

THE GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1845)
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CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 1, 1929

Chesapeake Oysters Vanishing

The process of rehabilitating our once opulent oyster beds at Malpeque Bay is still going on, with a good measure of success, although it is doubtful if they can ever be brought back to the productivity enjoyed over half a century ago.

Where at one time more than 1,200 oyster vessels plied their profitable trade, the bay now supports scarcely a dozen. From 1880 to 1890 the bivalve harvest ran from 12,000,000 bushels annually. By 1920 the harvest, though shrunk, still numbered millions of bushels.

The reason for this decline, according to the Tidewater Fisheries Commission biologists, is "mortality." It has been found on investigation that the only feasible remedy is "leasing of the bays to private individuals using their own capital to plant oysters like crops and harvest them after the three-year period of growth."

Similar objections, it will be recalled, were raised to implementing the agreement signed between this Province and the Dominion Government in 1928 following an investigation by a Royal Commission into the fisheries of the Maritime Provinces and the Magdalen Islands, on which this Province was represented by Dr. Cyrus Macmillan.

This Commission recommended a survey of Maritime Provinces waters to be undertaken in order to ascertain the causes of depletion, to devise means for re-establishing these areas, to determine upon the best means of cultivation and to formulate plans for the instruction of fishermen and dealers; the work to be undertaken by the Federal Department of Fisheries through the Atlantic Experimental Station.

"Considerable difficulty has arisen because of a conflict on the question of proprietorship of oyster areas by the Provincial Government or the Dominion Government. While the Dominion Government owns the areas, the Provincial Government is considered, and held, responsible for their regulation. The result of this situation is not satisfactory, and a new relationship between the two authorities should be established. Prince Edward Island has recently relinquished its rights of proprietorship and has given over its oyster areas to the full control of the Dominion Government."

This is proving to be the case; but it is ironic to reflect that the carrying out of this policy, recommended by a Liberal Commission and embodied in an agreement between two Liberal Governments in 1928, helped to defeat a Conservative provincial administration a few years ago.

The Spectator, London, reproduces in its columns the following extract from its issue of July 28, 1849 from which we can make comparison of the housing and juvenile delinquency problem then and now: "Lord Ashley brought under the notice of the House of Commons the state of a portion of the juvenile population of the Metropolis. A short time ago, he said, he was anxious to perceive with his own eyes what was the condition of these lairs, their retreats for the night, and others perambulating the Metropolis. They dived into their recesses. The House would be surprised to hear what was the condition in which the fabled dry crabs of houses not finished, inaccessible to the body of a man. When a lantern was thrust in, six or eight, ten or twelve people might be found lying together. Of those whom they came the following day; and there an examination was instituted. The number examined was thirty-three. Of this number, 24 had no parents; 6 had but one; and 3 had stepmothers; 20 had 3 wives; 9 no shoes; 12 had been once in prison; 14 were years old; 12 were months; and 1 (only the subject of their employments and modes of living. The only way of earning a penny in a legitimate way was by picking up old bones, and others scattered over the town, with whom they proffered themselves acquainted, that they had not and could not have any other means of subsistence than by begging and stealing."

Then And Now
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EDITORIAL NOTES

