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Farm Income Tax Returns

While our Island farmers are making strong protest against the present system of income tax filing and assessing, it is quite evident, from returns tabled in Parliament, that they have cooperated wholeheartedly in making out their tax returns.

In reply to questions in the House of Commons Mr. Diefenbaker, it was shown that farmers in Prince Edward Island filed 5,297 returns of Form T1, 1947, as against 3,371 returns filed by farmers in Nova Scotia, 3,187 in New Brunswick, 9,902 in Quebec, 42,001 in Ontario, 29,786 in Manitoba, 54,929 in Saskatchewan, 46,715 in Alberta, and 10,065 in British Columbia.

Neither was it possible for Mr. Diefenbaker to obtain the amount of income tax paid by farmers in each of the Provinces. The answer to this question was that "the Taxation Division does not maintain statistics of collections by occupations. Statistical breakdown on an occupational basis is available only for the amount of tax declared on filing."

With regard to inspectors and enforcement officers the answer was that none of these officials is employed by the Taxation Division. The Intelligence Branch, formerly known as the Enforcement Section, has officers stationed in every Province except Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.

Prosecution proceedings taken or launched during 1948 by the Taxation Division in this Province are listed as follows in the return: For tax evasion, 1; for failure to file returns on demand, 86; for collection of tax arrears, 7; for failure to deduct and remit tax deductions at source, none. The figures, of course, cover all Island citizens and not farmers only.

It was not possible to obtain the number of farmers in each Province who made out a net worth statement for the years 1946 and 1947. This question was asked by Mr. Hatfield in the House, and the answer was that there was no statistical record. It was explained that in 1946, farmers were required to file a net worth statement only if no other means of ascertaining income were available. In 1947, only farmers reporting on an accrual basis were required to complete a net worth statement.

Strongly Endorsed

The need of enlarging the Wood Islands-Caribou ferry service is strongly endorsed in a lengthy leading editorial in the Sydney Post-Record, which states that this is an issue in which "there is no room for argument."

"The thousands of Nova Scotians who have been using this convenient short-cut to and from Prince Edward Island for the past several years," says our Sydney contemporary, "know from first-hand experience how enormously the traffic has grown and how great the congestion has become at the height of the tourist season each year. . . . The difficulty now is that, on account of the great expansion in the volume of traffic, motorists from Halifax to Charlottetown, for example, cannot make sure before leaving home that they can get transportation when they do reach the piers, where scores of cars may often be found standing in line at each approach to the ferry, waiting for transportation from day to day during those parts of the season when the volume of traffic is greatest."

Obviously the present service must be enlarged very substantially if anything like satisfaction is to be given to the travelling public in the coming season. If the required new boat is obtained with Federal assistance, the Post-Record estimates that the value of the service to the public will be more than doubled in a single season. It adds: "There could be no better outlay of public money in the interest of the people of these Provinces. . . . The only alternative would be the taking over of this vitally important link in inter-provincial traffic by the Dominion Government, and the supplying of all the necessary capital out of the Federal treasury. As has been said, the company's liabilities, swollen recently by heavy needed outlays on the boats now in commission, are such as to make it impossible to raise the capital needed for the enlargement of the service, unless it be provided by the Federal Government. That Ottawa should render the modest assistance required is something no one would question who understands the nature of the problem involved and the importance of the inter-Provincial interests to be served."

"The Caribou-Wood Islands ferry has become vital to the whole of the eastern half of Prince Edward Island, whose people it services immediately, to the city of Charlottetown, which

it brings into close and ready reach of all of eastern Nova Scotia; to at least four-fifths of the population of this Province in the whole area between the city of Halifax and the Sydneys. The interest therefore of the people of Nova Scotia is quite as real, and only by degree less vital, than that of the people of Prince Edward Island, in the proposal to extend the Caribou-Wood Islands ferry facilities sufficiently to make them serve the public acceptably and without break during the open season of navigation."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Evidently a year must elapse before the Maritime Electric Co. Ltd. may increase or reduce its rates.

A New Brunswick town, Edmundston, chased four Bible Witnesses by rail to, of all places, Quebec.

If the Transport Commission have power to block increased freight rates on fish, why have they not similar initiative in the case of potato and other shipments?

In Ecuador they can wreck a radio broadcasting station when it annoys them. Here the annoyance can be removed by merely turning the dial.

