

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, FEB. 23, 1950

Highway Service Proposals

The question of co-ordinating bus, rail
and truck transportation under railway
management is dealt with in full in the brief
submitted by C. N. R. Vice President Robin-

son to the Provincial Government and in the
Government's reply, appearing in today's
Guardian.

As indicated by Premier Jones, there
can be no question that the proposed sched-
ules would mean a decided improvement in
railway services in this Province. The Govern-
ment, however, is rightly concerned over
the possibility of our people becoming en-
tirely dependent on C. N. R. transportation,

in the event of local bus and truck oper-
ators withdrawing their services.

There is also the question of jurisdiction
as between the Board of Transport Commis-
sioners and the Public Utilities Commis-
sion of the Province, the Government being
by no means convinced that, in the event
of the proposed schedules resulting in the
withdrawal of the present services, the sub-
stituted schedules would remain subject to
the provincial authority. The reference to a
parallel case in Ontario, where this issue
has been raised by the railways, is very
much to the point.

Until this highly technical legal question
is resolved, the Government does not feel
justified in either accepting or rejecting the
C. N. R. proposals. This leaves the next
move up to the railway. An obvious way of
meeting the difficulty, would be for the
railway to make their own arrangements
with the private bus and truck operators.

This was suggested at the preliminary con-
ference by the Government, but it does not
appear to meet with railway approval.

Much as our shippers and citizens gener-
ally appreciate the co-operation given by
local railway officials at all times, and the
present desire of the higher officials to
remedy matters, they are decidedly against
returning to a condition of railway mono-
poly over our transportation services. Nor
do they want interference from any Fed-
eral authority in the matter of our roads
and highways. Improvement in railway
services is much more likely to come
through competition than monopoly, as we
know from the sorry experience of every
Government in this Province since Con-
federation in fighting for our transportation
rights.

The Happy Warrior

The Windsor Star remarks that we are
witnessing, albeit from a distance, a great
warrior's last campaign. Win or lose, it is
most unlikely that Rt. Hon. Winston Church-
ill, now seventy-five, will lead the Con-
servative Party in another general election.

This grand old man of Britain, rejected
by the British people in 1945 and, in a
personal way, in earlier elections more than
once during his 50-year political career, is
waging a stalwart fight. Age has withered
some of the energies of his youth and mid-
dle age, but he has thrown himself into the
campaign with all the energy he possesses.

That is the only way he knows how to fight.
Physically he may be weakened, but his
spirit is unimpaired.

To date he has not exhibited much of
the commanding eloquence that brought him
renown. There have been relatively few
perorations in his speeches which are peace-
time counterparts of his famous wartime
passages. This may be because domestic af-
fairs never have had the appeal to his im-
agination as have international affairs—par-
ticularly during the years of the two World
Wars. His emotions always have been more
deeply stirred by world problems, and his
wondrous usage of words has been a com-
bination of great intellectual and emotional
ingredients. And there can be little ques-
tion but that his place in history will be de-
cided as a world statesman rather than as
an English politician.

If he wins this last campaign, he still
will be a great influence in international af-
fairs. If he fails, he can devote the re-
mainder of his years to his writing and to
his hobbies. From the viewpoint of poster-
ity, his most important contribution in this
postwar period may be his writing the
history of a period in which he has played
such a paramount part.

EDITORIAL NOTICES

Our pig population, the finest in the
land, increased by 17,100 over the preced-
ing year. Now to find a profitable market
for the surplus.

Wonder if Rev. Dan McIvor, M.P. for
St. John's, will accept Mr. McLure's in-

itation to visit here this summer and study
the scientific production of certified po-
tatoes. Mr. McIvor has in his constituency,
a bachelor farmer who produces 750 bushels
to the acre.

The weatherman seemed to take sides
with the striking American coal miners
these last few days. The widespread sub-
zero temperatures must have caused a
worse hole in supplies than even the pro-
longed three-day week.

Hope springs eternal in the M.P.'s breast.
There can have been few successful pro-
moters of a Private Member's Bill at Ot-
tawa in recent sessions, but still they try
against pressure of Government business
and Opposition criticism.

U. S. congressmen are considering
whether Marshall Aid should be extended
into its third year after 1952. By that time
Britain will just be getting on her feet. Other
European countries will just be getting
started on the road back.

Canadian servicemen are being allowed
to enter Alaska without U. S. customs for-
malities as being "distinguished foreign vis-
itors". With that acknowledgement, all
ranks of the Canadian army should be en-
titled to a salute anywhere.

