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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."
CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 1948

The Late Mr. Boulter

News of the death yesterday of Mr. J. Wilfred Boulter, M.B.E., will occasion very general regret throughout the Province. Mr. Boulter's name is a household word in Prince Edward Island, and indeed wherever the fame of Island seed potatoes has penetrated.

Mr. Boulter served for several years as Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and previously as school teacher and supervisor. He was a model official in all capacities—capable, courteous and conscientious.

The fact that he was twice elected president of the Horticultural Council of Canada indicates the high reputation Mr. Boulter enjoyed outside the bounds of his native Province.

Genial and unassuming in manner, he made friends easily and held them by warm ties of affection. His sense of responsibility as a citizen was keenly developed; this and not any personal ambition was what inspired all his activities.

Another Island Province?

Prime Minister King has announced the Dominion Government's willingness to accept Newfoundland into the Confederation fold, the specific terms to be ratified by Parliament, presumably at the next regular session.

Newfoundland will reportedly obtain a total of some \$27,000,000 a year from Ottawa under Confederation, and will be taxed about \$20,000,000 in return. Canada will take over \$63,000,000 of Newfoundland's debt, leaving the Island with \$9,000,000, and with her war-born surplus of \$29,000,000.

Speaking on this matter in the Legislature last session, Premier Jones said Newfoundland's Ottawa bargain was on a much more generous scale than ours, and he wondered whether this Province, which is in a somewhat similar position, could not base a claim for more subsidy on that account.

This Island's trade with Newfoundland runs into over three million dollars of farm products annually, and in the event of the Ancient Colony becoming a Province of Canada the prospects are for a much greater expansion.

It is time now to begin to plan along these lines. With tariff barriers removed, we should be in a most favorable position to expand our Newfoundland trade, and as the only Province in the Maritimes having exportable farm surpluses there would be every incentive to do so.

The Party Name

One of the chores to be tackled at the coming national Progressive Conservative convention at Ottawa will likely be the question of nomenclature. Many are of the opinion that the cumbersome party title should be shortened to its old-time, plain "Conservative" to which the label "Progressive" was prefixed at Mr. Bracken's request and which is about as useful as a fifth wheel to a cart.

It is recalled that under Sir John A. Macdonald the Conservative Party became, officially, the Liberal-Conservative party. It came by that name honestly enough, because in 1854 Macdonald succeeded in uniting the moderate or Baldwin, Liberals of Upper Canada with the High Tories and moderate Conservatives and these, in turn, with the English-speaking Blues

of Lower Canada. The party thus became Liberal-Conservative in very truth.

Again in 1917 there was a union when many Liberals supported Sir Robert Borden on the conscription policy, and some of them remained with the Conservatives.

But for Progressive (with a capital P) there was neither need nor justification, and there is not now. Aside from being awkward in itself, it has reduced the party, for reasons of typographical and verbal convenience, to the alphabetical tag of "P.C."—or, worse still, to "Prog-Con," which is about as unattractive a combination of syllables one could find in the English language.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Eight more days till Old Home Week.

The Governor-General in residence here.

This is the season when Sea Serpents, saucers and similar monstrosities are welcome as news features.

The new month will see the Provincial Exhibition, the Liberal Convention and the Alberta Provincial Election.

Carrying coals to Newcastle has many forms in times of scarcity. The Prices Board charge that scarce nails are being sent from the Maritimes to Toronto and Montreal for black market prices is as bad as any.

It is a curious coincidence that the disastrous explosion and fire at the great I. G. Farben Chemical Trust should occur the same week as judgments acquitting twenty-four of its directors on charges of conspiracy to wage aggressive war.

A U. N. survey indicates that European countries will not attain pre-war production levels in grains until 1950-51. When increasing populations are considered it is obvious that that continent will be dependant on imported foodstuffs for even longer.

The figures for the June landings of fish on the Island are definitely encouraging. The fishermen can bring them in, it is up to the dealers and carriers, with Government encouragement, to market them to best advantage.

It is unfortunate that the uncertainty of Newfoundland's future should affect adversely the trade of the Old Colony. It would be a mistake, however, for that reason to rush her into Confederation. It will have to last a long time and should not appear to be based on any compulsion.

