

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887)
Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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Car Ferry Transportation

The Summerside Board of Trade has called attention to a defect in the new car ferry Abegweit which should be remedied at the earliest possible moment.

Failure to complete the planking of the lower deck before the ship arrived here was not mentioned in the speechmaking which took place when the boat was formally handed over in Charlottetown.

The reduction in truck rates, which has finally been granted after years of protest on the part of our Provincial governments, shippers, boards of trade, and others, is a welcome concession so far as it goes; but much more requires to be done.

It is significant that the Jones Government, which is not a supporter of Mr. Bracken, is of the same mind. They see eye to eye on the subject, as was evident from the Premier's presentation at the Dominion-Provincial conference on the new tax agreement.

It remains only to persuade Ottawa to do the right thing by assuming the cost of any increase in the cost of moving our farm products and other essential freight, by truck or rail, occasioned by the Borden-Tormentine water route over the normal cost for the equivalent mileage on land.

No Excuse For This

It is regrettable that the Provincial Government should again have to be urged by the Provincial Command of the Canadian Legion, in convention this week at Summerside, to put into effect the resolution of the Legislature with regard to employment of war veterans.

The resolution referred to was passed unanimously by the Legislature in March, 1946, and it reads as follows:

"Whereas it is the desire of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Prince Edward Island to assist the re-establishment of veterans in civil life;

"Therefore resolved that the Legislative Assembly approve of the principle laid down by the Federal Government in giving a preference to ex-service men and women with overseas service when any positions are to be filled, that this principle be followed when appointments are made under the Public Service Act, and in the employment of labour on all public projects.

"Further resolved that public notice be given when public service positions are open and that applicants be required to set out in writing their service record as well as their civilian qualifications.

"And further resolved that veterans' organizations be consulted regarding all vacancies to be filled in the public service."

Apparently these instructions from the Legislature to the Government have not been carried out. This is not the first time the Legion has had to call attention to the matter. Let us hope that it will be the last.

Early Pastures

Failure to get spring grains seeded this year, it is feared, will result in a definite shortage of cattle feed during the coming winter. Eastern Canadian farmers will be forced to purchase more Western feed grains than in the past few years, a costly undertaking unless they adopt methods of reducing their winter feed bill.

If it could be possible to get cattle on pasture two or three weeks earlier in the spring, some of the feed expense could be saved. One way of achieving this is putting the pasture in shape during the fall. It is well known that productivity of well established pasture fields can be greatly increased by fall fertilization.

Agonomists recommend applications of a 2-16-6 or a 0-14-7 fertilizer mixture at the rate of 400 to 600 pounds per acre. Best results have been obtained when fertilizer is applied in October rather than September.

Farmers who have followed the practice of fall fertilization of pastures are well acquainted with its value. The fertilizer not only promotes early development but also provides a more abundant growth, enabling the field to carry a greater number of cattle throughout the grazing season.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity—"God, whose we are, and Whom we serve."

The celebrations of the founding of Moscow in 1147 takes place tomorrow, a great demonstration having been planned at which Canada will be represented by Mayor Lewis of Ottawa and some of his Councilors.

First Battle of the Marne, this date 1914. The vast engagement which began on the morning of Sunday, and lasted seven days, was really won on the extreme left, and was almost wholly due to the British forces including the Canadians, and the 5th French Army.

The Liberals are evidently following up Mr. Bracken's tracks by sending their best Maritime bet, Mr. Justice Minister Ilsley to encourage and stimulate the faithful. We cannot have too many of our leading statesmen to visit us and this to make them personally familiar with our needs and aspirations.

What with the Women's Institutes and the Legion busying themselves with Provincial affairs and getting after the Government to do something about level crossings, freight rates, etc., the powers-that-be must surely be convinced that it is not party politics but community well-being that is at stake.

Mr. Bevin's suggestion at the Trades Union Congress that the U. S. should divide up the Fort Knox gold was undoubtedly meant in the Pickwickian sense and so understood by his hearers. He could also answer those who are vigorously taking him to task by reference to the works of Lewis Carroll.

