

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION 'Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew' 'The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink' CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 1952

Safety Month Proclaimed

As will be noted by the Proclamation appearing elsewhere in today's issue, the month of June has been set aside this year by order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council for the purpose of highway safety observance. It is to be known as Safety Month, during which time "all persons are constrained to give heed to the safety of all citizens generally with special intention to those using the highways of the Province and to govern themselves accordingly."

This, of course, is just a way of emphasizing the great importance of highway safety observance; it certainly does not mean that our citizens are not constrained to give heed to the safety of their fellow citizens at all times, twelve months in the year. June marks the beginning of the tourist season and is an opportune time in which to bring the subject forcibly to public attention. It is to be hoped, in the words of the Proclamation, that it will be given "paramount consideration by all the inhabitants of Prince Edward Island" and by our summer visitors as well.

Mood Of Revolt

That staunch Liberal journal, the Winnipeg Free Press, has been analyzing the recent Federal by-election results and the comments of several leading Liberal members in the Senate. It finds that the sovereign political fact, just beginning to manifest itself fully, is the revulsion of the taxpayer against high taxes. Until last year or so the taxpayer lived in expectation of early relief. As the new budget has made clear, no relief appears likely in the visible future. The realization of this fact has deeply changed the climate of public opinion. It has become interested in economy again.

"At this very point, curiously enough," says the Free Press, "the Federal Government has abandoned the attempt made last year to reduce non-defence expenditures and is raising its costs in all directions. This, it has found, is not a popular course. It will be even less popular when all taxable persons in the lower brackets find their income taxes raised at midsummer. From now on, it is to be expected, the Government and Parliament will find the Canadian people more sensitive to expenditures and taxes than they have been since the beginning of the last war."

"The Government can reduce its non-defence expenditures if it has the courage to do so—usually over the protest of the Opposition, which always cries for economy and increased spending simultaneously. At least the Government should make sure that the budget is subjected to real scrutiny and it should welcome any discovery of waste, any chance to save money. Canada, like the United States, is now entering a period of second thoughts when these things will have an importance in practical politics which, unfortunately, they were not given in recent years, when high taxes were considered temporary."

Swing Away From Wheat

The swing to mixed farming since the end of World War One, induced by soil drifting and limited soil fertility, has been pronounced in Western Canada. In the municipality of North Norfolk, Manitoba, for instance, the proportion of cultivated land sown to wheat dropped from 43 per cent in 1916 to 20 per cent in 1946, while the acreage in hay and pasture increased by 11 per cent, and that in coarse grains by 5 per cent. Investment in the farms examined ranged from \$7,753 on the smaller ones to \$32,977 on the largest, and averaged \$17,430 per farm. As farms increased in size proportionate investment in livestock decreased—from 31 per cent on small farms to 15 per cent on large ones.

A study was conducted by the Federal Department of Agriculture in the MacGregor, Gladstone, Plumas area, where soils are light textured and have need of binder crops and the fertilization of mixed farming practices. On average about 70 per cent of the farm land was improved. Wheat and flax were third as income producers, with coarse grains and other crops first and cattle second. Only 13 per cent of the improved area was in wheat. Coarse grains were grown in 34 per cent of the crop land. The average area in soil improvement crops, such as hay, pasture and

legumes was 25 per cent on smaller farms and about 18 per cent on the largest ones. One quarter of the improved land, on average, was in summer-fallow.

In the whole prairie region of western Canada some 36,500,000 acres are devoted to grain growing and only 3,300,000 acres to cultivated hay and pasture which are soil building crops. This is so even though soil fertility, and erosion, are becoming increasingly serious problems. Large areas in the west continue to practice "extractive" farming, without returning essential elements of fertility and improvement of soil texture.

In the past decade of good moisture years the need for extending proper farming practices and conservation methods has not seemed so urgent as when farms were blowing away in the drier 1930's. But if, as most of the experts seem to think, another dry cycle is on its way, their worth will be quickly apparent, as will the wastage of poor practices and heavy grain cropping without returning anything to the soil.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Mr. Tom B. Rees—Mission Service Saint Paul's tonight.

By intervention in the inter-provincial bus jurisdiction case this Province may be a party to the last Canadian case to come before the Privy Council.

