

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, FEB. 17, 1949

The Wood Islands Service

It is to be hoped that the presentation made
by our Provincial Government representatives
this week at Ottawa with regard to the re-
quirements of the Wood Islands-Caribou service,

backed by the indorsement of our Federal re-
presentatives, local Boards of Trade and citizens
generally, will have the desired effect, and that
no further time will be lost in providing additional
facilities for the traffic this year.

It has been shown conclusively that the
operating company, Northumberland Ferries Ltd.,
is unable to provide adequate service with the
boats at their disposal. Even the replacing of
the M.V. Prince Nova by a larger boat now avail-
able will afford only temporary relief.

After the first year or two, it was apparent
that additional accommodation must be secured
and the company was induced to purchase and
refit the Charles A. Dunning, with accommoda-
tion for twice the volume of traffic handled by
the Prince Nova.

When a ship with approximately three times
the auto-carrying capacity of the Prince Nova
was found to be available at short notice, the
company started negotiations for her purchase
and remodelling to suit the service. They offered
the Prince Nova for sale, only to find that the
money spent on her, instead of being an asset,
was really a liability, as the alterations made
for the Wood Islands-Caribou service unfitted
her for regular commercial purposes.

It is in view of these facts that the company
is requesting that grants from Ottawa be given
for the purpose of reconstructing and remodelling
the boats, to the extent that receipts and ex-
penditure will permit, until such time as boats
regularly built for a lifetime of service can be
procured and placed on the run.

On the basis of the increase in truck traf-
fic since the establishment of the service in
1941 it is believed that within the next three
years (the period suggested as the term for the
new contract) with the Dunning and the propos-
ed boat to replace the Prince Nova, 10,000
trucks will be transported each season; also that
before the end of this period there will again
be a delayed line-up, awaiting transportation.

To Nova Scotia as well as Prince Edward
Island the value of this service has become ap-
parent. Island farm produce can be transported
there for local use, or to Halifax for export, and
delivered without further handling charges.

Crossing on the early morning boat from Wood
Islands, a truck can deliver its load by 4 p.m. in
Sydney, for furtherance the same day to New-
foundland, and can return with a load of Cape
Breton coal and be back at Caribou to cross on
the following morning's sailing. It can dump
its load in the consumer's bin and be again
loaded and cross the same evening or the
following morning, with another load of island
produce.

Privy Council Appeals

It is the declared intention of the
Dominion Government, as announced in the
Speech from the Throne, to abolish appeals to
the Privy Council and make the Supreme Court
of Canada the final judicial tribunal of the
Dominion. Here there is evidence that in spirit,
at least, the B. N. A. Act is being flouted, for
the result will unquestionably make the process
of centralizing all governmental powers at Ottawa
a swift and easy line of procedure.

Since Confederation, the Privy Council has
been the buttress of Provincial rights in
adjudicating questions involving the respective
powers of the Parliament of Canada and of
the Legislatures of the Provinces. All its deci-
sions have leaned strongly in the direction of
maintaining and strengthening Canada's Fed-
eral structure. If the Privy Council's jurisdiction
be cancelled, every such decision in future will
be in the hands of a Supreme Court, the ap-
pointment of whose judges will be in the hands
of the Dominion Government, which will be one

of the interested parties in every case involving
a constitutional dispute between the Federal and
Provincial jurisdictions. This will be a sharp re-
actionary move, which every Provincial Govern-
ment should firmly oppose. The right of a Pro-
vincial Government to go to the foot of the
Throne for legal redress when occasion may so
require, should not be abolished by the unitary
action of the Dominion Parliament.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The English Revolution this date 1688.

The suggestion in the City Council that
building sites be made available on the West side
of Rochford Square would be a move in the
wrong direction. Our open spaces are of great
value to citizens and should only be given up
when the benefit to all will clearly outweigh
the loss to individuals.

Thomas Robert Malthus, English econom-
ist, born this date 1766; famous for his Essay
on the Principle of Population of 1798. This
work has often been regarded as one of the
greatest contributions to economic science,
though some have attacked it. Many economists
regard Malthus's chief proposition, that popula-
tion tends to increase faster than the means of
subsistence, as really original though not proved.

Prosecutions in Income Tax cases are add-
ing fuel to the fire in the Federal Government's
political difficulties. Notwithstanding that the
Income Tax Department is but playing fair in
not making fish of one and fowl of another in
attempting to collect the obnoxious, though legal
levy, the outcome will be the rousing of feel-
ings of resentment, which are sure to make
themselves painfully and effectively felt at the
General Election when it comes.