Prince Edward Island Trust Company has forwarded \$500. to McGill University its annual contribution towards cost of lectures in taxation law.

Capt. W.C.P. LeBoutillier who wrote in favour of "Jack" Price's candidature in Prince as an airplane manufacturer with his wife and family should be wiped out completely en route from his father's home to his own, in his own airplane with himself at the controls.

It makes one sad and apprehensive to think an airplane manufacturer with his wife and family should be wiped out completely en route from his father's home to his own, in his own airplane with himself at the controls.

The Canadian Teachers Federation apparently has despaired of getting satisfactory remuneration from provincial treasuries. Ottawa may not have constitutional control over education but it has the principal revenues.

Newfoundland veterans who have been long resident in Canada will be among those benefited by the extension of Canadian pension legislation to the Old Colony. It seems clear that they will be on the same footing as other Canadians for disability compensation.

Postmaster-General Bertrand has declared that it will take many years before the wartime one-cent increase in postal rates is dropped. If the experience of World War I is any guide, the increase will remain until another is added to it.

The Island's record butter production in 1948, is a source of satisfaction, particularly in view of the general scarcity. It is well to remember, however, that last summer's extraordinary growth of hay and pasture played an important part in producing that yield—thanks be to Divine Providence.

In order to finance instruction for people preparing and serving food to the public a National Health grant has been made by the Federal Government Health Department to the City of Winnipeg through the Manitoba Government. The grant provides for the appointment of a public health teacher for the Winnipeg City Health Department.

Luxuries soon to be imported from NFLD. as canned whole and seal meat may develop into an important industry in Newfoundland and provide a high-protein food supply for the Canadian diet. So says an official of the Department of Health at Ottawa. Cans of whole and seal meat are commonly found on grocers' shelves in Newfoundland but the canning is done on a small scale for home consumption only. Known as "polar steak", canned whole is prepared with onions and gravy, similar to the ready-to-serve steak and onions popular in Canada. Seal meat is canned without any additional ingredients.

Jeremy Bentham, English writer on law and political economy, born this date 1748; both legal and social reformer, who coined the motto "the greatest happiness of the greatest number" as the basic principle of legislature and morality. He published Fragments in Government, or A Comment on the Commentaries, against Blackstone's conception of perfection of the English constitution; his Principles of Morals and Legislation came out in 1789, Defence of Usury in 1816; while seven years later he established the Westminster Review. He invented the word utilitarian as descriptive of his philosophy. His Principles of Penal Law foreshadowed modern principles of punishment.

It is the ammunition that constitutes the principal part of oratory as well as of warfare. Among the many intimate stories of famous personalities told by Beverley Nichols in his memoirs, "All I Could Never Be," just published, is one of Mr. Churchill, whose son Randolph, then in his very early twenties, had taken part in a public debate with the novelist. After dinner one evening—a time described by the author as Mr. Churchill's "finest hour"—Beverley Nichols had mentioned Randolph's remarkable command of gesture in public speaking. Taking a long puff at his cigar, Mr. Churchill agreed; and then added, "He's got the big guns; but has he got the ammunition?" "It was a perfect epigram; all the more so as it was lit by the understanding of love," comments Beverley Nichols.



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.

ANOTHER CANNON BALL
Sir,—In addition to the cannon balls in the possession of West Prince citizens mentioned in your column recently, the writer has in his possession a cannon ball measuring 11 inches in circumference. This has been on the old homestead since his grandfather's days, over one hundred years ago. So, you see, it would not be safe for the Russians or the Liberals to invade the country at present, with all this ammunition on hand.

THE CONTEST IN PRINCE
Sir,—Letters have appeared in your columns from apparently enthusiastic friends of Brig. Price of Montreal, who has been nominated as Conservative candidate for Prince County in this Province. I believe this is the same Brig. Price who ran in 1945 for St. Antoine—Westmount against the Minister of Finance and was defeated. His failure to have another try in St. Antoine or to seek some other seat in Quebec Province or in Montreal where he belongs is fairly good evidence that the Conservatives do not expect much support there and the Board of Strategy decided they would like to have some representative from Quebec even if sent from other Provinces.

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THE AGE-OLD STORY
Who remembered us, in our low estate, for His mercy endureth forever.