We are assured by Major Peake that the girls' pipe band at the Legion convention in Montreal was not a "stunt band" in any sense, but an excellent musical organization led by a former Islander named Stewart.

There must be something amiss in our religious life when both the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church and the chairman of the United Church at Ottawa declare we are merely nominal Christians, living in a surrounding of paganism.

Canadian military are coming back into the list of royal honours as evidenced by the names published yesterday. It was a mistake in the first instance, the Canadian parliament going on record against Canadians participating in such signal recognition by the head of the State.

It is not necessarily an offence to take a sun bath on one's own farm. No prosecution can ensue without the authority of the Provincial Attorney General, it has been ruled by the Quebec Supreme Court in a case where a farmer was charged with nudism.

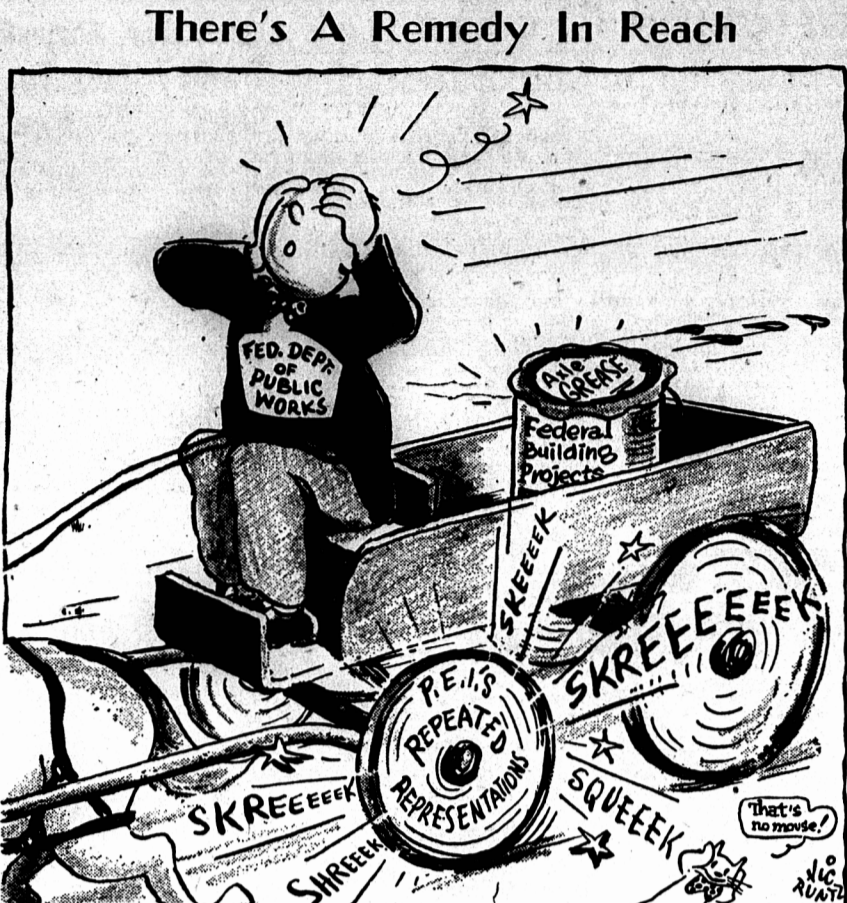
The cost of living is down four or five points except in so far as potatoes are concerned. The farmers do not mind that, and hope that other of their produce will attain a worthwhile marketable value, including butter, cheese, dairy produce, butcher meat and pork, not to mention livestock generally.

"D" Day, 1944. The allied landings in Normandy began at 2 a.m. with mass airborne paratroop landings, two American divisions, two British and one Canadian division further east to hold the left flank on the River Orne. Some 4,000 ships and thousands of smaller craft supported by more than 640 naval guns transported the troops.

You can have too much even of "a good thing", declares Republican Eisenhower, and asserts the Democrats have outlived their usefulness as a government. He also animadverted on the Democratic corruption and maladministration due, he claimed, to being too long in office! He certainly opened his campaign for the Presidency in a fighting speech.

