

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES \$5.00 per year (in advance) delivered to City \$4.00 per year (in advance) mailed to P. E. Island \$5.00 per year (in advance) mailed to Canada and U.S. Members Audit Bureau of Circulations

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1939

All England Awaiting Them

The tremendous success achieved by the Royal visit to Canada and the United States has had its repercussions in England, which is planning to give Their Majesties the greatest ovation they ever had accorded on their return.

According to a London despatch, a national thanksgiving service at St. Paul's Cathedral or Westminster Abbey is being considered. An immense programme of gala events in London's west end is in preparation. It is expected that the entire 70-mile railroad route from Southampton, where the King and Queen entrain, to London, will be lined with cheering people. Police are making special preparations to handle crowds at stations, bridges and crossings. It is expected that Queen Mary and the little Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose will go to Southampton, so that it will be a united family which returns to receive London's ovation.

The royal physicians are expected to advise the King and Queen to get away from London as soon as possible after their return, to take a complete rest. Their first engagement is to attend an official welcoming luncheon at the Guildhall on the day after their return. But it is expected that, after the crowds have been given a chance to cheer, the King and Queen will go to the country as soon as they can.

Thus for Their Majesties there will be but temporary, if any, escape from

"The tide of pomp That beats upon the high shore of this world."

The acclamations of the multitude will continue to follow them. A life lived in a continual round of exacting formalities and public appearances is theirs, with but rare intervals allowed to recuperate their exhausted vitality. This is what gives such solemnity to Coronation ceremonies. The dedication of British Sovereigns to the service of their people is no mere figure of speech.

Letters in Canada: 1938

The current annual survey of Canadian Literature, compiled by the indefatigable Toronto University Quarterly, is now to hand, and is packed with information both cheering and disheartening.

Prof. E. K. Brown notes, for example, that Canadian "poetry of 1938 was markedly less interesting and valuable than that of any other year since the survey began (1935)." Prof. J. R. MacGillivray says that "the crop of Canadian fiction for 1938 was about average in bulk and quality," but goes on to add that he observes three encouraging signs namely, "the emergence of several new writers of promise (Gwenethalyn Graham, Wilfred Eggleston, Frank J. Tate), the continuing imaginative growth of at least one novelist of established reputation (Mazo de la Roche), and rather more common ability to represent the Canadian scene than has been evident in recent years." Mr. W. S. Milne reports that "the quality of the drama crop is good, most achieving a high level of mediocrity, while the preponderance of comedy is a very healthy sign."

The remaining 1938 literary material in the survey is dealt with by the editor, Prof. A. S. P. Woodhouse, who passes judgement upon Canadian autobiography, biography, social and critical studies, and miscellaneous prose.

U. S. Tribute

This fine tribute to our King and Queen from the Washington (D. C.) Star:

"To say that they captured the hearts of the people is to be guilty of an understatement. Perhaps never before within the memory of living Americans has it happened that such depths of friendly feeling were touched. From first to last, their Britannic Majesties received at the hands of citizens of every class the homage of a sincere affection.

"The explanation of popular appreciation of the King and the Queen is not to be found exclusively in the fact that they are the first reigning sovereigns of Great Britain to sojourn in the District of Columbia. George and Elizabeth would be lovable persons in a private station. It is true of them as provisionally it also is true of many other couples that they are endowed with distinctive charm. Graciousness is more than a manner with them. Rather, it is a natural characteristic plainly manifest to every observer. They are possessed of a spiritual maturity magnetically forceful yet gentle as a fragile flower.

"Neither of the Royal guests arbitrarily may command the applause of the multitude. They are symbols of the power which holds British civilization together, not rulers in the accurate meaning of the word. Constitutional tradition governs every action, every utterance, every thought of their existence. The pattern established for them is rigid and compelling, yet it cannot forbid them to be convincingly and often delightfully human.

"But the King and Queen must not be supposed to be casualistic in their attitude towards

the world of which they are part. They can be deeply serious in their performance of their duty. At Mount Vernon there was a solemn interlude and at Arlington still another. The wreaths offered in tribute to the leader who separated the Thirteen Colonies from England and to the Unknown Soldier who died that freedom might not be separated from the experience of later generations were not merely decorations. Instead, they represent an ideal which the English-speaking commonwealth are proud to share and which the present occupant of the Imperial Throne personifies. Plainly, he is conscious of his grave responsibility; and his help-mate, aiding him in the bearing of his burden, is no less notably aware of it.

"Their Majesties may be weary from their travels. But they will be strengthened and supported by their memories of them through years to come. Let it also be mentioned that the same advantage accrues to the cause of peace and harmony which they are serving—the survival of ordered and disciplined liberty and the hope for progress in this troubled yet not intolerable earth."

Editorial Notes

Battle of Bunker Hill this date, 1775.

