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

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1949

Ruling Out "Handy Men"

Now that we have had measures introduced into the Legislature to govern such professional trades as nurses, druggists and plumbers perhaps the day is not far distant when a bill will be introduced to set down qualifications for a very important body of men — our legislators.

We have no doubt in the world but that the legislation thus far being considered is for the good of the particular profession or trade concerned and a safeguard and guarantee to the public that it is being served by the highest qualified individual or individuals.

Canada And U. N. Pledges

Canada's attitude toward the United Nations is given frankly in a handbook just published at Ottawa by the External Affairs Department. In a general survey of UN affairs, the handbook notes that "the division of the world into Communist and non-Communist areas" has hindered progress in solving political and security questions.

The conclusion of the general survey uses these words: "The United Nations has not yet achieved sufficient strength to resolve the major political problems of the contemporary world, nor has it yet been able to provide to its members the degree of security which would enable them to put it to full use for the settlement of international disputes."

Canso Project Accepted

There will be general satisfaction in the Maritimes at the impression made on governmental authorities at Ottawa with respect to the Canso bridge project. Transport Minister Chevrier has announced that decision has been reached to build a low-level span bridge over the Strait of Canso at an estimated cost of \$13,500,000.

This major project which is now to come to fruition, says the Moncton Transcript, represents an achievement by many interests in the Maritime Provinces, provincial administrations and parliamentarians, boards of trade and chambers of commerce, civic and municipal councils, service clubs and individuals.

But the advocacy of a bridge at Canso, a live topic for two generations, has now become a reality — at least if the pledged word of a federal cabinet minister is to be accepted — and when the structure is completed it will not only remove the acute traffic bottleneck that has so long existed there but will represent an investment certain to yield handsome returns.

Crown Properties And Local Taxes

The suggestion has been advocated by Hon. Mr. Drew that steps should be taken to have municipalities paid taxes by crown companies and crown properties. With the extensions in all directions of Government activities it is essential that the municipalities, which are having annually a harder time to finance, should have greater sources of revenue.

Today there is a tremendous concentration of taxes in the hands of Ottawa. The Federal Government boasts of a surplus this year of \$600,000,000. Mr. Drew urges that there should be a reallocation of taxes between federal, provincial and municipal governments. It is not

sound business to have one government dependent upon another for its sources of revenue, which is the growing tendency today. This sound makes for centralization of power. It is sound economic and political principle that the government which is responsible for expenditures should be the body to impose and raise the taxes.

One way that the burden on the municipalities could be lightened and revenue be redistributed, suggests Mr. Drew, would be by governments, provincial and federal, paying local taxes on crown companies and crown properties.

In Saskatchewan for example, where the government has entered into industry in competition with private enterprise the crown companies pay no taxes either municipally, provincially, or federally.

Citizens are beginning to put off their winter wear, and wondering with what they should replace it. Life at present here seems to be just one snowfall after another. But the sun is just 'round the corner, starting on its return journey from the North Pole to the Equator, which means heat as well as light.

The United Kingdom ration of tenpence worth of meat a week must make people over there wonder what the Labour Government means by claiming to have practically achieved recovery.

Dr. R. J. Kirk, well known here, has resigned as supervisor of fur farming with the Saskatchewan natural resources department. An employee of the department since June, 1946, Dr. Kirk has accepted a position with the Dominion Agriculture Department's health of animals division.

The one-day drive of the Red Cross needs no recommendation as to its merits. Citizens can cooperate, however, in making a point of giving at once. The voluntary canvassers are all busy people and should not be asked to give up more of their time than the task properly requires.

Extraordinary have been the accomplishments of a hen owned by Merton Barfoot, a farmer near Tara, Ont. Since Christmas the hen has laid three double eggs — the last one weighing nearly half a pound. Inside the egg, beside a yolk and white, is a second normal-sized egg complete within its own shell.

There will be regret over the fate of the pretty little Cape Breton town of Port Hawkesbury which was built up around the ferry service and is expected to go into an abrupt decline with the construction of the Canso bridge. Still, one cannot make an omelette without breaking eggs.

Second thoughts are sometimes better, as in the case of Agriculture Minister Gardiner deciding to announce the Government's decision to continue the floor price under butter rather than wait for the new dairy year, May 1, to make the announcement. The early publication of policy should do much to steady the price situation.

The Nova Scotia Bands Association is introducing a bill in the present N. S. Legislature to have municipalities vote at their next elections, on the support of a band out of local rates. The idea of supporting bands is certainly a good one but this business of taking referendums is hardly satisfactory. We elect representatives to do their best for us. If we are also to tell them exactly what to do, we might as well have robots at the head of affairs.

