

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, NOV. 6, 1947

Mr. Gardiner's Visit

Regardless of the purpose of Rt. Hon. Mr. Gardiner's visit here at this time, as Federal Minister of Agriculture and one of the senior cabinet members at Ottawa he is always assured of a cordial welcome to Prince Edward Island. It has been explained that his visit on this occasion was planned long before the provincial election date was fixed. By a coincidence, it was during another election campaign—the Federal one of 1945—that he last visited us. As we noted at that time—and also on his previous visit in 1941—our regret is that Mr. Gardiner doesn't come oftener. As the leading agricultural Province in the Maritimes, we would welcome a visit from him every year.

Our farmers are hoping that Mr. Gardiner will have something encouraging to tell them about the present precarious feed grain situation, and the prospects of this Province obtaining an assured supply from the West at reasonable rates. In a resolution which was killed by Liberal members at the last session of our Legislature, the gravity of this situation was strongly stressed. It was urged that the Dominion Government give definite assurance of its continuance of the Freight Rates Assistance Act, or else authorize the erection in Charlottetown of an elevator with sufficient capacity to supply the Provinces' feed grain requirements. Also the resolution asked that Mr. Gardiner, in his official capacity, "take immediate steps to see that no further increase in the cost of feed grains, concentrates, etc., be authorized, and that remedial measures be taken to offset the recent increase in the price of feed wheat and its by-products." That was back in April, and there have been further price increases since.

It was pointed out, as reasons for these requests, that the Dominion Government had recently signed trade agreements with Great Britain, greatly increasing our commitments of bacon, eggs and poultry; that we were being pressed by the Dominion Department of Agriculture with regard to the urgency of meeting these commitments; that the supply of necessary feeds is not sufficient at all seasons to warrant such commitments, and is getting more and more precarious; also that the margin of profits in all of these contracts is so small that if any increase in the cost of feeds takes place, the contracts will be jeopardized.

Another resolution affecting Mr. Gardiner's department, which passed unanimously on being reintroduced by a Liberal member in the Legislature, urged the Government of Canada to consider the advisability of: (1) continuing the support price on potatoes; (2) maintaining a price sufficient to provide for cost of production, plus a reasonable profit; (3) holding the British market for P. E. I. potatoes if at all possible; (4) limiting acreage on basis grown for the past 10 years period to a percentage of a farmer's cleared land; (5) asking the United States Government to reduce its tariff on potatoes; (6) restraining the growing of potatoes to bona fide farmers only.

Mr. Gardiner (who once professed his preference for Idaho over Maritime potatoes) probably received a copy of this resolution at the time it was passed in the House. He might well consider it less important than the one on feed grains which the Legislature threw out, and which he may now be reading for the first time. Both deal with matters of much concern to our farmers, however, and are cited here for their very good and sufficient reason.

So far as feed grains concerned, it was stated before the Transport Commission that on the basis of our livestock population of 1945 we imported into the Province 55,300 tons of wheat, oats, barley and millfeed, in addition to approximately 11,000 tons of protein and other feeds; making a total dependence in 1946 of about 66,500 tons of outside material. On the basis of bushels of barley this would mean the importation in 1946 of 2,250,000 bushels, or about one-third of our own provincial total production of grains in a normal year. These figures would actually be much larger if our farmers were given proper encouragement to go into hog production in a really big way. Mr. Gardiner will not need to be reminded of the very superior quality of our registered Island Yorkshire breeding stock.

Big Possibilities

Featured in recent issues of the Saint John Telegraph Journal is a type of fishing craft which may prove of inestimable value to our Maritime fishermen. This is the dragger, a pocket-sized version of the trawler. It operates in the same way, harvesting fish by sweeping the floor of the sea with a huge cone-shaped net. This is the modern method of catching such species as cod, haddock, hake, halibut and flounder. It is cheaper and more efficient than old-fashioned hand-lining. Since it can be carried on in all kinds of weather, it assures steadier supplies for the market. It has long been used by most fishing countries.

