

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1939.

Steady As Well As Ready

In a time of crisis, steadiness is as important as readiness, says the Victoria Times, which proceeds to give the following excellent advice on the subject:

A nation's defences are no stronger than her morale. A contribution to national morale is made by those who remain calm in the face of danger, who meet an emergency with coolness as well as courage, who refuse to yield to panic.

It is not the calmness of indifference that is needed, but the calmness of self-control in the face of a known and appreciated crisis. Hysteria is the enemy of morale. Self-possession is its buttress. Canadians can strengthen Canada and strengthen Britain by refusing to yield to fear. The courage of the nation is simply the courage of its individuals.

Fear is infectious. Bravery is infectious. One man can start a stampede by crying "fire" and rushing for the exit. One man can calm an audience by smiling in the face of danger and suggesting quiet and orderly departure. There is no need to be blind to what events may mean. But there is need of measuring up to the situation with calmness, hope and courage.

Nazi Foreign Trade Suffers

So effective have been the results of the British blockade that already, according to an authoritative United States Commerce Department estimate, Germany's normal inflow of supplies from foreign sources has been cut in half since the war. The Reich has been almost isolated from countries which supplied more than 50 per cent of her import needs in the first six months of this year.

This is an effective answer to German assertions that, unlike 1914-18, the Reich is now "blockade-proof." Such claims "are largely based on the presumption that it will be in position to keep up normal communications with these (contiguous and neutral European) countries for the duration of the war, and that they will be able to supply Germany at least with the same quantity of foodstuffs and raw materials as in the time of peace."

German imports from those countries during the first half of 1939, however, represented only 43 per cent of total imports, the department said, while trade with other countries has been made difficult or impossible because of the war and the consequent docking of nearly the whole German merchant fleet.

Imports from countries with which Germany is now at war—that is, Great Britain, France, their Dominions, colonies, and territories—amounted to 19.8 per cent of the total. Included in that percentage were such essential raw materials as rubber, tin and wool.

Imports from neutral overseas countries, including the United States, Spain, and Portugal—from all of which Germany virtually is cut off—aggregated 30.3 per cent.

Dairy Problems Discussed

Ontario newspapers are discussing the problem of butter and cheese prices from the standpoint of rising production costs. Their comments apply in large part to this Province as well, which is the banner dairy producing section of the Maritimes.

Cheese producers in Eastern Ontario, says the Ottawa Journal, have asked the Dominion Department of Agriculture to establish a price for cheese equivalent to the cost of production. They suggest the pegged price should be 17 1/2 to 18 cents a pound as compared to 13 and 14 cents currently paid. Another Government body, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, has issued a statement that the Board had not considered fixing the prices of particular commodities. In the Journal's opinion, the producers' delegation put up a strong argument when they pleaded for special consideration for the cheese industry. The difficulty is that to set a price for cheese would automatically set a price for butter, whole milk, condensed milk and other dairy products. This would result in the immediate demand for similar treatment from all other branches of agriculture, and would eventually result in all primary producers in Canada asking for fixed prices. On the other hand, it is admitted that the plight of the dairy farmers who look to their cheese factory checks as a chief source of income is serious. There is a product for which there is only limited domestic demand, and the price is fixed in Britain. They are told that cheese is an essential wartime food and that increased production is advisable. Yet because of exchange, high freight and insurance rates, limited ocean space and a fixed price in Britain based largely on New Zealand-Australian cheese prices, Canadian cheese producers see the price of their product out of line with other farm products. With the best will in the world, they cannot be expected to increase production under such circumstances.

In the butter industry, says a staff writer of the Toronto Globe and Mail, prices are still below the cost of production despite the importance of fats of all kinds as war commodities. While prices are bound to move up they show no indication of climbing rapidly. The criticism that was heard early in September that butter brokers were profiteering certainly could not be applied, it is claimed, to the producers. When war broke out butter was selling at practically the same price it brought in 1900, netting the farmer the equivalent of two cents a quart for milk. Since then it has moved up some sixpence per pound, but it is claimed there is every justification for a further increase of ten cents a pound.

