

Anti-R. C. M. P. Criticism Answered In Legislature By Conservative Members

Resentment On Behalf Of The Rustico Community Expressed By Mr. D. F. Bethune At Persistent References To Alleged Lawlessness At Rustico By Mr. LePage, Whose Statements Are Also Answered By Hon. Mr. MacPhee, Hon. Mr. MacKenzie And Mr. J. H. MacDonald.

Legislative Chamber, April 2. The House in Committee on Supply, Mr. Hunter in the chair. Administration of Justice: Jails, Queens County, \$6,430. Mr. LePage said he noticed the estimate was a thousand dollars under last year's expenditure. "Are you going to feed them less," he asked.

Mr. MacPhee: "I may say quite frankly that although the matter of maintenance of jails is charged to my department, it properly falls under the Department of Public Works. I have consulted with that department and taken the figures from them as to what would be required. The whole matter of maintenance is conducted by the Public Works Department; it is merely for the purpose of keeping the expenditure under the classification of Administration of Justice that it is charged here. I have not the specific items but I believe the requirements this year will enable them to keep within the amount."

SAVINGS EFFECTED

Subsequently (the item having been allowed to stand over in the meantime) Hon. Mr. Sharp explained that repairs last year totalled \$739 and it was not anticipated that such an amount would be required for ordinary repair this year. "In addition," he said, "we have \$1,326.74 worth of coal. Certain savings have been made in coal due to the fact that we installed a blower in the jail. That accounted for a certain saving last year in the coal bill, but this year it will be in operation full time and the saving will be greater."

"Altogether we saved \$13,000 in our public works programme due to the installation of blowers and self-feeding machines in connection with our coal burning operations. We hope to make an additional saving this year, and to reduce very materially the ordinary repair costs."

In addition, we have made a substantial saving in the purchase of meat, which amounts this year to \$608. We purchased meat at 5 1/4 cents when the market was low last fall, and put it in the cold storage plant at Falconwood. It is taken in daily to the jail. This system was inaugurated by this government, and it is a big improvement on the economic side, over the system previously followed of purchasing meat in the market daily, at the daily prices." (Applause.)

Mr. LePage: "There was \$24 for shoes for prisoners last year. I would like to know what that is for."

Hon. Mr. Sharp: "Don't you think they require shoes?"

Mr. LePage: "No."

Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "When a prisoner serves a fairly long sentence, and if he is a good prisoner, and works assiduously at the tasks assigned to him by the jailor, when the time of his release arrives sometimes his clothing and shoes are entirely worn out. It would be most inhuman to turn such a man out in that condition."

Mr. LePage: "They should leave their shoes at home after that."

Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "We didn't want to turn them out in their bare feet."

Mr. LePage: "\$306 for hardware. That seems to be a big amount."

Hon. Mr. Sharp: "While I have not the specific items with me, I know that the amount is correct, and the vouchers are available in the office for the member to see them."

The item carried.

JAIL AND COURT HOUSE, PRINCE COUNTY, \$4,900.

Mr. Allen said the keeper of Queens County jail received over fifty per cent more than the keeper of Prince County jail, whereas the maintenance cost was only 25 per cent more. There should, he thought, be the same pro rata maintained in salaries. In addition, the Prince County jail contains a Court House and the keeper's duties were therefore greater.

Mr. MacPhee: "I believe the ratio was set many years ago."

intend to enter into a new agreement with the R.C.M.P.?" Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "Yes."

"NOT VERY SERIOUS"

Mr. LePage said that in looking over the report of the Police he saw a lot of unnecessary things, that should never have been mentioned in a police report. Four unfortunate boys from the Rustico district had been picked out as being the criminal special reference had been made to the Ford boys. He, Mr. LePage, did not think their crime was "very serious." Three of them only got twelve months apiece, while the other chap was let clear. Why, he asked, in the report?

Premier MacMillan: "Every case is detailed under a particular paragraph."