Battle of Waterloo, tomorrow's date, 1815.

The Home Improvement loans to Prince Edward Island to May 31 totalled 687 amounting to \$176,845.06.

Tomorrow, a day of rest and gladness after weeks of feverish excitement, and a day of full realization to many and disappointment to not a few.

May exports of coarse grains were considerably in advance of those in the corresponding month last year, barley totalling 1,206,460 bushels valued at \$546,735 compared with 700,317 at \$449,758, oats 992,274 bushels at \$296,836 compared with 426,605 at \$207,795 and rye 86,572 bushels at \$38,683 compared with 8,571 at \$5,657 in May, 1938.

There need be no questions about it—the King is tired and weary after the tremendous triumphal progress from the Atlantic to the Pacific and back. Those having a near view of his features saw the lines of care and worry, and noted the youthfulness, and even boyishness, so characteristic of him had disappeared, being replaced by rugged manhood and serious mien. As for the Queen she has stood the ordeal better, being as full of vim and vivacity as when she first set foot on Canadian soil. Au revoir.

While unemployment in general is a major evil that "will be cured with the miracle of an upturn in business," the present remedies offered by the Dominion Parliament are merely treatment of symptoms rather than of the disease. Hon. T. J. Coonan, Quebec Minister without Portfolio, declared before the N.D.G. group of the National Young Conservatives at a meeting held in the Community Hall. Dealing with the present situation of unemployed young Canadians, Mr. Coonan said that "the problem is one for thinkers and cannot be solved by mediocrities who only advance to youth the example of their own success without acknowledging the fortuitous circumstances that gave them the opportunity of developing economic reputation, men who have assumed the task of leadership without knowing its elements."

Announcement of the third international tuna fishing tournament to be held off the coast of south-western Nova Scotia next September reflects the growing interest in deep-sea angling. Teams of "big game" anglers representing the British Empire, the United States and Cuba will pit their skill against one another—and against the big, swift, powerful tuna, explains a Canadian Resources bulletin. The tuna enter Nova Scotia waters toward the end of June, striking the Southern tip of the peninsula first, and then spreading northwards along the entire coast. July, August and September are the best months but tuna are taken till late November. Another big game fish that is attracting the attention of deep-sea anglers is the broadbill swordfish, which frequents the waters off the East coast of Cape Breton Island from early July till mid-September. A comparatively recent addition to the big game fish species, the swordfish takes its picturesque name from the fact that it carries a sword, which is really a prolongation of the upper jaw, that serves as a formidable weapon. Among the noted sword-fishing centers are the Villages of Ingonish, and Neil's Harbor, situated close to the new Cape Breton Highlands National Park.

A curious situation has arisen in the U. S. A. as the result of the 25 per cent additional duty imposed on German made goods. Much of the so-called Scotch whisky originates in the land of Hitler, where potato spirit is "adapted" and sold abroad as genuine Scotch. Now the excess duty has sent up the price, and the retailers in U. S. A. are said to be up in arms. The New York Times says:

If a "Buy American" campaign is begun by retail liquor package store owners on either a national or local basis it will be met by the withdrawal of Scotches and other foreign liquors from the fair-trade price maintenance contracts. Importers, commenting on reports that a campaign against foreign whiskeys will be proposed at the national convention of package store owners in Boston next week, said that the withdrawal of price contracts on Scotches and other whiskeys would be an effective retaliatory measure. Another move to offset a retailers' campaign aimed at foreign liquors is under consideration, importers said. This step, they explained, is a publicity campaign designed to show that Scotch prices have been forced to uneconomic levels by the profit-margin demands of retailers.

Few in Canada, if any, doubt that the Province of Quebec is fully as loyal as any part of the Empire. Now it has provided an object lesson for foreign peoples. The spirit of the Quebecois has demonstrated itself unmistakably. The true Imperialists in Canada must greatly rejoice. If there be, nor the sentimental parrots repeating time-worn shibboleths, but those who believe that the Empire stands for peace, justice and freedom within the law. The welcome given to the King is the most positive evidence of Canada's sound Imperialism. This is the spirit of the Empire, the spirit of the Empire is the King and how strong a link he is may be clearly seen in the enthusiasm of all Canadians, but especially of Canadian children. —Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Just as Canada encouraged by her acts the collapse of the League of Nations, so today, Canada by vigorous action which would again receive the "approval of all sections" of this country could help to lead the way to the only way

NOTES BY THE WAY

Acting on behalf of Howard Carter, the discoverer of the tomb of the Pharaoh Tut-ankh-amen, we are desired to refute in the fullest terms a statement which has been published in the press, that peas found by him in the tomb had been planted and fertilized, so that pea-flowers and peas in the pod have grown from them. Mr. Carter states there were no peas found in the tomb; that if there had been they were not his property to give away, and that physically it would be impossible that the peas after thousands of years would have any reserve of life force. —London Times.

