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

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20, 1948

Proposed Highway Conference

It has been announced by Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe that a Dominion-Provincial conference will be called to discuss the construction of a trans-Canada highway. The date of this important meeting was not indicated, but the Minister stated that such data and information as is essential to the conference has been gathered, and that the Government is "seized with the economic importance" of this long-promised project.

In Prince Edward Island the proposed highway is expected to run from Borden through what is known as the Bradford and Big Clear roads to the Tryon road. According to Hon. Mr. Barbour, Provincial Minister of Public Works and Highways, this project would greatly facilitate traffic between Albany and Victoria, Tryon and adjoining centres and would have special advantages in the matter of winter snow clearance. It will involve acquiring a section of land between Borden and the Cape Traverse road on the southern side of the railway.

The trans-Canada highway should also include construction of the Brighton Bridge. As intimated by Mr. Barbour two years ago, plans for this bridge have been prepared and some borings taken. Nothing has since been done in the matter, but it is to be hoped that at the forthcoming Dominion-Provincial conference this project will be strongly pressed by our Island representatives. It is one which already has the support of the Conservative Party, and the Government need fear no Opposition criticism on this point.

New Defense Plans

That a serious view of the world situation is taken at Ottawa is evidenced by the appointment of a "co-ordinator of civil defense planning" in the person of General F. F. Worthington. The main task of the co-ordinator will be to supervise the creation of plans for civil defense which could be placed in operation if war became imminent. It was indicated that he will travel extensively, checking on vulnerable spots and advising local authorities on what to expect if the international situation grows tense. The announcement said that the first step would be to plan for co-ordination of Federal departments that would be involved in civil defense—Defense, Health and Justice. The next step would be to decide and arrange the part provincial and municipal authorities would play in an emergency. Government sources emphasize that these are precautionary measures merely, taken "partly for morale, partly for strategic reasons."

Certainly no one will accuse the Government of being unduly extravagant in initiating measures of this kind. Should the defense plans prove unnecessary, the expenditures can be written off as an insurance premium. The appointment of General Worthington to head these activities is also to be commended. His career indicates that he is not only an experienced soldier, but a very capable and brilliant one. Canadian Press refers to him as "one of the pre-war officers whose ideas about tanks first seemed unorthodox and then became the essence of orthodoxy in the last war." That is as good a recommendation as one could wish for a defense co-ordinator.

Vox Populi

One of the reasons advanced by a member of the Provincial Government for supporting the abolition of Latin in the public schools was that Latin was an unpopular subject, and the Government should not go against public opinion. By the same token, it is proposed that the study of Shakespeare be abolished in the public schools of Toronto. This has been suggested as an aftermath to the disgraceful behaviour of secondary year students at special performances of Macbeth and Hamlet given for their benefit. A member of the Advisory Vocational Committee of the Board of Education argues that as the students evidently do not like Shakespeare, it would be a waste of time to teach them to appreciate his plays.

This inspires the following ironic comment from the Globe and Mail: "There is something in the suggestion, as everybody will agree. Some of us did not like algebra, and we could never understand the determination of our elders that we should wade through it and even pass an examination at the end of the year. There are not a few to whom history is an abomination, and others find grammar insufferable. If there is any chance of the suggestion being taken up, it should not be limited to Shakespeare alone. Why not take a poll of the students to find out what other subjects might be dropped because of their unpopularity?"

"It is easy to see how much could be saved if this policy were put into effect. The salaries of the teachers concerned could either be saved, or divided among the others who were unlucky enough to have popular subjects, like football. In fact, if a large enough number of subjects were unpopular, we might be able to close the schools altogether. That would be a great relief to the Property Owners' Association, because then there would be no more nonsense about school taxes, or pampering the pupils with too much equipment. Who knows but that a teen-age Utopia is just around the corner—all because of a simple suggestion from a member of the Advisory Vocational Committee?"

Why Canada Imports Butter

One reason why Canada has been forced to arrange for large imports of butter—aside from the fact that the manufacture and sale of a healthful and palatable substitute is still forbidden—may be simply ascertained, says the Kingston Whig-Standard. Before arrangements were made for importing approximately 15,000,000 pounds of butter, discussion of reasons for the shortage were heard everywhere. There were complaints about the high price, arguments about the predicted shortage. There would have been even more complaints if the commodity were not still under a ceiling, and the reason the ceiling remains may be found in some figures recently made public. They show the approximate average return to a farmer for one hundred pounds of milk, when used for various purposes, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Product and Price. Fluid milk \$4.02, Ice cream 3.17, Condensaries, etc. 2.97, Fluid cream 2.95, Cheese 2.70, Butter 2.55.

