

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1947

Move in Right Direction

The change-over in the Island railway system from steam to Diesel-electric locomotives, if it materializes as unofficially reported, should mean a big improvement in railway efficiency here.

This Province is a unit in itself, with comparatively no steep railway grades, and the experiment of complete Diesel-electricification should work out to the benefit of all concerned.

It is reported that the first operations will be over the Murray Harbour route, and that it will only be a matter of months before the whole division is equipped with Diesel-electric engines.

The British Potato Market

With a five and a half million bushel potato crop this year, it will be good news indeed if our farmers are able to obtain a market for over two million bushels of their surplus tubers in the United Kingdom.

Some years ago, it will be recalled, there was a strong agitation in the Maritimes for removal of the British embargo on Canadian potatoes, which came to nothing.

In the old days, while Britain excluded our potatoes, we also had an embargo on British potatoes. This was not for tariff purposes, or in retaliation.

The situation is quite different today. Britain is not likely to have surplus potatoes to send to us for many years, if ever, and in the meantime, with floor prices guaranteed through our own Dominion Government bureau, the prospect would seem to be most favourable.

Then And Now

Here is something to which Prime Minister Mackenzie King gave utterance in the year 1929:

"May I direct attention to this further fact which bears immediately upon the grants from the Federal treasury to the provinces. I believe that everyone who has given any attention to public finance will agree that it is a thoroughly vicious system to have one body raise taxes and another body expend the money thus secured.

Recalling this statement today, the Halifax Chronicle (Liberal) remarks disgustfully:

"In the light of present Dominion Government negotiations with the provinces, Mr. King since 1929 has obviously performed a prodigious economic somersault, for beyond anything that could have been expected from a man of his political weight and bearing.

"The plain fact remains, however, that the Government's consistency these days can only be observed in its inconsistency. With a cynical disregard of what it once laid down through the agency of the Prime Minister as an irrefragable principle of public finance, and of what is, indeed, plain common sense, it now turns and proposes as the only sound method of financing the country the very theory which Mr. King himself dubbed 'a bad system, a thoroughly vicious system.' All that we need is a subtly casuistic explanation of how to make two blacks into a white."

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Newspaper advertising has brought us quicker and larger response than any other form of advertising," says E. W. Rose, president of a pharmaceutical manufacturing firm.

When the opportunity presents itself, we are ready to "provide the goods," as is evidenced by our readiness to supply Britain with potatoes, and Anticosti with hay in their time of need.

In commending the R. C. M. P. for the good work they are doing over Canada in training boys to take care of others, we unintentionally omitted to include Chief Birtwhistle and our City Police Force, whose efforts in this respect have been highly successful, and favourably commented upon by the City Council and school authorities.

Revelstoke, B. C., males now have to "fork out" to maintain a trim appearance, as a shave and haircut costs them \$1.15. The new prices resulting from the lifting of controls will be 65 cents for haircuts and 50 cents for shaves. Even youngsters will pay more for a haircut—50 cents instead of 35.

Ontario and Quebec may yet come into the picture at Ottawa in connection with Federal-Provincial tax realignments. If the other seven provinces sign on the dotted line, for the two to withhold their signatures would be tantamount to a desire to return to pre-Confederation conditions, when the Central Provinces thought themselves everything, and the rest of Canada only to be a means to an end in supplying their necessities.

H. R. H. Edward Augustus, Duke of Kent and Strathearn and Earl of Dublin, died this date 1820; was fourth son of George III; his three elder brothers died without leaving heirs; Edward married Victoria, daughter of Francis, Duke of Saxe-Coburg, sister of Leopold I, King of the Belgians, and widow of Charles, Prince of Leningen, by whom he had only one child, Her Majesty, Queen Victoria the Good, who succeeded to the throne on the death of her uncle, William IV on June 20, 1837.

New Brunswick potato growers are after a subsidy. Mr. H. C. Greenlaw, M.L.A., Millville, and Mr. A. D. McCain, East Florenceville, president of the New Brunswick Potato Exporters, left for Ottawa for the purpose. New Brunswick growers and shippers have been seeking a subsidy for potatoes since last fall in an effort to send surplus stock to foreign countries at a gain rather than a loss.

