

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1939

What Are Our Judges For?

The force of a bad example is being exemplified by the proposal of the City Council to ignore our duly appointed judges in favour of a specially appointed board, of their own nomination evidently, to adjust the differences between tax-payers in areas and the City.

A beginning was made in this departure from constitutional usage by the Campbell Government when it passed special legislation to prevent a dissatisfied farmer from appealing to the law courts for reparation in connection with damage sustained by the alleged negligence of the Public Works Department of the Government. This method proved so satisfactory to the powers-that-be that it was followed by the Minister of Public Works in taking unto himself legal power to assess the value of any land which he might require for road-making, irrespective of the claim of the farmer or other and-owner whose property was at stake.

Having gotten away with this the Campbell Government arrogated unto itself the right of deciding what compensation should be paid to the farmers and other property owners within the National Park area, depriving these people of their right to appeal to the law courts.

Now the City Council seem to think these precedents good and sufficient justification for them also to ignore the usual course of justice and are applying for authority to establish a judiciary of their own to adjust tax arrears.

It is readily understandable that the City Council is anxious to clear up the financial muddle as speedily and with as little trouble to all concerned as possible. It is also understandable that the ordinary processes of law in this instance, owing to the number and variety of cases, would be slow and costly. But there is no reason why a board or tribunal could not be constituted from the existing judiciary. What are our judges for if every now and then their services must be dispensed with in favour of other arbitrators? Surely in an important matter of this kind, where it is necessary to have both a competent and impartial tribunal, our judges are the proper appointees.

Britain And War Debts

The question of war debts has been revived in some quarters in the United States. This brings the following reply from a correspondent in a mainland exchange:

Of all the major debtors to the United States England was the one who did the most to stand by the sanctity of her contracts until such stand became impossible to continue. From the time of the funding agreement of June, 1923, England had regularly kept up her payments averaging 202 million dollars a year until the Hoover moratorium of June 1931. As in the case of France, the prices charged England for the supplies sent over ranged from three to eight times the price which would have been obtained for the same goods if sold in 1914 or in 1934. Here are the figures:

Table with 2 columns: Purchases and Paid in Cash. Rows include Prior to April, 1917; On credit April, 1917-Nov., 1920; Total; Prior to April, 1917; In 1919-1920; In 1921-1933; Total paid in cash.

The statements and figures quoted are from a publication issued by the Committee for the Consideration of Inter-Governmental Debts, 330 West 42nd Street, New York. From this it is quite clear that England paid in cash for everything purchased before the United States became a partner in a common cause, and at exorbitant prices.

War Materials For Japan

If other countries did not supply Japan with the raw materials essential to making her war munitions, she could hardly have continued to wage war in China, nor could she be an effective partner of Germany and Italy. As pointed out recently in these columns, Canada is an important contributing factor to this situation. Very little of Japan's raw material has been sent by the Axis powers, only 3.36 per cent of her total imports of it in 1937 and 1.48 per cent of it in 1938 being their contribution. The United States supplied 57.07 per cent of this material and British countries 20.69 of it last year. But the values and volume of similarly used imports from some British countries have been increased. Ironically then, the more Japan is helped by British countries to wage war, the plainer becomes the threat it directs against them. The illogic of this is being realized, and some British countries are reducing their exports of war materials to Japan. But Canada is not doing so. During the last two years it increased its export of raw materials essential to the munitions upon which Japan bases the might that ultimately may be a threat to the integrity of this Dominion.

