

THE GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1857). Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 5, 1947

Provincial Financing

In the Budget delivered at the last session of the Legislature, a surplus of some \$96,000 on current account was shown for the year ending March 31 last, the estimated surplus for the current year ending March 31, 1948, being \$563,916.

Actually, if the surplus reaches the half-million dollar mark or more, it will just about amount to the liquor revenue which the Government obtained last year.

Morover, though a decrease in taxes was promised in the Speech from the Throne last session, the reverse was the case and the Government—despite its large estimated surplus—imposed an extra provincial gasoline tax of three cents a gallon.

The Government's estimated surplus does not take into account any expenditures that may be made in implementing its promise to introduce Regional High Schools, for which a blank "sum sufficient" was included in the Estimates.

Sane Living Rules

Business men, who pay large sums in taxes to defray the cost of public health services, and donate millions of dollars every year to health causes, are too often negligent about looking after their own well-being.

An important feature about the lives of successful business men is that they have schooled themselves to save themselves, and this has become absolutely necessary on account of the hurried pace of modern life.

It is true that science has not found an injection that provides renewed youth at forty, but it can show how to continue some of the advantages of youth into these later years.

Nutrition and other factors are discussed in the Bank Letter, which concludes with the reflection that human beings lead all other animals in the ability to deceive themselves.

How Methods Change

Recent devastating forest fires stress again the need of greater vigilance and care against this grim destroyer of the nation's forest resources.

If the new instrument measures up to what its inventors claim for it, a long step forward will have been made toward controlling the forest fire menace.

Taking into consideration the great things that science holds for the future perhaps the day is not far off when man will be able to control the extravagant toll which is exacted each year from our forest lands through his own carelessness.

EDITORIAL NOTES

British Gunpowder Plot, this date 1605.

President Roosevelt re-elected for the third term this date, 1940.

It is unusual for a Party to turn down a sitting member who offers for renomination. Summerville Liberals provide the proverbial exception.

British Labour's decisive defeat in the municipal elections should cause their leaders "furiously to think" before going ahead with plans to further curtail powers of the House of Lords.

The Associated Press vouches for the story of the Georgian female government employee who, on learning of the loyalty check being made by the government, wrote to the Treasury to ask for hers.

A suggestion by the chairman of the United States Citizens Food Committee, that the 60-day shutdown of distilleries be balanced by a 60-day ban on imports of Scotch whisky, is regarded by parched Britons as one of the most friendly suggestions since lend-lease.

It takes an election to keep Premier Jones at home when an agricultural exhibition or big sale is in the horizon. He has had to request His Honour Lieut. Governor Bernard to represent him at the opening of the Amherst Winter Fair.

The Dominion of India has shown that it is well qualified to exercise sovereign powers by agreeing to allow the people of Kashmir to decide by plebiscite what their political future will be.

Proposed Canadian participation in the Marshall plan (or approach) by supplying manufactured goods as well as foodstuffs, either directly purchased by the United States or paid for out of the proceeds of American loans, should ease considerably the dollar shortage in this country.

Dr. Dougan, who was reputed formerly to be a Conservative, has been adopted as Liberal candidate in the provincial election to oppose Hon. Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan for the Councillor seat in Charlottetown and Royalty. His colleague, Hon. T. W. L. Prowse, will have as his opponent Major D. L. Mathieson, LL.B., who served six years overseas.

Names of more than 1,300 men and women with preference for overseas service appear at the head of a list of approximately 2,500 successful candidates for the posts of clerk, grade 4, in a Civil Service examination held recently. Some 850 successful candidates for the post of principal clerk, the top 500 of them veterans, are also listed.

Assistant trade commissioners have been on the rounds, and now a party of six young farmers from different parts of the United Kingdom which at present is touring the U.S.A. at the invitation of the Future Farmers of America, will send two of the boys, John L. Cornah of Warwick, England, and Alexander Campbell of Aberdeenshire, Scotland, to visit Canada from November 8th to 28th.

