

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, DEC. 13, 1947

U. S. Farm Land Prices

Prices of farm land in the United States increased 95 per cent over the 1935-39 average up to July 1 this year, and were only five per cent below the peak of inflation in 1920, according to returns recently published.

Although the increase in farm land prices was halted during the first six months of 1947 over the United States as a whole, land values in the middle west wheat belt and in the range livestock area rose about five per cent between February and July this year.

High prices for U. S. wheat are causing concern among soil conservationists who note the thousands of acres of potential wheat land in the famous "dust bowl" of the '30's being broken up and seeded to wheat.

In the Prairie Provinces, too, more land has been broken this year than for many years, although aside from the large land-clearing programs sponsored by provincial governments.

Next Year's Licence Plates

A tabulation of the color schemes of next year's automobile licence plates, for Canada and the United States, shows that about two-thirds of the states and provinces have returned to the old plan of markers on front and rear.

An interesting trend is towards permanent markers, with an inserted date for each year. These have been adopted by Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland and Wisconsin, while a couple of others are to use their 1947 markers, one with a "48" windshield sticker, the other with "48" as an insert in the plate itself.

Readers will be interested in the color schemes of Canadian plates for 1948:

Table with 2 columns: Province/State and License Plate Color. Alberta: Black on Aluminum; British Columbia: White on Green; Manitoba: Black on Yellow; New Brunswick: White on Black; Nova Scotia: Black on Pale Green; Ontario: White on Blue; Prince Edward Island: Black on Aluminum; Quebec: Green on White; Saskatchewan: Black on Aluminum.

Bureaucratic Rule To Stay

According to The Ottawa Journal we are in for a long period of bureaucratic domination from Ottawa.

Our own belief—and we know it is shared by others—is that there is nothing temporary at all about the government's program, certainly nothing temporary about its trend. We are in for a period of more government controls, more government restrictions, more trade by license, more planning, far less of what we call "free enterprise."

Labor Income Higher

While a report released recently by the Department of Labor revealed that more strikes affected Canadian industries in October—with a much higher number of workers involved—than in the corresponding month last year, it is gratifying to observe from the latest report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on labor income in Canada that this feature continues at a very high level.

This latter periodical statement shows that in the first eight months of 1947 Canadians received in wages, salaries and supplementary labor income, the exceptional total of \$3,874,000,000 which is an increase of \$573,000,000 over the like period of the preceding year.

The report on this improved labor income picture also points out that employment across Canada in August increased by about the same ratio over employment in July and draws the conclusion that the figures represent little change in the earnings of individual workers.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow 3rd Sunday in Advent.

Tomorrow the birthday of His Majesty King George VI.

This Earth could use a little peace and good will just now.

Where innocence is bliss. At one of the City Polls a woman appeared and was presented with a white ballot paper and told she had one vote. "Oh no," she replied, "I have two, and got \$5 for each of them."

It is now Bell & Mathieson, K.C., K.C., M.L.A., M.L.A.; the only firm having both members in the Legislature. But access to the powers-that-be remains with Mr. T. W. L. Prowse without the responsibility of representation.

Perhaps now that the tumult and the shouting have died we may get on with community planning that will make the Island a more pleasant, healthful and stimulating place in which to live.

Markets for both manufactured goods and foodstuffs have just about reached a point where only high quality and economical products will be sure of a firm demand.

Oxford University has given its unenthusiastic approval to the discovery of America. At the final debate of the season the Oxford Union rejected by 186 votes to 184 a motion that "this house considers that Columbus went too far."

Dr. Samuel Johnson, English man of letters, died this date 1784; is best remembered by his Dictionary, his Journey to the Western Islands, and his Lives of the Poets; his poetry is too correct and scholarly to be popular; his criticisms genuine and reliable; his prose is ponderous but balanced.

"Turn from the glittering bribe thy scornful eye, Nor sell for gold what gold can never buy."

Apart from Canadian soldiers and relatives of residents of Canada the only immigrants currently admitted to this country are certain British subjects and Americans who either have means or assured employment, or other groups engaging in farming, mining, lumbering with assured employment. We are a long way yet from an "open door" policy.

Canadian currency is rapidly losing value in the United States because it cannot be used to buy goods from Canada. Its only use is to tourists who come to this country.

The Canadian Press did a splendid job in organizing and reporting the election results. The Maritime superintendent, Mr. Jack Brayley and his staff are deserving of the congratulations they are receiving.