The volume of raw materials for munitions in the exports from Canada to Japan, says the Winnipeg Free Press, is a trading anomaly. Of total value of \$19,539,000, materials for munitions valued \$18,378,000 last year. In other words, 94 per cent of Canada's exports to Japan were for war munitions. The outstanding export was nickel, and amounted to 91.29 per cent of Japan's total nickel imports. This and other exports similarly essential in munitions manufacture gave Canada second ranking place among British countries contributing to Japan's war machine. British Malaya, with its almost unprecedented source of rubber, furnished Japan with exports valued at \$28,380,000, which, however, was a reduction in value of \$3,000,000 from the supply given in 1937. In other materials Canada was the largest exporter among British countries in 1938. It came second in the supply of copper and mica, and third in the supply of lead, which is so extensively used for munitions such as rifle and machine gun bullets and on a large scale for explosives. Other raw materials exported by Canada to keep Japan's war machine going included tin, antimony, mercury, scrap and old iron and steel, hides and skins.

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EDITORIAL NOTES

Frederick the Great died this date, 1786.

The seventh successive good half holiday for the merchants.

Everybody, well nearly everybody worthwhile, has been, or will be, in the city this week.

There may be "many a slip twixt the cup and the lip," but it is now taken for granted that congratulations are today due our next Lieutenant-Governor, the Hon. B. W. LePage, President of Council. The official announcement is expected this week, the appointment having already received approval of the Government at Ottawa.

More than 3,800 Home Improvement Loans totaling \$1,619,710.19 were reported to the Department of Finance in July, according to figures released by the Honourable J. L. Ilsley, Acting Minister of Finance. This is a decided increase over the same period of 1937 and 1938. P. E. I. — Nov. 1, 1936—June 30, 1939, 725, \$182,826.29. July 1-31, 1939: 51, \$10,785.42. Total: 776, \$193,611.71.

According to the Bank of Montreal, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, coarse grains are well headed out and a satisfactory crop is indicated. Haying has been delayed by showers in some districts but a below-average crop of good quality has nearly all been stored. Grass pastures are keeping up well, but rain is now required. Potato plants are well advanced and a heavy yield is indicated. Other root crops are doing well. Apples continue to make favourable progress and early varieties are colouring. In Prince Edward Island the harvesting of the hay crop has been completed; the yield was slightly below average. Coarse grains are ripening rapidly. Potatoes and other root crops continue to make satisfactory progress, but rain is now needed.

Lower average prices were chiefly responsible for the decrease in the total value of raw furs produced in Canada during the 12 months ended June 30, 1939, when the total was \$12,527,497 compared with \$17,526,305 in the previous season and \$15,461,883 in the season 1935-36. These totals comprise the values of pelts of fur-bearing animals taken by trappers and pelts sold from fur farms, the value of the latter representing approximately 46 per cent of the whole. The numbers and values of leading furs produced in 1937-38 were as follows, with figures for the previous year in brackets: silver fox, 249,983, \$5,666,208 (230,030, \$6,777,644); muskrat, 1,729,825, \$1,309,045 (1,607,897, \$2,250,971); mink, 134,789, \$1,348,007 (139,673, \$2,267,835); white fox, 52,503, \$660,810 (22,191, \$304,139); beaver, 53,076, \$555,664 (\$575,969,011).

Documentary proofs of Thomas Lincoln's ownership of the farm at Hodgenville, Ky., where his illustrious son, Abraham Lincoln, was born, and other legal papers pertaining to the Lincoln family have been preserved for posterity by the timely action of historical technicians in the National Park Service, the acting director, A. E. Demaray, has reported to Secretary Ickes of the U.S.A. Interior Department. Microfilm copies have been made of these valuable papers, as well as of others concerned with Lincoln's ancestry, on file in Larue County Court House, Kentucky, the whole totalling some 580 exposures, which will become a part of the archives of the government. According to the musty records the original birthplace, known as the Sinking Spring Farm, consisted of 348 acres, and was acquired by Thomas Lincoln in December, 1808, for the consideration of \$200. Thomas Lincoln signed the paper transferring the equity of the former owner, Isaac Bush, by making his mark.

