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

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1948

New Maritime Industry

One of the objects of the mineral survey which was conducted here during the past summer under Federal supervision was to investigate possibilities in the large peat deposits at Black Banks, Prince County. Whether or not peat can be mined here on a profitable basis will doubtless take some time to determine. In the meantime it is worth noting that the industry is being successfully pioneered in Gloucester County, New Brunswick, where hundreds of carloads of peat are being shipped out annually. In fact, according to the current issue of *Imperial Oil Review*, the new industry has become the third most important mining operation of New Brunswick. Coal comes first, gypsum quarrying second.

The coal deposits in the central part of New Brunswick are not large. The gypsum deposits on the Bay of Fundy are extensive but the marketing radius is not great enough to justify any great expansion. On the other hand, the prospects for the peat bogs appear to be just about unlimited, insuring a major source of income for the once distressed Shippegan area.

The peat is processed in three grades, the most finely pulverized being for horticulture. Mixed with topsoil, it absorbs and stores moisture and gives added richness as organic matter. While its introduction has been comparatively recent on this side of the Atlantic, it has been widely used in Europe for centuries. Medium-ground peat is for poultry. It absorbs moisture in henhouses, acts as a deodorant and checks disease. The coarse grade is for stable use.

At present about 20 percent of the Shippegan output is sold in the Maritime Provinces. A few carloads go to Quebec and the balance, more than 60 percent, to the United States. Three producers are in business in this area, two of them employing about 100 men each. The peat in the main bogs, formed of centuries-old deposits of sphagnum moss, is not aged or compacted enough to burn slowly, but is of the finest quality known for agricultural purposes. There is also talk of processing it into building material.

In this Province a survey of peat resources at Black Banks was made as far back as 1913, and is referred to in the report of the Prince Edward Island Development Commission of 1917. It was surmised that peat could, under favorable circumstances, be manufactured here at a cost sufficient to leave a margin of profit; but the Commission warned that the subject was one "that requires great care in handling", and that "no greater mistake could be made than that of inducing capital to enter upon a venture of which the success is very problematical." Perhaps the report of this year's survey will be more encouraging. At any rate, the progress made in this new industry in New Brunswick furnishes a stimulating example.

More Statistics

At the taxpayers' expense, a door-to-door canvass has begun this week in cities and rural communities across Canada, to find out where the taxpayer spends his money. Armed with 22-page questionaires, 250 officials are taking part in this family expenditure survey which the Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimates will continue for "three or four weeks." The results, upon which may hinge any future changes in the basis of the cost-of-living index, will not be known for six months. About 50,000 families will be asked all manner of personal questions in the course of the poll, but it is emphasized that interviewers have been sworn to secrecy and no names will be attached to the green-backed forms which contain the questions and answers. "The questionaire will be used for statistical purposes only and for nothing else."

Already, as a result of the 1941 Dominion census, some dozen thick leather-bound volumes of statistics have been issued at Ottawa, containing many thousands of pages of figures in type small enough to be barely readable, with the context in both French and English. One wonders who, except professional statisticians, ever reads these tomes, or is capable of making use of them if he does. The expense involved in their compilation must be tremendous, and they will, of course, all be outdated after 1951, when the next census is taken.

Queen's Isle Gifted

Members of the Stewart clan the world over will be interested to learn that Inchmahome, once the island refuge of Mary Queen of Scots, has been gifted to the Stewart Society by the present owner, Mr. John A. Stewart, who purchased the six-acre island from the Duke of Montrose twenty years ago. The news is recorded in an interesting new publication, *Keek*, which is edited and published by Mr. Hugh L. Hastie, of Toronto.

Inchmahome (Island of Colman) is one of three islands in the Lake of Menteith and was once the flourishing home of Augustine monks. It has not been inhabited since the 16th. century. It was here that Mary Queen of Scots was brought for safe-keeping, as a girl of four, after the Battle of Pinkie. Before the war tourists visited the island to inspect the ruins of the Black Canons Priory. The visits stopped when an ammunition dump was placed on Inchmahome.

— EDITORIAL NOTES —

Degrees of political progress: Conservatism, a bulwark against radicalism, radicalism, a bulwark against socialism, and now socialism, a bulwark against communism.

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The Canadian Club of Boston, which includes numerous Islanders in its membership, held a reception and dinner in honor of Hon. T. F. M. Newton, Consul of Canada, in the Twentieth Century Club there yesterday.

