

THE GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1857)
Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office
Department, Ottawa.

The Island Guardian Publishing Co.
Editor and Managing Director, J. K. Burnett;
Associate Editor, Frank Walker

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink."
CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1948

Significant Decision

The fact that the Dominion Government has
intervened to order the Canadian National Rail-
way to have the railway deck of the M. V.
Abegweit planked for motor truck accommoda-
tion is one of much significance. Heretofore the
Railway has had its own way so far as the
car ferry service is concerned, with the result
that our Provincial Government, Boards of Trade
and other organizations pressing for improve-
ments in truck accommodation have been balked
at every turn. The unsympathetic attitude of the
Railway was clearly indicated in correspondence
tabled at a meeting of the Summerside Board of
Trade two years ago, in a letter from Mr. Dysart,
C.N.R. solicitor. In reply to a request for re-
duction in truck rates on the ferry, Mr. Dysart
argued that "any reduction in the rates charged
for the transportation of motor trucks on the car
ferry would substantially increase the number of
vehicles which the Railway would be required to
handle... The car ferry was never intended to
be used for the wholesale transportation of high-
way trucks... We have always entertained con-
siderable doubt as to whether merchandise car-
ried in highway trucks is actually entitled to the
benefit of the reduced rates prescribed by the
Maritime Freight Act", etc.

Mr. Dysart was only repeating similar objec-
tions raised some years before to reduction of
rates for passenger automobiles, as indicated by
the following statement by C.N.R. Vice President
Fraser in a letter to Hon. Dr. MacMillan, then
Premier, on April 11, 1934. "We as a railroad,"
Mr. Fraser wrote, "cannot afford to overlook the
fact that in reality every automobile we handle
on the ferry is in competition with our own rail
route." He maintained that "while it is quite
true that the loss from operation of the car ferry
is assumed by the Federal Government, the Cana-
dian National Railways, as operators of the
property, construe it to be their responsibility to
see that each class of traffic carried shall con-
tribute, so far as may be practicable, its fair
share of the revenue in relation to its proportion
to the operating expenses."

The ferry rates at that time for a single
passenger car were \$4.00 one way and \$7.00 re-
turn. The subsequent reduction was effected only
by constant pressure brought upon the Dominion
Government through our Provincial and Federal
representatives. This is the story behind every
improvement in our ferry service since Confed-
eration.

The point is, of course, that the Railway
should have nothing whatever to do with deciding
upon our car ferry rates or improvements. Prem-
ier Jones summed the matter up at the Domini-
on-Provincial Conference in 1945 when he quoted
the B.N.A. Act to show that Parliament had ex-
clusive authority over inter-provincial ferries
and pointed out that "when in 1873 a contract
was made for Confederation with Canada, it in-
cluded a unique clause stating that continuous
and adequate communication with the mainland
should be maintained. The intention was to make
mainland connections up to date. If the agree-
ment had been consummated in 1945 instead of
1873, it would have included adequate communi-
cations for railway cars, trucks, buses and au-
tomobiles by ferries located in at least two points
on Prince Edward Island and probably communi-
cation by air for mail and passenger travel; or
else we would have remained out of Confedera-
tion."

This point was also pressed strongly by the
Summerside Board of Trade in its appeal before
the Transport Commission in 1946. It has been
the essence of our case at all times. The Domini-
on Government's intervention in the present in-
stance, in the matter of planking the deck of the
Abegweit and of ignoring Railway counter-argu-
ments as to the expense, is therefore perfectly
justified. It is also tantamount to an admission
that our claims above mentioned are still valid
and worth insisting upon.

A Blundering Referendum

As the results of the first Newfoundland
referendum are analyzed, it becomes clear that
the introduction of the Confederation issue at
this time was a grave political blunder. A more
natural process would have been to hold a
straight referendum with only two choices on
the ballot—Responsible Government or Commis-
sion—and then to have left the issue of Confed-
eration to a general election and a government
elected by Newfoundland and interested only in
Newfoundland. It is impossible to say where the
20,000 Commission votes will go at the next re-
ferendum—both sides are already claiming them
—but in any event, Responsible Government and
Confederation are so close together—60,000 to
55,000—that the final decision when it comes
is likely to be based on only a small majority
which could, in fact, be easily upset in an en-
suing election.

