

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1939

Gospel According To Nietzsche

Today is the anniversary of the death of Nietzsche, the German philosopher who became insane in 1889 and died eleven years later. It is not too much to claim that he is the origin and author of the present chaotic state of the world, as undoubtedly his "gospel" laid the foundations for the Great War of 1918-14. Nietzsche believed in two essential types—weak or slaves among mankind who elevate the virtues that suit their weakness and deprecate those of the strong; and the masters, or the strong, who stand above the others and have no need of their base utilitarian virtues; Christianity, as favouring the former type should be superseded, for it tends to prolong the existence of less vigorous types; only by the morality of the strong can men rise to the higher stage of being supermen, who are as far above ordinary men as the latter are above the brute creation. Hitler sat at the feet of Nietzsche absorbed his philosophy, reproduced it in his practical politics in his Mein Kampf, and today the whole world is suffering the evil consequences.

Fateful Hours

At the time of writing, the threatened "zero hour" has not yet struck. Hitler has not yet unsheathed the sword; his armed hordes remain poised on the Polish border. In the meantime Britain has spoken again, through the mouths of Premier Chamberlain and Lord Halifax, reiterating, in the strongest terms, (1) the determination to resist force "because we know how destructive it is to any sense of security," and (2) to get on with the constructive work of building peace, which cannot be done "until the gospel of force has been abandoned."

That Hitler has any intention of abandoning the gospel of force is extremely unlikely. There remains the more actual possibility of Poland voluntarily, if reluctantly, according to the Nazi demands. Since British and French action is based on the "if" of Polish resistance, Hitler would then achieve his objective unopposed. For Poland, what would this mean? Hitler now demands, not only Danzig and an avenue across the Corridor to East Prussia, but those territories which Germany lost to Poland after the World War. He wants, also, to establish a protectorate over the rest of Poland, a step which would almost certainly precede complete absorption of Poland into the Third Reich. The alternative, he says, is the complete partitioning of Poland.

To complete the picture, there is the Nazi-Soviet non-aggression agreement, which perhaps is not so surprising after all. Totalitarianism bears a single and repulsive stamp. Fascism and Communism are brothers under the skin. In their crushing repressions, their disregard for human decencies and liberties, and the ruthless workings of their blood baths, they have held themselves up to the world as the last word in tyranny. But can they pull in harness together?

What would be very desirable at this time, suggests the Montreal Star, would be word that our American neighbors had passed "from encouraging words to resolute and unmistakable acts", in short to letting Hitler know, that if he goes ahead as he has threatened he must reckon with the great democracy of the West as well as the two neighboring democracies whose proclaimed frontier is the Rhine. That may yet happen.

The Late Hon. Mr. Jenkins

One of the stalwarts of the Conservative party, and a gentleman highly known and esteemed throughout the Province, was the late Hon. L. L. Jenkins, whose death is recorded in today's issue. Mr. Jenkins was first elected to the Legislature in 1912 and subsequently became a member without portfolio of the Matheson Government. He was re-elected in 1915 and 1923, and was Speaker of the Assembly for the following four years.

Always conscientious in the discharge of his duties, he had many personal friends on both sides of politics, who esteemed him no less for his outspoken convictions than for his genial personality and moral character. Though retired in late years from public life, he continued to take active interest in public matters, and was zealous in promoting the welfare of the community. His loss will be keenly felt, and his memory treasured as an inspiration and example.

Supping With The Devil

The amazing turn of events resulting in the signing of the Nazi-Soviet peace pact recalls the prediction made several years ago by Hitler, in "Mein Kampf," that "any alliance between the Reich and Soviet Russia would be the end of Germany." "We must never forget," he wrote, "that the regents of present-day Russia are common bloodstained criminals; that here is the scum of humanity." Deriding the "folkish circles" who held with Bismarck that Germany should "always put a value on good relations with Russia," Hitler outlined in his book the drive-to-the-East policy which the Nazis subsequently put into effect. "If we talk about new soil and territory in Europe today," he wrote,

"we can think primarily only of Russia and its vassal border states." And again: "Considered purely militarily, in the event of a German-Russian war against Western Europe, which would probably, however, mean against the rest of the world, the relations would be simply catastrophic." "An alliance whose aim does not comprise a plan of war," he wrote, "is senseless and worthless. . . . Thus the fact of the conclusion of a treaty with Russia embodies the declaration of the next war. Its outcome would be the end of Germany."