Saint John's milk supply strike has petered out. While a majority of the members of the Milk Producers Supply Association have withheld supplies to all four city dairies since Dec. 10, it has been reported from time to time in the intervening weeks by some of the dairies that a number of association members have disregarded the strike and have sent milk in to them periodically. Milk supplies also have been obtained from week to week from new sources—outside the usual supply area of Saint John, Kings and Queens counties. Generally speaking, the city's milk supply has been fairly adequate, according to the dairies, especially since the early days of the strike had passed.

The teachers in Alberta are getting under the skin of the Social Credit Minister of Education. More than 200 delegates attending the emergency meeting of the Alberta Teachers' Association at Edmonton recently told Alberta's Education Minister R. E. Ansley that Alberta teachers want a minimum of \$1,500 a year plus a better pension scheme. In a session which saw politics and personalities dragged into hot discussion, Mr. Ansley was the target for the day. He was called the "Charlie McCarthy" of the provincial treasurer's knee, a remark later withdrawn by Mr. H. C. McCall on order of the chairman, H. C. Melness. Another teacher, Mr. T. Colbeck of Calgary, urged the teachers to organize public opinion to get higher educational standards and "tell the government you do it or get out." Other charges and remarks directed at the government finally brought Mr. Ansley to his feet for the second time during the day and he told the teachers "I don't care a rap if I remain in office another week or not." And the teachers seemed quite satisfied with his decision.

Notes By The Way

General Feng Yu-hsiang who has been visiting the United States, is a frank and forthright man. Years ago he was a war lord, of slightly unusual character, who carried the title "Christian General" by baptizing his troops with a fire hose. This method was efficient that the normal characters of much modern warfare were not convinced that all the converts were sincere and devout. The general was sincere, however, and it may be unfair to recall such episodes of his early career.

This is the season of the "feed-the-birds" pleas. Try it in Brantford and about all one gets is a flock of starlings. However, starlings want to live. Besides, they may not be quite as black as some of the detractors have painted them and they are rather quaint and comical creatures with some entertainment value.

The Ottawa Journal wonders whether the "frankness" of so many modern novels really represents progress. If it can be called progress at all, it is progress downwards. And unfortunately the books which "go the limit" in language and subject matter are in this age of readily accessible literature easily obtained by the young as well as by those of mature age. Such books give young people a wrong idea not only of what constitutes decent conduct, but of the prevalence of indecency. If normal people resembled, in real life, the supposedly decent newspapers in the ownership of which it would indeed be an unhappy world in which to live.

As some of the "jewels of empire" seem about to be surrendered by Great Britain, the bonds of co-operation are drawn closer between various parts of the British Commonwealth. The growing spirit of Commonwealth unity finds its latest expression in the announcement that Australian and New Zealand news agencies are to become partners with United Kingdom newspapers in the ownership, control and management of the great British agency. Reuters. This is good news and should make for better news for all those readers who are served by Reuters. The British public may expect a more effective coverage of events in the Pacific—where dynamic history is in the making these days. And the Australian and New Zealand public may expect to realize their own responsibilities and possibilities in the Commonwealth and in the Pacific when they are no longer merely at the receiving end of the British press.

An exhibition of plate from the city churches has been opened at the Victoria and Albert Museum. The earliest exhibits are a group of five chalices of the reign of Edward VI—that is to say, about a quarter of the knowledge of that date. There are also several beautiful Elizabethan chalices, and in the reigns of James I and Charles I come the first silver chalices which were needed because so few chalices were left after the Reformation. Jacobean chalices are also on view. The late 17th and 18th century chalices are of various designs, and the silver plate of church that is domestic silver plate continued to be gilt after the time of James I. A chalice of 1686, from St. Anne and St. Agnes, bears the date.

