

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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President, Ian A. Burnett; Vice-President, Wm. R. Burnett; Secy.-Treas., G. M. Burnett; Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett; Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 1947

A Pre-Election Session?

Between the opinion expressed by Premier Jones that the legislative session now prorogued was the "most distinguished" since Confederation, and the view of his Government colleague Hon. John A. Campbell that it consisted largely of "chewing the rag" with little being done to help the poorer farmers of the Province, there is a wide difference.

The tax bill and agreement were the centre of controversy, Government members taking the rather illogical position of conceding on the one hand, that the agreement was not satisfactory to themselves, and of berating the Opposition for criticising it on the other.

Next to the tax agreement the chief bone of controversy was the \$662,916 budgeted for by the Provincial Treasurer on a basis of ordinary revenue. This surplus even if it materializes will, as several Opposition members pointed out, be just about the amount of profit the Government expects to get from selling liquor.

The Budget, and still more the Liberal budget speeches, indicated pretty clearly that this is to be an election year. There is hardly any other way to account for some of the statements made by Government members and supporters.

Victory For Civil Rights

An important victory for the rights of the citizen won in Parliament is acclaimed by the Ottawa Journal. It came in the decision of the King Government to restore immediately the right of individuals of recourse to the courts against edicts of officials administering price ceilings and other controls.

In a free country, under democracy, says the Journal, no citizen, except under conditions of mortal peril to the State, should be denied his day in court. Yet increasingly in recent years we have had the tendency of government getting more and more away from superintendence by law—practising, in effect, a lawlessness of its own.

Macaulay once wrote an unforgettable passage about the Australian reading by the light of the Southern Cross the stirring words of Magna Carta: "To no man shall we deny, to no man delay, justice and right."

To Mr. John Diefenbaker, the Progressive Conservative whose unceasing warfare won from the Government this concession for civil liberty, the gratitude of us all.

Mr. Gardiner's Policy

The result of Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner's statement in the House of Commons on coarse grains, says the Winnipeg Free Press (Liberal) will be further to confuse an already confused policy. This is unfortunate, because an increased production of coarse grains and of the hogs, dairy products, etc., which depend upon these grains is greatly needed.

Prior to March 17, the policy was as follows: The ceiling price of barley was 64 3/4 cents and of oats 51 1/2 cents per bushel. In addition to the ceiling, the government paid 15 cents per bushel on barley as an equalization fee. This was to compensate farmers for being denied the right to export to the United States where much higher prices prevail.

ization payment on barley of 15 cents per bushel would be dropped. New subsidies of 25 cents per bushel on barley and 10 cents on oats would be paid to feeders. These new subsidies would further aggravate the discrimination against farmers who grow barley and introduce a new discrimination against those who grow oats.

On April 1, at Brandon, Mr. Gardiner was reported in the Press as announcing that the price ceiling on most farm products would be removed in the not-too-distant future and that, therefore, the subsidies of 25 cents on barley and 10 cents on oats would be dropped on August 1, next.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Remember the Firemen's appeal for funds, and buy a tag today.

Arrangements are being made for the appointment of an assistant Anglican Bishop at Charlottetown.

Daniel Defoe, author and pamphleteer, died this date 1730; he wrote naturally and forcibly; after a hectic career in political writing, he achieved success in 1719 with Robinson Crusoe, which has been proclaimed throughout the world as one of the masterpieces of English literature.

A bill providing \$1,000,000 for government scholarships for medical students who would agree to practice in the country has passed the Quebec Legislative Assembly. Introduced by Dr. Albini Paquette, Provincial Minister of Health, the bill provides that the money spent over a period of ten years in scholarships for third year medical students. The students will be required to sign a contract with the health department agreeing to practice in the country for a period of time to be determined.

One of the most distinguished modern Canadian ladies passed away this week in the person of Dame Dennis, C.B.E., LL.D., widow of Senator William Dennis and president of the Halifax Herald and mother of Miss Clara Dennis, the well-known writer and historian. She was the first lady in Canada to have a Royal honor bestowed upon her in her own right entitling her to be designated Dame, a degree lower than Lady. This distinction was earned by many years of unselfish work in connection with the Red Cross and soldiers and sailors in Halifax for World War I as well as in women's organizations and educational affairs.

Purchase of property and assets of the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal; King Edward, Toronto; Royal Connaught, Hamilton; General Brock, Niagara Falls; and Prince Edward, Windsor, by a new corporation, the Cordy Corporation Limited of which Vernon G. Cordy is president, for the purpose of increased efficiency, operating economies, and combined business promotion and advertising has been proposed in a plan submitted to the shareholders of the five hotel companies. An interesting feature of the plan is the establishment of a charitable foundation to be known as the Cordy Foundation. Mr. Cordy has made an initial donation of \$300,000 in cash, enabling the foundation to purchase 300,000 Class B shares. The purpose of the foundation will be to provide facilities for the training in Canada of hotel executives and personnel. There are in the United States some 90 institutions providing such facilities, but none of a comparable nature in Canada. It is planned for the foundation to make arrangements through one or more Canadian educational institutions to set up courses in hotel administration. The foundation will be incorporated as a non-profit organization and while final details have not been completed, its administration will be directed by five prominent and entirely independent trustees.