British Columbia's compulsory health insurance scheme is costing \$3,000,000 more than the \$12,000,000 estimate for the first year. His Majesty the King must be making a satisfactory comeback to good health when he is at Balmoral upon the occasion of Princess Margaret's birthday. Prime Minister St. Laurent promised to announce yesterday what his government is prepared to grant Provincial governments and municipalities on housing projects they are prepared to administer. What are our projects? Not a few who have been enjoying life at their summer bungalows regret having to re-migrate disappointed are those numerous people who have found temporary accommodation in the summer vacation homes. Premier McNair of New Brunswick having served ten years in office has been entertained at an anniversary celebration with a birthday cake and all the trimmings and candles. It is a kindly and thoughtful act for a ruler, Premiers get more kicks than happiness. A cordial welcome is extended to L'Evangeline, Moncton entering the daily field of journalism. Our Acadian contemporary has long enjoyed a high reputation as a weekly, semi-weekly and tri-weekly, which will no doubt be sustained in the more trying experience as a daily. When the year began in March, this was properly termed September; consequently we reformed the calendar, he gave this month a 31st day, which August subsequently took from it, and so it has remained. Boys and girls from six European nations are now spending holidays at the international youth camp in Britain. They have come from Austria, France, Belgium, Holland and Finland to join young people from Britain. This is the fifth annual international camp sponsored by the British Council. They are extremely popular and there are waiting lists for places in future camps. A cordial welcome to our business and social community will be extended to Mr. Eric C. Dewling, whose appointment as manager of the Charlottetown branch of the Eastern Trust Company is announced in today's news columns, and who will succeed a line of very competent managers and active citizens. His immediate predecessor, Major Knox, has been appointed to the Company's branch at Saint John, N. B. Sir Richard Steele, British essayist, dramatist and man of letters died this date 1729. Oxford, he entered the army before devoting himself to journalism and literature. The Christian Hero won him favour with William III, and after publishing several comedies he was in title to fame, as an essayist and journalist. He established the monthly Tatler in 1709, followed by The Spectator in 1711, The Guardian in 1713, in all three of which he was ably assisted by Addison; his comedies include The Funeral (1701), The Conscious Lover in 1722. "He only is a great man who can neglect the applause of the multitude, and enjoy himself independent of its favour." The feast of St. Giles. This saint is closely associated in ecclesiastical history with Scotland, to St. Giles. He was a very eminent saint of the seventh century who took up his hermitage in the forest in the diocese of Nismes, France, where a tradition has it he was partly indebted to a hind which came daily to give him his milk. All most against his will St. Giles became head of a little monastic establishment which grew to be a regular Benedictine monastery. Refusing to be operated on for lameness, in order to mortify the flesh, his sainthood became associated with cripples, and all over England churches were dedicated to him at the outskirts of cities where Edinburgh travellers could rest and worship. In fact, his bone of an arm of the Saint was placed for perpetuity in St. Giles Church. To raise an aisle in the Church. To this day on one side of the coat-of-arms of the City of Edinburgh is a figure, as a supporter, of the hind.

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PUBLIC FORUM

MR. CAMPBELL
The very kind and generous remarks directed to our institute by your correspondent regarding our annual chicken supper, are truly encouraging. We are all busy farm women, who prepare this annual supper amid many other pressing tasks of seasonal work. Truly we don't find those fine incited articles and complimentary remarks from the author of "Golden Moments."

Harvest Time

That crop ought to be gathered in before it's lost. PRINCE EDWARD ISLANDS WEALTH OF HISTORICAL OBJECTS AND DOCUMENTS. FOR A PROVINCIAL MUSEUM.

Old Charlottetown

The British North America Act, however, is not a masterpiece of clarity. How to find out what it means in mind? It seemed to me that the best way to do this was to look up the Statute of the Government of Canada, as amended to December 21, 1867.

The Name We Bear

Don't let anyone tell you dogmatically that the name of this country is the Dominion of Canada, and not merely Canada. You may call it either and find legal support for your argument. I've been talking to the experts and the experts disagree. I've November 7, 1867, headed "Opening of the First Session of the First Parliament of the Dominion of Canada." The Times continued the job was contracted to Mr. Burgess who headed his document "Debates of the House of Commons of the Dominion of Canada."

The Age-Old Story

I will open rivers in high places and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

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Notes By The Way

From verdicts in murder trials and compared them to the faults of the quietest of their former mates. One day, after some quiet cogitation, the husband remarked to me to be married, said a pillar of the Church (and also of literature). "It was only too evident that the lady was in a condition which called for wedlock. The gentleman, on the other hand, took him away and bring him back when he was sober. 'I'll never get him here when he's sober,' he said. 'What was I to do?' 'Locked the man in the vestry for three hours, then married him. But I still don't know what I was right.' - London Spectator.

Much has been said of the radiance of sunlight, but less, perhaps, of the quietness of moonlight and resplendent, but the light of the night is peaceful and at rest. For when the moon is up, the sunlight has faded, darkness descends, and the moon mounted guard over a waiting earth, there reigns a silence unlike the silences of the day. For the world is hushed in sleep and there are no sounds other than the murmuring of the breeze and the low droning of the city. Trees rest under a covering of white. Here in this world of peace, Solace throbs through its very veins. For though the moon is pale and remote, she lends to the earth her stillness, making unreal all turmoil and discord, and giving reality to harmony and peace. - Montreal Gazette.

A widow and a widower were wed. Before the ink was dry on their marriage certificate, the widower was boasting to her mate about the perfection of her work. "You're a real expert," he said, "entirely to such an application. Why should this be? Why tie up Canada when they only seek to get which would help balance the general exchange?" - Windsor Star.

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