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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1946

The Farmer's Turn

The net income from agricultural operations across the Dominion exceeded the \$1,000,000,000 mark in 1945. This huge net yield of Canada's farms, the second-largest in dollar value in the country's history, is vouched for by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. It is 160 per cent higher than the 1938 net of \$387,058,000.

The all-time record to date of net agricultural income is that of 1944, when it reached the peak of \$1,227,542,000, which was 217 per cent above the 1938 level. The official figure for 1945 is \$1,004,299,000. This net was divided between the 9 Provinces as shown in the following tabulation:

Table with 2 columns: Province, Net Yield, 1945. Rows include Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia.

The decline in 1945 as compared with 1944 was attributable mainly to a relatively smaller crop on the Prairies, there being little change as between these two years in the other Provinces.

This great expansion of the net profits from farming operations is largely due to the war-inflated prices of foods, but it is also accounted for in part by the increased acreage under cultivation and the stepped-up pace of agriculture in recent years. But the important thing is that world conditions today, including the greatest market demand ever known for the products of farms, fields, orchards, ranches and dairies, promise soon to place agriculture in the category of the most profitable enterprises to which men can apply their energy and skill.

The Indian Commission

While the Dominion Government has been generally commended for appointing the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs which visited Prince Edward Island this week, on the other hand exception has been taken in some quarters that in its constitution there should have been included a representative of the Indians themselves.

At any rate it is to be hoped that the Commission's inspection and inquiry will result in the gathering of complete details on the Indian problems and that the recommendations made to Parliament for the betterment of Indian population will be given legislative action promptly.

Changes in Toys

It is not too early to begin thinking about Christmas, and it is cheering to learn that toys this season will reproduce in miniature a world of peaceful abundance, where playroom housing, new cars, household appliances and furnishings are happily ahead of production figures for adult-size models.

While miniatures of military equipment will be plentiful, Santa's 1946 pack will contain more toy cowboys and policemen. Home-making, building and road construction, transportation, science, agriculture, fashion and art are represented among the 100,000 different kinds of playthings now ready for Christmas distribution.

Items in 1946's toylands have been estimated to have a retail value of \$250,000,000, a 35 per cent increase over 1945. Estimate is based on a survey of member toy producers.

The first lines of rubber and steel playthings in four years will bring back such deeply missed favorites as rubber balls, balloons, and animals, wheel toys, electric trains, noise-makers and pop guns.

New British Coinage

Gold vanished some years ago from the coinage of Britain, and now silver is to follow. The five shilling piece and the silver threepenny bit are already almost extinct, and they are to be followed by the sixpence, the shilling, the florin and the half-crown.

A British Government announcement points out that the existing silver coinage was debased in the First Great War and one is left to assume that the present move is merely following tradition. The decay began in 1920 with the decision to reduce the standard fineness of all silver coins to 50 per cent will shortly be complete.

Before the act of 1920, British silver coinage contained 37/40 of fine silver and only three

per cent of alloy. In 1939, the metallic value of the shilling was only twopence halfpenny and now, though it is up to five pence this is due to the increase in the price of silver, and not England but the United States is responsible for that.

The metallic value of the new shilling coin will be 1/20 of a penny, based on a price for copper of a halfpenny an ounce and nickel three farthings an ounce.

One reason for the change is the need to repay in silver to the United States the \$27,000,000 ounces of silver received through Lend Lease. There is, furthermore, a heavy demand for silver for industrial use. All this has led to use of an alloy known as "cupro-nickel."

The new process will not be a speedy one. The previous debasement took nearly 20 years. One more issue remains however—a question asked by a British contemporary: "Can fortune really smile when a palm has been crossed with a nickel?" Worse still: Will fortune attempt to smile when the palm has been crossed with cupro-nickel?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow the celebration of the Centenary of Canada's Protestant Foreign Missions begins.

Now is the time to put money away in War Savings Bonds to provide for the proverbial rainy day.

Dehydration plants, as well as fertilizer plants, are at the mercy of the flames these days.