Mayor Ahern, Halifax is always more or less in the limelight. His latest front page proposition is to unite the Mayors of the three cities of Halifax, Saint John and Charlottetown in order to have the strength of unity when seeking concessions from Federal powers—that be. He maintains that he and Mayor McKenna, Saint John, succeeded in bringing pressure to bear upon the Federal authorities to have railways pay civic taxes, and thinks with Charlottetown in the combine, further concessions may be obtained. But he overlooks the fact that at the time Federal vital by-elections were impending in N. S. and N. B., whereas we here have nothing of that description to bargain with—we have not even assistant ministry jobs at stake.

Three years ago, on November 5, 1944, all dry land on Walcheren Island in the Scheldt Estuary, with the exception of two places, Veers and Middleburg, was reported in allied hands, thus bringing to an end the Canadian operations to clear the Port of Antwerp. These operations began the first week in October when the Canadians began their drive to secure the west bank of the River Scheldt and advance the right of 2nd Canadian Corps to the general line Roosendaal—Bergen Op Zoom.

Notes By The Way

Women's shoes now being made in Paris are laced as high as the ankles, a trend which must throw a scare into those who insist the buttonhook can't come back.

The Briton's tobacco is being taken away from him, his beer has been watered, his taxes have been upped, his coal has been reduced, his rations are being cut down, his work hours are being lengthened and—he won the war!

From St. Louis comes a report of some strange "foundations of youth." It appears that rotifers, tiny water animals, when dunked in these waters increase their life span by more than 50 percent.

There are indications that poaching by tourists in done on a big scale in Ontario, and an arrest near Ottawa brings the matter into the light. It will be interesting to see what penalty the courts provide for poachers who pick up \$1,500 worth of fish in a night.

The United States example with respect to air mail rates should provide food for thought for Canada's postmaster-general. The drop to a 5-cent rate has resulted in much more U. S. mail going east, by air. A reduction from the present Canadian 7-cent rate might well give airmail the stimulus it apparently needs in this country.

A Paterson, N. J., prisoner who had been convicted of failing to support his children was recently released at the request of his wife, who objected to the life of ease and idleness she felt he was leading in jail. The judge agreed with the woman that it would be more of a punishment for him to have to come out and actually work to support me and the children.

First successful introduction of the crease in men's trousers was made by Edward VII of England, who as Prince of Wales visited the United States in 1860. The prince at that time, according to R. Turner Wilcox (The Mode in Costume, 1946) wore the crease at the sides of the leg as well as at front and back. The custom of placing the crease in the middle of the leg came into vogue in the '90s. This later innovation originated with army officers.

Fuel economy is the principal guide in automobile engine research today. Engineers are planning the automobile power plants of the future seek an engine that will convert at least two quarts of every gallon of gasoline into power. Present engines absorb three quarts at heat, friction and in other losses. Only one quart really produces motive power. The engineers are aiming at any engine with an efficiency of at least 50 per cent.

There has been a steady improvement in the use of language during the past four or five decades. More people know how to speak and write. The complexity of vocabulary has steadily increased. The trouble is not that there has been no advances, but that the advance has failed to keep pace with the requirements. Advancing technology is increasing the complexity of industry, business and government, as well as improved communications, have placed on the average citizen a considerably higher degree of verbal responsibility than was the case with his father or grandfather.

Twenty-five million weary American automobiles are falling apart faster than repairmen can put them back together. The difficulty isn't a dearth of repairmen. It's a lack of replacement parts to keep the semiautomatic machine running. At present, the average car has three times the pre-war rate, but in the race to keep up with demand, they are being left at the starting post. Some 27 million passenger cars are on the roads today. Nine are four or more years old. The "average" vehicle has seen the frost of eight winters. The cars are tired and battle-scarred, says one garage man who has begun to receive requests for parts. "Not only are their insides wearing out fast, but as they get shakier they rip more vendors of each other on the roads. And don't ask me for a new fender."

