

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1887) Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1947

Precedent in Rate-Making

A judgment of considerable interest to Canada at the present time has been given by the United States Supreme Court, in upholding by a 7 to 2 majority decision, an interim ruling made by the Interstate Commerce Commission in May, 1945, with regard to interstate freight class rates.

The ruling does not affect any sizeable volume of freight because only about 4 per cent of United States rail carload traffic moves under these class rates.

In making the ruling, the Commission implied recognition of the fact that unjust disparities in rates have existed as between the industrial and agricultural regions.

It is noteworthy that the United States transportation authority did not seek to meet the situation by a horizontal or general increase in rates (such as is contemplated in the 30 per cent blanket increase application of the Railway Association of Canada now before the Transport Board).

The Commission's action was challenged. It has now been confirmed. In the 28,000-word majority opinion of the United States Supreme Court, Justice Douglas commented that "there is a strong case for the contention that natural disadvantages alone are not responsible for the retarded development of the South and the West."

Butter Supply Increasing

As indicated in yesterday's despatches, butter is among the commodities now removed from rationing control. The explanation is simple. According to a compilation just released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the production of Canada's creameries in the month of April last amounted to approximately 21,000,000 pounds, an increase of one million pounds over that of the corresponding month of 1946.

On April 1, the holdings of creamery butter amounted to more than 15,000,000 pounds, approximately three times the quantity reported at the same date in the previous year. On May 1, the end of the storage period when stocks reach the low point, the quantity in store and in transit amounted to 11,000,000 pounds as against 7,000,000 at the same date last year.

Conversely, however, Canada's total production of milk fell approximately 4,000,000 pounds in March, 1947, as compared with the same month last year, the farm output of 1,669,537,000 pounds comparing with 1,073,000,000 pounds in March, 1946.

Farmers realized approximately \$15,520,000 from the sale of dairy products during February, revealing an increase of nearly \$2,000,000 or 11.7 per cent over the sales income for the same month of the previous year.

Strange Misconception

A comment heard in explanation of the comparatively slim audiences at the film showing of Shakespeare's Henry V last week was to this effect: "The picture was great, but the average person doesn't like highbrow stuff; he prefers something with a more popular appeal." This is quite true, nor is there any reason why anyone should patronize entertainment which is either above or below his level of enjoyment.

Taine, in his History of English Literature, gives a lively description of the playhouse of Shakespeare's day, certainly no place for a "highbrow". "On a dirty site, on the bank of

the Thames, rose the principal theatre, the Globe, a sort of hexagonal tower, surrounded by a muddy ditch, on which was hoisted a red flag. The common people could enter as well as the rich; there were sixpenny, twopenny, even penny seats; but they could not see it without money. If it rained, as it often rains in London, the people in the pit, butchers, mercers, bakers, sailors, apprentices, received the streaming rain upon their heads.

Above them, on the stage, were the spectators able to pay a shilling, "the elegant people, the gentle-folk." These were relegated from the rain, and if they chose to pay an extra shilling could have a stool. "To this were reduced the prerogatives of rank and the devices of comfort."

Those were the audiences Shakespeare had, and to whom he appealed because he sang "both high and low." To his magic touch those untamed mobs responded as to the wand of a wizard, their fervent imaginations kindled by the homeliest scenes as well as the most exalted poetry.

Thus Shakespeare came down to us, crowned with the humblest boys as well as the loftiest laurels. No "highbrow" surely, unless we are prepared to relegate the authors of "Tom O' Stonter", "Pilgrim's Progress" and "Gulliver's Travels" to the same frigid category.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Feast of Barnabas.

Reports indicate that the box car shortage will be even more serious this year than last. Island shippers would be well advised to arrange as much carriage by sea as possible.

Experiments in rain-making by dropping flakes of dry-ice from aircraft have proved successful. Now they should find some way to turn it off.

Canada welcomes her Good Neighbours. The President and his family are more than honoured guests. Like the late F. D. R. we hope they will regard Canada as a home away from home.

