

**THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN**

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1939

**Exhibition Week**

Exhibition Week in Charlottetown has been, for several years past, a matter of Maritime-wide interest. It is generally conceded that our Provincial Exhibition is the finest fair in Eastern Canada. This year the programme is attracting even greater attention. It will mark the Golden Jubilee of the establishment of the fair, and it will be the biggest and best in the half-century of its existence. There will be the keenest competition, both in livestock and agricultural exhibits. This feature of the Exhibition is of the greatest importance to our farmers in emphasizing the value of quality production and breeding. Special attention has been given to the prize lists in this connection.

The horse racing programme, bringing together over 100 of the fastest horses in the Maritimes, will likely see new records established, both for speed and for crowds in attendance. Improvements to the grounds include the construction of a new bleacher capable of holding 2,000 people, new seating arrangements in front of the main grand stand, enlarged vaudeville stage, better lighting and sound systems, new horse stables and repairs to cattle barns and other buildings.

The vaudeville acts, the big midway, the mercantile and industrial displays in the main building, the fireworks and other features arranged for the evening programmes—all will be in keeping with the Exhibition's jubilee celebration.

It is hoped that as many as possible of our citizens will attend the formal opening Monday night by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor. This will be one way of showing appreciation of what is undoubtedly the finest midsummer attraction this or any other province in Canada has to offer.

**The Speech That Failed**

The *Financial Post* (Independent) devotes a front page editorial to the weakness of leadership at Ottawa as exhibited by Prime Minister Mackenzie King's banquet speech in Toronto. "Mr. King," says the Post, "has every right to reminisce. The length of his public service entitles him to do that. But Canada today demands leadership in solving national problems and not merely tales of the days gone by."

"To reiterate the difficulties inherent in the government of Canada, without a constructive, challenging declaration on the problems that are the responsibility of Mr. King's government; to talk of the need for 'defending and extending the frontiers of freedom' without a word of encouragement to those leaders throughout the Empire who are preparing to defend freedom in the world at the risk of everything they as well hold dear; to talk of the care that must be taken of minorities without reference to meeting the needs of all the people—all this seemed strangely inadequate at a time when not only Liberals but all peoples throughout Canada are eagerly seeking counsel and leadership on great and troubled issues of the day."

"Until Mr. King broached Canadian foreign policy in the finishing paragraph of an hour-long discourse, he made scarcely a reference to any of the questions currently exercising business and political leaders in Canada today."

"Not a word about railways, not a word about unemployment, not a word about budget balancing or taxes, about agriculture, about immigration, about defense policy."

"The work of the Rowell-Sirois Commission was briefly mentioned, but here (as usual) Mr. King avoided any commitment beyond expressing a hope that when this body had finished its deliberations the Federal and Provincial Governments would be able to find a way out of present difficulties."

"Canada wants to know what Mr. King proposes to do about Dominion-Provincial relations. He gave no hint that he has any views on the subject at all."

"Not only did Mr. King's speech fail utterly to deal positively and convincingly with crucial domestic issues. On the vital matter of Canada's policy in the world crisis he failed once again to interpret and emphasize the positive side of Canada's position."

"More than once during his speech the Prime Minister talked earnestly of the need for 'defending and preserving freedom.' He concluded in fact by declaring:

"If we be true to our cause we must seek to extend and defend freedom not only in our own land but be prepared to do it in the interests of mankind wherever the need arises."

"That would have been a splendid point from which to have gone on to a statement of Canada's essential unity of purpose with the other Empire countries. Such a statement did not come."

"Indeed, the most emphatic and positive utterance of Mr. King's entire address was his insistence that in the face of world conditions, the Canadian Government was firm and unyielding in its refusal to commit the country in advance to any policy. That 'is one thing we will not do,' he said."

"Not a word about what Canada will do. Not a word to express the great unanimity of the Canadian people in their desire to stand by the Empire in the present crisis. Not a word as to Canada's own defence programme or our share in Empire defence. Not a word—except ob-

liquely—to make it clear that Canada backs Britain to the limit in calling a halt to the Nazi-Fascist dictators."

The Toronto paper expresses regret that Mr. King did not take advantage of this timely occasion "for some very plain speaking on the great political issues of the day." "No leader," it concludes, "is worthy of being entrusted with national party leadership who does not understand and hold to the high principles enunciated by Mr. King during his speech. But no leader can give wise and practical direction to the nation's business who does not at the same time apply these principles in a positive and constructive manner."

