

THE GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887). Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President, Ian A. Burnett; Vice-President, Wm. R. Burnett; Secy.-Treas., G. M. Burnett; Editor and Managing Director, J. E. Burnett; Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1948

In Dire Straits

A revenue surplus of \$1,354,930 is forecast in the budget brought down by Premier Macdonald in the Nova Scotia Legislature. Nova Scotia's last fiscal year, which ended in November, revealed the unprecedented surplus of \$9,507,215, mainly because the budget had been framed several months before the new tax-sharing pact with Ottawa brought an additional ten million or so to the Provincial treasury.

The Sydney Post-Record poses the question: Where then will the additional revenues be derived to meet ever-increasing requirements? When the subsidies from Ottawa are no longer adequate, quite obviously direct taxation must supply the deficiency, if it is to be supplied at all.

Even the wealthy province of British Columbia is feeling the pinch in this regard. According to the Vancouver News-Chronicle, it has "become apparent that B. C., along with other governments that signed the deal with Ottawa on relative spheres of taxation and income, is going to suffer extreme financial hardship because (a) the deal did not visualize today's inflation in prices and costs of services and (b) the Federal Government is hiding behind the fact that Ontario and Quebec have not participated in the plan and is not implementing its social service undertakings."

These undertakings, it will be recalled, formed an important part of the plan by which the less wealthy Provinces were to share in the huge tax revenues of the Central Provinces. The hope that they will ever materialize is slim indeed, judging by the budget submitted the other day in the Ontario Legislature, and the accompanying speech of Hon. Leslie Frost, Provincial Treasurer. The figures show a surplus for the fiscal year ending March 31 last of more than \$25,000,000, with a similar reduction in the Province's net debt.

Now the Central Provinces — the "bad boys" at the Dominion-Provincial tax conference who refused to "divvy up" on the basis of each for all — are to have a big slice of cake in the form of a discriminatory freight rate increase which will penalize all the other Provinces. This iniquitous increase, sanctioned by the King's Government despite the opposition of spokesmen from the seven participating Provinces in the tax agreements, will mean to Prince Edward Island, in Premier Jones's opinion, the loss of nearly one million dollars annually. Add to this the 5 per cent income tax on corporations which we imposed last year for the Federal treasury, and it will be seen that we are getting little or nothing except our statutory subsidies in return for all our horse-trading at Ottawa.

"Operation Produce"

Mrs. Janet Dunbar gives the following account of British Women's Institutes new enterprise: "It's called 'Operation Produce' and the six thousand five hundred Women's Institutes here are being asked to take action in a new food production drive. If every Institute member grows ten pounds more in her garden it will mean a total increase of about three and a half million pounds of food for the country."

they are being asked to take on allotments—extra plots of land, wherever possible, and grow extra food for pigs and poultry. Knowing the spirit of the Women's Institutes, I have no doubt whatever that each member will contribute her ten pounds of food to 'Operation Produce'. I shouldn't be surprised if she makes it eleven!"

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Soviets are pussyfooting in order to gain time to decide upon their next forward move.

Our Ottawa correspondent has been on the sick list this week, hence absence of special bulletins from that quarter.

Ottawa continues silent on the building of the Trans-Canada Highway. Such an investment will pay dividends, in American dollars.

A robin has arrived in a city garden, a citizen complains of dusty streets, a painter in white array has been seen wheeling his push cart, all indications that Spring is just around the corner.

Troubles never come singly. On the top of the shortage of butter comes the complaint of a housewife that marmalade—that hitherto reliable breakfast stand-by with dry toast—is short in supply.

It is something new in this Province for a policeman to be sued and mulcted in damages for alleged excess of force in the discharge of his official duty. How come?

Elections can be a source of profit to the people holding them. The Italian elections are still more than a week away and Italy has already acquired Trieste, and now has powerful backing for admission to the U. N.

Relaxation of the security measures surrounding radio-active minerals will be welcomed not, perhaps, because the man in the street wants to learn the properties of uranium or thorium but because real increase of knowledge depends on the free exchange of information.

