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

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, OCT. 28, 1948

An Extraordinary Situation

An extraordinary lack of coordination in a
matter of vital importance to the Province was
revealed at the Boards of Trade meeting called
to discuss the need for an auxiliary Borden ferry.

At Tuesday night's Boards of Trade meeting
Hon. A. W. Matheson, who represented the Govern-
ment in Premier Jones' absence, was queried by
Mr. McLure as to the disposition of the Premier's
letter of last May.

Mr. Matheson, while assuring the meeting of
the Government's interest in their brief, said he
could not answer Mr. McLure's question as he
had no personal knowledge of the matter.

Mr. Matheson took office as Minister of
Health and Welfare on March 12, 1948, and was
therefore a full-fledged member of the Cabinet
at the time of the Premier's communication with
the Transport Minister.

Surely, if the Health Minister lacked all
knowledge of the matter, it would have been
advisable to have had another Government rep-
resentative present—preferably Hon. Mr. Bar-
bour, who as Minister of Public Works must
surely have possessed information that would
have enlightened the meeting.

Containers Are Important

An Upper Canada visitor to Nova Scotia was
hungry for a few famous Annapolis Valley
apples. On asking for them, he was told the
store didn't have any. But he was able to
buy British Columbia apples.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude.

The Liberals have now nominated their stand-
ard-bearers in two counties, leaving only Prince
to be heard from, and their sitting member is
certain of re-nomination.

It is somehow appropriate that the British
steel nationalization bill should be introduced
at a Parliament opened with regal splendor.

Everything politically at present hinges on the
decision not of Ottawa but of Washington after
November second—even a floor for Island pota-

toes. That is how closely allied we now are
with our neighbours south of the border. The
visit of U.S. warships is not unconnected with
the signing of Canada and the U.S. in face of
Soviet threats of war.

The continuing spiral of mounting wages and
prices is rather like having a bear by the tail,
disagreeable and dangerous to hold on to but
even riskier to let go.

Halifax is to discard its ancient trams in
favour of trolley-coaches by December 1st. There
will be those who regard the passing of the
street railway with sentimental regret but we
welcome Halifax to the fraternity of modern
cities which move their citizens on the pneu-
matic tire.

The Very Rev. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Can-
terbury, has caused quite a stir in this country
and the United States before even arriving here.
It must be gratifying to the "Red Dean" who,
at home, is accustomed to being regarded mere-
ly as a sort of harmless freak.

It has been announced that the Jewish and
Arab Communist parties have been formally
united as the "Israeli Communist Party" with
the aim of fighting "for a binational state of
Palestine." There is no doubt but that Russia
would enthusiastically welcome a puppet state
practically on the Suez canal.

If Mahomet will not come to the Mountain,
perforce the Mountain must go to Mahomet.
Proof of this is found in the fact that though
through indisposition Prime Minister Mackenzie
King was unable to attend the Dominion Premiers'
Conference in London, all the other Premiers
and representatives have visited him and con-
sulted with him during his confinement in his
hotel.

John Locke, English philosopher, died this date
1704. His reputation rests on a treatise called
An Essay Concerning Human Understanding, in
which he argues that every intelligent person
should investigate matters for himself and not
take another man's word for it.

One may "miss the bus" by being in time as
well as being late. Amelia Garcia went to La
Guardia Field in New York Thursday to fly to
San Juan, Puerto Rico. The same afternoon she
arrived in London. She had been in good time
but settled comfortably in the wrong plane. The
woman, who speaks no English, could find no one
at London Airport who could speak Spanish.

The joint Boards of Trade have decided to
fall into line with the Provincial Government
in the matter of increased shipping facilities
on the Borden-Tormentine route. But to be
effective the Boards must do "the pushing and
the shoving", for governments proverbially de-
light in delays, and usually stall unless high pres-
sure is brought to bear upon them. In the words
of poet Holland:

God give us men. A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and
ready hands!
Men whom the lust of office does not kill,
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy,
Men who possess opinions and a will,
Men who love honour, men who cannot lie."

