

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, NOV. 14, 1949

The McGregor Report

The curious aspect of the debate precipitated by the combines report on the flour milling industry, says the Ottawa Citizen, is that the evidence should be so elusive on one of the main points at issue. The point is whether the flour milling industry obtained a special dispensation from the government to operate in defiance of the Combines Investigation Act.

The regulations of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board were concerned with "maximum" prices, not with fixed prices though it was common knowledge that the maximum figure allowed by the board tended to become the price at which commodities were sold. The board's regulations, in Section 7 (1), contained a provision that specifically warned business that the regulations should not be construed as preventing the sale of goods at prices below the ceiling.

What is needed, says the Citizen, is more information about the assurances, either written or verbal, that were given with respect to price-fixing during the war. They should be easy to document. Once they are documented, then it will be clear to the public how long the assurances are going to last and when the Combines Investigation Act is going to be re-instated as an operative feature of Canadian law.

Socialism Comes High

A few results of nationalization schemes in Britain are thus cited by the Financial Post: The nationalized coal industry both in 1947 and 1948 failed to reach the modest targets set for it. After two years in which the workers worked in "their own" pits, output per man was 30 tons less than in 1939 despite important advances in mechanization.

In the first year of nationalization, cable and wireless profits were £1.7 million. But in the immediately preceding period under private operation, profits had been £3.5 millions. Since electricity was nationalized in 1948 the price has risen in many areas 15-20% and for some there is an additional substantial surcharge.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Prince Charles' first birthday.

Thomas Parr, ("Old Parr") reputed weather and events prophet in England, died this date 1635 at the age of 152. No one has surpassed this record so far.

Mr. Kichham, M. P., had the distinction of being the last speaker on the Budget debate. When he finished the debate collapsed, and the Opposition amendment was rejected without even a division.

Radar defence operations will be the order of the day here practically as soon as the Budget emerges from committee, and formally passes its second and third readings in the House.

This is Young Canada's Book Week and every youngster is being encouraged to explore the wonderland of literature.

Today it does not seem to matter what shade of policy a government advocates it is returned to power anyway. In hard times, on the contrary, no political theory can guarantee a return to power.

The refrigerator car situation generally has eased since the post war scarcity, Transport Minister Chevrier's promise of an adequate supply should not prove at all impossible. Now it is a question of organization.

The kind of problems experienced on the waterfront recently are rather pleasant than otherwise. It would be better to have adequate facilities but at the same time there is satisfaction in having shipping activity strain existing ones.

The Government's White Paper on defence is coming in for a great deal of criticism as is perhaps inevitable. It is, of course, a long range plan and would have been more readily accepted had past performance not left so much to be desired.

Prince Edward Island had the privilege, if not the pleasure, of contributing one million and forty-two thousand and one hundred dollars (\$1,042,100) in Income Tax for the fiscal year ending March 31st last, equivalent to approximately \$1,042 per head of the population.

A case to test the validity of Federal rent controls, scheduled to be heard last Monday, has been postponed indefinitely. The Ontario Supreme Court was scheduled to deal with a writ filed by the Canadian Federation of Property Owners' Associations, demanding that the Government show its authority for rent controls, which the association claimed to be invalid under the British North America Act.

The grave closes today over one of our best-known citizens. Though he was not a public man in the ordinary, accepted meaning of the phrase, yet Mr. Milton Bell was better known to the average citizen than most of those prominent in municipal and provincial affairs. It was as a horseman he was best known, and his death removes probably one of the foremost supporters of the horse industry and one greatly admired and beloved by all who knew him intimately.

Egg prices on November 4 this year and previous years. The prices quoted below are for Grade A Large. At Montreal and Toronto the prices are those at which graded shipments are selling to wholesalers. At other points quotations are prices to shippers for ungraded eggs.

Table with 4 columns: City, 1949, 1948, 1947. Rows: Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina, Charlottetown.

France is to supply pit props to England. Following the recent negotiations in London between a French mission and the British Government, additional permits amounting to 700,000 English pounds were granted for importing wood from the devastated region of Landes. The wood will be delivered in the form of joists for railway cars and railway sleepers. Further discussions will take place if agreement is not reached on the matter of price.

The Federal Government has still a tender spot in its heart for deserters and zombies—the "living dead". Provisions similar to the amnesty granted Canadian deserters after World War I are incorporated in the new National Defence Bill now before the Senate.

MacArthur's daily routine never varies. He arrives in the late morning at his office in the Dai Ichi Building, near the Imperial Hotel and across from the great park surrounding the Emperor's palace. He goes home to the American Embassy for lunch, usually a late lunch. He returns to the Dai Ichi about 3 p.m. He may work very late; he may go home to dinner fairly early, and then return to work some more.

The MacArthur's may dine out with friends, but the General never goes to a Japanese house nor dines with Japanese. This he may change since he has issued fraternization orders.

