

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1947

That Tax Agreement

One of the statements made at a recent Liberal nominating convention was that at the last session of the Legislature the Conservatives had "solidly opposed" the tax agreement with Ottawa.

And whereas it is agreed that Prince Edward Island shall not be deemed by reason of having entered into the agreement to have surrendered or abandoned any claims which it now has against Canada by reason of Canada's failure to carry out and discharge its obligations to Prince Edward Island under the Confederation agreement or to have surrendered or abandoned any rights or claims which it has against Canada by virtue of the findings and recommendations in the report of the Duncan Commission and in the report of the White Commission.

And whereas it is agreed that Prince Edward Island shall not be deemed by reason of having entered into the agreement to have consented to regard the payments to be made by Canada to Prince Edward Island under this agreement as adequate to stabilize the revenue of Prince Edward Island or enable Prince Edward Island to carry out its responsibilities.

This amendment was defeated in the House by a straight party vote, 16 to 10.

B. C.'s Premiership

The political situation in British Columbia is growing more and more confused. The question of Premier Hart's successor is still the big issue.

For a year now, notes the Vancouver News-Herald, it has been generally considered Mr. Welch, in a pinch—and that is what appears to be coming—would go.

With this danger in view it is felt Mr. Hart's Liberal successor will make sure the by-elections are finished before he calls the caucus together.

Unemployment Fund

Canada's unemployment insurance fund, begun in 1941 as a "cushion" against another depression, now contains \$400 millions.

The fund is climbing rapidly. According to Dominion Bureau of Statistics, employment in Canada topped the 5 million mark in August for the first time in history.

Should this trend completely reverse, with depression conditions as bad as those at the bottom of the depression of the '30's, the out-payments would be approximately \$200 millions a year, it is estimated.

Hoppers On Prairie

The most serious plague of grasshoppers since 1940—when the voracious insects caused crop damage officially estimated at \$14,000,000 in Saskatchewan alone—swept the Prairies this year and agriculturists fear an even more serious outbreak next year.

Dominion Government entomologists report millions of adult grasshoppers swarming in stubbled fields and grassy ditches and although final surveys are not yet completed—they now are making a survey of grasshopper eggbeds—present indications point to many more next spring.

Next year's infestations will not be as serious as those of the early '30's when clouds of hoppers literally covered the Prairies and devoured acre after acre of grain, but staggering losses threatened farmers who fail to take control measures, agriculturists say.

Despite the widespread drought area in Saskatchewan with conditions made to order for the stubble grasshopper, most prevalent species this year is the roadside grasshopper, which thrives on grassy roadsides, pastures and fields.

Already the provincial department of agriculture is preparing poison bait, a mixture of sodium arsenite, sawdust and bran which kills hoppers when spread thinly over infested areas.

This will be distributed next spring to farmers who have been warned to check their farms for eggs immediately.

Proper tillage will destroy eggs in fields or confine adult grasshoppers so they can be more easily poisoned. But the roadside grasshopper can be dealt with only by an effective use of poison bait in likely places.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Book Week is nearly over but there is no serious objection to reading the odd book out of season.

Today even elephants are in short supply. The government of Ceylon has banned further exportation of the great beasts because of depletion of the stock of young elephants.

Six candidates have now been selected to contest the First District of Queen's. This promises stirring times for that old political battle ground.

Everyone will be pleased to learn of the improvement in health of Cardinal McGuigan in the Canadian Convent Hospital in Rome, and that he anticipates leaving on return home as scheduled tomorrow.

We are having our own temporary electric lighting inconveniences, but we can boast of being much better off than other parts of Canada depending upon hydro. River limitations have their compensations when nature has to be substituted in the matter of production.

Mr. A. A. Oke, St. John's, Nfld., who attended as a commissioner the recent Maritime Synod of the Presbyterian Church, writes that he enjoyed his stay in Charlottetown very much, and was entranced with the lovely scenery of the Province.

Madame Curie, French scientist, wife of Prof. Pierre Curie, of the Sorbonne, born this date, 1867; she succeeded her husband as director of physics at the Faculty of Sciences in Paris, and in 1911 received the Nobel prize for chemistry.

The Bureau of Statistics blames the September boost in the cost of living index to the removal of subsidy payments and price control. The Bureau fails to point out that there is also the failure to reduce taxes by the amount saved by dropping the subsidies.

In connection with the suspension of The Daily Tribune, Toronto's six-month old leftist newspaper it is noteworthy that although the promoters raised \$222,234 by issuing certificates it was found that with present high costs of newsprint and everything else it is not practicable to carry on successfully, the loss being at the rate of practically half a million dollars per year.

There is to be a new Maritime Anglican Bishop in the person of Very Rev. Robert Harold Waterman, at present Dean of Christ Church, Hamilton. He will be coadjutor of Nova Scotia with the right to succession should Primate Kingston vacate the See. It is noteworthy that a former Summerside clergyman, Rev. C. de Wolfe White, was one of those receiving the greater number of votes at the Synod.