All is not gold that glitters or silver that
shines as beauty show sponsors are realizing.
Hamilton Lions club has voted against backing
the Miss Canada pageant in 1949 and it is be-
lieved the beauty contest will leave Hamilton,
Ont., where it originated in 1946 during the Ham-
ilton Centennial. No reason was given by the
Lions for dropping the show, although after the
pageant last August members stated the Lions
had "lost \$3,000 to \$4,000." It is reported the
contest might go to Halifax, N. S. Betty Jean
Ferguson of that city won the crown this year.

Seven years ago, on October 27, 1941, the
British troopship "Awatea", carrying a Canadian
Expeditionary Force of almost 2,000 men under
Brig. J. K. Lawson, sailed from Vancouver for
Hong Kong. The force was comprised of two
battalions of infantry—the 1st Bn. Winnipeg
Grenadiers, and the Royal Rifles of Canada—and
a brigade headquarters. Officially known as
"C" Force, the contingent arrived in Hong
Kong on November 16. Three weeks later, on
December 8th, the Canadians found themselves
with the rest of the Hong Kong garrison en-
gaged in a full-scale war. The Canucks dis-
tinguished themselves during the bitter two-day
battle of Wagneichong Gap but suffered heavy
casualties. Practically the whole of the Brigade
HQ staff, including Brigadier Lawson, were killed
and one company of the Winnipeg Grenadiers
suffered 80 per cent casualties. By the 22nd
the position was all but hopeless. Members of
the garrison, after two weeks continuous battle,
were desperately tired, and the supply situa-
tion, especially water, had become critical as the
chief reservoirs had fallen into Japanese hands.

On the 23rd, one day's supply was all that re-
mained, but the defenders continued to cling
to their positions through the 23rd and 24th. On
Christmas Day, with all hope of warding off
disaster gone, the valiant Hong Kong garrison
surrendered. Of the Canadians taken prisoner,
137 died through malnutrition and other causes
in Jap prisoner-of-war camps, bringing the total
of Canadian dead in defence of Hong Kong to
355.



Potatoes With Thorns

(Ottawa Journal)

Canada's bumper potato crop this
year has caused what amounts to almost
to an international situation, and somewhat
of a domestic uproar as well.

Canadian potatoes have become a
thorn in the flesh of New England
politicians. Our crop is selling
like hotcakes in the U. S. while
their own spuds remain in the
sheds at supported prices.

As a result, the politicians are urging
Washington to place an embargo
on further imports and Wash-
ington would do like to do like to
do something because the supported
price is costing them a lot of
money besides filling Federal stor-
ing bins for which there is no
market.

On the other hand if the Govern-
ment here heeds the demands of
the growers and places a floor price
on surplus potatoes, which would
of necessity have to approximate the
U. S. price less import duties, it
will advance a considerable sum
and consumers' organizations
would be on their neck. Growers
fear that if the U. S. market is
closed, their prices will decline
sharply as the surplus is consider-
ably in excess of domestic require-
ments.

It is understood Canada has used
up her quota of potatoes entering
the U. S. under the reduced tariff,
but even at the higher rate of
75 cents per hundred pounds our
growers still under sell U. S.
potatoes at the supported price.
New Brunswick growers are get-
ting about one dollar a hundred
while the support price in Maine
is \$2.25. Naturally growers and the
Government in the U. S. would like
us to keep our potatoes at home
and, as this is election year down
there, he bought the auctioneer's
pressure to have them kept out.

The Marco Polo's Bell

(San Scanders in the
Saint John Telegraph Journal)

You know the Marco Polo's
figurehead at the New Brun-
swick Museum in Saint John—a
gaily-painted wooden man who
reclines with a hand on his hip.

So the bell came back to the
Marco Polo's home port—and
today it's the dinner bell at the
Millionaires' Club.

Treaties

(Winnipeg Free Press)

In the Record Office in London,
where the major documents of
English history are preserved, a
curious and unique exhibition has
been on display. Treaties dating
back to 1191 and bearing the name
of Richard the Lion-Heart begin
the exhibition which ends with the
postal arrangements of 1934 be-
tween Britain and Russia. This is
the most extensive collection of
treaties ever to have been shown
publicly in Great Britain and per-
haps in any other country.

