

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Vice President: J. B. Burnett, F.J.I.

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1943.

New Red Cross Objective

It will be seen from our advertising columns that the provincial executive of the Red Cross through their chairman, Mr. D. J. Bounell, has announced a new objective for their present financial campaign.

Mr. King Among The Prophets

We quote the following correspondence in full, from The Spectator, London, to show our Prime Minister is among the literary elite:

Sir,—With reference to your search of Gray's poems for the quotation in Mr. Perkins' peroration, in the House of Commons, I have the quotation amongst odds and ends with this note: "Translated from Gray's Luna Habitabilis," Cambridge, 1737."

Notes By The Way

As an example of the right man in the right place, may we suggest Philip N. Malingy, head of the Maritime branch of the Dominion Income Tax Plan.

EDITORIAL NOTES

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An Intolerable Situation

Some idea of the difficulty experienced by our shippers this season due to inadequate car ferry facilities may be gathered from the following figures. In the month of February, 1941, 658 cars of potatoes and 137 cars of turnips were shipped from this Province.

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I am, Sir, etc.

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(Enclosure) Mayor B. R. Holman, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Dear Mayor Holman:

I have noted carefully the conditions of our City sidewalks every day since the snow-fall in December and believe that I am quite safe in saying that, with the exception of the pleasant days of the week of thaw and of one day after a night of snow, our sidewalks have not only been very unsatisfactory to pedestrians but have been exceedingly dangerous, causing many accidents.

We have in Charlottetown the makings of a beautiful, well governed City which there are many reasons to feel proud of during the summer months our roads and sidewalks are always clean; our streets are wide with handsome trees and many fine residences fronted by well kept lawns and flower beds. No sooner, however, does the snow fly than the most of our sidewalks are completely covered with ice and snow, and the discomfort is very great, so much so that complaints are universal. During the winter months the sidewalks are very poor, and it is a disgrace to ask those I have met through the question—"Are you satisfied with our winter sidewalks?" In every reply the answer has been in the negative, many of them strongly worded to permit of their being repeated.

Now, as head of our Civic Government, Sir, I am sure, will agree that this whole problem calls for careful consideration on the part of yourself and your householders committee, and the regulations of the Snow By-Law, particularly in the matter of spreading sand on the ice, self-enforced by law, cannot be enforced except through heavy fines in the City Court, a most undesirable course to have to follow.

Admittedly we have in Charlottetown a difficult winter problem to grapple with, because of the sudden changes in temperature, but that is not the reason for serious consideration by the Civic Authorities. After inquiries from different sources and obtaining specific weather data, I personally do not regard the problem as an insurmountable one. Moreover, I believe that our streets can be maintained almost in perfect shape throughout the winter, by the use of a salt pavement, which would be free from snow and ice, and that a cost far below that now being incurred by our citizens individually.

Furthermore, I draw your attention to a feature not always realized, but nevertheless very real, viz., that dangerous sidewalks are a serious cause of business, keeping older people indoors, preventing all pedestrians from walking at even a fair pace. The sidewalks must be kept slipper-free, and it is a disgrace that we are able to take a full stride as we do on an asphalt covered walk. As I feel that this subject is of such importance to the interested I shall, with your consent, send copies of this letter to the local press and follow same with other letters in which I shall endeavour to outline the solution of the snow clearing problem.

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TRANSPORTATION AND THE CAR FERRY

Sir,—Your readers, and the general public as well, are by this time, fully aware of the seriousness of the transportation problem with which we are faced in this Province; not only as to the inadequacy of the service provided to cope with the extent of traffic to and from the Province, but also the disastrously agricultural conditions into which our agricultural and other activities would be plunged, with an untimely but ever possible mishap.

Surrounded as we are by such untold possibilities, and constant misgivings, born of fear, the worst, we are prone to forget other phases outstandingly incidental to our problem, that call for recognition by the public. I refer to the amazingly excellent service being rendered by the present ferry under such signally difficult circumstances. I feel that the officials in charge, and their assistants, crews, deserve a winking hand-clasp and a resounding thump on the back, from every man, woman and child in Prince Edward Island, and in the Borden every day, for what they have succeeded in doing for the people of the Province during this trying winter, and under such adverse circumstances as have prevailed since about mid-December last.

Livestock shippers have particular reason to be most appreciative of the gallant service rendered by the men of the car ferry, week in and week out. They were concerned with the movement of a very perishable product that could not stand up against long delays. Only on one occasion during a long fall and winter season did we meet with delay, and then the stock was well looked after by our own men in charge, aided by voluntarily rendered railway help. There was no loss, and the stock landed at its destination in perfect condition.

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