Compulsory labour has been instituted by Britain's Socialist Government. Mr. Ness Edwards, Parliamentary Secretary of the Labour Ministry told the House of Commons: "Those who are not helping the ship of state or are dodging the column, will, under this new order, have to perform some useful work."

The Prime Minister was surprised by a question put to him at a press conference at Ottawa on the eve of his departure. A copy of the new revised edition of "Industry and Humanity", an early work of Mr. King, lay on his desk during the conference. When he referred to it a writer mischievously queried, "Who is the author?"

It is still very uncertain whether the ancient colony will become our Tenth Province. The Newfoundland's political future, has been told that the once debt-ridden island is self-supporting and, barring unforeseen circumstances, will remain that way for the next three years at least.

The report said a revenue of \$30,000,000 annually for the next three years could reasonably be expected with expenditure running about \$25,000,000. It recommended that surpluses be disposed of in this way: Old age pensions \$500,000; fishermen's and marine insurance \$400,000; roads and tourist traffic \$1,000,000; encouragement of the fisheries \$1,000,000; public works \$500,000; establishment of a merchant-marine \$500,000; re-railing and other improvements to government railway \$1,000,000.

Notes By The Way

Speaking of Superman, which nobody was, can you picture an Ottawa dare-devil setting out to roll back prices? — Brandon Sun.

Traffic congestion is nothing new. More than 20 years ago Roman officials banned all but their own private vehicles from that city's crowded streets. — Chicago Journal of Commerce.

Ottawa reports a decline in the sale of motor vehicles. It will probably continue until prices are brought back to the level of the average person's ability to pay them. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

A complete skeleton of an "in-driehorium, the father of all animals" has been found in a sandstone in far-off Kazakhstan. It is said the creature lived in the Tertiary period, over 60,000,000 years ago, and was the turning point between reptiles and mammals. The skeleton according to a Russian report, was about 20 feet long and had a three-foot jaw.

Cigaret manufacturers "can look for a widely expanded market as new generations reach the age of 18," according to a United States survey. Although less than 20 percent of women over 44 years of age smoke cigarettes, more than 40 percent of women between 18 and 44 are smokers. Two-thirds of all women smokers start smoking before they are 22 and most men smokers start in their 18th year, with the number of men smokers declining after age 44. Brands are switched by 20 percent of the women and 50.1 percent of the men.

Soviet-Russians are telling all the world that they have had a 58 percent increase in their grain harvest. Fifty-eight per cent bigger than what? The Moscow radio says 58 per cent bigger than last year, but no one knows how large last year's crop was. It is a typical Russian trick — give out figures that are impressive at first blush, but meaningless upon examination.

The other day a Hungarian, who had applied for citizenship at the naturalization court in Welland, testified the court when he admitted that he was a Communist. He picked out a copy of government, he said, "No." Quite properly his petition was rejected. There is little chance of this man ever becoming a loyal citizen of this country.

The Hollywood pink's capacity for harm lies not in what he says in sounding off at a Hollywood cockerel fight, but in what he gets before the cameras on the movie screens of the land. This, the House on-American Activities Committee can see for itself by sitting through suspended films in a darkened projection room and away from flash bulbs and their distracting screens of the land.

Want to live to 100? You may, say leading scientists who believe that man's natural span of life actually is from 120 to 140 years, says The Encyclopedia Americana. Pollman, a surgeon who lived from 1685 to 1826, dying at 140, would become indolent nightly. Brown, a hard-drinking Irishman who lived to 120, had an inscription placed on his tombstone stating "he was always drunk."

Pulpwood operators are attempting to eliminate the need to hire vast numbers of temporary workers during the winter season by leveling out their production over a 12-month period. The barrier to this objective is the lack of sufficient year-round workers. Thus the coming winter season brings an opportunity to thousands of abled-bodied young Canadians to earn high wages while they are becoming acquainted with a vocation which will offer them permanent work if they so desire.

Value Of Argument (Brantford Expositor) Argument is a good thing, generally considered. It both indicates and stimulates interest. Public discussion of public affairs is probably the best way of insuring that such affairs shall be managed to best effect.

Speaking in Ottawa the other night, Sir Alexander Clutterbuck, the United Kingdom's High Commissioner in Canada, endorsed this view. "The more discussion there is, the better," he said, "the more political controversy the better. Therein lies the strength of democracy."

What the British High Commissioner was talking about, in essence, was freedom of speech and of course, freedom of conscience. That remains one of the pillars of real democracy. Without it, there would be little progress, at least in the democratic way. Without it there would soon be no freedom of the debate except among the few at the head of affairs. That way lies dictatorship, and Canadians want none of it.

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.

PAGING MR. GARDINER

Sir,—By chance today I came across a copy of your paper dated 29 Sept. which I read with great interest.

I was particularly pleased with your leading article on Agriculture Minister Gardiner's remarks that he had found the British living better now than when he saw them in pre-war years.

Breakfast. 1 round of toast with a scrape of butter and marmalade. Tea.

Lunch. Tinned soup, a piece of bread, an apple, 1 cup of coffee (nearly black).

Dinner. Half a thin slice of bacon, a small piece of fried bread, an apple and a cup of tea.

This menu would hardly suggest that we are living better than in pre-war years.