Politics make strange bedfellows. Tetsu Katayama, the new Socialist Premier of Japan is the Presbyterian grandson of a Shinto priest; while Jiichiro Matsumoto, vice-chairman of the Diet, or upper house, is an Eto, the equivalent in Japan of India's "Untouchables."

The shades of Nazi leaders must gloat over the success of their plans to win the peace by setting the western powers against Russia. It is well to remember that the Great Powers, like every entity great or small, must always jockey for a favorable place in the world and that the resulting conflicts are not intended to result in war and need not do so.

Newfoundland has a delegation in Ottawa, discussing the possibility of the Colony becoming a Province of the Dominion. Canadian opinion would welcome such an arrangement, if Newfoundland wants it. There might be some irritation over the presence of U. S. forces on Canadian soil, and U. S. forces are in Newfoundland to stay.

Sir John Franklin, English Arctic explorer, died this date 1847; commanded the overland expedition from Hudson Bay to the Arctic Sea in 1819 when only twenty-three; four years later he commanded another expedition which traced the North American coast as far as 149 deg. 37' W longitude; was knighted, and made governor of Van Dieman's Land (Tasmania) (1836-43); he died during his ill-fated expedition for the discovery of an N. W. passage to the Pacific in 1847; the ships were last seen by a whaler in Baffin Bay in 1845; in the following nine years no fewer than 39 expeditions were sent out in search of the party, but without success till 1857 when McClintock discovered traces and records to show that Franklin, before his death had discovered the N. W. passage, though he had failed to traverse it.

Not many businesses enjoy the distinction of Messrs. Moore & McLeod Ltd., in having at its head four "young-old" men with an aggregate age of 316 years. When the firm began "on their own," 54 years ago, the partners consisted of Messrs. George Moore, S. A. McLeod, J. P. Gordon and W. A. Stewart, all with high hopes of "making a go of it" in competition with the then old established and flourishing competitors. With the energy and enterprise that has characterized them all through life, they made the grade in their first year, and have been going ahead ever since. Today they have launched out on extensive improvements, which have necessitated the addition of a third storey to their centrally located stores. Should they desire further extension they have plenty room in the rear of the premises, so the present expansion may be merely preliminary to further developments for the junior partners to keep in view. As it is, it must be something of a record for four business men of the average age of seventy-nine to embark with commendable enthusiasm upon such a progressive and worthwhile development scheme.

Notes By the Way

What has always mystified us is the enormous distance a car running at "moderate" speed can travel from the time it first gets into trouble until it crashes into a tree or fence. — Windsor Star.

Taxpayers would feel better about family allowances if they could be assured the monthly cheque was spent on milk, clothes and schooling rather than on pop, chocolate bars and picture shows. — Farmer's Advocate.

The official statistics on the use of paper show that the book trade last year received 85.7 per cent of its prewar supplies, and the National News Suppliers and Nation. This compares very favorably with the quota of 29.7 per cent allotted to newspapers and the 29.3 per cent given to periodicals.

It used to be said, before farm homes had city conveniences for lightening labor, that the average farmer buried two wives before the third saw him safely off to the graveyard. Has the pendulum swung too far in the opposite direction? Twenty men once were asked which they would prefer, a short life and a merry one, or a long life and a good one. Three said they would be content with a short life if it were merry enough. All the others wanted a long and good life. Most men do — though they do not always prove it by their actions. — Chatham News.

What may turn out to be the most prodigious dictation and typesetting job in history is already under way. We refer, of course, to Winston Churchill's "Memoirs," which will run to at least five volumes. It seems that Mr. Churchill doesn't write, that is, not literally; he dictates, and what he dictates gets set up on galleys, and then Mr. Churchill edits and rewrites from the galleys, which means resetting and more resetting. — New York Times.

When trains travel with vacant passenger space it is not their practice to take on wayfarers who want to go from one place to another at no cost to themselves. Motorists should be just as hard-boiled. During the war everybody stopped for a man in uniform, but rarely if ever was their kindness abused. Today there is no practicable way of sorting out the occasional deserving hitch-hiker from the spongers and the wise driver has to disregard them all. — Ottawa Journal.