At one time it was hoped the unanimous Maritime Liberal vote would be given to the Hon. Premier Angus Macdonald for the Liberal Leadership, but now the support is likely to swing to Hon. James Gardiner, who, it is thought, might be able to sway the Western vote as well as a good share of that of Ontario. The hope is that the seven Provinces may escape from the dominance of Ontario and Quebec.

Sir William Watson, English poet, born this date 1858; his first publication was The Prince's Quest in 1880, followed among others by Wordsworth's Grave, which placed him definitely among the greatest living poets, Lacrima Musarum, The Purple East, The Hope of the World, For England, Sable and Purple, The Heralds of the Dawn, The Rose in Exile, Retrogression, The Man Who Saw, The Superhuman Antagonists: "Empires dissolve and peoples disappear, Song passes not away."

The Smallwoods' connection with the Province recalls the fact of another political connection. In 1913 Sir Robert Borden, then Prime Minister, was desirous of bringing the Ancient Colony into Confederation and offered to appoint the Hon. J. A. Mathieson a Special Federal Commissioner to bring about the desired end. Mr. Mathieson gave the matter due consideration, and then turned down the offer on two grounds: (a) He was newly in his seat as Premier, and (b) he was satisfied the time was not then ripe to open such negotiations with the Ancient Colony.

Mohammed Ahmed Ibn Seyyid Abdullah, died this date 1885. Was the Egyptian pretender to be the legitimate successor of Mohammed the Prophet. As Mahdi he claimed he was ordained to free Egypt from foreign rule, and for this purpose organized a revolt against both the British and Turks. The Sudan was then declared independent by General Gordon in 1884, but the Mahdists besieged and captured Khartoum, being ultimately relieved by British among the greatest living poets, Lacrimae Musarum, being ultimately relieved by British among the greatest living poets, Lacrimae Musarum, being ultimately relieved by British among the greatest living poets, Lacrimae Musarum, being ultimately relieved by British after the victory of Omdurman by Kitchener in 1898.

Confirmation comes from Ottawa of a substantial increase in the number of tourists to Canada, 24 per cent more American cars and trucks crossed the Canadian border in May than in the same month of 1947. The number was 574,200. Of them, the Bureau of Statistics reported, 134,400 entered on travellers vehicle permits. Another 423,000 were non-permit or local entries and 15,900 were commercial vehicles. Canadian traffic returning from the United States this year was six per cent less than in the same month last year. The returning Canadian traffic consisted of 183,700 vehicles, 14,800 of which had been out of the country for more than 24 hours. Of the remainder, 153,600 stayed in the United States for less than a full day and 15,300 were commercial vehicles.

Soil Erosion Knows No Boundaries

(By Dr. H. H. Bennett, chief of U.S. Soil Conservation Service, in an address at a recent joint meeting of the Maritime Branches of the Agricultural Institute of Canada.)

V.

The conservation survey formula worked out by the Soil Conservation Service, and now in standard use throughout the United States divides the land into eight capability classes—according to soil type, slope, amount of erosion and susceptibility to erosion, which physical factors together make up the productive whole of any parcel of land.

Thus our land capability Classes I, II, and III are the better, less sloping lands, which are suitable for continuous cultivation with progressively more conservation protection needed for the ascending classes even for pasturing or woodland use. Class VIII takes in rocky highlands, marshes, dunes, and the like, which are of no agricultural use but which are useful for wildlife or recreational purposes.

When the land capability map has been made for a man's farm, then the Soil Conservation Service technician and the farmer are able to go over the fields together and work out the complete, detailed conservation farm plan. It shows, field by field and year by year, the conservation treatment and management needed, adjusted to the operator's economic, market, and other conditions. It is a blueprint for his safe and economical use of the land, showing not only where structures, such as terraces and farm ponds, are needed, but where row crops should be grown, what land should be put into grass or trees, and a schedule for crop rotation, conservation pasture or woodland management, and so on. The conservation farmer thinks well of his "farm plan."

Such a plan cannot ordinarily be put into effect overnight, or in a single season, although some of the spectacular and highly successful conservation "re-making-a-farm-in-a-day" events you probably have read about might indicate that it could. But don't forget that careful conservation survey and farm planning precedes every such event. Ordinarily, of course, the landholder may need several seasons in which to complete his terraces, drainage systems, or other structural work, re-align his fields into contour strips, complete his first round of crop

The Poet's Corner

THE WOOD, THE WEED, THE WAG

(To his Son)

Three things there be that prosper all apace And flourish while they grow asunder far; But on a day, they meet all in a place, And when they meet, they one another mar.

