

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, DEC. 11, 1948

The Tenth Province

After two months of conference and negotiations, it is announced that the terms of union between Newfoundland and the Dominion of Canada will be signed today, between the hours of 12 noon and 2 o'clock.

While the specific terms of union will not be made public until shortly before the signing ceremony, it is understood that they will mean a charge on the Federal Government of some \$15,000,000 a year.

As a Province of Canada Newfoundland will be entitled to six seats in the Senate and seven seats in the House of Commons.

In no Province is Newfoundland's entry into Confederation more heartily welcomed than in Prince Edward Island.

Into matters of Maritime importance, Newfoundland will also be able to throw its weight effectively—for after the ratification of today's agreement there will be four, not three, Maritime Provinces.

Federal By-Elections

Polling takes place on Monday in Digby-Annapolis-Kings, N. S., to fill the vacancy created, in the House of Commons, by the resignation of Rt. Hon. J. L. Ilsley, who has held the constituency for the Liberals by large majorities ever since its creation by statute 15 years ago.

Three other constituencies in which by-election battles are being waged are Carleton, Ontario, where Mr. Drew is being opposed by a C.C.F.-er and a Social Creditor; Marquette, Manitoba, where the newly appointed Minister of Justice, Hon. Mr. Garson, has a C.C.F. opponent in the person of Mrs. Earle Keating; and Laval-Two Mountains, Quebec, where the Liberal nominee, Leopold Demers, is fighting it out with a Nationalist, Honore Desy, who calls himself the "Republican-for-Peace" candidate.

Summing up the prospects in these four contests, an exchange predicts that Mr. Garson should win with little difficulty in Marquette, Mr. Drew with less difficulty in Carleton and the Liberal candidate with perhaps considerable difficulty in Laval-Two Mountains.

In refraining from the Manitoba contest the Progressive Conservatives are following an old tradition, which makes it a rule to allow Ministers of the Crown to be returned unopposed in by-elections.

With respect to the Laval-Two Mountain by-election a staff writer of the Montreal Daily Star (Liberal) says the Liberal leaders are aware of their vulnerable position in a contest which turns upon the question of Canada's participation in external wars.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, 3rd. Sunday in Advent.

His Majesty the King's accession this date 1936.

Statute of Westminster passed this date 1931, giving equal rights and privileges to the Dominions with the Mother Country — one for all, all for one.

The Winnipeg Free Press notes with approval that Sweden's railway stations are beautified by some 3,000 acres of gardens.

Still another vitamin has been discovered in New York. Called B12, first detected in liver, it is now produced cheaply from mold.

If there ever was a time when it was possible to farm without capital it has now gone entirely. Today farmers are using more equipment than ever before and it goes hard with those who cannot afford to make use of modern methods.

The statistics of the Bureau of that name would be more reliable in the matter of liquor offences were it to give details. For instance, here the bulk of convictions are repeaters, the same drunks appearing again and again in the same category of drunk.

On one question the Progressive Conservative and C.C.F. are of one mind—that the present Federal Government is to blame for boost in railway rates.

Ottawa seems to be taking no steps to protect dairymen should the Supreme Court of Canada rule out the present ban on margarine.

The teaching of languages in our schools has undergone a revolutionary change. Not very long ago children spent years learning the grammar of the language they were studying and rarely learned to use it.

Quebec is priding itself on having avoided the pitfalls of hydro-electric production which have landed her sister province, Ontario, in such a crisis.

Probably the best argument against price control is the admission by chairman of the Prices Board, Wishart Spence, that not merely is the public pretty confused about the present scope of controls, but that it would be "absolutely impossible for the ordinary person" to find out how some controls applied.

An Ontario Hydro statement to the effect that there is a deplorable tendency to establish little power plants in Ontario, which threatens the whole system of public power development, is challenged by The Letter-Review.

It seems, Boxing Day, and if on Sunday, the following day is a Provincial public holiday. The Interpretation Act, P. E. I., of 1939 c. 23 sec. 24(7) reads: "Holiday" includes Sunday, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Dominion Day, Christmas Day, Boxing Day (1948 c. 19), the birthday or the day appointed for the celebration of the birth of the reigning Sovereign, Victoria Day, Labour Day, Remembrance Day, and any day appointed by any statute in force in the Province or by Proclamation of the Governor-General or of the Lieutenant-Governor as a general holiday, and whenever a holiday other than Remembrance Day falls on a Sunday, the expression 'holiday' includes the following day."