Timely Reminder (Winnipeg Free Press) Lord Inverchapel, Britain's ambassador to Washington, has rendered a timely service by recalling for the benefit of a United States audience something of the assistance Britain herself has rendered to Europe since the war ended.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) EARLY FOREST FIRE Some years ago large quantities of bones and deer's horns — many of them charred by fire — were discovered near East Point. They were supposed to be the remains of animals which had perished in an extensive fire that, at some time, had overrun that part of the Island.

QUICKIES By Ken Reynolds POSITIVELY NO FISHING ALLOWED

"I was looking through the Guardian Want Ads for a cottage — and there it was!"

The Poets Corner

NICHOLAS NYE

Nicholas Nye was lean and gray, lame of a leg and old. More than a score of donkey's years

He had seen since he was foaled; He munched the thistles, purple and spiked. Would sometimes stoop and sigh, And turn to his head, as if he said,

"Poor Nicholas Nye!" Alone with his shadow he'd drowse in the meadow Lazily swinging his tail.

At break of day he used to bray— Not much too hearty and hale; But wonderful gumption was under his skin.

And a calm clear light in his eye, And once in a while, he'd smile— Would Nicholas Nye.

Seem to be smiling at me, he would From his bush in the corner, of may.

Bony and ownerless, widowed and worn, Knobble-kneed, lonely and gray; And over the grass would seem to

"Neath the deep dark blue of the sky, Something much better than words between me And Nicholas Nye.

But dusk would come in the apple boughs, And from the glow-worm shine.

And birds in nest would crouch to rest, And home I'd trudge to mine; And there in the moonlight, dark

Asking not wherefore nor why, Would brood like a ghost, and as still as a post, Old Nicholas Nye.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) EARLY FOREST FIRE Some years ago large quantities of bones and deer's horns — many of them charred by fire — were discovered near East Point.

They were supposed to be the remains of animals which had perished in an extensive fire that, at some time, had overrun that part of the Island. However this may be, Captain Holland, when writing to the Earl of Hillsborough in the Spring of 1765, says:

"The best places in the Island for timber are about the Three Rivers, Bear Harbour, and Malpeck, though none fit any otherwise for His Majesty's navy, except top-masts and perhaps bowsprits. About twenty years since (1747) there happened a fire that destroyed the greatest part of the timber, the course it run, which was from the Bay of St. Peter's to the Northeast River, hence to the Northeast River, along Savage Bay, Tracadie Harbour, and very near to Raccio (Rustico), which in many places affords very extraordinary appearances, particularly at the carrying place between the Northeast River and Tracadie, where the burned timber looks at a distance like lofty pillars or columns. The plains, occasioned by the fire, being thus reserved for firewood, occasioned a desertion of the inhabitants of St. Peter's during the winter season, to a place called Morrell, distant about three miles, to which they retired for the convenience of wood, both for firing and for shelter. The better sort of people, before they were ordered from the Island, generally provided coals from Louisiana. It was so extremely violent that all the fishing vessels at St. Peter's and Morell River, in St. Peter's Bay, were burned."

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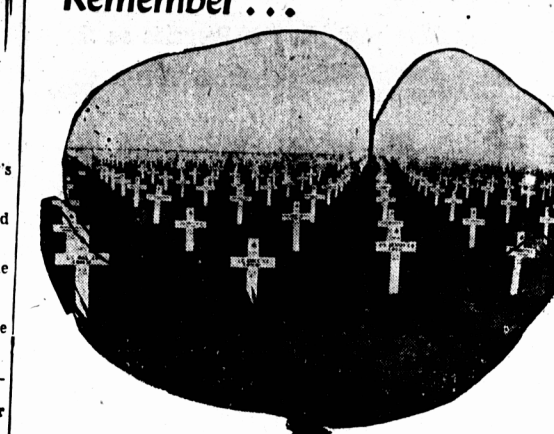
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Remember...



BUY A POPPY

Not On Trial (Stubb's Daily Star) Speaking before the Chicago Federated Advertising Club not long ago, John S. Knight, publisher of the Detroit Free Press, made several remarks which, we feel, are worth reproducing.

"There is a subtle campaign under way in this country to discredit the press and render it less able to defend minority rights. Perhaps we have failed to do a good selling job, just as I suspect the advertising profession must confess in its more candid moments that it has failed somehow to sell the capitalistic system to our own people."

"For one, I grow exceedingly weary of hearing how the capitalistic system is on trial. On trial for what?"

"If any other system accomplished as much or provided better standards of living?"

"Why isn't socialism on trial in England or Communism in Russia and her satellite states?"

"If capitalism is through, why are we asked to provide the food, the money and the tools to rebuild Europe?"

"Thoughtful Americans should be on guard against the insidious efforts being made to discredit a system that has been responsible for this nation's continued growth and progress."

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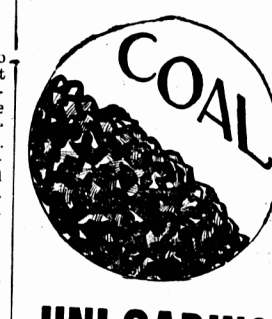
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