THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director J. R. Burnett, F. J. I
Associate Editor, Frank Walker

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

FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1939

Mr. Dunning To Retire

The Ottawa correspondent of the Globe and Mail states definitely that Hon. C. A. Dunning, Finance Minister, will retire soon from the Mackenzie King Government. If the Prime Minister has his way, Mr. Dunning will be succeeded by Hon. J. L. Ralston, former Minister of National Defence, and today a leading figure in Montreal financial circles.

If Colonel Ralston returns to public life it is possible he may represent his old seat of Shelburne-Yarmouth-Clare, N. S.

Acting on his doctor's orders, Mr. Dunning has been resting at his Ottawa home since last Friday, but is expected to return to his desk this week. "He is known, however," says the Globe and Mail correspondent, "to have decided definitely not to contest another election. This means that his resignation is likely to be announced before the fall."

Another cabinet vacancy was created by the death yesterday in California of Hon. Fernand Rinfret, Secretary of State and representative for Montreal-St. James in the House of Commons.

The Government has still to fill the civil service vacancy created by the retirement of Deputy Minister of Fisheries, W. A. Found, in January. Vincent Pottier, sitting member for Shelburne-Yarmouth-Clare, has been mentioned prominently for the post though British Columbia interests have been for the appointment of a man from the Pacific Province. The effort to get Colonel Ralston back into the Cabinet is known to be an important factor in the decision.

Trying To Buy Ontario

An amazing attempt has been made by the King Government to bribe the electors of Ontario. Two weeks ago Hon. Norman Rogers, Minister of Labour, announced that eight Provinces had accepted relief agreements which included Dominion-Provincial splitting of labor costs on unemployment projects, provided the municipalities paid for materials and supervision costs. The one province which turned down this proposal was Ontario, whose Liberal Premier, Mr. Hepburn, roundly accused his Ottawa party colleagues of attempting to buy themselves back to power with an eleventh-hour gesture of generosity at the taxpayers' expense.

This week came the announcement that Hon. Mr. Rogers had written to the Hepburn Government, offering to amend the agreement with Ontario so as to eliminate the provision of a contribution from the provincial administration and, instead, to make provision for the Dominion Government passing on its own contribution through the Provincial Government to the municipalities.

Premier Hepburn's reply was caustic. "We are not going to see the municipalities plunged into bankruptcy in a scheme engineered by the Dominion," he said, "which would probably quit them cold when the election is over, and they would then have to come to us with a tin cup in hand begging for relief when the Dominion throws them down, as it will do."

Mr. Hepburn has no doubt good reason to suspect the sincerity of his party colleagues at Ottawa, and any gestures of generosity they make on the eve of appealing for votes. But there is another and graver side to the question. Why should the wealthy Province of Ontario be offered preferred treatment in the matter of unemployment relief? Is Ontario less able to contribute on a fifty-fifty basis than, for example, Prince Edward Island which now stands committed to do so? Presumably, if this Province had held out as Ontario did, it too would have been offered better terms than the Campbell Government was in such haste to accept. What have our federal and provincial representatives to say of this outrageous scheme to buy Ontario votes with the hard-earned money of their constituents in this Province? Premier Hepburn has turned the scheme down, and whatever his reasons for doing so he is entitled to a vote of thanks from every other provincial government in Canada.

Blaming The Newspapers

Addressing a Liberal rally last week, Hon. W. D. Euler, Minister of Trade and Commerce, declared that business would be better everywhere, with even Canada making a better showing under the King Government, if newspapers wouldn't create "a state of nerves" among the public by "scare-heads that make people believe war may break out next day."

The Ottawa Journal replies:

"During the week-end of July 1 Lord Halifax and Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Churchill and M. Daladier all spoke grave war statements. They were not trying to "scare" the people; they were, in their line of duty, trying to warn them; telling, incidentally (in this case unlike some other Governments that we know) what they would do if war came. Mr. Euler's brilliant idea appears to be that Canadian newspapers should not put a heading over such news, that they should bury it on some inside page.

"Again, this past week-end, Mr. Chamberlain spoke gravely, and Sir John Simon, and Sir Stafford Cripps, and Sir Archibald Sinclair, and Mr. Greenwood. Doubtless their speeches "scared" a lot of people, and weren't good for business, but, as statesmen, with a duty to perform, they didn't stop making them on that account. More than that, they expected, and properly, that the newspapers would publish and broadcast what they said. It was part of their plan.