Commenting on this aspect of the case, a
writer in the Winnipeg Free Press points out that
it is possible for Confederation to win the next
referendum and lose to an anti-Confederation
party in the election immediately following it.
The Canadian Government has made it clear
that it would only accept a clear verdict. What
this means in terms of votes is confusing, but a
decisive victory in a referendum where every vote
counts and contributes to a final grand total has
no relation to an election where a man can be
elected on a minority vote and a large populous
constituency is worth more than a small sparsely
settled one.

The voting on June 3 shows the country has
split geographically on the issue. The Avalon

peninsula which contains 40 per cent of the votes
is in favor of Responsible Government. The re-
mainder of the country is preponderately in
favor of Confederation. Carried into daily prac-
tice, this division can be serious. With another
referendum called for by the stalemate of the
first the difference will probably harden. It will
undoubtedly be carried into any following elec-
tion no matter which side wins, and Newfound-
land faces a situation where its government is
based not on an economic and political pro-
gramme but on whether or not the country shall
continue to exist as an entity. Worse than that,
the feeling persists that an attempt has been
made to "railroad" the country into Confedera-
tion, an idea which we know from our own past
political experience dies hard indeed.

Newfoundland ended Responsible Govern-
ment in 1933 with two political parties whose
only real distinguishing feature was their lead-
ership. One was either an Alderidge man or a
Squires man; the party labels which varied in
the inter-war period meant nothing. With the
appointment of Commission government and the
suspension of self-government, political life stop-
ped. It began to revive in 1946 with the na-
tional convention but never developed. Obviously
the first step in this development was to have
formed well-defined political groups with which
to operate any kind of responsible government.
Confederation was something which could well
afford to have waited until this primary matter
was settled.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Selection of prize winners in the rural beau-
tification contest will come later, but potential
winners are already showing championship form.

The massacre of Lidice by the Germans,
this date 1942. They completely destroyed the
Czech village, every man being shot and the
women and children sent to concentration
camps because of alleged assistance to those
who shot Heydrich, the German emissary.

Pierre Loti, French novelist, died this date
1928. One of the finest French prose writers
and member of the Academy. He excels in
impressionistic description. His works include:
Mon Frere Yves, Pecheur d'Islande, Madame
Christanthe, Les Disenchantees.

Capt. Carl Burke is gradually expanding
his air empire, his latest addition being St.
Pierre. The Maritime Airways is already cover-
ing a lot of territory, being the main means of
aerial transport over the greater part of the
Maritimes, Magdalenes and Newfoundland.

Mr. Hugh Paton, son of Col. J. R. Paton, is
making good as a top-notch industrialist in Nova
Scotia. The tendency has been in the past to
draft Maritime industries west, but he has suc-
ceeded in transplanting Western business from
Winnipeg to Mahone Bay.

It begins to look as if the Civil Service, un-
able to choose between four o'clock closing and
a five-day week, will adopt a compromise ar-
rangement by which those who leave at the early
hour will form a skeleton staff in each depart-
ment on Saturdays.

The Income Tax law is to be simplified,
especially as regards appeals, but what most of
the appellants would like to know is, will this
amendment be retroactive? So many taxpay-
ers are suffering what they consider unjust de-
cisions in the past that they would like to have
their cases re-heard.

Ottawa's encouragement of the export of
fertilizer for the sake of "hard currency" ex-
change is inconsistent with the general policy
of exporting our products in the most highly
"processed" form possible. It would be better
to boost farm production with additional fertil-
izer and export the farmer's product.

Mr. Ilsey's proposed retirement at the end
of the present session is because he expects to
earn much more in private practice than as a
minister of the Crown. If we are to make public
service attractive to the most able it is neces-
sary either to provide incomes equal to what they
could earn in other occupations or, if that seems
too costly, then by offering the prospects of pub-
lic recognition in the form of titles of honour.

