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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, SEPT. 23, 1949

Another Rates Increase

On the theory that half a loaf is better than no bread, both sides will doubt be able to find some consolation in the eight per cent boost in railway freight rates announced yesterday by the Board of Transport Commissioners.

The situation might have been worse is pointed out by Premier Jones, who figures that had the full additional 20 per cent increase been granted yesterday, it would have meant, on the basis of 1948 available figures, an additional cost to this Province of \$730,000 annually.

This saving he attributes to the fight put up by the seven Provinces against the previous rate increase. There is no doubt but that their protest was worth while. On the other hand, the increase now granted will mean an estimated \$3,200,000 annually in added rail tolls to the Maritimes, which is something that seriously affects the shippers of this Province.

The eight per cent boost is announced as a temporary measure, the Board stating that it will deal with the application again after the Royal Commission on Transportation and other Government surveys on rail business complete their findings. That will not be until next year.

Hard To Forget

The Canadian Press reports that newcomers to the Senate — thirteen since the last session — were given "a mild lecture" by Senator Craig, Opposition leader.

This is excellent advice, though it would be likely to have more effect if it came from the other side of the House. To ask the new Liberal Senators — or the old ones either, for that matter — to forget their Liberalism is to ask them to forget that in every case without exception it was their Liberalism that got them where they are.

Senator Craig was therefore unduly optimistic if he expected his good words to carry much weight. Probably he didn't! He had a traditional duty to discharge and he did it in the customary manner, quite impressively, and no doubt to polite applause.

The Bane Of Bureaucracy

During the vacation of "Janus," capable paragrapher for The Spectator, a British weekly, his place has been taken by "Stix," whose capabilities are not limited to writing. He raised eight pigs which, in due course, he sold to the Ministry of Food, the only legal purchaser of livestock for slaughter.

"I asked the Livestock Control people in Reading how things were going. They very kindly rang up an official in Newbury, who rang up an official in High Wycombe, who said that the matter was being dealt with by the Ministry of Food's headquarters at Colwyn Bay. Reading then rang up Colwyn Bay, who promised to look into the matter and ring Reading back straight away.

From this "Stix" concludes that the over-burdened taxpayer is at least getting a lot of over-work for his money.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The carrying of busses on the car ferry is a decided improvement over the transfer at each side. It is to be hoped that the C. N. R. and I.M.T. can maintain and develop the combined service.

The Federal Government having written off some \$500,000 worth of fish products purchased by the Fisheries Prices Support Board, this should be considered chiefly as part of the cost of winding up relief shipments.

An official report that Britain's socialized dentists pulled teeth faster and filled them slower than private dentists indicates one thing, at least. The wishes of the patient are less likely to be heeded when the state is footing the bill.

It would not be surprising if Newfoundlanders think regretfully of the advantages they might have had if still in the sterling area. Sales to Britain would have remained as before and they would have a decided advantage in the United States market.

The World Medical Association has proposed a new form of the Hippocratic oath which concludes: "... My colleagues will be my brothers; I will not permit considerations of religion, nationality, race, party politics or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient; I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of conception; even under threat, I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of humanity..."

A Manchester, England, firm has secured \$1,000,000 order from the U. S. Government to supply American soldiers all over the world with a civilian type of raincoat. This is the result of a three-year effort by the firm to establish a good footing in the U. S. A. market.

An aircraft load of blueberry plants from Canada may give Scotland a thriving new horticulture industry and provide a valuable use for what is at present almost valueless peat land. The plants will be fully grown and, uprooted one day in Nova Scotia, they will be planted in Lanarkshire within 24 hours, after an air crossing to Prestwick. By transplanting fully grown blueberry bushes, it is hoped that from four to five years will be saved in developing the industry in Scotland.

Sir Alan Patrick Herbert, K.C., M.P., M.A., British author and politician, born this date, 1890. A member of the editorial staff of Punch; independent member of Parliament for Oxford University; attained popularity by securing the passage of his Matrimonial Causes bill in 1937. Has a large number of ephemeral publications to his credit, including Holy Deadlock, The Trials of Topsy, Misleading Cases, Mr. Pewter Sees It Through, Well Anyhow. "A highbrow is the kind of person who looks at a sausage and thinks of Picasso."

A sharp drop in dairy production in France has resulted from the decrease in feeds caused by the drought. As a means of halting the increase in prices which are already noticeable in dairy produce, the Minister of Agriculture has decided to import, immediately, butter and cheese, principally from Holland and Denmark under agreements already concluded. Prices have increased progressively over the past several weeks, but have risen by about 50 francs per kilo. The same trend can be seen in cheeses, gruyere, in particular, selling at nearly 100 francs above the fixed rate.

Although a total of eleven campaign stars and medals will be distributed to former members of the Canadian armed forces in the Second World War, the most any one individual can be awarded is eight, according to Hon. Milton F. Gregg, Minister of Veterans Affairs. Distribution of the stars and medals is expected to start about October 1st, with it being necessary for all veterans to make application in order to insure that addresses are accurate. "The war service records division of the department, which has been checking the files in order to establish eligibility, has not yet been able to locate a veteran who will receive seven, but we can't yet say positively that any Canadian veteran will receive eight."