The Canadian Bar Association now meeting in Ottawa is one of the few forces in this country working for that almost forgotten goal of Confederation—such time as the laws of the provinces shall be uniform.

Announcement by Mr. Justice Minister Ilsley of the existence of a combine in the distribution and sale of dental supplies is of concern to everyone in this country who has to meet dentist's bills. Charges should be pressed and any firms guilty of such practices properly dealt with.

The sudden "call" to Engineer Charlie MacDonald of the C. N. R. came as a shock to his friends and the railway employees generally. Mr. MacDonald was highly regarded, both by his employers and fellow employees who regret his early and entirely unexpected demise and sympathize deeply with his bereaved wife and daughters.

The transfer of the Maritime Electric Co.'s head office from St. Stephen, N.B., to here is welcomed by all concerned, especially as it indicates the Company's business here will be greatly developed and expanded as time goes on.

Hannah More, English poetess, died tomorrow's date 1833:

O! let the ungentle spirit learn from hence, A small unkindness is a great offence.

To spread large bounties though we wish in vain

Yet all may shun the guilt of giving pain.

Attorney-General Corbett of Saskatchewan announces the Saskatchewan Government will prevent foreclosure on farms in crop-failure areas by a moratorium to prevent collection of either interest or principal from this year's crop returns. Although a Supreme Court decision declared ultra vires of the Province provisions of the Farm Security Act, automatically reducing debt principle in crop failure years, Mr. Corbett said the Province was prepared to protect farmers where returns averaged less than \$6 per sown acre.

It can't be said the flour mills are not prospering. Wheat flour production in Canada in July amounted to 2,264,983 barrels, compared with 2,164,145 in the corresponding month last year, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports. Total output for the crop year 1946-47 topped all previous records, amounting to 28,518,602 barrels, compared with 26,435,341 barrels in 1945-46, an increase of 2,083,261 barrels. Wheat used in the manufacture of flour in July totalled 10,188,983 bushels, compared with 9,625,556 in July last year. This brought the total wheat milled for flour in the crop year 1946-47 to 127,484,924 bushels, against 117,609,336 bushels in 1945-46. Stocks of wheat in flour mills at the end of July were 5,816,973 bushels. The following quantities of coarse grains were milled, (totals for July last year in brackets): Oats, 2,039,587 (2,126,552) bushels; corn, 148,657 (140,236); barley, 743,699 (673,437); buckwheat, 1,200 (250); mixed grains, 1,388,372 (1,658,281).

Notes By The Way

Old age pensioners in Britain will be able to buy tobacco or snuff at reduced rates from October. It provided they are habitual smokers or snuff takers. On that date the Tobacco Duty (Relief for Pensioners) Regulations come into operation. Twenty cigarettes will cost them 1d. Pensioners will be able to obtain from a post office on and after September 29 a book of tokens enabling them to purchase tobacco at cheap rates. Selling either the tokens or tobacco is forbidden. —London Daily Mail.

A gentleman who has just returned from Southern California advises us that he visited a big Spanish-Georgian-Colonial house out there, the living room of which extended as far as the eye could see and had as its chief feature a dais at one end, swathed in scarlet velvet. On this was a life-size marble statue of a female nude lying in a marble hammock. Approaching the statue with appropriate reverence, our man noted, small, hand-lettered card, propped against the lady's belly. It read "Kindly Do Not Touch the Statue. Thank You." —New Yorker.

Pink light bulbs and pink curtains and cushions in your bedroom will help you retain your youth according to Madame Florence Jeffery who is currently touring Australia lecturing on rejuvenation to groups of elderly people. Madame Jeffery says she is a psychologist, a Sister of the Light, travelling commissioner of the World Friendly Relations League—"and just plain vital." She told a group of Sydney, New South Wales, listeners that they would start the day with a really rosy outlook if they woke up in a rosy pink room. —Australian News Bulletin.

It is now certain that the prairies will harvest a crop substantially lower than last year. The first estimate of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics suggests an output for wheat of some 336,000,000 bushels, or about 62,000,000 less than in 1946. However, it should be borne in mind that a smaller acreage was planted to wheat than a year ago, so that the comparison with 1946 is not quite so favorable as it might appear on the surface. It appears that the probable yield per acre for wheat will still fall not far short of the long-term average for the prairies. —Winnipeg Free Press.

