

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, FEB. 2, 1950

Civic Nominations

With the exception of Ward 2, where
Councillor O'Donnell has been re-elected by
acclamation, there will be contests in every
Ward as well as for the Mayoralty and
Water Commission in the forthcoming civic
election. This is to be welcomed as an
indication of public interest, and it is to be
hoped that the voting will be large and
representative on February 8th.

As a whole, the members of the Council
who are seeking re-election claim to have
discharged their duties satisfactorily, as
against which there is the stand taken by
Councillor Johnstone as to the manner in
which certain matters have been transacted,
under Mayor MacDonald, and with regard
to which he has expressed his strong
disapproval. Both sides of the issue have been
discussed in our Forum columns, and a
further letter from Councillor Johnstone
appears in today's issue.

His Worship's decision to enter the field
for a third successive term was not
definitely known until a few minutes before
the nominations closed yesterday. He is
running against two newcomers in the
Mayoralty contest, both, however, with
experience in City Council affairs. From their
record and the reports of the proceedings
of Council appearing from time to time, the
electors will be able to form their own
opinion.

Of the contestants for other offices, all
are well known citizens and may be
presumed to be desirous of seeing civic affairs
managed as efficiently as possible. There
are no political issues involved, and the best
we can wish for all the candidates is a fair
field and no favours.

East Coast Fisheries Conference

The fourth annual East Coast Fisheries
Conference now being held at Fredericton,
in spite of attendance by politicians and
government officials, is strictly a private
industry gathering. Leaders of the fishing
industry from Quebec, New Brunswick,
Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and the
Island are engaging in panel discussions on
technical and research activities by
governments, industrial development and
finance, fish inspection services and
export marketing. It would be folly to think
that all is now well with Maritime fisheries
but it is only necessary to consider the
incomparable fishing grounds which are
available in our waters, the great potential
markets of this country and the United States
which now consume only a fraction of what
can reasonably be expected, and the great
advances made elsewhere in producing
seafood delicacies, to realize that the
opportunities are great, indeed, if we can but
take advantage of them.

Mr. Gardiner & Farm Prices

Agriculture Minister Gardiner's advice
to Canadian farmers to build up strong
co-operatives and distributing agencies in
the marketing of produce throughout the
Provinces is excellent so far as it goes. In
Prince Edward Island it is already being
followed in an aggressive manner. Coupled
with an all-out advertising campaign, which
the dairy farmers recommended at their
recent annual meeting in Ottawa, this should
have beneficial effect in boosting domestic
sales.

The question remains, however, what
about our export markets? Has the
Dominion Government no responsibility in this
connection, in view of the loss of substantial
markets in the United Kingdom and other
non-dollar areas? Floor prices are a poor
substitute for freedom from the rigid
control of farm prices which was established
during the war and continued as a
Government policy in its subsequent contracts
with the United Kingdom, but the fact
remains that this substitute is the only one
which the Government has been able to
suggest.

According to a Western exchange, the
Anglo-Canadian wheat agreement, signed in
July 1946, is a typical example of what
happened. This agreement cost wheat
producers \$329 millions in the first two years
and a further \$28 millions in the third year.
It compelled the Government to close the
wheat market and thus enabled the domestic
price of wheat to be fixed by Ottawa far
below world levels, which would have been
the market levels in Canada. With other
farm products, annual contracts at prices
much lower than available prices were
entered into and all other export markets
were closed by embargoes. As the years
passed, this control system was broken down
in particular items and under local pressure.
The cattlemen early in 1948 insisted upon
the opening of the United States market,

which was done in August of that year, the
embargo on beef and cattle being repealed
with results which are well known. In the
main, however, agriculture has been under
indirect but effective price control
throughout the post-war years, this being the
official policy at Ottawa when almost
everybody else in the country except the
farmers was obtaining the full market price
for his goods or services.

Mr. Gardiner, as the leading exponent of
this policy, cannot now wash his hands of
the matter by stating that the Government
made no promise to our farmers of fair
prices through the transition period from
war to peace. It is a late hour in the day
for him to have discovered, as he is quoted
as having told the Canadian Federation of
Agriculture at Niagara Falls this week,
that "trade in farm products is a provincial
right under the constitution and can be
delegated to the Federal Government only
by the Provinces."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Candlemas.
Purification of the B. V. Mary.

