

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1947

The Name "Canada"

As previously noted the celebration of citizenship week was marked by the introduction of a new Canadian song, written by Mr. Percy J. Philip, Ottawa correspondent of The New York Times.

"To Canada our fathers came And gave this unknown land its name, This Canada of ours."

This raises the question as to who these fathers were who gave our country its name. A correspondent in a mainland exchange cites the following excerpt from the scholarly pen of Prof. Stephen Leacock:

"We still do not know where the word Canada comes from. All are familiar with the fantastic derivation that makes the word mean 'nothing here.' The idea was that, before Cartier came, some Spaniard or Portugee, angered at not finding gold, said in disgust 'Acandora!'

The polite natives picked up the word and repeated it to Cartier to mean "That's us." Equally silly is the gross slander involved in a derivation from the Sanskrit 'Kanata'—a small feeder."

Put beside this the derivation once current in Puritan New England to the effect that Canada was called after William Kane who went up there in 1621—a patron saint lost to history.

Much better is the claim that Canada is an old Portuguese word to mean 'the narrow' or 'the channel,' that is the route leading on to the supposed Western Sea.

But the simplest derivation and the best is that "Canada" was not the name of any one place but was the Huron-Iroquois word for the collection of lodges (such as Stadacona, Hochelaga and Onondaga) which the explorers called a town.

Indeed the narrative of Cartier's second voyage has at the end of it a vocabulary of the language of the natives which says in exact terms: "Its appellation was Canada."

This might seem to settle it. So high an authority as Dr. S. E. Dawson has said that we may save all waste of "learned labor" by permitting the Huron-Iroquois to know their own language.

But unfortunately the narrative itself keeps using the word as the name of the territory, not the town, as when it says in the text quoted, 'Here begins (at eight leagues above Ile aux Coudres) the province and territory of Canada.'

At this point of the story Cartier had not yet seen the town (Stadacona). Perhaps the word was used in a double sense as town is used today. People in England talk of London as 'town' and 'go up to town' from their own town, without getting muddled."

The Freight Rates Case

Examination of the documents filed by the Canadian railways to support their application for a 30 per cent freight rate increase, according to an exchange, demonstrates this fact—the railways will operate at a profit even without the increase.

As for the Canadian National, if it got no freight rate boost its \$11,083,000 surplus for 1947 would be better than it earned in any year from 1931 until 1939, inclusive.

With the 30 per cent freight rate boost, its \$60,000,000 would be almost double the best peace time year it ever had. That was 1928 when the system earned a profit of \$38,000,000.

These calculations take the figures presented by the railways at their face value. This, however, is something which the opponents of the railways are refusing to do because the figures are in such general terms as to be almost meaningless.

The railways are asking for flat increase in freight rates because their wage rates have gone up along with their materials and general operating costs. These wage increases have gone to all railway employees.

The increase in operating costs affects all departments. Such departments as express, mail, passenger, dining and sleeping car have all been forced to increase their budgets. But no increase is being asked on these rates.

In addition, the increase in the wage bill will not affect all areas in the system to the same extent. In short haul areas the ratio of man hours of labor to freight ton is higher than in long haul areas.

In addition, in populous areas much greater service, and hence larger wage bills, are provided by passenger departments. No increased charges are being asked of any of these customers.

Only freight customers are being asked to pay—for the wage increases granted to employees of all other departments.

These are the facts in the background of the demand by the railway opponents for a full disclosure by the railways of the operating results of their other important departments, plus complete details of regional operations.

Law Journal Sounds Warning

In one of his case reports Lord Macmillan, noted member of the Imperial Privy Council, makes a remark about people having become "indured to the arbitrariness of taxation."

Taking this as a text, the Fortnightly Law Journal remarks acutely: "The people of Canada have become indured to the arbitrariness of bureaucratic government by order-in-council and the unmeaning decrees of delegated and subdelegated pseudo-legislation.

