

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker than the Weakest Ink.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1939

Sir John Macdonald's Letter

Of great interest historically is the letter published for the first time in today's Guardian, from Sir John A. Macdonald to Mr. G. W. DeBlois, grandfather of His Honour Lieutenant Governor DeBlois, who discovered it recently among family documents where it had lain undisturbed for more than half a century.

The railway problem did not solve itself in the manner visualized in Sir John's letter. It was in the following year, 1871, that the Railway Act was passed, authorizing a line to be built through the Island connecting Alberton and Georgetown, touching at Summerside and Charlottetown and with provision for branch lines to Souris and Tignish.

Sir John's letter should prove of importance to the Commission now sitting on Dominion-Provincial Relations for the light it throws on the attitude of Canada's Confederation Premier with regard to the Island's status as a Province, and the rights and privileges it would enjoy in exchange for Colonial independence.

How The Money Goes

The Globe and Mail cites the reports of the Auditor-General of Canada as indicating continued increase in travelling expenses of government officials, costs of government motor cars, etc. at Ottawa. In the last five years alone, it is pointed out, the aggregate of travelling expense accounts of ministers, deputy ministers and officials of departments has climbed from \$2,676,386 to \$3,855,592.

The Department of National Defense ran up a bill of \$501,647. The Public Works Department, with comparatively small staff, turned in expense accounts totalling \$128,901. In addition to the \$2,000 allowed to each minister for maintenance of his automobiles, Canada's bill for her department cars in 1938 totalled \$670,055.

Serious Farm Handicaps

A thoughtful letter on the agricultural situation in New Brunswick is contributed by Mr. C. A. Anderson, Woodstock, to the Saint John Telegraph Journal. Many of Mr. Anderson's points have application to the Maritimes as a whole, and more particularly to this Island where agriculture is the main industry.

protection we were receiving up to 1937 of 15 per cent was wiped out and a protection of two and one-half per cent substituted. This slight protection is practically worthless. As a result of that reduction 10,000 lambs and mutton arrived in Saint John last week on the City of Delhi from Australia, a large portion of which was taken into stock by Saint John dealers, and is leaving us with our stock in Carleton County and throughout the province to sell when we can and at whatever price we can get.

The writer also points out that the port of Saint John is the front door to Canada for twelve months of the year from Australia via the Panama Canal, and consequently our farmers of the Maritime Provinces take the hardest rap of an all-water freight. It is bad enough for the farmers of Ontario and Quebec but they have the added protection of the refrigerator car charges from Saint John to their consuming centres, whereas Maritime farmers have to face the competition of this product landed here by an all-water haul.

Editorial Notes

St. Patrick's Day. British occupied Bapaume on the Hindenburg Retreat, this date, 1917.

In Paris if you don't apply for a gas mask you are liable to be fined or sent to prison.

The first contingent of the Salvation Army to land in the New World consisted of one man and seven women. That was on March 10, 1880. To-day their number is legion and General Evangeline Booth has just appointed Colonel Donald McMillan, at present ill in London, as her deputy in charge of the Salvationists in the northern territory U. S. A.

Our local contemporary quotes approvingly Premier King's warning to a party supporter that cabinet ministers, not their officials, are responsible to Parliament. We trust it will bear this fact in mind, and apply it provincially as well as federally.

St. Patrick's Day would not be complete without the traditional parade, religious and other observances which take place today. An interesting part of the celebration will be the presentation by the Benevolent Irish Society of a fine comedy, "Laughing Irish Eyes", in the Prince Edward Theatre this afternoon and evening.

The late Sir Henry Pellatt built a palatial residence in Toronto in which he subsequently found he could not afford to live, or even pay taxes for. It is now rented by the City Council to a service club as a show place. Similarly, Mr. Charles M. Schwab finds he cannot afford to live in the stately granite chateau which he built on Riverside Drive, New York, at a cost of more than \$2,500,000.

The poor Mother Country is being bled white to accommodate deserving, and even undeserving, democracies in Europe and elsewhere. So far as the Empire is concerned, great demands on her purse have been made by Colonies hard hit as a sequel to the Great War. Newfoundland in the old days was able to get along on her own, but latterly got into financial trouble and lost her democratic government.

Notes by the Way

The Republic of Panama for the sixth consecutive year has refused to cash the \$250,000 cheque due for canal usage, because the rent is not in gold dollars. In this respect Panama is playing its own pocket—Montreal Gazette.

It seems obvious that if there is to be any "general settlement" in Europe, the European powers must be prepared to make concessions no less than with Germany's. Any attempt by Signor Mussolini to blackmail France and England by the use of force would ruin the very basis of such a settlement.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

HOUSEHOLD RENTINGS

Sir,—As a result of our experience in the real estate business in this city and elsewhere, we are of the opinion that the method fairly prevalent in Charlottetown of renting houses and apartments on a monthly rather than a yearly basis is not working to the advantage of either the property owners or their tenants.

The right of the tenant to give a single month's notice to the landlord is a frequently recurring feature in houses lying vacant for several months between renting seasons which, apart from the loss of rentals, is liable to cause serious injury to the building, particularly during the cold winter months. At first sight tenants may feel that the short term system is in their favour, but when the time comes for making a change they are more than likely to find that they have but a very limited choice of houses or apartments to select from.