This admonition comes from the Ottawa
Journal: "Summerside, in P. E. I., is cele-
brating the inauguration of the dial phone
system. Take it easy. You never know
how many thumbs you have until you start
doing your own dialing. Those pleasant-
voiced operators weren't so bad, it seems to
us."

Transport Minister Chevrier emphasized
recently that the railways must be free
from financial difficulties to "ensure a
healthy rail transportation system." On
the other hand there are countless industries
which depend for their continued good
health on receiving the benefits of low cost
transportation.

To be or not to be, begun this spring, is
under discussion at Ottawa in reference to
our proposed new Federal Public Building.
It is claimed that though occupants have
been given notice to quit by April 1, some
of the owners have not yet had their claims
for settlement adjusted. Delay in be-
ginning building operations will affect the
unemployment situation in our midst.

Congratulations are in order to the
Scoutmasters who have attained high rec-
ognition of their services from the Canadian
Chief Scout, and the boys who have at-
tained distinction and honors in connection
with the Navy League essay awards. To
these there may be added Rev. Lawrence
E. Toombs, who, though he has not yet con-
cluded his university post graduate career,
has been appointed a professor in St. Ste-
phen's College, Edmonton.

Sir Edward Williams Elgar, English
musical composer, died this date 1934. Was
professor of music at Birmingham Uni-
versity. His more important compositions
include overture "Froissart" (for Worcester
Festival 1890), suite, "Scenes from Bavarian
Highlands", and short overture, "Lux
Christi" 1896; he attracted wide notice with
"Scenes from the Saga of King Olaf" given
at the North Staffordshire Festival in 1896;
"Caractus" for Leeds Festival, song cycle,
"Sea Pictures" for Norwich Festival; in
1900 came his finest work "The Dream of
Gerontius" Norwich Festival for which he
was made Mus. Doc. of Cambridge; at a
three days "Elgar Festival" at Covent
Gardens his overture "In The South" was
first heard. His other works include "The
Apostles" and "The Kingdom" oratorios.
He was knighted in 1904, and received the
Order of Merit in 1911.

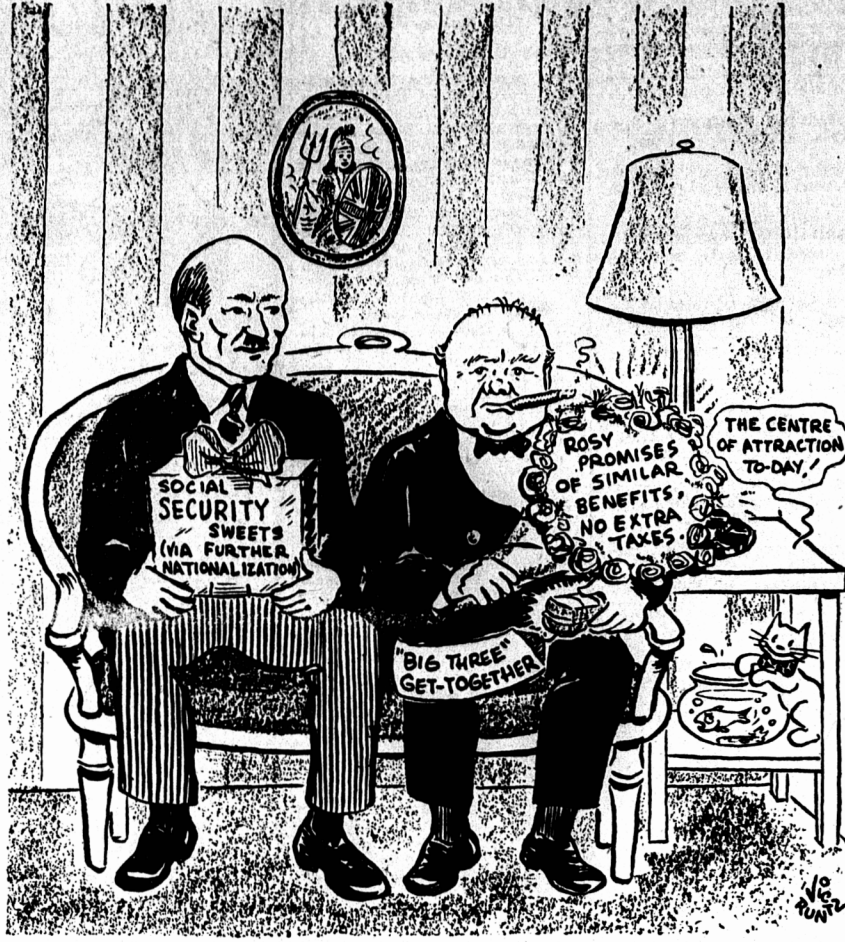
Following drama festivals in the four
western provinces, the regional winners
were named. British Columbia—The play
"Noah", presented by the Everyman The-
atre of Vancouver. Alberta—Workshop 14
of Calgary captured top place with their
presentation of "The Rivals". Saskatche-
wan—The Canadian Legion Players of Regina
were named regional winners for their
production of "Present Laughter." Mani-
toba—L'Avare, presented by Winnipeg's
Le Cercle Moliere group, was the Manitoba
winner. These regional winners will not,
necessarily be invited to compete in the
final festival. Invitations will be extended
by Western Canada executive members of
the D. D. F. when they meet in Calgary on
April 2, and will be based on the report
of the regional adjudicator, Maxwell Wray.
With twelve regions participating, and only
eight plays in the finals, the competition
is keen. Mr. Wray, the very popular Eng-
lish actor-producer, has met with great en-
thusiasm from his Canadian audiences. He
commenced his duties on January 16 and
will continue adjudicating regional festivals
until the end of March.