Plans for a general mobilization of the British medical profession in time of war, aside from the additions to be made to the medical corps of the military establishment, have been announced by the Ministry of Health. They include the establishment of a national hospital for the treatment of civilian casualties and an independent medical service recruited from medical practitioners not already in the whole time employment of the government or local authorities. The salaries range from \$7,000 and \$6,500 for respectively, consultant advisers and group officers, down to \$2,750 and \$1,750 for medical and house officers. Class A comprises those who will be called up for whole-time hospital service on a seasonal basis in their own hospital area will be paid for consultant and special work \$3.12 per session of two hours' duration, subject to a maximum of £126 (\$630) a quarter. For general practitioner work 11s 6d per session of two hours, subject to a maximum payment of £78 15s a quarter, will be paid. Doctors in this scheme will not wear uniforms but will have a distinguishing badge.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A week or two ago the Zoo had in its possession two Black Widow spiders, the bite of which is fatal to human beings. Since then, I understand, the spider had issue to the number of about 50, and the young are as deadly as their parents. At present, all are in safe custody, but an a.r. might have the effect of losing them, and other beasts and insects not much less noxious, on the surrounding neighborhood. Might—but in fact will not, for the Zoo authorities have foreseen that possibility. In the event of Regent's Park will be destroyed, and the rest evacuated to Whipsnade. It is a pity the 50 Mer. Widows could not be forwarded to Herr Hitler. — London Spectator.

Here in Canada, we should be building for the big Autumn business in years. Industrial production is up; so are employment figures; and total payrolls; a good crop is almost ready to be harvested. There is nothing between us and better times but ourselves, and our cantankerous habit of Whipsnade. We should stop it. — Vancouver Sun.

A contemporary says "It is estimated that the Federal Government's wheat bonus will go into the pockets of Ontario farmers — and incidentally come out of the pockets of Canadian taxpayers." But, on the other hand, the farmers have risen along with Whipsnade to pay a bonus to manufacturers in the form of higher prices for goods produced behind a protective tariff wall. Farmers feel, naturally enough, that the agricultural industry should be bonused too. — Toronto Star.

Such statements as Mr. King's, in fact, do not represent a foreign policy at all. They are purely domestic politics of the smallest kind. The country deserves leadership on these great issues of our time—foreign policy and the Peace Front, together with national defence. Even that most cautious of politicians, Prime Minister Chamberlain, did not hesitate to speak his mind at Birmingham. But Mr. King "will not" and "cannot" be persuaded to speak out in behalf of Canada. It is the old "no commitments in advance" fustian all over again. — Winnipeg Tribune.

The schemes of dictators in these days for rendering the countries over which they hold sway "self-sufficient" cannot be styled altogether original. They may be said to go back to the days of Napoleon Bonaparte at least, though the ideal was entertained at a much earlier stage in history; for example, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth One of the most important actions of Napoleon from the economic point of view was the issue of his "Barrémont" and "Barrémont" which aimed at closing the ports of the Continent of Europe to British commerce. The Berlin Decree, issued on November 21, 1806, inaugurated the "Continental system." At this time the French Navy and the French merchant marine had been driven off the seas by the British warships. Addressing the Chamber of Commerce in Paris earlier in the year, Napoleon used words which might be put into the mouth of Herr Hitler today: "I am determined if we desired to be rich, we had to own colonies. Today we must become manufacturers and be able to provide for ourselves what we used to get from elsewhere. We must provide our own rice and our own sugar. While I am in command of the seas, the industries of France will be developed."

The mere announcement that the British Government is considering the advisability of establishing a Ministry of Propaganda has been already sufficient to cause a storm of wrath in the German Press. This comes as a very firm in a country where all publicity is under the control of Dr. Goebbels whose activity as a propagandist is notorious. German and Italian agencies have long been carrying on a campaign of misrepresentation against the British Government, and which the latter has met with atrociously severe measures being taken against the Arabs in Palestine are examples. We have nothing to fear from the fullest information being placed before the world as to the position of affairs there or elsewhere under the British flag. There are no "concentration camps" or "penal colonies" in Britain similar to those in Germany, where the light of full investigation is not allowed to penetrate the dark places and reveal the acts of cruelty and oppression. In view, however, of the false allegations so freely made against Britain in quarters where there is little opportunity for the truth to be learned, it is highly desirable that oft-repeated lies and slanders should be met by a presentation of the truth. — Exchange.

