

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN
 Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 \$5.00 per year (in advance) delivered to City
 \$4.00 per year (in advance) mailed to P. E. Island
 \$5.00 per year (in advance) mailed to Canada and U.S.
 Members Audit Bureau of Circulations

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

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1939

Reorganizing City Hall

The City Council is advertising for a new City Clerk, application to be in by Saturday.

For the success of the new financial civic set-up much will depend upon the administrative and business ability of the new official. As the responsibilities of this position require a first-class executive, nothing should be allowed to stand in the way of obtaining the services of the best man available for the purpose.

In addition to a competent Clerk, the installation of adequate book-keeping methods will require the services of two detailed ledger keepers, together with a stenographer and cashier. There should be no lack of competent young ladies to fill these positions. Under the direction of a properly qualified City Clerk a staff such as we suggest should be able to carry on the work satisfactorily and efficiently.

It is, however, absolutely essential to have an experienced and qualified external auditor make a regular audit of the City books. Without that safeguard no reorganization can be effective. The citizens demand that their interest, and not the interests of wire-pullers and self-seekers, be given first consideration in this and other matters respecting civic administration.

Living Standards Compared

Some interesting figures have been compiled by the International Labour Conference at Geneva, to indicate the material wealth of the leading countries of the world. On the premise that during the twenty years since the World War the standard of life has generally advanced everywhere, in spite of unemployment, it takes the period of 1925 to 1934 to size up earnings of occupied persons. The computations are made comparable by expressing them in an understandable unit, namely, the average amount of goods and services which one dollar would purchase in the United States over those nine years.

The United States and Canada, with nearly \$1,400 per occupied person, head the list. The two countries of this continent are well ahead. After them come Great Britain, Switzerland, New Zealand and Australia, with an average income per occupied person of about \$1,000. The Netherlands and the Irish Free State follow, with \$885 and \$770 respectively. In the \$700 to \$600 class come Sweden, France, Denmark, Germany, Spain and Belgium, with Norway and Austria following, with \$600 to \$500. Czechoslovakia's figure is set at \$455, Greece, Finland, Hungary, Poland, Latvia, Estonia, Italy and Japan are placed between \$400 and \$300. Soviet Russia rates \$350, China, at the foot of the list, only \$120.

These figures are, of course, not strictly accurate. But they do point to the significant fact that the democracies are still well ahead in general standards of living. Their superiority in resources needs no emphasis.

Poland's Trade With Canada

Now that Czecho-Slovakia has disappeared, Poland (including the Free City of Danzig which is so much in the spotlight just now) is Canada's chief market in Eastern Europe, that is to say, among those countries lying south of Scandinavia and east of Germany and Italy. Of timely interest therefore is the leading article in the current issue of the Commercial Intelligence Journal, dealing with Poland's foreign trade.

Direct trade between Poland and Canada has not been so far of great relative importance, but Poland has undoubtedly taken in the past a larger amount and variety of Canadian products than the visible trade returns indicate. Some of these, such as sausage casings and apples, have reached Poland unchanged in form via other countries, chiefly Great Britain, Holland, Germany or Denmark, while certain raw or semi-manufactured products have been incorporated in the finished manufactures supplied to Poland by these and other countries.

Poland provides a good illustration of what has happened, and is happening, to Canada's trade with countries on continental Europe. Poland is one of the Dominion's lost flour markets. Out of total exports in 1927-28 from Canada to Poland valued at \$456,000, direct shipments of flour alone accounted for \$375,000. The value of this item declined to \$40,000 in 1928-29, and in the wave of agricultural protection which swept Europe thereafter it reached zero in 1935 and has remained so since.

Secondly, as in the case of many other countries, though perhaps more strikingly than in most, the vanished flour exports have since been replaced by sales of metal employed for armament purposes. Exports of Canadian copper to Poland, which were nil from 1928 to 1933, increased from 1934 onwards until they represented \$600,000 out of total exports to that country in 1937-38 of \$739,000.

Thirdly, the Polish authorities found it necessary to follow the general European trend and to establish the now familiar machinery of exchange control, import licences, quota restrictions, and clearing agreements. As a result the possibilities for Canadian shippers are limited to those commodities for which the Canadian Gov-

ernment has been able to have quotas reserved by treaty. In this case the instrument is the Canada-Poland Convention of Commerce, which came into force on August 15, 1936.

