

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink." CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1948

Welcome Guests

Apart from the importance of the business which brings them to Charlottetown this week, the members of both our Legislative Assembly and farmers' organizations are assured of a very cordial welcome by our citizens on their own behalf.

Our legislators will likely be here for some weeks, our farmers for only a few days; but one would be rash for that reason to draw conclusions as to the respective importance of the resulting deliberations. In any case, our lawmakers are, for the most part, farmers themselves, and doubtless will try their best to be in two places at once while the sessions of both bodies are in progress.

Community Planning

The admirable letter of Professor Bailey to the City Planning Board, published in Saturday's Guardian, opens up a wide field of discussion and contains many valuable suggestions which will doubtless be studied and carefully digested by the Board. The latter body, which was established two years ago by the City Council under Provincial statute, is charged with the responsibility of developing a "master plan" to provide for definite business, industrial and residential areas in Charlottetown, for the zoning of such areas, the protection of property owners and the better regulation of services in general.

The Board's activities, of course, are confined to the City, but a general overall jurisdiction is wielded by a Provincial Planning Board, and it was with this latter body which the special committee of the Legislature met last year to discuss the problem of water supply, sanitation and housing in recently built-up areas contiguous to Charlottetown. As noted previously in these columns, the situation in these areas presents a very serious health problem. The City Council does not appear to be desirous of showing leadership in this matter, but perhaps the remedy may lie in the hands of the Planning Board.

Canned Fruit From '47

More canned fruit, more jams, jellies and marmalade, but fewer canned vegetables, will be available in 1948, according to a preliminary report on the 1947 pack of canned fruits and vegetables issued by F. J. Perry, Chief Canning Inspector, Fruit and Vegetable Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture.

Heavy crops of strawberries, raspberries and blueberries highlighted the 1947 fruit pack picture. The strawberry pack increased from 8,040 cases in 1946 to 93,222 cases in 1947, an advance of 1,060 per cent. Raspberries were up 316 per cent and the 100,000-case crop of blueberries represented a 566 per cent increase over the previous five-year average pack of 10,500 cases.

Production of jams, jellies and marmalades from the 1947 crop is expected to reach 104,000,000 pounds, an increase of nine per cent over the 1946 figure and just double the figure for 1939.

The combined 1947 pack of canned fruits and vegetables were considerably less than in 1946. Canned fruits showed an increase but there was a big drop in vegetables compared with 1946.

Although the quantity of the 1947 pack suffered by comparison with that for 1946, there was, however, an improvement in the quality, particularly in peas, tomato juice and some fruits.

Gains in the amount of fruit canned were made by cherries, apricots, peaches and pears. Although there was a poor crop of sour cherries, sweet cherries were plentiful and the cherry pack as a whole was 50 per cent better than in 1946. Apricots, chiefly a British product, increased by 26 per cent. Peaches, too, improved but only by one per cent. No definite figures are available yet on pears, but the pack is known to be larger than in 1946.

Because a slackening in the demand for canned plums had become evident, canners cut back their production of this product in 1947 by about 13 per cent.

In the vegetable pack, green and wax beans showed the only improvement over 1946, gaining five per cent. Corn and peas each dropped by

31 per cent and tomatoes were down 17 per cent. Tomato juice, canned, decreased 22 per cent. Generally, however, there was a definite improvement in quality. Spinach and asparagus were packed in quantities about equal to that of 1946. Poorer yields, even crop failure, accounted for most of the drop in quantity. A late, wet spring delayed seeding and planting with the result that some crops, notably corn and tomatoes, suffered up to a 50 per cent loss through the heavy frost that struck parts of Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia during the middle of last September.

In spite of the decrease in canned products there are still ample supplies of all types of canned fruits and vegetables to meet heavy consumer demands until late in 1948.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Opening sessions of Farmers' Week tomorrow.

The European Children's Fund collections have got away to a good start.

Roads seem to promise to be all right for auto and sleigh this week.

Tomorrow, opening of the Legislature. The killed guard of honour of pre-war days will be missed.

So trade between the Saar Valley and Germany is to be regarded as "foreign trade." All that is needed now is a proposal to have a plebiscite in fifteen years and it will be the situation as before.

The Knights of Pythias are sponsoring for tonight and tomorrow the picture at the Prince Edward, "How Green Was My Valley", the proceeds to be divided between the local Needy Children and the Children of Europe Fund.

A successful campaign has been inaugurated by the T. B. authorities in getting employers to pay for the X-raying of employees. If we are to have a disease free Province in this respect this is a distinct and almost an assured means to that end.