Groundhog day, but six weeks "more"
of winter would still not total a great deal
more than six weeks.

The civic electorate is now keenly
interested in the coming contest for seats
on the Council board. This is as it should
be.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics figures
are being quoted to show that the decline
in farm income is actually very slight in
spite of falling prices.

According to a recent announcement by
the Canadian Minister of National Defence
French, Belgian and Dutch officers are to
take training courses in Canada, probably
in the province of Quebec.

Selection of a Canadian as Governor-
General is again a live issue, at least in
Ottawa. It would be easier to keep the
office out of domestic politics by making the
selection from any member of the Common-
wealth, not necessarily restricting the choice
to a native of the United Kingdom.

Probably the most embarrassing situation
a seaman can find himself in is sitting
high and dry on a mud bank, absolutely
helpless and a figure of fun. When his
ship also happens to be a great battleship
like the U. S. S. Missouri, condolences are
indeed in order.

Hannah More, English novelist and
ethical writer, born this date 1833,
popularly known as the author of "Caelebs
In Search of A Wife". In addition to writing
on social and religious topics, she
founded charity schools on church lines in
the belief that education without religion is a
menace rather than a blessing.

Great music and acting combine to make
the Tchaikovsky picture at the Prince
Edward Theatre, one to be recommended
wholeheartedly to lovers of both the arts.
The picture is here for only two days, and
the final showings will be this afternoon
and evening. It shouldn't be missed.

In St. Ferdinand, Que., Mrs. Onesime
Bisson has given birth to her third set of
twins in four years, a boy and a girl. The
first twins, also a boy and a girl, were born
in January, 1946. The second pair, two
girls, were delivered in May, 1948. The
Bissons have eight other children.

In Ontario a determined effort is being
made to make the practice of "psychology"
something of a closed shop, controlled by
the Ontario Psychological Association. If
the practitioners really wish to be
recognized as belonging to a learned profession
they might start by considering the
difference between a psychologist and a
psychiatrist.

The United States Atomic Energy
Commission in its report to Congress
emphasized the "importance of the most
efficient possible utilization of the resources
available for the nation's atomic energy
programme." It is unfortunate that it did
not more specifically call for the pooling of
technical knowledge and raw materials with
this country and the United Kingdom.

The idea of "Sunday Obligation" has
disappeared from the minds of many (says
St. Peter's Cathedral Monthly), even of
those who call themselves Churchmen.
Gone is the old conviction that the
churchman must be in his place at 11 o'clock,
however dull the preacher and raucous the
choir. We regret the loss of this tradition,
but we must emphasize that the Christian
Family meets, not principally to hear or see,
but to do this.

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.

THE CITY DUMP

Sir, — In the January 28th. issue
of the Guardian, Councillor
Johnstone, commenting on the
condition of the dump in the
spring of 1948, made the
following statement: "I found a condition
prevailing at the City Dump which,
in my opinion, was far from
satisfactory. A large quantity of
rotten eggs and dead chickens which
had been dumped there by a
local hatchery remained uncovered;
pools of stagnant water, filled with
all sorts of refuse, stood undrain-
ed; and near the street I was
shown the body of a large dog
which, according to reliable citizens
had been lying there for
weeks." Yet Mayor MacDonald has
the nerve to try to tell the people
of this Town that such was not the
case. He quotes from the minutes
of the Council meeting of April
12, 1948, to prove that the matter
had been investigated and that
they found no reason for
complaint. He also says the Health
Officer said there was no danger
of it giving rise to a contagious
disease. Apparently, in the opinion
of Mayor MacDonald and his
Council, there was no reason for
complaint so long as no one died
from the smoke and stench. His
Worship gives a long harangue
what it would cost to lay culvert
at \$15.00 per foot; why doesn't he
stick to facts. The most objection-
able features were overcome with-
out any cost to the City. A few
cart loads of clay are not expen-
sive.

We who live in the neighborhood
wish to state emphatically that
conditions at that time were even
worse than pictured by Councillor
Johnstone, and we resent the
Mayor and Council saying there
was no reason for complaint.