Mr. LePage: "These boys are particularly mentioned. Why should they be mentioned more than the other criminals and bootleggers?" He also complained that the report included work done by the City Police. Why should that be so. He repeated his criticism made in the Draft Address and Budget debates, charging lawlessness at Rustico, and that the Government would blame the government for being negligent in their duty. He again referred to liquor cargoes having been landed last year off the coast. About 80 per cent of the convictions obtained by the R.C.M.P. were for consuming liquor. That part of the report seemed to have been very well looked after, but "the fact that we have so much liquor landed and that they have not been able to seize any worth-while quantity of liquor proves that the Government has been lax in enforcing the law."

The former Provincial Police, he maintained, did much better work. In answer to the argument he cited from a report tabled in the Dominion Senate, giving the customs and seizures over a period of years.

Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "I might remind my hon. friend that that relates to the preventive service—not the Provincial Police."

Mr. LePage: "Call it preventive service or whatever you like to call it, but those are the facts. I think the Government should see that the conditions that occurred last year will not occur again."

Mr. LePage: "I am not making light of such an offence. I am not making light of it. I am drawing your attention to that no other case was featured."

Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "I think my hon. friend is mistaken. If he refers to the Police report he will find, certainly not a good thing that the seriousness of such a case should be minimized by the member in his remarks." (Applause.)

"People throughout that community and the County generally, were very pleased that convictions were secured in this case, not because these poor young men had gone astray who had been convicted, but because with so little delay a quietus was given to this particular form of crime from which we have in the past been free. As to the report of the City Police, I might remind my hon. friend that so far as the enforcement of the Prohibition Act is concerned, the Inspector of the Royal Canadian Police is regarded as the chief inspector for the Province, having jurisdiction over all the Province." (Applause.)

ANSWERS MR. LEPAGE'S ARGUMENT.

"My hon. friend referred in the Budget debate to an answer to a question tabled in the Senate, and he referred to it again this afternoon. I have looked over the report and I cannot find anything in it which supports the proposition of the member from Rustico. We find listed there the names and the salaries of the preventive service who are employed in this Province under the Dominion Government—not the Provincial Police, as my hon. friend said, before the R.C.M.P. took over their duties. There has been a good deal of loose talk with regard to the scope of the duties of the Provincial Police and the Mounted Police. My hon. friend referred to the work which nine men did in comparison with the Mounted Police numbering thirty or forty. The member knows perfectly well that these men were employed solely under the Customs and Excise Act, and that they had no duties as Provincial Police. He knows that the Mounted Police are charged with all the duties of policemen, and that these duties include not only the duties of the Provincial Police but of the preventive service and of the enforcement of the Migratory Birds Act as well. They are doing the duties that those they force did, and also a further duty in connection with the guard at the Receiver General's office. Those four duties which were formerly carried out by four different forces are now carried out by the Mounted Police. It is only fair that in considering the number of officials and the scope and extent of their duties, that regard should

A SERIOUS CRIME

Hon. Mr. MacKenzie said he was surprised at the attitude of the member from Rustico. He had censured the report of the Police for bringing out one particular case, which concerned the stealing of sheep in the Rustico district. This was a crime from which the Province had until recently been free. The Police had secured convictions and sentences in this case, and the Rustico member says it is not a very serious offence! Last fall, Mr. MacKenzie recalled, two girls who were earning their livelihood in Charlottetown had been robbed on their way to their boarding house, and the suspects were rounded up, convicted and sentenced to ten years in a reformatory which was received with public approval in view of the nature of the offence. A great deal of the credit should go to the Police. Under the Provincial Police, he recalled, in the district adjoining his own, there had been a case of a girl being raped. Mr. MacKenzie's interpretation of the law always had been that a criminal case cannot be settled.

Mr. T. A. Campbell: "I happen to know a great deal about the case in question. I rise at a point of order. The remarks which the hon. member is beginning to make reflect on the decision which was given by a court in this Province, and I submit that no such remarks are allowable."

Hon. Mr. MacKenzie: "Who was it who set on the case?"

Mr. Campbell: "The Magistrate who sat on the case was my late father."

Hon. Mr. MacKenzie: "Who was Attorney General?"

Mr. Campbell: "Mr. Saunders was Attorney General."

Hon. Mr. MacKenzie: "And who was acting?"

Mr. Campbell: "I was acting, and I will say to my hon. friend that there was no settlement out of court and the judgment of the court was delivered. I strongly resent the imputations which have been made throughout the length and breadth of this Province on the judgment which was made in this case."