Canada, it is explained, produces all its surplus butter in a three-month period, and most either store this surplus to make up for the deficiencies of other months or must export and then import. A year ago, when stocks of butter were even larger than at present, falling prices left those holding butter with a loss of seven cents. So far the increase in profit to them has not been enough to average up with last year.

In June of this year a survey of farm prices, as opposed to retail prices and cost of services, showed that the farmer's selling price was 25 per cent below a parity position. A reasonable parity was achieved in 1926. Increase in prices since Sept. 1 has not corrected this situation, other costs having risen just about as much as farm commodities.

Mr. H. H. Hannam, president of the Ontario Chamber of Agriculture, thus sums up the situation: "We are not seeking abnormal profits. We do not want prices which will unduly increase the cost of living and lead to after-the-war-over-production and a return of panic prices. All we ask, in the interests of sound economy, is that farmers get an even break, a parity of prices. Even this would not give the average farmer better wages than are paid to unskilled labour."

Certainly no one in this agricultural province would object to such prices being obtained by our farmers. The problem is one which requires leadership and initiative on the part of our provincial and federal governments. With the increasing burden that will be shouldered by our farmers during the coming months, in the way of maximum production for war purposes, every effort should be made to safeguard their interests in the matter of prices. To no branch of the farm industry is this more applicable than to dairying.

Jonathan Swift, satirist, novelist, essayist, pamphleteer, greatest prose-writer of the 18th century, died this date, 1745.

There is no officer commanding the depot in Charlottetown and, of course, no political pull is being used to have one appointed!

The Quints and Dr. Dofoc are at a sad discontent these days, with War monopolizing the front pages.

It would appear no endeavor is being made to have an unofficial coordinating body here to look after the interests of our soldiers. What is everybody's business ultimately turns out to be nobody's business.

When one reads the high commendation of our Cadet Corps given by the Inspecting officer from Halifax, one readily understands why our volunteer officers and soldiers enjoy such a great reputation for smartness and efficiency on the mainland.

The annual revenue of the Vatican has fallen 40% due to the outbreak of War, from \$50,000,000 to \$30,000,000. Practically the United States is the only country which can forward finances to Rome, due to exchange and other restrictions.

On the Sunday that the Germans poured on Warsaw what next day's newspapers described as "a rain of death," in the evening the German radio broadcast closed its program with the hymn in English, "The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended."

Although Canada's August import of meats was lower than in July, the amount was somewhat in advance of August last year. The total for August this year was \$399,035 compared with \$683,250 in July and \$155,671 in August, 1938. Eight-month imports were sharply higher, totalling \$2,775,793 compared with \$969,308 in the corresponding period last year.

Even in the "land of the free" there is a limit of freedom in letter writing. In Kansas City, John Dean (66) has been ordered to Federal prison for writing threatening letters to President Roosevelt. After receiving a twelve-month term a year ago Dean's sentence was changed to three years' probation because he assured Federal Judge Merrill E. Otis he "didn't mean it." Dean's action was based on a recent letter to the President in which Dean wrote: "You are a great menace to America and should be removed somehow." His earlier letter stated "I feel I must come to Washington and kill you."

Exports of New Zealand butter for the year ended July 31 dropped by 19,375 tons, or 13.7 per cent to 122,365 tons, the lowest total for seven years. This is the second season in succession that exports have shown a decline. This concludes the third year in which a fixed price, guaranteed by the Government, has been paid to farmers for all butter and cheese shipped to overseas markets. For exports of butter alone in the past season farmers in New Zealand have received £17,005,000, based on the guaranteed price of 14.89d per lb. This compares with £18,071,000 in the previous year and £17,470,600 in the first year under the administration of the Primary Products Marketing Department. Allowance is made for quality differentials in these figures.

