

THE GUARDIAN

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

The Island Guardian Publishing Co.
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Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, FEB. 26, 1949

Major Educational Problems

In the report of the Department of Education tabled this week in the Legislature, two problems of urgency and importance are underlined by the chief supervisor of schools. The first is the continued difficulty of obtaining young men and women of ability and vision for the teaching profession.

Next to improving teaching service there should, the supervisor suggests, come an improvement in the curriculum. Little has been done in a scientific way in this regard.

The conservatism of seamen excels that of almost any other calling. The age of sail has been superseded by those of steam and electronics, but it is only now that the engineer and stoker and his fellows of more recent mechanical trades are being accepted as being truly seamen.

Strict Insurance Laws

Many people may be surprised to learn that Canadian insurance laws limit the amount that any one life insurance company may invest in the common shares of another company to 30 per cent. of the common shares and 30 per cent. of the total shares.

These facts were cited recently in an address by W. M. Anderson, president of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers Association. He also pointed out that only about three per cent. of the funds held by Canadian life insurance companies are invested in the common stock of other businesses.

Canada's National Income

A Government return tabled in the House of Commons last week shows that Canada's gross farm income has doubled in value in 20 years. The total in 1948 was \$2,835,000,000, as compared with \$1,326,000,000 in 1928.

During the same period Canada's net national income rose from \$4,750,000,000 to \$12,802,000,000. These records indicate in broad outline, with what strides this young and richly endowed country is forging ahead materially.

The Saskatchewan Experiment

Four years ago, notes the Financial Post, the CCF Government of Saskatchewan started taking over private industry. In the face of repeated warnings from those of experience, substantial sums of taxpayers' money were used to acquire or start six purely commercial undertakings.

Today half of these ventures, the first three, are closed down and Premier Douglas himself admits that there is grave doubt about the Government ever reopening them. He also admits that the other three have yet to prove themselves successful.

In the meantime, scores of workers have lost their jobs in the middle of winter and in a province where industrial jobs have always been scarce. Last too, have been large sums of public money which, if not used for legitimate government expenditures on such things as schools and roads, might better have been left with the taxpayers for private investment.

The result was a near defeat for Mr. Douglas and his government in the provincial election last June. That sharp reminder seems to have decided Mr. Douglas that, for the time being at least, the cost of maintaining a guinea pig even in a province like Saskatchewan may

be too high. Hence the soft pedal on new socialist legislation and the closing down of those government factories which were to set an example to all Canadian industry.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Lent begins Wednesday.
Tomorrow, Quinquagesima.
Farmers' Week is successfully over once more.

Pity the poor British Columbians with snow-blocked roads and valleys!

Discipline may not be fashionable in these strange days of kindly social workers, but it's very effective, and easy to apply.

According to St. John's (Nfld.) politicians, it was the Baby Bonus that carried the day for Confederation in the Ancient Colony.

The Prices Commission may have been rather pointlessly set up last July but in completing its work and reporting this week it shows the choice of personnel, at least, was wise.

Canadians are in demand in London as stage Americans, according to Stanley Maxted who is one of them. We had always claimed to interpret Britain and the United States to one another, but not so literally.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has gone on record in favour of large families. He himself has five sons and he advises the clergy to follow suit and to advise their people likewise. But can five really be considered large in view of the totals in families here?

The city of Saint John, N. B., is properly concerned over the prospect of losing its hourly time signal from the local Dominion Government Meteorological Observatory. It seems difficult to overcome the impression in Ottawa that time is a matter of no importance in the Maritimes.

Premier Jones' forecast of a training program which would make Island farmers "the best educated in Canada" sounds laudably ambitious. It would be unfortunate, however, if in the attempt, we were to stop producing the more generally educated youth who have traditionally become leaders in various fields at home and abroad.

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Recently the story was printed of two Scottish farmers fined for selling surplus milk to icecream makers. Warned by this, a farmer at Greenock, finding himself with a surplus of milk, because his registered customers were on holidays, gave it to an icecream maker. He was fined. Point of the joke says the Letter Review is that he would equally have been fined if he had dumped the milk down the drain. Since he is not equipped to make butter or cheese, he is slightly puzzled as to what to do next.