Ever since September last, Lord Beaverbrook has been insistent that there will be no major war this year and by all present portents it looks as if he is right. There is not a bit of doubt that war fears have militated against business and seriously so in the opening months of this year. But they have a great deal to be changed and a search will have to be made at Berlin and Rome to find the reason. One thing seems to be sure, "Der Tag" has not arrived as yet and the probability may be a very long one. —St. Catharines Standard.

When beauty scouts from the Norwegian pavilion at the New York World's Fair went about the grounds looking for the "fairest in the fair" to model the rare platinum fox fur, Mrs. Mildred Anderson, of Winnipeg, of Icelandic descent, was acting as a guide at Iceland's display. When it came to produce a beautiful, she comes to back seat to no country. And among the fairest of the fair sex in this country are some whose ancestry is Scandinavian. —Windsor Star.

Ex-Boss Tom Pendergast gives every indication of being a man of ample means. He owns a luxurious mansion and has a fine horse-breeding farm. Through such enterprises as his concrete and liquor companies, immense profits have come to him, and his political influence is such that it is possible for him to increase those profits almost at will. No doubt he has other respectable or semi-respectable sources of income. Why, then, does he not permit me to insure him through my column, to say a hearty "THANK YOU" to the hundreds of persons whose interest, appreciation, and comradeship have greatly enriched my life. My services from pulpits, platform, press and through personal fellowship may have meant little to them but the Island has left a profound impression on my mind and heart. I feel as though I had taken a postgraduate course in the schoolroom of the good common people. This favor may I also express my appreciation of the kindness shown to me by the press itself, and to commend the Island newspapers for the very excellent and professional manner in which they are promoting good citizenship. Not least among these desirable features is their persistent refusal to soil their pages with the smut and filth that defiles the modern press so frequently, though one often wishes that political issues could be discussed with more light and less heat, or at any rate, that the intensity of the heat might be in better proportion to the importance of the issue under consideration. Again, THANKS! and GOOD-BYE!—God be with you!

I am, Sir, etc. J. W. A. NICHOLSON (The Province will certainly regret losing the Rev. Mr. Nicholson as one of its leading ministers and educationists. The community club which he promoted in North Bay is a centre of light and leading long before the adult education movement took hold in the Maritimes, and as it was non-denominational, it attracted the support of members of the various churches in the district. Even those who disagreed with Mr. Nicholson's views found him a controversialist worthy of their steel. —Ed.G.)

While many other people are able to dress in appropriate uniforms for Royal visits and other occasions, the members of the mayors (who are important dignitaries) have to content themselves with silk hats, morning coats and striped trousers and in numerous instances they lack even the chains which are traditionally associated with the offices that they occupy. If other officials can come before the public in festive attire when on occasion, why should our mayors ought to be in a position to do likewise, and the same applies to the wardens of our counties. The mayors are an ancient office and should be surrounded with more dignity than is customarily attached to it. Few urban communities are so poor that they cannot afford to purchase a chain which could be passed on from mayor to mayor or from warden to warden in the case of rural municipalities. This would serve as a permanent link on state and other important occasions and invest the chief magistrate with becoming dignity. —Brockville Recorder and Times.

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Their Majesties At Charlottetown

(Toronto Globe and Mail)

OUR ENVIALE PRIVILEGES

His Majesty paid appropriate tribute to the capital of Prince Edward Island which has indeed, "the proud distinction of being the Cradle of Confederation." His visit to Charlottetown recalls the memorable conference held fifty years after the first proposal (by Chief Justice Sewell) of a Federal Union of British North America. In this part of his Majesty's visit, we are prone to overlook the part played by the far-sighted men of the Maritimes, and perhaps forget that the Charlottetown conference was called to unite the three Atlantic Provinces after efforts at a larger union seemed to have failed. The Government of Canada asked permission to send a delegation, and out of the discussion was born the plan later taken up at Quebec moulding the Confederation into a Royal Commission is now attempting to re-organize.

Was the King reminding us of the purpose of our confederation, rather than the later results, in his reply to Prince Edward Island's address of welcome? "It has been good," he said, "to see the enviable conditions in which members of the different races dwell here as citizens of Canada and the British Commonwealth." The British Commonwealth is a term which the members of the different races flourish in an atmosphere of tolerance and good-will. In June seventy-five years ago the two political parties in Upper and Lower Canada, embarrassed by different degrees of loyalty, made a coalition "for the purpose of removing existing difficulties by introducing the Federal principle into Canada." It might also be timely to recall the

spirit in which the Quebec resolutions were adopted, as described by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his despatch to Lord Monk: "Animated by the warmest sentiments of loyalty and devotion to their Sovereign; earnestly desirous to secure for their posterity throughout all future time the advantages which they enjoy as subjects of the British Crown; steadfastly attached to the institutions under which they live; they have conducted their deliberations with patient sagacity and have arrived at unanimous conclusions on questions involving many difficulties and calculated under less favorable auspices to have given rise to many differences of opinion.

