

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, OCT. 18, 1949

Amending The Constitution

"You will also be asked to approve ad-
dress praying the parliament of the United
Kingdom to vest in the parliament of
Canada the right to amend the constitution
of Canada in relation to matters not com-
ing within the jurisdiction of the legisla-
tures of the provinces nor affecting the con-
stitutional rights and privileges of the pro-
vinces or existing rights and privileges with
respect to education or the use of the Eng-
lish and French languages.

"My ministers will seek to arrange for
early consultation with the provincial gov-
ernments with a view to agreeing upon an
appropriate procedure for making within
Canada such other amendments to the con-
stitution as may from time to time be re-
quired."

These paragraphs in the speech from the
Throne have given rise to debate in Parlia-
ment and in the press. The greater part of
the controversy is on the question of who is
to decide what matters are "not coming
within the jurisdiction of the legislatures of
the provinces, etc." With the abolition of
appeals to the Privy Council the immedi-
ate answer is, the Supreme Court of Can-
ada. That court, unlike the United States
Supreme Court, is the creature of Dominion
legislation and can at any time be altered,
perhaps beyond recognition, by a majority
in the Commons and Senate. It is small
wonder that the upholders of Provincial
rights are anxious that the constitution of
that court be regarded as a cornerstone of
the national constitution.

An editorial in Toronto's "Saturday
Night" deals vigorously with the subject,
and it is unfortunate that its force was un-
necessarily increased by misquoting the
Throne speech by leaving out reference to
saying "the constitutional rights and privi-
leges of the Provinces." The announced pol-
icy of the Government is serious threat
enough to Provincial rights without attrib-
uting to it a desire to abrogate everything
that does not come strictly within Provincial
jurisdiction.

A Crucial Appointment

A hint that the Canadian National Rail-
way structure may be re-financed is seen by
the Windsor Star in the appointment of
Mr. Donald Gordon to the position of C.N.R.
chairman and president. The system is load-
ed down with a capital debt, built up by the
old private lines which were taken over
when the C. N. R. was set up, and which
caused bankruptcy in 1919 of two of these
private systems, the Grand Trunk, with
its western subsidiary the Grand Trunk
Pacific, and the Canadian Northern. To
these lines which the Government of the
day took over and maintained in operation,
were added two government roads, the In-
tercolonial and the Transcontinental.

Mr. Gordon, at forty-seven, is a young
man to shoulder the responsibilities of man-
aging the largest rail transportation system
in the world. He differs from his predeces-
sors, Sir Henry Thornton, Mr. Hungerford
and Mr. Vaughan in that he has no experi-
ence in the railway industry. Thirty years
ago such a deficiency would probably have
barred him. But today the problem is one
not of operation of the physical property—
of skill in making trains run—so much as
the ability to fit rail transport efficiently
into the broad pattern of transportation
services generally. There are great prob-
lems here, as the Turgeon Royal Commission
is discovering, and solutions cannot be
indefinitely postponed. As deputy governor
of the Bank of Canada, and chairman of our
Foreign Exchange Control Board and Prices
Board, Mr. Gordon has acquired a unique
knowledge of the Canadian economy and its
world-wide contracts. Undoubtedly this is
the kind of experience which influenced the
Government in naming him to the presi-
dency of the country's national railway sys-
tem at this time.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Bible Week.
The Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist.
The last English State lottery was held
this date 1826.
Teaching teachers how to read is a good
project, which might be repeated at least
once a year.
Both City and Province are engaged in
extensive public works programmes in con-
nection with new streets and roads, prepar-
ing the way for house building. Before long
city and suburbs will hardly be recog-

nizable by older citizens and returning Is-
landers on holiday bent.

It is reported from Washington that one
out of five government employees is a wo-
man. Soon it may be government there by
bureauskirts.

This is Navy Week, when the silent ser-
vice permits itself a leeway in the matter
of publicity and the public has a chance to
show its interest in and appreciation of the
Royal Canadian Navy.

Montreal R. C. M. P. have put under de-
tention-seizure some 75 smuggled refrigera-
tors—right in the owners' homes. It seems
poetic justice that the culprits should have
to provide their own "coolers."

Any idea that our present civilization is
drab and colourless compared with earlier
times is greatly in error as can be seen by
comparing the rainbow-hued umbrellas
sporting today with those of any previous
period.

Veterans of the Second World War are
now rushing to get their medals. Some 30-
000 veterans of the First World War didn't
bother to apply for their medals but so far,
veterans affairs officials said, 122,531 per-
sons have applied for service medals for the
Second World War. Approximately 250,000
medals have been mailed so far.

