

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1939.

Fertility And Crops

When the average city man hears of too much grain, of too many potatoes, and a glut of meat, he sometimes wonders why the farmer does not control production like the manufacturers.

Here is the reply of the agricultural correspondent of the Birmingham Post: "What happens in a bumper year with potatoes has happened again and again in the case of imported meat. The colonial has sent us supplies beyond our normal capacity, has broken the market for himself and us, with the result that we have jointly received less money for an increased tonnage. As an up-to-the-minute commentary, the same thing that so often used to occur with potatoes has happened in the current year's barley crop.

"The immediate retort to all this is, 'Control production'; but, as is the case with so many apparently obvious cures for old and deep-seated ailments, there are snags. First of all, a farm is not a factory; nor can total tonnage be adjusted, up or down, as is possible in a factory, without destroying the farm; and second, consumption is neither a rigidly fixed nor an easily ascertainable quantum.

"Add that, in the case, for instance of beef, one must begin restriction of output two years before it can take effect, and that the 'time lag' in the case of all farm products is many times that attached to manufactured goods, and it will be seen that the problem is incapable of being solved by a slogan, or of being reduced to simple arithmetic.

"Consider a farmer who decides that there are too many sheep in the world and that he will cut his production. If it is a hill farm with sheep sparsely dotted over scores of acres, reduction means that his land is a half-used asset, that its fertility slowly declines because of decreased hoof cultivation, and, inevitably, a population decline where we want to increase population.

"On a normal grass-farm fertility decline would be more rapid, as would be depopulation, and the final result that which, above all others, we wish to avoid—an increase in understocked 'rough grazing'.

"The fact that persistently eludes even the most fair-minded and sympathetic townsmen is that fertility is not an end in itself, but a means to an end. Its object is increased production, and the two linked together are the foundation of sound rotational farming.

"We need maximum fertility as a measure of national insurance. Nothing else in the realm of agriculture will give us that insurance—and it is technically impossible at one and the same time to throttle production and increase fertility. One cannot put a caretaker on the land to keep it dry, dusted, and oiled against the time one needs it as one can with a machine.

"The land, its stock and its people are all living things. They progress and produce or decay and die. Nothing can make them static. There lies the difficulty in the quantitative control of production. One may, within limits set by rotational needs, increase or decrease this commodity or that. One cannot decrease total production and maintain maximum fertility."

National Park Publicity

The leading article in the current issue of the Canadian Geographical Journal is entitled "Canada's Maritime Playgrounds" and is devoted to featuring the Cape Breton Highlands National Park and the Prince Edward Island National Park. The author, Mr. Robert J. C. Stead, gives a brief outline of this Province's history as well as its tourist attractions. The illustrations include views of Bonshaw, Brackley Beach, Kildare Capes, and a stretch of paved highway near Brookfield.

In a passage not evidently meant for home consumption Mr. Stead writes:

"When most of the national parks were established the land was already owned by the Dominion Government, and settlement had not been encroached upon to any appreciable extent. A different situation existed with respect to the new parks in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, which was met by the Provincial Governments acquiring the land and turning it over to the administration of the federal authorities. The public-spirited attitude of owners, in making their lands available for this purpose, and the co-operation between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, have made possible these valuable additions to Canada's system of national parks."

Unfortunately the owners in this Province had little opportunity of demonstrating their "public-spirited attitude" except by way of protest against the coercive methods used by the Campbell Government in expropriating the land and refusing right of appeal.

Mr. Stead's article is a reminder of the fact that no detailed information as to the Government's settlement with the owners of the Park lands has been given out. It is to be hoped that at the next legislative session this information will be tabled. Our taxpayers have a right to know how much each land-owner received, and also the valuations which were recommended by the Higgs Commission.

Up To Premier King

Debate on the Bren gun contract in Parliament last week, says the Financial Post (Independent) emphasized "the inescapable responsibility of Prime Minister King to the people of Canada in this matter.

