to announce that men conscripted for service in the army at home can be sent anywhere. The home defence army will become an army without geographical restriction. It will not be a problem of conscripting men into the army for service overseas. It will be merely a change in the position of existing armies, Quebec will take much more willingly than it would have taken a policy of drafting men for immediate overseas service. Or so it is thought at Ottawa. It is even conceivable that the whole crisis which almost ruined Mr. King at one stage has passed, that the final step of total conscription can be taken without smashing his Government and without smashing the country. Some time next year, perhaps, we should know. Meanwhile it is apparent that while Mr. King's progress, though not an inspiring spectacle, is one of the most remarkable on record. He, like Jonah, has lived for several years in the belly of a whale, but no whale seems tough enough to digest him."

All that has appeared in the press about the collection of scrap iron, and the complacent interest bestowed on the disappearance of other people's gates and railings, does not lessen the shock when it happens to a German. In his home one morning, clogging the front gate behind you and making a mental note that the private hedge needs clipping and you arrive on your own, and searching in the cellar for wood with which, if you can supply it (because he cannot), the local joiner will make you that symbol of privacy, garden gate.—Leeds Yorkshire Post.

According to a recent report issued by the European Correspondent, the German factories in Bohemia, especially in Prague are beginning to sell houses which they bought last year. They are preparing to return home. Even many very dark now that German victory is possible, therefore.

NOTES BY THE WAY

While acceptance of alternative work opportunities by the spokesmen said, it was anticipated that if it became necessary to approach professional athletes they would willingly do what was officially considered most helpful to Canada. But availability of employment permits fails to clear up one angle of the hockey picture for next winter—whether passports will be issued to players of military age. That was a tangled phase of N. H. L. operations last year and the regulations causing the tangle haven't been changed.—Exchange.

Analysis of income tax rates shows that a \$5,000 a year man would not pay more than \$1,962 or more than 14 times as much as the \$118 he paid in 1938. The 10,000-a-year man, after paying his 1942 tax, will have only \$572 more left than he had after paying his 1938 tax.—(Victoria Times).

Eleven Canadian social workers arrive in this country to take part in welfare activities under the Minister of Health evacuation scheme. During the next few weeks they are to attend a course of lectures on the evacuation of children and will live in settlements in London. This will be followed by several months practical work with welfare workers in the reception camps. At the end of this period it is expected that they will take up appointments as evacuation welfare workers with local authorities.—London Times.

Since the war began haphazard methods have been in operation. Some wages are controlled, others are regulated by supply and demand. Some workers have done well because they belong to a strong union; others have suffered because they are unorganized. This is a serious weakness in what is virtually a controlled economy, and it is high time the Government introduced a proper wages policy. This is a serious weakness in what is virtually a controlled economy, and it is high time the Government introduced a proper wages policy.

Garibaldi had commanded ships and fought for the liberation of South America before he had reached the age when the young man today is just leaving the sophomore class. Darius I, greatest of the Persian Kings, was conquering Asia at an age when American boys are entering the first ballot. Peter the Great was only 17 when he dethroned his half-sister and made himself Tsar of all the Russians.

Just as the front line soldier must have good generalship and a careful plan of attack if he is to do his job, so does the performance of the front line worker depend upon enterprising leadership and an efficient plan of production. The speaker in the address of the public today, says Mr. Lyttleton, is whether we are producing the right weapons. "To do that," he said, "we have to show a great foresight and vision. Foresight and vision must not only be applied to strategy and the design of weapons. They must be applied more fully than ever before to the organization in the workshop and in the Government Department. Too many eyes that might be visionary are blinded by red tape today.—(London Daily Herald).

A new kind of stretcher for wounded Commandos which can be carried by one man if he is to be turned out in London. It is made of leather, webbing and cane and it straps on to a man's back. On it a Commando can carry a wounded comrade and should be revolved in the hands free for a rifle of a Sten gun. Another novelty from this workshop is a petrol tank. Hung on the wings of a plane these tanks can be used for extra fuel. The workers here can also turn webbing into Army anklets at the rate of 20,000 a week and they are making scabbards for the machine gunners of the British and Canadian troops in Britain.—British Industries Bulletin.

A few minutes ago we stopped at Banff and 50 soldiers went to the front gate behind you and making a mental note that the private hedge needs clipping and you arrive on your own, and searching in the cellar for wood with which, if you can supply it (because he cannot), the local joiner will make you that symbol of privacy, garden gate.—Leeds Yorkshire Post.

more Czechoslovakia is no longer a safe place for any German, in spite of the severe measures taken against the Czech population by the Nazi authorities.—(Frederick Gleazer).