RACE RIOTS THREATEN
DURBAN, South Africa, Feb. 14.—(Reuters)—Durban police arrested more than 30 people during the week-end after two African bus drivers and two Indian houses at suburban Gato Manor destroyed by fire. Three other Africans alleged that Indians had assaulted them at Gato Manor scene of recent African-Indian riots. Special riot squads carried out intensive raids during the week-end.

Notes From Another Island
By "Anson"
LONDON, England:—
As I've said before, generally speaking we are a nation of "wait and see-ers". We get the news, and we see what certain things are going, whether it be in connection with high politics, dangerous international crises, or simply the price of lemons. We note the trend of events, but until the trend leads to something or somewhere definite, we simply wait and see.

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The Poet's Corner
Rain, with a silver trail,
Sun, with a golden ball;
Ocean, wherein the Whale
Swims minnow-small. . .

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Notes By The Way

The Dutch, of all people, should know that force is neither a good argument nor a good cure. They should know that war, even when called "police action" only increases resistance among people seeking independence. Yes, the Dutch should know. Did they not have the Nazis for five years?—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

Add to the list of the unhappy over the lack of snow this winter: the snow removal manufacturers and salesmen. This time last year they were busier than beavers and every town councillor was turning arguments over in his mind. Little attention their arguments get this year or are likely to get in the short "winter" we have left.—New Glasgow News.

The height of optimism thus far in 1949 is to be found in the expectations of two brothers in a Birmingham jail who advertised for two wives who had \$33 for bail bond, the price of a licence and marriage fee. The girls could bring their own preachers and marry the brothers right in jail, said. However, they evidently hit a buyers' market, for there were no takers.—Fort William Times-Journal.

The automobile industry has recently produced its hundred millionth car in the United States alone. Forty million of them are still running. The accounts of the matter have not included such details as the number of square miles of land needed to park them all; or the number of miles of highway they would occupy travelling bumper to bumper. Perhaps they felt that the importance of the industry was now self-evident. The whole business started only 55 years ago.—Sault Ste. Marie Star.

The construction of the huge Le Corbusier apartment block in Marseilles is arousing considerable interest as an experiment in architecture and city planning. Built on 36 foundation piles, 23 feet long, it will have 17 stories of which 14 will be apartments. It will be 195 feet high, 445 feet long and 78 feet deep. It is planned to accommodate 1,700 people in the 350 apartments. Each apartment is built from prefabricated panels for floors, walls and ceilings. There will be groups of elevators so timed that in the busy hours it will not be necessary to wait more than 35 seconds. Two floors will be reserved for shops, public services, clubs, etc. On the flat roof there will be provision for sports, including a track paved with wood blocks, patios and a swimming pool.—French Information Service.

The Church of England throughout the world will celebrate, during this year, the 600th anniversary of the publication of the first English Prayer Book. This is now known as the English Book of Common Prayer which is based on the version first drafted and published during the reign of King Henry VIII's son, Edward VI. The Primate of Britain has appointed a committee to supervise arrangements for these celebrations. It is under the chairmanship of the Dean of Westminster. The celebrations will be conducted not only with the English Prayer Book in its original, but also as it has been known, used and loved by generations of English-speaking peoples throughout the world. The climax will be reached in May, when special services will be held, both in Westminster Abbey and in Yorkminster.—UK Information Office.

Salvaging millions of feet of usable lumber and plywood, thousands of wash basins, toilets, light bulbs and bricks, and miles of pipe. These materials will end up in many new or repaired houses around the country. In its heyday, the 730-acre project was the second biggest community in Oregon, housing 40,000 people in some 10,400 apartments. It was built by the Federal government in 1942 for workers who flocked here to shipyards in the Vancouver-Portland area. Vanport was named for two cities.—Wall Street Journal.

Little though we use handwriting today, relatively speaking, what we do use should be clear and understandable, and the schools should see to it that young pupils are able to use their pens to produce something more comprehensible than what many doctors scribble on a prescription form, which looks to the laymen as though they have held the pen between their toes. The International Bureau of Education, which includes Canada among its forty-six members, is quite concerned about the decline of handwriting. The bureau observes that "the rhythm of modern life demands more and more speed in writing," and says that this is all the more reason when students should be taught to write legibly. It urges careful watching of pupils between the ages of 12 and 15, when handwriting personality crystallizes itself for life.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

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