"When Commissioner Davis submitted his report it provided sensational corroboration of

every charge made by Col. Drew in Maclean's Magazine. It went farther and brought out evidence of gross incompetence on the part of the Department of National Defence. This evidence was laid before Parliament just as a judge submits his case to the jury. In this case the Government, Parliament and the people of Canada are the jury.

"So far the Prime Minister has taken no action except in respect of a Defence Purchasing Board. He has allowed Parliament to wrangle over what should be done; has permitted a debate which at times descended to deplorably low levels, without accepting his own clear responsibility to take definite action on the basis of the known facts and evidence submitted to him by Mr. Davis.

"There is adequate evidence in the hands of the Prime Minister to show that both his Minister of National Defence and the deputy minister were guilty of gross abuse of public trust. If any doubts have been entertained on this score they have been removed by arguments placed before the House in the past few days.

"If Mr. King has not realized it already, he must know by this time that the people of Canada will not be content with anything short of a thorough clean-up of this whole situation. A clean-up which will not permit a whitewashing by a packed parliamentary committee, but will demand direct action by the Government itself."

Editorial Notes

Valentine Day. \* \* \* \* \*

The Boot and Shoe Manufacturers Association have gone on record against allowing weekend "tourists" to the United States to return with \$100 duty free goods unless they be made to pay the 8% Sales tax. Otherwise they say it is gross discrimination against the people who cannot afford to spend Saturday to Monday over the border.

No man in public life in Canada has been more reticent about his war services than Hon. Dr. Manion, M. C. To accuse him, as our local contemporary does, of "jumping up every day to proclaim his loyalty and the fact that he went overseas", simply because he has been insisting on a showdown in the matter of the scandalous Bren gun contract, is a gratuitous insult to every war veteran in the country. It could only have emanated from a party organ nursing an inferiority complex with regard to its own leader's record.

The Province of Ontario, produced \$221,316,225 worth of minerals of all kinds in 1938, compared to \$230,173,459 in 1937, the Department of Commerce reported today. Despite this decrease of 3.85 per cent in production values, Ontario maintained its position as leading mineral producing province of Canada. Gold mines accounted for \$101,231,425 or 45.74 per cent of the whole—eleven new mines coming into operation during the year to boost the output value about \$11,000,000 above that of 1937. A severe decline in copper prices lowered the 1938 production value of that mineral to \$31,133,126 from \$41,717,053 in 1937, although there was a slight increase in actual output.

Canada's production of creamery butter in January amounted to 9,747,782 pounds compared with 11,247,322 in the previous month and 8,367,468 in the corresponding month last year. Increases over January 1938 were recorded in all provinces, with the exception of Nova Scotia. According to preliminary figures, Canada's production of creamery butter during 1938 aggregated 266,886,883 pounds compared with 246,387,259 in 1937. The amounts follow by months, with 1937 figures in brackets: January, 8,367,468 (8,932,907) pounds; February, 7,612,102 (7,615,695); March, 10,161,091 (9,683,033); April, 16,434,225 (15,256,072); May, 28,962,502 (24,756,556); June, 41,763,804 (38,258,922); July, 38,782,003 (35,916,043); August, 35,180,766 (31,643,332); September, 30,271,771 (29,092,478); October, 23,438,264 (22,144,824); November, 14,665,565 (13,263,918); December, 11,147,332 (9,823,479).

Drinkers are made, not born, Mr. Charles H. Durfee of Wakefield, N.I., told the American Association for the Advancement of Science the other day. He contended that the foundations of alcoholism were predominantly psychological, and that a drunkard could really "unlearn" if he wanted to and was given the right sort of help. This assistance is not drugs, Mr. Durfee contended. Nor does it do the least good to try to talk or chide a person out of his drinking. The effective way is to let the drunkard live in a sympathetic community, where he can take as many drinks as he wishes, but continually see other people who benefit from not drinking so much. Finally the drinker reaches a stage where he is able to refuse a drink—the last drink, not the first. When he can refuse the last one, he becomes proud of the achievement, and experiments further. But he has to have a sincere desire for reform.

