

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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President, Ian A. Burnett; Vice-President, Wm. R. Burnett; Secy.-Treas., G. M. Burnett; Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett; Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink." FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1947

Decadent Oratory

The debates in the Legislature so far have indicated the Government is woefully deficient in oratory or even plain wholesome speech-making dealing with the work of the departments past, present and future.

Proposed Express Rate Boost

As previously noted in these columns, the Railway Express Organization has made application for an increase in their competitive truck rates to the same extent as any increase in freight rates granted to the railways.

At once, says the Winnipeg Free Press, railway counsel began to press that the express application should be determined simultaneously with the railway application.

It is, of course, understandable and natural that certain details will slip the minds of the railway representatives in their formidable task.

"Under the circumstances," says the Free Press, "it was disquieting to counsel for the provinces that Assistant Chief Commissioner Hugh Wardrop appeared to have caught the railways' feverish mentality."

Economy Bluff Exploded

Few propaganda balloons have been brought to earth quite so quickly as the King Government's recent statement that the main spending estimates submitted to Parliament for the coming year had been cut by \$906,000,000.

The Progressive Conservative leader landed his shot directly on the one pertinent fact which the Government seems to have hoped would be overlooked.

In other words, instead of being the proof of the Government's administrative efficiency and economy, the \$906,000,000 cut was exactly the reverse.

It is now apparent that the main estimates for the coming year which have been laid before Parliament reflect no policy of economy whatever in normal post-war Government costs.

Mr. Bracken is insistent that the taxpayer must get the benefit of the automatic saving in the form of a cut in his tax payments.

rate of taxation as the minimum to which the taxpayer is entitled in the light of the lowered peacetime scale of Government expenditures.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Easter Roast will be in order after all, and without coupons. Looks like a Fall election.

Our worthy Senators admit they do something for their \$6,000 per session. They sit, and are bored, on committees.

It is too bad that eternal questioning in the House of Commons should bring our Province and its transportation difficulties into contempt.

So Nova Scotia has got a small share in the British potato purchase. See what it is to have a by-election pending.

Evidently this Province has no items included in the supplementary estimates, totalling \$55,839,512 for the current year, or for \$6,100,000 for 1947-48.

The City has many welcome visitors from outlying districts in the members of the Anglican Diocesan Church Society and the Women's Auxiliary, holding meetings and celebrations at both St. Peter's and St. Paul's.

They are all doing it—in the Maritimes anyway, boosting the taxes. New Brunswick has followed Nova Scotia's example, and, of course, we here under Premier Jones' dictatorship, have to pay and look as pleasant as we can under the circumstances.

We trust all our readers read the remarks of Miss Blanchard at the grocers' meeting in the City Hall, reported in yesterday's issue. It shows how efficiently and effectively a lady can contribute to a discussion on a subject in which she is keenly interested.

Britain, with the possible exception of Denmark and Sweden, is the best-fed country in Europe, Food Minister Strachey said at a press conference in Manchester.

So even our war veteran civil servants are mere "hiringlings" of Mr. J. Walter Jones, Premier, who fought in neither the First nor Second Great Wars, but profited agriculturally in both.

Six candidates have been nominated for the Montreal-Cartier Federal by-elections where voting will take place next Monday for a successor to Fred Rose, Labor-Progressive, who is serving a six-year penitentiary term for espionage activity.

Britain declared war on Russia this date, 1854. Russia had proposed to Britain division of the territories of Turkey, "the sick man of Europe", and seized Moldavia and Wallachia.

With production steadily increasing and the manufacturers predicting that unprecedented numbers of automobiles will be rolling off the assembly lines soon, the Canadian National Railways announce the placing of an order for the construction of 500 new all-steel automobile cars.

Senator Hugeson, Treasurer of the Liberal Party, and a leading Montreal corporation lawyer, agrees with Senator Sinclair, that the admission of oleomargarine is pretty much of a foregone conclusion, because at an international trade convention to be held in April in Geneva one of the items to be discussed is a proposal that no country be permitted to prohibit the importation of a product of another country.

Why this weather? Why was such a winter inflicted on us? There are two schools of thought. Moderns say it's all due to the atom bombs of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and the Bikini Atoll.