"So it goes from day to day. The newspapers instead of having to strain for "war rumors," have so much war news coming into their offices, their real problem is what to use and what not to use. The vast majoity of them, we think, act with a sense of responsibility.

"It is no part of their responsibility to take on (like some politicians we know) a "hush, hush" or ostrich-like policy. Neither is it their responsibility to deny their readers news and information just to help out certain public men who, with an election and accounting facing them, are looking around for anything they can lay their hands upon to help them make the accounting look better. Mr. Euler, we fear, will have to find something more substantial than "war rumors" in the newspapers to explain what has happened to Canada these past four years under the Government of which he is a distinguished (if not too active) member."

Editorial Notes

Confederation Week begins Sunday.

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Oom Paul Kruger died this date, 1904.

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The rain may not be what everybody wants, but it is what we need.

* * * *

As was anticipated Prime Minister King will not attend our Confederation Celebration. He covered Canada only recently with the King and Queen, and that sufficed.

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In the event of a court trial in connection with the City Council scandal, there will be an open investigation into all phases of the irregularities. Meantime a mental specialist will be called upon to report on the fitness or otherwise of the ex-City Clerk to plead.

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If, as is reported, contracts for between 30,000 and 40,000 kilts are to be placed in Glasgow and the West of Scotland, it indicates that the War Office has no intention of going back on its decision to retain the kilt as the peace-time dress of the Highland regiments says a London correspondent.

* * * *

A suggestion has been made that a City Clerk and Civic Accountant replace the late City Clerk. That would not be a satisfactory arangement any more than was the ex-City Clerk and two accountants who were supposed to keep the books in order. An efficient, qualified executive officer with two trained girl ledger keepers, a stenographer-cashier, together with a reliable external auditor, making monthly audits, is the ideal staff for an organization like the City Council.

* * * *

The King and Queen have produced export advantages the extent of which it would be difficult to estimate, says the London Advertising World. Their visit to Canada and the United States has now produced an enormous number of enquiries for English products including hats, umbrellas, textiles of all kind, whisky, English leather and shoes, gloves, high-grade writing material and stationery, etc. "These enquiries will mature into business many times more than the cost of the visit was either to us or to the Governments of Canada and the United States. The Empire's business is being knit closer together and America is ready to join in with her gigantic business interests."

* * * *

The Cumulative Index of Business in Canada, according to the Bank of Nova Scotia Press Release, rose considerably from April to May —from 91!9 per cent of the 1925-1929 average to 93.4 per cent. It is, of course, too early to say whether this gain represents the beginning of a general upward movement or merely a variation in the indecisive trend of the past twelve months. The improvement was broad in character, however, occuring in some degree in every one of the five component series. Industrial Production and Carloadings rose substantially, while the Index of Employment, which had been declining for several months, showed a slight increase. There were also advances in Wholesale Prices and the Rate of Turnover of Bank Deposits.

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Two years ago this month Japanese troops exercising in the outskirts of Peiping had what was described as a "clash" with Chinese soldiers. The details of what happened may never be completely known, but the details are of little importance. If this pretext had not served, Japan would assuredly have found another. Her purpose, made manifest in the demands which she immediately served upon the Nanking Government, was to extend her mastery throughout the whole of North China. Her generals, wise in little things, expected a six months' promenade, followed by appeals for peace and the erection of a puppet Government which would bow to the Japanese will. The effect of guerrilla warfare behind the Japanese lines may have been exaggerated, but it is certain that Japan is further than she was two years ago from what may be presumed to be her basic purpose —the exploitation of Chinese labor and resources for her own profit. Among the Chinese she has created a hate that will be long in dying. In the Western world her cruelty and her insolence have destroyed the fruits of long years of patient diplomacy. It is with shame that most Americans (says the New York Times,) learn that American metals and other war goods have been available to Japan during these last twenty-four horrible months.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Because the United States is too big to live in a vacuum, whatever happens in the world outside our borders is bound, in greater or lesser fashion, to have a bearing on our lives and fortunes as well. We cannot, therefore, afford to be indifferent to the forces and tendencies which threaten Western civilization and the peace of the world. For that reason it is dangerous folly to assume that we have no interest in what is happening and what may happen abroad. If Europe remains at peace, if the all-to-long cycle of aggression is brought to a stop, it is not only the peaceful nations of the Old World that will be benefited by such a development. The benefit will also be ours. For with Europe at peace, our own wholehearted determination to remain at peace would then be subject to no challenge. On the other hand, if aggressions continue and Europe is ultimately plunged into war, the chances of our staying out would ipso facto be lessened. There have been two world wars since the United States was founded. We became involved on both occasions. Consideration of this sort make it peremptory for Congress not to lessen the influence which the United States can exert for peace. And that is precisely what would happen if Congress approves neutrality legislation that works in favour of the Axis Powers and against the European democracies. — Washington Post.