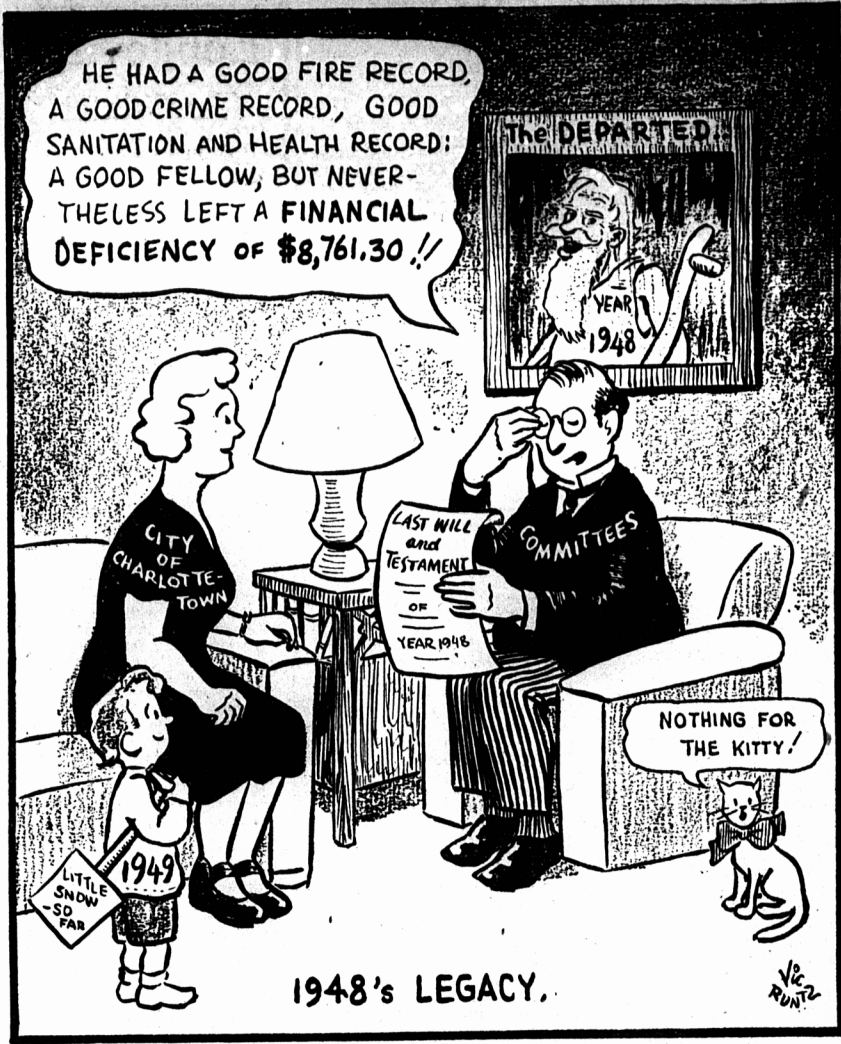
It is unfortunate that Canada's approval
of the terms of union with Newfoundland should
be marred because of a technicality. Because
the Ancient Colony has no legislature to pre-
sent an address as contemplated in the B.N.A.
Act, an amendment to that Act is necessary to
bring her in as the tenth Province. The consent
of the Provinces is a foregone conclusion and
time is short, but Members of Parliament would
be failing in their duty in allowing the constitu-
tion to be amended without following the pro-
cedure they consider proper.

Mr. McLure, M.P., writes: "I notice in a
return in the House with respect to bank bal-
ances in different banks throughout Canada an
item with reference to Prince Edward Island,
namely, Mrs. Mary Ann Hutt, deceased, who
has a balance in the Bank of Commerce at Al-
berton unclaimed of \$582.95. The last time any
transaction took place with reference to this
account was in the year 1939. Mrs. Hutt's ad-
dress at that time was Mill River East, Prince
County. This balance will go to the Bank of
Canada when the ten year period is up."

Owing to the decision of the Federal Lib-
eral Board of Strategy excluding the opening
of constituencies for by-elections, which pre-
vents the sitting members attaining the Senate
during the life of the present Parliament, the
following, according to rumors in Liberal circles
is likely to happen: Senators, Governor Bernard
and Premier Jones; Lieut. Governor, Hon. T. W.
L. Prowse; Premier, Public Works Minister G.
H. Barbour; Queen's County Court Judgeship
on retirement of Judge Duffy now due, Attorney-
General F. A. Large; Attorney-General, Public
Health Minister, A. W. Matheson, K.C.; Minister
of Public Health, Hon. Horace Wright. This,
however, does not take into consideration the
likelihood of a fourth Supreme Court judgeship,
in which event, Queen's County judgeship would
be combined with that of Kings.