The "Magnificent" is back in service
again after being more than four months a
cripple as a result of grounding. In peace
time its being out of action meant cancella-
tion of training cruises. In war it would
have meant the fleet air arm stranded for
that period unless Canada could borrow a
substitute.

There is plenty trouble ahead for the
Canadian Steamship Lines Ltd., as the re-
sult of the recent Toronto disaster. A suit
has already been entered against it for
\$100,000 by Alfred Metzger, who lost his
wife in the Noronic fire September 17. Mrs.
Metzger, 29, was drowned when she leaped
overboard as the vessel burned at its docks
in Toronto. Metzger charged negligence.

The Royal Commission on transporta-
tion, its trans-Canada tour completed, will
begin final hearings in Ottawa Nov. 1. At
the final sittings, several of the provincial
governments, (including P. E. I.'s), the Cana-
dian Pacific, the Canadian National Rail-
ways, and the Railway Association of Cana-
da will present their submissions for con-
sideration by the commission.

The Federal Government is not losing
any time in keeping the electorate "sweet".
In view no doubt of the coming small gen-
eral election, it is announced about 500,000
Canadians will be getting an extra cheque
for Christmas. They are the ones entitled
to tax refunds under Finance Minister Ab-
bott's tax-cutting budget introduced in the
Commons last spring. The budget is being
reintroduced next Thursday but is expected
to carry no major changes.

A drop in student enrolment at McGill
University was forecast with release of cur-
rent registration figures by Dr. F. Cyril
James, principal and vice-chancellor. Regis-
tration is still continuing but comparative
figures show that enrolment is down 57%
from last October as war veterans gradu-
ally drop from the student body. It is esti-
mated that when registration is complete,
total enrolment this year will be about 7-
700. Last year it was 8,240.

An all-out fight to win all eight by-elec-
tions Oct. 24 will be waged by the Liberal
Party, Defence Minister Brooke Claxton told
the Young Liberal Federation of Canada at
their convention in Montreal. Suggestions
had been made that some of the by-elec-
tions should go by default, he said, but this
would not be a wise policy for any party.
"There is only one way to work in politics
and that is all-out," he advised. "Liberals
should put up a fight in every constituency.
We must fight every election in order to
stay vigorous."

Viscount Palmerston, Prime Minister of
Great Britain, died this date 1865. He was
not a great statesman, but he succeeded
where more distinguished statesmen failed.
He, for instance, ended the long enmity of
England and France by making an alliance
with the new constitutional ruler there,
Louis Philippe, and straightened out Can-
ning's blunder in Greece, by helping to put
down the revolt of Turkish Pasha Mehmet
Ali in 1840. He was a member of Canning's
Tory Government, of Greys Whig Govern-
ment, as well as Aberdeen's Tory Govern-
ment. He himself was Prime Minister from
1855 to 1858, and again from 1859 to his
death in 1865. The last few years were
marked by temporizing in all great ques-
tions being agitated at home and abroad. He
was not an impressive personality but was
skilful and very popular, though Queen Vic-
toria did not like him.

The Poet's Corner

TOIL AWAY
Toil away and set the stone
That shall stand when you are
gone.
Ask not that another see
The meaning of your masonry.
Grind the gem and dig the well
For what? for whom?—I cannot
tell.
The stone may mark a boundary
line,
The well may flow, the gem may
shine.
Be it wage enough for you
To shape them well and set them
true.
Of the future who can tell?
Work, my friend, and so farewell.
—John Jay Chapman.

FAMOUS PEAK
The highest mountain in Wales
is Snowdon, which has an altitude
of 3,560 feet.

Old Charlottetown

GOVERNOR READY'S TOUR
On Wednesday morning, the 27th
ult., Lieutenant Governor Ready
left Charlotte-Town accompanied
by the Adjutant General of Militia,
Colonel Holland, on a tour to the
Eastward. At 2 o'clock that day
he inspected the 8th Batt. of Militia
at St. Peter's, spent the night at
Mr. Worrell's and proceeded next
morning towards Neufrage, where
he was to inspect the 10th Battalion,
but the Small-pox being in that quar-
ter he dispensed with their as-
sembling and continued his journey
by way of the Capes; the road
here for upwards of thirty miles
along the coast up to East Point
is thickly settled and studded with
thriving farms.