The British Government, which five years ago was spending only £136,000,000 ($680,000,000) on armaments, has this year already committed itself to a domestic defence programme involving an outlay of £630,000,000 ($3,000,000,000). That is a stupendous undertaking, for it involves an industrial mobilization for the production of arms and munitions and war materials on a scale comparable with that which occurred during the struggle with Germany twenty yearsago. Now it is proposed to increase the effort by what may prove to be an additional £100,000,000 and use the additional arms output to supply the nations associated with England in the stop-Hitler front. The willingness of the British to undertake such a task is an indication of the nation's determination in the present crisis. It would seem much more efficacious to bring Russia, which aparently has both men and arms, into the coalition to check aggression and to leave the Russians to take care of the Eastern front. But even if that were accomplished—as the British still seem to hope it will be—there would still be some need to supply such countries as Poland and Roumania with equipment for their own military efforts, and the burden of providing such supplies would in the end devolve upon the British, anyway. The voting of new credits for this purpose, at this time does not, therefore, indicate that the negotiations with Moscow have collapsed but rather that the British are taking time by the forelock and doing in advance the things necessary to give effect to their new policy. — Baltimore Sun.

A few weeks ago King Victor Emmanuel of Italy conferred the Order of the Annunziata on Herr von Ribbentrop. The order is one of the highest and most exclusive decorations Italy can bestow. But The London Economist rather dampens the gratitude Herr von Ribbentrop may feel by pointing out that the last previous two foreign recipients of it were Emperor Hailie Selassie of Ethiopia and King Zog of Albania.—Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

We can see no good reason why people should object to being fingerprinted. One reason always advanced is that the process is associated with criminals and decent people should not be made to submit to it. But that is too thin. Having one's fingerprints taken and placed on record is just as sensible as putting a name on a valise so it can be identified. If authorities are sure it would help in dealing with crime then people should be willing to line up and leave their fingerprints whenever asked to do so. We can think of no good reason for objecting and it is possible, to name several good reasons for complying with the suggestion. — Peterborough Examiner.

Add to America's things to view with alarm the fact that only 16 towns in seven states sent male quartets to Tulsa, Okla., where the "world championship" in masculine foursome harmonizing has just been decided, with only a touch of solemnity but quite a lot of old - fashioned fun. What has happened to all our male quartets, impromptu or otherwise? Don't men sing any more, singly or together? Barber shops even in the hinterlands have gone tonsorial-parlor, but if only seven states have quartets that can do tearful things to the banks of the Wabash and keep all sour notes away from Sweet Adeline, maybe this is what's wrong with the country. — Philadelphia Inquirer.

Now that shudders over the horrible death of Dr. Joseph Germaine under the claws of polar bears at the Quebec provincial zoo have somewhat subsided, how about a little sympany for the bears? It's lots of fun, no doubt, to see wild animals caged up. And ever so educational. But how'd you like it yourself? Heat-crazed, the polar bears responded only to natural instincts. Better behavior may be expected of bears from the tropics, but here were these poor white brutes, brought from their Arctic ice floes in Dundas Harbour, cooped in a concrete compound and forced, under whip and revolver, to mount a diving board and jump into a pool several times a day for the edification of visitors. Who can blame them for biting back? —Windsor Star.