Both the Government and the House of Commons are evidently wholeheartedly behind President Donald Gordon in his herculean endeavour to put the C. N. R. on its financial feet. It is not often that the House exhibits its approval so demonstratively as it did when Mr. Chevrier introduced his bill to reorganize the government-owned railway on a paying basis.

The House of Commons was discussing tax changes, Mr. Chester W. S. McLure (PC-Queen's) asked Finance Minister Abbott what provision was made for the "sub aqua" farmer. The minister looked puzzled. What, he demanded, was a "sub aqua farmer?" Mr. McLure patiently explained that it was oyster farming. It wasn't fishing, and had never been so regarded—at least not in Prince Edward Island. Mr. Abbott was certain that under the act the sub aqua farmer would be treated exactly like any other fisherman. He was still dubious about the term. Mr. McLure protested. The Minister rose to make a further explanation. As he did so, he tipped over a tumbler of water on his desk and was caught in the cascade. "The minister", declared Mr. Gordon Graydon (PC-Peel) "is sub aqua."



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.

AN IMPOSITION

Sir,—I would like to draw attention of chairman of the Street Committee, City Council, to a very unfair imposition upon pedestrians by those more fortunate who own or at least drive, motor cars. In no other city in Canada, I venture to say, is it more glaringly done than in Charlottetown, and it goes on regularly without any attempt at correction. The complaint has reference to the manner in which cars are parked along the streets, overlapping the sidewalk in many instances, the full width of the walk and in every case from a quarter to fifty per cent.

If sidewalks of present dimensions are not required for pedestrian use why not build them narrower and save money on original cost and subsequent repairs?

Cars pull up for parking, and especially where curbs have been removed, tuck in their rear ends to protect against damage from passing motorists, but at the unfair inconvenience of passers-by who have to weave in and out along an uneven frontage at their peril. It is bad enough to get bumped on the shoulder by upright parking meters when one comes abreast with a couple of lady pedestrians, advancing arm in arm, and fall to break and fall in line at such crossings, without, at the same time skinning one's shins on protruding car bumpers. Is there not some civic provision that can be applied to eliminate this menace to sidewalk traffic?

I am, Sir, etc., A VICTIM.

PAYING FOR TARIFFS

Sir,—In my opinion the following from your Editorial Notes is right on the target, and I'd like to be rich enough to have these few lines embossed in green-and-gold on a black background and hung in a conspicuous spot in the business offices of Quebec-Ontario: "Canadian dairymen need not be surprised at the lack of enthusiasm for their programme of price support by the propagandists of the industrial provinces. The entire economy of these provinces was built up and is presently supported by the system of tariffs designed not for government revenue but as outright aids or subsidies to the industries of these Provinces..."

Of course my Prairie West is many a weary mile—let's call it 2,000—from your dynamic Island home; but to indicate that this is still one "Dominion" and that P. E. I. has no copyright—but should have friends—in the above plea, I suggest that we could supply a "plaque" of our own, to balance or "pay" with the above, thus:

"Professor Norman Rogers, in a memorandum prepared for the Royal Commission Economic Inquiry of Nova Scotia, estimated the enhancement in prices in the three Prairie Provinces owing to the tariff, in 1931, as follows: Manitoba, \$29,185,740; Saskatchewan, \$29,228,285; Alberta \$27,909,398; a total of \$86,323,421, of which the major part must have fallen upon the farm population. The cost of the tariff to Western Canada in the last 30 years is certainly not less than \$1,000,000,000."

"Snake, podner! And not because we are far apart, but in the hope we do something about it! I am, Sir, etc., FORMER WESTERNER. Toronto, Ont.

IT'S THE HUMIDITY

LONDON — (CP) — Research workers looking for ways to ease the wash-day burden believe the steamy warmth over the wash-tub may tire housewives more than the physical effort. They recommended that doors and windows be left open where possible.

The Poet's Corner

THE TENT OF NOON

Behold, now, where the pageant of high June Halts in the glowing noon The trailing shadows rest on plain and hill; The bannered hosts are still, While over forest crown and mountain head The azure tent is spread.

The song is hushed in every woodland throat; Moveless the lilies float; Even the ancient eaver-murmuring Signs only fitfully: The cattle drowse in the field-corn's shade, Peace on the world is laid.