"My method for dealing with any farm," Mr. James Keith, of Aberdeenshire told an agriculture conference at Oxford, England, "is to begin by preparing a budget of the likely expenditure on any course of action and the probable income. Critics may say that one cannot forecast events such as seasons and prices. That is quite true, but seasons will, with certainty always average themselves, and as for prices, as they cannot be forecast, one has to take the probabilities. There are, however, some things which, under present conditions, are reasonably stable, such as wheat, sugar, beet, milk, pigs and poultry; and beef, with the present subsidy, is more stable than one might suppose, while over an average of years sheep have not done so badly. I should like to add for the benefit of those who think a farmer ought to alter his plans frequently to meet changing conditions, that it takes time and money to do so. It is nearly as difficult to go from sheep to pigs as to go from motorcars to silk stockings, and no reasonable person would expect Lord Nuffield to do that even if walking became temporarily fashionable."

Laymen from various churches in Peterborough are going to do something about it. They believe it is a good thing for an individual to have a church connection, and search for the best. The meeting was held for the definite purpose of advancing Christianity. One finds a deal of encouragement when it is learned that there is no particular denomination taking up this work. There is one aim in

NOTES BY THE WAY

Now that the Bank of England has pegged the value of its gold reserve to the American price, there is no prospect whatever of the price receding to the old figure of \$30.67 per ounce. In fact, there is more likelihood of an eventual increase in the price of gold, something of vast importance to Canada.—St. Catharines Standard.

It is a mistake to believe that the refugee problem is a mainly Jewish and concerns Jews only. Many are Protestants, Catholics and other religions, political offenders, pacifists and democrats, and as a result can be. The total number of people affected in the new Greater Germany runs into millions who have either fled or want to flee when they see the chance. The problem of refugee is enormous, and press and statesmen have a serious task in educating the comfortable people in free lands to rise to the heights of their opportunities of service to mankind and either subscribe for the repatriation of the refugees, or to offer them sanctuary.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Roads here are open to the other towns, to the mines, to the lumber camps, and so on. The bus service between Timmins and South Porcupine has been running since the summer of 1937. Men working at mines in the district haven't missed a shift because of any storm. It is true that there has been a cold winter in the North this year—and last year. But in this great country people know how to stand in their own shoes. There has been some snow here—and some here now. But folks in this North know what to do with snow. What isn't snowed, just has to be shoveled as easy as that.—Timmins Advance.

This writer of a souless woria and humorless population of Martian revolt and machine worship. H. G. Wells, has got himself into some London weekly papers with contemptuous references to the visit to Canada of their Majesties King George and Queen Elizabeth. He deplores the fact that the British Empire and intangible bond of a mighty race. Wells avers it bores him, but he bores the British and has done so since he left the States, storing up some two decades since and became a discredited seer. He lost his imagination in the Great War and can no longer draw human minds and sentiment that makes hearts warm.—Brandon Sun.

While experts and authorities everywhere are talking about what's wrong with the college girl, it's mainly the college girl who is doing the talking. Hunter has provided a series of seminar sessions with experts on how to make a good appearance, how to select and wear clothes, how to walk, what to do with hands and hair; tones of voice, how to smile, and especially how to walk! Mastery of these subjects won't make a competent secretary or research assistant of a girl who has no brains, but it will give her a certain amount of confidence and self-reliance. The French irregular verbs, logarithms and Elizabethan drama. But who would want to do that? She looks like a surrealist's great-aunt? Some girls, doubtless, are born with chic. But if one hasn't learned she may not be able to do it. Hunter is a sensible person, and especially how it came to it for equipment toward their careers.—New York—Telegram.