"Unfortunately, in Canada," remarks our Saint John contemporary, "the trawler became a political issue. Fishermen were led to believe—wrongly—that it would deprive them of their livelihood. The 35,000 fishermen in the Maritime Provinces probably control for more than 100,000 votes, strategically distributed, so authorities at Ottawa shied through anti-trawler regulations. These resulted in no improvement in the position of the individual fisherman, but

they did retard development of the industry. It handicapped our efforts to compete against foreign fleets fishing in Canadian waters.

"With the Second World War, and the acute shortage of food which it brought, trawler opposition faded. Meanwhile somebody thought up a new name, dragger, and applied it to a new type of trawler small enough and inexpensive enough to be owned by a well-to-do fisherman or a group of fishermen. (Big trawlers, too costly for this, were all owned by companies). Ottawa, which had restricted trawlers, now granted subsidies for the construction of draggers, and everybody seemed happy.

Nova Scotia and British Columbia quickly adopted draggers. Here in New Brunswick, we watched their success, then finally followed their example. Five draggers were launched at Caraquet this year. They averaged 50,000 pounds of fish per vessel on each four or five-day trip, and brought captains and crews exceptionally high returns. They did this in a season when hand-liners found the cod scarce and elusive. Their production provided a large amount of employment that would not otherwise have been available in the processing plants of the North Shore and proved an economic boon.

"There is no doubt that draggers have come to the Caraquet Coast to stay, and it is gratifying to note the announcement by the provincial department of industry and reconstruction that they are now to be tried in the Bay of Fundy, where the first of them will ply out of Grand Manan early next year."

The outcome of the experiment will be watched with much interest in Prince Edward Island as well as in New Brunswick. Is it not likely wholesale adoption of the dragger would be of equal advantage to our fishermen? This is a matter in which they have a right to expect leadership and support from our Provincial Government.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Today the ladies are meeting in the City Hall to form a branch of the Canadian Association of Consumers. If inflation can be beaten in this country, they are the ones who can do it.

Now that Mr. Morley Bell, Summerside, is out of the political light, Mr. Gordon R. Holmes is the only lawyer so far left on the Liberal side, apart from Attorney-General LaSge. But there is still time and opportunity for others to be adopted.

As the C. C. F.'s intend offering candidates to contest the majority of the seats, the coming election will be as interesting and uncertain as was that when the Progressives entered the field after Great War I.

Britain seemingly has had its fill of so-called progressive legislation on otherwise empty stomachs, and would willingly, if not eagerly, return to the days when a full dinner pail was the order of the day.

A citizen says the Mayor had better go carefully in joining the "triangle alliance" of Halifax, Saint John and Charlottetown as proposed by Mayor J. E. Ahern of Halifax. A junior partner, he says, in a union is apt to be kicked around a bit when the union gets into action.

The Army does not recognize that the squatters in the Ottawa Kildare Barracks are "in actual tenancy", but War Assets Corporation apparently does regard them as being occupants, and declines to take over the barracks as surplus until they have been removed.

Peter Ilich Tschikovsky, Russian composer, died this date 1893. He studied under Anton Rubinstein, and became professor of harmony at the Petrograd Conservatoire. His style inclines towards the dark and melancholy, but his operas and symphonies caught the public taste, especially Eugen Onegin and Iolanthe, and Pathétique.

The code of the sea is deeply ingrained even in seamen of the present day. From the point of view of big business it would seem ridiculous for the 80,000 ton Queen Elizabeth to go out of her way to the assistance of a 230 ton schooner. But when the Maria Carola radioed her distress signal the response of the mighty Queen Elizabeth was in the best tradition of the sea.

The External Affairs Department was guilty of a serious blunder in appointing as Consul in Chicago a man who is persona non grata with the United States Government. Contrary to diplomatic usage Ottawa did not first go to the American Embassy to determine whether the appointment of Mr. Edward Turcotte would be acceptable.