Eastern business is exceedingly hopeful about the western crop and the effect it may have on the whole national economy. The East is more optimistic, perhaps, than the West, because we know from unpleasant experiences the necessity for attaching distinct reservations to all our crop calculations. But wouldn't it be a grand and glorious feeling if, this year, the West appeared before the East in the role of a rich uncle rather than that of a poor relation? But let us get back to those reservations. Every good fisherman knows that you never catch anything if there's too much talking. — Winnipeg Free Press.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

THE HOT BATH CAN BE HELPFUL OR HARMFUL

I am a great believer in hot tub baths under certain conditions. The heat to the surface of the skin opens up the blood vessels and draws the blood away from congested parts around joints and elsewhere. These wastes are carried away by the increased circulation and thrown out of the system by skin, lungs, and kidneys. After severe exercise or exertion, the hot bath removes the waste products in half the usual time.

When the individual has had a severe emotional disturbance, the drawing of the blood to the body surface causes a "slackening" of nerve tension. This relaxation usually (but not always) induces sleep. Thus in mental hospitals the use of hot baths to relax or quite down a violent patient is routine treatment. In some cases "quieting" drugs are necessary.

However, like other good things in life, the very hot bath, if prolonged, or taken too often, may slacken, relax or "let down" too much, and the individual not only feels weaker but is weaker.

Dr. Geoffrey Holmes, London, in The Practitioner, states that very hot baths if prolonged exert considerable strain on the heart due to the great increase in the pulse rate. Tacchycardia (very rapid pulse rate—130 to 160 beats per minute), general shakiness, and fatigue, set in if the hot baths are given too frequently or over too long a period.

For the average healthy individual, a hot tub bath of three to four minutes, or a hot shower, will cleanse and soothe and cause no particular rise in heart rate or blood pressure. The rate of the circulation of blood is slightly increased. But to stay under a hot shower or in a hot bath for ten or fifteen minutes is a great mistake as it not only puts a strain on the heart but causes a feeling of general weakness.

That this prolonged heat is most helpful in such cases as mentioned above — rheumatism and to remove fatigue products after hard exercise, and pain and stiffness after injuries — has been proven in hospitals and in the handling of athletes in all forms of sport.

The Cold Shoulder

(Ottawa Journal)

Mr. J. S. Woodsworth has put his foot down upon any marriage or other alliance between Mr. Herridge's New Democracy and the C. C. F. Says he: For some months Mr. Herridge has been making overtures to the C. C. F. We have given him not the slightest hope for believing that there is any possibility of our uniting with him and his Social Credit associates."

Also: Mr. Herridge has not developed any program other than a series of rather vague generalities and we do not propose to join hands with groups with whom we have little in common."

That should about dispose of Mr. Herridge.

Actually, the contest in the coming election will be, as it should be, between the old parties. The Canadian people are not a "third-party" or "group-minded" people. Like the British and, indeed, like Americans, they believe in the two-party system, have little use for isms, less use for political crackpots. Thus during the past quarter of a century we have seen the rise and rapid fall of the Progressive party, the U. F. O. party, the U. F. A. party, the C. C. F. party.

Always, of course, there are people who think they see in new movements some great new march towards the Good Day. Only a few months ago they were assuring us that the Leadership League was "sweeping the country"; that it represented some mighty upsurge of Canadian sentiment. Today the Leadership League is as dead as old King Tut; isn't as much as a circumstance in the approaching election. It died in its cradle.

After the next election either Mr. King or Dr. Manion will be Prime Minister. Mr. Herridge and Mr. Woodsworth have about as much chance of being Prime Minister as the head of the Irish Republican Army has of being Prime Minister of Northeast Ulster.

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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.

A DANGEROUS PRACTICE

Sir,—Is there not an injunction on two riding on a single bicycle? In this town of Georgetown (and no doubt in many another town) one may see any day and every day, boys speeding down the streets with a younger boy or child on the bicycle in front of them. One day I fear there will be a tragedy; then no doubt they will raise their eyes and say "his time has come". If the parents ignore the danger (if dangerous it is) also the practice of standing on the running board of a moving car, I am wondering why the authorities do not prohibit such practices.

I am Sir, etc.,
ONLOOKER.

CITY CORPORATION MANAGEMENT

Sir,—In the July 12th issue of the Patriot, a correspondent has duly voiced a proposal that is being heard daily since the Auditors' report on the City's financing of the past ten years, made public on Monday's meeting of our Council, namely a qualified City manager to intelligently direct and administer the city of Charlottetown's business and income under supervision of a small commission.