Britain's new atomic pile at Harwell is ex-
pected this summer to start producing radio-
active isotopes—artificial radio activity produced
in about 15 hours compared with 2,000 years for
radium. The Ministry of Supply estimates that
the increased production will meet the demands
of all research workers in Britain. Atomic re-
search scientists in Britain have hitherto been
producing isotopes from Gleep (Graphite Low
Energy Experimental Pile).

If Premier Drew had spent a quarter of the
time in his constituency that he did in cam-
paigning Ontario as a whole, there can be little
doubt he would have retained his seat. In his
absence his opponents had the field to them-
selves, and the personal canvas of the C. C. F.
candidate proved effective. As party leader Mr.
Drew was in duty bound to traverse the Prov-
ince, and the fact that he retained the Govern-
ment by a very substantial majority, proves that
his labours were not in vain.

Great credit is due to Mr. MacNaught, M.P.,
for his success in getting the Abegweit boarded
for motor truck traffic. He was faced with
strong opposition from the C.N.R., which is
looking for revenue rather than the encourage-
ment of Island trade, and it was only by direct
appeal to the Prime Minister that Mr. Mac-
Naught succeeded in getting the Cabinet to
consider the data he had prepared on the sub-
ject, and granting his request. He acknowledges
the able assistance he received from the other
Island members in carrying out his claims.

Notes By The Way

The bans read out in churches
do not seem to put embargoes on
weddings. — Peterborough Exam-
iner.

Townsmen as a whole take little
interest in actual farm crops and
are apt to assume that there is
about a normal production from
year to year. But in Ontario last
year owing to abnormal spring
rains the crop of oats, barley and
wheat was down 40 percent.
These are the products used heav-
ily in the feed of cattle and hogs,
hence higher costs for milk and
pork. — Niagara Falls Review

Economy is a fine thing, but it
is apt to be a stupid thing, and no
economy at all, indeed, unless it
is something better than a mere
saving of money at all costs. You
can never really save money at
all costs, as a matter of fact. When
the costs include human lives,
there is no system of bookkeeping
which will balance the credit and
debit sides of the ledger. — Guelph
Mercury.

People who wish to reduce should
do it under professional guidance
to avoid injuring their health, phy-
sicians say. Even if loss of weight
is desired, there are certain foods
the body must have to keep oper-
ating efficiently. A doctor is best
qualified to say what foods a
person can afford to do without.
He will also be able to determine
just how fast and how far a per-
son should lose weight. Self-imposed
diets often weaken the body
without getting rid of much super-
fluous weight. — Kitchener-Water-
loo Record.

The London Conference of the
United Church now has its first
woman minister, the Rev. Miss
Murie Phyllis Revington, and it
would seem that congratulations
are in order for all parties concern-
ed. It's strange that it has taken
women so long to get a foothold in
the ministry. We've had women
doctors for more than half a cen-
tury, and women lawyers for many
years, and yet the profession of the
church, where you'd expect the
gentle qualities peculiar to women
to be of the greatest benefit, has
been among the last to receive them.
All the barriers are down now,
however, and it remains for the
women to prove themselves, in
this, as they have in other profes-
sions. — Windsor Star.

Every time a man lights a cig-
arette or takes a drink he is con-
tributing to the support of the
Federal government. He does so,
of course, through indirect taxes,
we reckon roughly that the aver-
age Canadian who drinks and
smokes moderately pays about
\$100 a year to Ottawa through in-
direct taxation on these commodi-
ties alone. He pays it quite cheer-
fully. But supposing he were asked
to pay this \$100 directly, by
having it added to his income tax?
He would holler blue murder. In-
deed, if this government, or any
other, tried to abolish indirect
taxes, and collect all its revenue
directly, it would be swept out of
office. — Calgary Herald.