The standardization of fire-fighting equipment as suggested at Ottawa to facilitate civilian defence is a matter of importance in the event of another conflict. To immediately junk the more than 200 types of hose couplings in use in this country would, however, be excessively costly. It should be possible to decide on a standard coupling and aim at its eventual adoption and in the meantime provide adaptors for equipment which can be used at a distance.

Now that Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island favor the proposal to have a Maritime bloc to supervise political interests, it is only for New Brunswick and Newfoundland to join forces to make the proposal practical and effective. Now is the time for the Maritimes to concentrate on organization in this respect, for should the St. Lawrence scheme be approved we will be left holding the bag. Something vigorous and effective must be adopted to enable us to attain and keep our rightful place in Confederation.

Sir Isaac Newton, English natural philosopher, died this date 1727. Tradition has it that the sight of a falling apple in his garden first influenced him towards research concerning the attraction of the earth, which culminated in his discovery of the law of gravity. Several of his other scientific discoveries led to prolonged controversies, in each instance resulting in due credit being given to him.

But I sincerely hope that he will get back to his polling district and be in a position to help in the election of Mr. MacNaught and Mr. Price. Possibly he will support Mr. Donald McLean C.C.F. as a second choice. The letter of Mr. Alma

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.

CHARLOTTETOWN HIGHWAY

Sir—In advocating the route of the Borden-Charlottetown Highway via Augustine Cove, it was pointed out to the Premier and the Minister of Highways that if this road were widened and improved it would be one of the most snow-free highways in the Province.

In this regard it is worthy of note to all interested that while planning meetings on other roads, motor traffic on the section of this road which was improved last year, and which would form a part of the proposed route, has never been interrupted during the entire winter.

I am, Sir, etc., RESIDENT.

LOVE ESSENTIAL

Sir—In writing this article, my intention is to see if we can get at the cause of "Why do the heathen rage all about us". In these days of world perplexity and threat of man's security of a lasting peace in a world threatened by war, would it not be wise to examine closely the Ten Commandments starting with love.

If we are to prove this Democracy with freedom for all and ill-will to none, how are we going to do this without faith in the power of love?

I am, Sir, etc., GEORGE MACCALLUM Brackley Point.

FORUM

CITY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Sir—During 1948 the sum of \$58,656 was paid by the City to the seventy-seven teachers employed in our four public schools, which makes an average of \$761. In addition to this the Government pays a salary of \$800 (including bonus) for first year of appointment, making a total of \$1,561.

The City pays an increase every year employed up to five years and the local Government gives an increase of \$50 at the commencement of the 4th, 8th, 12th and 16th year.

A first class female teacher in the City for first year employed receives from City \$525 and from Government \$800—or in all \$1,325. Many of the first class female teachers with some years of experience receive over \$1600 and those with 25 years' service receive \$1730.

Principals, Vice-principals and male teachers receive larger amounts from the City. Almost three months' vacation during the year is another factor, though an incalculable one, which enters into every question concerning teachers' salaries.

I am, Sir, etc., TAXPAYER.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Sir—In my letter in Saturday's issue, in third last line, the word "account" should be "amount."

Here is some more "wonderful accountability". On page 19 of the Public Accounts, the amount \$56,843.32 appears as revenue twice and expenditure once. The first set down as revenue is correct.

At the end of a period of business, a year or other, some important summaries are made up. First a summary of assets and liabilities which shows a surplus or a deficit for the business; also a summary of the assets alone. This shows what the business or government has to pay its debts with, the Sinking Fund, which the Government make such a fuss about. It is going to pay the debt, sure! It is every dollar in the so-called Sinking Fund has to be borrowed first. It will only look after the debt it has made.

The public should clearly understand that the assets of a business is the Sinking Fund. In the case of the P.E.I. Government, it is the Bonds Receivable, page 26 amounting to \$1,829,650.00 and surplus in Bank of Montreal, \$9,412.84 (page 26)—Total \$1,839,062.84.

I am, Sir, etc., ACCOUNTANT

MR. McLELLAN REPLIES

Sir— I notice in your paper of March 14th, a letter commenting on remarks made by me in a letter published in your paper of February 12. I had almost forgotten this letter until my attention was directed to a letter from "Prince County Liberal".



The Poet's Corner

NOT HERE

Somewhere perhaps—not here— The fragrance of spring, Drifts down the breeze; Tendrils appear, Forgotten creatures sing, Sap rises in the trees.