Charlottetown had a taste yesterday of what Londoners designate a "pea-soup fog," all but impenetrable.

A leading member of the Maritime Board of Trade declared yesterday, "the Charlottetown is the most ideal hotel for a convention I know of in the whole Dominion."

The Youth and Social Services Sub-Committee of Aberdeen (Scotland) Education Committee have recommended that playing fields under the City Council's control should be open on Sundays for recreation, including team games.

That was a fine testimonial given Indian Reservation administration here, when Mr. Brown, chairman of the Parliamentary Commission, declared after the visit to Lennox Island that the reservation seemed to be in better condition, to be more progressive and better kept than any the Commission had yet seen in their travels.

Rt. Hon. Viscount Sankey, P. C., G. B. E., D. C. L., LL.D., British jurist, born 1866; ex-Lord Chancellor in the Labour and National Governments of 1929-35; British member of the Court of Arbitration, The Hague, President of the British Institute of Adult Education.

One can have too much of a good thing, and that, unfortunately, is the present experience of some potato farmers. Mixed farming has proved itself, time after time, the best for this Province. In the present instance, for example, comparative fortunes are being made off poultry and livestock, much more than necessary to offset any prospective drop in the "spud" market.

Should the British Government act upon the suggestion of Mr. Winston Churchill, and give up its mandate over the Holy Land, it would mean that the Christian United Kingdom and the Christian United States, have handed the birth-land of the Founder of their religion to occupants ready to fight like Kilkenny cats, which are said to have fought each other until only their tails remained.

Lieut.-Governor, the Hon. J. A. Bernard, has been possibly this year the busiest public man in the Province or out of it. He has had to entertain, receive formally and informally, be present at public dinners and banquets, deliver addresses to all sorts of delegations, travel all over the Province patronizing and encouraging local enterprises and, in a word, to be at almost everyone's beck and call. The ready response he has made marks him out as the right man in the right place.

Says The Daily Scotsman, Edinburgh: "But, at the adult stage, Scots have developed the art of ginning to a national cult. If we are honest with ourselves, we are the best ginners in the world, and the spectacle of a crowd of Scotsmen ginning in unison is a formidable one to behold. 'To ginn', is to gnash one's teeth and utter dire threats to the oppressor. We want some of that quality here in our demand for our rights and privileges as a Province. Let our M. P.'s and Legislators develop the ability to grin ferociously in face of the political foe at Ottawa."

How thankless sometimes is the role of the well-meaning theorist is amusingly illustrated by a recent series of letters to The Times. The correspondence was started by a writer signing himself "Pedagogue," who inveighed against the establishment in many State school playgrounds of a large polished board, suitably guarded at the sides, down which schoolchildren may slide in a sitting or lying position. This contrivance, says "Pedagogue," is "calculated to wear out any clothes, particularly the seats of trousers, in record time, and in these days of clothing coupons must be far from welcome to the hard-pressed mothers." One hard-pressed mother retorts that she would rather mend her son's trousers nightly than deprive him of the exquisite thrill of "shooting the rapids." Another actually praises the slides as giving "an opportunity for a training in that self-imposed discipline and social behaviour which is a world-wide need today among adults." The firm who market the playground apparatus defend it on a plausible ground that it helps to "keep death off the road."

Notes By The Way

About the only business or person who isn't scolded in some way is the salaried income taxpayer. —St. Catharines Standard.

"The man who derives snirth from his own mistakes, evinces a high mentality," says a psychologist. There is of course an unusually high I.Q. conceded to investors who are convinced with hilarity over the recent trend of the stock market. —Hamilton Spectator.

As some slight reward for splendid service freely and voluntarily rendered, the City of Windsor is planning to congratulate its laboring men on the occasion of the distribution of ration books. It is a gesture that is richly justified. —Windsor Star.