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Now "essences" will be more difficult to obtain than alcohol, and can be sold only by licensed persons in the same way as poisons. There will, of course, always be the non-alcoholic substitutes.

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All the negotiations of the Newfoundland delegations have been conducted directly with Ottawa, perhaps rightly, but it would be only fitting for Provincial authorities to extend a welcome to a prospective sister Province.

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Among those to receive honorary degrees at Acadia are Miss Charlotte Whitton, Ottawa, Dr. of Common Law; President A. E. Kerr, of Dalhousie University, Dr. of Divinity; Dr. Carlyle Beals, Dominion Astronomer, Ottawa, Dr. of Science.

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The Meteorological Bureau reports that for some fifty years Arctic and sub-Arctic areas have been warming up about five degrees, while certain other areas are becoming cooler. From observation it would also appear that summers are getting cooler and winters warmer.

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Two American air officers express themselves as believing that the United States can win another war in from one to three months, the means being a "super blitz" of A-bombs by only a small force of planes. By the same token a very small country with the Bomb could win against the United States.

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Says the veracious *Windsor Star:* "Hon. J. Walter Jones, Liberal Premier of Prince Edward Island, was in Ottawa this week to discuss freight rates. He was plunged into the middle of the Conservative convention. Mr. Jones developed a painful stomach ache. No one could be sure whether it was something he ate or just from looking at all those Tories."

* * *

Island lobsters transplanted to British Columbia waters near Nanaimo are behaving very strangely, only a few remaining in the lagoon and they only because kept in a floating cage. Considering the natural gregariousness of Islanders abroad the only explanation for the disappearance of the others is that they are trying to get home.

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This date 1871 occurred the terrible fire which destroyed the greater part of Chicago, sweeping over an area of more than 2,000 acres. The city was mostly built of wood, and was subsequently rebuilt in stone and brick, and in 1893, twenty two years later, it was recognized as the principal city in the Middle West, the Great Columbian Exposition being held there in 1893.

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James C. Petrillo is not noted for backing down on any stand he may have taken but even "Caesar" must sometimes yield. Harmonica players, though opposed by Mr. Petrillo, are now officially musicians and may join his A. F. of M. It could hardly have been otherwise. The harmonica is not only a musical instrument but probably the most popular one on this continent.

* * * *

The promoters, including the Innkeepers Association, the Experimental Farm, Science Service, fruit and vegetable branch and potato exporters, and merchants generally have good reason to congratulate themselves and the organizer, Mr. Graham Rogers, on the success of the Potato Festival. In the course of time this will no doubt develop into a fruit and vegetable show, together with an exhibition of women's and children's handicraft work.

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A report from Halifax that Navy "square-riggers" will disappear after Jan. 1st., meaning that in future ratings below confirmed Petty Officer will be dressed as seamen, brings to light a curious development of naval slang. Originally seamen's dress was referred to as square rig and that of officers as fore-and-aft rig. Somehow, perhaps through some association with the round sailor hat, the seaman's dress became known as round rig, and the peaked cap and buttoned coat, as square rig.

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Canada will receive one-fifth of Australia's 1948 production of dried vine fruits. A statement by the High Commissioner's office said Canada's share will be 16,126 tons out of a total of 81,000 tons. Canadian imports of fruits from Australia will include 300,000 cases of tinned pineapples. Half of them have already arrived in this country. The vine fruits are principally sultans and currants. Australia will also ship 77,800 cases of canned fruits —apricots, peaches and pears—to this country.

* * * *

Henry Fielding, English novelist and miscellaneous writer, died this date 1754. At Eton he was a contemporary of Fox and Pitt. After a period of playwright, he studied law and was called to the bar, eventually becoming a Metropolitan Magistrate, retiring on pension. He wrote *Joseph Andrews* as a parody on Richardson's *Pamela*, but it outran his original intention, and became an historic novel on its own account. It was followed by other notable productions, including his powerful satire, *Jonathan Wild the Great*, *Tom Jones*, and *Amelia*. He held up a merciless mirror to the people and the manners of his day. "There is not in the universe a more ridiculous nor a more contemptible animal than a proud clergyman."

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.

ISLAND RHODES SCHOLAR

Sir,—In Sept. 30th. issue of the Guardian appeared a list of Rhodes Scholars from Prince Edward Island. It contains an omission, viz., Alexander Robertson MacLeod of Uigg, P. E. I., who graduated from McGill in '06. He won the scholarship there and was at Oxford 1906-1909.