An outstanding figure in Canadian journalism has been removed by the death of Mr. A. R. Carman, editor of the Montreal Star. Not only was he an editorial writer of exceptional ability, he was an all-round newspaper man, capable and competent, and always to be relied upon to keep his journal in the forefront—a step or two ahead—of the procession of his contemporaries. The late Lord Atholstan had the greatest admiration for him and the utmost confidence in his judgment and editorial administration—an appreciation and esteem felt likewise by Lord Atholstan's successor. The Montreal Star has long been an institution in Eastern Canada and the Maritimes, thanks in no small measure to the wise, progressive editorial policy for which it has moved up some sixpence per

NOTES BY THE WAY

Major-General H. B. D. Ketchen, C.B., C.M.C., commanded the 6th Canadian Infantry Brigade during the Great War. He is 87 years old, but military carriage and alert appearance belie his age. He has a moustache, such as only old soldiers of many years in barracks sport. A few days ago the general was walking down Portage Avenue, the main street of Charlottetown. A recruiting sergeant fresh in from Kingston, Ontario, spotted him. The recruiting sergeant walked up and asked: "How about enlisting, sir? \$130 a day and a fine new uniform. The prospective recruit asked: "If he thought there would be any chance of advancement for him—such as you, you'd be sure to be made a corporal right away?" answered the sergeant. "Ever hear of Ketchen out at the barracks?" the general replied. "Oh, sure, he's the general who pulled the sergeant. 'I am Ketchen, and you, my man, are a mighty fine soldier,' said the general, who walked away leaving a bewildered recruiting sergeant looking for a gopher year on a Portage Avenue. — Clark in The Windsor Star.

Activity of the G-men in suppressing espionage has had a widespread effect upon the Nation at large and has made many individuals to do likewise. An amateur spy hunter, however, is as a rule severely handicapped by the extreme difficulty of determining what might be called the symptoms of a spy. Since the introduction of the safety razor even the detectable anarhist is no longer different from the butcher, the grocer or the bookmaker. How much more difficult, then, is it to determine whether a saboteur? Still, once in a while he may slip and give the game away. As a case in point, the other day in Newark, N.J., a citizen spotted a Japanese spy operating very clumsily in Washington Park. Here there was no making of error. Not only was he jotting down information in a notebook, but was also fingering lovingly a bag of bombs. The citizen, tempted to make the capture single-handed, cast aside the unworthy thought. What mattered the glory of the selfish individual when the honor of the Nation was at stake? Boldly he decided that the spy should be surrounded. His intellect, sharpened by living in a democracy, was not to be deceived. He realized that one lone man could never do that trick. Hastily he telephoned the police to break up the spy ring, which they did successfully. True, the spy was arrested and sent to the penitentiary, but the idea of opening up a chon suev joint; duck eggs—but just the same, the incident will serve to let Tokio know that we will stand no nonsense. — Washington Star.

When Mr. Hoover says that the possibility of the Allies being defeated is not merely an intriguing guesswork. He knows something of the power of Britain and France, both in economic and military strength. The worst that could happen would be to workmate, he believes. And Mr. Hoover is a much more unprejudiced authority than say, Herr Hitler. — Windsor Star.

German shippers are probably at work, day and night, building hundreds of under water craft to destroy British shipping at whatever cost. Canada should be contributing to the British answer by helping to build more ships than the enemy can sink. Germany should be kept in a state of constant alert, and the submarine campaign would be more speedily brought home to the enemy if German morale could be shaken by frustrating the U-boats.

At a service club gathering in New York the other day, Magistrate Trot presided over the work of Chief City Magistrate Jacob Gould Schurman Jr., declaring that when Mr. Schurman assumed office the federal courts showed a decrease of \$87,000 whereas at the end of last year the same courts showed a profit of \$405,000. "We're running the courts to collect fines," the speaker asserted, "but the day the district leader of the industry is judge is gone." — Amherst News.

The mistake of the years of the Great War, when tens of thousands of acres of prairie land quailed unsolicited to the growing of wheat, was the most favorable conditions were broken and sown, must not be permitted to happen again during the present struggle. The tremendous problem of the War in Prussia, particularly Saskatchewan, and in recent years of the Dominion Government, has been to maintain people who are on these lands under artificial high prices and who the dry years came had no means of support. — Moose Jaw Times-Herald.