Seven years ago next week, on April 27, 1941, German troops walked in and occupied Athens just four days after the Greek Army surrendered to the Axis powers. Three days later, on April 30, British forces withdrew from the country.

Early in May, 1943, Capt. F. T. Peters, RN, of Prince Edward Island and British Columbia, was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for a gallant action at Oren Harbour, North Africa, in November, 1942. Three years ago next week, on April 29, 1944, H. M. C. S. "Athabaskan" was sunk off Brest, France. That day, too, the \$130,000,000 Canal project was completed with the opening of a big refinery at Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. Two years ago next week, on May 1, 1945, Allied forces were sweeping across south Germany and had penetrated as far as 11 miles into Austria near Passau. The entire Allied world thrilled to the news that the U. S. Ninth Army fighting from the west had at last met with Russian troops battling their way in from the east. On May 2, the war in Italy, Austrian Tyrol and Salsburg ended at noon with the surrender of 1,000,000 German troops. Hitler was reported as "dead" and Doenitz succeeded him as Fuehrer.

Notes By the Way

Those who believe there is still real religion left in the world always seem to assume that they are the ones who have it. — Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

War brides are being taught to cook typical Canadian dishes like Irish stew, French fried potatoes, chop suey and spaghetti. — Brandon Sun.

After hearing for years about the legendary man who saved off the limb he was sitting on, the real thing comes along. A welder removing a catwalk out through the section he was sitting on and dropped fourteen feet to the floor. — Kingston Whig-Standard.

Square milk bottles will soon come into general use, a dairy official predicts. There is reason for this prophecy. Such a shape would be free of odds, the most convenient for all uses, and would be used in refrigerators, where such receptacles are normally kept. Just why round bottles have remained in use so long is something of a mystery. The main reason is that they are supposed to be more sanitary, because they have fewer corners that defy cleaning. Modern sterilization methods, however, reduce this advantage to negligible proportions. Convenience will sooner or later come to be the sole consideration. — Windsor Star.

Prince Rupert, which was described in the Legislature as a "neglected city" it to have a great industry. The Provincial Government has persuaded the Celanese Corporation of America to establish a plant on Watson Island, eight miles from the city, and to spend \$15,000,000 on building and equipment. Approximately 1,000 men will be employed in the woods and the mill. An interesting feature of the bargain is the corporation's undertaking to maintain the forest area allotted to it in perpetuity. — Vancouver Province.

The tendency to place the emphasis on the dollar sign — even in public pronouncements on "amateur" hockey policy — will certainly do the game no good. If the old slogan of the "game for the game's sake," is to be changed to the "game for the gate's sake," the hockey associations might just as well turn up as business organizations, pure and simple and quit the masquerade. — Calgary Alberta.

The tulip was first introduced into Europe from Turkey in the sixteenth century. After 1624 an outbreak of tulip growing in Holland called "tulipomania," made the Dutch famous exporters of bulbs. Sometimes as much as \$5,000 was paid for a single bulb at that time. We can have more perfect blooms for a little work and a few cents. — Peterborough Examiner.

In 1875 about 2,000 died of small-pox in what is now the city of Greater New York. Though vaccination had been introduced, its efficacy was then still flouted. Today we have a different story to tell. The few cases of smallpox that have appeared have all been isolated. At least 500,000 residents of the city have had themselves vaccinated in response to the Health Commissioner's request and advice. There has been no panic. At no time was there any cause to fear an epidemic. — New York Times.

New hotels to relieve the jam of guests are being up by high building costs. Officials of the Hilton Hotels Corp., owner of Chicago's Palmer House, figure that it would cost \$12,500 a room to duplicate but cost less to build. According to the hotel industry, a room of 1,000, they'd have to charge an average room rate of \$12.50 a day to make the new hotel pay. That, declare the officials, is out of the question. Last year's Palmer House average rate: \$5.59 a day. Many of today's big hotels were put up in the mid-20's. Present construction costs are 170 per cent above that period. — Wall Street Journal.

As the paper has a long and interesting history, it is a time to repeat again. This is a time above all else for protection of speech and language, or the careful and tactful handling of a situation where factions are gradually drawing together, and where needless gaps are being bridged. Or it can be turned into a time where men will be more emphatically than ever driven into separate camps, where valuable time and energy will be spent in acrimonious discussion and vitriolic debate. The responsibility for determining which turn shall come to pass rests largely on the press and public men of the country. It is a real responsibility, and no man worthy of the name will seek to dodge it. — Guelph Mercury.