But here?—O no, Not here where frozen ground Has yet to thaw, Has yet to feel the final fall of snow.

Not here where there is no bird-sound, Not even caw.

And yet, The days are lengthening, the sun Less niggardly dispenses gold, the stars Are more like diamond dust than steel;

High gabled roofs are wet At noon, and there is one Brown patch beyond the pasture bars That might betray a wheel.

—Harriet Morgan Tyng in the Christian Science Monitor.

Lenten Meditations

The Times, London

THE ALTERNATIVE TO GOD

"The modern world has lost God and is trying to find Him." Perhaps, indeed, it has decided by now that God is not to be found and has discovered a substitute for Him. That substitute is Fate. To be sure, the word is not often on men's lips, but the prevalent mood is one of submission to necessity, acquiescence in circumstances beyond one's control.

Influential schools of thought make it their business to demonstrate that human affairs are wholly determined by geographical, political or economic forces. The common man is susceptible to the intellectual climate as well as daunted by the actual difficulties which confront him, so that he is disposed to believe himself impotent in a world which will go its own way to chaos whatever he may do.

This creed of necessity relieves those who accept it of any burden of responsibility. Things are not called upon to act. They need only what is forced from them by those impersonal forces to which they, and all men with them, are delivered over, and for the rest use as cheerfully and carelessly as possible any leisure that is granted to them.

Yet it is not so much responsibility itself men wish to avoid as what follows on the admission of responsibility, the confession of guilt. He who has once admitted that he is free and accountable cannot long refuse to acknowledge that for what he is doing with his world he himself is in part to blame. And there are no words which men are more reluctant to allow their lips to frame than these: "I have sinned."

To believe in God is to hold life sacred—to recognize in it a trust for which one will be called to account at the last but which meanwhile gives worth and dignity to all that one does. To believe in God is to know that responsibility has been put upon one and to acknowledge humbly where one has failed. To say in His presence "I have sinned" does not shut men out from His fellowship; by making forgiveness possible it restores them to that fellowship. Man is no longer "a futile passion," he is a citizen of eternity and a child of God.

For him whose trust is in God there is no occasion for any flight from responsibility. Rather does he accept it as something with which God honoured him in making him a man. Nor is he in danger of breaking down beneath his burden, for he knows that he does not so much bear it for God as with Him. There are vast issues which are beyond his control but these he leaves with quiet confidence in God's hands. His own immediate "P.C.L." could be classed as an epistle to the Prince County Esquimaux. When he comes again, please let him sign his name or I will not reply.

I am, Sir, etc., W.B. McLELLAN

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

MININGASH COAL CO.

From the debates and proceedings in the Legislative Assembly, April 3, 1944:

Mr. Perry, leader of the Opposition, moved second reading of a bill to amend the Act incorporating the Miningash Coal Company. He explained that shortly after the Act was passed three years ago, James Thompson, Esq., raised a good many subscriptions of stock toward carrying out the enterprise, but before he got through with the matter, he died, and it was some time before it was taken up by other people.

Some of the money had been collected, but as the three years covered by the Act of Incorporation had nearly expired, it was necessary to extend the term. All were aware of the great value which a coal mine would be to this Province. The directors had sent in a petition to the Executive for aid to assist them in their enterprise, and he hoped the Government would duly consider the matter, and give the necessary aid. It would take some time to prepare for boring.

Stalin Creator Of The Atlantic Pact

(By W. N. Ewer)

The Atlantic Pact is the logical and unavoidable consequence of the change that has come over the political pattern of the world since the end of the war. Four or even three years ago, such an organization of Western Powers was not thought of. It would have seemed unnecessary. Today it is imperatively necessary. Because today the policy of the Soviet has divided the world into the Communist doctrine's "two camps."

When the war ended, it was the belief as well as the hope of Western Governments and Western peoples that the wartime unity of the United Nations and as the essential into peacetime and as the essential core of that great unity, that partnership of great powers, this was the axiom on which the whole conception of the United Nations Organization was based.

There had indeed been misgivings. Vyshinsky's coup d'état in Rumania which set up a Communist-controlled government; a week after Yalta; the Soviet demands for bases on the Dardanelles and the cessation by Turkey of Kwas and Ardahan; the postponing of the Soviet withdrawal from Persia and the attempt to set up a Russian-controlled government in Azerbaijan; the rapid and complete severance of the Soviet Zone from the rest of Germany; these aroused anxieties and made close and friendly co-operation difficult.