Some day, perhaps, the bystander the innocent victim of a stoppage in production of necessities, may come to a realization of the fact that he is being wheeled in a dispute will recognize that there is a higher interest, which is the common good of the great number of people. —Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

More and more persons who don't expect to die in the near future are making arrangements for their funerals, members of the National Selective Mortuary, Inc., optimistically agreed at the Chicago convention. "It is only good sense to face the inevitable," observed Burt J. E. Mowrey of Montclair, N. J. "People make wills, buy life insurance, and take other precautions against possible contingencies. Why not make similar precautions against the one inevitable event?" —Chicago Daily News.

Many a car owner, still waiting in vain for a new auto, is being continually surprised by the endurance of the old one. Before the year 40,000 was considered to be pretty high mileage on an automobile and when that figure was reached on the mileage dial most owners were in the market for a new one. Today 100,000 is not an exceptional figure. In fact, a number of pre-war vintage and vehicles that have traveled that much and more are still going strong. Of course, such cars have to be checked often and closely for safety reasons. —Boston Post.

This year's campaign to reduce traffic accidents in London, and deaths and injuries resulting from traffic crashes, has had an excellent result. So far this year the death toll has been kept to five, just one-third of the total for each of the previous two years. In 1946, on city streets, 226 persons have been injured compared with 311 for all of 1945, and 282 in the year before. The general campaign has included special drives against speeders, careless drivers and improper use of horns. It is significant that while 63 drivers were accused of drunk driving, convictions were registered against 55. —London Free Press.

Butter in St. Louis advanced to 95 cents and a pound — the highest price in history — at the very time the West Illinois coal field was staging a King Coal celebration exhibiting several pounds of butter made in Germany from coal. It is just possible there is some special significance to this? Synthetic from coal and petroleum are cooking the ovens of the rubber plantations in a lot of sleep. Is King Coal getting ready to invade Queen Bossy's realm and, if so, wouldn't the better watch her step? —From St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The decision to bring Urna to an end in Europe is all the more regrettable in that the States and money needed to round off its work and to secure an orderly transfer of its functions to permanent international agencies are very small. Another year would have completed the job. In Europe, the other two years in the Far East. The last stages of Urna's work in Europe would have required at the most another billion dollars (which the supplying countries could have provided) plus one-half of one per cent of their national income, or approximately three days of their war expenditures; the work might even have been completed in a matter of weeks, since the receiving countries this winter, would have been in a position to put some of their own supplies—Polish coal, Czech vegetables or Yugoslav timber and dried fruit—on the market. —From the Manchester Guardian.

A remarkable record, compiled by the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, has recently been issued by the Stationery Office. "On the State of the Public Health during Six Years of War." It touches first on the birthrate, and points out that it has been rising since 1941 onwards and in 1945, reached the highest figure since the year 1926. In addition, the infant mortality rate for 1944 touched a new low record. The report goes on to draw attention to the fact that "despite the loss of 7,000 lives at sea under fifteen as a direct result of enemy action, and an increase in accidental deaths arising out of war conditions," the mean annual death rate in that age-group, during 1940-1944 were below the rates for any year prior to 1939. Tuberculosis, a typical wartime disease increased from 1939 to 1944, but by 1944, total deaths were only twenty-five per cent of the 1939 figures, and much less than half the total deaths in 1918. The only serious epidemic during the war was cerebro-spinal meningitis, and it was successfully contained by modern methods of treatment by the subcutaneous group of drugs. In 1944, deaths from diphtheria were only one-third of the pre-war average. —London Outlook.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondence of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of respondents.

POTATO FLOOR PRICES

Sir,—There was plenty of "food for thought" in that frontpage story in a recent Guardian dealing with discussions by a gathering of your potato growers in P.E.I. in connection with resolutions calling for a floor price on this year's potato crop.

This layman has no inclination to step into this problem, where as has been intimated, even the experts "fear to tread"; but there is still some spot of open ground for comment. I was surprised, for example, to note the complete absence of any reference to "dehydration" or the possibilities involved in the industrialization of so-called "surplus" potatoes? In these days, the suggestion that there are any "surplus" food anywhere, is a grim joke indeed!