They have largely forgotten the meanings of essential democracy and the value of the safeguards of constitutional government. It would be so easy to overthrow one dictatorship to fall into the hands of another and worse

one. Let us not forget that the only revolution in British history began as a struggle of the forces of democracy against dictatorship and ended as a far worse military dictatorship. Let us not forget that everywhere we turn today we see things that remind us of that same tragic period of seventeenth century history and that the most poignant words of the past fifty years have been 'It cannot happen here.' A decade ago none of us would have believed that a nominally democratic government could have created in a civilized country the enormities of injustice that even the bureaucrats themselves confess that they have created in Canada in the past six and more years."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Competition is to be the life of the clam industry here.

It is gratifying to learn that Canada Packers not only intend to continue the business with farmers so satisfactorily carried on by Davis & Frasers, but intend to expand and extend it to handle cattle, calves, sheep and lambs as well.

Attorney-General Large, K.C., is fortunate in being able to fall heir (at a price, of course), to the lucrative practice of Mr. Justice Tweedy, now waiting for the swearing-in ceremony for the Supreme Court bench.

Mr. Large has made rapid progress in his profession since being admitted to the bar.

Lewis Carroll (Rev. Charles Tutwidge Dodgson), mathematician and humorist, died this date 1898; was author of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Through the Looking-Glass, Euclid and his Modern Rivals; "Curseye while you're thinking what to say. It saves time."

British European Airways are to have 25 Miles Marathons, powered by propeller driving gas turbines, for use on their international air routes. These aircraft will constitute the first full fleet of turbine powered airliners to be ordered by any air service in the world.

The prosperous farmers in France are those of small culture who intensely develop every acre of their small holdings. This could be an ideal "little France" or Jersey or Isle of Man, in this respect, where every resource is made to count. It is sincerely to be hoped full advantage will be taken of the Matthews-Wells Co.'s offer made through our advertising columns.

They have been having much more stormy weather in Britain than we have been having here, described as frightful. The elements let loose with all they had tossing off gales, rain, a sudden thaw, and snow which took blizzard proportions, and brought an electricity blackout in three Scottish counties.

Emergency squads battled against gale-driven sleet for seven hours to fix overhead wires ripped from their poles in Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine counties.

The Ontario Cheese Producers Association at its 14th annual meeting passed a resolution authorizing financial grants toward formation of an independent cheese marketing board in competition with other dealers.

It was stated that this selling agency was a co-operative enterprise but would be entirely separate from the association. It was intended to obtain for producers a share of the profits now going to processors.

Mr. D. W. Osmond, speaking for a resolution calling on officials of the association to discuss cheese price policies with members of Parliament, said "milk and milk products have been made a political football to keep the cost of living down."

A member of the Canadian Army, Active Force, who, for one reason or another, no longer wishes to fulfill the terms of his engagement, can, on application, buy his way out, but it will cost him a little more than it formerly cost members of the pre-war Permanent Force.

Under the new ruling a soldier can be discharged at his own request only if he: (a) pays \$100 within three months of first attestation or within three months of each subsequent engagement, or (b) if after three months from first attestation, or three months service of each subsequent re-engagement he pays \$4 per month for each month of unexpired time.

The new ruling differs from the old inasmuch as, prior to the war, it cost only \$80 if within three months of attestation, or if over the three months, \$3 per month for each month of unexpired time. Any soldier who buys his way out of the Army is not entitled to either leave or free transportation home.

By provinces, the number of hens and chickens on Canadian farms as at the beginning of June 1946 compared with 1945 were as follows, with 1945 figures in brackets: Ontario 28,467,000 (27,279,000); Saskatchewan 17,347,400 (17,626,900); Quebec 11,885,000 (11,724,800); Alberta 9,562,300 (10,166,800); Manitoba 4,427,000 (4,937,300); British Columbia 4,427,000 (4,096,000); Nova Scotia 1,865,000 (1,804,800); New Brunswick 1,770,500 (1,869,400); Prince Edward Island 1,154,000 (1,220,000); Ontario 668,000 (705,600); Alberta 625,000 (576,500); Manitoba 372,000 (456,800); Quebec 282,600 (301,900); British Columbia 108,500 (76,600); New Brunswick 24,100 (35,500); Nova Scotia 22,700 (19,000); Prince Edward Island 9,700 (8,000).