Lord Salisbury used to say that
all treaties are mortal, and those
who visit the exhibition and count
the number of solemn engagements
that have been broken by nations,
will be inclined to echo his mor-
tal pessimism. Yet some treaties
have lasted a long time. England's
treaty with Portugal, first conclu-
ded in 1386, managed to survive the
stormy interregnum of the Armada
days and is still the basis of alli-
ance between the two countries.

A more vivid, though melancholy,
interest attaches to the treaties
which record the vanity of human
greatness or mark the fallen hopes
of peace. Veterans of the World
War, it may be imagined, pause
before the treaty of 1939 guaran-
teeing the safety of Belgium and
look at it long and hard; for this
is the famous "Scrap of Paper"
whose violation by Germany
began four years of carnage. There
are treaties with Napoleon when
he towered in arrogance over
Europe, and treaties with the same
man of destiny when he had dwined
to the narrow compass of an
evitably reserved for those who
trample on freedom. There is the
treaty which Disraeli brought back
from Berlin and in a fit of mis-
taken rhetoric called "Peace with
Honor," a phrase which has passed
into the derision of history and
been shunned by English states-
men although it was used by Neville
Chamberlain to describe the still
more monumental blunder of
the Munich agreement.

Perhaps the final impression left
by the exhibition on a reflective
mind is that the world has always
been a most dangerous place, and
that the best of men have spent the
best of their days in the attempt to
make it somewhat less dangerous.

The Poet's Corner

THE WOODSPURGE

The wind flapped loose, the wind
was still.
Shaken out dead from tree and
hill:
I had walked on at the wind's will—
I sat now, for the wind was still.

Between my knees my forehead
was—
My lips, drawn in, said not Alas!
My hair was over in the grass.
My naked ears heard the day pass.

My eyes, wide open, had the run
Of some ten weeds to fix upon:
Among those few, out of the sun,
The woodspurge flowered, three
cups in one.

From perfect grief there need not
be
Wisdom or even memory:
One thing then learn! remains to
me.
The woodspurge has a cup of
three.

—D. G. Rossetti.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

TROUT NETTING

"Whose fault is it that the trout
streams of Prince Edward Island
are so depleted by netting that it is
almost impossible to obtain a fair
catch of fish? This unsportsman-
like trick, to put it mildly, is one
of the silliest and most selfish that
can be indulged in, for, if carried
to extremes, it means that in a
very short time all the fish will
be driven out of the streams in
which such shameful work is car-
ried on. We have it on the best
authority that this netting is more
general than would be thought to
be the case, and that proper steps
are not taken to punish those who
engage in it. . . . We have facts
to hand to prove that, in a stream
and pond not far from Charlot-
teton, trout were netted in such
quantities that the fish in excess
of what the ponches required were
fed to the pigs. . . . An associa-
tion of our anglers would appear to
be a good way to arrive at some
method of having the law enforced."

—Prince Edward Island Maga-
zine, August, 1902.

The Age-Old Story

But whose hearkeneth unto Me
shall dwell safely, and shall be
quiet from fear of evil.

This is worth remembering, as we
in our turn join the great suc-
cession and do what we can to replace
infidelity with honor and force with
reason in the shaping of world of
firsts and the judgment of nations.

PLATINUM IN WARTIME

Platinum's military importance
lies in its use by the electronics
industry.

SOUTHAMPTON, England
(OP) — Mrs. Mary Robinson,
resident in Moorgreen Hospital
here, celebrated her 104th birth-
day.

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- Notes By The Way -

A well-informed woman does not
get to the centre of the stage so
readily as a well-formed one. —
Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

A professor says that a fellow
applying for a job should be a good
listener. It's tough, though, when
all you hear is "No." — Guelph
Mercury.

Dr. C. Anderson Aldrich tells a
Minnesota audience that the old
woodshed type of spanking is out
of date. Perhaps that's because
woodsheds are also passe, particu-
larly in urban areas. — Windsor
Star.