At present he lives in Vancouver a retired solicitor for C. N. R.

I feel he should be included in the P. E. I. list.

I am, Sir, etc.,

M. B. ROSS

Charlottetown.

NOT NECESSARY

Sir,—A writer in your afternoon contemporary wants candidates to be chosen for the next Federal election who will be capable of filling a Cabinet position. Such men are not easily available and it is not necessary to set up such a standard of qualification. We have now in Prince County a man who has gained the prominence of Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Fisheries. That is a high honor and a splendid stepping stone for further promotion and I hardly believe the Liberals of Queen's County are jealous of Mr. MacNaught's advancement in the political fields and would not condone anything of a hostile nature against his interests. We can only hope for one Cabinet or near Cabinet position for this Province. The Liberals of Queen's County should select men who will stand loyally behind Mr. MacNaught and support him in every way in the important job assigned. Let Queens County select men who are popular and well known throughout the district—men who will work in the interests of the Common Man.

I am, Sir, etc.,

J. F. W.

REGRETTABLE OMISSION

Sir,—Having read in one of our Island papers an account of the unveiling of the monument to the memory of L. M. Montgomery at the Green Gables in Cavendish, in which there was mention of the lack of a loud-speaker and seating accommodation — I would like to add, that regrettable as was those two factors, far more so was the omission of mention of the name of Amanda MacNeill Robertson in the list of the celebrated author's friends. This name should have been first and foremost as in childhood and in after years "Maud and Amanda" or "Amanda and Maud" seemed inseparable. They sat together behind the old two-pupil desk in Cavendish School and although both were brim-full of mischief, one of their teachers, who later was known as Dr. Fraser of Montreal—a native of Alberton—himself a very notable exponent of The Gospel—in speaking of his former pupil, then the famous "L. M. M." said: "Her little classmate and cousin Amanda MacNeill was another very bright Scotch lassie."

The deceased would not have wished to have had a public eulogy without the mention of her lifelong pal, nor would that pal in life or death forget her.

This omission is all the more regrettable because of the fact that Mrs. Robertson is at present in indifferent health.

I am, Sir, etc.,

A MUTUAL FRIEND

New Glasgow, P. E. I.

Case For Canadian Bill Of Rights

(by W. Glen How)

A joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons was established in 1947 to consider the need of a Bill of Rights for Canada and to determine what responsibility Canada might have under the international Bill of Rights adopted by the United Nations. It is said that any thought of a Canadian Bill of Rights must wait until it is seen what the United Nations decide. In the United Nations are nations which are dictatorships; some of which have never enjoyed any recognizable form of democracy; others which are almost feudal and in which there is so high a degree of illiteracy that normal democratic functions could not operate. Freedom of the individual is virtually unknown in many of these countries, yet Canada is asked to wait for a statement of fundamental freedom that will be acceptable to all the members of the United Nations as a leading democracy, this country should take the lead in preserving human rights. At least we should stand with the best—not wait for the worst! In a recent article on Inherent Rights, the Hon. C. H. O'Halloran of the British Columbia Court of Appeal said:

"No Canadian can rest content unless he is convinced that his citizenship as such guarantees to him constitutionally equally full rights as are enjoyed by his friends and neighbours in the United States of America."

The fact is that the Canadian constitution does not guarantee to citizens of this country liberties as full as those provided by law in the United States.

In a land such as ours, peopled by so many different racial and ethnic groups, rights depending on tolerance alone are far from safe. In order that every Canadian may walk without fear; in order that all may know the value which Canada sets upon the dignity of the individual, in order that freedom of expression of worship may be effectively guaranteed and enforced by the courts; the rights of the individual citizen must be written into the constitution. The respect thus shown for the rights of others, and the consciousness of equality for every person and group in every Province, would remove diversive fears and be a real aid to national unity. For the world it would be further proof of Canada's maturity as a nation.

The Bar, as a natural protector of the liberties of the people, has a duty to take the lead in seeing that basic human liberties are protected by the law.

Old Charlottetown
(And P. E. I.)

MERCHANTS MARINE COMPANY

Marine Insurance has been much more profitable in Prince Edward Island than in either Ontario or Quebec, if the success of the Merchants' Marine Company of Charlottetown is a fair indication. The premiums earned last year were $17,674; a dividend of 45 per cent has been declared upon the paid capital, and $5,092 added to its surplus, which is now $19,748. Although the losses for the first two years have been very large, yet the Company has earned 34 1-2 per cent on its capital, taking the whole period of three years.