His Excellency remained that
night at Mr. Anderson's, Surveyor's
motel, and in the morning rode out
to view the entrance of that ro-
mantic Lake, and expressed him-
self highly pleased with the beauty
of the scenery and the fertile ap-
pearance of the fields on its bor-
ders waving with corn and grass.
On Friday, having returned as far
as St. Margaret's Church, he
crossed the country to the French
settlement on Rollo Bay, and con-
tinued his route to Colville Bay,
where he was met by Mr. Cam-
bridge and conducted to his ship-
building establishment at New
Bristol. The sight which here
presented itself was one of a very
pleasing description; two ships of
large dimensions, and a brig of
200 tons on the stocks at one place,
and another ship at a short dis-
tance. The workmen at the yard
greeted his Excellency's entrance
with three hearty cheers; flags
were displayed from the differ-
ent vessels and on the stern of one
of them, a ship of 600 tons, was
painted in large characters her
name, "Governor Ready", a com-
pliment which his Excellency evi-
dently felt.

He was received everywhere
with marks of the highest respect;
his urbanity to the different per-
sons with whom he was led to
converse, and the pointed and well
directed enquiries which he made
on all subjects connected with the
advancement and good of the
country, as manifested in the lively
interest he takes in all that
relates to their happiness and
prosperity, was to all a source of
peculiar gratification.
—Prince Edward Island Register,
Aug. 5, 1825.

The Age-Old Story

Blessed be God, even the Father
of mercies, and the God of all
comfort, who comforteth us in all
our tribulation, that we may be
able to comfort them which are
in any trouble, by the comfort
whereunto we ourselves are com-
forted by God.

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To The Higher Plane



PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the
discussion by correspondents
of questions of interest. The
editorial should be the opinion
of correspondents.

RADIO BROADCASTING

Sir.—We hear and read violent
criticism of the Canadian Broad-
casting Corporation. In fact, a bar-
rage of propaganda is being car-
ried on in favor of private own-
ership in the broadcasting field.
It seems strange that any pub-
lic man would advocate such a
vicious policy. The discovery of
radio should have been a mile-
stone in human history. As an in-
strument of mass education and
the spread of culture its possi-
bilities would be incalculable if used
as it might and should be. What
the little red school house did to
fight illiteracy and ignorance could
be surpassed by radio properly
employed. Instead its use has been
prostituted to vulgar commercial
exploitation and greedy money
making.
Our Governments can spend bil-
lions for war or armaments or al-
most anything, but if a few dol-
lars are asked for public broad-
casting, a howl goes up from
thick-skinned profiteers when
billions should be spent in pro-
fit and extolling soap operas.
If anyone were to advocate the
private ownership of our school
houses, so they could be used for
profit and extolling soap operas,
he would be put away some
place. I consider advocating priv-
ate ownership of radio broadcast-
ing an exact parallel.

A recent Government survey
showed that the five largest
chains of privately owned broad-
casting in the U.S.A. made a clear
profit of 23 millions of dollars in
nine months on a capital invest-
ment of 15 millions. It also show-
ed that the public spent twenty-
one dollars on their receivers for
every dollar spent by those sta-
tions.
I have stopped turning on our
radio as 80 per cent of what I
must listen to is cheap, rude ad-
vertising. And this from a station
which surpasses all others in op-
posing public broadcasting.
I am, Sir, etc.,
PAUL McLAUGHLIN
Peake's Station.

LIQUOR AND TOBACCO

Sir.—I am not writing these let-
ters against liquor and tobacco
just for fun but to convince smok-
ers and drinkers that they are
injuring their health and squan-
dering their money. An insurance
agent told me a few days ago
about a man who would like to
have some insurance on his life
for his wife and family, but he
can't afford it for his cigarette
cost him \$10 a year. That is his
account, but likely they cost more
if the truth were known.
About 20 years ago a reliable
person told me of a principal in
a certain school who was spending
75 cents a day in cigarettes which
would be \$27.75 for the year.

when cigarettes were far cheaper
than they are now. I was telling
this to a minister and he said "I
knew a man in Nova Scotia in an
office who spent 90 cents a day."
That would be \$32.50 for the
year when cigarettes were cheap.
Now these two poor fellows who
were spending so much twenty
years ago are likely dead before
this, for the nicotine poison in the
cigarettes knocks them out in time.
The poor fellow who is spending
so much in cigarettes that he can't
afford to insure his life is trying
to break off from smoking but
hasn't much success; he is trying
to taper off, and that is no good.
He will have to stop short and
stand on his resolution and then
he'll succeed. That is the experi-
ence of those who break off from
smoking and I guess from drink-
ing too, and it is well worth the
effort and the time to do it is now
before it is too late.
Many a poor family is suffer-
ing want because of smoking. A
reliable man told me that he was
brought up in great poverty be-
cause his father spent more money
in tobacco than his mother had
to feed the family with. What a
sad reality! Then concerning li-
quor here is the testimony of a
half-breed Indian. He said: "I was
a heavy drinker and I was always
in trouble and saving nothing,
and I gave up drinking and now
I have a happy home with money
in the bank and a car."
These testimonies should make
smokers and drinkers think of
what they are making of their
lives. They have only one life to
live; they will never get another
chance, but they have a chance
now if they will act upon it.
I am, Sir, etc.,
OBSERVER.