To beat the British "black market" in gasoline, it is recommended commercial gas be dyed red, and social gas be left in its natural color in order to discover which is which in a car or truck, the vehicle will have to be held up. Pity the poor Bobbies at Whitsuntide holidays.

We have been assured by an authority of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy in conference at Vancouver that motorists in 1948 will have no fuel worries, only junkyard car worries. What consolation is there in this?

The old order maketh room for the new in the re-building of the business section of Queen St. The disappearance of several old, well-known business stands to make room for the new Woolworth building is a reminder, too, that trade is heading north by east.

As a result of today's solar eclipse over the Pacific geographers and astronomers hope to reduce mapping errors from 600 feet to about 100 feet. It will be rather nice to know where we stand, that is within 100 feet of where we stand.

The Federal Government has avoided an issue on railrate increase by placing a non-confidence motion on the subject in "cold storage" for ten days. The astute Prime Minister evidently thinks the seven protesting provinces will have cooled down by that time.

The coal strike or work stoppage in the U. S. A. has a special interest for Islanders. Mr. Lewis has all along claimed that the various union locals are "autonomous" and that he and the national organization are not responsible. A ruling of the United States Supreme Court would indicate how our own Labour Act would actually work.

It was a warm early spring day in Welland, Ont., so the kindergarten lesson was based on the parental co-operation of robins at nesting time. The teacher explained the story, and then asked questions to determine the impression, it had made. "And what does the poppa robin do while mother is sitting on the eggs?" she asked. "Oh, he's probably out running around with other robins," answered a five-year-old boy.

The U. S. Government cannot support a democratic movement in China, says The Printed Word, for there is none and will not be, in reality, for another 50 years at least. The Russians know how to deal with this situation when it suits them to move. They will go on building up Communism in China, until they are ready to march in. The U. S., on the other hand, is only slowly coming to understand that the only way of holding any part of China against the Russians is by the use of military force. China is one country in which democracy is not going to be strengthened enough by money grants to resist the Russians. There is greater danger of a major Russian victory in China than anywhere in Western Europe.

Francis Bacon, Baron Verulam and Viscount St. Albans, English lawyer, statesman and philosopher died this date 1626. He was a Cecil as well as a Bacon, being a nephew of the great William Cecil, Lord Burghley. He was private secretary to the Earl of Essex, Burghley's rival at the Royal Court, but on Essex's downfall Bacon had as Queen's counsel to assist in his prosecution for treason. On the ascent of James I he dedicated to him his Advancement of Learning, and thereafter his promotion at Court was rapid. His greatest work, Novum Organum (New Instrument) is the finest trumpet call ever given to the free and ordered use of the mind: "We are much beholden to Machiavel and others that write that men do, and not what they ought to do."

Notes By The Way

Babies want more sleep than adults, and they want it at a different time. — Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

A Minnesota farmer is amazed at the profligacy of his sheep. One ewe gave birth to quadruplet lambs; three to triplets, and 18 to twins. Doubtless the ewes feel a bit sheepish about it themselves. — Windsor Star.

Embarking on a round-the-world trip from Montreal, Miss Honey Hansen carries but 22 pounds of spare clothing, a complete outfit from lingerie to an evening gown. Nobody will accuse her of over dressing. — Windsor Star.

All but 23,000 of the 84,000 applicants waiting for telephones at the beginning of 1947 received service during the year. Yet the demand for telephones was so great that the number waiting for service at the year's end totaled 94,000. — Toronto Telephone News.

Anyone who chooses to add up the loss of life and property each year due to the stupid habit of starting or quickening fires with coal oil will receive an unpleasant surprise and appreciate the grave dangers associated with the practice. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Europe in these last few years has relieved the old fable of the bundle of sticks, which, tied together, could not be broken, but which, taken one at a time, could be snapped with the greatest ease. A real United States of Europe is probably nearer today than ever before. — Edmonton Journal.

