

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1948

The Voters' Privilege

Today's Forum correspondence deals with civic affairs, and it is fitting that this subject should now engross public attention. Nominations for the civic election take place on February 4, with the election scheduled for Wednesday, February 11.

Work on the streets has been gradually lessened, the sidewalks have been neglected, no attempt has been made to increase the attractiveness of the city by planting trees.

The laborers who were formerly employed will not be able to get a day's work. The Park roadway will be finished about the end of the century—or the next; all for the sake of a little-souled economy.

Secondary Education

Early in 1946 the Executive of the Canadian Education Association invited a few leaders in various national organizations to meet and consider the advisability of initiating a nation-wide survey in the field of practical secondary education.

These educational trends are to be commended so long as they are distinctly labelled "secondary education" and not confused with the primary purpose of our schools and colleges, which is to lay a foundation for the highest development of both mind and spirit.

Mr. Bracken's Criticism

Sound criticism of the constructive kind has been made by Hon. John Bracken, leader of the Progressive Conservative Opposition in the House of Commons, on the present day condition, which he characterizes as a "national emergency."

"The tax reductions we have had have been completely cancelled out by the government's policy of withdrawing subsidies. But no reductions whatever have been made in indirect taxes."

It will be recalled that Minister of Agriculture Gardiner had the idea not so long ago that farm surpluses were just around the corner and he planned not to cure shortage but to avoid abundance.

four years meat-total dressed and inspected was cut nearly in two. Cheese production in five years was reduced to one-half. "In four years oats were cut from 15,400,000 to 11,000,000 acres. Barley acreage tells a similar story.

EDITORIAL NOTES

- Feast of St. Timothy. Tomorrow conversion of St. Paul. Tomorrow 3rd Sunday after Epiphany. Tomorrow, Robert Burns' anniversary. The Larkin Fund still needs subscribers.

Reafforestation is treated as a vital need in every province except our own. Our forests have been destroyed and neglected so long that interest in renewing them is practically non-existent.

"Farm products cost a lot more than they used to." "Yes," replied the farmer. "When a man is supposed to know the botanical name of what he's raisin' an' the zoological name of the insect that eats it an' the chemical name of what will kill it, somebody's got to pay."

Charles James Fox, British Whig statesman, born this date 1749; opposed Lord Worth's American policy, and sided with the Colonists, but later formed a government with his opponent Lord Worth known as the Coalition which was unpopular, and ended in 1783.

We are on the last lap of January—the zero month, and it has been marvellous. We do not get credit in the mainland newspapers for our glorious climate, being classed with Nova Scotia as experiencing disastrously stormy weather.

Eight years ago, on January 24, 1940, Canadian troops serving overseas paraded for their first Royal inspection in World War II when His Majesty the King inspected men of the 1st Canadian Infantry Division at Aldershot, Hants.

In Washington it is claimed, not altogether facetiously, that the Russians are responsible for easing the passage through Congress of the European Recovery Program.

The question of as to who owns the clouds has become of practical importance. Two American states, Nevada and Utah, are engaged in just such a dispute. It is all on account of rainmaking with dry ice.

One has to be careful not to exclude the public, even inadvertently from courts of law. The room in which a police court case was held resulted in the Alberta Appeal Court quashing the conviction of Lyle Greenwood and ordering a new trial on a charge of armed robbery.

A recent survey of causes of fuel oil waste brings to light a number of simple ways of reducing heating costs. For instance 36 per cent of the homes were found to have the thermostat set higher than the optimum 70 degrees; 87 per cent of the heating plants were operating inefficiently, usually requiring only minor adjustments.

In the fiscal year that ended October 31 last New Brunswick had a surplus of \$6,347,819. This, says The Telegraph Journal, was by far the largest in history, exceeding by more than \$4,000,000 the previous greatest surplus of \$2,287,155 in 1946.

Notes By The Way

The behavior of prices these days somehow reminds us of a punch-drunk fighter. One clang of the bell, and he comes out swinging.

Janus, the two-faced Roman god for whom January was named, always struck us as the ideal pedestrian. Facing both ways, he could look after himself in the heaviest chariot traffic.

A man who appeared in Kitchener Police Court the other day was doubtless very much surprised when he was fined \$15, and costs.

A former Alberta teacher with more than 25 years service in this province, now lives in retirement in Victoria. Each month he receives a pension cheque of \$40. His next-door neighbor is also retired on pension. He worked as a laborer for the city of Victoria.

