

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1947

Island Marksmen's Victory

The winning of the London Merchants' Cup by the Prince Edward Island rifle team at Ottawa is an event of more than ordinary interest.

High Praise Indeed

Many tributes have been received from the Old Country with regard to the quality of Prince Edward Island potatoes shipped overseas last spring.

The letter, addressed to the Canadian High Commissioner in London, reads: "As you know, we bought about 70,000 tons of potatoes from Canada and the last shipment arrived two or three weeks ago."

The principal credit for handling the Island shipments goes to the P. E. I. Export Board which was set up for this specific purpose.

It will be recalled that the British Government was at first reluctant to take Canadian potatoes because of their fear of Colorado beetle and bacterial ring rot.

Mental Health Problem

When the infirmary inmates are removed to the reconstructed Beach Grove Inn there will at last be an opportunity of relieving the overcrowded condition at Falconwood.

In every progressive country the question of mental health is being given greater attention than ever before. For instance, the U. S. Congress, at its last session, voted no less than \$7,500,000 for a mental health programme.

In Canada, as in the United States, there is a growing appreciation of the problem of mental health, but far too little is being done about it.

programme for this Province, it will mean the saving of many people from serious permanent disability, and lessening the life handicap of many others.

A Busy Week

Our new Provincial Exhibition management seem to be as fortunate as their predecessors in picking choice weather for Old Home Week.

The manner in which the big crowds were handled at the Fair grounds reflects credit on all concerned, especially on the police, who also acted efficiently and courteously in directing traffic along streets leading to the Exhibition.

Most serious menace of all at the present time is that of fire. Brush fires can do tremendous damage, as is indicated by the devastating fires now raging in North Cape Breton.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, the Eleventh Sunday After Trinity—"The gift of God is eternal life."

When you "shop locally" you are helping to make your community a better shopping centre.

Our through highways are being dotted with signs, "Built-Up Area." If the planning boards do not take action soon we will be saddled with expensive, inconvenient and unsightly ribbon development on all the roads.

Island roads, this week, resemble the refugee cluttered highways of an invaded land. Fortunately the invaders are friendly and there are no aircraft strafing wayfarers.

According to Captain Arundel of the S.S. Essex Trader, the Churchill shipping route is more easily navigated than is the St. Lawrence. He contends that the cross currents of the latter make it more difficult to negotiate.

It will be all over at the Exhibition today—including the shouting. It has not been a week of brilliant sunshine and success for all concerned.

Now there is going to be a political fight, East vs. West for the Federal Fisheries portfolio. Should we lose this opportunity, it would indicate that the Prime Minister has forgotten, if he ever remembered, his indebtedness to Prince Edward Island when he was down and out as a member of the House when first chosen as leader of the Liberal Party.

Andrew Marvell, English poet, died this date 1678; educated at Cambridge, travelled extensively on the continent, was tutor to the daughters of Lord Fairfax; assistant to Milton, M. P. for Hull, secretary to Lord Carlisle during his diplomatic mission to the continent; was a zealous patriot, and although a keen Royalist in his youth, he admired Cromwell, and commanded his general policy. Published several volumes of poems, was a clever satirist, and a writer of exquisite lyrics: "Music, the mosaic of the Air." "Tis not a freedom that, where all command."

Something more than a shock was experienced in the business community yesterday on hearing of the sudden death of Mr. Alfred Pearson. It was only a comparatively few hours after his late lamented father, Mr. William Pearson, was laid to rest at the advanced age of eighty, and Alfred was one of the two surviving sons who were chief mourners.

With George VI yesterday was a day of hail and farewell. He laid aside the robes of Emperor of all India assumed by his gracious great grandmother, Victoria the Good, and in their place adorned himself with those of lesser significance, King of both Hindu India and Moslem Pakistan. It is an historic event, marked by the Imperial Viceroy—now Vice-King only, being raised in the peerage from being a Viscount to an Earl.

Notes By The Way

Traveling along our highways reveals that there are more hitchhikers than ever. There are few men in uniform seeking rides today, but the civilian roadside solicitors seem to be on the increase.

Since she came into service last October the Queen Elizabeth has established the leading position in trans-Atlantic travel. During the first six months of this year she carried 49,332 passengers, far more than achieved by any other liner.