But until 1947, the Western governments regarded all these happenings as difficulties to be overcome, as disagreements to be smoothed out. And their diplomacy worked patiently if with some irritation and not a little bewilderment for the restoration of that "great power of unity" which had been regarded as a fundamental necessity.

But in 1947, it became clear that the disagreements were not accidental but symptoms of deep cleavage. Russia was basing her whole policy not on the concept of unity but on the concept of the "two camps" between which there was an inevitable and ineradicable conflict.

At the Moscow Conference, Molotov from the very first day adopted a completely hostile attitude towards his Western colleagues. Two months later, he refused to take part in any co-operative effort for European economic recovery and forbade all Russian satellites to take part. In the autumn, the Cominform was founded and Zhdanov pontifically laid down the thesis of the "two camps" as the basic article of Communist doctrine. And at the same time, Russia pushed forward the organization of her own "camp" as a closely integrated system of alliances, in which the policies and armed forces of the satellites were (save for the defection of Yugoslavia) brought completely under

Notes By The Way

One grouch about the compulsory sand hills, reasonable news comes refund is that the money will not buy nearly as much today as when it was taken from us back in 1942 and 1944. — Oshwa Times-Gazette.

Perhaps the best comment on the new power of Canadian industry is the fact that last year Canada exported such items as typewriters, optical goods and washing machines to the United States. The day when Canada was a mere producer of raw materials for other nations is clearly far behind. — Edmonton Journal.

Canada is just as much in need of brains as brains and immigration regulations should be loosened up so that more professional persons can be brought in. These are the least likely, in the long run, to become a burden on the country. Rather, they will bring ideas, inventiveness, and talents from which this country will derive immeasurable benefit. — Winnipeg Free Press.

We notice a growing tendency for people to use "Reverend" quite wrongly, so we thought we might blow off a little steam about it. "Reverend" is an adjective describing a state or condition just as the word "demonstrable" is used to describe a cabinet minister, etc. It is not a title, and should not be used to address a person; for example, "Good morning Reverend Jones" is quite wrong. The correct greeting is "Good Morning Mr. Jones". The adjective "Reverend" is used correctly only to modify; i.e. "The Reverend Mr. Jones said, etc." or "The Reverend Mr. Jones will speak at the—" — Ottawa Christian Church Calendar.

A rural family near Stratford was tragically bereaved by the complete and unnecessary death of a seven-year-old son. The little fellow, wandering away from his home as small boys will, fell into an open, unused well and was drowned. The well, which the boy perished was graphically demonstrated during the search for him. An adult member of the searching party fell into the same well, and himself narrowly escaped a similar death. "Existence of the well was unknown to the searchers," a report of the tragedy said. This, of course, is the critical thing about abandoned wells. Nobody knows anything about them. They remain almost indefinitely as a constant peril to human beings and livestock. There is only one solution to the problem. A survey should be made in every township, and all abandoned wells discovered should be filled in. — Owen Sound Sun-Times.

As the time nears when sap will rise in big-hearted maples and become syrup and sugar on a thousand control of Moscow.

Western policy had necessarily though reluctantly to be adapted to the new facts. It was now to talk or think on unity and co-operation when Russia and her associates were rejecting unity and refusing co-operation. The division of the world and the creation of the two camps was a reality which must be accepted.

And that required acceptance of the further fact that in such circumstances, war between the two camps, however undesired, however improbable, could not be dismissed as an impossibility. So far, Russia was only waging a "cold war". But her attitude towards the West had become implacable and hostile. She was creating a formidable military alliance. She had maintained her own armed strength at high level. She had shown ample evidence of her desire to expand both her territory and her sphere of influence. And she might, if the opportunity seemed favourable, seek to do so by armed force. Lenin had laid down the thesis that in certain circumstances, the Soviet Union might "come out with armed force against exploiting classes and their states."

The Democratic world was again forced to face the necessity for preparing to defend itself against an armed aggression. Military Communism might prove as dangerous as militant Fascism; a Russian "Drang Nach Westen" as dangerous as the German "Drang Nach Osten". And the only way to avert the danger was to confront the potential aggressor with a union of defensive forces so strong as to make the venture too perilous.

That is the whole basis, first of Western Union, now of the Atlantic Pact. They are the adaption to existing circumstances of the concept of collective security. And the circumstances which have brought them into being have been brought about not by the Western Powers but by the Soviet itself. The Atlantic Pact is the direct and inevitable outcome of the Stalinist doctrine of the "two camps". Stalin is its creator.

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They shall not be ashamed in the evil time; and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.

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