The articles of Confederation were drafted "in an atmosphere of tolerance and good will," to establish conditions in which members of the different races could dwell as citizens of Canada and the British Commonwealth, and not as citizens of the Province with special aims at the expense of one another. "There was nothing wrong with the 'Cradle of Confederation,' but on the eve of our seventy-second birthday as a nation we may well ask ourselves if His Majesty is not reminding us of failure to fulfill the promise of birth. Have the Maritime Provinces done as well as they could if the original purpose of the Charlottetown Conference had been carried out within Confederation? Have any of the provinces continued to live up to the wholesome spirit of tolerance and good-will? His Majesty has given us a number of messages which it would do well to take to heart, but none more important than this reminder of nationhood responsibilities within the British Empire.

Justice? Had the late lamented Capt. Read been Prince County representative when Their Majesties visited this Province a visit, the elections can rest assured that Summerside would not have been boy-cotted.

I am, Sir, etc. W. P. CALLAGHAN, Summerside, June 15, 1939.

RURAL CHILDREN DISAPPOINTED

Sir—Their Majesties have come and gone, but instead of the joy of satisfaction, sorrow reigned today in the hearts of hundreds of P. E. I. rural school children. For the past month, we teachers were advised to do all in our power to increase the enthusiasm of the children under our care. Radio broadcasts, newspaper comments and special letters from the Department of Education strongly urged this point. In spite of the inclement weather, thousands of country school children left their homes at an early hour Wednesday morning. All were elated at the prospect of seeing our King and Queen. According to all reports it was fully believed that school groups would be in such a position that they would have an unobstructed view, and children were encouraged to go in school groups rather than individually. Now we hear that practically every one had a much better view than the children crowded together on Great George Street.

We were most careful to arrange the children according to size—the smallest in front. However, it mattered very little, for a wall of Girl Guides—many of whom were over five feet tall—were crowded together directly in front of the school children, completely blocking the view of all but the tallest pupils. I should also like to know why it was not arranged to have the royal car drive slowly as it did in other cities. It had whizzed by, and ninety per cent of the school children were unaware of the fact. Although this was a keen disappointment, we tried to cheer them up by telling them they would be sure of a better opportunity as the Royal party went back to the wharf. Even standing for hours in the rain did not lessen their enthusiasm; and the children, with high hopes of more consideration, lined up once more. But what happened? Before the Royal entourage had left Government House the Guides in still greater numbers came into view. Instead of one line, four lines (two of Guides and two of Brownies) were arranged in front of us. Oh yes, they were nearly one foot apart, but at the least excitement they broke ranks and four impenetrable walls of people stood before the tiny tots. It is entirely fitting that Scouts, Guides, etc., should occupy a prominent place, but that they should do so at the expense of others is certainly not in accordance with the principles of either organization. There was plenty of room along the route and no necessity for crowding them all into the meager space allotted the school children. Was there any doubt as to the loyalty of the country school children? Surely this is not the reason the preference was given in such a marked degree to children of the city schools!

Although the royal car travelled at a slightly reduced speed on the return, only a limited number got

to see the King and Queen. King forgotten that when he was without a seat in Parliament, in the whole broad Dominion, Prince County was the only riding that offered him a seat?

The writer was one of the delegates to the convention held in Summerside, which gave to the Prime Minister an unanimous nomination. The Liberals of Prince County even went further and used their influence with the Prince County Convention to refrain from putting up any opposition and thereby giving him the seat by acclamation. But apparently he has forgotten past in the past. Although he made the entire trip throughout the Dominion with Their Majesties, (cheap notoriety, Mr. Hepburn called it). It is regrettable that he should ignore and forget the people of Prince County, who conferred on him a great favor. And what is the matter with the Prince County Federal Member? Has he no influence at Summerside, or did he make any effort to give us

of peaceful life that offers itself. —Winnipeg Free Press.

After trying vainly for days to produce the proper sound effect of 100 chirping chickens, a St. Louis radio station finally hit on the correct solution—they sent out for 100 chickens that chirped. —New York Post.

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even a fleeting glance at one or the other of Their Majesties. Before the smaller children could realize which was the royal car, it was too far past for them to see the occupants. On questioning the younger pupils we received such answers as: "I saw the Queen a little bit, but I didn't see the King at all," or "I saw the Queen's hat," or "I saw the King's car." So these are to be their recollections of the event to which they had looked forward with such anticipation!

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The Poet's Corner I do not think that skies and meadows are Moral, or that the fixture of a star Comes of a quiet spirit, or that trees Have wisdom in their windless silences.

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