What's happening to muskrats and raccoons shouldn't happen to a dog, but it'll help make wolver look mighty pretty in new high-coloured furs next winter. The Hudson seal coat, which is dyed muskrat, is now being tinted bright navy blue, and the raccoon is emerging as a honey blonde jungle mink. The trade name for these intense tones in furs is enzymatic colours, whose added virtue in addition to tint is that they protect the hair and leather of furs and lengthen their life. — Hamilton Spectator.

A curious situation has been revealed in Toronto at a meeting between representatives of barbers in that city and a committee of the city council. The barbers were present to protest against a proposed increase in their licence fees, and in the course of the argument, the barbers said that Toronto had a number of "bootleg" barbers who were going from home to home cutting hair at prices less than the licensed barbers obtained. It was pointed out that in the municipality of Leaside, a Toronto suburb with a population of 11,500 people, there were only four barber shops. The meeting also brought out the fact that half-dressers were going from door to door soliciting business, the work to be done in the home; and that individual plumbers were cutting prevailing price rates in the trade. — Fort William Times-Journal.

The City Club of Chicago is seeking to stimulate interest in a program of tree planting for Chicago streets. It is pointed out that in the last several years, 80,000 trees have been removed, with practically no replacements. There are many reasons for desiring trees in the city. They purify the air, they lower the temperature, they attract birds and they give any neighborhood an atmosphere of restfulness, something of beauty. The cost in money and effort is not great, and the returns are tremendous. The difficulty is to enlist the interest of those whose leadership could get results. It would be a worthy program for all neighborhood civic associations. — Chicago Daily News.

Several weeks ago we reported that following a speech at a Toronto luncheon club, a distinguished British scientist mystified us by twiddling a small screwdriver. The other day, Finance Minister Abbott spoke at the same club. No sooner had he finished his address than he was seen to be clutching a screwdriver. Now the mystery is so solved. We discover that a certain undertaker makes a practice of handing out screwdrivers at every opportunity. We don't know whether he regards the implement as a subtle form of business card, or as a symbol of his belief that a loose world could be tightened by a turn to the right. In short, to us, the whole thing appears inscrewtable. — Financial Post.

A new assault on the high cost of refining coal is being mounted. If successful, it will bring radical changes in mining methods that have been standard for years. The thud of blasting will no longer be heard in the pits. And the cutting and loading machines that are today's main elements of mine mechanization will largely give way within a few years, to a "complete" machine that performs all underground mining functions in one operation. At Dalystown, Pa., a small mine settlement about 35 miles south of here, nearly three weeks before John Lewis' men walked out on their current strike, a strange big experimental machine was quietly moved into the Crescent No. 1 mine of Pittsburgh Consolidation Coal Co., world's largest commercial producer of coal. The "complete miner" (as made an unpublished debut in the Appalachian fields. — Wall Street Journal.

Enrico Caruso did not start his singing training until he was 18 years old.

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.

THE BUTTER SHORTAGE

"Sir, — Recent reports coming from Ottawa suggesting that the butter shortage is due to hoarding on the part of the housewife and excess consumption by the consumer, is to say the least, silly in the extreme. Those who feel it a responsibility to advance an explanation, had better get down to facts and admit there are more deep-seated reasons, which if not eliminated soon, will aggravate the situation and cause its continuation indefinitely, and not only with respect to butter, but many other products of the farm. Within the recollection of the writer, there never was a similar situation in peace time, and having the same human equation to contend with as that given now as an excuse.

Farmers as a class are tolerant, patient and slow to anger, but when they are goaded to the breaking point one may expect that retaliation to the limit will overtake the transgressors as an inevitable consequence. And that is just what is happening today. The shortage in butter supply is not the only one we may expect to encounter during the coming months, perhaps years, unless a change in attitude and conduct towards the agricultural producer is soon assured and applied.