It is the hour when Nature's caravan Bears the pilgrim Man Across the desert of uncharted time To his far hope sublime Rests in the green oasis of the year, As if the end drew near.

Ah, traveller, hast thou naught of thanks or praise For these fleet halcyon days? No courage to uplift thee from despair Borne with the breath of prayer? For these to thee the lilled field once more? God stands in His tent door.

—Bliss Carmen.

Good Going

(The Times, London)

No one knows, perhaps, who first gave the advice to go while the going is good. Nor does it really matter, but it is good advice for all that. Thousands of people who have never seen Miss Jeanette Altweg and know little or nothing of figure skating will feel a profound sense of relief on hearing that she has decided to retire. She makes her bow when a-tiptoe at the highest possible point. No more could be said of her, as of Bonnie Lesley.

She's gone like Alexander To spread her conquests further. There was no further to go. She had won the championship of her own country, of Europe, and of the world, and these feats she has now consummated with her Olympic Gold Medal. Nothing could add a single brick to her four-square tower, but sooner or later something, might have chipped one off it to spoil, even if ever so little, its triumphant symmetry. Now, when the going was supremely good, was the moment to go.

It is now twenty-two years, a year before Miss Altweg was born, since another unconquered champion made a similarly wise decision. In 1930 Mr. Bobby Jones won the Amateur and Open Golf Championships, both of our country and his own, and left his record for later generations to try vainly to equal. Surpass it they never could. His Boswell, that admirable writer the late Mr. O. B. Keeler, coined for his achievement that phrase "The impenetrable quadrilateral," and Miss Altweg's supporters seem to be fully entitled to borrow it for her fourth triumph. To retire from the field of victory at the age of twenty-one may seem regrettable, and indeed the world of skating will obviously be the poorer without her, but it must be remembered how fierce is the strain, mental as well as physical, of competition on Olympian heights.

It is something which most athletes and game players can in the nature of their far humbler accomplishments only guess at. Indeed, some of them never appreciate it, thinking that it must be "all very capital." The strain does not grow less with success, but greater; reputation is a heavy load for the least self-conscious to carry. Miss Altweg must be, as the

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

IN THE WEST

"Under the heading: Some 'boney' lads from the 'land of herring', the Daily Manitoban, published in Emerson, Man., has the following complimentary note: 'The editorial den was enlivened this morning by the advent of a party of good-looking Prince Edward Islanders to wit, Messrs. Wm. C. Hobkirk, D. A. McDonald, Alfred Beer, C. H. Coles and D. A. McQueen, all of Charlottetown. They have come to make their fortunes here, and we trust they will succeed. Previous to their departure from the Island the quintette of immigrants were given a farewell dinner in the 'friendship' The Manitoban also quotes a few of the verses composed by Finlay McNeill, Esq., on the departure of these young gentlemen." —The Examiner, April 20, 1883.

Americans say, a great competitor, but the will to win must be sated at last. It is pleasant to think of her as not retired from the ice but disporting herself upon it, carefree, with no thoughts of points or judges, her only ambition to enjoy herself.

Robin Hood

(The Listener)

Mr. W. H. Walker, a Yorkshire antiquary, has recently worked over some old records in the royal household accounts of Edward II (they were first noted 100 years ago) and he has discovered some entries in the Court Rolls of the Manor of Wakefield which seem to throw light on the old legends. He has demonstrated, with a fair degree of probability, that a certain Robert Hood of Wakefield corresponds neatly with the outlaw described in the oldest version of the legend, that is, the ballad called "A Lytell Geste of Robin Hood." Our man was born about 1285, the son of Adam Hood, a forger, and lived in the town of Wakefield from 1308 onwards. In 1316 he married a certain Matilda, and in 1322 took part in the rebellion of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, against King Edward II. After the Earl's defeat, Robert was outlawed and (we may suppose) took to the greenwood.

One episode in the ballad tells how the King came to Nottingham and decided to reconcile the bold outlaw. He visited him in disguise, exchanging buffets with him in a boxing match, shared his feast of stolen venison, and persuaded him to come to Court. But not for long! Robin slipped to return to the greenwood, slipped away, and resumed his lawless life for two and twenty years.