Finally, Poland's whole economic position and her trade relations have been radically influenced by Germany's resurgence, and their future outlook is overshadowed by it and by the fear of war.

When, after the Great War, Poland regained access to the sea, she was granted full use of the Port of Danzig, which was included within the Polish customs area, together with the territory of the Free City of Danzig. In 1923, however, the Polish Government decided to create a new port which would be entirely under their direct control. They chose Gdynia, which at the time was only a small fishing village, situated a few miles west and north of Danzig but outside the Danzig territory.

Development of the Port of Gdynia since 1923 has been remarkable. Starting from practically nothing in that year, it handled in 1938 nearly 1,300,000 metric tons of imports and over 7,400,000 metric tons of exports. The tonnage handled by Danzig in 1938 was 832,000 tons of imports and 5,150,000 tons of exports.

Editorial Notes

One day nearer Confederation Week.

Another good half-holiday for the stores.

The Berlin Treaty—"peace with honour"—signed this date, 1878.

The port of London, has been pronounced "indestructible from the point of view of air attacks" by Mr. W. L. Wrightson, chairman of the Port Authority, after the annual docks inspection. The Port of London Authority has spent £250,000 (about \$1,170,000) on air-raid shelters for dockers, and considerable sums to protect the port at all vulnerable points.

A large increase was recorded in Canada's May imports of meats, the total being \$401,658 compared with \$153,679 in April and \$96,558 in May, 1938. Fresh pork was the leading item, advancing to \$153,982 from \$37,170 the month before and only \$105 in May, 1938. Canned beef was next at \$112,165 against \$91,165 in April and \$33,098 a year ago. Bacon, hams and shoulders totalled \$24,115, extracts of meat and fluid beef \$23,420, barrelled pork in brine \$23,567.

Giff-gaff makes good friends. Premier Mackenzie King presided at the complimentary dinner to Minister of Justice Lapointe in Quebec, and now Mr. Lapointe is to preside at a similar compliment to Mr. King. More than 2,500 are expected to attend a dinner in Toronto August 8 commemorating the 20th anniversary of Prime Minister's nomination as leader of the Liberal Party. Preliminary plans for the dinner were drafted early this week at a meeting attended by Senator Norman Lamont, Ottawa, president of the National Liberal Federation of Canada, and representatives of the federal and provincial ridings.

Montreal City Council is financing on the principle of living by taking in one another's washing. Purchase of city bonds to cover the city's share of relief for the current month will be made with available cash in the sinking fund. Montreal's share of relief for July will be in the neighborhood of \$300,000 under the new tri-partite agreement between the Dominion and Quebec Governments and the city. This is on the basis of 40-40 for the governments, the balance being provided by the city which also has to pay administration and certain other costs. In dissenting from the report, Ald. Cote said he did so because Mr. Lactance Roberge, director of finance, had said it was bad practice to dig into the sinking fund for no matter what purpose. Available in the sinking fund is about \$750,000.

While foreign manufacturers and private investors, alarmed at conditions in Europe, are reported looking to Canada for manufacturing sites and safe investments, one of the most outstanding recent economic developments is the rapid increase in gold arrivals for safe-keeping by the Bank of Canada. It was estimated, from the Bank of Canada's monthly statistical survey, that about \$323,000,000 in gold has been received by the Bank of Canada to be held and earmarked for its owners, largely in Great Britain. This movement started three years ago but about half the total cost in the last six weeks. This gold does not enter into the Canadian financial picture or play any part in the Dominion's expansion, but is merely held in safety for its owners. It has no relation to the Bank of Canada's gold reserve which is in the vicinity of \$206,000,000.

Prime Minister R. G. Menzies of Australia announces the 1938-39 surplus as £627,000 (Australian). It is believed that this sum has been supplemented by transfers from trust funds before the end of the financial year as a contribution to financing of the 1939-40 defence program at an estimated cost of £32,000,000. Including the surplus, cash balances totalling £1,500,000 will probably be available for expenditure this financial year. Revenue for 1938-39 was £93,256,000 compared with an estimate of £93,162,000, and expenditure £92,629,000 as compared with an estimate of £93,436,000. Defence expenditure from revenue was £9,500,000 compared with £6,000,000 (Australian) in 1937-38. A substantial portion of the estimated loan expenditure of £4,500,000 on defence has not yet been spent. A sum of £950,000 has been saved by the suspension of national insurance. Invalid and old-age pensions cost £15,991,000, an increase of £193,000 over 1937-38.

