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

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1950

Canada A Creditor Nation

An announcement by Finance Minister Abbott last week marks the transition of this country from the status of debtor nation to that of creditor with all that that implies. The Government is to establish an 11-man committee, composed of prominent industrialists and investors whose job it will be to seek means of increasing the flow of Canadian capital into sterling area countries.

The committee, headed by Gordon R. Ball, General Manager of the Bank of Montreal, will assist the recently established dollar-sterling trade board in its task of inducing importers to make more purchases from the United Kingdom and other non-dollar countries.

A creditor nation has definite obligations in the world of commerce. Credit, once extended, cannot capriciously be withdrawn and investments liquidated without disastrous dislocations harmful to debtor and creditor countries alike.

The United States in a similar situation after World War I made the mistake of thinking that foreign goods could be kept out of the home market and at the same time repayment of debts demanded in gold or dollars.

Coal Markets Shrink

Mr. Donald Gordon has warned that, unless something is done to increase its relative efficiency, coal is going to face steadily decreasing markets. Only three years ago half of the energy developed in the United States came from coal.

Biggest single consumer, the American railroads, cut their coal consumption by 16 million tons in 1949 and within the next 10 years oil and electric locomotives will slash that demand still more.

Every time an exasperated homeowner switches from coal to oil or gas for heating, the miner loses for all time to come an annual market for at least six tons of coal.

A Scientist Speaks

Dr. Robert A. Millikan, of the California Institute of Technology, is the latest man of science to confess in public that science alone offers mankind no way out of his present dilemma.

The "supreme personal and individual opportunity of everyone," he says, "is to shape my own conduct at all times so as, in my own carefully considered judgment, to promote best, if everyone followed my example, the well-being of mankind as a whole; in other words, to start building on my own account that better world for which I pray."

His final advice to his fellow citizens is this: "My personal job is to develop an attitude of willingness—of determination—to subordinate my own immediate personal impulses, appetites, desires and selfish interests to the larger good of my fellow men as I see it in cases in which there seems to me, after careful consideration, to be conflict between the two."

What is needed, he says, is a new "world

loyalty" and this loyalty must express itself through collective security against aggressors of all kinds. "If," he adds, "Russia will not join in this effort, the next thing to do is for the rest of the world to keep strong themselves and to unite their strengths against any nation that threatens to attack any one of them.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Islanders are graduating from agricultural colleges now, as they do each year. Their value to their native Province is great and every effort should be made to encourage them to return.

Lack of parking space is not always bad for efficiency. A report from Ottawa indicates that many civil servants are arriving as much as 40 minutes early for work to be sure of finding a spot to park.

Last night's public speaking finals for the City Schools brought out admirable talent but probably the real value of the event lies in the chance it gave to the many who did not reach that stage, to stand up and speak before their own classmates.

The survey of child welfare facilities in Charlottetown being conducted by Mr. F. R. MacKinnon should have the effect of arousing interest in this work which the public has been inclined to neglect on the assumption that the Government can be relied upon to take care of everybody.

It seems a pity that the five hundred British books on display at Prince of Wales College should now be returned to the Old Country after serving their purpose in being shown all over Canada.

The annual meeting and luncheon of the P. E. I. Tuberculosis League today should be the most encouraging ever held. The success of the battle against the scourge bids fair to relegate it to the past along with small-pox and other once dread diseases.

A Toronto importing firm is advertising English made aerated drinks in tins instead of bottles. Grocers are encouraged to "stack it up" and copy points out that there are "no bottle headaches" . . . no deposits, no returns, no extra clerk expense" in connection with Hi-C orange-ade.

The Post Office Department seems to have despaired to teaching adults how to properly wrap, address and mail letters and parcels and how to insure them and is now concentrating on an educational programme amongst young people.

David Hume, Scottish historian and philosopher, was born at Edinburgh this date 1711. He tried unsuccessfully to secure chair of moral philosophy at Edinburgh University, was made librarian of Advocates' Library there and published his "History of England." His "Natural History of Religion" appeared in 1757 and he was much honoured during the visit he paid to Paris in 1763.

Against the background of a generally high level of economic activity the federal budget is only a hair's breadth more than balanced, says the B. of M. Business Review. At its present level the budget is equivalent to 18.5% of the national income.



Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

VOLUNTEER EXPENSES

From a report to Lieutenant Governor Dundas on the Volunteer Brigade of Prince Edward Island for the year ending 31st January, 1884, by P. D. Stewart, Adjutant General.

"Towards the payment of all annuities which has been used in this Province since the organization of the Volunteer Force, whether for field pieces or rifles, at practice or at prize shooting, the public funds have contributed about \$10. The remainder has been given by the Imperial Government (with the exception of the amount to the value of \$79 sold during the past year, and paid for by the Volunteers themselves).