The answer may be, and probably is, that milk as a beverage has become more popular than ever before in the history of its sale. We do not know whether the various campaigns extolling the healthfulness of milk as a beverage and food are responsible, but it seems obvious that millions of gallons are now being drunk which hitherto were diverted to other purposes. It was once exceptional to hear a person call for milk to accompany breakfast, lunch, dinner or snack; today it is commonplace. And since Canada's cows have apparently failed to keep up with this change in habits, the nation must import butter.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The S.S. Prince Edward Island is in Montreal being overhauled.

Sunshine and shower still in evidence here while snow falls elsewhere.

There are prospects of a trade in canned meat for Israeli being developed here at Summerside.

A nice daily trade of 50 gallons of oysters for Montreal has been developed through the enterprise of Charlottetownians.

Candidates are being sought for the forthcoming Federal election, though it is still uncertain whether it "be this year, next year, or sometime later."

Everyone in the newspaper business and elsewhere must be wondering what was the secret Lord Beaverbrook learned on how to stop worrying.

Trade is being predicted by the Business Agents Association, Toronto, to continue good for at least nine years. By that time the prospects of war will have disappeared or—realized.

Rolling troop convoys on New Brunswick roads are reminiscent of wartime, but the state of preparedness which they indicate is the best guarantee that we will not again drift into war.

Nova Scotia is taking another step forward with the establishment of a plant at Eastern Passage to service and later build Fairley aircraft for the Royal Canadian Navy.

Finance Minister Abbot told an audience that taxes will be reduced by the Federal Government as soon as circumstances justify a reduction. As the financial situation has long justified greatly reduced taxation the Minister must have been referring to political circumstances.

There will be much sympathy for the Trades and Labour Congress in its aims to improve the lot of seamen in Canadian vessels, but its condemnation of the shipping laws is another matter. For the safety of crews as well as ships so-called "anti-democratic" are just and necessary.

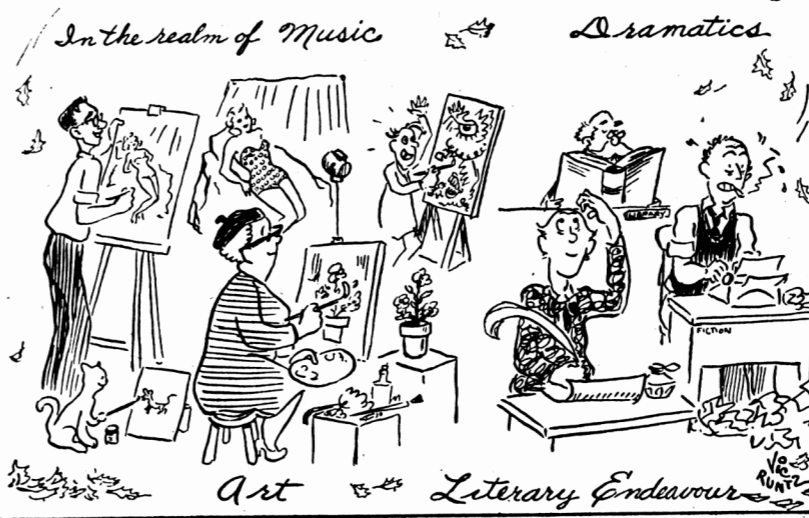
It is strange in what different light people look at the various activities of government. No one expects highways to pay their way as long as they are of service to the community. Railways, on the other hand, however essential, are regarded as unsuccessful unless they can show a profit.

Lord Palmerston, British statesman, born this date 1784; one of the most compromising politicians in British parliamentary history; he blundered in both home and foreign policy; was censured by the House of Lords, and dismissed by the Queen, but returned to office, and ultimately became Prime Minister. He was not an impressive personality, but was skilful and very popular: "Die my dear doctor! That's the last thing I shall do."

The further embargo on steel is going to handicap business considerably. The Canadian Press was up against the steel shortage in building their new offices in Toronto, but overcame it by using cement wherever steel would ordinarily be necessary. The building was straight quotation priced—no cost plus—with a specified date for handing over, and the contractors lived up in both respects to their undertaking.