The South African newspaper
Die Burger reports that the Hon.
J. H. de Bruin, of Bloemfontein,
while dining recently off a sheep
head on a farm near Prieska, in
the Cape, found gold teeth in the
sheep's jawbone. Investigation re-
vealed that the teeth were evenly
plated with shining "gold." The
report has caused intense excite-
ment in the district, where it is
assumed that the sheep, while
grazing on short herbage, must
have picked up gold dust from
mastification, plated in gold, dur-
ing their investigation in Capetown,
however, reveals that "rolled gold"
teeth have also been found in the
jawbones of springbok in the
northwest Cape which later proved
to be aluminum silicate. — Lon-
don Times.

A zoology professor at the Uni-
versity of Nebraska who makes a
hobby of collecting pictures of noses
says there are eight basic kinds,
and we don't know what they are,
but our eight favorite kinds of
noses are as follows: The nose that
is followed by its owner, the nose
that is not poked into other peo-
ple's business, the nose that isn't
kept too close to the ground, the
nose that isn't altogether, as plain
as the one on a man's face, the
nose that isn't being paid for,
the nose that isn't cut off in
spite of a face, the nose that isn't
turned up at anything, and the
nose that isn't looked down at
by anyone. When these eight basic
noses are brought together in one
basic nose, we not only like it, but
the person that goes with it. — St.
Louis Post-Dispatch.

We are reading and hearing a
lot these days of King Abdullah of
Trans-Jordan; see him pictured on
the front pages at the head of the
Arab Legion, or praying before
shrines in old Jerusalem. Over
what does this king rule? Over
less than 35,000 square miles of
mostly sand, and a population of
fewer than 400,000 people. King
Abdullah's kingdom, in short, has
about one-third of the population
of the island of Montreal, fewer
than one-half of the population of
the Ottawa Valley. That isn't all. The total revenues
of King Abdullah's kingdom are
slightly over \$2,000,000 a year, and
that includes a grant in aid from
the British; were he left to his
own resources this much-publicized
monarch and his court would
starve to death. His domain, half
desert, peopled largely by nomads,
is backward in every respect,
spends about \$100,000 a year on
education. All in all, we should say
that King Abdullah is not much
of a king and, judging from his

Notes From
Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON, England — Last year,
about this time, we were just re-
covering from the most severe
winter that many of us could
remember in the Old Country.
Weeks of snow and freezing cold
had upset our normal routine in
a good many ways, such as delay-
ing or even — here and there —
completely stopping transport, and
as we rely so much on our internal
communications, that was pretty
serious.

When the thaw did come, at
last, it was in the nature of a
mixed blessing, for it rained at the
same time, and brought about dis-
astrous floods all over the land. It
all made us feel pretty fed up and
wonder what else could happen to
us, and when things eventually
cleared up a summer came in,
we were inclined to be somewhat
suspicious of it, suspecting a trap
of some sort.

It has been much easier this year,
however. Winter was mild enough,
and quickly gave way to Spring
when, say many, England looks her
best.

The fields turn green and the
trees burst into blossom. Flowers
appear in a blaze of color, in cul-
tivated order and in wild abun-
dant. And city people begin to
appear in their shops and offices
and factories on Monday mornings
with more colour in their cheeks
than they have had for months,
having used the week-end break to
treat themselves to a share in the
sunshine at the seaside or "in
the country" or perhaps happily
and contentedly in the local parks.

Small boys are to be seen carry-
ing cricket bats instead of football
boots, and their big sisters sally
forth in their new Spring outfits —
or last year's outfit with a differ-
ent flair on it if the clothes ration
coupons won't stretch any further.
At any other season of the
year, the weather comes in for the
standard top of conversation, the
almost inevitable morning greeting
to the neighbour:
"Lovely weather we're having."
"Grand morning, isn't it?"
And the housewives come up
against the same problem as last
year, and the year before — how
to keep the milk from turning
sour, for we still haven't taken to
the habit of ice-boxes.

Spring is in the air, and you are
a poor man indeed if you can't feel
it. Even in the heart of London,
there, and the hundreds and
hundreds of birds nesting in the
copings of the lofty old buildings
around Trafalgar Square, can be
heard in the evenings in a shrill
chorus that all but drowns the roar
and rumble of the traffic in the
streets below.