It would not be surprising, if within the next six months, the milk supply to Charlottetown would have to be rationed on account of extreme scarcity. There will probably be from fifteen hundred to two thousand fewer milk patrons on the pay roll of our butter and cheese factories in this Province this year than in the regular season. Thousands of calves will be, and now are, being culled for milking purposes on the herds of the Province instead of the regular milking machines and the original thumb and finger exercise.

Dairy farming is a slavish job at best, imposing upon the operator longer hours of toil and involving greater outlay and expense than that of any other phase of agriculture, and to the farmer produces the least net income from investment and for the labour and effort exacted, of any activity on the average farm.

The present shortage of butter is annoying to the average consumer but causes leading up to this shortage that may become still more acute and continuous, constitute a problem of national concern and calls for immediate and decisive action on the part of our legislators both Provincial and Federal.

Interest in the dairy industry that at one time glorified this phase of farm operations, is rapidly changing to that of disgust. Many large herds are being depleted of their most outstanding production and breeding stock and in many cases, completely liquidated. The industry is on the toboggan and gaining momentum each day towards utter ruination. The agriculturist is not being given a square deal either in the Province or by the Dominion Government and there is only one possible ending: Restricted production! And this, where instituted, will prove disastrous to every one within its scope and beyond.

"PRODUCER"

REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS

"Sir, — Whether it comes about that Prince Edward Island has its own schools suited to its needs or whether it continues to be satisfied with its present inadequate system depends on you!" The above statement is the closing challenge left to all in an address given recently by Mr. Malcolm MacKenzie of the Department of Education of Prince Edward Island.

Let us review the principal ideas which he outlined. The survey committee of the Canadian Educational Association established a few years ago for Canada the term "Composite Secondary School." It seeks to make available several types of curricula, including particularly the academic or college preparatory, the commercial, the agricultural, the technical, household arts and sciences. Beyond a core curriculum of general education consisting in the main of English, the social studies, health and physical education, the high school student is permitted to follow, according to his desire and need, one of these five tracks or courses and would be granted standing equivalent to that in the purely academic field. This basically, is what we mean by a Regional Composite High School.

Are we convinced that a sound high school education is the right one for the privilege of all who can profit from such training? New, different, and more exacting demands are made upon the individual in the discharge of his duties and responsibilities in the world of today and he must be adequately trained to cope with them. No community can consider that it has fulfilled its responsibilities to the youth unless it has provided educational opportunities at least to the end of the secondary school stage.

Let us inquire to what extent our boys and girls are availing themselves of the opportunity for secondary education under our present offering. If we examine our Grade Enrollment Tables in the Annual Reports of the Department of Education, we find this picture: Enrollment is normally constant for the first five grades but from Grade VI on there is a gradual falling off which becomes most



SPRING WARNING

When the green snake leaves upon the rock his last year's skin like a bubble; when the bright eyed crow with rusty cry surveys the cornfield stubble

and waits the early morning plowing; when the barn-cat, striped and proud, brings her kittens out to the mid-day sun with a rumble fierce and loud.

When the meadow brook goes wild with thaw and shrill delirious frogs; when willows fly thin yellow blooms and cowslips ride the bogs;

when overnight the lilac leaves burst small,—it's time to tether your heart to a butternut tree for fear it'll blow off in such weather.

—Frances Frost in New York Herald-Tribune.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

CAPE WOLFE SERVICE

The following item from The Island Guardian of November 15 1889, is of special interest in view of the present plans for a West Point-Buctouche ferry service:

"Notice is given that application will be made at the next session of Parliament for an act to incorporate the Moncton and Prince Edward Island Railway and Ferry Company, which proposes to operate a line of railway from Buctouche, County of Kent, N. B. to Richibouche Cape and to manage a line of ferry steamers between said Cape and Cape Wolfe, P. E. Island, for the purpose of carrying railway trains, passengers and goods; also to operate a line of railway from Cape Wolfe to the F. E. Island government railway and to connect therewith or with any extension thereof."

pronounced in Grades VIII and IX. Noting that on an average about 3,000 pupils enrol in Grade I and that only some 360 pass the entrance examinations to Prince of Wales College at the end of Grade X, and that not all of these go on to finish their high school training, we can conclude that only about one pupil in ten completes high school in this Province. This is a fairly true picture over the years and indicates that far too many of our boys and girls are leaving school ill prepared to play their true role as citizens of a democracy and to cope with the increasingly difficult situations of modern living.