One of the speakers is reported as saying to the meeting: "Whoever undertakes to represent the growers must first get the opinion of the growers from any contact I have had on these various boards, they will try to make the 'floor' very much below the cost of production... If this is the situation, I think it is out of the line with the spirit of the price-stabilizing enactment. My understanding of the aims and function of such a set-up as the Agricultural Producers Support Board, is that all actions and processes would (and should) be based on data covering the average production costs of the average grower. In a perishable commodity, probably it is deontology, which is the 'livey quote' mechanism which works so equitably for the wheat grower could be used to advantage among the potato growers. In the business however, one of the experts says: 'The wholesale selling price on grade "A" large, is 50 cents. The floor price is around 42 1/2 cents, the point at which the Special Products Board at Ottawa begins buying-in eggs for Britain.'"

I am, Sir, etc. SCOTTIE

Tasmania, The P.E.I. Of Australia

(Australia, like Canada, has its Island Province of the people of Prince Edward Island may be interested in their island cousins in Tasmania. The following article was written from a Radio Australia shortwave broadcast made on 8th October by Harry Reidy.)

Its smallest emphasized by the small dimensions of the island of Australia, from which it is separated by two hundred miles of water, the little Island State of Tasmania, lying south from Victoria, may appear insignificant on a map of Australia. With an area of 26,215 square miles, it is by far the smallest of the six States of Australia. It is in Tasmania, however, where the great post-war development of Australia's primary and secondary industries are most pronounced.

A tangible proof of this development was revealed by State Premier Robert Cosgrove this month when he stated that the value of primary and secondary production for the year 1944-45 was \$72,936,600, compared with \$44,941,000 in the year 1938-39. On the unemployment registers there were no names at all and in the savings bank deposits had increased their savings from \$27,225,000 to \$66,000,000 during the last six years. Those figures add up to a prosperous future, but to really appreciate the potential of Tasmania you don't need figures. It is in place to be judged on cold statistics.

To the visitor there is no blatant display of wealth for the island State. Her riches in a garb of quiet beauty. It was the beauty that first lured mainlanders across the turbulent Bass Strait, for it is of a kind quite unlike that found anywhere else in Australia. It would seem that Tasmania is not a part of the great "sunburnt country," but belongs to the old world and it is for this reason that men called her "this other England." Misleadingly others referred to her as the "apple isle." So great is her variety that it is wrong to give her any definite title.

The high central plateau of the island, with its alpine lakes, is flanked on the east by plains of rolling grasslands which run right down to the sea. North and southeast hedge bordered lanes and stone fences break up intensely cultivated fields. On no part of the island does the scenery become monotonous. Majestic heights give way to lovely hills and charming valleys. Rugged cliffs form perfect backgrounds to sand beaches. Virgin bushland is halted by green fields and orchards. The coastline circles the island in breathless beauty, here presenting a broad estuary where a land locked harbour and where deep thickness of the forest abruptly defies the ocean's golden shore dispels the darkness.

From the highlands of the Derwent Valley in the south, ample sufficient hope to supply the whole of Australia. More than one third of the apples shipped overseas from Australia come from the orchards of the island. Wool, meat, vegetables, dairy produce and beef fruits come from the rolling downs of the Midlands, and the coastal areas. Growing in importance, too, is Tasmania's flax industry.

But the soil of the state possesses other qualities that those necessary for the production of food. Down the west coast the dense virgin forests are broken by

Early Acadians At East River & St. Peters

(P. E. I. Magazine, 1900) The Breton French who first settled the valleys of the Hillsborough and Pisiquid Rivers, and parts adjacent, Tracadie, Savage Harbor, French Village, Saint Peter's and Grosout were quite a different people from the French who settled Quebec. The Acadians were of purely Celtic origin. They spoke a patois, the soft, gliding tones of which you detect today among their descendants here or in Louisiana. They were an industrious people also. Only located here a few years they left traces of great improvements in the old clearings and in the dyked marshes. Some places near Mount Stewart show the old, narrow ridges they ploughed, covered with a forest growth of one hundred and fifty years.