ADMIRAL SKIPPERS 45-TONNER LONDON (CP)—Ten years ago Rear-Admiral Fischer Watson commanded the 3,500-ton battleship Nelson. He retired in 1933. Recently he stepped ashore from his latest command since he crepe bask into service— a 45-ton motor vessel of the naval ferry command.

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Fighting Age Just Hasn't Fixed Rules

Mrs. Squidge was terribly upset at the idea that her boy might be drafted. "Why, he's only 18," she whimpered, "just a freshman in college."

Well, Adm. Farragut was nine when he entered the Navy. Lord Nelson began his naval career at the age of 12 and was a commander at 20. Hannibal was only nine when he was taken on a campaign by his father, Hamilcar, and before an altar in Spain vowed eternal vengeance on Rome. He was 18 when he took command of the Carthaginian armies in Spain.

Julius Caesar, already a battle-scarred veteran, was campaigning in Asia at 21. Napoleon Bonaparte was a lieutenant of artillery at 17. Akbar, greatest of the Mogul emperors, was only 18 when he assumed the throne and began his conquest of India.

Another "freshman" was a Scottish lad named John Paul Jones, who at the age of 17 shipped as mate on a slaver and made several voyages to America. Caesar Borgia, a lad greatly admired by Machiavelli, was a general officer by the time he was 20, with a notable list of conquests behind him.

A young Frenchman named Motier (later known as the Marquis de Lafayette) was only 20 when he joined General Washington and the Continental Army. He had already served with distinction in the American Revolution. Another fledgling—Alexander of Macedon—was 20 when he assumed his father's sceptre. He died at 33, having conquered the world.

Garibaldi had commanded ships and fought for the liberation of South America before he had reached the age when the young man today is just leaving the sophomore class. Darius I, greatest of the Persian Kings, was conquering Asia at an age when American boys are entering the first ballot. Peter the Great was only 17 when he dethroned his half-sister and made himself Tsar of all the Russians.

The average age of the volunteers who fought on the Northern side in the War between the States was certainly not over 20, and the lads from 16 to 20 who provide most of our delinquency and violent crime. The last time I visited the state penitentiary at Joliet I found it was on a university campus—the vast majority of the stripe-wearers seemed to be in their early 20's.

The professionals say that boys from 16 to 20 make the best soldiers. But fighting quality is not wholly a matter of age. There was, for example, that greatest of Venetian dogs, Enrico Dandolo. He was born in 1190 and in 1204 when he was a stripling of 94—when he was leading the fourth Crusade, with the capture of Constantinople as one of his achievements.

Nor did that exhaust the fight in him. He lived six years longer, dying at the age of 100.

The Poet's Corner

THE GERMAN SOLDIER'S BRIDE (This poem was broadcast in the English programme of the European News Service of the B. B. C.)

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From the old town of Prague?
From Prague he sent me the ribboned shoes,
For my dancing toes, the ribboned
From the old, old town of Prague.

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From the riches of Amsterdam?
From Amsterdam he sent me a bonnet
With gold thread upon it, a fine
starched bonnet.
From the riches of Amsterdam.

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From Brussels in Flanders so red.
From Brussels he sent me the shimmering lace,
To set off my lace, the shimmering lace.
From Brussels in Flanders so red.

And what did he send you, my bonny lass,
From the deep, deep Russian snow?
From the deep, deep Russian snow,
My widows weeds, from the deep,
deep Russian snow.

Invites Cooperation

In his announcement of a national Conservative convention to discuss leadership and policy Mr. Meighen has again revealed his desire to make the interests of the country paramount. "The time has come," he says, "when an opportunity should be given, not only to Conservatives, but to all Canadians who think as we do about this war and its conduct on the part of Canada, to get together and make a united effort to bring better things about. This invitation is in keeping with the willingness of the Conservatives from the outbreak of the war to co-operate with the government to the fullest extent."

Mr. Meighen's offer, comments The Toronto Telegram, will be watched with interest to see if there are any Liberals sufficiently concerned with the government's dietary methods as to feel compelled for conscience sake to "cross the floor" and join a party which undoubtedly will be in a position to bring about the "universal service which alone can save us"—to use Mr. Meighen's words. On this point The Telegram is skeptical. The Liberals, it says, being in office themselves, have shown no desire for a national government. Indeed it is their insistence that party lines be maintained which now compels the Conservatives to go their own way and take counsel on matters relating to leadership and policy in a national convention.