Geese totalled: Ontario 290,400 (298,800); Alberta 89,900 (100,000); Saskatchewan 82,800 (89,000); Manitoba 81,600 (76,600); Quebec 29,800 (35,700); Prince Edward Island 15,700 (14,300); New Brunswick 9,600 (10,500); Nova Scotia 8,200 (7,900); British Columbia 7,700 (7,600).

And for ducks the number were: Ontario 348,600 (358,600); Saskatchewan 100,800 (119,000); Alberta 92,900 (104,500); Manitoba 82,300 (120,000); Quebec 74,900 (68,100); British Columbia 12,500 (9,500); Prince Edward Island 10,900 (14,900); Nova Scotia 7,100 (10,400); New Brunswick 6,600 (7,900).

Notes By The Way

Some countries which remained neutral during the war have been refused membership in the United Nations. Thus they will have to remain neutral during the peace.—Punch.

The Encyclopedia Britannica says that the word "cliffhanger" comes from the French word for "rag gopher". To confirm this in these days of clothes shortages and high prices, just pull out the nearest bureau drawer you come to.—Huron Expositor.

A new kind of dairy cow is being developed in the fertile Matanuska Valley of Alaska. The Family Herald and Weekly Star reports. The new breed is the result of cross-breeding between the Guernsey and the Asiatic yak. The results promise a rugged, productive dairy cow that can withstand the rigors of the climate.

Some of the new breed are now producing an average of 800 pounds testing five percent butter fat.

Two of the world's oldest wooden warships may have to be broken up, as it is feared that they are beyond repair. These are the two-decked ship of the line Impacible (laid down 1797), which fought at the Battle of Trafalgar as the French Duquesne-Toussaint, and the frigate Foudroyant, formerly HMS Trincomalee, which is barely 20 years younger. During the war they did service as training ships at Portsmouth.—United Kingdom Information.

B. C. Teachers' Federation calls on the Government for a compulsory union, and a brand new form of check-off. The check-off would provide that teachers' fees to the federation be paid by the Government, deducted from grants to municipalities, but not recovered from teachers' salaries.

Or at least this appears to be the interpretation of the phraseology used. Purpose of the compulsory union shop is to compel affiliation of unwilling individuals to an employees' organization, and to collect fees willy-nilly. It deprives individuals of freedom. It comes between them and their duty to their employers.—Vancouver News-Herald.

I heard this week a story which may have appeared in print before, though I doubt it. Campbell-Bannerman entered the cabinet for the first time as secretary of state for war in 1883 in Gladstone's third administration. When the King's Speech was under consideration it was found to contain a Latin quotation, and the new secretary for war made bold to question its pertinence. His colleagues were aghast at his temerity, but the classicist prime minister received the suggestion with urbanity. "Bring me" he said to his secretary, "the Martial I was using yesterday." The volume appeared, and he carefully perused it. "I find" said the prime minister, "that the secretary for war is perfectly right. But," he added, glancing round the table, "the words are taken from a poem which no decent man ought to read"—London Spectator.

The First World War imposed passports, and the acute nationalisms, the economic and ideological struggles of the period between the wars, with their emphasis upon strict control of emigration and immigration, fastened the system upon the world. It is probably too much to expect that the extinction of the passport nuisance will occur, so long as it seems a way of checking other nuisances. The League of Nations endeavored to wipe out immigration, but barely succeeded in mitigating some of their worst features by common consent. Still, the action of France and Great Britain is a sign that some of the stringent regulations of wartime are being modified, and that perhaps an enlightened world may some day find means of limiting the bureaucratic load that the traveler must bear.—New York Herald Tribune.

Speaking of the need for conserving paper, never before in our experience of nearly 25 years as a newspaper editor have we witnessed such an avalanche of propaganda in the form of letters, booklets, leaflets, reports for the press and pure, undiluted free publicity as during the year 1946. Government bureaus still head the list of offenders, with reams of material coming every week from Ottawa and Queen's Park.