Mobile banks like mobile Red Cross units,
are becoming increasingly important among pro-
ducts of the United Kingdom caravan industry.
Five of the big banks now use them — West-
minster, Lloyds, Midland, National Provincial
and Martins. These caravan banks are used at
present chiefly for agricultural shows, exhibitions
and other events at which temporary banking
facilities are needed. Another and growing use
is however, the replacement of small branch
offices in rural areas. In many such areas banks
open once weekly but the buildings, being per-
manent, are thus largely wasted. One mobile
bank can replace several branch buildings of
this kind, thus freeing the buildings for more
effective use.

Five years ago, on February 17, 1944, a fear-
less British Army major from Duncan, Vancou-
ver Island, gave his life in a heroic charge
through a hail of machine-gun fire to annihilate
the garrison of a Japanese-held hill on the Bur-
ma front. For his outstanding gallantry, leader-
ship and total disregard for personal safety,
Major Charles Ferguson Hoey, 30, was post-
humously awarded the Victoria Cross. His cita-
tion, in part, reads: "After a night march through
enemy-held territory the force was met at the
foot of the position by heavy machine-gun fire.
Although wounded at least twice in the leg and
head, he seized a Bren gun from one of his men,
and, firing from the hip, led his company on to
the objective. In spite of his wounds the com-
pany had difficulty in keeping up with him, and
Major Hoey reached the enemy strong post first,
where he killed all of the occupants before being
mortally wounded." It was not the first time
this brave soldier had demonstrated his courage
and leadership. On July 5, 1943, for his part
in a raid on Maungdaw, Burma, he was awarded
the Military Cross, while a few months previous,
he had been mentioned in despatches after an-
other Burma action. Major Hoey received his
early education at Duncan, and went to Eng-
land in 1933 to make a career of the Army.
Following his graduation in 1937 from Sand-
hurst, he was commissioned in the Lincolnshire
Regiment. He was serving on the northwest
frontier in India when the Second World War
broke out.



PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the
discussion by correspondents
of questions of interest. The
Guardian does not neces-
sarily endorse the opinion of
correspondents.

PRINCE COUNTY CANDIDATE

Sir,—In your paper of Feb. 15
in the Public Forum there ap-
pears a letter signed by "J. F. W."
In this letter "J.F.W." suggests
that Brig. Jack Price, the Progressive
Conservative candidate for
Prince County, is the same Price
who contested the St. Antoine-
Westmount riding in Quebec in
the 1945 election. The Progressive
Conservative candidate in St. An-
toine at that time was of course
Maj.-Gen. C. B. Price, who was
later Dominion President of the
Canadian Legion. Incidentally Mr.
Abbott's majority was very small
and no doubt Maj.-General Price
is likely to happen: Senators, Governor Bernard
and Premier Jones; Lieut. Governor, Hon. T. W.
L. Prowse; Premier, Public Works Minister G.
H. Barbour; Queen's County Court Judgeship
on retirement of Judge Duffy now due, Attorney-
General F. A. Large; Attorney-General, Public
Health Minister, A. W. Matheson, K.C.; Minister
of Public Health, Hon. Horace Wright. This,
however, does not take into consideration the
likelihood of a fourth Supreme Court judgeship,
in which event, Queen's County judgeship would
be combined with that of Kings.

CHOCOLATE AND CANDY BAR PRICES

Sir,—It is true that cocoa beans
are at the moment, be bought to
land in Canada at 25c. Unfortu-
nately, it is also true that the cocoa
beans which are landing in Can-
ada just now were bought last
November when the price was 39c
and 40c.

RETURNED SOLDIER.

Sir,—I do not make it a practice
to contribute to the Press but in
view of the ill-formed information
contained in a letter to your Pub-
lic Forum bearing date February
15, 1949 and signed "J. F. W." I feel
that a correction is in order.

ANOTHER CORRECTION

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ALL DEATHS BUT ONE

Only the spirit can drown, and still
The undertow of life can suck it
under.

COAL PRODUCTION UP

OTTAWA, Feb. 16 — (CP) —
With substantial increases in
Alberta and British Columbia,
Canadian production of coal rose
almost 31 per cent in January
over the corresponding month last
year, the Bureau of Statistics re-
ported today. Imports, on the
other hand, showed a sharp de-
cline of 21 per cent in the same
comparison.

REOPEN OLD GOLDFIELD

BANGALORE, India — (CP) —
Mysore state officials discovered a
rich reef in gold-bearing quartz
after reopening deserted jungle
workings at Bellara, near here.
India's biggest goldfields are lo-
cated in Mysore state.

