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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JAN. 27, 1950.

The Farmers' Choice

The great variety of machinery available to the farmer, many of which are a necessity to his existence and most of which are highly desirable if the farm is to operate at ever rising peaks of efficiency, make each of our P. E. I. farms a tiny industrial empire.

Junior College Services

It is noteworthy that of the four briefs formally submitted from this Province to the Massey Commission, two originated from our institutions of higher learning and were ably presented by faculty members.

The great services provided by junior colleges in providing high school and university courses of a good academic calibre, effective training for student teachers, and facilities for vocational, extension, and adult-education work, is perhaps not as widely appreciated as it should be in higher academic circles.

A Banker's Tribute

The following striking comments are not by a farmer, but by the Hon. E. L. Patenaude, head of the Provincial Bank of Canada, in addressing the Bank's annual meeting in Montreal recently.

"During the past few years, a declining trend in agricultural population has been evident, while employment in manufacturing industries has mounted steadily. This drift from the country to the city cannot in the long run but constitute a national loss.

EDITORIAL NOTES

And now if we could get a floor price on votes. . . .

The world is waiting for the sunrise. Will it be Joe Stalin, or Winston Churchill?

This mild weather may save on the coal bill, but is hard on open air rinks. There are still prospects, however, of a two months' open-air skating season.

A good example of how "culture" without bureaucratic aid or interference was promoted in this Island over a century ago will be found in the excerpt in today's "Old Charlottetown" column.

Lewis Carroll (Charles Lutwidge Dodgson), English humorist and mathematician, born this date 1832; author of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland", "Through the Looking Glass", "Euclid and his Modern Rivals", "The rule is, jam tomorrow and jam yesterday—but never jam today."

Congratulations are due Messrs. George and Thomas Rogers on assuming control of the old established family firm of Rogers Hardware Co. Ltd. They are both young and aggressive, and are certain to expand and increase the present prosperous business substantially.

Our note of yesterday regarding the 2nd Medium Battery as the first organized for overseas referred to the Second Great War. Two other batteries, the 2nd and the 8th, during the First Great War went overseas in 1915 and 1916 respectively.

Architecture can also express the development of mankind. In Canada we have seen the first rude shelters of boughs and mud, the adoption of the Indian skin covered tepee, the log cabin, the single room frame hut, the farm home, the large family house, the duplex, the apartment, the small bungalow, the cabin,—what next?

Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, chairman of the Arts, Letters and Sciences Commission, was formerly President of the Massey-Harris Agricultural Machinery Co., a position he gave up upon being appointed Canadian High Commissioner in London. His business knowledge, his diplomatic experience, combined with his learning makes him an ideal choice to head such a commission.

Mayor Hiram McCallum, Toronto, who opposes the re-erection of the signs in Yonge St., taken down to facilitate construction of Canada's first subway, says that he will continue to oppose any plan to put the signs back up again.

The British Conservative policy set before the electors gives a pledge to maintain existing labour social services at less cost, no reduction in food subsidies without compensating increases to those affected. These compensations to take the form on the one hand of larger family allowances, pensions and other so-called benefits, and, on the other, of reduction in taxation direct, and indirect to increase incentives among the masses of the people.

Men willing to run for municipal honours and worries seem to be few and difficult to persuade. To take up the torch which present Councilors are throwing down is no small undertaking, as all those who have borne the burden during war years have good reason to know. But with the excellent check on finances now provided by the improved system of audit, the offices of Mayor and Councilors are not now so onerous as in days past.

"Devaluation of the Canadian dollar is going to be helpful in increasing Canada's tourist trade this year," declared Mr. R. S. Sommerville, Ottawa, general manager of Canadian National Hotels, who was here recently on an inspection visit of all the company's hotels in the Maritimes and Newfoundland, including The Charlottetown at Charlottetown, The Nova Scotian at Halifax, and the recently acquired Newfoundland Hotel at St. John's.



FROM "SNOW-BOUND"

The sun that brief December day Rose cheerless over hills of gray. And, darkly circled, gave at noon A sadder light than waning moon.