British Columbia has introduced instruction in the moderate use of liquor. Attorney-General Gordon Wismer, speaking as Acting Minister of Education, told a public meeting details of the province's newly authorized liquor moderation program and introduced Mr. Harold L. Campbell of Vancouver as its director.

One great disadvantage of our having no C. P. R. connection here is that we are deprived of the most effective publicity that great organization. For instance, their popular monthly review, Agricultural and Industrial Progress in Canada, for November has a beautifully illustrated inset descriptive of scenes in different provinces but none from ours, viz., Manitoba Wheat Field, Sheep in Manitoba, Panoramic View, Minnedosa, Manitoba, Farm Home, Western Canada, Growing Grapes in Ontario, Ontario Sugar Beets, Purebred Clydesdales, New Brunswick, Farm Scene, Nova Scotia; and with that ends C. P. R.'s eastern boundary of Canada.

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Notes By The Way

Among the handful of citizens who thought it worth while to cast a vote in the municipal elections on Monday was Mr. James Long; he is 96 years old and he has never failed to vote in his life. —Peterborough Examiner.

People will wonder now if the Duke of Windsor really wants privacy. If he does he goes strangely about getting it—in telling the story of his life, and gabbling about the Royal Family, in an American magazine. —Ottawa Journal.

The time for snowdrifts having arrived, it is pertinent to recall that a good many of middle age and older have died suddenly of over-exertion caused by their efforts to push motor cars out of the ditches. —Brookville Recorder and Times.

The atomic age observed its fifth birthday this week. Already this problem child has become the object of a bitter custody suit, and is exhibiting marked inclinations toward delinquency. —Windsor Star.

Canada has a greater area than the United States proper and Alaska combined. But how many Americans will believe it? —V. Thomas Times-Journal.

Both the winner and the loser got a kick out of politics, but not in the same place. —Brandon Sun.

Who now remembers the old-fashioned \$3. worth of groceries that you couldn't crowd into a baby carriage with a 20-pound child? —Edmonton Journal.

The first trawler to assume the proportion of a factory ship has just been launched from a shipyard at Ardrossan, Scotland. Fish caught by this vessel—the Fair-free—will be filleted, quick-frozen and packed at sea within a few days.

Popular makes of motor vehicles in the province of Ontario are now field now sell at \$150. to \$200 more than they did on November 17, because of the boosted excise tax Mr. Abbott announced with such evident relish.

Popular belief that the yellow races comprise the bulk of earth's population has been debunked, regarding the Mitaukas. The "white" Caucasoid races have a larger membership than have the Mongoloid and Negroid races today.

Turkey, long regarded as the "sick man of Europe," seems wonderfully improved. Part of the improvement, perhaps the most relative, since most of the other European nations are in a bad way, now, following the war and Turkey, which carefully kept out of the war, shines by contrast.

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BOGUS DOCTOR. A quack is an unqualified medical practitioner, a seller of nostrums.

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.

OUR "DUMB" PREMIER

Sir,—This is one of the really funny things that has happened on P. E. I.

Last Spring the Conservatives started challenging Walter Jones to pull an election. Being Walter Jones he decided to call their bluff at the first opportunity.

Charlottetown went into a tail-spin, the campaign worked fast and furious, and the more that was said the more he became the issue.

On Thursday night at seven o'clock when the smoke lifted they started to look around and see where our "Dumb" Premier was.

When they were all fiddling around Charlottetown he had made an end run and cleaned the country practically from East Point to North Cape.

Yes, Mr. Mackenzie King, unquestionably the most gifted political strategist Canada has ever had, better look to his laurels. I am, Sir, etc. AN ADMIRER.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

MEACHAM'S ATLAS LAWSUITS

The March session of the Queen's County Court has been going on in Charlottetown for some days past, and a large number of suits, perhaps of very little importance to any one except the litigants, have been disposed of.

In addition to having a number of men sued, Mr. Meacham was sued himself by one Mr. H. W. Fyfe. It is said that when his wages fall out honest men get their own, and perhaps this was borne out by this case.

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such as writing biographical sketches to be published in the Atlas, and also editorials praising the Atlas, all of which he claimed he had performed in a satisfactory manner.

Meacham, on his part, positively denied having hired Fyfe, as alleged and said he was only hired by the day for which he had paid him.

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U. S. NAVY VACATES BASE

CANBERRA (CP)—The Commonwealth government expects the United States Navy will have vacated the base at Manus Island this year. A recent inspection revealed the installations are in better condition than was expected. It will become an Australian Navy base.

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