A resident of Illinois writes the Ontario Department of Travel and Publicity to speak in the warmest terms of the courtesy and fair treatment he received from a garage at Cobourg when his car broke down on a tour of this province. He will be back, he says; American visitors, he adds, are "overwhelmed" by the courtesy they receive on this side of the line. Decent roads, good meals, good beds, polite and fair treatment — these are the things which turn the tourist into a regular and satisfied Summer visitor. — Ottawa Journal.

Under the joint auspices of the Pacific Science Board of the National Research Council and the Navy Department, a group of forty-four scientists shortly will be exploring the 1,400 islands and atolls which make up the Archipelago of Micronesia, says The New York Sun. In this group recruited from one Australian and twenty American institutions, will be geographers, anthropologists and linguists. They will seek to fill the gap in the history of civilization's progress which, so far as these pinpoints on a map of the Pacific are concerned, has been left blank since a German expedition completed its studies there in 1910.

No pessimists are Winthrop W. Aldrich, chairman of the board of the Chase National Bank, and Thomas J. Watson, president of the International Business Machines Corporation. They see no cause for "boom and bust" alarms and predict that the United States will not suffer a major depression as the aftermath of war. Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Watson could be wrong, but they didn't get where they are in the world of business by making a habit of it. Their forecasts are on the record and for reasons they must regard as sound. Time, it is certainly to be hoped, will bear them out. — Buffalo Courier-Express.

Victoria has many amenities that are peculiarly suited to the general atmosphere of a capital city which takes some pride in its British traditions. Among the features that have always been appreciated by both residents and visitors have been the trees that are to be found in little plots in even the busiest sections of the city. Here and there, leaning against tall office buildings, are maples and oaks, standing as symbols of how two great nations have been welded in a common citizenship. The Canadian maple and the English oak were planted side by side deliberately by the pioneers many years ago. But now they are disappearing, sacrificed to the need of parking lots and other evidence of material progress. It is disappointing that Victoria has succumbed so easily to these demands. Instead of indignation there is only a sad complacency. — Vancouver Province.

The only disadvantage of becoming a non-smoker is that for a short time, one feels a sense of irritation, especially when others are smoking in the same room. On the other hand, he who gives up smoking will find that (1) his general health steadily improves; (2) he plays his favorite game



THE RELIC Like a wish-bone the years picked clean the old crone so little and lean. Eat in by the teeth of time, thin as a thimble, the old silver dime, grim and grey as a hangman's laugh, dim as an X-ray photograph. — Peggy Bacon.

Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.)

HILLSBORO BRIDGE SITE

From local newspaper "The Post", February, 1900:

The second meeting in connection with the location of the bridge over the Hillsborough was held in the Legislative Council Chamber this forenoon. Premier Partridge presided, and Mr. W. B. McKenzie, chief engineer of the I. C. R., Hon. Benjamin Rogers, Hon. J. R. McLean, Hon. A. McMillan, Mr. C. E. Hazard, and Mr. G. G. Goff, N. Rattenbury and other leading businessmen of the city were present.

The Premier said the bridge should be built on the lower end of Cumberland Street. This Province is contributing more than a third of the cost and the people have a right to express their opinion. He thought the bridge at the lower site. Why cannot we get it? The engineer in his report says the water is deep there and the work would be dangerous. It would cost some \$36,000 more to build it on the lower site, but this is not so much in view of the entire cost.

The second objection was in reference to the grade from the channel, but that is not a serious matter. Another was in reference to the rails to be crossed by parties coming to the ferry and the railway tracks which might be filled in. There is at present no accommodation at the railway wharf for shipping. Then there would be the Prince Street dock, which could be filled in more cheaply than any other site. It would lead to Kensington. This dock filled up would make an excellent shunting ground. He believed Mr. Blair would agree to this is he were here. If they build the right track out by the post office it will be an expense to the business men of this city. It is also expected to put a toll on the bridge; but to do so at Kensington would not be tolerated by our citizens. To have to walk that distance would be too long. They have always had a ferry right in the city and will not relish putting a bridge so far away. Builders at Cumberland site would accommodate the public at the expense of nobody. The distance between the two sites is some 800 yards, and persons obliged to cross will soon realize this.