**Wet Time At Ottawa**

Liberals may not regard an Ottawa deluge as an ill-omen, but the people generally, proud as they are of British parliamentary institutions, must conclude there is "something rotten" when Houses of Parliament are flooded—with water. This is what happened the other day, according to the Globe and Mail. Nor was it the basement in which the waters swirled, but the ground floor of the Central Block, which was built twenty years ago at a cost of many millions to replace the noble Gothic pile destroyed by fire, of enemy origin as some thought. The so-called basement actually is the ground floor and houses a number of important personages and institutions, such as Hon. Cairine Wilson, Canada's first lady Senator, and Hon. Arthur Hardy of Brockville, one of Liberalism's elder statesmen and a former Speaker of the Red Chamber.

Between the sumptuously furnished offices of these distinguished Senators and the splendid apartments of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, in which workmen waded in water a foot deep to prevent property damage, is the celebrated divorce mill which severs marriage ties at an alarming rate, and on the same floor are the postoffices of the Senate and Commons and numerous other offices connected with the internal economy of Parliament. Two large rooms which must have been flooded accommodate more than a hundred sessional stenographers who write the letters members are too busy to write to their constituents.

The deluge, says the Globe and Mail, recalls defects in an architecturally beautiful building. The drains are clearly inadequate in a storm, despite the favorable situation on Parliament Hill. Ottawa never has a downpour but the water backs into the building and every drinking fountain becomes a geyser. Janitors rush about on the double with mops as wash basins eject rain water that can't get away down the drains.

**EDITORIAL NOTES**

Exhibition Monday.

George Stephenson, inventor of the steam-engine, born this date, 1781.

The most popular pastime among a certain section of the community just now is guessing whether Governor DeBlois is going to have an immediate successor, and if so, who?

There are reported to be a dozen aspirants to chose from for the Conservative Federal nomination in Prince, but a joint committee of East and West have decided upon the name of one to submit to the forthcoming convention.

One never knows his luck. Burglars entered a wholesale business in Montreal recently, and "to wet their whistle" broached what appeared to be a cash of rum. It turned out to be "tear gas."

The Royal visit to Canada is splendidly covered in the July issue of the *Canadian Geographical Journal*. The text and illustrations extend to over eighty pages, and include a full page view of the King and Queen on the balcony of the Provincial Building, Charlottetown, as well as a description of Their Majesties' visit here.

According to a Press release of the Bank of Nova Scotia dated August 8, the Cumulative Index Business in Canada declined slightly in June, from 93.4% of the 1925-1929 average to 93.0%, but still retained the greater part of the gain recorded in May. Employment, industrial production and the rate of turnover of Bank deposits showed further improvement. Prices fell moderately and carloadings sharply, thus offsetting the increases in the other three component indices.

Something of a sensation was occasioned in the U.S.A. Senate when Mr. John L. Lewis, Labour leader, giving evidence before a committee, declared that Vice-President Garner was a "poker playing, labor baiting, whiskey drinking, evil old man." When the philosophic Mr. Garner reached Dallas, on his way home to Uvalde, he was asked if he had anything to say on "the Garner-for-President Movement." He declined to discuss the matter, remarking jokingly to a friend: "I'm going to get eviler every day. I'm going to be my natural self and a free man as long as I live."

There will be no gagging of the British press should war come. Speaking before the Newspaper Society recently Sir Samuel Hoare, Home Secretary, said he thought it would be a mistake to set up the kind of Press Bureau that was established in 1914—a separate and remote department of control. "Even in wartime I should like to see the censorship worked on lines that are in harmony with our general conception of the place the press should occupy in our national life, as a platform, a safety valve and an independent bulwark of the public moral," he said. "Of course they must be prevented from publishing news that would help the enemy. But I take the view that the best way to avoid those errors will be to take the leaders into our confidence. We prefer co-operation to dictation. We believe that a censorship that works as closely as possible with the leaders of the press is not only less objectionable than some dictatorial press bureau but more effective."

**NOTES BY THE WAY**

An aftermath of the bush-fires which ravaged parts of Victoria during January has just come to light in the discovery of a fallen giant, the world's tallest hardwood tree. It is a eucalypt, a mountain ash, which lay across the main track of the Mount Toorongo forest, near Noojee, and had to be sawn through to give road access. It was measured by the inspector of forests. From a point seven feet above the ground where the butt had become sufficiently symmetrical for milling to the point where the straight trunk had snapped off as it fell represented a main trunk of 224 feet. This latter point had actually been 331 feet from the ground. The topmost twig which had snapped off was at least 10 feet higher. Even at 331 feet it was the tallest hardwood ever recorded in any part of the world.—Australian Press Bureau.

A Timmins gentleman saw his dog fall into the river, and in attempting to pull the dog from the water, he overbalanced and fell in himself. After which another gentleman passing by took upon himself the duty of rescuing both dog and master. When the dog was pulled from the water, the man was so lowly that it was soon in a fight with another dog, the services of several men, and the danger of dog biting man being incurred before the dogs were separated.—Timmins Advance.