There is an old story of the first campaign for the Senate, which Senator Robert Reynolds waged against the Hon. J. H. Morrison. Cam Morrison was a rich man, who lived richly. Bob Reynolds got himself into the Senate by touring North Carolina in a broken-down Ford, giving the voters personal charades of Cam arriving at his hotel in a Rolls-Royce, and marching into the dining room to eat caviar. He had carry a red carpet, on which to strut across the platforms. But the high spot in his speech always came when he pulled out a small jar of caviar out of his pocket, and told the plain people of North Carolina about Cam Morrison's favorite food. "Friends, it pains me to tell you, Bob would yell, 'Fish eggs, that's what he eats. This jar I'm showin' you ain't a jar of squirts, but it's fish eggs, and that's what he eats. He'd eat that, and they cost two dollars, just for this little jarful. Now fellow citizens let me ask you, do you want a car that runs high and mighty to eat good old North Carolina hen eggs, or don't you?' The plain people of North Carolina sent Bob Reynolds to the Senate for rather non-essential reasons.—Capitol Parade Washington.

There is a pleasing story from the bird show at the Royal Horticultural Hall in London. Where the judges tried for three hours to induce the man who had brought the bird to the show to talk for the best talking bird to "do their stuff." Overcome by shyness or the novelty of their situation, the would-be champion chatters at silent; all except one, who is reported to have announced at last "Joey's got the first prize. And so Joey has, and he's the best bird in the show." The man who had brought the bird to the show had apparently loosened his tongue. He had, in short, been supplied with a topic worth talking about, from which he would speak to those who want birds to talk had all of them to get a prize. Or another way might be to announce that no award at all would be made, whereupon the whole assembly might possibly break out into voluble protest at so monstrous a decision on the part of the judges. In any event, the whole episode suggests that even though the bird says nothing it may be giving a deal.

Laymen from various churches in Peterborough are going to do something about it. They believe it is a good thing for an individual to have a church connection, and search for the best. The meeting was held for the definite purpose of advancing Christianity. One finds a deal of encouragement when it is learned that there is no particular denomination taking up this work. There is one aim in

view and that one aim is the common property of all churches instead of having more discussion—most of which are useless—as to why men do not go to church, this new movement proposes to go and search for these people and see if the laymen can bring them along. We believe a man is paying a direct, complimentary to his church when he asks another person to come along with him. We are certain enough any minister in the city would feel new life coursing through him if he saw that being more generally done.—Peterborough Examiner.

Mirror Of The Nation

By "Commoner"

OTTAWA, Feb. 17.

Rarely if ever, in the Canadian Parliament has a major political issue been treated with such an entire absence of partisanship as has characterized the condemnation in the House of Commons of the Government's course in connection with the Bren gun contract. This non-partisan handling of the matter is evidenced by the fact that all groups in the House have joined in the exception of the members supporting the Government, have taken virtually identical attitudes in the matter. Memoranda all the opposition groups have strongly condemned the way in which the machine gun contract was handled, taking their condemnation from the report of the Commission of Inquiry itself. In so doing, however, they have made it clear that their concern was less with discrediting the Administration than with safeguarding future expenditures in Canada's defence program. Nearly all the members who joined in exposing the patronage and profiteering methods which the Commission's report revealed, had been followed in placing the order for machine guns were insistent that these methods should not prevail in the country. Expenditure on defence which the Government is now asking Parliament to approve, C.O.P. Social Credit and Labour Members were as vigorous as the Conservatives in demanding that the spending of \$63,000,000 on defence which the Government proposes for the next year be referred to Parliament for the favouritism, patronage and profiteering attaching to the machine gun deal.

In this matter members were literally discharging the duty placed squarely upon them by the Commissioner of Inquiry when, in his report, he said that it was for the Government to pass upon the question of whether those responsible for securing Canada's requirements in machine guns had acted responsibly to the public interest. "Taking the evidence from the report of the Commissioner, Opposition group members unanimously asserted, 'no' to the Commissioner's question: 'Were proper and sufficient steps taken in this case to discharge that responsibility?'"