It is learned from Morden, Manitoba, that research is under way in an effort to cultivate the sugar maple tree in the prairie provinces. Unfortunately this beautiful tree—esteemed for its value as a stately ornamental shade tree, for its waxy-grained furniture wood, and for its sugary sap—is native not only to a part of the country, although it grows as far south as Georgia it fails to extend far north in Canada. The western boundary of its native range appears to be in the Thunder Bay hills flanking Lake Superior. Tests made at Morden reveal that trees raised from seed obtained in Southern Ontario and Quebec are too tender to escape injury during severe winters. Seedlings from Thunder Bay Hills, near Fort William, are doing well and produce crops of seed, unless weather is adverse for spring blossoms. However, a strain from northwestern Minnesota is expected to prove superior, as through the ages the parent trees have been subjected to prairie heat and rather low moisture supply.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

THE B.N.A. ACT

Sir,—May I compliment you on your editorial on "The B.N.A. Act." From many years of experience in connection with Dominion-Provincial relations, inter-provincial and international trade and related subjects, I am firmly convinced that our greatest national handicap is concealment of truth regarding the constitution of our national set-up by educational institutions and others.

The Law Journal, from which you quote, is substantially correct but it overlooks the inter-provincial and international trade and related subjects, I am firmly convinced that our greatest national handicap is concealment of truth regarding the constitution of our national set-up by educational institutions and others.

According to the Privy Council the Provinces "retained their independence and autonomy" when they "entrusted" the Dominion of Canada with certain authority to promote the interests of the agreement and apparently any action by the Government and Parliament of Canada which is repugnant to that agreement is "ultra vires" of the Federal Parliament.

The Law Journal's statement "the complete and sovereign equality of all the governments set up by or under the B.N.A. Act" might be misleading. Ontario and Quebec are constituted as Provinces by the B.N.A. Act and based on the Quebec Act, 1774, but the Maritime Provinces are not "set up" by the B.N.A. Act; they are constituted as Provinces by their own Legislatures by Royal Charter The present Legislature of Nova Scotia, for instance, is the forty-third Legislature, and surely no person would suggest that when the Legislature of Prince Edward Island arranged an agreement with the Parliament of 1873 and thereby delegated certain authority to that Parliament to legislate for the Island, that Prince Edward Island's government is "set up" by or under the B.N.A. Act.

The General Government of a Confederation is not given control of anything. It is charged with the duty of promoting the objects of the Confederation. Canada's constitution is unique and especially designed to cope with the geographical layout of the Provinces, the great diversity of interests and the two nationalities in the sections of British North America which are united under one name, "Canada," and ranked in the Empire as a Dominion.

I am, Sir, etc., SAINT JOHN, N.B., OCT. 31, 1947.

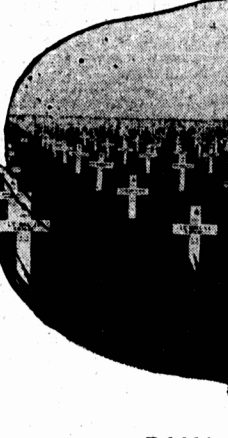
PREMIER JONES ON WAGES

Sir,—I see that Mr. Jones has come out openly as the champion of low wages. He wants wages to be lower than elsewhere in Canada. His arguments in support of this are that school-boy economics. He thinks everyone must have more money before wages can be raised.

The late Henry Ford proved the fallacy of this theory many years ago. He proved that the only way to prosperly for every body was to raise wages first. The labor union movement in the United States by their constant pressure for higher wages forced American industry to apply every technique that would speed up operations and lower costs of production. Economists have stated that pressure of higher wages was the compelling factor that caused American industry to become the greatest the world has ever known and, incidentally, has raised the standard of living in that country higher than ever attained before.