It is too bad so many American oysters flood Canadian markets when there is a more or less abundant supply to be obtained from the Maritimes in general and this Province in particular—our far-famed Malpeques.

It is always much easier to impose restrictions and controls than to get rid of them. The powers that be, once they exercise control, cannot see how things can possibly go on without them. Finance Minister Abbott thinks "a considerable measure of legislation by regulation" is inevitable and sees the emergency restrictions on imports extending into 1949.

The ruling of the American tribunal at Nuremberg that Balkan partisans were mostly illegal units not entitled to recognition as belligerents is most unrealistic. Germany began "total war" not by attacking military objectives only but the whole population and the population had a right to resist as best they might.

The fact that Parliament is constitutionally unable to pass a Bill of Rights is not all loss from the point of view of civil liberties. The converse is that if Parliament at Ottawa could pass such a bill it could also at a later date violate those liberties. As it is, with power divided between the Dominion and provinces, it is almost impossible for any would-be dictator to exercise any effective control.

No matter what they may be elsewhere, the senior officials of the Agricultural Departments here have proven themselves to be progressive, resourceful and with plenty initiative. They deserve credit for the manner in which they have handled many ticklish questions and problems as a preliminary to Farmers' Week and the meeting of the Legislature.

Efficiency experts have long deplored English traditionalism, but even the most enthusiastic may well hesitate to approve a recently patented mechanical restaurant. The idea is to have table and a row of chairs on conveyor belts. The diner travels across the room being served the various courses at points en route. Then when he reaches the end he gets off, his after-dinner cigarette must wait until he adjourns to the lounge.

Samuel Pepys, (pronounced Peeps), English diarist, born this date 1633, graduate of Cambridge, appointed Clerk of the Navy and Secretary to the Admiralty. He began his diary in cipher in 1659, and was probably never intended for publication. Hence he wrote freely his thoughts, his vices, his domestic affairs; he noted down all the scandal he heard. It is invaluable as a source of information concerning 17th century manners. It stops short at May 1669. "What an age is this, and what a world is this! That a man cannot live without playing the knave and dissimulation."

"You can get no gold for your dollar bills," Mr. Real Couette, Union des Electeurs Member of Parliament for Quebec riding of Pontiac, was told in one of the answers the Finance Department drew up in response to a series of three questions on money asked by Mr. Couette, who adheres to the Social Credit monetary theories. The answers were tabled in the Commons. Mr. Couette mentioned that Bank of Canada notes stipulate that the bank will pay on demand the amount printed on the notes. He wanted to know where. The return said that for the last 13 years it was not necessary for the bank to give gold bars. The notes themselves were legal tender, so the pledge on the bills meant that the sum required was payable in legal tender of other denominations if the bearer wants it.

Notes By The Way

Waist-wary girls in Toronto have been assured by the potato section of the Ontario Crop Improvement Association that tubers aren't fattening. It's quantity, more than anything else, of any food which tells the story.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Oddest job of the year: A civil servant in London, England, will sit in a tree nights with an infra-red searchlight and a telescope to find out what sort of a face an owl makes when he hoots. Looks like a good essential job for a spiv.—Fort William Times-Journal.

A man ordered a pair of pants from a very painstaking tailor. It took two months to make the pants. Finally they were finished and the tailor was very proud of his workmanship. The man complained to the tailor, saying, "Look! It took only six days to make the world and you took two months to make a pair of pants!" The tailor very wistfully said to the man, "Ah, yes, but look at these pants, and then look at the world." Anybody want to argue with the tailor?—Milwaukee Journal.

Young David's first treat was being taken to see an exhibition of riding given by the Don Cos. He was thrilled. The next great event was a visit to Belle Vue Circus. He talked of it for days. Then his father thought he was old enough to enjoy a rugby football match. Two famous teams were playing a hotly contested game, but before half-time, a polite but very bored little voice inquired, "Daddy, when the horses have finished will they come on?"—Manchester Guardian.

Not in the least surprising is the announcement that in the last few years the use of electricity by household consumers in Ontario has shown a great increase. Electricity has added vast comforts to the modern home. It runs the washing machine, heats the irons, turns the fans, perks the coffee, warms the bathroom, sweeps the carpets, lights the rooms and performs numerous other duties at the turn of a switch. Even Aladdin's magic lamp never accomplished half as much as this mysterious energy that enters our homes by the slim copper wires. That we are using more of it is an indication that we are living better.—Queph Mercury.