FOUR-YEAR SENTENCE

OTTAWA, Oct. 13.—(CP)—James
O'Shea, 22-year-old immigrant who
earlier this week was found guilty
of being the father of a child by
his 13-year-old niece, today was
sentenced to four years in peni-
tentiary by County Judge John P.
Madden. In earlier testimony
O'Shea was alleged by his niece
to have committed the offence
when she was only 12. The baby
was born last July.

DONATE HISTORICAL RELICS

NEW DELHI.—(CP)—Several
thousand fragments of moulds, re-
vealing the technique of casting
coins of ancient India and discov-
ered by the late Dr. Biral Sahni,
distinguished botanist, will be pre-
sented to the National Museum of
India here, by his widow.

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AGENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE

Notes By The Way

A Nigerian lad, writing for pen-
pals, points out that collection of
American dollars is his hobby.
This puts him in the same cate-
gory as those other noted hobby-
ists, Hon. Douglas Abbott and Sir
Stafford Cripps.—Victoria Times.

Christian Church is great more
successful in its great mission
than when it has to endure pov-
erty, persecution and martyrdom. It
is when religious leaders are most
ready to give their lives for the
faith that is in them that the
masses are most prone to follow
them. A church that is safe, pro-
perous and privileged is always
in danger of losing its vitality. —
Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

There isn't a fruit harvested any-
where that doesn't run the gamut,
let more or less successfully, of
ingenious and exotic desserts con-
cocted year after year from the
facility of soap operas. From pies
to preserves, plums come off rat-
her well. As a prune, it's a break-
fast standby. Stewed and canned
the old-fashioned way, it is a
kitchen classic. Most any way, in
fact, it hits the taste plum centre. —
New York Times.

The opposing views of Dean
Walter Russell Bowie and Father
Murray remind one of a story
current in the '20's. A Model T
and a mule met on a narrow road
and neither would give way.
"What are you?" said the mule
to the Model T. "I'm an auto-
mobile," replied the Model T, "and
I must get out of here." To which
the mule replied: "I'm a horse." Then
they both laughed and shared the
road.—A Letter in Time Magazine.

Relations between India and
Pakistan have never been worse,
with India stubbornly refusing to
discuss a truce unless the Azad
Kashmir forces are first disarm-
ed and disbanded and Northern Kash-
mir is given over to India's oc-
cupation. Obviously Pakistan will
never agree to truce conditions
which would pull all Kashmir
under India's military control be-
cause any plebiscite was held. One
result, on which India certainly
never reckoned, is the marked
change of feeling in Whitehall,
where Mr. Nehru's intransigent
speeches, and above all the in-
clusion of four Kashmir delegates
in the Constituent Assembly (as
if Kashmir were already a part of
India), are much deplored.—Lon-
don Observer.

When New Jersey instituted com-
pulsory inspection of all motor
vehicles, loud was the howl when
50 out of every 100 drivers were
warned to have their automobiles
repaired within a week of suffer-
ing the consequences. Today inspec-
tion is taken as a matter of course
When inspection was first institut-
ed many of them were driving
comparatively new cars and were
highly insulted when told that
their machines were faulty. But
poorly focussed lights and defec-
tive brakes or tires are death-
dangers or anion shiny new se-
dans or ancient jalopies.—Chatham
News.

Bleak House, dominating Broad-
stairs from its position high on
the cliffs above the Henry VIII
harbour, and for long the mecca
of Dickens pilgrims, is shortly to
be sold by auction. Contrary to
general belief, Bleak House is
not the one mentioned in the book
of that name, which was written
at St. Albans, but it is intimately
connected with the author, who
wrote many of his works at
Broadstairs. It was here, sitting
in the big bow window, with its
clear sweep of the channel on
three sides "and the sea rolling
and dashing under our windows,"
that Dickens wrote much of
"David Copperfield." In 1847 noises
other than the dashing waves
could be heard. "Vagrant music
is getting to that height here, and
is so impossible to be escaped
from, that I fear Broadstairs and
I must part company," the author
wrote in a letter to a friend.
After leaving Fort House—as
Bleak House was known during
Dickens' tenancy—he commenced
his new story, "Bleak House," and
the next occupier renamed the
house in honor of the book. —
London Mail.

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