Another new anaesthetic. Behind one of the exhibits seen at the Scottish Industries Exhibition in Glasgow (September 1 to 17) lies the story of a tubocurarine chloride — is shown by Duncan Flockhart and Company, Ltd. of Edinburgh, a firm which has had a long association with developments in anaesthesia and helped Sir James Simpson in his pioneer work on behalf of Chloroform. Tubocurarine chloride is one of the most remarkable drugs discovered in recent years. It is processed by this firm from curare, a poison which was used for centuries by South American Indians to tip their arrows before firing them from blowpipes. A wound from such an arrow had fatal results. Although the secrets of this poison were closely guarded by the natives, explorers and scientists studied its properties over many years, and it was found that curare could produce partial paralysis. This property was developed, and from research the Edinburgh firm has for two years been manufacturing this drug. The drug causes a relaxation of muscles, thus enabling a surgeon to work more quickly during an operation, while much less anaesthetic is required and the patient can make a more speedy recovery. It is widely used to control convulsions and to relieve conditions of rigid paralysis, such as those caused by poliomyelitis. The drug is issued in a special solution which can be mixed with thiopentone, an anaesthetic which played a vital part in war-time surgery.

A Nice Sugar Cookie For Each Of Them



The Poet's Corner

THE GRANITE MOUNTAIN

I know a mountain, lone it lies Under wide blue Arctic skies.

Gray against the crimson rays Of sunset loom its granite crags.

Gray granite are the peaks that Underneath the clouds are hid.

Down the weathered gullies flow Waters from its crannied snow.

Tumbling cataracts that roar Cannonading down the shore;

And rivulets that hurry after With a sound of silver laughter.

Up its ramparts winds a trail To a clover-meadowed vale.

High among the hills and woods Locked in lonely solitudes.

Only wild feet can essay The perils of that craggy way.

And here beneath the rugged shoulder Of the granite cliffs and boulders,

In the valley of the sky Where tranquil twilight shadows lie,

Hunted creatures in their flight Find a refuge for the night.

—Lew Sarett.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

HORSE-POWER MACHINE

Legislative Assembly, February 20, 1839:

Mr. J. S. MacDonald presented a petition from William Smallwood, of Lot 48, setting forth that Petitioner, during the past year, has invented, and with his own hands constructed, a Horse-Power Machine, applicable for the propelling of machinery for various uses, but particularly adapted to propel a Threshing Machine, for which purpose it was more particularly designed. That having been applied by Petitioner to the latter purpose, it has been proved to answer the end designed in a manner so as to exceed Petitioner's most sanguine expectations — that its principle and construction being more simple than any power hitherto imported into this Colony for a similar purpose, and being almost wholly composed of wood, the power in question can be made or procured by any farmer at a comparatively trifling outlay, while possessing, at the same time, the great advantage of being more easily driven, and when out of order, of being repaired by himself. — That he has hitherto refrained from applying for a Patent for the exclusive right of making and vending the same, solely from the consideration that it would tend to limit its usefulness — relying upon the liberality of the House for affording him encouragement. In another form. — That the power constructed by Petitioner has been examined and tested by a number of competent persons, whose certificates as to its efficiency, together with a model of the Machine, are transmitted. — And praying the House to grant Petitioner such a sum as in its wisdom it may deem him justly entitled to. As a result of this petition Mr.

Greece And Albania

(Elizabeth Barker)

The smallest of all the Balkan countries, Albania seems today to hold the key to peace in South-East Europe.

Albania has acquired its present importance for three main reasons. First, Greece gave support on particularly since Tito closed the Greek-Yugoslav frontier, been the only one of the northern neighbours of Greece to give support on any significant scale to the Greek Communist rebels.

Next, the recent victories of the Greek army over the rebels in the Vitsa and Grammos regions bordering on Albania have at least temporarily put an end to the fighting in Greece. But about 8,000 Greek rebels have escaped to Albania, and may try to filter back over the frontier and rekindle the Civil War.

Finally, international interest has been focussed on Albania by its present isolation. So long as Yugoslavia was at one with Soviet Russia and the other Communist regimes of Eastern Europe, Albania was solidly wedged geographically, economically and politically into the Soviet bloc. But now, the breach between Tito's Yugoslavia and the Soviet bloc is virtually complete, and it would not be surprising if Albania had become geographically isolated from the rest of the bloc, except for a devious sea route to Soviet ships that call at the Albanian port.

Politically, there has so far been no surface change in Albania. The Albanian Government officially announced its devotion to Moscow, and their longing for Tito more loudly than any of the Cominform countries. Nevertheless, the Albanian mind finds itself wedged between two neighbours — Yugoslavia and Greece — both of which its Government has done its utmost to antagonize. So it would not be altogether surprising if Hoxha were to decide that the time had come for him to draw in his horns, retire into his shell, and cease to serve as a base for rebel operations in Greece. Owing to the Albanian Government's hostile attitude towards the United Nations Special Commission for the Balkans, it is impossible for the United Nations observers to check the reality of this year's statement. Meanwhile, men of the Greek army are now sitting on the bleak mountain-sides all along the Albanian frontier to prevent the rebels' return. But they cannot be kept there throughout the bitter winter months. That is why so much depends on Enver Hoxha.