ENFORCEMENT AT RUSTICO

Hon. Mr. MacKenzie: "I have this to say, that those gentlemen continued to run at large. Is that within bounds? We have heard of good deal of criticism with regard to the enforcement of Prohibition in Rustico. I remember two men who were appointed there and I have asked my hon. friend for that district if he could give a list of the convictions, and to date he has never been able to do so. One gentleman was from New Glasgow and I have no record of any conviction he secured."

Mr. LePage: "I don't understand what you are talking about."

Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "We have referred to the Police report and taken exception to the fact that certain persons whom he expressed a certain interest in are featured there as offenders. First of all the report of the Inspector of the Mounted Police to me, and I do not think the member should lay any blame on the Inspector, whose duty it was to make it. My duty as Attorney General was to table the report. I do not think that any undue prominence is given to the case which he is referring to. This, of course, is a species of crime which has very fortunately not been prevalent in this Province, and it was desirable, I think, that publicity should be given to the fact that these men were, with very little delay, apprehended and punished. I think it is not good from the point of view of the community generally that any person, and particularly a member of this Assembly, should make light of such an offence."

Mr. LePage: "I am not making light of it. I am drawing your attention to that no other case was featured."

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MR. BETHUNE REPLIES

Mr. D. F. Bethune said he resented the persistent reflections made upon the Rustico district by the last speaker. During the past four years, at every session of this House, the Liberal member has asked questions on the order paper, asking how many gallons of liquor had been landed at North Rustico.

Mr. LePage: "I never put a question on the order paper with reference to that."

Mr. Bethune in reply quoted from the Order Paper the question asked by the member from Rustico. Mr. LePage: "Give names of R.C.M.P. or Prohibition officers statement at North Rustico during 1934 with the extent of the territory they were supposed to police. Give names, if any, of parties convicted for smuggling or infringement of the Prohibition Act, in the territory policed by said officers."

Continuing, Mr. Bethune said he considered North Rustico a good place as there is on the Island, and he resented such questions being placed on the Order Paper session after session. The Liberal member had taken one of the R.C.M.P. officers to task on the floor of the House and had said that if the chance was given he would go behind the bars and take a drink. "I don't think that is a very nice attitude," said Mr. Bethune. "I can only arrive at one conclusion. This gentleman in former years has

been had to these things. (Applause.) I do not know why the member from Rustico is so anxious to make such a statement as he made in comparing the work of nine with forty men, when he himself knows perfectly well that the thirty or forty men have many duties to perform with which the Provincial Police force had nothing to do."

"Let us examine the report submitted to the Senate and we find that the conclusion is not the one which was suggested by my hon. friend. For example in the matter of excise seizures during the years 1930 and 1931, the last two years the preventive service was functioning, there were 34 excise seizures. In 1933 and 1934, as against that, there were 99 seizures. I am not reflecting on the calibre of the men of the preventive force; in fact the seizures were taken over by the Mounted Police. Some one suggested that we were attacking the Provincial Police, but that is not correct. There has been no such suggestion from this side of the House, but the fact that the Mounted Police have a great advantage over the Provincial Police in their facilities for training, and their experience. All those advantages which the Mounted Police force has been able to acquire in the matter of discipline and training, in fact available to this Province under the service which we now enjoy and which would not have been available—certainly not without great additional expense under the Provincial Police, which we ourselves would have to maintain. I think it is only fair to keep this in mind."

ISLANDERS IN R.C.M.P.

"It has been suggested that some of these Irish are members of the R.C.M.P. I know that for many years before we had the Mounted Police here, men from this Province were taken into the ranks in this Province, and I suggest to this committee that if natives of this Province, outside the Province, were to lose their positions because they were Islanders, there would be very many more men out of a job than the number who would be employed here if we had a Provincial Police. (Applause.)

"Reference has been made to the expense of maintaining the Mounted Police. As a matter of fact, we are saving a considerable amount of money by this arrangement. I have already pointed out that 1930 the expenditure was \$22,000, as against our present expenditure of \$15,000. Recently I saw the figures with regard to the total saving to the Dominion and the six provinces which are now policed by the R.C.M.P. under the present arrangements, and the figures of total numbers, is \$1,500,000. Part of that saving is enjoyed by the Province, as in the case of this Province; part by the Dominion, which reflects itself later on the Province, of course."