Toronto is back to three daily newspapers, the Labour morning newspaper, The Toronto Daily Tribune, after six months experience having ceased publication and re-entered the weekly field. Before turning daily the weekly was known as "The Canadian Tribune." Oscar Kogan, general manager, reported that The Tribune's paid circulation was 7,000 daily, 8,000 short of the necessary figure to make ends meet.

The Saskatchewan court of appeal, in a decision handed down recently, has ruled that provincial government crown corporations are not assessable for business taxes. The issue came before the court in September after the city of Saskatoon had sought to assess the Saskatchewan Government Insurance office in that city. The city claimed exemption of crown corporations from business taxes did not apply to such corporations when engaged in commercial enterprises in competition with tax-paying private business operators. Judgment in favor of the government's claim that the insurance office acted as an agent of the crown and was not assessable either as the crown's agent or as the crown was handed down by Chief Justice W. M. Martin.

Notes By The Way

Why do persons, sometimes called people, chew gum? A recent survey purports to show that of every 100 who do so, 41 claim they do it to steady their nerves, 27 to refresh mouth or throat, or both, ten to chew down smoking, nine to clean their teeth, seven to help digestion. Only six were bold and brazen enough to say outright that they chew for pleasure; that they chew gum because they like to chew gum and the heck with what the neighbors think. — Winnipeg Tribune.

Last year in an Ohio veterans hospital, veteran and civic organizations underwrote the purchase of attractive small gifts. The gifts were turned over to veteran patients of the hospital to be sent to loved ones at home. Physicians were amazed at the psychological lift their patients got out of it. Instead of being in the receiving line themselves, they were enabled to remember their families and friends. It is an idea that might well be emulated elsewhere as various organizations make their plans this year. — Boston Post.

It is not too late for Americans to take an active interest in Newfoundland with one eye on sizing it up as a future member of the family, writes Neil Stanford in The Christian Science Monitor. While Newfoundland before the war was an economic liability to Britain, there is no gainsaying its strategic importance. Nor should the untold wealth of Labrador, which belongs to Newfoundland, possibly including atomic energy sources, be ignored. Americans could do worse than cultivate Newfoundland for statehood, particularly as that cultivation would apparently be welcome.

Old Palace Yard, which lies between the Charter House and Westminster Abbey and the House of Lords, is just now the site of rural activity much more refreshing to watch than the bustle of traffic flowing from Parliament Square along Abingdon street. Groundsmen are laying the grass round the statue of George V. Just across the road, in the angle formed by St. Stephen's Hall and the front of the House of Commons, the statue of Richard Coeur de Lion on horseback is now being mended. His bent sword has been snatched from his mailed hand by a stray child, and if one listens carefully one can hear a man tapping on the hind quarters of the charger. It sounds through the scaffolding as if metal patches were being tacked on. — Manchester Guardian.

The new fashions of the season seem intent on making the woman of today look like her mother did 30 years ago, but has remained for the Ford Motor Company to insist that she act the same as her mother did 30 years ago. Henry Ford II, the 30-year-old president of the company, who has been called modern and progressive, has just announced that beginning next month smoking will be permitted on a trial basis, in Ford plants and offices throughout the world. And if one listens carefully one can hear a man tapping on the hind quarters of the charger. It sounds through the scaffolding as if metal patches were being tacked on. — New York Herald Tribune.

A glum look and a "what's the use" sag can cause a fellow man to turn most of us suspect. That look advertises that its wearer hasn't much confidence in himself. Others expect only failure from him and through the kitchen floor succeeds like success — or the air of success. And nothing tends to failure like that look of frustration. A common sense and philosophy has helped a lot of people get the eight hour day, says that the surest way to drive the old man frustrated out of your life is to realize that you have the right to success. God gives man the right to love, nature assures him the right to live and fate gives him the right to succeed. The right to success, the right of accomplishment and the right to happiness, he says, are as much ours as the right to breathe. Remember that and refuse to look frustrated. — Your Life Magazine.