Milk River has two trains a day, one going north to Lethbridge, the other going south to Great Falls, Montana. The population is listed by the Canadian Almanac as 326. The river itself rates a paragraph in the Encyclopedia of Canada, but the town is not mentioned. Yet there passed through the elevators of Milk River during the last twelve months over 1,500,000 bushels of grain. Over 95 percent of it graded Number One Northern—a total value at the government peg, of \$1,120,000. And there will be a total of 1,200,000 bushels. But this is the province where they elected a government to rescue them from the horrors of poverty.—Calgary Herald.

A one-time champion potato-peeler in the Lunenburg area arrived in Durban recently aboard the Mahla. He was Mr. J. J. Hickman, now chief cook of the Mahla. In seven years, he peeled more than 3,000,000 potatoes for passengers travelling between London and Montreal. In those days potato-peeling was a full-time job. Five men were required to handle the 200 bags which the 1,140 passengers consumed during the voyage. Mr. Hickman said he never tired of the work. Even now his idea of a rest was to peel a bag of potatoes which took him about an hour. There was an aspect of this work which appealed to him. It was possible to sit down and gossip at the same time. The best potato-peelers, he thought, came from Lancashire. It took about 4-1/2 months to make a man proficient at the work.—South African News Bulletin.

There is as yet no organized resistance to German rule in Bohemia and Moravia. Nevertheless, the Germans are not at all satisfied with the state of affairs in that new "protectorate." Czech national unity has not been broken. The entire Czech people detest German rule and are waiting for "the day" when they will throw it off. All the war material which the Czechs had was taken over intact by the Germans—except for small arms and ammunition, which disappeared in great quantities. In spite of house-searching and the fearful penalties that are inflicted on those who are found in possession of firearms, there is little doubt that a large part of the Czech population will be found to be armed if "the day" comes. Frequent incidents, a demonstratively sullen ill-will, acts of minor sabotage or reprisal, and so on are an indication of the national spirit and a constant warning to the Germans. Manchester Guardian.

A public document always worth reading is the report of the Game Warden of Uganda. Captain C. R. S. Pitman, the incumbent of that interesting and exacting office, does not describe a routine, not a holiday excursion; his obligation is to conserve the balance of nature, protect the population. In 1937 his men and licensed hunters killed 2,000 elephants; last year it was not necessary to kill so many, as elephants are doing less damage to cultivators' holdings, and only 1,500 were condemned to slaughter. This toll was not taken without adventure. One guard having killed two elephants and wounded another, himself helpless because of the breaking of the extractor of his rifle. The wounded animal trumpeted; the herd gathered; the guard climbed a tree, where, with sticks broken from his retreat, he tried to poke the empty shell from the barrel of his rifle while the herd tried to get at him. He survived, but came out of the encounter a nervous wreck.—New York Sun.

A correspondent in this newspaper complained of the use of motor car horns to express the party mood of weddings and similar festive occasions. We are inclined to agree. But we don't think he goes far enough. We believe excessive use of horns to denote great joy is not the only abuse of them. We suspect they are also used too often to express contempt, anger, impatience, and all of the other unpleasant emotions sometimes felt by auto drivers.—People Journal-Transcript.

**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.

**WHY THE DELAY?**

Sir,—I have read with interest your recent editorial upon the question of the delay in starting upon the improvements of the Charlottetown Harbour, also the letter in last Thursday's Guardian signed "Conservative," and while I am greatly chagrined because of the inaction of the Dominion Government, I cannot bring myself to believe that the Government's request to Parliament to vote the money for this particular project was intended as an April fool's hoax.

I have good reason to believe that Mr. Dunning realized the great need by this Island for ocean shipping and that, quite possibly in face of opposition from the rest and western provinces, he persuaded his fellow Cabinet ministers to include the grant along with the other supplementary estimates and to have it included in the Budget. I sincerely trust that \$150,000 should be spent this year in deepening the harbor and enlarging the railway wharf.

I feel more inclined to attribute the inaction primarily to Mr. Dunning's regrettable illness and then to the fact that the attention of the Cabinet Ministers, both Federal and Provincial, has been so completely engrossed with other matters, notably the visit to Canada of the King and Queen, the Confederation anniversary celebrations, and the anxiety over the European situation, that valuable time has been allowed to pass and that once more the welfare of this little Island has been regarded as of secondary importance.

May I suggest that, while pardoning the Dominion Government for this neglect, we urge upon these officials directly responsible the need for immediate action and with redoubled vigor to make up for lost time.

Unless the whole work is completed by the autumn of 1940 there will be no shipping in 1941, and that would mean a whole year's loss to our farmers and fishermen, a much more serious matter than really faced by some of our own people.