And again: "The rulers of Russia belong to a nation which combines a rare mixture of bestial horror with an inconceivable gift for lying, and today more than ever before believes itself called upon to impose its bloody oppression on the whole world. We must not forget that the international Jew, who today rules Russia absolutely, sees in Germany, not an ally, but a state marked out for the same destiny. . . . If anybody thinks of going into treaty with parasites, this resembles a tree's efforts to conclude to its own advantage an agreement with a mistletoe."

According to the old maxim, one must have a long spoon to sup with the devil. That, judged by Hitler's statements, seems to be what Nazi Germany is doing today in its alignment with Russia. What price have they paid for getting Stalin's consent to a non-aggression pact? That must be the question uppermost in the minds of Germans today.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Bret Harte was born this date, 1836.

The farmers now despair of late grain filling, and are terribly anxious over the fate of root crops.

Volunteer officers and men in militia and naval services are warned to be in readiness for emergencies.

Seven years ago we experienced a somewhat similar warm summer to the present, when, in the city, there was a great demand for electric fans for private houses.

Complaints are being received about the undue use of water sprinklers on lawns at a time like this when there is a growing scarcity of water for domestic purposes.

When beautiful Mae West tells Dr. Frank Buchman, who called upon her at Hollywood, that she was behind the "Moral Re-Armament" of his Group—"in fact," she is said to have told him, "I owe my success to that philosophy"—Dr. Buchman attains the altitude of black "Father" Divine as a front page publicity stunt artist.

The situation in Europe has knocked the political situation here into a cocked hat. But it is a truism to remark that the choice of the Hon. Cyrus MacMillan, L.L.D., as one of the Liberal candidates has met with general approval in the party. It was noticeable, too, how the astute Senator Sinclair succeeded in getting the favourable testimonial by the Hon. Dr. Dunning to his brother-in-law, Mr. J. Lester Douglas, M.P., read into the proceedings at the nomination meeting.

Dr. S. E. Weisman of the University of Minnesota has written a book "Your Chest Should Be Flat" which dispels the old notion that we ought to have torsos like barrels. After having measured 20,000 school children and tested 500 for vital capacity he decides that as a child ages the thorax broadens and flattens. The chests of the tuberculous, so far from being flat, as many suppose, are actually deeper, hence more undeveloped, than they should be. Dr. Weisman wants to forestall tuberculosis. Hence he suggests exercises of the kind that played their part in the evolution of man from the lower animals.

Tax revision or review does not necessarily mean that the taxpayer will be the loser. The Board of Tax Appeals at Washington has decided that Mr. A. Felix du Pont of Wilmington, Del., (whose son this week flew from here to Newfoundland) has overpaid his Federal gift taxes by \$44,518 in 1935 and \$7,635 in 1936. The Internal Revenue Commission had claimed Mr. du Pont owed \$571,492 for the two years. The board also decided that Mrs. Mariana du Pont Silliman of Wilmington owed the government \$8.31 in gift taxes for 1934, but had overpaid \$120.90 in 1935.

The recent death of Prince Rudolf von Windischgrätz, great grandson of Emperor Francis Joseph, in a motor-cycle crash near Vienna has caused several European papers to draw attention to the chain of hard luck that has involved the Hapsburg family ever since the execution of Maximilian, the Emperor's brother, in Mexico in 1867. The aged Francis Joseph, however, died peacefully in bed on Nov. 21, 1916, in the midst of the World War. Francis Joseph's sister-in-law Charlotte, went mad almost coincidentally with the death of Maximilian. The cousin of Francis Joseph's wife, Elizabeth, Ludwig II of Bavaria, a great music patron, drowned himself in the Lake of Starnberg in 1886. The only son of Francis Joseph and Elizabeth committed suicide, or was murdered, at Mayerling, in 1889. Their cousin Archduke John Salvator, who took the name of John Orth, married a morganatic wife, and sailed away in 1891, never to be authentically heard from again. Elizabeth's sister, La Duchesse d'Alencon, was burned to death in the Zazac de Charite fire, Paris, 1897. Empress Elizabeth, herself, was assassinated at Geneva in 1898 by an insane anarchist. Her husband's nephew, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, heir to the Imperial throne, was also assassinated with his wife, the Duchess of Hohenberg, at Sarajevo, Bosnia, June 28, 1914—a tragedy which precipitated the World War a month later. The grandnephew of Francis Joseph, who succeeded him as Charles I, abdicated and died in misery in Madeira in 1922.