Louis Philippe I, King of the French, abdicated this date 1848; was son of Philippe "Egalite" and cousin of Louis XVI; joined the revolutionary forces and escaped from France in 1793; on return joined the Liberal party, and became Lieut. General. On deposition of Charles X, Louis Philippe was proclaimed King of the French in 1830; with a strong hand he put down all opposition and insurrection, and strengthened the entente with England, but subsequently broke it in favour of family relations with Spain. In 1847 the French demanded an extension of the franchise which Louis Philippe opposed. A revolution followed, and he abdicated and fled to England for refuge.

The problem of being able to mobilize maximum, adequately trained forces just as soon as war closely threatens can be solved only by now accepting the procedure of compulsory military training. Gen. H. D. G. Crerar told a dinner gathering of the Quebec section of the Canadian Military Institute. He disagreed with suggested policies that Canada's contribution to the winning of a third world war, "should it be forced upon us, can best be made by producing the means by which our allies can do the fighting."

Steps looking to tighten up disciplinary control of lawyers in the province of Quebec are provided for in a bill which Hon. Antoine Rivard, Minister Without Portfolio, has laid before the Assembly. The general council of the Bar is authorized to establish a committee on discipline whose jurisdiction shall extend over all members of the Bar. In regards to admission to practice law, the act governing the Bar enacts that the candidate must successfully pass his university examinations on the subjects of the theoretical course of three years; and then must follow for one year a university course on questions of practice; then pass a successful university examination on the year's studies. The second university examination is eliminated; and the candidate is also exempted from the oral examination before the Bar on such course of a practical nature. All the other Bar examinations are maintained.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

LATIN AND P.W.C.

Sir, — Effective Sept. 1st, 1946, the teaching of Latin in one-roomed schools was discontinued, so this is the first term of Prince of Wales College that students have been admitted who did not have previous study of this subject. However, if rural students take the subject at P.W.C., they are expected by the end of First Year to reach a standing comparable with the other students who have previously studied it at school for at least two years.

In other words, rural students are asked to study as much Latin in First Year at P.W.C. as the other students will study in First Year and two or more years previous at schools. Briefly, rural students are expected to study as much of the subject in one year as other students study in at least three years. And if they will not attempt, or cannot achieve this unreasonable effort, they are penalized by being classed as ineligible to receive a certificate at the end of the college year.

This situation is very unfair to rural students and very unsatisfactory to their parents. Therefore, it is to be hoped that members of the Legislature now in session will bring this matter to the attention of the Minister of Education and insist that it be corrected at once.

I am, Sir, etc., PARENT

CABINET SOLIDARITY

Sir, — In this letter it is not my intention to discuss the merits of the difference between the Premier and a former member of his cabinet. Mr. Hughes, further than to say that Mr. Hughes is right and that the Premier acted unconstitutionally. It is the prerogative of a Prime Minister to choose his cabinet, and administer discipline to refractory members of the ministry.

The Cabinet then stands together as one unit. The cabinet and the ministers are under obligation to render support to each minister in matters peculiar to his office. If a minister does a public act which does not meet the approval of the cabinet, the Premier must constitutionally ask for his resignation and if the minister fails to resign, then he must be expelled from his position as a Cabinet minister and the Premier or any other member has no right to criticize his actions as such minister before this has been done.

Mr. Hughes having thus been publicly criticized could take no other course but hand in his resignation. If Mr. Hughes did something wrong, and he claims he did not, and if he was not asked to resign, then the whole cabinet became constitutionally responsible for such wrong doing, and as Mr. Hughes says in criticizing him, the Premier and his whole cabinet were criticizing themselves.

In what I have said above I am following such constitutional authorities as Macdonald's British Constitution; Bagshot's English Constitution; Anson Dicey's "Introduction to the Study of the Law of the Constitution"; Bryce's "The American Commonwealth" and other such well-known authorities.

I am, Sir, etc., PARLIAMENTARIAN

RADAR REPRESENTATION

Sir, — "J.W.F." seems to have created a great deal of discussion in the "Forum" regarding the nomination of Brigadier Price as Conservative standard-bearer for Prince County. I will admit it made very interesting reading so far as it goes, but I would like to add a few observations of my own.