Scots are living longer, declared John Colville, Secretary of State for Scotland, in the House of Commons when he announced that the country's population had now passed the 5,000,000 mark. The Secretary of State also revealed that this longevity was, unfortunately, also responsible for the increase in incidence among the population. The House then went into Committee of Supply on the vote for the Department of Health and Social Services where saying substantial dividends in the improvement of health standards, infant death rate and the tuberculosis fatality rate were the lowest ever recorded. Mr. Colville said that housing was Scotland's biggest social problem. In some areas an advance had been made in the provision of housing, but it was almost as black and difficult as ever. — Glasgow Bulletin.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Durkin, M.D.

SHOULD PATIENT BE TOLD HIS CASE IS HOPELESS?

When a patient with poor hearing, poor eyesight, heart or other chronic disease, has been told by a specialist in these branches that nothing more can be done for him, he may react in one of two ways. He may decide to accept the verdict and go on his way more or less discouraged, or he may decide that the specialist is wrong and consult another specialist or one using another method of healing. Should he decide on consulting one other than a member of the medical profession, he realizes that the medical specialist has been straightforward in telling him that, in his opinion, nothing could be done for him but at the same time he is determined that as long as the symptoms are present he is going to try to find some method of obtaining relief.

Should a physician tell his patient that there is nothing more that can be done, and in cases that soon end in death, should the patient be told his case is hopeless? I believe that most physicians will agree that in chronic cases — eyesight, hearing, arthritis — the patient should be told that nothing more can be done so that time and when necessary, money, may be saved. In serious ailments when life cannot be saved, the family if not the patient, should be told that the case is hopeless. Hope is perhaps the greatest single factor in bringing a patient through a crisis or in curing a chronic ailment. It should not be taken away while life lasts.

What about "hopeless" cases? Should these patients be told that their case is hopeless? In Medical World some months ago, Dr. S. Block states: "In the hopeless case, do not tell the patient that nothing can be done for him. The hope that springs eternal in the human breast must never be ruthlessly demolished. The shattering of this hope often causes the patient more misery than the original complaint. No matter how intelligent one may be, there is a helpless feeling of impending doom on hearing the fatal pronouncement from some one who has a right to be known."

The Poet's Corner

FROM "POPPLES"

I who walk among the poppies in the burning hour of noon, Brother to their scarlet beauty, Feel their fervor and their swoon. In this little wayside garden, Under the sheer tent of blue, The dark kindred in forgetting, We are of one dust and dew. They, the summer-loving gipsies, Who frequent the Northern year; From an older land than Egypt, I, too, but a nomad here. All day long the purple mountains, Those purple mountains, Send in silent premonition, Their still shadings by our doors. Then sufficed with earth's contentment, The slow patience of the sun, As our heads are bowed to slumber, In the shadows one by one. Sweet and passionless, the starlight Talks to us of things to be; And we stir a little, shiver, In the cool breath of the sea. — Bliss Carman.

PAID FOR PUNCH

HALIFAX—(CP) — When a policeman breaks his fist punching in the line of duty, Halifax's police commission believes he should be paid for it. They voted \$10 to pay for treating Constable Cecil Turner, hand, injured when he subdued a recalcitrant prisoner.

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PUBLIC FORUM

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

CHTOWN — BORDEN HIGHWAY

Sir—There has been considerable discussion lately about the proposed route for this highway should follow, but the most important thing should be the travelling public. Why compel the travelling public to make a detour of five miles or better in order to reach Charlottetown? What the travelling public and also the Charlottetown Board of Trade have been asking was the shortest and most direct route to Borden.