With several agencies working in the Department of Public Information, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, the Department of Labor and elsewhere around the capital, it is little wonder that they go through several tons of paper every week. Foreign countries have their professional propagandists too now, with long pages of mimeographed copy coming from China, Chile, Australia, France and others. Public relations outfits have their job done to a science, while industrial firms and financial wizards add their contribution. We are planning to auction off the editorial waste-basket weekly to people looking for scrap paper.—Simcoe Reformer.

One of the most beautiful of all Canadian owls is the big Snowy Owl, which periodically invades agricultural Canada from its Arctic breeding grounds. During some nights, particularly last winter, large numbers of these big predators spread themselves over the settled parts of Canada and the northern United States. Many were shot by thoughtless persons, forgetting, or not knowing that an examination of their food in southern Ontario, made at the Royal Ontario Museum last winter, revealed it to be 98 percent rodents—rats and mice, mostly—among

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.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SOCIETY

Sir,—During the past few weeks, officers of many of the various branches of St. Thomas Aquinas Society throughout the Province have held executive meetings in order to devise for the way of life, whereby they might encourage a larger number of Acadian men and women, young and old to join the ranks of this worthwhile society, whose chief aim is to assist in educating our boys and girls and to prepare them for the way of life.

St. Thomas Aquinas Society is a challenge to every right-thinking Acadian. From its limited fund, it has helped many a boy to continue his college or university course. Among our 62 students who are now studying in the various colleges of Quebec and the Maritimes, with the greater number of these from homes of limited means and who are unable to carry on without outside help, St. Thomas Aquinas comes to their aid financially.

In this manner, future leaders for church and state are being prepared who later in life will labour for the general welfare of their fellowmen.

We are at least 14,000 Acadians in P.E. Island. At the very least, 7,000 of our people should be enrolled under the banner of St. Thomas. At the present time we have 40 organized branches of this Society throughout the Acadian parishes of the Charlottetown diocese, and there is ample room for a larger number. During this first month of 1947, every member of this worthwhile Society should endeavour to encourage as many Acadians as possible to swell the ranks in order that the Society may be in a better position to help raise the standard of education in our midst, especially among our boys. We, as a progressive people, should be interested in the boys of our respective communities, regardless of who they are, because after all boys are the future of our country; for in the boy of today we have potentially the man of tomorrow.

Therefore, the life of the boy is big with possibilities both for good and for evil. We should, then, be prepared at all times to encourage the boys of life in the higher things of life, not forgetting that the boy is like a tree that gradually unfolds and advances to maturity, to manhood, hastening into that critical period of life when the branches and foliage grow vigorous, when the bud of childhood is resolved into the blossom of youth. His mental and moral, his spiritual and physical natures demand a special care and attention.

Boyhood is the age of noble and heroic resolves. Therefore we should encourage our boys by supporting the St. Thomas Aquinas Society in the splendid work that the Society is doing for education, and later in life we shall have the consolation of knowing that many of the pennies that we have given today, in supporting this worthy cause we shall follow the noble example of the founders of this Society—the Acadian priests of our Province, as well as the example of many of our English-speaking priests, who have supported this movement wholeheartedly. Let us also bear in mind that the Society of St. Thomas nurtures among her ardent supporters laymen who occupy important positions in civil life, and who give generously of their means and talents to further education and help to prepare worthwhile candidates for future leaders, who in time will help to spread the gospel among those who know it not, and to sow the seeds of true citizenship among our fellowmen and the peoples of our fair Dominion.

I am, Sir, etc. P.A. ARSENAULT, Teacher.

Tignish Shore, P.E.I.

Capital Closeups

(By George Kitchen, Canadian Press Staff Writer, Ottawa.)

Steps are being taken to dispel the hot air that generates in the House of Commons.

Now, before the 244 members of that august Chamber come a-roaring with hatchets bared, it should be explained that "hot air" in the temperate sense of the term, not in the colloquial way in which it sometimes is applied to parliamentary bodies.