Notes By The Way

Canadian youth was "never so insolent and so defiant," according to an official report. The authors, naturally, have an exhaustive first-hand knowledge of the behavior of Canadian youth in 1647, 1747, and 1847.

David Bowes-Lyon, brother of Queen Elizabeth, arrived last week and was asked by a reporter: "How does it feel to have a sister who is a queen?" He replied: "A sister's a sister even though she is the Queen."

As a road safety measure, the experiment was made by Glasgow some time ago of cutting out the amber light on the change from red to green in the automatic traffic signals.

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From the earliest times ceremonies whereby the monarch showed himself to his people have been regarded as an indispensable corollary to a royal coronation, and in this sense, despite the long intervention of war, their Majesties' visit to South Africa is a continuation of the majestic symbolism of their crowning, says the London Evening Standard.

Parliament will do much for the mental health of this nation if it meets on the Finance Minister's taking a leaf—literally a leaf—out of the income tax records of both Great Britain and the United States.

It used to be said that, in life two things were inescapable—taxation and death. But why use the one to hasten the other? — Ottawa Citizen.

Times may be troubled, and the outlook uncertain. But one faint sign of returning normalcy has made its appearance. Sir Harry Lauder says he hopes to make another and final farewell tour of the United States.

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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.

ROUGH ON RATS

Sir—"Women's Wiles", eh? Definition of "Holy Alliance of Bachelors": A group of male rats who enjoy the comforts and pleasures of married life and none of the responsibilities.

Scotland Yard

Written from London by Robert Musel for British United Press.

Sherlock Holmes was always making a monkey out of the man from Scotland Yard—but then he never met Detective Superintendent Edward Greeno. I did. He's one of the "Big Five" who fight crime from the most famous police headquarters in the world and apparently he can do anything. Sherlock could, and without the help of Watson or the needle.

Scotland Yard is so named because it was built on the site of a castle where Scottish Kings used to stay when they visited London. I picked a fortunate time to visit the two massive buildings on the Thames Embankment a few hundred yards from the Houses of Parliament which are properly called New Scotland Yard.

Since one of the ancient traditions of the Yard is no publicity for its staff while they are in service, I thought I might not be able to speak to Greeno and thus lose the rare opportunity of seeing a legend in the making.

Pretty soon Greeno himself came toward me his footsteps echoing along the dark, dismal corridors characteristic of so many British public buildings of half a century ago.

Right here is where Sherlock Holmes and Greeno part company. Intuition? Greeno uses it occasionally. Deduction? Sometimes. What he explains it solving a murder is he uses all the time are facts. As like crossing a stream on rocks.

The first thing you have to do in a murder, then, is establish one, hard fact. After that, he said, it's simply a question of moving on to the next. It all sounds so easy when Greeno tells it.

Take "the Wigwam murder case" which was the one on which the International Detective Magazine based its award to Greeno. Greeno started with the decomposed body of a young girl. Then he found some curious sticks. At this point there was an interruption.

Greeno provided the narrow streets of the Soho area of London in the inky darkness with one fact—the murders coincided or came shortly after the air raid sirens. He insists that the process by which he picked the killer's next two victims, and was there to leap upon a crazed airman as he crawled upstairs towards the frightened girls with a stiletto in his hand, was merely logical progression from that fact.

Gouzenko's Case

The question of adequate provision and protection for Igor Gouzenko, the ex-clipper clerk in the Soviet Embassy at Ottawa, who risked his life to reveal Russian espionage activities in Canada, now faces the Federal Government and Parliament of the Dominion.

The Montreal Gazette announces that one patriotic Canadian citizen, who remains anonymous, has purchased a life annuity for Gouzenko, his wife, and two children, amounting to \$100 a month and suggests that other public-spirited Canadians should follow suit.

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Ontario's Budget

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As the Federal Government is also abandoning the gasoline tax field at the end of this month, Ontario proposes to retain the combined Provincial and Federal gasoline taxes which aggregate 11 cents per gallon.

The Ontario Provincial Treasurer announces that no present income tax will be levied by the Province during the coming year and that there will be no increase in the scale of succession duties now prevailing.

But for the time being at least the Ontario taxpayer is to be pleased in no worse a position with respect to income, corporation, and inheritance levies than he has been in the past.