These buns which are appearing with the increase in university fees it is announced that there will also be an increase in scholarships. The basis on which these scholarships will be distributed is not indicated, but they should have a wider purpose than to serve merely as prizes for academic standing.

That, folks, is where the duck stops nibbling. And that is also where the government has over-invested in bad public relations. For some years now, the Courier, in common with most of the weekly press across Canada has been conducting a free ration sale to put out monthly by the WPTB.

It is a generally accepted belief that childhood and early youth is the time for education, but we question whether a great many of the world's ill may not be traced to this notion. We suggest that it might be better for the world if children were kept at some light, agreeable, productive work from their fifth until their twentieth years; the money which they earned during that time would then enable them to enjoy ten years of intensive and mature education.

Once again in its long history the city of London has the safety of Salisbury Cathedral, for an eminent architect has said that the "immense fullness of the unmissable blasts" from the powerful organ may endanger the walls and the spire which is the delicate and the spire is it was no part of the original design, and when it was added it nearly overtaxed the capability of the existing building.

What we fail to remember, many of us, is that fish are merely one part of that many-sided art of rearing called fishing. Fishing is a means to an end, not the end in itself. It is, or should be, an art, the gentle art of doing nothing. Catching and landing a fish, while fishing is but an exciting reminder in the interlude of complete relaxation of body and purification of mind by the forces surrounding nature, that you have learned how to be lazy for a while. It is the small difference between doing something and doing absolutely nothing. So then, when an off day comes along, take it in stride. Don't be disgruntled, disappointed. Be a good gambler. Think, if it will console you in the least, what you're doing on those days for conservation.—Byron Dalrymple, in "Panfish."

Language is not a museum piece; a coffin of niceness. Word purists—those pests who work themselves into a lather of indignation over a deviation from the accepted plural and a singular, an adjective or an adverb—merely reveal a chronic form of indigestion. They have to be irritating somebody about something. Haughty grammarians have become an anachronistic bad joke—like mothers-in-law. Our greatest literary immortal, William Shakespeare, found the English language so ludicrously restricted that he burst its bounds, added thousands of words to its vocabulary and gave it joy, color and new life. Carelessness in language, as in dress, is unforgivable. But to stand out in high dudgeon against any change in either is simply comical. Words do not die kindly to fetters. They demand freedom. And if some people want to preserve them in a pickle jar they can do so.—Hamilton Spectator.

Weekly Editor Hears From Prices Board

(From the Perth Courier.) We're being nibbled to death by ducks. Just a few weeks thinking we had 500-ton ferry Abegweit, built at a cost of \$5,500,000 to carry passengers on the subject of paying for the paper or time, we get a nasty letter from the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

The information offices of the Board will shortly be closing and this necessarily involves the cancellation of many newspaper subscriptions, the letter starts off, ever built in this country. Leaving us wondering what closing an office has got to do with cancelling subscriptions. We preclude the fine services you have rendered these offices during the term of your subscription. The letter goes on, in an attempt to smooth the way for the next paragraph "We are now cancelling your subscription to the Perth Courier being addressed to Field Representative, WPTB, 490 Sussex St., Ottawa. This subscription is due to expire on Nov. 1, 1947, but will not require delivery of any copies after July 31, 1947."

Our offices are closing sooner than we expected when we renewed your subscription, the letter goes on. "We are therefore asking you for a rebate on the unexpired portion. While the amount of the individual rebate is not large, the aggregate sum involved is considerable. We feel justified therefore in making this request and trust you will give us your co-operation. Your remittance should be made out to the Receiver General of Canada."

That, folks, is where the duck stops nibbling. And that is also where the government has over-invested in bad public relations. For some years now, the Courier, in common with most of the weekly press across Canada has been conducting a free ration sale to put out monthly by the WPTB. This has been paid for by a minimum of \$5 per week per paper. In addition, the Board received free weekly publicity on all changes in prices and rationing. We could not have been more generous, even had the government been Conservative.

And now they want a refund of the "monthly" subscription money, about fifty cents if we sold nine-months subscription for \$1.50—which we don't. From a legal point of view, we would say the WPTB still owes us the money, but we won't until they close an office. From a financial point of view, if the WPTB deduct four cents for a stamp plus the cost of envelope and typing necessary to send out the ration card to this on postage, cost of rent, telephone, envelope and letter preparation, we think that they will be cutting money. However, the WPTB wants a detailed account, we will supply it. We would warn them, however, that the account will include a thousand-dollar bill for advertising, at our regular rates. And if the government is still interested in "utility" it's going to be a little harder to get now on.