A new era in education has just opened in Britain with the publication of the interim program produced by the National Committee of Visual Aids in Education. It forms a prelude to the comprehensive service to schools on which teachers, local authorities and the Ministry of Education are working closely together. One hundred and thirty films with other pictorial aids, all suggested by teachers, will be ready for use in a few months. The principle to be followed throughout is that the teacher, as the man or woman on the spot knowing exactly what is needed, shall play a leading part in the ordering and preparation of the material. —Frederick Gleaser.

On the first day of its New York showing, Preston Tucker's rear-engine, carburetor-less (fuel injection) Tucker '48, once called the "torpedo," drew some 15,000 spectators (40¢ cents for adults, 25¢ cents for children) to Manhattan's Museum of Science and Industry. After two weeks on the market, Tucker's \$20,000,000 stock issue was a flop, and the designer, Tucker, en route to Italy to negotiate a manufacturing tie-up with Isotta-Fraschini said production would not get under way until January at the earliest. News items fascinated by an AP feature on the Cyclops headlight and the luggage compartment in the front, close to 3,000 spectators offered to place orders (tentative price; \$1,850). —(Time Magazine).

The Associated Press came under the fire of New York editors because it spelled Plattsburgh, N.Y., with a "t" which the editors had to scratch out at the cost of time, patience and pencil lead. The editors reminded the AP of the old maxim: two cities in the United States and one in Scotland take the "t" out of Plattsburgh. The harassed AP conducted an investigation and found that reference books disagreed. So it wrote to the mayor, asking "Do we end the name of this town with a 't'?" which the mayor backed the answer in an envelope bearing the return address: "Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Plattsburgh, N.Y." The matter seemed to be settled, but the insatiable AP opened the envelope and read the mayor's letter: "You are accordingly informed that as provided for by the city charter, the correct spelling is as follows, namely, 'Plattsburgh.'" —New York Herald Tribune.

The death plunge of a state fair acrobat makes you wonder if man beings have changed since the time when Romans flocked to the Coliseum to watch lions tear Christians apart. They still crowd the arena to see performers play with death—auto racers, tightwire daredevils, bull fighters. If auto race tracks were perfectly safe, the spectators probably would be few. The dangerous Indianapolis speedway takes a life or two each year. With that as bait the place is crowded for one of the most monotonous of exhibitions, relieved now and then by the excitement of an accident. "Death-defying" is a trite but effective phrase for attracting customers. And because a racer or an acrobat dies, the wage scale of the other—any one of whom may have his turn next—goes up.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest to the Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

PROVINCIAL RIGHTS IGNORED

Sir—In his recent address at Woodstock Hon. Mr. Bracken is quoted as saying: "The Dominion had taken away from the Provinces rights that neither had been asked nor granted at the time of Confederation and by so doing had directly lessened provincial autonomy."

The Parliament of Canada can enact any legislation it pleases, but it has neither the right nor the power to lawfully enact legislation such as Mr. Bracken said it has enacted; but so long as the Provinces jointly or severally allow such legislation to stand it has the effect of law.

Such legislation has not "taken away from the Provinces" their respective rights but it has ignored them and consequently is "ultra vires" of the federal Parliament. I have been advised by high authority that it is within the power of a Province to protect its rights by appealing to the P.C.J. Council if the federal Government refuses a request from its Provincial Government to repeal such legislation.

All rights and powers were vested in the original Provinces severally in 1866 and according to the original Provinces' "Charter of the Maritime Bank Case" the original Provinces "retained their independence and autonomy" when they "entrusted" the Dominion with certain authority for certain objects, consequently any federal legislation which is not designed to promote or attain those objects seems to be beyond the power of the federal Parliament to lawfully enact.

The Dominion did not exist when the inter-provincial agreement of 1866 was arranged by sixteen provincial delegates (whose names have been suppressed) with authority from their respective Legislatures to arrange a union of the original Provinces "which will effectively ensure just provisions for the rights and interests of this Province" (Nova Scotia's resolution) consequently it is not possible for the Dominion to have any rights which were not granted to it by the Provinces for certain defined objects as confirmed by preamble of British North America Act 1867.