Burning of garbage in the home
furnace will tend to damage the
grates, advises the Canadian Insti-
tute of Plumbing and Heating. Al-
though a common practice in many
homes, the use of the furnace or
heating boiler as an incinerator
will shorten the life of the heating
equipment. Acids from the food
will drip onto the grates. Under
the intense heat of the fire the
corroding action of these acids is
increased, soon pitting and damag-
ing the metal parts. Even the up-
per parts of the fire box, and the
flue pipes may be corroded by the
acid vapors. It is pointed out. Not
only is the efficiency of the furnace
impaired, but possible leaks of coal
gas may result. — Stratford Bea-
con-Herald.

An industrial survey made up at
Toronto shows that during the past
12 months 73 new manufacturing
concerns have established them-
selves or are about to launch oper-
ations in Ontario. In addition, it
has been learned that more than
130 firms are adding to their pres-
ent facilities. Among the projects
involving large sums for buildings
and equipment is mentioned the
almost completed \$4,000,000 pro-
gram of the John Deere Welland
Works. A dozen cities are listed
as benefitting from these new in-
dustries or plant extensions, and
the statement is made that as a re-
sult of them at least 20,000 new
jobs will be created. Which means
as the survey referred to points out,
that Ontario has growing pains, in-
dustrially speaking. Welland, of
course, has grown to the point
where it is virtually bursting its
bounds. The city council has tak-
en the only logical step possible
under the circumstances and is
applying to the Ontario Municipal
Board for permission to extend the
boundaries of the municipality. —
Welland-Fort Colborne Tribune.

It is notorious that women's
washrooms are more difficult to
maintain than even those used by
men. Any proprietor of an estab-
lishment having both will testify
to that. A local restaurateur dis-
covered, indeed, that one woman
who had tried to flush an old pair
of shoes which she apparently dis-
carded while on the premises.
Public washrooms are always a
headache and those used by women
are apparently much the worse. —
Brookville Recorder and Times.

I was talking to a doctor the
other day about the changed nature
of his practice over a period of
twenty-five years. "When I started
as a young man," he said, "I was
dealing with all the time with de-
ficiency diseases, rheumatic heart,
rickets, goitres and so forth—dis-
eases that came from malnutrition
and bad conditions. "Though I am
still in a country practice, with
many laborers amongst my pa-
tients, most of these diseases have
almost disappeared. Instead I have
to treat people who have duodenal
ulcers, eczema of the foot (I sup-
pose Mr. Attlee's is of this type),
and all manner of other illnesses
that come from nervous strain." In
short sickness used to arise from
too little food. Now it comes from
too much worry. Doctors could
only alleviate, not cure, the old
kind of disease until social con-
ditions were improved. Today they
can only deal with the symptoms
of the present diseases, because
they cannot produce world stabi-
lity. Add to this the fact that mod-
ern medicine is well on the road
to abolishing, or at any rate render-
ing unimportant, many of the
more serious illnesses that used so
often to be fatal, like diphtheria
and pneumonia, and you see that
once again science is giving us the
physical tools of mastery, but they
are not much use to us because we
remain mentally a lot of frighten-
ed, irresponsible, and neurotic
children. — London New States-
man.

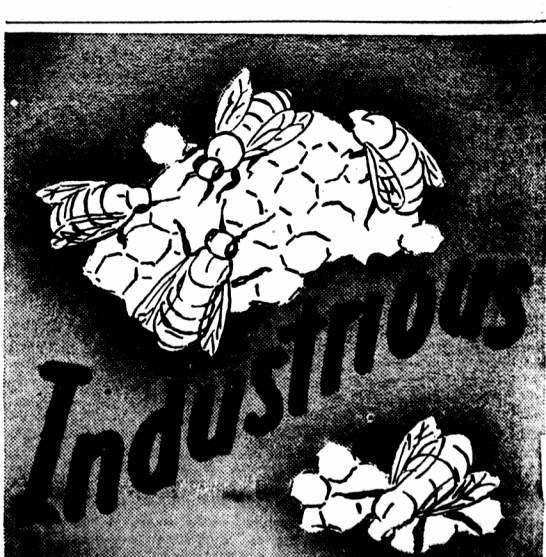


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