DROP MUTINY CHARGES

MOMBASA — (CP) — Mutiny
charges against 19 Mau Mau sol-
diers in the Royal Pioneer Corps
were dropped at general court-
martial here. The men were ac-
quitted.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)
DISGRUNTLED VISITOR
Visitors have not always reported
favorably on Prince Edward Island
ways and customs. One such com-
mentator in colonial days was
Lieut. Colonel Sleight, "late of Her
Majesty's 77th Foot," whose book,
"Pine Forests and Hackmatac
Clearings: or Life, Travel and Ad-
venture in the British American
Provinces," published in London in
1835, contains some caustic refer-
ences to his visit here. He thus
describes a ball at Government
House.

THE AGE-OLD STORY

The righteous is delivered out
of trouble, and the wicked cometh
in his stead.

THE POETS CORNER

The increased mechanization of
our daily lives is making us very
dependent; we are losing the re-
sourcefulness which was the pride
of our pioneer forebears. We make
a fuss when hot water does not
come out of a tap. We make a
bigger fuss when no water comes
out of a tap. It is the inevitable
result of those developments which
have made the large cities of today
possible. The point is that the
dwellers who have never known any
other kind of life would be help-
less in a general catastrophe. Let
us list a few of the basic skills
which are being lost today and
which may be needed desperately
tomorrow: Fire-making, bread-
making; wood-cutting; hand-
weaving; home tanning of hides;
other kind of tanning of hides;
The list may be extended, but these
serve as examples. A little thought
will show that it is good insurance
to preserve the knowledge we have
of these basic skills so that they
may not be lost. — Guelph Mercury,
Free Press

Notes By The Way

A bit of philosophy, as pro-
posed by Plato: "When men
speak ill of thee, live so that no-
body may believe them." — Strat-
ford Beacon-Herald.

THE AMERICAN MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

The American Municipal Assoca-
tion has reported that 125 Amer-
ican cities and 22 state traffic laws
now make use of the "drunko-
meter" that determines whether or
not a man is drunk by testing the
alcoholic content of his breath. The
verdict of tests is that it takes six
bottles of beer or six ounces of
whisky to make the average Amer-
ican drunk. These amounts result
in producing a blood content of 0.15
per cent of alcohol, and if a man
has that amount of alcohol in him
it is no use for him to tell the
judge that he had only a couple of
beers before he drove his automo-
bile to a telephone pole, or worse.
A suspect, of course, might refuse
to blow his breath into the balloon
attached to the drunko-meter, but
if he refuses the machine will scoop
up his breath anyway, as he cannot
stop breathing. — Winnipeg Citizen.

THE AMERICAN MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

A scientist (male) has drawn at-
tention to certain interesting data.
He has observed that women on the
average are married to men five
years older than themselves. More-
over, these women have a life ex-
pectancy of three years longer than
their husbands. After consulting
his slide rule the geriatrist has con-
cluded that women on the average
live longer than their husbands
of widowhood. The scientist seems
to feel that women generally do not
look forward to this octave of hav-
ing no man to depend on them. He
has suggested certain remedial
measures—such as that women should
give their seats on buses to their
husbands to preserve their own
of long life possible. Somehow or
other, while we feel that this subtle
attempt to secure equal rights for
men is laudable, it is bound to fail.
On the average women are not only
older, but smarter. — Winnipeg Tri-
bune.

THE AMERICAN MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

There seems to be something
about the rough and hazardous na-
ture of their work that makes min-
ers utterly regardless of danger,
when the life of a fellow worker is
in the balance. Men volunteer to
go into working places after ex-
ploding or blowing up, knowing that
poisonous gases will be there
in great density. This does not de-
ter them in the least; it seems
simply to act as a stimulus. There
is no need to go to the battlefields
to see men willing to face death.
Industrial life can furnish splendid
illustrations, and it is doubtful if
any of them are more intensely
heroic than those witnessed where
men go into the bowels of the earth
to dig out the world's coal supply.
— Sydney Post-Record.

THE AMERICAN MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

Appropos of the anniversary of
the death of Robert Burns, Ashton
Douglas, K.C., London lawyer, tells
a story of an aged Scotsman he
visited on legal business in West
Middlesex. He had a fine library,
and among other books he showed
him was one that bore the auto-
graph of the Scottish poet. This
led to a discussion on Burns and
the anniversary of his birth on
January 25. "I suppose that you
are celebrating on that day," asked
Mr. Douglas. "Yes," he replied,
"but there is a more important
anniversary which I celebrate. It
was on January 25, 1905, that the
Ross Government was defeated."
Mr. Douglas added that he at least
discovered his politics. We looked
up the Parliamentary Guide and
we found the old Scotsman was
right. This was the date of the
overthrow of the Ross Government
in Ontario and the return of the
Conservatives after 33 years of con-
tinuous Liberal rule. — London
Free Press