NOTES BY THE WAY

A gipsy family had just cleared away from near the vicar's home and left a dead donkey partly covered. The vicar wrote to the council about the donkey. They responded rather facetiously, saying that it was the vicar's duty to bury the dead. The vicar replied that he knew that, but he just wanted to let the relatives know!—Exchange.

The example which Canada and the United States are setting to the world is not only a shining example of peace, without a gun along the boundaries, but also of using ordinary intelligence in settling their differences. This is done in part through commissions. The International Fisheries Commission has just been sitting in Vancouver. There is another Halibut Commission, and a Bountiful Commission, and the better known International Joint Commission dealing largely with boundary waters. The same method will some day be used by the whole world. Who shouldn't nations have sense? — Winnipeg Free Press.

Often overlooked in the new alignments forming abroad are the smaller nations and their place in the orbit of the great powers. Not the least uncomfortable, and certainly not the least important of these, is Denmark, which has just signed an "anti-aggression" pact with the Reich. Ironically enough it was this little country, thrusting out into the North Sea, which first lashed Prussian expansion when Bismarck started his work. In 1864 the German armies crushed the last defences of the little country, took Schleswig for the Kiel canal. Through that canal Germany could then move her navy from the Baltic, and to-day Denmark is considered of great strategic value to her mighty southern neighbor. It would be the ideal location for air fields and secluded harbors as bases for German attacks on England and France. Moreover, it is rich in dairy products, which Germany needs badly. The Danes, although they won back northern Schleswig in 1920, have been very friendly to the Reich in recent years, and have carried on a big trade with Britain. Their place in an orbit is still not clearly defined. — Hamilton Spectator.

There is praise in the papers, and rightly, of the work of Scotland Yard's Chief Constable Canning during the Royal visit. But one thing is worth noting in the praise and which should be, is something that happened to Constable Canning right here in Ottawa. Carrying a prized umbrella, he was walking in the rain, and the Constable Canning mingled with the vast crowd in Connaught Place when His Majesty King George dedicated the National Memorial. Never at any moment was he far from Their Majesties; it was with a sigh of relief (and perhaps with a bit of secret satisfaction) that he saw them following their way out to the crowd, step into the Royal car to be taken to Rideau Hall. Then Constable Canning discovered he wasn't carrying something that he had to carry, and that the something was his prized umbrella. It has been "snatched." Somebody had, and he didn't know it in his den; taken his umbrella away from him and he not knowing it at all. Constable Canning is a hearty speaker, and his joke upon himself—and the "Yard." Report has it, though, that he didn't laugh quite as heartily as Their Majesties when they heard the story next day. — Ottawa Journal.

According to an investigation by the Geological Survey of India the sound of the "Purnea Gun," a curious phenomenon, in India, has ceased to be heard since the Bihar-Nepal earthquake in 1934. The "Purnea Gun" is a cannon of Barisal, Bengal, a similar curiosity, was first reliably reported by Mr. G. B. Scott, Surveyor-General of Bengal in 1876. Since that time reports of the "Purnea Gun" have been heard by reliable authorities in other parts of the world, sometimes from the land and sometimes from the air. In the Antarctic Dr. Bruce of the Scotia expedition heard them first and characterized them as a weird and ghostly cannon. In 1934 he also heard the sounds. They have been attributed to the "crash of falling cliffs, large bamboos bursting, forest fires, submarine disturbances, gas in caves, escapes of combustible gases, electric detonations and ordinary thunder-claps." — Indian Press Union.

It seems pretty clear that the Labor Party of Britain, by confirming the expulsion of Sir Stafford Cripps and refusing to unite with other parties, has chosen to remain in opposition for another parliamentary term. Without an alliance between a group opposing it, the Conservative Government undoubtedly can be returned to power in an election this year. The Conservative Party under Mr. Baldwin never enjoyed opportunities, and it would not be surprising if Mr. Chamberlain asked for a new mandate when he is certain to get it. Sir Stafford, who is one of the most able in England, takes a dark view of the Labor Party's decision, which you would expect. He fears, he says, that if the Labor Party continues to give grudging but fairly consistent support to the National Government, "apathy and disillusionment with our democracy will grow as we witness the rise of a group, almost totalitarian in parliament, with powers of self-perpetuation under cabinet dictatorship which will remain permanently reactionary." — Vancouver Sun.