"The Imperial Government has in all given 140,000 rounds of Rifle ball cartridge to the Volunteers of Prince Edward Island. "In 1859 it sent 1,000 stand of arms and accoutrements complete, and gave 100,000 rounds of ball cartridge.

"In 1860, 3 iron 9 pounder guns, with a supply of ammunition; 50 Cavalry swords with belts, &c. "In 1861, 4 brass field pieces, with a supply of ammunition; 50 Infantry swords; 400 rifles with accoutrements.

"In 1862 it remitted a charge of \$900, including a charge for 40,000 rounds of ball cartridge. "It could not be expected that the Imperial Government would continue this support, and the Province is now called upon to pay for all the stores which are issued to it.

"It may not be out of place to register the disadvantages, as regards the support they receive from public funds, which the Volunteers are under in this Island, as compared with Volunteers of the neighboring Provinces.

"In Nova Scotia the grant for 1863 was \$5,000 (P. E. Island currency). A considerable portion of this was, however, expended on the Militia. Each Volunteer Company received a contingent allowance of about \$9, 40 round of ball cartridge per man, targets, and drill instructors. Effective members are also exempt from Statute Labour.

Bechuanaland and The Ngwato Tribe

Margery Perham, Fellow in Imperial Studies, Nuffield College.

A few years ago, I stood on a little peak of red-gold rock. In front, seemingly for ever, rolled the blue-grass sea of the Kalahari Bushveld. Below me, like a vast bed of mushrooms, the thatched huts of 25,000 people crowded round the Kopje. I could see special huts made for the Chief, a little brick house where he lived and an open space under a tree where the Kgotla or tribal council came to sit on their little wooden stools.

This was Serowe, headquarters of the Ngwato tribe. It is one of eight tribal groups which live in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. They are directly under the British Crown although almost surrounded by the territory of the Union of the Government of South Africa. Because of this difficult position, the territory is under the Commonwealth Relations Office and not under the Colonial Office. Seven of their African tribes cling to the Eastern edge of the great Kalahari Desert, only one being able to live away in the North-West, round the swampy, malarious and highly intermittent waters of Lake Ngami.

To understand the present position of the Ngwato, a little history is needed. European penetration reached these peoples at a time of great turmoil and confusion. Chaka, a famous Zulu warrior in the early 19th century, organized such a highly disciplined and ferocious army that he set all the tribes of Southern Africa in motion. It was the courage and skill of Khama, the young man who became Chief of the Ngwato, that saved his people from the attacks of the Matabele who had broken off from the Zulu and trekked up towards what is now Southern Rhodesia.

The British Government at first allowed the Chiefs to rule almost as they wished in their own courts and councils. But as European influence began to play upon this terribly poor country, many problems arose which needed modern treatment. The British official, therefore, tried to bring the Chiefs under closer control and to develop more democratic tribal councils.

In 1898, they introduced tribal treaties which kept 85 per cent of taxation and the bulk of salaries were paid to the Chiefs, and they set up a General African Advisory Council for the whole Protectorate. They did all they could to open up water supplies, control cattle diseases and develop medical and educational services. The country's only wealth lies in its million cattle and when the rains failed or the herds were diseased, exports of stock to the Union and the revenue dropped together, and then the British people have to meet the deficit.

They have lately made large grants especially for the expensive work of boring for water. For the Kalahari is a desert which lacks water rather than grass and immense areas of good grazing are useless because there is no water for the cattle to drink, while pasture near the streams and wells is dangerously over-grazed. The men soon found that the best way to make money was for them to go and earn wages in the Union. The expedition was an adventure away from the half-stagnant life on the dry veld, but it was very bad for family life and tribal moral while agriculture, never of a high standard, declined further. Education has spread very slowly, as the boys are away with the herds for the normal years of school life and many more than half the children in the schools are girls. In any case, since the ruling tribe is itself divided into a ruling class and commoners, the educated men who were not of the Chief's blood found too little opportunity for their energies.

What of the future of this tribe and the others in the Protectorate? They cannot stand alone and it would not seem that Britain can indefinitely hold out against the claim of the Union in the economy of which they are a ready embezzled. It is indeed a race with time. The British are not only trying to

The Poet's Corner

THE SILENT VOICES

When the dumb hour, cloth'd in black, Brings the Dreams about my bed, Call me not so often back, Silent Voices of the dead, Toward the lowland ways behind me.

And the sunlight that is gone! Call me rather, Silent Voices, Forward to the starry track Glimmering up the heights beyond me On, and ever on.