NOTES BY THE WAY

One advantage of the president over congress is that the president never adjourns. — Ottawa Journal

Magicians in annual convention admit this has been one of their poorest years. We thought as much. Even the economic wizards are completely tangled up in their own wires. — Windsor Star.

This new dish—washing machine they have invented in Sweden is supposed to wash and dry the average sinkful of dinner dishes in 30 seconds. It may be good enough for the Swedes, but we can see where the Canadian bride is going to resent it. There's nothing like a batch of dishes to bring out the real qualities—or lack of them—in a husband. Some will insist on helping; others will loiter around the kitchen half-heartedly, hoping they won't be called on to assist; others seize the evening papers (both sections) and stalk off to the living-room. According to his actions, the husband is judged by what kind of husband he is going to be like. We approve heartily of the husbands who help willingly, and even those who help a little, for the kitchen sink is not a party place. We feel a mite of envy and admiration. They are, however, in constant danger, especially if they sit in easy and throwing range of the kitchen sink. Many a strong man has been felled by a kitchen sink never to rise again. — Calgary Herald.

Buffalo Bill Cody sleeps soundly in his solid rock tomb just outside Denver. He does not know the world would have believed it possible that his name would some day be listed with those of H. G. Wells and Honore de Balzac. Yet there it is—on the latest list of authors who fail to meet with Mussolini's approval. Good little Italian must read about Buffalo Bill—how he won his name by keeping the Kansas Pacific workmen supplied with buffalo meat, how he defeated the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians when the railroads were struggling west. Good little Italian must read the pronouncements of Virginia Gayda, of Francisco Franco, of eminent German leaders, of Benito himself. They must read what they are told to, think as they are told to, change what they are told to, will have to do what they are told to. Buffalo Bill thought and acted to suit himself. To read about a man like that would exercise an wholesome influence on Italy's younger generation. — Calgary Herald.

As a matter of fact the idea of an alliance with Russia has its unpleasant aspects for the British and no less for the small countries of eastern Europe. By no stretch of the imagination can Russia under its present regime be described as a democracy. The same brutal methods of dictatorship, the same resort to force, the same ruthlessness and terror, the same ruthless regimentation of the individual into blind service of the state, prevailing in Germany, prevent also in Germany's great adversary in the east. The one substantial difference in the present situation is that Russia wants peace, whereas Germany seeks conquest, and that Russia's interests in this one decisive matter parallel the interests of the western powers and make a defensive alliance possible. But it is a marriage of convenience not a partnership of friends. — New York Times.

You don't really get more wages in a big city. You get nearly enough extra to pay for rent and transport. — Brandon Sun.

If Herr Hitler and Signor Mussolini cherish the notion that they can create a state of suspense that will get the British nerve they have not read history to advantage. — Detroit Free Press.

A German paper recently estimated that the Empire, generally speaking, would back Great Britain in any war, but that Australia would be merely content with its guns. Premier Robert Menzies in a prompt response states that his country will "make common cause" with Britain in the event of a European struggle, so that the Nazi publication will have to revise again. — Brantford Expositor.

In Oregon Members of the State Legislature are paid \$3 a day, with a 40-day limit per session, a maximum of \$120 a year, though the session may run to 50 or 60 days. The rate was set in the hardy pioneer days when \$3 a day was big pay. In these modern times it is found to be 22 cents expense money and excludes from service in the Legislature competent men and women who cannot afford to work at the capitol for so little. Because of the pernicious allowance there has grown the custom of allowing each member a secretary at \$5 a day. This post goes to a wife or near relative in the effort to obtain living costs while the assembly is in session. After several unsuccessful attempts, the voters again being asked to approve an amendment to raise members' pay to \$8 a day, with a 50-day limit, or a maximum of \$400 a session. — Victoria Times.

It is a little known but an accurate fact that there were far more American than Canadian policemen on duty in the City of Windsor, Ontario, during the Royal visit there early this summer. The state of affairs came about as a result of the voluntary goodwill action of the Detroit Police Commission and it constituted an act of international understanding and co-operation which might well be emulated by various European and Asiatic nations today. It is a fact of this nature, often undertaken

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion of questions of interest. The Editor reserves the right to edit and to delete any matter which does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

CAPT. READ DISCUSSES PROPOSED HIGHWAY

Sir,—So much is at stake in connection with the Charlottetown-Borden Highway and so many false and misleading statements have been published from time to time, that it is necessary to correct some of them and give some reliable information, to the public. Before it is too late to correct a blunder which will go down in history as Wright's Folly. Here the Charlottetown-Borden Highway will reach Tryon River, at a point near the Bridge, but from there the road will be paved with the present hard surfaced road. There is a wide difference of opinion.