The Poet's Corner

POET'S CALENDAR

He sat in winter watching the drifted snow
And wrote a ode to spring.
He looked at the ironclad earth
And the naked bough.

—Peter J. Henniker Heaton in the Christian Science Monitor.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

FERRY SLIPS PROVIDED

From the Journals of the House of Assembly, Feb. 10, 1852:

"Hon. Mr. Coles laid before the House the draft of a contract, agreeably to a tender received by the Executive Government, from John Haszard, to place a Steamboat, and other boats, as required by law, on the Charlottetown Ferry, for public conveyance, together with a letter addressed to the Attorney General, on behalf of the said John Haszard, expressing his unwillingness to be bound to perform such contract, until the Government should guarantee an appropriation for the construction of alleged necessary Docks and Slips on each side of the Ferry."

"Resolved, that it be recommended to the House when in Committee of Supply, that a sum not exceeding two hundred pounds be placed at the disposal of the Government, sufficient to lay down protecting Blocks and accommodation Slips at both sides of the Charlottetown Ferry."

Japan's Real Rulers

(Doris Fleeson, in the New York Post)

Short of a personal invitation amounting to a command from President Truman, Gen. Douglas MacArthur will not in the opinion of his associates, return to the U. S. The inference they leave is that such invitation has not been received.

MacArthur regards Japan as his destiny. With close friends he often talks about how remarkable it is that in the afternoon of his life he has been privileged to make his present contribution to peace and democracy. His leadership has been so vigorous probably few people realize he was Chief of Staff for the two Presidents when boys he led into battle in World War II were little children.

His public position is unique—a grant of power and a kind of privacy that Americans do not ordinarily permit anybody, including the President.

President Truman has to struggle with a Congress most of whose members think they are as smart as he is, or smarter, with a searching press corps and a free press substantially sympathetic to the opposition party, and with a divided and individualistic Democratic Party.

MacArthur acts in obedience to sweeping policy directives which give him great operating powers. He virtually controls access to his presence. The foreign correspondents here must compete for space with other world and domestic news and pay high cable tolls so they necessarily tend to stick to major policy.

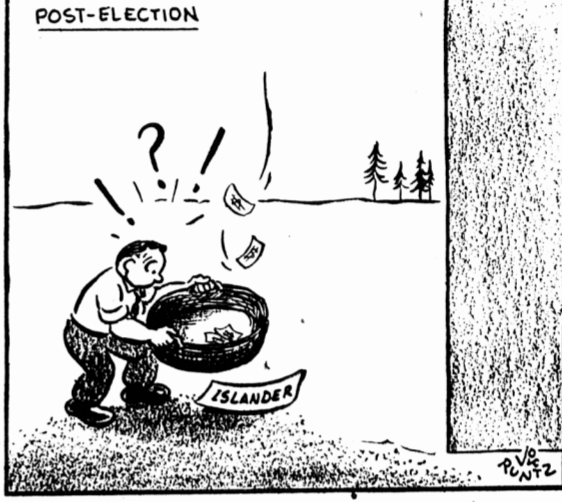
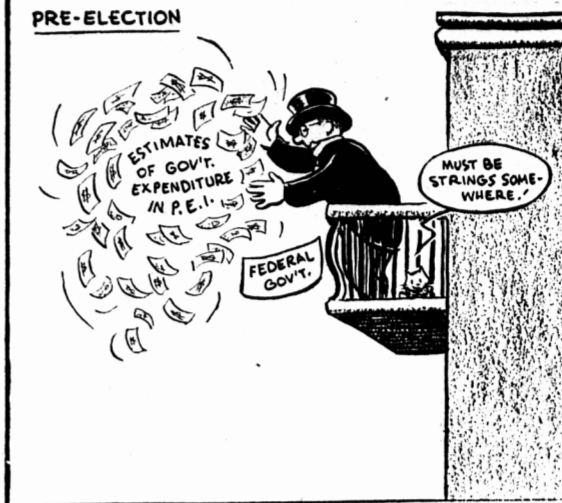
MacArthur not only doesn't go home—he has not been in America for 14 years—he rarely goes anywhere. Since he came here immediately after V-J Day, he has left Tokyo three times—going to Korea and to the Philippines for brief ceremonial visits and once to Yokohama, 14 miles away.

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EARLY ADORNMENTS

Beads were among the earliest ornaments used by the Egyptians and the Phoenicians.

Proposed Windfall Proves To Be Mere Drop In Bucket



Notes By The Way

The days of surface warships appear to be nearing an end. The latest light and heavy bombers can dominate every ocean. Even fighter planes can be given wide range. Anti-aircraft guns can give a measure of protection to carriers and battleships, but such warships are very vulnerable to attacks by torpedoes from submarines and bombs from long-range planes.