There is not the slightest doubt that, judiciously exercised, severity of punishment can act as a deterrent on criminals. A case in point is the reluctance of many criminals to carry guns because they know that the possession of weapons will add substantially to their punishment if caught. Moreover, the chief purpose of capital punishment is deterrence. Theoretically, perhaps, the individual crime could be judged without reference to time, place or other circumstances. Practically, it must be considered in relation to current events. If there is a certain type of crime which particularly menaces the community, it seems reasonable to expect the courts to incline to more stringent penalties as a method of controlling the menace.—Winnipeg Tribune.

Canadian stamps of great rarity and value are featured prominently in a \$5.00 stamp sale to be held at Robson Lowe's London auction rooms on February 18. At least \$150 is expected to be realized by a horizontal strip of five 1852-1857 bright blue 10d stamps, while a set of mint blocks of the 1891 Jubilee Issue is valued at \$25, and a complete 10-cent mint sheet of the same issue at \$125. In a series of sets of blocks of the present century, which will come under the hammer at the same sale, \$200 is the price put by experts upon a 1937-38 set of mint blocks of 10-cent to one dollar issues. A 1928-29 set is valued at \$180 and a 1939 Royal visit series of twelve stamps at \$90. Other similar Canadian items are estimated variously as being worth from \$60 to \$80 each.—Robson Lowe's Bulletin.

Nervous habits take such forms as twirling eyelashes, tapping on the table, cracking knuckles and jiggling a leg up and down. They are innocent enough in themselves. But while they may indulge in the nerves of those who indulge in them, they get on the nerves of others. They provoke the question, "Do you have to do that?" "I course no one has to do such things. So, in the presence of an objection, the nervous habit is stopped. But, as soon as the mind gets on other things, it is resumed. Since mere objection is not enough, the next measure is to instill fear into the perpetrator. It may be pointed out that the nervous habit is growing consecutively worse. Example may be cited of persons who started out twirling eyelashes, tapping on a table, cracking knuckles or jiggling a leg, and ended by losing complete control of themselves. Morbid references to tic and St. Vitus Dance may be made even by those who have seen a case of neither and don't know what they are. In fact, the less that is known about them the more terrifying they may be made to appear. In fact, it is almost impossible to enjoy a nervous habit in peace in the bosom of the family. If it is to be so enjoyed then the only means of doing so is to practice it in the presence only of acquaintances, who may be seen to be behind your back, but don't know you well enough to tell you to stop.—Vancouver News-Herald.

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.

FIRE LOSSES ON P. E. I.

Sir,—The serious number of disastrous fire losses that have occurred recently in different parts of the Island, and in some of which children and older people have lost their lives, is causing much uneasiness, not only on the part of insurance companies and their agents, but by Islanders generally.

There seems to be a misconception on the part of many Islanders regarding the responsibilities of insurance companies. An insurance company is not a humanitarian institution. Its business is being done simply for the purpose of making money for its shareholders, as proof of which fact the premiums charged for insurance policies are from time to time adjusted so as to cover past losses and prospective losses. I understand that the insurance companies doing business in this Province will meet shortly to re-adjust their premiums because of the very serious losses that have occurred during the past twenty-four months.

Fire insurance is a matter which affects all classes of our people and prevention of fires would therefore be a matter which concerns the Government and Provincial Legislatures. Is there anyone connected with the Government that is responsible in any way in this connection? I am, Sir, etc. H. K. S. HEMMING.

SALES TAX MUST GO

Sir,—Notwithstanding all the letters and editorials in the newspapers condemning the Sales Tax, the Minister of Finance makes no attempt to defend it, nor does he give any hint that it is under consideration. In plain English he treats all the arguments against it with complete indifference, if not contempt.

This certainly is a serious reflection on our political system. If we had the initiative and the referendum it would be possible by petitioning the Government to compel them to submit the question to a popular vote, but our system gives no direct power to the people.

All they can do is to wait until the Government's term expires, or until they decide to have an election, and then we are limited to defeating the Government and electing another to office who may be no better, or even worse than their predecessors. We should have power to compel them to keep their pledges.

The Sales Tax has not a single thing to recommend it. It produces no net revenue to the Government.

It has reduced the purchasing power of the dollar and produced inflation.

It is responsible for most of the demands for increased wages. It violates all the canons of just taxation.

It is absolutely silly. It has not a single argument in its favor.

It reduced Spain in one generation from being the greatest trading country in the world to a fifth-rate power and its people to poverty.