"The member from Rustico has again referred to conditions in that community. I cannot subscribe to the impression which the hon. gentleman would leave in the minds of the people that Rustico is a lawless place. It is trying to give an impression of lawlessness which has never been made. I always regarded Rustico as a very splendid community in that regard, and I can tell the member from Rustico that I have in my files letters from prominent citizens of that community, commending the Police for the splendid work which they have done there." (Applause.)

"If my hon. friend wishes at any time to look at these letters, I would be delighted to show them to him."

Mr. LePage: "There are a great many other people that have letters. I have had a great many letters, and have passed them on to the Police along with regard to them. If my hon. friend tells us that Rustico is a lawless place—"

Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "I am not saying that; you were telling us that." (Applause.)

Mr. LePage: "The fact that your men get only six convictions does not bear out that statement. There has been landed in this Province, mostly along the north side, at least 50,000 to 75,000 gallons of rotund and all that has been seized, according to the report, was about 721 gallons."

Continuing, Mr. LePage said the people were not satisfied with the enforcement. The member from New London had tried to map that when Mr. LePage had tried to talk about prohibition. In the member's own district they were landing it by cargoes. The member had referred to girls who were robbed in Charlottetown, but it was not the R.C.M.P. but the City Police, Mr. LePage said, who were instrumental in arresting those instruments.

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taken a part in politics, and he may have gotten under my hon. friendly skin. But I can assure the House that he has been a very efficient officer. (Applause.) My hon. friend says there were no convictions in that vicinity."

Mr. LePage: "I made no such statement."

Mr. Bethune: "It is a rule that when two officers are out, they both work together. There were no less than eight convictions last year. In my hon. friend's time they had a Mr. George Brown there. I have no information that that gentleman ever procured any convictions there. I hope in future that references to North Rustico will be eliminated from this discussion. I can assure my hon. friend that we have good law-abiding citizens in North Rustico." (Applause.)

Mr. LePage said it was not long ago that the House heard a nasty remark about the Rustico Hall. He knew the people of North Rustico, he said, a lot better than the Conservative member did. "When he has a record of doings as much as I have done for North Rustico he will have to be a lot older than he is at the present time," he declared. His statements about liquor conditions were made because he knew they were absolutely correct. If the Attorney General received a few letters of commendation it "might be all right but he, Mr. LePage, knew there were 'an awful lot' that came to him with regard to the schooners unloading and the drinking that was going on. The trouble was, he thought, that many people were 'scared to stand up and tell the people what were the facts.'"

THOSE 70,000 GALLONS

Mr. J. Howard MacDonald: "It strikes me that the junior member for Rustico (Mr. Bethune) has overreacted an impression and that the senior member (Mr. LePage) has accepted the impression that will come to the public of this Province, namely, that the people of Rustico are good and law abiding." (Applause.)

"We have heard from the senior member about the 70,000 gallons that were landed on the Island. 'Reference has been made to them, how does he know? He does not know we do. He discovered that some 70,000 gals. left St. Pierre and he tells the people of this Province that it all landed here.' (Applause.)

"One thing my hon. friend seems to feel very badly about—the fact that there is not more liquor being seized for the simple reason that we have good enforcement and it is not being kept." (Applause.)

"I think the hon. gentleman is talking politics rather than prohibition enforcement. What the department wants is reliable information. He refers to letters forwarded to the Attorney General. That I submit, is a doubtful proposition. The Attorney General never is willing to exhibit the letters he has received to the members of the House. I did not hear my hon. friend say that his letters were open to examination or that he would table them. I submit that the member is trying to give an impression of lawlessness which has never been made. I always regarded Rustico as a very splendid community in that regard, and I can tell the member from Rustico that I have in my files letters from prominent citizens of that community, commending the Police for the splendid work which they have done there." (Applause.)

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from someone in Tignish who stated a lot of liquor had been landed and that the R. C. M. P. were seldom seen. He did not quote the name.

REGISTRY OFFICE

Registry Office, (\$4,800). Mr. Allen questioned there was as much business done in the Summerside office as in the Charlottetown office, and the difference in salaries was too great.