Since the Tory ship of state has been idly lurking in the doldrums as far as our county is concerned, and we have such few old party men left that they had to appeal to Quebec to send out Mr. Price, a "lumber magnate", in the hope that he is full enough of wind to set this ship sailing again — it seems quite feasible that in this day and age Mr. Price, if elected could and would represent Prince County from beyond the RADAR line as well as just at home.

Since Mr. Price is still a great soldier and a brigadier while his leader is only a colonel, will he like taking orders from an inferior officer? Better promote Mr. Drew to Field Marshall.

It might be well to straighten out Hon. Horace Wright who, in a recent address, stated that the C.C.F. party is about the same as Communism and that this party only came into being during the last depression. What a boast to make as an excuse for the ill of an old capitalist party! If the party that Mr. Wright supports had put the clamps on big business enterprises and made them play up and play the game of equal rights for all, then we as farmers would not have sold potatoes for 10 cents per bushel when it cost many times that much to produce them, or sold hogs for half what it cost to put them on the market, and everything else that a farmer produced was on the same basis.

I think that the depression was nothing short of a "blessing in disguise" when it gave birth to a party pledged without support



The Poet's Corner

AWAKENING
This morning I awoke, and all was new.
A strange and wordless wonder shook the trees;
Yet clung to me, and seemed to call me too.

—Flora Lorraine Johnson, Vancouver, B. C.

WRONGLY LABELLED
Sir,—Thursday's Guardian carried a letter "Treatment of Witnesses" by J. Meronica. I would like to inform same, with some authentic information re the group of individuals parading the Marian Congress Assembly, and their leaders who hoped for rain. They are not Jehovah's Witnesses.

I am, Sir, etc., G.W.M. Elmsdale, P.E.I.

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(And P. E. I.)

DR. McAULAY'S PETITION

Noteworthy among the Skye plenary was Dr. Angus McAulay, agent for Lord Selkirk, who according to the inscription on his monument in Mount Buchanan cemetery was also Chaplain of His Majesty's First West India Regiment. He was chiefly responsible for settling Belfast with emigrants.

On his arrival on this Island, Dr. McAulay states, he "found himself surrounded by a numerous population from the Highlands of Scotland, under indigent circumstances, who understood no other than the Gaelic language."

The petition was accompanied by a testimonial from his parishioners expressing "our gratitude and respect to the Rev. Dr. Angus McAulay for his unremitting attention in keeping alive true Christian devotion and piety for seven years among us."

Dr. McAulay's petition was warmly indorsed by the Lieutenant Governor in a communication forwarded to the Home Government, recommending him for "generous consideration" in view of his numerous family, his exemplary conduct and diligence.

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Notes By The Way

Retired Salvation Army Commissioner David Lamb points out that within his lifetime Britain has doubled its population while emigrating 10,000,000 people, yet has dropped its consumption of hard liquor by 70 per cent and of beer by 30 per cent. We are afraid that Canada does not stand up too well on a comparative basis.—Brockville Recorder and Times.

A reckless devil-may-care fellow may show himself a hero in battle, but these gang-boys are not devil-may-care fellows; a great many of them seem to be deprived and vicious young scoundrels, courageous only when they are in a gang. To put them into the Army would disgust the other soldiers, exhaust the patience of the officers, and cost the country money.

The Bank of Canada is not alone in wishing that a people could hold on to their money a little longer. Circulation of money in Canada has reached \$1,260,000,000, slightly less than the all-time peak. As circulation increases, so does the wear and tear.

Misunderstanding of words causes much of the unconscious humor of children. One such case reported recently was that of a child who came home from school in tears and said, "The teacher told me to sit there for the present—and she never brought it." Yet another

Admittedly the most successful of the child actors or actresses may be able to retire on a substantial competency at the ripe old age of the child, even in the name of art, can endanger normal development. Not that we think child drama should be abolished. On the contrary, it can furnish excellent opportunities for wholesome expression. But even for that, there is a time and a place. Much may be said for the position which would gear professional dramatic appearances by the extremely juvenile to the regular arrangements for the education of the young.—Victoria Times.

The Age-Old Story

There has been a strength in the poor, a strength in the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall.

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