We are, Sir, etc.

(Signed) ERNEST OSBOURNE,
FULTON THOMSON, ERIC MORE-
SIDE, JAMES A. DOWLING, LEO
DOWLING, SR., EARL MCINNIS,
H. PRASER, ERNEST L. OS-
BOURNE, JR., REGINALD WEBB,
FRANK THOMSON, E. M. MAC-
PHERSON, G. A. GODKIN, W. I.
GODKIN.

THE "MARCO POLO"

Sir, — A Montague news report
tells of the loss of one of the
"figureheads" of the wrecked clip-
per ship "Marco Polo" in the
recent disaster. The memento
was the property of Robert Cle-
mens of the P.E.I. Telephone Co.
It is a matter of regret that the
Museum people in Charlottetown
were not able to secure the relic
sooner.

Anent the rescue of the salvage
crew, it has been brought to the
attention of the writer that there
was a slight discrepancy in the
first report. Captain Colin Mc-
Kenzie commanded Capt. Alfred
McLeod's life boat on that haz-
ardous mission of life or death, al-
though Capt. McLeod was one of
the crew of ten men who manned
the boat. The Dominion Govern-
ment of the day, in recognition
of the great performance, present-
ed a beautiful sash of the Cap-
tain's now in possession of the said
Lieutenant Governor of Prince
Edward Island to sell certain Pews
in St. Paul's Church, Char-
lottetown, now held by the Govern-
ment," was read a second time.

The Hon. Mr. Goff, with leave
of the House, presented a copy of
a Resolution having reference to
the subject-matter of the said
Bill, and the same was received
and read, and as follows:

"Resolved: That provided the
Legislature agree to sell to the
Congregation of St. Paul's Church,
Charlottetown, the three Pews
called the House of Assembly,
Legislative Council, and Military
Pews, for the sum of \$100, the
Congregation will hereafter, as
heretofore, keep the Government
Pew, as called, for the use of the
Lieutenant Governor as Adminis-
trator of the Government, and his
family (for the time being) free
of assessments chargeable there-
on, either against the Government
or the Lieutenant Governor. Passed
unanimously, Robert Hutchin-
son, Chairman.

The said Bill, being committed
to the whole House, was reported
on as agreed to without amend-
ment.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH PEWS

Journal of the Legislative Council,
Monday, April 20, 1863:
Pursuant to the order of the
day, the Bill intitled "An Act
to authorize His Excellency the
Lieutenant Governor of Prince
Edward Island to sell certain Pews
in Saint Paul's Church, Char-
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to the whole House, was reported
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The Age-Old Story

And a highway shall be there,
and a way, and it shall be called
The Way of Holiness; the un-
clean shall not pass over it; but
it shall be for those that walk
therein, though fools shall not
err therein.



The Poet's Corner

THE SNOW-STORM

Announced by all the trumpets of
the sky,
Arrives the snow, and, driving o'er
the fields,
Seems nowhere to alight; the
whited air
Hides hills and woods, the river,
and
fills the farmhouse at the
garden's end.
The sled and traveller stopped, the
courier's feet
Delayed, all friends shut out, the
housemates sit
Around the radiant fireplace, en-
joying a
tumultuous privacy of storm.

Come see the north wind's masonry.
Out of an unseen quarry evermore
Furnished with tile, the fierce arti-
ficer
Curves his white bastions with pro-
jected roof
Round every windward stake, or
tree, or door.
Spending the myriad-handed, his
wild work
So fanciful, so savage, nought
careless he
For number or proportion. Mock-
ingly,
On coop or kennel he hangs Parian
wreaths;
A swan-like form invests the hid-
den thorn;
Fills up the farmer's lane from wall
to wall,
Maugre the farmer's sighs; and at
the gate
A tapering turret overtops the
work.

And when his hours are numbered
is all his own, retiring, as he were
to walk;
Leaves, when the sun appears, as-
tonished Art
To mimic in slow structures, stone
by stone,
Built in an age, the mad wind's
night-work
The hectic architecture of the snow.
—Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-82).

I am, Sir, etc.
J. PENDERGAST,
Kensington, P. E. I.