Mr. MacKenzie, the engineer, said we should look at least twenty years ahead. By that time the terminal accommodation will have grown very considerably. The yard will grow north-easterly — the pond will be filled up and some docks laid. It will then grow and the other side of the dock there will be filled and outside dredged so vessels can lie here. If you put the bridge at Cumberland Street and carry out these improvements, the bridge will be too close. Then room is wanted very soon for a new station and freight house. A great many tracks will be required between the new station and freight house, and between the latter and outside of wharf. Then you cannot shunt trains in and about there. Every ten minutes of present trains are pushed there, and in twenty years it will be every three minutes. If the people are not satisfied another engineer should be called in, together with a railroad traffic man and a shipping man, representing three different interests, and whatever they said might be laid before the Minister. "But you would have to pay for this yourself. To get three such men would cost about \$1,000, but it would be money well spent. In a short time some three-quarters of a million will have to be spent in order to rectify it."

After much discussion the following resolution, moved by Mr. Hon. C. Hazard, seconded by Mr. J. P. Baker, was moved and carried with one dissenting voice: "That in the opinion of this meeting the report of the chief engineer in regard to the location of the bridge and that the Local Government be requested to sign the contract and have the work proceeded with at the earliest possible date."

with greater skill and less fatigue; (3) his enjoyment of food and drink is keener; (4) his sense of smell is more acute — this has its disadvantages, but the advantages outweigh them; (5) he no longer has that tiresome cough and his mouth feels cleaner; (6) he saves a lot of money; (7) he has a joyous feeling of independence while others are seeking cigarettes and matches; (8) he enjoys plays and concerts more because he is not longing for a smoke. All the above represents the personal experience of one who was a heavy smoker for 35 years. To disarm criticism, I claim no credit for ceasing to smoke, and I am quite familiar with the fable of the fox who lost his tail. — Lord Morton in London Times

WORRIED ABOUT THE FUTURE? Life assurance will guarantee you a retirement income which you cannot outlive, and also provide for your dependents if you die at an early age. Don't just worry about your family's future or your own. See me about it today. H. C. BOHAKER District Supervisor 148 Richmond Street Charlottetown, P. E. I. SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

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

GREEK RELIEF FUND

Sir, — I wish to express my sincere thanks, and the appreciation of the management of the "Canadian Relief to Greece Appeal" for the response given by the citizens of Charlottetown.

Although there have been so many appeals this Spring yet this one to relieve some of the distress among the sick and destitute in Greece, has not been neglected. It is interesting to recall that we have in hand even a donation from Brighton, Barbados. B. W. I. Thanks to them the appeal by letter has had a ready response, but there are a few who have not yet replied. We would be pleased to know they have received a letter, or that it had, before the effort ceases this week.

Charlottetown has done what it could so far. Donations may still be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Cruikshank of the Royal Bank. I am Sir, etc. JOHN M. HARDY, Manager.

Pravda Assails Munro

(Sydney Post-Record) — Ross Munro, the chief European correspondent of The Canadian Press, has been honored with a violent attack by Pravda, Communist party newspaper at Moscow, because of a dispatch he sent out during the sessions of the Foreign Ministers' Conference in that city. Pravda complains that Mr. Munro stated in this dispatch that nine-year-old Russian boys were undergoing military training. "Such malicious falsifications," says the Pravda, in a signed editorial, "expose sufficiently those who write and print such things as this wild delirium."

It is characteristic of Soviet writers and broadcasters that they prefer attack to argument in the realm of public controversy. It would have been more helpful if the Pravda editor had forgotten his show of hostility to Mr. Munro, and been long enough to indulge in the correction of the implied "misrepresentation" in the criticized dispatch.

BRIGHTON, England — (C.P.) — The 75-year-old Aquarium, closed throughout the war, was reopened.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SUMMER SCHOOL NOTICE Persons who have completed First Year or higher in Prince of Wales College or Grade XI or higher in other institutions, and who are interested in teaching next year should write or call the Department of Education without delay for information concerning Summer School Courses for prospective teachers. L. W. SHAW, Director of Education.

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