And they be these: the wood, the weed, the wag. The wood is that which makes the galloway tree; The weed is that which strangles the hangman's bag; The wag, my pretty knave, be-tokens thee.

Now mark, dear boy, while these assemble not, Green springs the tree, hemp grows, the wag is wild; But when they meet, it makes the timber rot. It frets the halter, and it chokes the child.

Then bless thee, and beware, and let us part not with thee at this meeting day.

—Sir Walter Raleigh (1522-1615).

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

MISADVENTURE

"Yesterday afternoon, at 5 o'clock a little boy named Steele—apparently about four years of age—came very near being smothered in a drain on Great George Street, which leads to Euston Street sewer. He was playing with a kitten at the mouth of the drain when it shortly disappeared under the planks, and all the winning calls he could send forth would not induce it to reappear. He determined to follow it, and was soon close at its quarters; but as he crawled in, the kitten crawled further, and thus they went on until both became so bogged in the deep mud that they could not return. Realising his position he cried loud and piteously. Those passing the street were mystified by cries coming from the ground; but they could not tell from which part they came. At length a few planks were removed from the drain, and the top of the boy's head was seen protruding from the mud, and the kitten lying dead a short distance off. When taken out he was completely exhausted, and for a time lay in a very critical condition." Weekly Examiner, June 4, 1906.



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.

NIGHTMARE EXAMS

Sir,—The little note affixed to my letter on school examinations, cunningly suggesting that those I went through developed those capacities, seeks to strengthen the impression given in your editorial—that examinations have value as mental discipline. I claim a woman's prerogative, the last word! Whatever writing ability I possess has come down to me in a much diluted form: it is true, from a long line of writing ancestors. Home examples, too, had I. I had a pen and pad before him, and long before the horrors of exams came into my innocent life, my compositions were easily the best in the class. So—

No, I have nothing good to say of the traditional school exams of which the Prince of Wales College entrance are a fine example. Particularly exams below university level. Only the other day a friend with children of her own, told me with a shudder that the entrance exams were the cause of two nervous breakdowns in her youth. "Memorizing, memorizing," she said, her face contorted with the bitter experience. "day after day, week after week—and see here, I can't bear to look at any of the stuff I had to pass. Poetry, verses, and a veres of it—I hate the sight of a verse—and I liked poetry before I knew I just had to pass. My parents couldn't afford to send me away. They couldn't even afford to have me tutored or anything like that." (Education may be aristocratic but deep in our democratic way of life is the belief that no child should be penalized by poverty. If one child can get a high school education through being sent elsewhere, the next child should be given the opportunity.)

Another friend, one very susceptible to beauty, said, "You know, for years I hated Spring because that meant exams!" There is no mental discipline in forced study (really feats of memorization) that results in shattered nerves, dread of Spring, loathing for all school subjects. Belling in oil, drawing and quaterning, and other pretty practices of "the good old days," never stopped crime, nor does the dread of exams lead young people to study honestly day by day. Not the pupil's vote, but the long research of many learned school-

rotation, seed and improve his pastures, and do the other things his plan calls for. He does all these things, and pays for them, the Soil Conservation Service furnishing technical assistance without charge. Thereafter, of course, maintenance of a farmer's conservation work becomes largely his own responsibility, with a minimum of technical servicing. "But," you may ask, "isn't the entire conservation undertaking the farmer's own responsibility?" "Certainly it is in the fundamental sense, at any rate"—is the answer. But the farmer needs technical help and the nation—everybody—has a stake in the permanency of the productivity of the land; so, everybody is interested, or ought to be.

(To be continued)

HONG KONG, July 26 (AP)—Nine were known dead today in Tuesday's typhoon which injured nine others and left two persons unaccounted for here. Seventy-five-mile-an-hour winds ripped through the city, wrecking four war-damaged buildings.

Bracken Request Heeded

(Montreal Gazette) The executive of the Progressive Conservative Association have acted with commendable promptness to carry out the recent request of Mr. John Bracken, national party leader, for a general convention to re-frame policy and choose a successor to himself. Having regard to the problems of organization and accommodation involved in assembling a national meeting of this type, decision of the party officers to hold the meeting in Ottawa on September 30 and October 1 and 2 conforms closely with Mr. Bracken's suggestion that the convention should be held "at the earliest possible date."