The Two Foes

(From Freedom of the Individual
by T. E. Jessup)
Freedom is what enables a man
to be a man, and what entitles
him to be treated as one, thus
creating both a comprehensive
obligation and a comprehensive
right. It is freedom seen in this
fundamental and general way that
is the deepest principle of democ-
racy, in that sense of democracy
which until recently has been ac-
cepted in the western world.
It was not the stupid idea of
complete equality, and not the
arithmetical idea of counting heads
to see where the majority lies,
that supplied the fire and drive
to the splendid social movement
that has given us our present heri-
tage of political liberty. It was
the recognition of man's pecu-
liarity as a race, and every man's
peculiar dignity.

As so understood, democracy
has not one opposite but two, so
that it has to guard itself on a
double front. It is the opposite of
demagoguery as well as of despot-
ism. It is pitted as much against
patronage and paternalism as
against tyranny, as much against

Advertisement for HUGHES DRUG STORE. Includes text: 'WE ARE PROUD!', 'We have pride in our reputation for dependability and integrity...', 'HUGHES DRUG STORE', '157', 'PREScriptions BY PHONE'.

City Council Procedure

Sir, — I am, indeed, sorry that
my criticism of Mayor MacDonald
has shaken his opinion of the
point where he says, "I do not
think he is sticking to the prin-
ciples as outlined in the history
of Democracy." That must be bad.
This time I shall endeavour to be
more "successful in expediency,"
if I understand what that means.

I shall pass no further opinion
on the condition of the Market
and the City Dump, I prefer to
leave further comment to those
who are in a better position to
speak with authority. Perhaps His
Worship would be wise to do like-
wise.

I regret that I have disappoint-
ed the Mayor by refusing to vote
on subjects about which I had no
knowledge. How does one vote in
such cases? With regard to the
motion concerning the Market
and the City Dump, I recall that
I recall that nothing about it was
discussed with the explanation that
we would be told all about it later
on.

Voting in the City Council is a
rather bewildering experience to
the uninitiated. It usually goes
somewhat like this. The City
Clerk, in stentorian tones, reads
the motion. His Worship then says,
"Now are there any other
motions?" or some such irrelevant
remark. This intimation that we
are now prepared for further busi-
ness means that the motion has
been put and passed unanimously.

Mayor MacDonald says that I
did not vote either for or against
the motion to increase the City
Clerk's salary. He says that I
apparently had forgotten the de-
tails of this incident, so I take
pleasure in publicly reviewing
them. When the request for salary
increase came up for discussion I
stated clearly and emphatically
that I would vote against any in-
crease unless there was also an
increase in taxes. The first motion
was retroactive to January 1, 1948. I
voted with the majority against it.

The next motion was for a \$10.00
increase retroactive for three
months. Councillors O'Donnell,
Doyle and Holland voted "nay"
because they felt it was not good
enough for the employee; I also
voted "nay" because I was oppos-
ed to any increase. The result-
ing tie vote caused Mayor MacDon-
ald to become very angry and threat-
ening to adjourn the meeting, he
emphatically stated he would not
assist in the deciding vote. I pointed
out to him that it was his duty to
do so. He replied that he would
granting of responsible govern-
ment—a report which became the
basis for the constitution of the
new Canadian union? And what
of Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir
Charles Tupper, Sir George Car-
lier, George Brown and Joseph
Howe?

No matter what our modern
thinking may be, we cannot
change the facts of history—nor
can we ignore them.

I am, Sir, etc.
EDWIN C. JOHNSONE
REACHED MOON

Scientists made contact with the
moon for the first time in history
on Jan. 10, 1946, with a beam of
high-frequency radio impulses.

Advertisement for PROFESSIONAL CARDS. Lists various professionals and their services: J. S. TAYLOR (Optometrist), A. Walther Gaudet (Barrister), Frederic A. Large (Barrister), J. A. McGuigan (Notary), M. Alban Farmer (Money to Loan), John P. Nicholson (Barrister), Matheson & Peake (Barristers), Chas. R. McQuaid (Barrister), H. R. DOANE and COMPANY (Chartered Accountants), NEIL W. HIGGINS (Chartered Accountant).