Mr. Dennis moved as an amendment that the amounts in the first three items, (Registrar of Deeds, \$1,450, Assistant Registrar of Deeds, \$1,250, Engrossing Clerks, \$1,900) be reduced by \$150 each.

Hon. Mr. MacPhee explained that the registrar's office in Charlottetown serves both Queens and Kings Counties. He read a statement showing the fees from the Charlottetown office have been \$3,391.58 as against fees of \$1,968.75 collected at the Summerside office.

Mr. Dennis withdrew his motion in view of the Attorney General's explanation.

Mr. J. A. MacDonald said that not only does the registrar's office at Charlottetown take care of Queens and Kings Counties, but there is the land office to be considered also.

Mr. Allen said the Summerside registrar of deeds gets \$1,000 and in Charlottetown he gets \$450 more. The amounts should be more nearly equal. He took objection to designating the Queens County Law Courts as "Charlottetown Law Courts."

Hon. Mr. MacPhee: "Charlottetown designates the general place where they are located."

Mr. J. H. MacDonald: "When it comes to putting through these Estimates my hon. friends are in favor of raising the Estimates, while they talk for hours about the need of practicing economy. If they want economy, why not cut out this Summerside registry office altogether? If the Charlottetown office can do the business for Kings County, it might just as well serve Prince Edward, and greater economy would result."

Mr. Dennis thought the salaries of the registrars should be equalized. "Why," he asked, "should the Summerside man be penalized just because he lives west of Charlottetown?"

Mr. J. A. MacDonald explained that the registrar in Charlottetown has to prepare the deeds and plans in connection with the grants of land. That, he would say, accounts for the difference between the salaries. He has also to meet all the people coming to Charlottetown to inspect the titles.

Mr. Dennis said there was nothing in this argument, as the Government had sold no land for the last thirty or forty years, and there were no Crown lands.

Mr. MacDonald: "I wouldn't call the hon. gentleman ignorant at all, but I will say that he is certainly unfamiliar with the facts. There are government deeds issued in the Registry Office here almost every day of the year, and plans have to be made in those cases. If my hon. friend does not know that there are Crown lands in the Province, I may tell him that there are two daughters, Mrs. Norman McL. Ramsay, of Kensington. Mrs. Elmer Taylor, of Darnley, and four sons, Albert E., of Charlottetown; Andrew, of Vancouver, B.C.; Frank, of Beach Point, and John, of Hamilton, P. E. I."

Mr. Simpson's genial smile and her happy disposition endeared her to a very wide circle of friends and relatives. She was faithful and unvarying in her Christian ideals and loyal to her Master.

BRACKLEY POINT SCHOOL

Honor roll for March: Grade II (Jr.)—1, Susie MacCallum; 2, Annie MacCallum. Grade II (Sr.)—1, Dorothy Robinson; 2, Alfred Murray; 3, Alexander Murray. Grade III—1, Fenner Stewart; 2, Clayton Ford; 3, Neil MacCallum. Grade IV—1, Bertha Stewart; 2, Jennie MacCallum. Grade V—1, David Seaman; 2, George Robinson; 3, Annetta Stewart; 4, Irving Stewart. Grade VII—1, Heath Seaman; 2, Hilda Murray; 3, Harry Ford. Grade VIII—1, Harold Hughes; 2, Rebecca Stewart.

Grade X—1, Fred Hughes. Perfect attendance—Clayton Ford, Harold Hughes, Jennie MacCallum, David Seaman, Bertha Stewart, Irving Stewart, Fenner Stewart, Mildred F. Brown—Teacher.

Minnard's great Rubbing Lintment

IN MEMORIAM

MR. JAMES N. LAMONT
The death occurred at his home, Union Road, on Sunday of James N. Lamont, son of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Lamont of St. Catherine's, West River. The deceased, who served overseas with the 105th Battalion operated a farm at Union Road in conjunction with his brother, who also is an overseas man, serving with the 6th Sea Battery. Another brother, Donald, served overseas with a Halifax Regiment, taught school in Western Canada, later removing to this city where he died from pneumonia. The late James N. Lamont leaves to mourn his parents, one brother, a sister, Grace, and a brother-in-law for sister Grace, at home to all of whom the Guardian tenders sincere sympathy.