It is doubtful if such a gathering could be convened much sooner with assurance that it would be fully planned, efficiently conducted and adequately representative of party membership in all parts of the country. The choice of dates also allows a reasonable leeway after the Liberal and C. C. F. conventions, which are also to be held in Ottawa during August. At the same time, party leaders are advised in reducing to a minimum the delay between Mr. Bracken's decision to retire and the election of a new leader to take over direction of the party's activities.

The holding of the Progressive Conservative convention within a few weeks of those of the other two parties should provide an illuminating and inclusive picture of the position of the three major parties in Canada, with respect to both leadership and policies. Both the Liberals and the Progressive Conservatives are slated to put the party reins in the hands of new leaders, and all three parties are convening also to consider the official declarations of party policy. The changes in platform and the resulting contrast between the three should provide interesting substance for analysis and comparison by the voters.

In his request for a party convention, Mr. Bracken laid primary stress on the need for early action to assure "a wider and more representative review" of revamped party policy that could be provided by party committees, caucuses and policy officers. The performance of this task at the forthcoming convention will be quite as important as the choice of a new leader, and will come close to complying with the decision of the party's annual meeting.

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Notes By The Way
Rev. Robert Hall once had in his congregation a very rich but exceedingly miserly old merchant. For this man's benefit he preached one Sunday a strong sermon on the necessity for charity and philanthropy, and on the duty and the joy of giving. The miser, at whom he frequently glanced, seemed much impressed. Next day he met him on the street. "Well, Mr. McKensie," he observed, "what did you think of my sermon yesterday?" "Pastor," admitted the old man, "it moved me deeply. It brought home to me so strongly the necessity of giving: that I honestly, sir, I've been giving some serious thought to the matter of turning beggar!" — Boyd G. Wood in Quote.

There seems to be a widespread conviction among the city-dwellers, both in Canada and the United States, that they have the right to get life's essentials—such as food and shelter—at low fixed prices; meanwhile paying fancy prices for luxuries. There is, of course, no such right. Food and shelter have to be sold at the market price. Just like anything else. The market price of food is high, right now, but it has to be, to keep the food coming. As for shelter, if it were allowed to find its own market price, instead of being throttled by government controls, it would be plentiful than it is right now, and in the long run, cheaper. — Calgary Herald.

Light sleepers will be heartened by the announcement of the National Aeronautics Committee that scientists are confident they can do something to eliminate the roar of airplane engines. Some tests have been made by slowing the propeller speed and installing a muffler, but much engineering work must yet be done to perfect the plan. Night flying has been a source of annoyance to many in residential sections because the roar of the engine has disturbed their sleep. However, science has accomplished wonders in the past, and a much more comfortable rest may soon be assured. — Boston Post.

In her old age (she is thirty-four) the 45,000-ton Aquitania grannie of the Cunard-White Star fleet, has begun a new lease of life. Under a new agreement signed between her owners and the Canadian authorities, she begins today to transport some 12,000 emigrants to Canada. She has been specially reconditioned for the job, and by the end of the year will have made eleven round voyages between Southampton and Halifax. Such is the demand for passages that the contract will probably be renewed again next year. The Aquitania is also bringing thousands of dollar-spending tourists to this country from America and Canada, and in doing so is adding to her reputation, acquired in steaming 2,500,000 miles, as being one of the most comfortable ships afloat. — London Daily Graphic.

Winston Churchill's wedding gift to Princess Elizabeth is a set (six volumes) of his "World Crisis." An

Bald men have won another round in the fight over whether baldness is a sign of virtue, and virility. According to Dr. R. E. G. Armatoo, a North Ireland scientist, it takes an education to become bald. In a recently completed study, Dr. Armatoo says he proved conclusively to his own satisfaction that educated men get bald sooner than uneducated ones. No one knows just how the argument on baldness started but Darwin defended the shiny domes in a theory that female ape-men preferred to mate with relatively hairless apemen. Then came the theory that baldness was associated with cerebral calcification which increased the bony structure of the skull. There have been almost as many theories about baldness as there have been bald-headed men. It is comforting to know that the "answer" has been found. We have only one question: "What is the state of Dr. Armatoo's hair?" — Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

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