During the next five years nearly a million and a half acres in British Columbia are to be devoted to reforestation plans. The amount announced in the annual report of the Forestry Commissioners, the ultimate object is to replant during the next 50 years five million acres of forest.

Anything which brings stimulating or pleasurable relaxation to recreation. One man's work may be another's play—it's a matter of taste and aptitudes. Recreation may be closely related, and make a particular contribution to, our daily labor, as long as it is pursued as personal interest and not merely as a continuation of work.

Apart from fears of colliding with one, people nowadays have little awe of comets. In former times, however, before their true nature was understood, they were regarded with peculiar terror.

Many important decisions face the Executive Council of the City of Charlottetown and we urge all voters to consider carefully the merits of the candidates before casting their vote.

Canada has been the best customer of the United States, a. i. d., in spite of import restrictions, is likely to remain so on a reduced scale. Nevertheless, every dollar by which we curtail imports from our neighbor country means a financial loss to some producer in the United States.

This, we think, is carrying immigration and the adverse balance of trade a bit too far. Edmonton's 19th Armored Car Regiment has adopted "Lili Marlene." And Lili, the tune that crossed the battle-lines from Rommel's Afrika Korps, has replaced "A Hundred Pipers" as the regimental song to be played on all ceremonial occasions.

Twenty years ago a Belgian couple came to Canada as immigrants. At that time they have provided the material for another "success" story in their years of the tobacco fields of the Delhi area. The couple, Mr. and Mrs. Emile Deborghave, left London by air to spend New Year's with her mother in Brussels.

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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.

GET OUT AND VOTE

Sir,—The Charlottetown Board of Trade, having decided to sponsor a "Get Out The Vote" campaign in the forthcoming civic election, I am taking the liberty on their behalf to ask for the support of the Charlottetown voters.

The privilege of casting a secret ballot is one of the highest expressions of true democracy, and a right that has been denied citizens in many European countries not only in the past, but actually right now.

4. City Expansion: There are in Charlottetown so few desirable vacant building lots, for which high prices are being asked, that many residents have been compelled to build homes for themselves outside the city limits in East and West Royalites. Practically all the members of these families come to the city daily to earn their livings but pay no share of the city taxes.

5. Bootlegging: Charlottetown has earned the undesirable reputation of consuming more alcohol as a beverage than any other city of its size in Canada on a per capita basis. So numerous are the bootleggers and so independent in their methods that, were it not for the high class of our City Council, one would consider it but reasonable that the bootleggers run the city.

6. Inefficient Police Service: House breaking in all parts of the city, shop entering with theft and burglary generally are so prevalent that no one is surprised to read particulars in the daily press and no doubt conditions would be even worse were it not for the existence of the Straits between the Island and the mainland.

7. Public Comfort Rooms: The remodeling or replacing of the present unsatisfactory quarters has been considered several times and it is to be hoped that the incoming Council will do justice to our tourists by offering conditions of which the city will have no reason to be ashamed.

8. Slum Houses: It is now several years since the health officer informed the City Council that there are many houses in the southeast end of the city not fit to be occupied by human beings.

9. City Assessments: It is a notorious fact that when offering vacant building lots and completed properties for sale, the property owners of this city invariably demand figures from two to four times greater than the valuation thereof by the City Council.

10. Automobile, Cars and Trucks: It is particularly noticeable how great has been the increase in huge and powerful trucks. All over the city these dangerous vehicles travel at illegal speeds.

11. New Industries: There are at least three major industries employing large numbers of people of both sexes, young and old, that can be introduced in Charlottetown and elsewhere in Prince Edward Island.

12. Fire Traps: It is well known that in this city there are many hotels, apartment houses, business buildings and private residences in which the fire exits are blocked by the ashtray sidewalks.

13. City Building: Because the Provincial government required more office space for its employees the Bank of Canada was recently chased out of the Province.

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Our present Mayor opposed this move strongly and finally the Provincial Government took over the project. Many families in the city are at present living most uncomfortably in one or two rooms and although some building has, been done the shortage of homes today is practically as great as ever.

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The Poets Corner

ON ROBERT BURNS

(From An Incident in a Railroad Car)

He spoke of Burns: men rude and rough Press'd round to hear the praise of one Whose heart was made of manly, simple stuff.

And when he read, they forward leaned, Drinking, with thirsty hearts and ears, His brook-like songs whom glory never weaned From humble smiles and tears.