Whether Canadians are too prosperous to care, or merely absent-minded where money is concerned, it will be hard to determine. 137,000 citizens of this country own \$87,000,000 worth of stock in companies which have lost track of their vanished shareholders. That is the estimate of an agency which specializes in tracing "lost" holders of corporation shares.

No river is quite like the Miramichi. It has a way of stirring a man's imagination, arousing his sentiment, capturing his heart. Few streams have so much folklore attached to them. The Miramichi has its Unknown Lumberjack. Years and years before there was an Unknown Soldier, the body of a man who had perished in the woods, and who was never identified, was buried near the headwaters of the Southwest Miramichi. Ever since, the first canoe party to pass the grave in the Spring has paused to straighten the crude wooden cross and say a silent prayer.

If a general agreement between the dominion and all ten provinces can be reached on taxation, and particularly if such an understanding were made a part of the federal constitution, the British North America Act, the way would indeed be cleared, not only for a national system of contributory old age pensions but for other important social welfare plans. These include a national health insurance scheme and a national-provincial public works program for periods of economic recession, sometimes called a "public investment program."

Ford Motor Co. has announced a new type "house on wheels" soon will be available. It's called a tour wagon. The tour wagon body is mounted on a Ford chassis made for parcel delivery trucks. Designed to provide a three-room apartment inside, the vehicle requires no more room to park than a large passenger car, according to the company. Interior height from floor to ceiling is 71 inches; width, 6 feet 2 inches, and length, 15 feet. Bumper-to-bumper length is 19-1/2 feet. It will sell for about \$3,500.

The Age-Old Story

He that is our God is the God of salvation; and unto God the Lord belong the issues from death.

Now is the time to order that Made-to-Measure Tuxedo or Full Dress for the Christmas Festivities.

TUXEDOS \$69.00 and up
FULL DRESS \$75.00 and up

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Centenary Of Memorable Voyage Of The "Fanny"

Following is a continuation of the article appearing in Saturday's Guardian on the voyage of the brig "Fanny" one hundred years ago carrying a large number of Prince Edward Island "Forty-Niners" to share in the California gold rush. The following first-hand account is from a journal of the voyage kept by John Orr, of French River:

"We sailed on the 12th day of November, a small steamer called the "Rose" towing us out to Governor's Island, where we anchored for the night. The next morning we set sail for Canso, arriving in the evening where we landed the pilot, he carrying the news back how we were progressing. We started from Canso and shaped our course for Cape St. Rogue, which proved a bad mistake . . .

"When we got down on the coast of Brazil we found ourselves six hundred miles to the westward and leeward, taking us nearly six weeks to beat our way around the Cape, and causing us to be very short of water; and although we kept ourselves on short allowance and the water under lock and key, when we arrived at Bahia on the 1st day of February, 1850, we had only enough for one day.

"We made only a short stay at Bahia, owing to the British Consul warning us of the danger of yellow fever. We got our supplies on board as quickly as possible, and sailed away, followed by a gale of fair wind, which proved a great blessing, for the first night our first mate (William Smith) took sick of yellow fever; his cries and groans were awful to hear, and greatly alarmed us. Our hope now was that the words of the Consul might prove true, that the fever would soon die away, and our quick run into a colder climate proved them to be so. Our gallant captain deserved the thanks of all for his kind attention to the mate, whose recovery dismissed our fears.

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Mr. McCallum's Account

A very interesting account of the voyage of the "Fanny" was written, forty years after the event by Mr. Stephen McCallum, one of the survivors. It is more detailed than Mr. Orr's account, and contains the following description of the arrival and subsequent experiences of the men in California:

"As we neared San Francisco our blacksmith got to work making knives and picks for those of the company that wanted them, some of us supplying him with wooden models of those to suit our notions of what forms would be best adapted to the work we intended them to do. Others were making bags of different sizes out of canvas, to hold the gold. Robert Boyle seemed to have more faith in the diggings, for he made three—two small ones, for the day's work, and one, a strong two-bushel bag, to take the gold home to the Island.

"On the last day at sea we went a new jib; and, such was the force of the wind that night off California, it was torn to ribbons by next morning. The fog was close around us, when the Captain, standing on the quarter-deck, shouted out to keep a bright lookout for certain islands, for we ought to be off San Francisco harbor. No sooner said when we noticed the islands ahead. And now what a wonderful sight was to be seen in the Bay—one mighty forest of spars—for there were said to be seven hundred vessels lying at anchor there, stripped of their sails; while most of their crews were in the mines.

Poole Family Located

"We sailed in as near as we could without running foul of other vessels. Before coming to anchor there was a rush for the boat, and Thomas Poole and several others, having got possession of it, went on shore, and set out to look up his folk. We soon found them, living in a house of their own near Kierney street. They were greatly delighted at seeing us.

(Continued on Page 12)

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