It is possible that Tom Mooney, a free man is less an asset to the radical cause in San Quentin, California. And this is just what many a genuine liberal contended in urging his release. While imprisoned in San Quentin, he was the hero of the labor movement to many a telling symbol of an ancient injustice. Since his release he appears to have been in the Communist party in most of his utterances. — Boston Transcript.

The sun never sets, these days, upon threats to the British Empire. Between the aggressions of the Rome-Berlin Axis in Europe and of the Japanese in the Far East, British interests face a mounting two-fold challenge. The challenges in the East and in

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.

PROPOSED BIRCHWOOD STREET FACTORY

Sir—Reading the meagre reports of the City Council, in respect to the proposed machine shop on Birchwood Street, I assumed, as no doubt most readers would, that the Co-Operative Egg and Poultry Association had sold their property for this purpose.

I have since learned that this is not so, and that only a portion has been rented for the purpose in question. While my comment, based on this assumption, was unfair to the Co-Operative management, regretfully so, yet this explanation will remove a false impression which I, and no doubt all other uninformed readers here and will amply credit the efficient management of the Egg and Poultry Association, with having pursued an ordinary business-like course. I am, Sir, etc.

ONE INTERESTED.

CITY MANAGER GOVERNMENT

Sir—The Toronto Globe and Mail newspaper, at the request of a Leadership League furnished the following information about the City manager type of government: "There has been a steady growth in the number of City manager governments in Canada. Lethbridge, Alberta has had notable success with the system, and is well on the way to being debt free. Outremont, Quebec has also had first class results under this system of government. The basic idea of City manager system is that the elected Mayor is the official head for all ceremonial purposes and the City manager is the executive head.

"As a rule elected Mayors have had little previous business experience and even when they have had such experience they seldom are in office long enough to carry out their policies. It is easier under the City manager system to select a man who is a business man. "One of the greatest virtues of this plan of City government is its separation of legislative and executive authority and removal of the City manager from pressure of voters, making it possible for the City operations and contracts, the construction programs and all matters to be carried out in a just, correct and efficient manner. The operation under a City manager plan would be exactly analogous to that of a private corporation, the City manager would be the Board of Directors; the Mayor is the chairman of the Board, and the City manager is the general manager in charge of operations. A simple and effective system."

Honest, efficient Federal as well as Provincial government is so vitally dependent on good and efficient government jobs while their party is still in office. Scores of jobs are to be filled on the various commissions and boards that are to be created—Defence Pur-chasing Boards, and other bodies—and the faithful are nominating themselves for what is going. What they are seeking is insurance against the consequences of the government's defeat in the election. The head of one of the great national services, which, under pressure of ministers and their parliamentary followers, has become a soft place for patronage seekers of the party in power, is so alarmed at the election prospect that he is known to be seeking a place for himself in commercial life in anticipation of the defeat of the administration.

Equally significant has been the competition among prominent men in the constituencies for Conservative nominations. The prospect of success is making it easy for the Conservative Party to select suitable candidates. Nominating conventions are now taking place throughout the country.

If the recent session of parliament accomplished little else it demonstrated the amazing extent to which Dr. Manion's leadership has revitalized the Conservative Party. Small in numbers compared with the unwieldy ranks of the Liberals in the House of Commons, the Conservative Opposition was a fighting force. The party and confidence of its members in Dr. Manion as Leader was mainly responsible for this. The reception he has been receiving on his numerous public appearances in Ontario and Quebec since the conclusion of the session indicates that this confidence extends into the country. A striking feature of the conventions and other meet-

Gassy Stomachs Relieved

Every per on who is troubled with gas in the stomach and bowels should get a bottle of Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture and see how quickly it will relieve all distressing symptoms.

Sharp pains in the abdomen about the heart are often due entirely to gas pressure.

Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture taken at meal time, not only prevents all bad effects from gas, but it promotes the functional activity of the stomach, aids digestion and improves the appetite.

Dr. Evans Stomach Mixture is sold only at the Two Macs at 85c per bottle. Get Your Bottle Today.

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We have just received a new supply of Bathing Caps and Beach Bags in the very latest styles and color. Prices from 25c to \$1.00.

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VINOLIA CASTILE SOAP 10 Cakes 25c

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Summer Hat Sale!

Gay, feminine styles for everyone!