Why is this so? Is it that our program of studies lacks flexibility in range of courses? It could be the main reason for the sudden dropping off in enrolment in Grades VIII, IX and X as indicated. At present our course is largely one-tracked, preparatory for college commerce with little or no emphasis on the industrial, the agricultural or the home-making fields.

Eighty-five percent of our schools are the type in which one teacher attempts to teach all the subjects for ten grades. To the inevitable weak foundation of elementary work, is added a weak superstructure of high school work which in this Province consists of French, Geometry, Algebra and a small amount of Science. From the standpoint of the pupils, themselves, it means that mainly those who are looking forward to college or commercial life go beyond Grade VIII. How has our educational program served the rank and file of those who remain in rural life?

The Regional Composite High Schools, thirty in number as planned, could provide improved high school education for our youth. Except in the largest centres three courses — the College Preparatory, the Agricultural and Home Economics — would be sufficient in each high school. Efficiency in administration and equalization of educational privileges and costs among the districts within its area would follow. The central high school offers pupils participation in study of music, drama, art and physical education not now provided. The adult population could use each high school as a community centre for study clubs, radio forums, film circuits, and lectures.

Reorganization and expansion in the field of secondary school education is well underway in other parts of Canada. New Brunswick by June of last year had five high schools in operation, seven under construction, six organized and approved by the Department of Education, and twenty-six proposed and under study. The Department estimates that fifty consolidations will give complete coverage for a modern high school education for the Province and that at the present rate of reorganization the job will be completed in less than five years.

It is our duty as civic-minded citizens to sustain and improve our schools for our children. In their hands we place the destiny of our nation.

We are, Sir, etc., THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE OF CHARLOTTETOWN

LAKE SHEEPS HAVE RADAR

THOROLD, Ont., April 8.—(CP)—The first Canadian lake fleet to be equipped with war-developed radar has begun to move from winter berths at the Welland ship canal docks here.

ADAM HATS advertisement featuring a hat image and the text 'ON EVERY AVENUE' and 'ADAM HATS this Spring'.

ADAM HATS advertisement with the text 'You'll find ADAM HATS unsurpassed for quality, styles and value. Genuine fur felts hand-crafted of imported fur in a rich variety of Spring colors and styles. Drop in and select your new ADAM HAT today!' and 'HENDERSON & CUDMORE WHERE QUALITY IS SURE'.

RADIO FOR UTILITIES and SEVERE SENTENCE advertisements.

Professional Cards advertisement for Public Stenographer, William A. Reddin, M. Alban Farmer, Neil W. Higgins, Dr. J. C. Gallant B.Sc., and Joseph R. MacMillan, LL.B.

Professional Cards advertisement for Charles R. McQuaid, Esq., Barrister, Solicitor, Notary, etc.

Professional Cards advertisement for Bell & Matheson, Barristers, Solicitors, etc.

Professional Cards advertisement for J. A. McGulgan, Notary, etc.

Professional Cards advertisement for H. F. McPhee, B.A., K.C., Notary, etc.

Professional Cards advertisement for Dr. W. R. Carson, Chiropractor, Palmer Graduate.

Professional Cards advertisement for A. Walthen Gandet, LL.B., Barrister, Solicitor, etc.

Professional Cards advertisement for Gaudet & Hazard, Barristers, Solicitors, etc.

Professional Cards advertisement for Palmer & Haslam, Barrister, etc.

Professional Cards advertisement for EYES EXAMINED AND GLASSES FITTED by J. S. TAYLOR OPTOMETRIST.

Professional Cards advertisement for Frederic A. Large, K.C., Barrister, Solicitor, Notary.