Mr. Fred T. Parker, manager of the traffic and customs department of Canadian Industries Limited predicts that freight rates in the East may be increased and in the West reduced. This is another warning that the Island needs someone responsible for watching our interests in this field. Left to their own devices the railways keep rates low where they have to meet competition and make up the loss where they have the field to themselves.

WITH THE FALLING OF THE LEAVES, THE CULTURAL LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY COMES TO THE FORE AGAIN.



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.

NEGLECTED TIGNISH

Sir—What is wrong with the present Government? Tignish proper and surrounding country have at least two thousand citizens. They have neither a medical doctor nor a dentist. If the unfinished project, the paved highway connecting Tignish and Alberton, was complete, the snow-ploughs could keep the road open during the winter months and then anxious people would be able to get to the Western Hospital in Alberton.

The people are engaged in the lobster industry, seed potatoes and moss, which makes it one of the most prosperous sections of the Island. They have numerous cars and it seems a great injustice that these people have not a paved road which is only a distance of six miles. The Tignish people are now in a precarious position, especially when the roads begin to break up at the Province. Should an emergency operation arise they are helpless martyrs.

A SYMPATHIZER

DUCK SHOOTING EAST

Sir—I noted with particular interest the reference in "Hunter's Corner" to the bright prospects for duck shooting in the coming season. From personal observations at the numerous haunts in Eastern Kings I am happy to agree with your columnist that there is an increasing most satisfactorily. However, for the duck hunter in Eastern Kings the matter of this increase will contribute little, if any, to his income. The salvo on opening day few birds are to be found outside the confines of Black Pond sanctuary. The mass flight of wild ducks to this safety zone causes one to marvel at their instinct of self-preservation.

I recall that when the duck population was dwindling rapidly all hunters felt something should be done to aid in their conservation and it was at that time that the sanctuary at Black Pond was established. Since then, the Eastern hunters have been content to sacrifice their season's sport. The use of the lakes and ponds in this area as duck haunts and the subsequent safe assembly of the grown birds at Black Pond for their annual migration to the south has, no doubt, been a generous response from the Eastern gunners.

They now feel that over a period of years their contribution to this cause has been out of proportion to that asked of sportsmen in other parts of the Island. In view of the above facts I am far from satisfied as to the justice of continuing this sanctuary in our midst. After many lean years the Eastern hunters and their former visiting companions long for the day when they will have the opportunity to enjoy this great out-door sport in a sportsman privilege with their fellow hunters of the Province. I believe the "Hunter's Corner" will agree that if sanctuaries, apart from the National Park, must be maintained to ensure a reasonable margin of increase, in all fairness another section of the Province should be selected and the present one at Black Pond discontinued. Otherwise we of the East might as well suction our guns and equipment and forget that such a sport as duck shooting ever existed.

Isle Koch And Why She Wasn't Hanged

(The New York Herald Tribune) The Isle Koch case generates some rather sober thoughts. When the news came out that the life sentence of "Isle Koch, the world celebrated 'Ditch of Buchenwald', had been commuted to four years' almost nowhere else in the world, a storm of indignation went up from six continents. Everybody "knew" that Isle Koch was the perverse woman who had made Jimmy Buchenwald prisoners whom she had selected for destruction because of the tattooing they bore. That the sentence almost nowhere else in the world, a storm of indignation went up from six continents. Everybody "knew" that Isle Koch was the perverse woman who had made Jimmy Buchenwald prisoners whom she had selected for destruction because of the tattooing they bore. That the sentence almost nowhere else in the world, a storm of indignation went up from six continents. Everybody "knew" that Isle Koch was the perverse woman who had made Jimmy Buchenwald prisoners whom she had selected for destruction because of the tattooing they bore.

The Poets Corner

WHILE THESE REMAIN

Now in this precarious peace we are gaining a little time Against the tide of destruction. The crashing landing of one plane may make a headline, The burning of one building a news item. The dead are buried singly and not by the hundred.

There are no sign-posts in the sky To mark the places Where smoke and flame and screaming terror Desecrated the starlight; No crosses on the sea To mark the going down of men and ships. And the earth is covering her scars with buttercups.

The comradeship of men-in-arms Is fading into the unacknowledged creeds. Of every man for himself. We are returning to the old joys, The old sorrows, The old, small hates.