For Spain in her present condition to seek unity and recovery in a foreign adventure would be as disastrous as the misadventure caused by fever to plunge into a cold bath. The Civil War has left behind it disorganized industry, ineffective machinery, a serious lack of raw materials, broken bridges and unrepared roads, refugees, concentration camps, banditry and personal vendettas—to say nothing of a military censorship. Only the time and toil and all-time vigilance can remove this accumulation of evils. The distress has been greatest in Catalonia, where the population was of course mainly anti-Nationalist and where the highly developed industries were to suffer in war. — London Times.

Boxers must have trainers, second, and holders at their corner. And soldiers need civilians behind them. For every man in uniform there are ten or more men in dungarees, who work in the factories so that the soldier can fight at the front. Wars are fought between manufacturing plants. And that is where Britain has the power to hit hard and go on hitting. We have the best industrial plants in the world. We have, in proportion to our population, more industrial workers than any other country in this war. And the skill of our workers cannot be equalled. Don't forget the army of workshops and the offices. The less they are troubled by needless restrictions on their life—the bigger Britain's war effort in industry is going to be. — Daily Express, London.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

SEED POTATO PRICES

Sir,—A letter appeared in your issue of the 16th signed, Victim, which should have been signed Squaleur.

From time immemorial we have had gamblers, men who are willing to take a chance by advancing money or goods, where they figure they could make large returns; and there are always those who will take the offer.

Last May 46 cents looked pretty good to many of us who do not have the means to buy fertilizer. \$90.00 worth of fertilizer could be had for first 200 bushels shipped this fall. That amount of fertilizer would put in about five acres, and at an average crop the farmer would have about five or six hundred bushels to sell after the fertilizer was paid for. Now the man who could not get fertilizer in time would have been idle if it were not for said deal. So where does Victim come in? If he could have financed his fertilizer bill before the start of the gambling game, then he should take it on the chin and not squeal through the Press.

I am, Sir, etc.

ONE WHO BENEFITED

Songs Of War

(Exchange)

They have a new song now in England. It runs in an old tradition, not so good as music, perhaps, but reflecting a trait that has been familiar since the first hundred thousand marched off to meet the invaders in 1914 with Piperary on their lips. After that they flowered, jovial, poignant and tuneful—Oh, Oh, Oh, It's a Lovely War. Come keep the Home Fires Burning and a host of others that still bring back those four years in memory. To-day it is We're Going to Hang Out the Washing on the Siegfried Line. It's the first of the new crop.

There are war songs and war songs. In older days they were more seriously patriotic. There was Rule, Britannia, and Soldiers of the Sea, and his echoes as men set sail for South Africa forty years ago. Way back in 1878, when Disraeli wanted to send a British fleet into Turkish waters to resist the advance of Russia, his supporters looked the sobriety of Jingo from the music hall ditty: "We don't want to fight yet, by Jingo! If we do, we've got the shins. We've got the men, we've got the money, we've got the arms. We'll give 'em the lighter variety, revealing a capacity for cheerfulness on the part of the British Navy that was not to be seen in other nationalities. The French stuck to their song, stirring Marseillaise in the heroic defence of their country. Germany backed its Deutschland über Alles with the famous Hymn of Hate.

We will never forego our hate, we have all but a single hate. We love as one we hate as one, we have a foe and one alone, England.

't the captain's mess, in the banquet-hall, Sat feasting the officers, one and all. Like a sabre-blow, like the swing of a sail, One raised his glass, held high to hail. Sharp snapped like the stroke of a rudder's play. Spoke three words only: "To the day!"

The strains of Der Tag were to nock back ironically at the fate it heralded. Horst Wessel was to call to another day.

Pretty Terrible

(Windsor Star) Hitler, a man responsible for the deaths of many thousands of persons, Germans and others; Hitler, the oppressor of the Jews and the enemy of both the Catholic and Protestant churches in his own country, still has the supreme audacity to invoke the aid of Heaven for his nefarious undertakings.