There are always some short-sighted people whose motto is to charge all the traffic will bear, heedless of the ultimate effects of overreaching. But there is ground for hope that the current emphasis on the importance of price reduction as a protection against future depression will convince business managers that are in a position to choose what is to their advantage to insure an expanding market for their products by lowering prices voluntarily instead of letting business depression force reductions upon them. The country simply cannot afford to let readjustments be made along that painful route. — Washington Post.

It must be a matter of immense satisfaction to the Holstein man to know that one of their favorite black and white cows—Abbecker Darkness—should now be world butterfat champion. This remarkable animal, the property of the Ontario Hospital at Hamilton, produced 26,771 pounds of milk in her

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

LIQUOR AND TOBACCO

Sir,—In your issue of the 22nd of April "J.F.W." comes back to straighten out what he claims to be wrong in "Teetotaler's" letter, quoting him as saying the overall picture of the liquor problem is considered to be quite satisfactory, and claiming that that was only his quotation of the inspector's report. If so, why did he throw that out but to impress unwary people that everything is going all right. In his definition of a "sober Province" he says the word sober means temperate in the use of intoxicating liquor, and to be temperate means moderate. That is not the ideal of Christian abstinence from every appearance of evil.

Let not the people be deceived by any smooth reasoning that everything is going all right when it was stated in the Legislature that this Province spent last year over a million dollars in strong drink. We have no figures on tobacco, but I would estimate that the cost would be more than the liquor. Premier Jones' account of the taxes on tobacco and liquor was astounding. People seem to have no idea of the way their money is going.

Ten or twelve years ago when talking to an elder of a town church, he told me that their minister had stated in the pulpit that that town was expending \$10,000 a year on education and \$30,000 a year on cigarettes. How much now on education? How much now on cigarettes? A merchant in that same town told me they took more money for tobacco than they did for flour. They are spending their money for that which is not bread and their labour for that which satisfies not.

The people who are spending their money in these two evils are paying the taxes on the stuff here and sending their money away to the millionaires who supply them with the liquor and tobacco, living at home poor while the big fellows away at the other end are sporting on their money. The only way to get ahead of them is to give up using both.

We will never have a sober Province as long as we have people of the same attitude as "J.F.W." who believes in moderate drinking. I would advise him to think twice before he attempts to throw a cloud over such men as Mr. Wright and Mr. Saville in their efforts against this traffic, and I would call upon the people to beware of the champions of this traffic. Let their reasonings and theories fall to the ground, and the people cast the social glass and the cigarette out of their social and every-day life and save their children and their posterity. And I would advise "J.F.W." to turn teetotaler and join up with the wise in an endeavor to overthrow these evils, and he will never be sorry for it.

I am, Sir, etc. TEETOTALER.

Last lactation period. This means 1,130 pounds of butterfat or about 1,425 pounds of butter. Considering that she is still in the junior 4-year-old class, on twice-a-day milking, this is an outstanding achievement. The Holstein is able to turn this trick, not because she produces milk rich in butterfat but because of her tremendous milk output. The flood is so vast that the grand total of butterfat is high enough to make her a world's champion. The record of Abbecker Darkness shows that a man can do when he concentrates science and breeding upon nature, how successful he has been in creating new types, and adapting the animal to man's requirements. — London Free Press.

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The Poet's Corner

ON GUARD Friend, guard your eyes, the pity in your glance Destroys my fighting strength—disarms my soul. I, who must courage bear as shield and lance— I, who must vanquish self to win control. Dare yield no hour to weakness. Not for me The balm of soothing words—the ease of tears— The eager hoping in a day to be— The sweet remembering of other years. Pierce not my mail of laughter, nor betray My cowardice to mighty tenderness; Let me be brave, in seeming, for today. Tomorrow I may feel your pity less. Give me your prayers, O Friend, but guard your eyes, And yield my frailty this poor disguise. —Lucy Gertrude Clarkin.

Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.)

MIRAMICHI FIRE SEEN HERE During the early part of October, 1825, a terrible calamity befell the flourishing district of Miramichi, by which hundreds of people perished and many others were left destitute of the means of subsistence. The woods near the town of Newcastle had been on fire for some time previous, but not to such an extent as to excite alarm until the night of the 7th, when the wind began to blow from the northwest, and the inhabitants were aroused by a tremendous roaring noise in the woods, but before they could ascertain the cause of the whole of the surrounding forest was in a blaze. The town of Newcastle and Douglass Town, together with miles of forest were enveloped in flame, from which the unfortunate inhabitants were unable to make their escape and perished in the fire. Great branches were torn from the trees and whirled through the air like feathers by the howling winds, while burning timber and flaming huts were carried before it with amazing rapidity. So fierce was the gale that pieces of charred or burnt wood borne on the wings of the tempest landed on the fields on the western part of this island, where they were picked up by the inhabitants. During the nights of the conflagration a bright light was seen from Charlottetown to illuminate the western sky, the brilliancy of which made an indelible impression on the then youthful mind of the writer. — Pollard's History.

WINE IN LAUNCHINGS

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