It is doing the same for Canada. It must be repealed and when it is repealed what a tremendous relief it will be to Canadian industry and to all our employers of labor, and to our old age pensioners to whom lower prices mean so much.

It must be repealed now. We are, Sir, etc. THE SALES TAX REPEAL ASSOCIATION. Alan C. Thompson, President. A. Herridge, Secretary-Treasurer.

Limestone & Potatoes

(St. John's Telegraph-Journal) Prince Edward Island farmers should use twice as much ground limestone on their fields. That is the finding of a committee of the Federal agricultural official, which has just completed a study of soil and crop conditions on P. E. I.

If the recommendation is carried out, Prince Edward Island will import 40,000 tons of limestone annually, instead of the present 20,000 tons. New Brunswick is its chief source of supply, so there should be some benefit to our lime quarrying industry. Meanwhile, New Brunswick farmers might profitably pay more attention to the more generous use of lime on their own land. There are areas where this is badly needed and where, especially in hay production, it would yield big dividends. Among other things, the P. E. I. committee suggested that in the interests of soil conservation not more than 40,000 acres a year should be planted in potatoes. This is a little difficult to understand, on the basis of New Brunswick's experience, because in our chief potato growing areas the soil has actually been improved. This has been accomplished through the careful rotation of crops, with potatoes only being grown on the same land one year in three and oats and clover being grown the other two years. It has also required heavy applications of chemical fertilizer.

Lenten Meditations

(From The Times) MIND AS WELL AS HEART Always in the teaching of Jesus there is the note of the original and unpredictable, if often reflected nevertheless, the Hebrew scriptures, whose text He had learned and whose meaning He had absorbed in the synagogue school at Nazareth.

When a lawyer tested Him with the question of the greatest commandment, His reply was almost entirely what a rabbi of the time might have given. Were not the great words to be found in Deuteronomy, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might"? Was there not embedded as an unexpected jewel in the roll of Leviticus the phrase, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself"? But Jesus gave His answer with a difference. He told the lawyer also that He must love God with all His mind.

Obviously, therefore, none can truly claim to follow Jesus who is afraid to use his mind. The closed mind is a luxury he must forgo. Those whose faith has been placed in God through Christ know that there are no doors of the mind through which it would be incautious to peer.

Doubts are not to be run away from, nor hurriedly attacked with improvised weapons. They must be examined in the light of day. When this has been done it will not be surprising if the frightening doubt leads in the end—though it may be through prolonged distress and pain—to a larger, liberating knowledge of the truth.

Yet to love God with the mind is more than this. "Thou hast made us for thyself," said Saint Augustine, "and our hearts are restless until they find rest in thee." Man has not only a restless heart but a restless mind which seeks the same abode.

Nor is this quest limited to those whose thought is concerned with religion. All who ponder the world and its problems, nature and man, plain folk as much as theologians and philosophers, seeking a clearer understanding, a more coherent order, are on the road to love God with their minds. All those who seek the truth seek God.

If men must love God with their minds, with their minds they must love their neighbours also. Here is an attitude which will lead men to face reality, and a discipline to inhibit sentimentality. It is a way of love greatly needed in a distressed world.

Here where I swing the scythe And call the hidden clover, Earth asks the season's tithe And the threat of suns above.

Earth's beauty I have found Twice beautiful for change, And my ear upon the ground Hears each old and strange.

Life's answers are the same, The question very only, Man writes an ancient name But men are new and lonely.

What little I have learned Has added to my lack, For the road has always turned And never once led back.

—A. M. Sullivan in Spirit. PLAIN

The Poets Corner

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) CHANGE OF TIME

"We are pleased to learn that the Government intend to bring the Act authorizing the use of Standard Time into operation on Thursday next. The hands of the Provincial clock will be moved forward twelve minutes and twenty-nine seconds, or thereabouts, on the Wednesday night previous. We would advise our fellow-citizens to put on their clocks and watches to that extent, or, if within hearing of the clock, to look out for its striking at 10 o'clock and adjust them accordingly. The city will then have Standard Time (60 deg. W. longitude) just one hour in advance of Railway Time. To our friends in the country, who are within reach of a railway station, we would suggest that they take their time from the station clock, and set their clocks and watches exactly one hour ahead of the time indicated by it, when they will have the same time as Charlottetown. The Intercolonial and P. E. I. Island Railways are run on Eastern Standard time (75 deg. W. longitude)." —The Island Guardian, May 2, 1906.

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