The permanent population of Isle Jean was given as five thousand at the time of the capture by the British in 1758. Those places I have named contained a large part of the agricultural settlers of the time. They had a church on the land that now comprises the farm of Mr. John McKenzie, of Scotchfort, where the old cemetery is still preserved. In it, in after time, some of the Glanadades were buried.

There were two grist-mills on streams at the head of the Hillsborough, one in front of R. Egan's farm, another three miles east, on the north-east branch of the river. Numerous traces of the first settlers remain, such as cellars and roads. A cob of the time—a Louis d'or—was ploughed up near the first-mentioned mill site. The whole outfit of a forge was found at Allardy, buried in the edge of the marsh. Some of their old silver coins were picked up, which were large and very thin, so that they could be doubled up with the fingers. The bones of a span of oxen, with a large chain by which they had been fastened to a tree, and the metal of a plough near at hand were found in the depths of the forest north of the Cameron settlement some years ago.

A portage of one mile at St. Andrew's connected the river with the present Savage Harbour and the thickly settled country near French Village. This harbor was a good port then. The entrance for vessels was on the west side in those days. A high sandhill occupied the present entrance and extended nearly across to the west side. The channel was kept clear by a novel dredge which was made like one of the modern cultivators, with a house and buoy attached. The dredge was a plough near at hand were found in the depths of the forest north of the Cameron settlement some years ago.

Even before the war, a \$2,000,000 worth of these timbers were exported annually. But the value of the forests of Tasmania does not lie solely in the production of timber. Past development is the comparatively new wood pulp industry. Further industrial expansion is also promised with the development of aluminum on the island. The Federal Government, together with the Tasmanian Government, has granted \$10,000,000 towards this project which is now well under way. To carry out, and further expand, industrial works, the people of Tasmania are fortunate in possessing unlimited and cheap power.

The topographical features of the island are such that the development of hydro-electric energy is possible in almost any part of the state. Situated in the centre of the island is the beautiful Great Lake, 3,000 feet above sea level. By damming, and the construction of power stations, the lake has been used to supply electric power to most parts of the State.

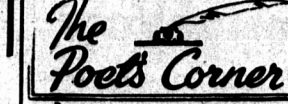
Seven more such schemes are projected, and already work has begun on another dam which, when completed, will rival the present schemes in greatness. It is with such resources, and a natural wealth, that Tasmania faces the future, a future which promises to make her not only the ideal holiday state, but also one of Australia's greatest production areas.

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TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM

Kiddy cars of little tilks, Slightly older children's bikes, Wagons, trucks, velocipedes, Scooters, Jog (and roller) skates — How the stuff accumulates— Piles of articles vehicular, On the front porch in particular, Things your children go like heck on, And you fall and break your neck on. —Richard Armour.

Incoming craft dragged it in. The sand thus loosened was cleared out by the current. At least one vessel traded here, as the name of the "Quebec Trader" and her owner Corie and Corney, are preserved. She carried wheat and other supplies for the use of the Quebec Garrison.

The village was on the east side, in a cove where deep water and perfect shelter with the most beautiful surroundings on the Island made an inviting site. When the McEacherns landed here in 1700, direct from "the Port of Ardnurchan" the French had been on the landing place at the head of the tide on the Hillsborough River, at a place known later as Fanning's Farm, led to this village at the entrance of Savage Harbour, thence skirting Crown Bush Pond and the lake to St. Peter's Harbour. This road, known to the French as De Bleu Road, is yet partly used and is known as Canavoy, properly Cannobie Road.

Another trail from the Hillsboro River to St. Peter's led through a dense forest south of the present railway. Though used only as a winter route there were some settlers along this road, as old cellars can be found north of the present Cameron settlement. This trail was resorted to by a numerous population who, in the winter season, left the shores and herby where they fished in summer and sought the sheltered forest through the stormy season. Here they made their oars and utensils for the next season; made maple sugar, hunted, danced and held the long winter hours away.

The church bell was ploughed up on this old town site during the latter part of the 19th century, and aroused much interest in the minds of local antiquarians. It was later hung in the Roman Catholic church at Rollo Bay.

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