Pursuant to the 1866 agreement and two Acts of the British Parliament of 1867 which sanctioned and gave legal effect to the two Acts passed by the federal Parliament at its first session by which it undertook its obligations to the Provinces, British Columbia became a member of the British North America Confederation of Provinces (not directly of peoples) which is functioning at Ottawa under the name of Canada, according to an agreement arranged between the Executive Council of British Columbia and the Parliament of Canada in 1871.

Also pursuant to the 1866 agreement Prince Edward Island became a member of the Confederation according to an agreement arranged between the Legislature of Prince Edward Island and the Parliament of Canada in 1873.

Except during the early years of its existence the Dominion of Canada (the federal Government and Parliament) has shown little respect for documentary agreements and laws which constitute our national set-up, and politicians assisted by educators and propagandists have imposed upon this federal nation of Provinces what may fairly be termed a government abortion which seems to be repugnant to Canada's Constitution and with which it does not seem to be humanly possible to successfully promote "peace, order and good government" in this federal Nation of Provinces.

Pursuant to section 2 of the 1866 agreement negotiations are being carried on "for the admission into the confederation on equitable terms of Newfoundland."

What will be the fate of Newfoundland if she enters into an agreement with the Dominion of Canada? If we may judge from the manner in which Ottawa has treated the documentary agreements and laws with which Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island are concerned and the fact that Ottawa has claimed the right to disregard previous agreements and laws, any agreement which may be made with Newfoundland will be disregarded by the federal Parliament when and as it pleases without Newfoundland's consent, which in effect is what the present federal Government has been claiming for some time and did recently when it changed provincially and nationally harmful federal governmental conditions which have been imposed upon this federal nation of Provinces.

I am, Sir, etc. A. P. PATTERSON, Former Minister of Education and Federal and Provincial Relations for the Province of New Brunswick. Set John, N.B. August 26, 1947.

The Poets Corner

BECAUSE A sombre sky and barren grove,— Storm beaten trees, so gaunt and drear, They shadowed all the dream I wove Till, somewhere, from the branches near, There came a robin's note of cheer.

Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.) EARLY PLOWING MATCH

Plowing matches in this Province are no startling innovation, though their revival in recent years has been a matter of general interest. The records show that in 1850 there was a plowing match held in Charlottetown Royalty in which the competitors were Robert Carson (Mr. George Coles' man); Chester Woolmer, Rustico; Alexander Scott, East River; James Semple, New Glasgow; Thomas Carr, Brackley Point Road; Lauchlan McNeill, Princetown Road; John McLauchlan, St. Peter's Road; Alexander Laird, Jr., New Glasgow; John Stewart, Brackley Point Road; Denzil McArthur, North River; and Samuel Roper, Royalty.

The prize winners were Robert Carson, Alexander Scott, Alexander Laird, Jr., John Stewart and Denzil McArthur. Lauchlan McNeill was "Complete Farmer" and John McLauchlan, a young ploughman, with but one hand, received a like prize for good work.

Old Fashioned Doctrine

(London Free Press) On reading the address of Hon. J. G. Gardiner at the Food and Agriculture Conference at Geneva Canadians may be moved to ask "Is Saul also among the prophets?" For the pious exhortations he gave sound a bit out of character on the lips of the Saskatchewan squire.

However there is a good deal of soundness in them. Mr. Gardiner declared himself out of sympathy with the idea that countries could spend their way into prosperity. He felt that more money should go for food and less for things people could do without. Perhaps moved by the spirit of Geneva he advised more study of that city's famous squire, John Calvin, and of his Scottish successor, John Knox.

This is strong doctrine for these days. The idea of spending one's way to prosperity is much more attractive to most of us, and has had followers in most lands. Few peoples have the intestinal fortitude to put first things first as the British are doing, and to roll up their sleeves and tighten their belts.

It might not be a bad idea if the "pie in the sky" doctrine were imposed upon this federal nation of Provinces.

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