Its mute and ominous prophecy. A portent seeming less than threat. It sank from sight before it set. A chill no coat, however stout, Of homespun stuff could quite shut out.

A hard, dull bitterness of cold. That checked, mid-vein, the circling race Of life-blood in the sharpened face. The coming of the snow-storm told.

The wind blew east; we heard the roar Of Ocean on his wintry shore. And felt the strong pulse throbbing there Beat with low rhythm our inland air.

Meanwhile we did our nightly chores— Brought in the wood from out of doors. Littered the stails, and from the mows Raked down the herd's-grass for the cows;

Hear'd the horse whinnying for his corn. And, sharply clashing horn on horn, Impatient down the stanchion rows The cattle shake their walnut bows;

While, peering from his early bed, Upon the scaffold's pole of birch, The cock his crested helmet bent And down his querulous challenge sent.

—John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-92).

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

"At the Mechanics Institute on Wednesday evening last, Rev. Richard Knight delivered a most elaborate and interesting lecture on geology, in which he advanced and supported an opinion respecting the formation of the strata of this Island, underfoot to account for the appearance of granite boulders in many parts of it, and exhibited a splendid specimen of petrified wood, which had been picked up on the shores of Cra-paud or Tryon.

"The lecture room presented quite a handsome appearance. It was decorated with seven superb transparencies, exhibiting a statue of the celebrated James Watt, representations of the British Museum, the Thames Tunnel, the Temple of Science, Minerva, the goddess of Science and Wisdom, with a library in the background, the Solar System, and the six Mechanical Powers, in practical operation. Over the President's chair is a handsome canopy, with the motto of the Institute, 'Virtus Scientia Comes,' emblazoned upon it. Much credit is due to Mr. Duchemin for the design of these transparencies and to Mr. George A. Thresher for the artist-like manner in which he has executed them.

"One of the main results which the Institute will effect, that of calling forth talent from among its members, which might otherwise lie dormant from the want of exertion, or from there being no necessity for its application. The thanks of the Institute were given to James Pope, Esq., M.P., for the presentation of a young bear, naturally stuffed, and to John Lawson, Esq., for a number of geological and mineralogical specimens. On Wednesday next Mr. Isaac Smith will deliver a lecture on Hydrostatics, or the pressure of water."

—Colonial Herald, Feb. 2, 1839.

Associate States Within French Union

By Claude Brissey

At the City Hall in Saigon, Indo-China, last December 30, a ceremony took place which marks an important date in the history of the French Union. On that day were signed the conventions for the application of the Agreements of March 8, 1949, between Viet Nam and France. They automatically involved the transfer of French administrative powers to Viet Nam Government. Thus, to-day the French Union floats over the City Hall of Saigon.

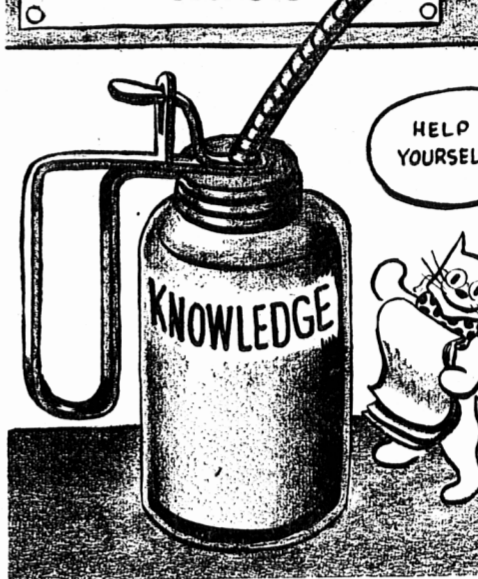
Former "French Indo-China" has now become three states. Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia, the independence of which France recognized in three treaties signed, March 8, July 19 and November 8, 1949. By these same agreements the three states have become associates of France within the French Union.

The Agreements of March 8, 1949 provide for both unity and independence for Viet Nam, stipulating that this State will have its own national army, will exercise fully the attributes and prerogatives inherent in internal sovereignty and will have full and entire jurisdiction in all civil, commercial and police matters. The unity of Viet Nam has been achieved since the French National Assembly abolished the colonial status of Cochinchina and this territory returned to Viet Nam on May 23, 1949.