Mr. A. E. Arsenault K.C., LL.D., Retired Judge CONSULTATIVE and ADVISORY COUNSEL Law Chambers 126 Richmond Street (Prowse Block) Hours: 10:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. 2 P.M. - 4 P.M. or by Appointment PHONE 153-J

The Poets Corner THE ROSE OF THE WORLD Who dreamed that beauty passes like a dream? For these red lips with all their mournful pride, Mournful that no new wonder may betide, Troy passed away in one high funeral gleam; And Usna's children died. We and the labouring world are passing by; Amid men's souls, that waver and give place Like the pale waters in their wintry race, Under the passing stars, foam of the sky, Lives on this lonely face. Bow down, archangels, in your dim abode: Before you were, or any hearts to beat, Weary and kind one lingered by His seat; Before the world to be a grassy road Before her wandering feet. —W. B. Yeats.

Old Charlottetown (and P.E.I.) BRIDGETOWN SETTLEMENT In the year 1850 Capt. Edward Saville, a native of Gloucester, Mass., but then residing in Portland, Maine, started on a coasting voyage to Prince Edward Island for the purpose of trading New England manufactures for juniper knees.

DR. A. R. SMITH DENTIST 175 Grafton Street Office Hours: 9 to 12-2 to 8 Telephone 2284

CHARLES R. McQUAID B.A. Barrister, Solicitor, Notary, Etc. Eastern Trust Building, Charlottetown Phone 1711

A. Walthen Gaudet, LL.B. Barrister, Solicitor, Etc. Phillips Building 111 Grafton St. Money to Loan. Collections

BELL & MATHIESON Barristers, Solicitors, &c. D. L. MATHIESON, LL.B., B.A. Attorneys-at-Law LOANS ON CITY AND FARM PROPERTIES COLLECTIONS 150 Richmond St. Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Palmer & Haslam A. J. HASLAM, B.A., LL.B. BARRISTER, ETC. Bank of Nova Scotia Chambers Charlottetown, P.E.I. MONEY TO LOAN PHONES 85 P.O. Box 14 H. F. McPHEE, B.A., K.C. NOTARY, ETC. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR RILEY BUILDING Charlottetown GAUDET & HASZARD Barristers, Solicitors, Notaries, Etc. Canadian Bank of Commerce Bldg. MONEY TO LOAN 111 A Canadian Bank of Commerce Bldg. Charlottetown, P.E.I. Frederic A. Large, K.C. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY Royal Bank of Canada Chambers Charlottetown, P.E.I. Successor to George J. Tweedy, K.C. DR. W. R. CARSON Chiropractor Palmer Graduate Charlottetown 201 Prince St. Phone 1023 EYES EXAMINED AND GLASSES FITTED J. S. Taylor OPTOMETRIST "Specialists in the fitting of glasses for the correction of ocular defects." 53 Grafton Street

Professional Cards DR. O.S. NORDLAND Veterinary Surgeon Mount Edward Road Charlottetown, P.E.I. Phone 804 PUBLIC STENOGRAPHER Mimeographing cards and circulars concert programs, correspondence typing and bookkeeping HELEN GIDDEN Telephone 1890-J Apt. No. 4, Connaught Apts. Pownall Street M. ALBAN FARMER B.A., LL.B. MONEY TO LOAN BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, ETC. CHARLOTTETOWN J. A. MCGUIGAN, B.A. NOTARY, ETC. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR CURRIE BUILDING

MORRELL and COMPANY Chartered Accountants Eastern Trust Building Phone 1447 - Box 344 Charlottetown B. M. SEARS, C.A. Resident Partner

NEIL W. HIGGINS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT Currie Building Charlottetown Tel. 1636 P.O. Box 458

McLEOD & BENTLEY W. E. BENTLEY, K.C. J. A. BENTLEY, K.C. Barristers and Attorneys-at-Law 154 Prince Street

H. R. DOANE & CO. Chartered Accountants 53 Grafton Street Charlottetown Phone 2080 Box 247 Randolph W. Manning, C.A.

MATHESON and PEAKE A. W. MATHESON, K.C. A. H. PEAKE, B.A., LL.B. Barristers, etc. Collections - Money to Loan 90 Great George Street Charlottetown

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