This potter's holy wine. This wine's pure blood. This blood true life. This life contains all good. Not pots, but souls. Are fit to hold such blood, such gold. O Christ take mine. —London Times.

One of London's finest show houses—Derby House, within a stone's throw of Oxford street, where Christie's have sold millions of pounds' worth of treasures—has been bought by Lord Derby for about £300,000. And when Christie's, the auctioneers, move out next summer, Mr. Hutchinson will use Derby House as a permanent art gallery in which to exhibit his collection of nearly 3,000 sporting paintings and prints.

Scientific know-how has, metaphorically, of course, arisen to depict that folkloric figure, Jack Frost, of his palette and pigments. According to a bulletin issued by the forest service of the United States Department of Agriculture, quoted in The Christian Science Monitor, tree leaves change their color not as the result of his skillfully applied brush, but as part of the plant's preparation for winter. It is the presence of oil globules and a small number of yellow, strongly refracting bodies which gives the leaves their golden hue; and it is a surplus of sugar which,

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.

MILK

Sir,—Regarding "Another Consumer's" insinuations in the press, that I need to learn more about decimals, I am not going to answer his letters further, but I wish to take this opportunity of challenging him to take his pencil and writing-paper, and come to my office and we will match wits regarding decimals.

I am, Sir, etc. PERCY G. GAY Owner and manager, Sunshine Island Dairy.

As Real As Social Dividends

(From The Scene)

Premier Manning of Alberta recently explained to a Toronto audience, the Bill of Rights passed by the Legislature of his province, and subsequently found to be outside of the jurisdiction of the Legislature by the Supreme Court of Alberta.

Under this proposed legislation, every boy or girl is entitled to enough of the necessities of life to ensure health and comfort until the age of 19 years is reached. A child is entitled also to education without cost to its parents.

All citizens between the ages of 19 and 65 are entitled to steady employment at which they can earn a living. If employment is not available, or if any persons are physically unable to work, they are to receive a social security allowance of \$600 a year if single, and \$1200 if married. At the age of 60 all citizens have a right to retire on a pension of \$600 a year if single, \$2000 a year if married.

The striking feature of this Bill of Rights is that its guarantees to each and every citizen bear no relationship to the contribution the citizens, or their nature, make to the general welfare of the province. In fact, the bill guarantees a definite income to all the non-workers and leaves the workers, who provide all the wealth, to get their share of what is left.

Wanted; Saints at Low Salaries

(From The Scene)

The poorest paid, most criticized, least appreciated, but most useful citizens are the clergy. "The Layman looks at the Minister," by Dr. Murray H. Leiffer, tells us that the clergy are wanted in the United States. The best of the clergy, being as imperfect as their persons, would, of course, like perfection.

The minister who "seems pessimistic and defeatist concerning the achievement of the goods of the Christian Church" is disapproved by 98% of the laymen. The required optimism may be secured better by fixing both eyes on heaven, with only occasional glances at the congregation.

An approved minister must not "follow notes too closely," differ theologically from his congregation, neglect pastoral calls, be corpulent or untidy, suffer from domestic infidelity, address labor union meetings as often as meetings of service clubs, neglect the equally obvious need of the former, or smoke. The minister, should, however, "proclaim equal opportunities and responsibilities for all racial and nationalities."

The reference to corpulence is gratuitous. The unchristian salaries paid to most ministers will prevent them from becoming corpulent, unless they have a natural tendency to obesity. They already have ample reasons for plain living and high thinking.

With this worldly wisdom before them, ministers who strive to combine with other substances, produces the brilliant color combinations which often are attributed to freeping weather. Although his prowess as a painter has been impugned, none can question Jack Frost's undoubted ability as an artistic "Jack-of-all-trades." He is an handsome decorator of the highest order. He coats the bare trees and brown meadows with dazzling white. He glazes the smaller streams and rivulets with ice, creating a winter scene which none but the most adept artists can adequately reproduce.