A technological revolution in the kitchen is moving hand in hand with an industrial revolution for food corporations. If you've poked your head through the kitchen door recently you may have noticed a heartening aroma coming from the oven, and a partly emptied cardboard box standing nearby. Next time, pie, popovers, cookies or cake. Baked mixes to create these and other baked goods are getting to be big business. Their development begins to rank with exploitation of the tin can and mass manufacture of labor-saving domestic electrical appliances as an influence on the American home—and on American business. An expedition array of firms, now numbering over 200, make these preparations. Housewives aren't the only ones taking advantage of baking mixes. There is also a flourishing business with restaurants and commercial bakeries. "Baking mixes are going over with housewives for the same reason canned baby food and electric irons did," the manager of product development for a large food firm here says. "All three emancipate women." — Wall Street Journal.

British Election

(By Dewitt MacKenzie, Associated Press Foreign Affairs Analyst) The Conservative victory in Britain's municipal elections Saturday to the discomfort of the Labor Government should not be taken as indicating that Britain is swinging to the extreme right but rather that the public is in process of trimming the ship of state so that it will list neither to the one side nor the other politically but will ride on even keel.

The Conservatives claim—and probably rightly—that the elections are a rebuke to the Socialist regime's management of affairs. The Conservatives not only want to avert the fierce economic crisis which grips the country, but in two years of office hasn't been able to check it. Things have gone from bad to worse until Britain is threatened with one of the greatest disasters of her long history. Moreover—and this is important psychologically—the people are under wartime regimentation, and the austerity of living conditions is so great that there is even shortage of such necessities as food, clothing and fuel. Mind you, Britons have amply demonstrated that they can stand any amount of austerity necessary, but the signs are they are wondering whether they are being handled a rough deal.

There is, believe another significant element in the elections. They are held by informed observers to be a warning that there is no place in Britain for the Communists which is gripping so many continental countries, including France.

Basically, present day Britain is fairly close to the middle of the road politically, with a moderate tendency to the right. That was strikingly illustrated the first part of October when the Socialist Government swung a bit to the right and the Conservatives moved a little left.

Prime Minister Attlee appeared to recognize the need of political moderation when he shook up his cabinet and demoted Fuel Minister Shinwell, one of the most powerful left-wing leaders and who had charge of coal mining operations which are the crux of the economic crisis. About the same time the Conservatives, under Winston Churchill, advertised to the public that if returned to power in the next election they wouldn't denationalize the principal industries which the Socialist Government has taken over.

Of course the Conservatives are jubilant and are demanding that the Socialist Government resign and go to the country for a fresh mandate in a general election. Churchill issued a statement declaring that from now on the Government "will govern without the moral support and against the will of the people."

The Story Of Whale Meat

(United Kingdom Information)

If you went shopping in Britain today you wouldn't go very far before you'd see slabs of dark-colored meat on display. Meat looking rather like liver. Your butcher, however, would tell you that it was whale meat.

Although pre-war, whale meat was never seen on the menu, it is commonplace in Britain today. You will find it served in many homes and restaurants and it is regularly on the menu at the United Kingdom House of Commons. In the Ministry of Food's experimental kitchens, expert dieticians plan new ways of cooking whale, for this meat, it seems, has come to stay.

Behind this new addition to Britain's meager larder—meat that Britons are cut again—lies a story of initiative and energy. In 1939 Britain's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research decided that whale meat might provide one of the answers to world food shortages. Before the war, world production of whale oil averages about 500,000 tons a year, and in its production of 600,000 tons of lean whale meat was handled by the United Kingdom and Norwegian whaling fleets. Some of this was converted into animal foodstuffs, but the rest was thrown back into the sea after the oil had been extracted. Here, thought the scientists, was a rich-field for experiment.

In 1939 the Department sent out an expedition under Lt. Col. Commander Marr, ex-Boy Scout who had much previous experience of whales and whaling. The results of this expedition confirmed that whale meat is wholesome and when fresh is scarcely distinguishable from beef.