Perhaps it was the Spring-time
air that got into a pelican at the
open air zoo at Whipsnade near
London, and made it decide it had
had enough of captivity. At any
rate it took off and flew away. And
perhaps it was Spring again that
made the B.B.C. news department
relinquish their usual sober manner
and speak of the pelican's travels
across the country with something almost
approaching humour.

And on Sundays, in the mid-
morning sunshine, an old custom is
revived — the custom of taking
a baby for a walk. While mother
stays at home and cooks the Sun-
day dinner, a procession of proud
fathers is out and about. Some have
baby in the pram, some in their
arms, and some babies are old
Daddy's hand. They all look neat
and spick and span, and all the
Daddies look rather smug and
quietly critical of all babies but
their own.

It's all very well while the sunny
spell lasts, but sooner or later it
will break and there'll be rain and
silly skies. Then we'll forget the
fine days and how we used to say
"Good morning, isn't it?" Instead
we'll grumble and mutter "Shock-
ing weather what a climate!"
Well, what's the weather and the
Government for, if not to grumble
at?

Why The Delay?
(Ottawa Journal)
After two months of talk (at an
estimated cost of \$1,000 a day) the
Commons Committee on Prices de-
cided it might be a good idea to
call Governor of the Bank of Can-
ada Graham Towers, have him tell
them why prices were high, whether
it was possible to get them
down, and if so, how.
Mr. Towers, in his best bedside
manner told the committee:
1. That the knew of no way of
bringing down prices by voluntary
action;
2. That to attempt bringing
them down by controls would in-
volve "infinite difficulties"; and
3. That prices would come down
by themselves when we got to
greater production.
Governor Towers, whose office is
but five minutes' walk from the
Parliament Buildings, could have
been called by the Prices Commit-
tee two months ago. But politicians,
or a certain type of them, have
their own odd way of doing things.
revenues (apart from subsidies),
hardly of the dimensions of a reeve.
— Ottawa Journal.



EXCEPT FOR BIRDS

There's rhythm in the orbit of a
star,
But that's a music stretched too far
To register upon the human ear.
Only God and mathematicians hear.
Smaller circles, spreading on the
air.
Are needed for such mice as we,
So I declare
We'd have no way of knowing
whether
God is musical and likes a hymn
Except for birds.
We might forget religion altogether
Except for birds.
But there they are, reminding us,
at dawn
God made them sing. That as-
sures the day
His rhythms hold, although the
stars are gone.
—Margery Mansfield in Spirit.

Old Charlottetown

FIRST FOOTBALL CHAMPS

"Football has been a safety-valve
for the surplus energies of many
of Prince Edward Island's sons for
nearly half a century. The method
of play which obtained in the
early days was something akin to
that of the Association game of
today. That shin-barking bore an
important part in the contests of
the time is palpable from what
old-timers relate... But chaos
gave way to order and order
strength to science when in the
autumn of 1884, Rugby made its
debut. Henceforward all
matches were conducted under its
well-defined rules. Among those to
whom belongs the honour of its
introduction were A. Ernest Ings,
George E. and D. Hooper Roblin-
son, Albert H. McNeill, Aeneas A.
Macdonald, W. A. Weeks, Jr., Ken-
neth J. Martin, Daniel J. Macdon-
ald and Charles Kennedy. With
some others they organized the
Abegweit Football Club. The club
at once went into training, but not
until the spring of 1886 did its
members feel justified in testing
the metal of which they were
made. The Picou, N. S. team were
their first opponents, the match
being played at that town on 24th
May, 1886. Luckily, perhaps, for
the future of football in the Prov-
ince the Abegweits' first venture
was capped in victory, their blue-
nose foemen were worsted by a try
to nothing. During the next five
years we find Abegweit warriors
engaging the crack teams of Nova
Scotia. Thirteen times did the club
send forth its fifteen braves to
meet the doughty kickers from a-
cross the Strait, and thirteen times
did these self-same braves return
unconquered. It remained for
home-made brawn and muscle to
administer the only defeat the
Abegweits ever received...
"1891 saw the last of the Abeg-
weits. One by one the old guard
either gave up the game or re-
moved from the Province. The
junior clubs which had grown up
under the aegis of the parent or-
ganization, were by this time
worthy of the name of seniors, and
likewise jealous of their own exis-
tence. Gradually they won the al-
legiance of Abegweit players yet
willing to follow the game, until
almost a whole team was enlisted.
The remnant which remained felt
unequal to the task of further
piloting the blue and white to
victory, and as a result the pion-
eer Rugby club of the Province
ceased to exist."
"The players, with the exception
of seven, were all initiated into the
mysteries of the game upon the