—Lord Tennyson.

their own Chiefs, the world began to change round them and even in their own conditions began to outgrow the old tribal constitution and way of life. For the Ngwato, above all, the Chieftainship had difficulties. Khama had been a great chief and a great Christian. In his day, drinking even of native beer was forbidden; he made war on Witchcraft and other pagan customs; and he also tried to soften the servitude of the conquered tribes who had been driven into the desert where they had to hunt for their masters and herd their cattle. But among these tribes, fierce dynastic feuds had always been common. Even Khama had been at odds with his father and brother. When he died in 1923, his rightful heir was his little grandson, Seretse, so his son Tshetedi was made regent. It was Tshetedi who welcomed the writer to Serowe; small and lithe like his father, he had his resolution and intelligence; he also had a full Western education and he worked hard for his people and did all he could to state their case against the claim of the Union. He stimulated education and his people, under his inspiration, collected 100,000 pounds to found a secondary school for the tribe. He saw to it, too, that Seretse had a good education and sent him to the universities of Oxford (where he distinguished himself in sport) and London. But in spite of Tshetedi's good work, there were rival groups in the tribe who even tried to murder him. This led to banishments and law suits and danger of division when Seretse would come of age.

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Notes By The Way

The woman-of-the-week award should go to the little lady from Akron, Ohio, who told a U. S. census taker that she was 44 years old, even though she knew the gentleman was a close friend of her 39-year old son. Who invented age, anyway? —Lethbridge Herald.

The battle between paper and glass in the milk container field is being carried to your doorstep. Up to now, the conflict has been fought largely in the stores. And the newcomer paper carton has routed the venerable glass bottle in about half the United States food shops. In some big cities it's a 4-to-1 store favorite. But the paper carton has barely dented the home delivery market since it came to stay in the mid-30's — after some earlier flutters start. On doorsteps across the country it's outnumbered by the glass bottle by better than 20 to 1. The self-service chains which were happy to be rid of the rehandling of glass bottles sparked the widespread store acceptance of the disposable paper carton. It has no such powerful ally in the home field. —Wall Street Journal.

There is a mixture of comedy and tragedy in the rumour about the American news agency story for the United States Secretary of Defense will head back information from Britain because Mr. Strachey might see it. The comedy lies in the picture of an agency man, fearing he had been "scooped" by a rival, wringing with his conscience about an "off-the-record" talk, chattering officials and press officers, and finally getting heavily snubbed by everybody. To what incredible lengths can a nose for news take a man! The tragic side is the state of ignorance in which some high American officials go about the world and their readiness to open their mouths without studying facts. But perhaps we should not be too hard on them. They have always the fear of Senator McCarthy behind them. They never know when their most secret defence plans may not be published in an enterprising Chicago newspaper or turn up in a pumpkin in somebody's garden. Perhaps soon they may get over their jittery mood and begin to think. They may then realize that, as British newspapers well know, our public men have a higher affection for secrecy than have theirs; they might even give us the credit for believing that the Prime Minister would not keep in any major office a man on whose absolute loyalty he could not rely. Any Americans who want to join in the dirtier games of British party politics should reflect that they would think if we were were to spring to the aid of Senator McCarthy, bringing our tar brushes with us. They will find themselves mistaken if they imagine that Britain is another Greece, whose government can be browbeaten at will. It is about time some "highly placed American sources," not to say some news agencies, tried to develop a sense of responsibility. —(From the Manchester Guardian).

The death of Mr. Emil Paturel, a former mayor of Shediac, and a prominent figure in the fishing industry of Eastern Canada, will be regretted by a wide circle of friends. Salmon angling was his favorite hobby. At a sportsmen's dinner in New York years ago, he got into an argument with an American angler about the proper weight for a salmon rod. He contended that a light salmon rod was all that was necessary, and argued that he could land a salmon with a rod which weighed only one ounce. A one-ounce rod, which looked like a small buggy whip, was fashioned for him by a New York rod-maker. He took a thirty-pound salmon with it on the Restigouche thereby winning his bet. — Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

The amount of attention which is being paid to Canadian affairs by United States magazines has been interesting us for quite a while, but it was deeply impressed upon our mind by the appearance in the May issue of Stag of an article on Donald Gordon, "President of the largest railroad in the world." It is a very interesting article which solves their desperate problems of drought and disease, and to raise their standard of life, they are also trying gradually to break down the class structure of these tribes so that they may become united peoples with a healthy democratic self-government in local affairs. This would enable them to face the future, whatever it may bring, with greater confidence and strength.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Grid of professional cards including: J. A. McGuigan, A. Walthen Gaudet, Dr. W. R. Carson, Joseph R. MacMillan, John P. Nicholson, Matheson & Peake, Dr. A. L. MacIsaac, Bell & Matheson, Frederic A. Large, K.C., MacPhee & Trainor, Gaudet & Hazzard, H. R. Doane & Co., Neil W. Higgins.

The Age-Old Story

Turn ye unto Me, saith the Lord of hosts, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of Hosts.