A small group of taxpayers, directly interested in having the pavement pass their front doors, together with the two representatives of the town, Messrs. Baker and Wright insist on the pavement going through North Tryon and Albany to True-man's Corner, the Borden-mersey Highway, whereas the people of Borden, and Charlottetown, as voiced through their duly elected representatives, are insistent that the Charlottetown-Borden Highway shall follow the short, level, snow-free road by way of the old Woolen Mill. The logical route between all points east of Tryon River and the Ferry at Borden, more especially at the head of the Cove, is the road that the road by way of True-man's Corner could not be regarded as part of the Charlottetown-Borden Road.

In your issue of the 9th Mr. J. Wellington Thomas took advantage of a poet's license and sacrificed truth for the sake of rhyme, when he said:—"We are going to have the paved highway, built to accommodate himself and ONLY WAY, THE WISE MEN SAY, AS THE ROAD WILL BE NO LONGER." In this case Messrs. Baker and Wright for they are the only ones who have publicly stated it is "THE ONLY WAY."

I positively state however, the distance between Charlottetown and Borden will be five miles by way of Cape Traverse, or there by way of Cape Traverse and if these "wise men" are really wise they will get the truth and change their minds if they find I am correct. Mr. Thomas expressed the hope no one would fall over the Cove bridge, but he did so in fact and the self evident fact that this bridge is on a straight piece of road and can be taken at any time with safety, is beyond comprehension when you realize that the old Woolen Mill Bridge is at the bottom of a steep hill and is a very dangerous structure. The curves on either road, and it would be interesting to get the official record of cars which have gone over this bridge, its approaches and compare it with these which have gone over the Cove Bridge. Mr. Thomas in the press and Mr. Wright in public, have gone out of their way to draw attention to the low places on the Cove Road, referring to them as "swamps". They have not only failed to clear of or mention anything about the low places, known as cuts on the road about way to Borden, for the reason being known to themselves but which we can only guess at, but the fact remains and this is important, that a low place or swamp when properly filled and drained makes the best possible foundation for a hard surfaced road, and a perfect winter highway.

Anyone with ordinary common sense and reasonable eyesight can see the wisdom of the plan by examining such fills, such as the one extending from the bottom of Green's Hill to Dunk Ferry Bridge. Mr. Thomas in a more recent letter had this to say of the short route—"Last winter when trying to keep the Cove Road open for traffic they had to go through potato fields, sod fields, stubble fields and then some."

This sounds bad, but does not enter the fact that they got through and that is the main thing, when you are trying to catch a boat.

Mr. Thomas said—"I do not mean to say we have no snow on the Tryon Road, BUT WE DID NOT HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF THE FIELDS, THERE WERE SO MANY RESIDENTS ALONG THIS ROAD, AND TO LEAVE THE HIGHWAY WE WERE IN CONTACT WITH THE FIELDS, AND HAVING SO MANY RESIDENTS ALONG THIS ROAD, BUT THIS WILL NOT BE SO WHEN THE HIGHWAY IS COMPLETED FOR THEY ARE NOW REMOVING ALL ENCUMBRANCES ALONG THE ROAD-SIDE."

Where the residents themselves stuck in the snow, that they could not have moved to one side and allowed the cars to pass, and that they have passed behind the buildings and thus saved the flower gardens?

Where do they propose to put the residents, ornamental trees and flower gardens when they remove them from the roadside, and how are the engineers going to remove all the encumbrances, when most of the trouble is the deep cuttings, leaving high road banks, due to erosion as the result of spring thaws and rains?

The removal of trees and pole fences on a level road helps considerably, but even our school children know that a deep cutting will fill with snow from bank to bank after a heavy fall of snow and a breeze of wind, if there is not a tree within miles. For example take Letourney's Hill. There is not a competent Road Engineer in this Province who would go on record as saving the road from Tryon to Albany, when completed, will be as suitable for a winter road for auto traffic as easy to keep open as the short road by way of Augustine Cove. If you wish to know the future you must study the past, and then use your head. We know that in the past the present highway could not be kept

open due to the cuttings filling with snow. We know there are just as bad cuttings on the North Tryon Road that they fill with snow, therefore the only logical conclusion to be reached is that even the Government snow ploughs could not get through.

We know on the other hand that the short road, has been used for winter traffic for several years without the assistance of snow fighting equipment or any improvements which being the case it would be a stupid man who would be satisfied that with proper fills and a hard surfaced road it would be a hundred to one bet that it would be a good winter highway.