The only difference in attitude on the Opposition side was that while the C.O.P. group wanted the Commission's report and the machine gun contract sent to the Public Accounts Committee for further investigation the Conservative Party held that the deal had been sufficiently exposed and condemned in the Commissioner's report and that the deal should be cancelled at once without waste of time or money on further investigation. In moving that the contract be cancelled, in amendment to the C.O.P. report, the Conservative Party, in the Public Accounts Committee, Hon. R. J. Manion took the ground that the only possible result from a reference to the Committee would be a report whitewashing the deal. This result was certain because the Government, under the rules of the House, would place 36 of its own members on the Public Accounts Committee against 14 members from all the Opposition groups. In support of his position Dr. Manion quoted extracts from a passage after the signature of the Commissioner's report which, he maintained, constituted complete condemnation of the Government's whole course in the transaction.

The Commissioner had been prevented, Dr. Manion pointed out, from giving, in his report, his opinions on the transaction. Counsel representing those involved in the transaction, including counsel for the Government, had insisted, after the evidence had been taken at the inquiry, that the Commissioner must not make any findings on the evidence or include in his report any conclusions or comments or opinions regarding the contract or the conduct of those concerned in it. This restriction on the Commissioner had forced him to let the evidence speak for itself. He had included in his report evidence

which in itself condemned the whole course of the transaction. The Conservative Leader contended that the who's report was one of political patronage in its worst form, a favouritism of deep-seated nature, and a betrayal of the Prime Minister and the deceptions of the Inter-departmental Committee which had urged that manufacturers of standing and experience be brought in of deception of the British Government when Major Hahn was given credit as a manufacturer of equipment to produce machine guns, which was not the case, and deception of the Canadian people. Dr. Manion put it to the Prime Minister that he could clean up the matter by cancelling the contract.

After the condemnation by the Commissioner the Minister of National Defence who was responsible

(Continued on page 5, Col. 6)

There are five distinct and different services to be derived by the Island from ocean going vessels whether they be liners, making Charlottetown a regular port of call, or trampships coming only occasionally, as a rule by prior contract with the shippers. These services may be classified as follows:— 1. To carry our own people and to from the Mother Country, Cities in the United States such as New York and Boston, Bermuda and the West Indies, and on world tours such as are offered annually by many leading steamship companies. As the outsets this service will not likely be an important factor, but as the population of the Island grows in numbers and in wealth, as it surely will when the trading with the outside world has become general, the convenience and the saving in time and in the cost of railway travel will of themselves warrant the initial expenditure on harbour improvements. 2. To bring to this Island, during the summer months, tourists and holiday seekers from Central Canada, from the United States, both North and South, from the West Indies and from the Mother Country and Europe. 3. To carry merchandise of all kinds inward from abroad and outward in order to deliver the many products of this Island to other countries wherever markets can be found for livestock or for food and feed in the many and varied forms in which they can be produced on this greatly endowed little Island. 4. To give employment to our workers, longshoremen, truckmen and last drivers; to implement the income of the Railway Company, bus companies and others, carrying people and goods to and from all parts of the Province; to bring transient customers to our shops, hotels and restaurants and generally to increase business activity in Charlottetown and elsewhere. 5. To add to the revenue of the Provincial Government by the greater consumption of gasoline upon which an important tax is levied. 6. The above are the several advantages that naturally suggest themselves as inherent to a steamship service. They are not necessarily complete and no doubt others of greater or less importance will be thought of. It will now be in order to give more detailed consideration under the separate headings.

OCEAN TRANSPORTATION ITS POSSIBILITIES

By H. K. S. HEMMING

OTTAWA, Feb. 17.

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An Islander going abroad at the present time must perforce spend from one to two days on railway trains, not too comfortably, particularly on the Island side of Montreal, in order to take passage upon a steamship at Halifax, Montreal, Boston or New York, and in addition he must draw upon his bank account for a not inconsiderable sum for his rail ticket and other travelling expenses. It may be contended that this is a paltry sum compared to those living in a small community. Even, however, at our present rate of going abroad it would likely be found that these additional expenses would amount to quite a considerable proportion of the annual interest upon the

which in itself condemned the whole course of the transaction. The Conservative Leader contended that the who's report was one of political patronage in its worst form, a favouritism of deep-seated nature, and a betrayal of the Prime Minister and the deceptions of the Inter-departmental Committee which had urged that manufacturers of standing and experience be brought in of deception of the British Government when Major Hahn was given credit as a manufacturer of equipment to produce machine guns, which was not the case, and deception of the Canadian people. Dr. Manion put it to the Prime Minister that he could clean up the matter by cancelling the contract.