The Government should consider the inconvenience the traveller has been put to for the last five or six years, travelling about fifty-two miles to get to Charlottetown where if the shore route had been paved he could get there in thirty-five. Premier Campbell in his speeches during the election campaign claimed that the traveller of the man also that used the road would have to pay for it. If such is the case why not give him the benefit of the shortest and most direct route to Charlottetown? And now building the road by Trusman's Corner is still giving the traveller a detour of five miles. For instance, when coming to the Island from the mainland, possibly travelling thousands of miles to get to Borden, and landing by the late trip of the boat during the summer months, should they be going to Charlottetown or any point at the eastern end of the Island naturally want the shortest and most direct route to their destination. And it should be the duty of the Government to get this link paved from Tryon to Borden by Avenstide Cove and Cape Traverse with the best possible road, regardless of how the other road goes. This is what the people expected they were getting when they voted for the Campbell Government with the promise of a paved road from Borden to Charlottetown. They did not vote for a paved road from Charlottetown to Summersville and then to all you could call the Albany Highway.

I am Sir etc TRAVELLER

Mirror Of The Nation

By "Commoner"

Ottawa — Although MacKenzie King said nothing about his election intentions at the Liberal Party banquet in his honor in Toronto, some of the things he did say on that occasion may influence the decision as to the time the election is to be held. Public reaction to them may compel the Prime Minister either to bring on the election without further delay or to definitely put it off until next year.

Mr. King's excuse for indecision about the election — the European situation — was generally accepted as a good faith when he gave it at a time of crisis a few weeks ago. Not only has that excuse been invalidated by the passing of the crisis but Mr. King's statements in Toronto as to his attitude as Prime Minister toward the European situation puts his excuse definitely out of court. The only reason for allowing the European situation to interfere with such purely domestic matters of Canada as the holding of an election is that this country must be in a position to take appropriate action should the situation develop into war involving the British Empire. The only statement of any significance Mr. King made at Toronto was that he would continue to refuse to define this country's position in the event of war.

While the public may have been content to have the election deferred to some purely domestic matter, Mr. King with further opportunity for leaving Canada's position undefined in relation to the danger threatening Great Britain and the Empire. While the Prime Minister was holding up the election on the plea of the danger of war he was boasting in Toronto of his refusal to say what Canada would do if war comes. Consequently, people are now asking why the election should be held up because of the danger of war when the Prime Minister has no policy of his own as to what Canada should do in the event of war.

Although the Prime Minister professes to consider the danger of war so great that he cannot decide about the election the only position he is prepared to take is that Canada should exert an effort "by example" to influence other countries in the "ways of peace and liberty." If it were thought that Hitler and Mussolini were likely, because of Canada's example, to tear up any plans they may have for starting a war this Fall Canadians would be willing to let Mr. King delay the election as long as he liked, but there are no indications



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CANADIAN NATIONAL Hotels



Making Mounties In Canada

(Provincial Post) Last week we noticed on a & partment store counter a colorful, for he made a highly priced on his horse and was obviously there to attract the tourist trade. At 38 cents he was probably succeeding, for he made a highly priced on his horse and was obviously there to attract the tourist trade. In the past, tourists counters have been lacking in appropriate emblematic souvenirs of this type. On looking more closely at the "mountie" we found in large letters the word: "Germany."

MAKES SOUVENIRS

PUBLICNO. N. S. —(CP) — When the job Suse Hipson has on the early inhabitants of this old French section of Nova Scotia will be on display at the New York World's Fair. She is making plastic dolls to represent the people who settled here in 1651 under Sieur Philippe d'Entremont whose descendants still live here.

BISHOP IN NEW ROLE

CHESTER, England —(CP) — Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, Bishop of Chester and Bishop-Designate of London, played a barrel organ in the Town Hall Square here, an aid to the Greater Royal Infirmary, where he had recently been ill.

HEAVY CROP

KENTVILLE, N. S. —(CP) — Preliminary estimates of Nova Scotia's early crop of this season place it at 2,530,000 barrels, one of the heaviest crops in the province's history. At the same time last year was 2,300,000 barrels.

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