In no other sphere of business would any sane person or group countenance the handling of a business of over $200,000 annually to a system which required no manager. It in practice as far as our city is concerned has demonstrated that what is everyone's business is nobody's responsibility.

The situation in which we find ourselves after the rendering of the Auditors' report is not unique; fortunately other cities and towns finding themselves in a like position have courageously thrown overboard the old system of government by Council and committees in favor of a commission of a City manager who works under and is directly responsible to a commission of men of recognized worth and integrity. Some years ago the town of Kentville, N. S., found itself in a somewhat like position and decided to try the town-manager system of administration. A young town engineer named Wightman from another part of the province was secured, heavily bonded and given complete responsibility for the town's entire business under a commission. After a period of eight years, the convention of Municipalities last year reported the Town of Kentville as a shining example of carefully operated municipal administration under the Town management plan. Taxes are lower, the proportion of collected taxes is much greater, a clean and efficient town administration has resulted. The Auditors who recently conducted our city audit are familiar with this particular instance and its system of operation.

Now it may possibly seem hard for some of us to accept the idea of dispensing with our present system of government by Council. In fact opposition of a greater or lesser extent may be expected. There will be however this coming winter at the next civic elections, an opportunity for a group of fearless leaders who have the City's interests at heart to offer a combined slate as a supervising commission which would work over a city manager and give to our City an intelligent and accurate system of civic administration.

I am, Sir etc.,
CITY REFORM.

WHAT OF THE UNEMPLOYED?

Sir—The unemployment situation in Charlottetown is serious. At the present time 1,000 men are out of work. Some of those men and their families are hungry, more so than in the winter months. Now that we are going to have a number of Federal representatives visit us, some effort should be made to have them know the true situation. It appears that Hon. Mr. Dunning and Mr. Douglas are not trying to remedy those conditions. At present there are about fifteen men employed at the airport. This work commenced last week whereas it should have been under way early in the month of May. Is it possible that the Federal representatives could not get this work started before midsummer? Has Mr. Douglas no say at Ottawa? Is he just in politics for his own personal benefit It looks as though he doesn't care what becomes of the unemployed.

It was generally understood that the railway wharf project would be commenced in the early spring but as yet nothing has been done. Does the Government intend to leave that project until the late fall and have this wharf in such a condition that potatoes and turnips will have to be shipped from other ports?

It would be much better to leave this project until next year rather than have the wharf in such a condition that the longshoremen will be deprived of their fall's work. The fall shipping is the main employment for 100 men for six weeks at the railway wharf each year and I hope the repairs to the wharf will not interfere with it. If intelligent foresight had been used this work would have been well under way by now.

There is also another Federal project, namely the culvert at the east end of the city. There has been only three days' work there so far. Negligence of some kind has caused this job to be held up as it is only a continuation of last year's work.

It was also reported that a large amount of work is still to be done at the Marine Wharf, but so far everything there is at a standstill.

This is a most ridiculous state of affairs. During Confederation week the workingmen won't have a cent in their pockets. Many of them with hungry feelings will watch the well-to-do folk enjoy themselves and eat and drink of the best while the wives and families of the unemployed will wonder what it is all about. The unemployed men and their families will not have the pleasure of seeing the firemen's sports as they won't have the price of the admission. I can't understand how any politician representing the present Government could ask a workingman in Charlottetown to vote for him. It looks as though there will be more Conservatives in Charlottetown than there were at the local election. Prince Edward Island cannot afford to have any of their Federal representatives hold a cabinet position. A cabinet minister has very little time to look after his own district as he has all Canada to satisfy from his department. This is particularly noticeable in Queens, P. E. Island. There is not any doubt about Charlottetown being very much neglected. If the Federal representatives cannot get work under way they should commence at once to issue a reasonable amount of direct relief. They should start to give it out immediately and not have families hungry during Confederation week.

There never have been conditions like the present and while the visitors are here the true facts should be made known to them. They might come to the rescue. Our representatives are not trying to do anything, or else they have no say and are not listened to. The workingmen of Charlottetown are in hard luck. Even the City treasury has been emptied out and civic projects are held up. Of course the workingmen will get their opportunity on election day when marking their ballots.

I am, Sir, etc.,
D. C. C.
Charlottetown.

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