And there, sure enough, in the records is the account of the progress of Edward II through the north country. He travelled all around Yorkshire enforcing the Forest Laws, and came to Nottingham in November 1328. After that—for six months—the name of Robert Hood appears as one of the king's yeoman-keepers at Westminster. In December, 1324, as it says in the household accounts, Robert would work no more. One feature of this tale, that bears the stamp of truth, is the character of the King. Edward II loved low company, and this was just the kind of thing he would have done.

If we admit, for the present, that Robert Hood of Wakefield is the man we are looking for, what difficulties will it lead us into? First, the objection that there are other Robins in the field, and in one or another Yorkshire record of earlier date, than the Wakefield entry. In fact, one gets the impression that every highway thief was a Robin, or a "Robbersman," in the 14th century, just as every policeman was called a "Bobby" in the 19th. In the latter case we know why they were called after Robert Peel, the great Home Secretary. In the former case, were they all named after Robert Hood, the outlaw of Wakefield? Well! Perhaps!

Notes By The Way

The Windsor Star says Canada is "peculiarly free of dialects." Then what about the folk who call Toronto "Trotto," Bramford "Branfard," Windsor "Winsor," and Canada "Canna" and address their public remarks to "lays and gemmen?" — Brantford Expositor

Tariffs protect many important industries, but the American consumer pays the bill, whether it is to protect the tuna industry, the safety pin industry or the cheese industry. No one wants competition if he can avoid it, of course, but the costs of no competition are considerable, and they should be taken fully into account as the demand for protection grows. If every producer is to be protected we must build an iron curtain of our own — and it would prevent exports as surely as imports. — Washington Post

A pre-war project of an international peace garden in the Thousand Islands section of the St. Lawrence River might well be revived, says Mr. George Fullford, member for Leeds, suggested in the House of Commons. Such parks give visible form to the friendship that exists between Canada and the United States, are helpful in giving lessons in citizenship and good neighborliness to children and adults of both nations, and are among the most worthwhile recreation schemes that could be devised. — Ottawa Citizen

Marcel Tailon is a refreshing character, a man who delights in unconventional travel. The other day Marcel passed through Brockville on foot pulling a small luggage wagon. This cheerful French Canadian had already walked all the way from Montreal and was bound for the city of Windsor; a walking tour of some 565 miles. Here is a man who is not in a hurry, and that's rather unique these days. Monsieur Tailon of 36 years and 180 pounds averages about 10 miles a day with his wagon and is quite content to reach his destination in Windsor by the 15th of July. — Brockville Recorder and Times

"Private" is a title of long tradition having been in common circulation at least since the sixteenth century. Lately the fashion has been to name men more by their function as with Signalmen, Craftsmen, Gunners and Sappers. The system has not quite been carried to its logical conclusion, although there would seem to be no harm in having Brannmen for the Intelligence Corps, Pullers for the Dental Corps (or should it now be Fluggers?), and perhaps a Bookie or two in the Pay Corps (which in the private soldier's view, must make as handsome a profit as his own — and it would prevent exports as surely as imports. — Manchester Guardian

Many of us work too hard at enjoying ourselves. When we have finished a day's gainful work, we set out on a program of other work — committees, meetings, sports and pastimes which send us to bed exhausted. From many of these pursuits we derive no real pleasure at all. Upon many committees we sit merely in order to oblige friends who in return sit on committees to oblige us. We engage in things which we do not really care about in order to win reputations as "good citizens." Would not many of us be better off to choose one or two things that give us true satisfaction, and confine our energies to those? We may be busy at present, but are we happy? — Peterborough Examiner

In Lake Superior the eels have made their appearance but in apparently much smaller numbers than in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. The News-Chronicle was talking to a north shore fisherman a few days ago. Asked about his work he said catches were much below those of a few years ago. Asked further if eels were to blame he seemed disinclined to put all the responsibility on them. He had seen a few wounds on trout taken in the nets that indicated the fish had been attacked by the parasites but he had never seen any of them. It was his opinion the eels, if on the fish when netted in deep water, released their hold as they were drawn toward the surface, possibly by change in temperature or water pressure. — Fort Arthur News-Chronicle

The Age-Old Story

And it came to pass, when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities.

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