Nothing preventing by tenants is not simply a matter of convenience but frequently of urgent necessity as a result of an increase or decrease in the size of the family, a change up or down in income, distance from place of daily occupation, conditions of health, a desire to live near friends or relatives, etc.

It is useless to guess how great a dent the Federal Government could support without risking financial collapse. The upper limit to public indebtedness is dependent not only upon the economic capacity of the people to pay taxes to cover debt charges but upon many intangible factors. The politically feasible limit of taxation which could be reached long before the economic limit has been attained.

The reason for the intensification of the quarrel with France at such a moment is that Austria was shocked to Italian opinion was not secret. That the rapid growth of German power is not altogether welcome to Italy is not in doubt. But would not his wisest course have been to secure a little more freedom of movement with the Western Powers?

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The present burdensome arms budget is thus one price which Ireland must pay for its freedom. But should Great Britain and Ireland be so ready to surrender to the possible for them to pool their respective defence measures and to co-operate against the common enemy on a parity?

During the War of 1915-18, Italy's hands of Jews played a valiant part. There were no less than eleven Jewish generals commanding the Italian forces. There were upwards of a thousand citations for gallantry. A large number of young men, who could be ill-spared from their civilian occupations, fell in the field of battle; and in every Italian synagogue there are rolls of Honour only too crowded with the names of those who were killed by the King of Italy himself. And it was not only in the field that Jews worked for the Greater Italy. The community of Trieste, which was known to Italy as "Dolce Patria", was in 1917 the Italian army were overwhelmed at Caporetto, the Jews of Trieste were known in mourning. In the deepest secrecy, a congregational feast was proclaimed, which was observed with the traditional prayers and formalities. (This detail has never, I believe, been published hitherto). Twenty-two years later, the community is regarded in a different light; and the new Trieste, 5,000 Jews constitute a "problem" for Italy. New times, new views, it is true, but it is hardly necessary to be reminded that the Jews of Trieste were in the Fortnightly, London.

Judging by statistics, the healthiest country to live in is New Zealand. It has the lowest mortality rate, per thousand population, of any country in the world—8.5. The death rate in New Zealand is fairly low with an average death rate of 11. The country where they die young and freely is Ceylon where the death rate is 30. The distant second is Chile with 26.8. In western Europe where the death rate depends upon how Hitler feels when the gas is in the room, the lowest rate is held by Germany with 10.9. While France is high at 15.1, while the United States is 12.5, the countries now at war, we'd probably find that Canada was running a bad fourth or fifth. —The Commentator, Magazine.

IMMORAL LITERATURE

Sir,—In an editorial entitled "A Clean-up Needed", which appeared in your issue of March 7th, mention was made of a movement on the part of the Province and in the Dominion for a clean-up by the Customs Department in connection with the importation of obscene literature. Such a move, as you would receive general support and encouragement.

That Body of Yours By James W. Barton, M.D. LACK OF THYROID JUICE MAY CAUSE OVERWEIGHT SLUGGISHNESS BAD BREATH AND OTHER SYMPTOMS

I often speak of the condition where the thyroid gland in the neck is too active—makes too much thyroid juice—and so causes goitre, rapid heart beat, loss of weight, nervousness and indignation. This condition is called hyperthyroidism; "hyper" means more or above normal.

The opposite condition — not enough thyroid juice being made — is called hypothyroidism — less or beneath normal — in which there is slowness of the heart beat, increase in weight, and mental and physical sluggishness.

A great amount of this extra weight is composed of mucin — a jelly-like glycerin — and protein matter — which is found under the skin, giving the patient the waxy appearance which is one of the outstanding symptoms of hypothyroidism or myxedema, as it is usually named.

It is interesting to note that the pernicious effects of this "smelly truck" upon the minds of youth are well known to all intelligent people, yet some of our newspapers and booklets are flooded with it. Do those in authority, then, approve of such a condition? If not, why isn't something done about it?

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This mucin was found only under the skin but Dr. G. Maranon Paris, in Medical Press, shows that this mucin may be found in other parts of the body causing symptoms which are not suspected as being due to the hypothyroid condition (lack of thyroid juice.)

Thus hypothyroidism produces dryness of the lining of the nasal passages and of the mucous membranes in breathing through the nose, the need for sleeping with mouth open, and loud snoring. Another symptom is constipation.

Before the signs of the disease appear, the thyroid gland is enlarged and the tongue is cracked and the sense of taste is lost. Still another symptom, sometimes present, is a bad odor from the mouth.

Dr. Maranon states further that patients with hypothyroidism often have deafness, buzzing in the ears, and perhaps dizziness. Many digestive disturbances may also be due to the presence of the mucin in and about the digestive organs.

Fortunately, if these symptoms appear, the use of thyroid extract under the supervision of the physician will cause these symptoms to disappear. Just as thyroid extract causes the disappearance of mucin from under the skin, loss of weight, and more mental and physical activity.

Diphtheria Can Be Wiped Out. (Health League of Canada) In 1937 Great Britain had 61,339 cases of diphtheria with 2,969 deaths, a fatality rate of 4.8 per cent. Commenting on this the Chief Medical Officer says: "Diphtheria has not been so common since 1930. The reason in all these cases is the systematic use of toxoid among young children. Diphtheria can be eliminated from every community in the country. The effectual agent is toxoid. There is no longer any need to have diphtheria."

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