And as far as sending money to the Receiver General is concerned, we did that last April when we paid our income tax. We are still awaiting the repayment of some sixty ducks over-payment Charge the refund or subscription, against interest and forget it, WPTB. And the rest of you get in here and pay up your subscriptions.

PRICELESS TREASURES

NEW DELHI — (CP) — Priceless specimens of India's ancient architecture are being sent to London for an exhibition sponsored by the Royal Academy of Art. The exhibition will be held from September, 1947, to March, 1948.

MORE COME THAN GO

STOCKHOLM — (CP) — Sweden's immigration showed a surplus of 2,850 in 1946. Over emigration in 1946 immigrants numbered 31,322, the highest figure on record, while emigrants totalled 6,915.

NOW IS LABORATORY

DAR-28-SALAAM — (CP) — Dr. Livingstone's house, "Bon Bag", on the Golden Garden, from which he fitted out his last expedition, is being converted into living quarters and laboratories for the Clove Research Home.

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The floss of milkweed is used in making lifeboat preservers.

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Red Letter Day In P.E.I.

(Ottawa Journal) Sunday was a red-letter day for the people of Prince Edward Island, who turned out en masse at Charlottetown to welcome the new 7,500-ton ferry Abegweit, built at a cost of \$5,500,000 to carry passengers on the subject of paying for the paper or time, we get a nasty letter from the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

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Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.)

THE LAND COMMISSION In the year 1860 a Commission was appointed to investigate and report upon the land situation in Prince Edward Island. The Commissioners were the Hon. Joseph Howe of Nova Scotia, representing the tenants; Mr. Ritchie of Nova Scotia, representing the proprietors; and John Hamilton Gray of New Brunswick, representing the Crown. After a prolonged and thorough examination, assisted by counsel on both sides, the Commissioners issued a long report, dated Jan. 18, 1861. They recommended the settlement of the Land Question by means of a compulsory law similar to the Land Purchase Act which the assent of the Crown had already been refused. Tenants who tendered to their landlords the sum of twenty years' rent, in cash, should, according to the award, be entitled to a discount of ten per cent and a deed conveying the fee simple of their farms. If the tenant preferred to pay by instalments for the land he held, he might do so, though the proprietors should not be compelled to accept less than ten pounds in which to pay the whole amount of the purchase money. For lands that were not considered to be worth twenty years purchase the tenant might offer the proprietor the amount considered to be its value, and if the proprietor should decline to accept this sum, the value of the land should be fixed by arbitration. As to arrears of rent due the proprietors, the Commissioners suggested that they should be remitted with the exception of those of the three years previous to the first of May 1861. There were references by the Commissioners to the rights of the Micmac Indians, to the descendants of the French pioneers who remained on the Island, and to the Empire Loyalists who came here at the end of the revolutionary war in New England. Concerning the latter, the Commissioners suggested that the Government of the Island should make free grants to such occupiers of land as could prove that their forefathers had been lured here by promises that had not been fulfilled. They also recommended that the guarantee of the Imperial Government of a loan to enable the Government of the Island to purchase the estates of



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proprietors who might be persuaded to sell their estates outright upon terms that were deemed to be reasonable. This proposal was not adopted; and few, if any, of the tenants made purchases of their holdings on the plan recommended by the Commissioners. Practically the Award of the Commissioners was set aside, and the labor and expense entailed were of no avail. The only result was that the principle of Compulsory Purchase, application of which the Commissioners suggested, was adopted in the final settlement of the Land Question.

From an article by the late Mr. W. L. Cotton.

For Foot Ailments CONSULT V. J. McEOWN, D.P. Orthopedic Chiropractist 143 Great George Street CHARLOTTETOWN P.E.I.

TWISTER A sudden wind storm, can cause tremendous damage in a few minutes. Such storms have occurred recently in the Maritimes, including Prince Edward Island. During a freak wind, rain and electric storm in New Brunswick this month, a two-mile swath was cut by the disturbance through 20 farms in less than 30 minutes.

Tornado Insurance is a desirable cover for farm property, in addition to Fire Insurance, and can be purchased at a very modest cost. Consult: HYNDMAN & CO. LIMITED Insurance Since 1872 Offices: Charlottetown - Summerside - Montague

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