Where are they who dreamed of a fair world brimming with plenty And people with brothers? Some are bewildered and silent, Some are bitterly loud, But there are others who say: "The fault is ours. Our dream was not great enough, And we forgot to pray." While these remain, there is hope. —Verna Loveday Harden in Toronto Saturday night.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

SLAVERY ABOLISHED

"It seems curious," wrote the late Judge Warburton in his History of Prince Edward Island, "that the Act declaring that Baptism of Slaves shall not exempt them from Bondage" passed in 1781, was not repealed until 1825, having remained a blot on our statute books for forty-four years."

The first legislation, passed 27th October, 1825, reads as follows: "An Act to repeal an Act made and passed in the twenty-first year of his late Majesty's reign, intitled 'An Act declaring that Baptism of Slaves shall not exempt them from Bondage'."

"Whereas by the aforesaid Act Slavery is sanctioned and permitted within this Island, and it is highly necessary that an act be entirely at variance with the Law of England, and the Freedom of the country, should be forthwith repealed, and Slavery for ever hereafter abolished in this Colony: "Be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council, and Assembly, that from and after the passing hereof, the said act intitled 'An Act declaring that Baptism of Slaves shall not exempt them from Bondage,' and every clause, matter and thing therein contained, be, and the same is, hereby repealed.

"Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall have any effect until his Majesty's pleasure shall be known."

Notes By The Way

A brute is a man who leaves his wife home all day long—without a cigar. —Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

Horse sense is probably a fine thing but it doesn't seem to have done very much for the horses. —Galt Reporter.

Only forty-one of 114 law students, it's announced, passed supplemental examinations at Osgoode Hall. What do the seventy-three losers do now—launch an appeal? —Windsor Star.

Since we have got our new car we do not have to walk to the bank to make deposits. We just do not make any. —Brandon Sun.

Busy boys stay out of mischief. They are laying a good foundation for later years. A good many of today's carrier boys will be among the city's leading citizens tomorrow—just as many of today's leaders once had newspaper routes of their own. —Vancouver News-Herald.

"Not too much sleep at night," is the latest recipe for longevity given by a centenarian. The sharp differences of opinion on formulas for long life have convinced us that the only reliable guidance was given by a gentleman not long ago who said, when asked how he managed to attain such a ripe old age: "By being born so long ago." —Sault Ste. Marie Star.

The story is told and fully vouched for of a Canadian lady, having business with a senior official of a leading Boston trust company, who found this otherwise educated man displaying an almost pathetic lack of knowledge of Canada. To him it was inconceivable that Canada could produce peaches and other tropical fruits and that this nation had natural resources in abundance which the United States lacked almost entirely. —Sherbrooke Record.

In our part of the province the level of our lakes and streams and erges marked fluctuation; some of the latter almost run dry and so do wells and cisterns. Drought is becoming almost an annual occurrence and many a stream which used to support a mill, or a series of mills, periodically becomes dry land. Everything points to the extreme need or return of large areas of this country to the forest cover that once conserved moisture and doled it out during the year instead of allowing it to run off in one fell swoop which also extracts the nutriment from the soil. The longer we delay putting such a program into effect, we can scarcely avoid repetition of some of the difficulties which we are today enduring because of our earlier folly. —Belleville Recorder and Times.

The average first year student in arts or science from out-of-town pays out from \$1,000 to \$1,300, with only a slight portion of this for recreation and the odd new bit of wearing apparel. Despite this, there is no dearth of students at Toronto where about 15,000 are enrolled or at other universities for that matter. The only consolation for theVarsity student lies in the knowledge that tuition at McGill is about \$100 higher in every course, and in the United States it is even more expensive. It costs about \$2,000 a year to send a girl to Bryn Mawr, and about \$5,000 to send a boy to Yale or Harvard. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

University students this year are faced with increased costs. The situation at Toronto University is cited as an example. There tuition fees were increased by \$50, bringing a year of arts courses to \$180 and engineering to \$341. Text-books cost an average of \$50 for first year students, more for students in higher years and still more for medical students, who pay \$20 and up for many of their texts. Living costs are up, too. Those in residence pay \$300 to \$400 for the session. Single rooms average \$6 a week. Then there are the meals. The average first year student in arts or science from out-of-town pays out from \$1,000 to \$1,300, with only a slight portion of this for recreation and the odd new bit of wearing apparel. Despite this, there is no dearth of students at Toronto where about 15,000 are enrolled or at other universities for that matter. The only consolation for theVarsity student lies in the knowledge that tuition at McGill is about \$100 higher in every course, and in the United States it is even more expensive. It costs about \$2,000 a year to send a girl to Bryn Mawr, and about \$5,000 to send a boy to Yale or Harvard. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

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