That also is why the Greek public has been exerting very strong pressure on the Greek Government to declare that if there are fresh incursions by rebels from Albanian soil, the Greek army may, in accordance with the right of self-defence laid down in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, pursue them back to their bases in Albania, but it has to be borne in mind that, throughout the Vitsa-Grammos fighting of the late summer, the Greek Government showed great restraint in the face of great provocation. There seem to have been one or two very minor and insignificant violations of the Albanian frontier; but in general, the Greek army showed exemplary discipline. At the same time, the western powers have been anxious to prevent dropping any spark which might kindle a wider Balkan con-

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Notes By The Way

In a perfect world, of course, neither children nor adults would be interested in trashy "literature", no vendor would sell it, no publishers would print it and no author or artist would produce it. But even in our imperfect world, a lot could be done by parents and vendors providing children with decent "literature". There's more of it, actually, than of the other stuff, even if it doesn't receive nearly as much publicity. Increase the demand for the one and reduce it for the other, and publishers, authors and artists will soon see that the people get what they want, for there's money in satisfying the big demand. — Edmonton Journal.

Toronto is really not very old as cities go. Exhibition visitors see on the grounds the log cabin of John Scadding, built in 1794, that is one of the very first houses in

Albania's attitude in the next few weeks or months may thus have wide powerful repercussions. Although so little is known about this attitude, certain guesses can be made about the factors which may influence Enver Hoxha. He may well be troubled by the growth of internal unrest at home. His Communist Party has been split by the Belgrade-Moscow dispute, the leaders of the "Titoist" faction, notably Koci Xoxe have been eliminated, but their followers may have survived and may, perhaps, still have links with Tito's Yugoslav Government. This is a difficult economic situation. Albania is at best an exceptionally poor backward country — may heighten this political tension. Then again the Enver Hoxha Government, to judge by its propaganda, is badly worried by the activities of Albanians abroad: it has let forth some extraordinary threats against the newly-formed Free Albanian committee, headed by Prasheri and by the war time anti-Communist Resistance Leader Abas Kupi. It is also inveighing against the supposed intrigues of notable "Titoist" Albanians in Yugoslavia, such as Gani Kryeziu.

Finally, Enver Hoxha may quite well be scratching his head about Soviet Russia's real intentions towards the Greek Communist Rebel Movement. Already, last spring, through the "Gromyko proposals", Russia put out a note to western powers which suggested that Moscow was prepared to call off the Greek Communist Rebellion, and order the Greek Communist Party to shift its activities to the purely political field. Now that the Greek rebels have suffered a very heavy military defeat, there are even stronger motives for Russia to adopt this new course. So Russia might at any time suddenly order Enver Hoxha to cease all aid to the Greek rebels, and leave him to face alone the dangers and problems of his isolation.

In this complex situation, it looks as though only the United Nations Assembly could clear the air, or could induce the Albanian Government to declare itself on the side of peace.

Toronto: the very oldest still in existence. It was moved to that site in 1879 by the York Pioneer and Historical Society. It is a little more than a century and a half old. To European cities, a century and a half is nothing. The cabin stands near the memorial to Fort Rouille, burned and abandoned by the French in 1760, the year of triumph for English arms. But English and French live peaceably side by side in a united Canada today. Near the cabin, too, the heaviest fighting took place when the American forces captured the town in 1813. But the American and Canadian also live peaceably side by side, old wars forgotten. And what would John Scadding build today? Would he could see the surroundings of his old home today? — Toronto Star.

One of the most timely recommendations to come before the current convention of the Ontario Municipal Association is the proposal of London's City Council that the provincial government should review the functions of the Ontario Municipal Board with the purpose of revising the act under which it is constituted. The need for such a review is emphasized by the government's establishment of the Ontario Municipal Improvement Corporation to aid municipalities in financing capital works. But a municipality in order to benefit thereby is required to obtain the Municipal Board's and the Department of Municipal Affairs' approval of the contemplated project. Canadian cities, particularly those with a population in excess of 100,000, are faced with the extension of the powers and duties of the Municipal Board. — Toronto Telegram.

A British traffic expert says "Americans are better drivers than Britons, but the English are better pedestrians." And there is much in what the man says, particularly about pedestrians. One has but to stand on any busy corner in any city on this continent to recognize what careless pedestrians we are. We walk across the street between intersections; cross against the red light if traffic will permit; rush pell-mell up and down the sidewalk with little thought of the convenience of others. In some of the larger United States cities, pedestrians are more orderly than in most Canadian cities. But perhaps that is only because they have to stand any chance of survival. People in Britain do more walking than we do. They have fewer automobiles. Down through the years they have evolved certain common sense rules for pedestrians. They are more leisurely and watch where they are going. Also they obey traffic regulations, which are for their safety as well as that of motorists. — Windsor Star.

The Age-Old Story

But unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings; and ye shall go forth and grow up as calves of the stall.

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