IN MEMORIAM

MRS. WILLIAM SIMPSON
The death of Sophia, widow of the late William McNeill Simpson, occurred Tuesday afternoon, April 8th at the home of her son, Mr. Frank Simpson, Beach Point. A private service will be held at Mr. Simpson's home Thursday afternoon followed by a service at the Princeton United Church commencing at 2 p. m.

The WONDER SHOE

for MEN.—for WOMEN.

The "Sun Rises" on a new era of comfort for Foot Sufferers and those robbed of natural health by faulty posture.

HEALTH-SPOT Shoes Light the WAY.

WRIGHT SHOE CO., Sole P.E.I. Agency

Research Has Proven the Following Conditions Often Related to Weak Feet

- Neck and Head: stiff neck, headache, congestion, strain.
- Spine and Pelvis: postural defects, sway back, round shoulders, rheumatic pain, contraction of spine.
- Lumbar and Cervical: muscle spasm, flexible curvature, muscle-joint strain, myositis, "wristed pelvis", unlevel hips, unlevel shoulders, prominent shoulder blades.
- Thigh and Calf: cramps, muscular pain, rheumatic pain, sciatica, contracted "hamstrings", varicose veins, stiffness of joints, excessive tiredness from walking or standing, swelling and congestion.
- Ankle and Foot: arthritic, rheumatic pain, flat feet, pronation, muscle unbalance, fallen arches, chronic strain, acute strain, swollen ankles, weak ankles, painful heel, Morton's Toe, corns, bunions, excessive perspiration, burning feet, cold feet, numbness, ingrowing nails, hammer toes, muscle cramps, play foot, contracted foot, defective gait, clumsiness, stiffness on arising, crabs of heel, sore, shortened heel, corns, (Shaffer's Foot), bony subluxations, muscle-joint, restricted toes, plantar neuritis, pointed toes, rotated heels, inverted ankles, varicose veins, callouses.

WEAR HEALTH SPOT SHOES FOR RELIEF AND COMFORT

WRIGHT SHOE Co.
See Your Doctor for Foot Examination

The late Mrs. Simpson was 92 years old last December.

She leaves to mourn her loss, her sister, Miss Matilda Clark, Kensington, the only surviving member of a family of twelve sons and daughters, the family of the late Andrew Clark and Sophia Baginall, of Cavendish; and two daughters, Mrs. Norman McL. Ramsay, of Kensington. Mrs. Elmer Taylor, of Darnley, and four sons, Albert E., of Charlottetown; Andrew, of Vancouver, B.C.; Frank, of Beach Point, and John, of Hamilton, P. E. I.

Mrs. Simpson's genial smile and her happy disposition endeared her to a very wide circle of friends and relatives. She was faithful and unvarying in her Christian ideals and loyal to her Master.

Mr. LePage: "My information is that the registrar of deeds in Summerside has a little sideline by which he is enabled to make a little more than his salary. I think that certain things done in Summerside that are not done here at all. There is the registration of the minutes of judgment, which is filed in the Supreme Court. This must be done and indexed. There is also a registry of wills in Prince County which does not exist in the Queens County registry office at all. I think that if the whole thing were figured out the amount of work done in each office, per employee, is pretty much the same. I can see no reason why there should be a disparity in their salaries. Possibly a small allowance might be made for different costs of living."

Continuing, Mr. Campbell said that the registry of wills in Summerside was inaugurated by the Saunders Government.

Mr. MacDonald pointed out that all wills are registered in the Supreme Court House, Charlottetown. He maintained that there was not the same amount of work done in Summerside, and he did not think, in this period of depression, that any salaries should be increased."

Mutual Life Shows Increasing Business

The Mutual Life of Canada reports that the amount of money paid for life insurance sold by the company during the first quarter of 1935 was 59 per cent greater than for the same period last year, and the number of policies sold was 54 per cent in excess of the 1934 figure. That this improvement is general throughout Canada is evidenced by the fact that 38 of the 42 branch offices of the company, from Halifax to Vancouver, submitted increased business.

"Douglas' Egyptian Liniment" should be in every hospital. Stops bleeding at once. Cauterizes wounds and prevents blood poisoning.

Trinity United Church

WEDNESDAY