In other words, the custodians of the parliamentary buildings intend to take steps to lower the high temperatures generated in the Commons chamber, not by rising tempers, but by the slimmering, blood heat that befalls Ottawa each summer.

The drive for lower temperatures has been launched with the award-

the worst enemies with which the farmer has to contend. Although powerful enough to carry off poultry and ducks, the Snowy Owl seldom exhibit the necessary inclination or agility to go after that type of food. A light of minor proportions, (compared with the heavy influx last year) has again reached southern Canada, and farmers and sportsmen would do themselves a favor by allowing the Snowy Owl to spend the winter with us unmolested, for they constitute one of the best checks we have on the undue increase of the hated "field mouse."—Royal Ontario Museum.

The Poets Corner

EVENING

From upland slopes I see the cows file by: Lowing, great-chested, down the homeward trail. By dusky fields and meadow shivering pale With moon-tipped dandelion: A peevish night-hawk in the western sky.

Beats up into the lucent solitudes, Or drops with griding wing. The silly woods Grow dark and deep and gloom mysteriously. Cool night winds creep, and whisper in mine ear. The homely cricket gossips at my feet.

From far off pools and wastes of reeds I hear, Clear and soft-piped, the chanting frogs break sweet. In full Pandean chorus. One by one Shine out the stars, and the great night comes on.

—Archibald Lampman.

Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.)

CONSCRIPTION ACT

The following advertisement appeared in the P. E. Island Register of September, 1823: "Sitting Magistrates—J. F. Holland and Benjamin De St. Croix, Esquires.

"An Act for Establishing and Regulating Militia. Extract Clause 11: "And the clerk of each company once a quarter yearly, shall take an exact list of all persons living within the precincts of such company, and present the same to the captain or chief officer, on pain of forfeiting twenty shillings for each default, to be paid to the captain or chief officer for the use of the company, and in case of non-payment the same to be levied by virtue of a warrant from any Justice of the Peace in this Island who is hereby empowered to grant the same.

"(Sgd.) J. F. Holland, "Co. and Adjt. Gen. of Militia."

ing of a \$17,000 contract to a Montreal firm. The plan to improve and expand the present air-conditioning plant in the basement of the parliament buildings in an effort to bring the temperature in the chamber down to a cooling 68 or 70 degrees.

High temperatures in the Chamber long have been a source of complaint among the members and during the last session House officials sought to improve the situation by opening the curtains shutting the Chamber off from the government and lobbies and by keeping open all doors leading into the House.

Another bit of parliamentary improvement also is in the cards. Tenders have been awarded for an improved lighting system for the public galleries which overlook the

Chamber from the north and south ends of the House. Illumination of the Chamber itself was improved for the last session but the galleries still were dimly lighted. The new system, while brightening the galleries, also is expected to reflect more illumination down into the Commons Proper.

DUE FOR OVERHAUL

The "Speaking Clock" which has been in use in London, England,

for 10 years, and now supplies the time by telephone to 500,000 calls a week in London area alone, is due for an overhaul.

FAMILY BULWARK

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Special Representatives at Charlottetown

QUICKIES

By Ken Reynolds

"I'd like to place a Guardian Want Ad—it's a cigarette lighter I'd like to sell!"

WELLNER'S SHOWS THE WAY TO Lower Prices. Smart and thrifty shoppers are seeking values when they choose jewelry today. Our large collection of superb jewelry merchandise is priced right... for quality... for value... for greater savings for you. See... compare... save.

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J. A. MCGUIGAN, B.A. NOTARY, ETC. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR. CURRIE BUILDING.

MORRELL and COMPANY. Chartered Accountants. Eastern Trust Building. Phone 1447 - Box 344. Charlottetown. R. M. SEARS, C.A. Resident Partner.

PUBLIC STENOGRAPHER. Mimeographing cards and circulars. concert programs, correspondence, typing and bookkeeping. HELEN GIDDEN. Telephone 1894-J. Apt. No. 4, Connaught Apts. Pownall Street.

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