Slowly there grew a tender awe, Sun-like, o'er faces brown and hard. As if in him who read they felt and saw Some presence of the bard.

and improvement of city methods. It is to be hoped that some really strong man, either business or professional, capable of giving the Councilors a constant lead, will offer himself as Mayor in the forthcoming election.

THE BRITISH MARKET

Sir,—Almost at the same minute that the Guardian was reprinting its "Editorial Notes" that "It was good news to learn that the Mother Country in seeking to expand her world-trade was not unmindful of the part played by Canadian farmers in supplying the sinews of war during her, and their, time of need, and had renewed her intent for farm produce at an enhanced price".

"A Government statement issued today said that Canada had intimated that she wished to continue sending all possible foodstuffs and raw materials to help in Britain's reconstruction. It added that there had been in the Ottawa discussions a common objective—maintenance and extension in the future of a steady and stable market in Britain for Canadian farm produce."

As I see it, i.e., from the farm angle, within the four corners of the above twin statements is the base for a constructive and enduring agricultural policy for this productive land.

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A Ferrey For Canso

(New Glasgow Evening News) Not at all impressive is that Ottawa proposition to give Nova Scotia a nice new ferry across the Strait of Canso.

From an engineering point of view the Strait can be handled with either a bridge, tunnel or causeway; after exhaustive and time-consuming tests, Ottawa has been told that and presented a hefty bill for the service rendered.

Now the answer, after this expenditure of time and money, it is to be a new ferry? Will that speed quite a little higher than would otherwise be the case?

This nation got by in two great wars with a ferry—to the amazement of all who considered the latter was defended by 800 rifles against submarine action for many months.

But will we get by in any future war in the same way? We are asking to have the entire coal and steel resources of Cape Breton cut off if we stick by the present Ottawa decision to jettison the causeway—because a five million dollar investment in a new ferry means the question will not be considered for another couple of decades, barring war and then we will not be able to spare the men and the materials.

Cape Breton is raging over the prospect; so should the rest of the province.

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

BRICK & POTTERY WORKS

The Charlottetown Brick and Pottery Works were opened Thursday last. They are conveniently situated on the Mount Edward Road, 100 yards from the Railway crossing and about a quarter mile from the city. They consist of three buildings, the first and largest of which contains the engines for running the brick machine and the pottery mill; the second is used as a pottery and the third as a dwelling for the foreman and his workmen.

On our arrival at the works on Thursday we found a number of citizens had assembled to witness the opening. All were busily engaged examining the contents of the buildings from the simple potter's wheel to the gigantic mill which runs the pottery.

Our first visit was to the pottery which is a building 50 feet long and 20 feet wide. Here we found the superintendent, Mr. Oswald Hornsby (late of the Wellington Pottery, Dartmouth, N.S.) busily engaged in preparing clay for the manufacture of dishes.

In a short time the manager will be able to fill orders in the following lines of pottery at cheaper rates than they can be imported: milk pans, bread pans, bake pans, sewing pans, seed pans, fern pans, cream pots, butter pans, bean pots, flower pots, bulb pots, crocus pots, hanging pots, musk pots, etc.

garden bordering, bopping, vases, chimney pots, stovepipe stones, churns, spittoons, antique vases, etc. Jugs, gipsy pots and any design of plain or ornamental pottery made to order.

We turned next to the brick machine which is in active operation, manufacturing at the rate of 13,000 brick per day. The mill is in charge of Mr. Benjamin Godfrey, a man of wide experience in the business in this and other Provinces.

Under him in the brickyard are eight men and six boys, all of whom are kept busy while the machine is in operation. The brick, pronounced by critical judges to be excellent, will be sold very cheap and will, no doubt, command a ready sale.

We were next conducted to the bone mill, which has not been running for the past few weeks, the season being now over. Over twenty-five tons of this superior manure was manufactured this year. The manager anticipates a large quantity will be sold next fall and spring, as farmers who have already used it will be convinced that it is invaluable as a fertilizer.

The lot on which the works is situated is eight acres in size. A short distance from the surface is a layer of superior brick clay, from four to six feet deep. Under this is a layer of sand and sandstone, beneath which is a layer of fine red clay, which is used for pottery purposes.

The thickness of the latter layer has not yet been discovered, but in digging a well a short distance from the lot the same clay was found to be thirty feet thick. This being the case, there is every facility to carry on the brick and pottery industry at Mount Edward on a most extensive scale.

Weekly Examiner, June 11, 1880.

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