A picked group of the season's smartest styles! Beguiling bonnets! Flirtatious sailors! Gay pillboxes! Hats to make you lovelier, younger than ever! Straws, felts, high or low crowned! Brightly trimmed in flowers, veils, ribbons! Perfect for all Summer occasions! White, delicate pastels.

295

MONDAY EVENING

8.30 P. M.—Historic Pageant—"THE ROMANCE OF CANADA" at Exhibition Grounds. Elaborate stage setting. Magic change of colour and light effects never before attempted in this Province. Costumes and scenes historically correct. Eighty persons in the cast supported by a mixed choir of eighty voices and an orchestra of twenty.

S. A. MacDONALD

Mirror Of The Nation

By "Commoner"

OTTAWA, July 12—In view of the approach of the general election, July 8 was a significant date in Canada's national and political affairs. It was the first anniversary of Hon. R. J. Manion's selection as Leader of the National Conservative Party. In the year that has elapsed since Dr. Manion assumed the leadership of the Conservative Party has become more a potent force in the national life of the country. It now seems likely that Dr. Manion will set up a new record in party leadership. When he took over the reins of the party from the late Sir Robert Borden at a low ebb. It now seems to be on the cards that within a year and a half of his taking command he will have led the party from that position back to office and the control of government. His leadership, in the space of twelve months, has not only brought back to the ranks of the Conservative Party adherents who deserted it a few years ago, but has caused non-partisan people and many who are normally attached to other parties to look to him for national policies for Canada and for action towards the solution of national problems.

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ings at which Dr. Manion has been appearing has been the evidence of renewed interest in politics on the part of large numbers of men and women who in recent years had become detached from political activity.

Significant of the way in which professional politicians are dining up the election outlook is the increasing trek to Ottawa of Liberal members of parliament and party organization men seeking to be appointed to government jobs while their party is still in office. Scores of jobs are to be filled on the various commissions and boards that are to be created—Defence Purchasing Boards, and other bodies—and the faithful are nominating themselves for what is going. What they are seeking is insurance against the consequences of the government's defeat in the election. The head of one of the great national services, which, under pressure of ministers and their parliamentary followers, has become a soft place for patronage seekers of the party in power, is so alarmed at the election prospect that he is known to be seeking a place for himself in commercial life in anticipation of the defeat of the administration.

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Performance Of A Meteor

(New York Times)
 A hundred million million meteors a day enter the earth's atmosphere, according to the astronomer. Luck-bringingly, all are mere grains which expire in momentary glory as they brush against the air, much as match-heads flare up after striking a rough surface. The meteor that aroused the wonder of Portland, Ore., was clearly of unusual size.

Moreover, it behaved quite in accordance with the rules. That is, it exploded and scattered its fragments over the countryside, where farmers will pick them up for years to come. What are these bodies that wander through space for millions of years only to occasionally in the atmosphere of a planet? Perhaps stuff that was left over after the planets were made, like the bits of brick left after the demolition of a pavement before a new building. More likely, the debris of comets that exploded. There is no doubt in the minds of astronomers that the debris of the Biela, Tuttle and Temple comets resulted in the formation of millions of meteors throughout which we plow at regular seasons. Even existing comets, like Halley's, leave their trains of iron and stone.

The meteor that startled Western observers pointed clearly to one way in which the earth might meet with disaster. In 1908 there fell in Siberia the famous Podolsk meteorite, which was a mass of iron and stone with appalling results. Thousands of square miles of forest were scorched. Fifteen hundred reindeer were killed. The river Ogma was dammed by falling cliffs. Professor Harlow Shapley thinks this body may have been a minute fissionable meteorite, like the one that exploded in a desolate region of the earth but in populous Europe or America. Cities blasted out of existence, great bridges flashing into steam, great bridges and machines melting like lead—no wonder that the meteorite could exterminate the human race.

There is only one consolation in this dismal picture. No shooting star is likely to demolish the earth. The big ones are too few; the atmosphere is too dense. Yet our atmosphere has been fortunate. Complete has been fortunate. Considering that it has been peering for some two or three billion years it is little short of miraculous that history records no major catastrophe traceable to a meteorite.

TROWBRIDGE, England.—(CP)—It rained thousands of tiny frogs here, starting swimmers in an outdoor swimming pool. The little reptiles came down in a heavy rainstorm.

STRIKE UP THE BAND

A good hand has an appeal for people young and which never seems to die. For hundreds of people too there is a satisfying appeal in

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