—Monetary Times, March, 1878.

The Age-Old Story

And in that day will I make a covenant for them, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground; and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.

S. A.'s WEEK-END SPECIAL

STARTING TODAY —

A selection of 50 light-weight

TOPCOATS

for Fall will be on sale at—

19.50

BLUES
GREYS
BROWNS

in all sizes up to 42.

S. A. McDONALD

- Notes By The Way -

These are lovely summer days but not Indian Summer. Indian Summer comes, when it comes, after the first snow, after we have had our first taste of Winter.—Ottawa Journal.

One cheering note for householders—there is no shortage of fuel oil in sight for Ottawa this season. Nevertheless its price will encourage economy in its use. — Ottawa Journal.

A tomcat recently sat on a clutch of eggs for 21 days in South Africa, and hatched them all. Then, unfortunately, he forgot himself and ate one of the chicks. Making every allowance for the strain of the occasion, we can't condone that. —Peterborough Examiner.

There must be something in the northern air conducive to vitality. This is indicated by announcement of Mr. George Black, M.P., Yukon, that he will retire from politics. Mr. Black, member of the Commons since 1921 (with the exception of 1935-40 when his wife, Mrs. Martha Louise Black, represented the constituency) is not going to waste any more of his time down in Ottawa. Only 75, he will concentrate on his own private practice. — Windsor (Ont.) Star.

The County Tree Conservation Act passed by the Ontario Legislature in 1946 was sponsored by the Ontario Horticultural Association's committee on conservation and reforestation. More than one-half of the counties of Ontario have now passed bylaws under the Act governing the size of trees which may be cut, thus saving the younger trees. This is another example of how a purely voluntary organization can get an effective job done. The OHA's committee is active in many fields, and it is significant that valuable work can be done as long as public-spirited citizens get behind conservation and reforestation and give it a push.—Woodland World.

Once a terminus for a flood of tourist traffic, Callender is described as a "ghost town" today. The craze to visit the nearby home of the Dionne quintuplets, and if possible to watch the five little girls at play, has subsided. The status quo has been resumed. Yet this is not a change that can be regretted. The growing girls, now in their 15th year, are no longer in the category of museum oddities. Naturalness has returned to their lives, as was their right. As for Callender, it can go back to its quiet old ways without a sigh. It has had its crowded hour of glory, and probably will agree this was worth an age without a name.—Windsor Star.

Welsh people will be glad to know that one of the chief glories of Wales remains undisturbed after a rather sharp challenge. Recent hot weather discussions in the Times of London and the New York Herald Tribune produced a couple of likely suggestions for the title of the world's longest place name. The American entry was a lake in southern Massachusetts, called Lake Chargaugagaugmanchauggagaugchaubunagungamaug. The Times, however, was able to produce something a good deal better in the form of a hill in New Zealand known by the Maori name of Taumatawhakatangihangakoauauotamateapokaiwhenuakitanatahu. But when all the letters are counted it appears that the long-time world champion is still in the lead—the Welsh village of L l anfairpwllgwyngyllgogech.—Edmonton Journal.

Not long ago a small aircraft was lost while on a flight from Winnipeg to Fort William. For days on end other planes scoured the countryside in a vain attempt to find it. Airmen who have been trained in the art of searching swept over miles and miles of territory without any luck. During the past few days the largest peacetime air search ever carried out by the R. C. A. F. has been conducted out of Winnipeg, The Pas and Churchill. Three hundred fliers and ground personnel have been engaged in the hunt for a United States navy plane missing somewhere in Northern Manitoba. Even in a small country nature can camouflage a ship that drops from the skies so that searchers have difficulty in locating a wreck. But in Canada these and other cases of lost aircraft which sometimes remain lost emphasize the vastness of thinly populated country. Until such time as pioneers push farther and farther from the older settled sections of the country, trained searchers will always be in demand.—Fort William Times-Journal.