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The Poet's Corner

DEATHLESS NAMES

Rejoice, ye dead, where'er your spirit's dwell, Rejoice that yet on earth your fame is bright, And that your names remember'd day and night Live on the lips of those who love you well. 'Tis ye that conquer'd have the powers of Hell; Each with the special grace of your delight; Ye are the world's creators, and by might Alone of Heavenly love ye did excel. Now ye are stary names Behind the sun ye climb To light the glooms of Time With deathless flames. —Robert Bridges.

Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.)

QUEEN'S WHARF, SUMMERSIDE

In 1838 or thereabouts, the first part of Queen's wharf at Summerside was constructed. The land where the town is built belonged to Daniel Green, a Loyalist, who got the grant of the land from Governor Panning in 1796. After the wharf was begun the road from St. Eleanor's was connected therewith, but for a number of years afterwards those coming from the eastern side had to reach the wharf by coming along the shore. At first the place was known as "Green's Shore" then "Green's Wharf," then as simply "The Wharf" and since that time as Summerside.

The story told as to how the latter name was associated with the town is, that one year when spring was near, but the cold northerly winds were blowing, a resident from the north slope of Richmond Bay, where the icy blast was still keenly felt, came over to the south side and finding the temperature more mild owing to the heat of the sun, which was now climbing well north, he exclaimed to the first person he met on the wharf, "Why you have got the summer side here." It is affirmed that it was Colonel Compton who made this remark to old Joseph Green, and that the latter became Head of the wharf, "Why you have got the summer side here." He was so placed with it that he had the name placed over the door of his house.

When writing, please mention THE SCHOOL.

Why don't the banks do it and make everybody happy? We suggest that they don't do it because long experience has taught them what happens to banks and bankers who depart from sound principles in handling other people's money. They may also have read what the good book says about the house that was built on a foundation of shifting sand.

Farmers who have to give hard work and actual created wealth for every dollar in cash they will resist any attempt to pay them off with money that has nothing behind it but figures in a ledger.

NEW HEAD MOUNT A HISTORY DEPT. ARRIVES ON CAMPUS

SACKVILLE, N. B., Jan. 22 — Dr. G. G. Kerr arrived on the Mount Allison Campus this week to become Head of the University Dept. of History. He succeeds Dr. Gregg Stanley who has accepted a position in Ottawa. Dr. and Mrs. Kerr have taken up residence in the home previously occupied by Dr. C. A. Krug on Salem Street.

Dr. Kerr was a Lieutenant-Commander in the Royal Canadian Navy and spent three years engaged in research work in the Naval Historical Section including services overseas.

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BURNS' Anniversary Concert PRESENTED BY CHARLOTTETOWN X-GRADS Under the Direction of Arthur Vesey Thursday & Friday Jan. 23-24 AT 8 P.M. Prince Of Wales Auditorium ADMISSION 50c PROGRAMME Part 1 Piano Duo—Valde, Arabesque Suzanne Brenton and Helen Stewart Tenor Solo—Borner Ballad Donald MacLeod Mystery Stunt—The Levitation Kathleen Clark Male Quartet—"W! A Hundred Pipers"—The Bonshaw Singers Reading—Margaret Pow on Art Elizabeth Baker Perry Bag Pipe Selections Bruce MacLaren and his Pipers Song—Gallagher and Shean Ralph Raynor and Stirling Inman (Five Minute Intermission) Part 2 One Act Comedy—"Sparkin'" The York Players Violin Solo—"The Bluebells of Scotland" (variations) —Ralph Raynor Bag Pipe Selection Donald MacLeod Soprano Solo—Annie Laurie Kathleen Clark Male Quartet—"W! A Hundred Pipers"—The Bonshaw Singers Reading—Margaret Pow on Art Elizabeth Baker Perry Soprano Solo—"Fear a' Bhata (O My Boatman)" Marguerite Stewart Tenor Solo—Road to the Isles Stephen MacLeod Songs—(a) Ye Banks and Brees (b) There's Nae Luck About The House— (c) Auld Lang Syne— Y. M. C. A. Choral Club—Directed by Rena Johnston (Pantomime by Elaine Cook and Norman Brown) GOD SAVE THE KING

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