In making the announcement that a convention will be held Mr. Meighen did not indicate his definite decision to retire from the leadership and although he has no personal desire to continue, circumstances which would induce him to allow his name to go before delegates. Two other men well known in the party are prospective candidates—Lieut.-Col. George A. Drew, M. P., the Ontario Premier, and Major Murdoch MacPherson, of Regina, whose last minute entry at the 1938 convention in Ottawa came very near defeating E. J. Munn. The recent round table conference of "laymen" at Port Hope indicated that the Conservative party is not lacking in plans and in determination to select a leader the delegates will face the necessity of formulating a program and making recommendations at Port Hope may be a base on which to build.

Collections For P.E.I. Hospital

Mr. John F. Whear, who has given so generously of his time in past years is again working for the Hospital and will receive all collections for the P.E.I. Hospital. We wish to thank the following collectors who are also willing workers for the Prince Edward Island Hospital: Mrs. H. L. Palmer, Mrs. Gordon Hutchison, Mrs. R. R. Hurst, Mrs. Leith Wright, Mrs. Edith Rogers, Mrs. Eramwell Chandler, Mrs. David Stewart, Mrs. Neil Swenson, Mrs. John Rattenbury, Mrs. Sidney Green, Mrs. John B. B. Bentley, Mrs. Philip Dakin, Mrs. Rankin, Mrs. Laine, Mrs. Heber Bell, Mrs. Sutherland McLean, Mrs. Robert Cotton, Mrs. Margaret Cotton, Mrs. Ernest McNutt, Mrs. Warren Duchemin, Mrs. James E. Harris, Mrs. H. L. Sear, Mrs. Vera Sealey, Mrs. G. M. Andrews, Mrs. James Montgomery, Mrs. Victor Saunders, Mrs. W. A. Huestis, Mrs. B. F. Tinney, Miss Nan Brown, Mrs. Robert Holman, Mrs. Sinclair, Miss Gwendolyn Coomb, Mrs. Reginald Alder, Mrs. W. T. Weir, Mrs. Norman McPherson, Mrs. Alfred Pickard, Miss Florance McLeod, Mrs. Ivan Horne. We would kindly ask all who are ready with their contributions and help these willing workers in this task of collecting.

PUT THE FREEZE ON FOOD WASTE

Here are some pointers to prevent food waste: Milk: don't let milk stand out. Keep it in the cooler part of the refrigerator. Eggs: Wipe off soiled spots on eggs with a dry, rough cloth. But do not wash eggs before storing. Water destroys the protective film that keeps out air and odors. Store eggs in open bowl or wire basket in cool place. Potatoes: a dry cool blackout suits them both, but avoid freezing. Sea food: fish and all other sea food spoil in a few hours at room temperature. Cook at once, or wrap in wax paper to keep odor from other foods. Keep very cold.

War—25 Years Ago Today

(By The Canadian Press) OCT. 1, 1917. Five political German attacks north of the Ypres. Menin road and east of Polygon Wood repulsed. German air raiders caused "serious material damage" at Dunberne, Belgium, and bombed London and English south coast: 10 killed, 38 injured.

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The Bracken Broom (Sydney Post-Record) The suggestion which comes from Ottawa that Premier John Bracken of Manitoba may become National leader of the Conservative party in the event of Mr. Meighen's retirement, goes to show the state of fluidity Canadian politics have reached under war conditions. Premier Bracken's gate is wide open to receive Mr. Bracken of any other good Canadian into the Conservative fold, it is still a fact that that gentleman's political background has been anything but Conservative. What as far back as 1922 he was called from the Presidency of the Manitoba Agricultural College to become Premier under United Farmer auspices, Mr. Bracken's political affiliations if any were known only to himself. There may or may not be significance in the fact that he first entered the Provincial service in Manitoba when the Conservatives held office. But his career was strictly that of an educationist, and he never dabbled in party politics in those far off days.

THROAT SORE? MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

AUCTION SALE THURSDAY, OCT. 1 AT 2 P. M. 77 DOUGLAS STREET

I am instructed to sell by public auction all household effects of the late Mrs. John D. Murphy including 1 kitchen range (Record), 1 upright piano, 1 dropside couch, 1 Singer Sewing Machine (drop head), Quebec heater, 1 drop leaf table, 1 Wilson rug, 1 radio, 4 dining room chairs, wicker rocker, 3 upholstered living room chairs, tables, 2 beds (1 double and 1 single), 2 springs and 2 mattresses, 2 dressers, 1 large mirror, 2 small mirrors, rubber stair pads, oilcloth squares, curtains and draperies, dishes, pots, pans, several other articles. W. H. BEATON, Auctioneer, 9-29-31.

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