I am, Sir, etc.

H. R. S. HEMMING.

P.S.—Since writing the above I note from your Friday edition that preliminary work at the railway pier is already "being" started upon, which is indeed gratifying.

**Nature's Weather Prophets**

(Frederick Gleaser)

In periods of drought does the hopeful citizen still consult the scarlet pimpernel in his garden or in the fields for signs of rain? This plant, a member of the primrose family, has long been called the poor man's weather glass or shepherd's clock, has long had the reputation of being a weather prophet. It is supposed to close its petals before rain, on a dull day or when the sun goes behind a cloud. In many lands its folk names testify to its alleged barometric propensities.

Actually, however, there seems to be some doubt as to the pimpernel's dependability as a weather forecaster. Some of those who have studied such matters with a cold scientific eye say that the plant's reputation is not justified. Indeed, the lovely pimpernel has been caught in the act of keeping its petals wide open both before and during rain. However, give the plant its due. An observation made in England, as recorded by Charles Talman in his "A Book About the Weather," finds that the pimpernel's blossoms are never fully open when the relative humidity of the atmosphere is over 80 per cent.

Other plants, as well as Anagallis arvensis, reputedly close their blossoms before showers. They do this, it has been explained, to protect their pollen. Mr. Talman says that few critical studies of such movements have been made. A species of pea, *Abrus precatorius*, growing

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Men's Wear

**Story Of Speed**

(Hamilton Spectator)

Just twenty years ago a crowd of excited Calgary citizens gathered on a field outside the city and hailed the first airman to fly over the Canadian Rockies.

A few weeks before, cheering throngs in London had greeted Alcock and Brown, heroes of the hour, who had achieved the stupendous feat of flying over the Atlantic from Newfoundland to Ireland.

Then there was a sort of hiatus. There were spectacular feats, culminating—for sheer drama—in Lindbergh's triumph in 1927. And

In the tropics, has enjoyed a considerable reputation in the field of weather forecasting. This plant, which is also called the rosary pea, bears scarlet seeds, black at the base, which are used in beadwork and for rosaries. In the late 1800s it attracted considerable attention as a weather prophet, an Austrian named Nowack, put forth his claims for the plant. From the various positions assumed by its branches and leaves, Nowack declared he was able to forecast storms, weather changes and in addition, earthquakes and the presence of fire-damp in coal mines. Finally Nowack displayed his versatile plant in London where, writes Mr. Talman, "it attracted so much attention that the authorities of Kew Gardens eventually published a bulletin explaining its complete unreliability." It is said that Nowack spent a fortune in trying to promote his universal forecaster.

All are familiar, of course, with the ground-sog's reputation as a minor weather prophet; with the alleged foretelling of rain by the yellow-billed cuckoo or rain crow and the tree frog or tree toad. In fact, it is said seek lower levels before the approach of rain because the relative humidity is less than at higher levels. The condensation of moisture on the insect's body is a hindrance to it. Increased knowledge of animal and insect psychology some day may explain more fully what seems to be definite reactions of certain animals and insects to changes in the atmosphere.

**The Pott's Corner**

MIDSUMMER

Soon will the high midsummer pumps come on.

Soon will the musk carnations break and swell;

Soon shall we have gold-dusted snapdragon,

Sweet-William with its homely cottage-smell.

And stocks in fragrant blow;

Roses that down the alleys shine afar,

And open jasmine-muffled lattices.

And groups under the dreaming garden-trees,

And the full moon, and the bright evening-star.

—Matthew Arnold.

**For a Delicious Cup of Orange Pekoe Tea**

Mr. Tea Pott Says: Use **BRAHMIN** Full Flavoured Tea



**That Body of Yours**

When you see an individual with the usual signs of exophthalmic goitre or Grave's disease—a rapid heart beat, nervousness, indigestion, sleeplessness, and later, bulging eyeballs—you may think that removal by surgery is the only cure. Many surgeons, however, have the family physician use medical treatment and rest for

So it went on. Just what these "pioneers" were contributing led to a lasting controversy. To the philosopher it was a matter of the individual's choice of fulfilling his destiny. To the man on the street it appeared quite senseless.

But all through these years science was building carefully and slowly from the ground up. Every crash taught a lesson; every mishap revealed a flaw. They worked ceaselessly, with safety the watchword. Before long giants that made the earlier machines look ridiculous were swinging out over the seas and across continents.

Saturday a silver flying boat rose from the waters off Southampton to launch on the inaugural trip of the new weekly air mail service between the United Kingdom, Eire, Newfoundland, Canada and the United States. Between Montreal and London there is now only a gap of two and a half days. The record speaks for itself.

MEDICAL TREATMENT OF GOITRE

(Continued on page 13, Col 7)

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