Pay envelopes of Canada's industrial workers are fatter than ever before, reports the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Average weekly earnings of employees in eight leading industries is $40.49, an increase of more than $4 a week over the same period a year ago. All this would be very cheering for the industrial worker were it not for steep prices. Canadian living costs are at an all-time high, too, and our dollar, which was worth 100 cents before the war, is now worth about 53 cents. The industrial workers' $40.49 weekly pay envelopes are really worth about $25.50 by prewar standards. Labor is such a big factor in the cost of every product that wages and prices have climbed together. Higher prices have canceled out the benefits of higher wages. But there is a joker in the situation that many of us haven't detected. High prices have actually more than canceled out benefits of higher wages. Our savings, our insurance policies, our annuities — all once worth 100 cents on the dollar —are worth about 63 cents on the dollar at present prices. We were better off with lower prices and lower wages. — Vancouver Province.

Shiftiness never pays. One lie leads to another, till the victim of this vicious tendency becomes discredited and shunned. The important thing is to be scrupulous in small matters as well as great; holding nothing too trivial to be dealt with otherwise than in the spirit of sincerity, honesty and fair dealing. Reliability is one of the chief assets which any one can possess; it should be cultivated by the young as a priceless attribute in all human relationships. Never compromise with the truth. — Hamilton Spectator.

Lots of people become furious at inanimate objects which fail to perform properly the duties for which they were designed. We once knew a fellow who owned a motorboat. The engine usually failed after running two or three minutes. His remedy was to beat the motor with a crank. He admitted it didn't do any good, but it gave him a lot of satisfaction. It also made him very hot. When he got tired of whacking at the motor he would turn his attention to the weather and denounce it. He probably suffered more from self-induced heat than most people do from nature's variety. — Kingston Whig-Standard.

The new style hired man is coming into prominence. No longer is the man with a strong back and a weak mind wanted for farm work. The hired man now handles stock and improvements worth thousands, and must be willing and able to handle them intelligently. The days when mere brutal labor was the lot of the farm-hand are over. There may come from this a new kind of farm worker, a man who plans to make farming his life work, and considers himself a skilled workman doing a difficult job, and paid accordingly. Their employers will find them worth more in the long run than less skilled and reliable men. Young men can consider farming a career, and will be encouraged to stay in the country. — Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

It is good news that the city's all-out offensive against its rat population is about to go into high gear. That population, alarmingly, is now estimated by the Health Department at 15,000,000, or nearly two rats per citizen. The only useful purpose which rats serve is as laboratory animals for war on human disease. Rats go hand-in-hand with dirt and bad housekeeping, whether it be domestic or civic. In the large numbers in which they are found in New York, they are a menace to health. New Yorkers are proud that their city is the largest in the world. They should all join in making its rat population one of the smallest.—New York Times.

Today's young children who are becoming used to health through needling, and now bare their arms for all sorts of inoculations, will welcome the announcement from McGill that three innoculations in one against diphtheria, whooping cough and lockjaw can be taken instead of nine, as formerly. The discovery, reported in the Canadian Medical Journal, is said to have this great advantage that three "shots" will do as well as nine. Combining the factors immunizing against each of the three diseases in a single injection is the secret. If we must undergo all this therapeutic needling, let us have it concentrated and reduced as much as our health can stand.—London Free Press.

Autumn fashions in Europe show many millions of women still clinging (by necessity) to the "old look"—the careworn, thread-bare look, the ill-fitting, hand-me-down look, the patched, pinched, and shivering look. What has happened, we wonder, to all those clothes American women have discarded in favor of the "new look?" What about the costumes even a revised hemline could not adapt to the imperious demands of fickle fashion? How large a proportion of the discarded wardrobes have found their way to the less finicking women of Europe, as the apologists for the new styles assured us they would? Plenty, we hope.—Christian Science Monitor.

State Secretary Gibson has announced the setting of Monday, October 11, as the date of Thanksgiving Day. Thus, within a matter of a few weeks, Canadians will observe the national holiday. For years the government has followed the practice of setting the date of Thanksgiving as it saw fit, contended as a temporary, experimental practice. It might be a more satisfactory procedure if the government established a fixed date for this national day instead of waiting until late in the season to announce it. This would permit Canadians—particularly those engaged in agriculture—to plan ahead for the holiday. — London Free Press.

The Poet's Corner

WHEN

When mine hour is come
Let no tear-drop fall
And no darkness hover
Round me where I lie.
Let the vastness call
One who was its lover,
Let me breathe the sky.

Where the lordly light
Walks along the world,
And its silent tread
Leaves the grasses bright,
Leaves the flowers uncurled,
Let me to the dead
Breathe a gay goodnight.

—G. W. Russell