Scientists in Britain working under the direction of Professor Blackett (who has just been awarded the Nobel Prize for his work on atomic energy) believe that they have discovered an important new law of nature. Tests have been conducted underground both in South Africa and in Britain. The object has been to ascertain whether the magnetism of the earth increases or decreases at lower levels.



CHARLOTTETOWN KENNEL CLUB REVEALS STRAY DOGS IN R.E.I. DO NOT HAVE PROTECTION THE DOMINION AFFORDS THEM.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

DR. GORDON'S MISFORTUNES

On July 30, 1790, was recorded the registration of grants of lands made to Alexander Gordon ("Doct. Gordon, 42nd Regt.") by Lieut. Governor Fanning on May 5, 1789, and April 20, 1790.

WOOD ISLANDS FERRY SERVICE

Sir,—Your timely editorial in yesterday's Guardian gives us encouragement, and we are enclosing copy of a statement being issued today to many persons and organizations that have contacted us, as the result of the insertion in our ads, to which we refer.

THE SENATE VACANCY

Sir,—The people of this locality have been disappointed with pleasure and enlightenment in the letters written by Blackstone and Euclid regarding the vacancy in the Senate, and we all admit that Blackstone enlightened the people of this Province as to the legal status of the Senators and how they are appointed.

TRUCK DRIVER'S COMPLAINT

Sir,—I suppose I am only one of the many that received a letter the other day from the Highway Department stating that I had registered my truck at too low a rate, which was one hundred and thirty-four dollars.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

OLD AGE

The seas are quiet when the wind gives o'er; So calm are we when passions are no more; For then we know how vain it was to boast.

LIBERAL ELECTION

I am, Sir, etc., LIBERAL ELECTION, Souris, P. E. I.

REWARD FOR FAVORS

Thomas Paine, English-born author of "The Crisis" and "Common Sense", was given an estate at New Rochelle by the State of New York in recognition of his favors to the United States.

The Poet's Corner

Who stand upon the threshold of the New. —Edmund Waller (1606-1686).

THE AGE-OLD STORY

Riches and honour are with me, yet durable riches and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yet, than fine gold, and my revenue than choice silver.

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The High Cost of Living Its Cause and Remedy

III. ARE HIGHER WAGES RESPONSIBLE? By E. L. R. Williamson, M. B. E.

In this column we previously discussed the first and the second of the "findings" of the Special Parliamentary Committee on the causes of rising prices in Canada—(a) "the rise of external prices", and (b) "the increase in the costs of production."

EXPANSION OF PURCHASING POWER (c):

2. The Report fails to make adequate distinction between consumer purchasing power and capital investment purchasing power. Such a distinction is indispensable to any effective effort to assess the forces creating price rises.

3. Gross domestic capital investment in Canada in 1947 was \$2,820 millions, or over four times as great as in 1938, when the figure was \$883 millions; in contrast, consumer spending was only a little more than doubled over the same period.

4. In other words, employment and pay-rolls for the production of consumer goods can be expanded indefinitely, and consequently total purchasing power also, without any increase in prices, provided that there is an equivalent stream of consumer goods coming on the market.

"Real Wages" Per Week

Table with columns: Date, Real Wages Per Week, Rise in Cost of Living. Rows include 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

7. The above table was computed from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports of average wages for all Canada in the eight leading industries. It clearly reveals that "real" wages have steadily, if slowly, declined until "real" wages in June were \$2.00 per week lower than they were in 1944.

"Certain Supplementary Factors" (d):

8. The "supplementary factors" found by the Committee as a cause of rising prices, relate in the main to "inventory profits"; that is, abnormally high profits on goods bought at certain prices and sold at higher prices as the price rises.

9. Some of the commodities on which such profits were made were butter, meat, vegetables, fruit, and bread. It will be recognized that the production of none of these is a monopoly—they are the most highly competitive forms of activity remaining in our economy.

10. The Report of the Parliamentary Prices Committee, therefore, leaves unanswered the question, WHY DID PRICES RISE? It has, in substance, said little more than that in their opinion, "prices have gone up because prices have gone up."

11. As has been intimated earlier in these articles, many of the real causes of the present acute rise in prices are to be found in Government policies. A discussion of these will be commenced in the next article.

Advertisement for CYMA watches, featuring a watch illustration and text: "For a Christmas thank you! Whether you're giving... or getting... this tiny CYMA clock from Switzerland, makes a gift to be really grateful for!"