local gridiron. These seven were
Ings, who learned the game at
Cheltenham College, England; Geo.
E. Robinson, McNeill, Martin and
Stewart, who played for Dalhousie
College; and Dr. H. D. Johnson
and Weeks, who mastered 'passes
and tackles as quarterback and
half-back respectively, at old Mc-
Gill."
—From an article by J. M. Sulli-
van in the Prince Edward Is-
land Magazine, May, 1899.

H. R. Deane & Co.
Chartered Accountants
85 Grafton Street
Charlottetown
Phone 2088 Box 267
Randolph W. Manning, C.A.

MacPhee & Trainor
H. F. MacPHEE, B.A., K.C.
E. SOMERLED TRAINOR, B.A.
Barristers, Etc.
Riley Bldg. Ch'town.

Frederic A. Largo K. C.
BARRISTER, SOLICITOR,
NOTARY
Royal Bank of Canada Chambers
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Successor to
George J. Tweedy, K.C.

M. Alban Farmer
B.A., LL.B.
MONEY TO LOAN
BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc.
Dr. W. R. Carson
Chiropractor
Palmer Graduate
Charlottetown
261 Prince St. Phone 1072

PIMPLES-BLACKHEADS
TRY THIS PROMPT RELIEF FOR
UNSIGHTLY SKIN BLEMISHES
Cuticura contains valuable, scientific medicine
ingredients to promptly relieve, help nature
heal. Satisfaction or money back. Buy today!
CUTICURA SOAP & OINTMENT

All City
Cancer
Campaign
Workers
Meet
To-night
at
7 o'clock
Sharp
in
Whalen
Memorial
Hall

For Foot Ailments
CONSULT
N. J. A. BROWN, D. P.
Orthopedic
Chiropodist
148 Great George Street
CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.

When You Need
COAL
One ton or a carload of Coal, any kind, please remember that
we can supply you at the lowest prices.
A. PICKARD & Co. Ltd.
Phone 240

PROFESSIONAL CARDS
Public Stenographer
Mimeographing cards and circulars,
concert programs, correspondence,
typing and bookkeeping
HELEN GIDDEN
Telephone 1890-J
Apt. No. 4 Connaught Apt.
Pownall Street

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

J. E. BURNETT, LL. B.
Barrister, Solicitor, &c.
ODDFELLOWS BUILDING
134 Richmond Street
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Box 414 Tel. 2380

H. R. Deane & Co.
Chartered Accountants
85 Grafton Street
Charlottetown
Phone 2088 Box 267
Randolph W. Manning, C.A.

MacPhee & Trainor
H. F. MacPHEE, B.A., K.C.
E. SOMERLED TRAINOR, B.A.
Barristers, Etc.
Riley Bldg. Ch'town.

Frederic A. Largo K. C.
BARRISTER, SOLICITOR,
NOTARY
Royal Bank of Canada Chambers
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Successor to
George J. Tweedy, K.C.

M. Alban Farmer
B.A., LL.B.
MONEY TO LOAN
BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc.
Dr. W. R. Carson
Chiropractor
Palmer Graduate
Charlottetown
261 Prince St. Phone 1072

PIMPLES-BLACKHEADS
TRY THIS PROMPT RELIEF FOR
UNSIGHTLY SKIN BLEMISHES
Cuticura contains valuable, scientific medicine
ingredients to promptly relieve, help nature
heal. Satisfaction or money back. Buy today!
CUTICURA SOAP & OINTMENT

Quickies
By Ken Reynolds
Well, the Guardian Want Ad said it had a shower—but I
guess it works only when it rains!