The independence provided for in the Treaty of March 8, 1949, does not leave Viet Nam isolated because the text includes provisions for its association with the neighboring states of Laos and Cambodia. Joint organizations are being created to co-ordinate the

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AGRICULTURAL SHORT COURSES



The Age-Old Story

The Lord leaveth wisdom, out of His mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous.

common interests of the three countries and to assure their collective management. The Agreements set forth that these common interests are: communications, control of immigration, external commerce, customs and duties, finance and reconstruction.

Associated among themselves, the three Indo-China states are also associated with France within the framework of the French Union. Created by the French Constitution of 1946, the French Union is presided over by the President of the French Republic. There is a High Council and an Assembly. The High Council will, in time, become the executive body of the Union while the Assembly, which meets at Versailles, is composed of members, half of whom are designated by the French parliament and the rest by the Associated States. It may be compared to a federal parliament.

On the international level also, the Indo-China states have won their sovereignty and independence. France has promised to support the candidature of Viet Nam at the United Nations. This state may establish diplomatic relations with foreign countries. It is understood that there will be Viet Nam representation at the Viet Nam to China and to Siam very shortly.

This is the new political status of Indo-China, established by agreements freely entered into by France and the Indo-Chinese states which she has led progressively towards political maturity during three-quarters of a century of co-operation.

Sometimes the question is asked "Is the government of Bao-Dai in Viet Nam solid; may its future be considered as assured?" One observes that the Indo-Chinese communists have fought now for their chief, Ho-Chi-Minh. In reality the people who compose Indo-China are weary of this fratricidal war, which takes little account of their true national interests and has no other aim than to prepare the way for communism.

Even in the short period since the signature of the agreements between France and Viet Nam the people are supporting more and more the government of Bao-Dai in Viet Nam and the sovereignty of Laos and Cambodia. Recently Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, British High Commissioner at Singapore, testified to this in a public statement following a visit to Saigon.

Within a few days France will ratify the three treaties concluded in 1949. It is confidently expected that the Indo-Chinese states will receive official recognition shortly by a number of foreign governments. In the south-eastern Asia of tomorrow Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia will constitute solid elements for stability and peace.

COMMONS OFFICIAL DIES

OTTAWA, Jan. 26 — (CP) — Major Thomas Leo McEvoy, a member of the Committee Branch of the House of Commons staff, died at his home here yesterday. He was 59. A native of Ottawa, he was a Rhodes scholar. He served as secretary to the late Sir Louis Davies, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and Rt. Hon. F. A. Anglin, a later Chief Justice. He joined the Committee Branch of the Commons in 1930 and in the last war served as assistant director of telegraphs and cable in the Censorship Branch.

IMMIGRANT'S GOAL

Ontario, with one third of Canada's population, received nearly half of all immigrants entering the country during 1948-49.

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Farmers And Prices

(Toronto Globe and Mail) News reports described the recent meeting of the Ontario Farm Federation as having had the atmosphere of an excited political rally. Perhaps that is what it was. The presence of CCF labor unionists suggests one political party with an interest in keeping rural feeling at high heat. The threat of a buying strike against implement makers is an adaptation of union tactics. But how agricultural producers can resume the advocacy of subsidy-supported high food prices from industrial labor leaders is a mystery. The urban union member knows very well that subsidies are paid out of taxes and that the money it costs him as a consumer is deducted every payday from his wage envelope.

There are some highly pertinent facts which farmers should bear in mind when they begin to feel red-hot about the minor downturn in some farm prices and begin demanding a general resumption and extension of Government subsidies. One is that farm prices right now are more than 140 per cent above the Dominion's base index of 100 for the prewar years of 1935-39.

At the end of last November the index was 248, down only two points from the same period a year earlier. Some declines have continued since November. The second point is that costs were not considered when all-out food production was encouraged during the war, as volume was paring the war, as volume was paring the war. The third is that following the war, Agriculture Minister Gardiner sought to maintain artificial controls against a world downturn.