In his Reichstag speech yesterday Hitler concluded with these words: "As Fuehrer of the German people and chancellor of the Reich, I can thank God at this moment that our hard struggle for what is our right, and beg Him that we and other nations may find the right way, so that not only the German people but all Europe may once more be granted the blessing of peace."

It's a pretty terrible state of affairs when a man starts giving God credit for the rape of Poland.

The cobble streets of the old French town, The feet of the soldiers are tramping down With sunlight flashing on bare, blue steel. And old ghosts watch while the columns whine as they pass. Old ghosts out of those far, lost years, Or Arras and Ypres and Arras-tieres.

Drimly they come these relentless dead, Their long sleep broken by hostile tread. Onward they sweep while their numbers swell, From Vimy and Marne and Neuve Chapelle! And old ghosts laugh with a dreadful mirth—"Who thought to bury our souls in earth?"

Isn't the living they'll have to fear, But the spirits of dead men waiting here! Dead men lining the long French street, Timidly pace with the young men's feet. Marching, marching with silent tread. How can they hope to defeat the dead!

Constance Troy, in the Montreal

False Neutrality

(New York Post)

We depended on international law and our rights as a neutral to keep us at peace last time. They failed us. We therefore have decided to depend on our own statutes this time, not to try to impose our will on the war situation. Then, by drawing a capricious statute, do we impose our will on the war situation. England has sea power; Germany has land power; we arbitrarily decide to embargo arms and thus help the land power to overcome the sea power. We do not let the war go its own way, making its own inequalities as between the belligerents. We write an inequality into our statute. We say that even though Britain may blockade Germany successfully, we will interfere in the war to the extent of embargoing arms, thus giving Germany the equivalent of an Atlantic fleet and a fleet of submarines on the border between ourselves and Canada. This deliberate injection of a new factor into the war is hardly a neutrality. It is intervention: well-meaning intervention, but one based on a false promise as to what constitutes neutrality, and one which therefore produces an unequal result. Is it not purer neutrality to sell all goods, cash-and-carry, to all comers, and if some cannot come here because of the war, to let them know what they must blame this on the war, not on us?

EARLY LOSS OF MOTHER MAY AFFECT CHILD'S BEHAVIOR AND PERSONALITY

Some years ago I examined the boys of a reform school and learned that in about half the cases the parents of the boys were not living together. These boys should suffer physically, mentally and morally by living in such a household can only be expected. The growing child needs the love of parents and the regular meals, sleep, and discipline of family life. The boys of this reform school had committed serious crimes but because of the condition of their homes they were on the street to much and attended school little or not at all.

One of the sad things in life is the loss of the mother while the children are still young, and so the loss of the mother affects the reported by Dr. H. Barry, Jr. Boston, in American Journal of Orthopsychiatry (study of behavior and personality) who studied the proportion of the deaths of

mothers to fathers in relation to mental disease. Records were obtained from Greysons Park of 549 white men, patients, 396 male and 243 female. All the patients studied were admitted to the hospital for the first time between the ages of 16 and 25. The number of patients who had lost their mother was nearly 16 per cent among the 549 young patients. This is about three times as large as among groups of the same ages who had not lost their mother (5.3 per cent). The number of patients who had lost their father was about 11 per cent, which is about the same as normal young people, that is, ten per cent. Thus the proportion of deaths of mothers to deaths of fathers was much higher in the mental patients studied than in groups of the same age who were normal mentally.

Dr. Barry believes that "the method of contrasting mother with father bereavement has sufficient importance (theoretically) to warrant extensive application."

As we think of growing children and how the loss of the mother is bound to affect their everyday habits and behavior—not enough discipline, too much discipline, loss of the understanding loving heart of the mother absent of the father—every day it is hard to understand why many of these children will look and grow inward and so become unfitted to mix in play and work with others.

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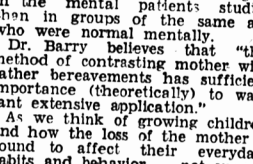
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