A war is in the offing, and I ask, have we the money to spend to please the whim of one or two drivers at going to cost every auto driver at least 25 cents for each time he goes to Borden from east of Tryon River which would represent the cost of gasoline and oil for the round trip in excess of what it would cost by the short road.

Gasoline is badly needed at the front, if there is a war and it would be nothing short of a crime to burn the extra half gallon necessary to reach Borden and back. If war breaks out it means that this country will be untrue to itself if we do not make immediate provision for a large tourist trade next year because the American people will not go to Europe and this is an added reason why we should build a highway between Borden and Charlottetown passing to the south of the railway, thereby going away with all railway crossings between Borden and Charlottetown which would mean the saving of human lives, as these crossings always take their toll sooner or later.

Time is money. The extra time necessary to reach the ferry by the longer road will mean that one might find himself too late to get the first boat. Mr. Thomas says—"It seems to me that my friends in Charlottetown would like to have the road built to accommodate the tourists."

This is the truest and most intelligent thing he has written to date. Evidently Mr. Thomas got the idea that the road was being built to accommodate himself and a few others who happen to ship at Albany Station, and who can blame him for thinking that, but Mr. Thomas and Mr. Baker stated publicly that they recommended the road to go that way because more people lived on the Cove Road. In losing sight of the fact that this is supposed to be a PROVINCIAL THOROUGHFARE to be paid for by the Province and not the Fourth District.

A chain is as strong as its weakest link and a winter highway is just as good as a thoroughfare as the number of snow choked cuttings in its makeup, of which there are no less than seven between the Woolen Bridge and the top of Boulter's Hill; and in cases of this kind what is done?

A detour is made in this case the only detour possible is the way of the Cove Road so why not put the road in the proper place and keep it to it.

Another point in favor of the Cove Road is the fact that the low places are almost impossible in the fall and spring, which the crops of potatoes stored, while the other road is one of the best clay roads on the Island with ordinary road work.

It would also give Summerside and Charlottetown a snow free road in winter and permit the country people to do their shopping at home instead of sending to the mail order houses.

I am, Sir, etc. JOHN L. READ.

NUISANCE LEGISLATION

Sir,—Occasionally one reads of legislation being enacted elsewhere of so provocative an unpleasant character as to merit the appellation "nuisance legislation." The hotchpotch of Legislation served up in this province at the last session, which our all-wise legislators insisted on enacting whether they understood it or not, contains portions which are not merely noxious but positively dangerous.

The Act led to unfortunate consequences. There was no statement or definition in the Act declaring what acts performed by a company should, or should not be deemed "carrying the business in the province." It had even been claimed that the mere commencing of an action in a province to recover a debt amounting to carrying on business. Courts had refused to define what was meant by "carrying on business" and the term a flexible one which meant that it was difficult or impossible for a business man to determine at what point he might overstep the Act.

After the Act of 1913 had been in force a few months, a Company in New York accepted an order for a cargo of coal from a coal merchant in Prince Edward Island. The coal was shipped and delivered. It then became necessary for the Plaintiff to sue for the price. The defendant set up as a defence that the New York Company in accepting the order for the coal was not carrying on business in Prince Edward Island and that as it had not complied with the provisions of the Act, it was not liable with the Provincial Secretary, it was prohibited from carrying on business and could not therefore sue for the price. The Supreme Court agreed with this contention (see Dominion Law Reports, Vol. 24, p. 672). The Plaintiff's action was dismissed and the Province had no right to recover. The reputation of the province could not long stand this unfair treatment of a citizen.

It was considered, however, that it was the duty of the foreign or extra-provincial companies doing business in the province to file a statement with the Provincial Secretary, and that such provision should be retained. The Companies Tax Act, passed in 1915, contained a similar provision to the repealed section of the 1913 Act, as to the necessity to file a statement, but with this important addition or saving clause:—"Nothing in this Act contained or interpreted as prohibiting any company, firm or individual from carrying on business in this province or from opening or acquiring any office, store, shop, warehouse or other place of business in this province by reason of the fact that such company, partnership, firm or individual may fall or neglect to comply with the provisions of the 1913 Act, as to the necessity to file a statement, but with this important addition or saving clause:—"Nothing in this Act contained or interpreted as prohibiting any company, firm or individual from carrying on business in this province or from opening or acquiring any office, store, shop, warehouse or other place of business in this province by reason of the fact that such company, partnership, firm or individual may 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