And the very important fourth point is that there was the evidence of hard facts before the eyes of farmers during the past three years that they were losing export markets in each successive contract period, in spite of continued subsidies. And finally, right up to June 27, a considerable majority of Canadian farmers continued to support Mr. Gardiner and his peculiar methods of farm stabilization in the era of general postwar adjustment.

Ever since the Dominion has become an exporter of surplus food supplies farmers have known that their fortunes depended on their ability to keep production costs down to levels enabling them to compete in world markets. They know that wars break down the normal trade pattern and that temporary war supports are expedient in order to keep our allies and our own troops abroad fed and clothed. They have known that real prosperity never returns after a war until free-flowing competitive trade is re-established. And they have direct statistical and cash-in-the-bill evidence since the last war that food producers in Europe are producing surpluses of food for export to Britain at prices below ours and in volumes exceeding their immediate prewar output.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture, representing some 1,500,000 farmers, would be performing a real service to its members if it would campaign as hard for efficient production at lower costs as for the extension of costly, wasteful and inefficient subsidy programs. Instead, it complains that the Government is not spending up to the full \$200 million to support farm prices. If it did, similar or greater appropriations would be needed in the succeeding year—and farmers as taxpayers would be contributing their share of this cost in both direct and indirect taxes. Whether the objective is greater consumption at home or wider markets abroad, the one answer is lower production costs. If we can't sell competitively, we can't sell. And subsidies merely postpone—at great and useless cost—the day when we must compete in any event.

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Notes By The Way

Britain debates the question whether to include an amusement section in its World's Fair in 1951. And if anyone knows of an austere roller-coaster, why not?—Winnipeg Tribune.

An Italian lion tamer lost his nose and most of his chin when he put his head in a lion's mouth. Some other people prefer to see if the gas tank is empty by looking into it with a burning match.—Hamilton Spectator.

A Convertible skidded to a stop at a red light the other day in a Texas town. It halted squarely in the pedestrian cross walk. A man in work clothes, starting across the street, angrily demanded that the woman driver back up. There was room for her to do that, but her only response was: "Mind your own business." Whereupon the infuriated pedestrian stepped on to the convertible's running board, next to its fender, then to the hood, and so down the other side. His heavy-soled shoes ground big dents into the hood and fenders. As the woman stared open-mouthed, he strolled nonchalantly off.—Sault Ste. Marie Star.

NOTES BY THE WAY
American airlines achieved an enviable safety record last year. In a report just issued, it is shown that the lines carried 16,500,000 passengers about 500,000,000 miles with a fatal accident rate of one per hundred-million passenger-miles. There were no fatalities in overseas service of the airlines so that the domestic rate worked out at 13 fatalities per hundred million miles. This was the same rate as in 1948, though the amount of business was greatly increased. This is a better record than that of the private automobile. In other words, the American air (on scheduled lines) is safer than the highway. Our scheduled airlines in Canada have an even better record.—Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

There will be much heated argument before decision is reached on a resolution originating in the Sudbury district that a ban be imposed on the use of dogs in hunting deer. Interest has already been aroused in the southern section of the province and judging from the comments up to this time, while there is a division of opinion, it appears that the majority of support favors the Sudbury resolution. The use of dogs calls for little skill on the part of the hunter. He does not have to pick up trails and stalk the animals. All he has to do is sit beside a runway and

let the dogs do the hunting. When a deer comes within rifle range there is nothing sportsmanlike about its death, and certainly little credit can go to the man with the gun.—Sudbury Star.

Those who talk glibly about free hospital service are talking through their hats. If they want to learn what a health service costs they should enquire of any British Columbia resident. A couple of years ago British Columbia instituted a province-wide, administered hospital service. Charges were to be \$30 a year for couples with dependents, \$24 a year for married couples with out dependents and \$12 a year for single persons. The first year brought a deficit. Then the rates were raised to \$33 for couples with or without dependents and \$21 a year for single persons. That brought another deficit. In the two years the deficits will total probably more than \$100,000, which becomes a charge against provincial revenues. Anxious to make the scheme self-supporting, it is being planned now to raise the rate to \$40 a year for families with single persons in proportion.—Lethbridge Herald.

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