This is what higher wages can do. On the other hand, low wages has never accomplished anything anywhere in all history. Low wage areas remain static. Their production and methods remain the same from one generation to another. They have a constant exodus of their people to higher wage areas. Our experience here in this Province will bear this out. Even our farmers have failed to organize and regulate and plan their production in relation to available and actual markets. It may well be that pressure of higher wages might be the fulcrum to raise them out of their present impossible position.

Remember...



BUY A POPPY

Common people are going to demand a better deal than they have had down the years. Reactionary politicians can not stop their march. I would advise Mr. Jones to take a few moments off and to read the story of Canute and the waves. Seemingly he has forgotten the Scriptural injunction that "The laborer is worthy of his hire."

I am, Sir, etc., A FARMER.

MEMORIAL FIELD AND HORSE RACING

Sir,—I would like to use the medium of one of our Seven Freedoms, that of the Press, to bring before the general public a violation of the rules of "fair play" which is taking place in our own City.

May I take your readers back some two years in memory, and the scene is Victoria Park, on the western side of the Park we see a field, an ordinary grass field that was once a football and baseball field. It is just another field. The time now shifts to 1947 and the date is Saturday, September 20th. Lieutenant Governor Bernard has just dedicated the Memorial Field for the use of athletes and athletic games as a memorial to the many young athletes who gave their lives during World War II.

I am a sports enthusiast but I do believe in common decency. Memorial Field was dedicated in remembrance but some people have pitifully short memories. The lowing of the self-explanatory text of Lieutenant Governor Bernard's dedication address:

"We are assembled here for the opening of this Athletic Field, an event of great importance to those who practice and take part in athletics. It is more than a field, it is a work and a monument which has taken shape here under the skillful and capable guidance of that estimable soldier who is now the head of Physical Fitness. It is a work which for all time to come will be a memorial and a tribute to so many of our splendid athletes of former days who made the world of sports a better place, that the world would not forget them, but that we could carry on as we are doing today in freedom and without fear."

"To those courageous and heroic men and women and to their memories this field is being dedicated today. It will be known as Memorial Field and as such it will always be associated with memories of our great athletes of the past, youth with the opportunity of establishing records and performances which will encircle their names with glory, and with honor."

"And now, we pause for a minute to say a prayer and to commune in spirit with those departed ones whose memories and actions we are commemorating today.... Intruding fiercely on the hero's hold from the near city's Babylonian strife, the commentator on the fringes of life lifts his loose body in the misty rain; Long-legged, fastidious in high disdain, He swoops to dusky reaches, dinks to ghost In that Nirvana where all time is lost."

Why am I writing this letter? Here is the reason: "The City of Charlottetown and about the City of Charlottetown who own and race horses. They have the finest race track—so they report during Old Home Week—in Eastern Canada, but are they satisfied? The answer is an emphatic No! They want to race in the winter, which is understandable, and for years they were happy racing on our fine natural harbour ice. In the past two or three years, due to some defect no doubt in the texture of the said harbour ice, the "horsesmen" have found it necessary to use an uphill section of the Park as a speedway. They dash madly upwards toward the Hospital and escape injury by a last-second swerve which barely takes them by the Hospital fence. That's another story. In recent years they have had one, two and sometimes as many as three races

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Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

From the Parliamentary Report of March 27, 1947: Dr. Jenkins moved the House into Committee to take into consideration a Bill to extend the authority of the Police Constables in Charlottetown, and to impose a fine upon persons refusing to aid the Police Constables in quelling a disturbance, and to be imprisoned in default of payment. This power, he said, was required by the Police because it frequently happened that they were overpowered by fishermen and sailors, in performing their duties, and they had at present no power to compel citizens to assist them in such cases. Indeed, it was a common thing to see crowds of people looking on, in cases of disturbances, often, indirectly encouraging it. He thought this Bill would enable the Corporation to lessen the present number of policemen, and thereby to save a considerable sum for other purposes.

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