The second expedition in March, 1947 was planned in close co-operation with Britain's Ministry of Food. The large supply of animal protein in whale meat represented an important addition to Britain's scanty meat ration, and the expedition set out to study all the possibilities and problems connected with making the fullest use of the new food. Naturally, different species of whales give different types of meat and while cuts vary in quality according to which part of the animal they come from. The

The Poet's Corner

OLD CROW

The bird in the corn Is a marvellous crow, In the season of snow; He was laid and was born And he chants his old catches Like a ghost under hatches.

He comes from the shade Of his wood very early, And works in the blades Of the wheat and the barley. And he's happy, although He's a grumbleton crow.

The larks have devotes For sunny delights, And the sheep in their fleeces Are woolly and white; But these are the scorn Of the bird in the corn.

And morning goes by, And still he is there, Till a rose in the sky Calls him back to his lair In the boughs where the gloom Is a part of his plume.

But the boy in the lane With his gun, by-and-by, To the heart of the grain Will narrowly spy, And the twilight will come, And no crow will fly home.

—John Drinkwater.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

CHURCHES IN THE '60'S

In the 1860's the fine large Methodist church on Prince Street had but lately been opened. St. Paul's church, then presided over by the Rev. David Fitzgerald, rector, and the Rev. Mr. Parthier, curate, was a wooden building situated south of the beautiful stone church now used. The old Kirk, of which the Rev. Thomas Duncan was pastor, was very much smaller and less imposing than the station church in which the congregation now assembles for worship and Zion church, then close to the Y. M. C. A., was ministered to by the Rev. Robert Falconer, father of Sir Robert Falconer, the president of Toronto University. A little church at the head of Prince Street known as the "Free Church," ministered to by the Rev. George Sutherland, is now non est. On the other hand, St. Peter's church fills a corner that was then vacant close to what was then the West Bog. But of all the enlargements and improvements in religious congregations and edifices in this city, the most notable is the most notable. The old wooden Cathedral was then the largest church in the city; but the edifice that has taken its place — one of the handsomest church buildings in Canada — exhibits a marvellous improvement and growth in the number of worshippers and their wealth and status. The late Bishop McIntyre was then Bishop of Charlottetown; the Rev. Father Daniel MacDonald — familiarly known as "Father Dan" — was the rector of St. Dunstan's.

The Cathedral and St. Paul's church were then, if I mistake not, the only churches in the town possessing pipe organs or other musical instruments. Of the latter Mrs. Rooome was the organist — Professor Esrie having not yet arrived. In the choir were the late Mr. Thomas DesBrisay, the late Mr. H. J. Cundall, Miss Helen Bayfield and others whose names I cannot now recall. I remember very well the excellent vocal music of Zion church in which the late Mr. David Fraser was the precursor; and also that of the Methodist choir led by Mr. James Moore who gave the tone, by means of a tuning fork, to the Messrs. Duchemin, Davey and other grand old singers in the Methodist choir of that time.

From an address by the late Mr. W. L. Cotton.

more popular than they are in Britain today. More important still, a great contribution will have been made towards solving one of the most difficult world food shortages.

LICENCE PLATES, TOO? The "automobile bug" of South America carries a white light in front and a red one behind.

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SOME BEAK! A pelican can hold more food in its beak than it can with its stomach.

One of the most important points of the expedition was to investigate methods of ensuring that whale meat is in the freshest possible condition when frozen. Whale carcasses cool slowly after death and some method of cooling the carcass quickly had to be found, otherwise there was a danger of the meat going bad. Dr. R.A.M. Case, leader of the scientific team, made head- lines with an original idea for testing the temperature of the whale. Wearing a "frogman" diving suit and swimming under the whale before it was caught, he was able to record the animal's temperature by shooting a temperature recording unit into its body.

The team, now back in Britain, are still collecting their information and deciding which whales provide the best meat and which part of the whale makes the best steaks. The whale meat now on sale in Britain varies considerably and it's hard to know just what you'll get when you order your whale steak. But when the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research publishes its findings, the quality of whale meat will always be good, and whale sausages will be even

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