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(Continued on page 5, Col. 6)

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ATTENTION Swine Breeders NOW is the time to guard against PIG - WORM by using the most effective remedy on the market: Mac's Pig-Worm Tonic Powder It will thoroughly abolish all traces of worms, and improve the health of your herd. Price 35cts per lb. Don't delay. Order by Phone or Mail. All orders promptly attended to. Phone 315 The 2 MACS Prescriptions A Specialty.

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knowledge that this little Island in the Gulf is an integral part of the Dominion of Canada, a fact not realized today by many thousands who claim to be Canadian. Another matter of material consequence is that in this Province there are hundreds of abandoned farms for sale, now in the hands of people too old to cultivate them. These could be settled upon by experienced tenant farmers from England and Northern Europe, and once cheap and direct ocean travel has been provided, the call from there will assuredly be heard. Not only is Prince Edward Island near at hand, but farming conditions here correspond more closely to those upon which the old world people have been raised, and we soon as markets abroad for our farm products have been obtained there will no longer be any reason why a skilled and thrifty farmer should not earn a good substantial living for himself and his family. As a first step, therefore, to a system of government managed colonization, there is no other factor of equal significance to that of a cheap, short and direct ocean trip to Prince Edward Island. The next question to be considered is how to get the necessary knowledge that this little Island in the Gulf is an integral part of the Dominion of Canada, a fact not realized today by many thousands who claim to be Canadian. Another matter of material consequence is that in this Province there are hundreds of abandoned farms for sale, now in the hands of people too old to cultivate them. These could be settled upon by experienced tenant farmers from England and Northern Europe, and once cheap and direct ocean travel has been provided, the call from there will assuredly be heard. Not only is Prince Edward Island near at hand, but farming conditions here correspond more closely to those upon which the old world people have been raised, and we soon as markets abroad for our farm products have been obtained there will no longer be any reason why a skilled and thrifty farmer should not earn a good substantial living for himself and his family. As a first step, therefore, to a system of government managed colonization, there is no other factor of equal significance to that of a cheap, short and direct ocean trip to Prince Edward Island. The next question to be considered is how to get the necessary

FARMERS' WEEK PROGRAM

Tuesday, Feb. 21st. 10:00 a.m. P.E.I., Central Farmers Institute Tuesday, Feb. 21st. 1:30 p.m. P.E.I., Central Farmers' Institute. Tuesday, February 21st. 7:30 p.m. P.E.I. Swine Growers' Association Wednesday, Feb. 22nd. 9:30 a.m. P.E.I. Sheep Breeders' Association Wednesday, Feb. 22nd. 1:30 p.m. P.E.I., Egg & Poultry Association Wednesday, Feb. 22nd. 7:30 p.m. P.E.I. Egg & Poultry Association Thursday, Feb. 23rd. 9:30 a.m. P.E.I. Horse Breeders' Association, Thursday, Feb. 23rd., 1:30 p.m., P.E.I., Dairymen's Association, Thursday, Feb. 23rd., 7:00 p.m., P.E.I., Dairymen's Association. The meetings will be held in the Board Room, Civic Building, Queen Street. A full representation from all groups is invited to these meetings. Special speakers have been arranged to address a number of the meetings. The sessions of the Central Farmers' Institute will include six practical addresses on Agriculture by young and progressive farm leaders. Do not miss these instructive talks.

In Montreal Windsor ON DOMINION SQUARE J. ALDERIC RAYMOND VICE PRESIDENT CHAS. H. SENDY MANAGER

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IT'S A QUESTION OF PERSONAL TASTE

These crisp winter days offer opportunities for sport and amusement. Some folks prefer skating and others get a kick out of fishing through the ice. But when Chewing Tobacco is mentioned the choice is simple. It narrows down "To One Brand."

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