The Age-Old Story

He shall feed His flock like a
shepherd; He shall gather the
lambs with His arms, and carry
them in His bosom; and shall
gently lead those that are young.

WIRELESS MILESTONE
The first Marconi telegram was
sent to Canada in 1906.

Awaiting Her Answer



The Poet's Corner

CHORUS FROM 'TOMPEY THE GREAT'

Man is a sacred city, built of mar-
vellous earth.
Life was lived nobly here to give
this city birth.
Something was in this brain and in
this eager hand.
Death is so dumb and blind, Death
cannot understand.
Death drifts the brain with dust
and soils the young limbs'
glory.
Death makes women a dream and
men a traveler's story;
Death drives the lovely soul to
wander under the sky.
Death opens unknown doors. It is
most grand to die.

—John Masendorf.

Keep Lord Alexander

(Ottawa Journal)
Reports persist that Prime Min-
ister St. Laurent will ask Lord
Alexander to stay in Canada for a
second term. As already said in
these columns, we trust the re-
ports are true.

Whoever it was thought of Alex-
ander as Governor General in the
first place had a stroke of inspira-
tion; it was something to secure
for Rideau Hall the man who, in
the opinion of some, was the finest
soldier of World War II. Yet the
thing might have turned out in-
differently, or even badly; great
soldiers often are too stiff, some-
times too stuffy.

Neither stiff nor stuffy has been
Alexander. Just the contrary. Gra-
cious, simple, a sportsman to the
core of him, he is as much at
home with the common crowd as
with pomp and circumstance;
he makes himself liked by people be-
cause he shows clearly that he
likes them.

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PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the
discussion by correspondents
of questions of interest. The
Guardian does not necessari-
ly endorse the opinion of
correspondents.

MARCO POLO AGAIN

Sir,—While calling on a friend
here recently I noticed an article
by Captain John Read in your is-
sue of the 17th in which he gives
his version of how the Marco Polo
came to be beached on the North
Shore of P. E. I., and which seems
reasonable enough to any one who
has sailed in square-rigged ships;
but he overlooked two things the
Captain of the Marco Polo might
have tried to save his ship.

It seems he was not acquainted
with the North Shore line of the
island, and therefore he should
have signalled for a pilot who
could have piloted him into some
port or harbor for shelter; and as a
last resort, if he could not obtain
a pilot, when he found himself
getting in shallow water he could
have let go both anchors, which
might have kept her off shore until
the wind shifted.

I am, Sir, etc.
J. H. DOUCETTE
Chalk River, Ont.
(Formerly of P. E. I.)

Beaverbrook's Advice

(Globe and Mail)
Lord Beaverbrook is on sound
ground when he writes in his Lon-
don Daily Express:
"The Canadian economic situa-
tion can only be satisfied if Brit-
ain in her strength, remains the
market for Empire produce, on
which Canada's farmers depend al-
together. . . Canadians have come
to realize this to the fullest ex-
tent by reason of the very eco-
nomic troubles by which Britain
has been beset for the past five
years of Socialist rule."

An unfortunate combination of
circumstances, in addition to Brit-
ain's economic troubles, has con-
tributed to the situation which
Lord Beaverbrook notes. Some of
these circumstances have been
made in Canada—specifically by
our own Government. Our own
people tinkering with uncoordi-
nated and often mutually destruc-
tive controls has made worse a
situation which was bad enough
by reason of Britain's postwar
shortage of dollars.

Our policy of dealing with the
war debt of Britain to us also had
a distinct effect toward worsening
our export situation. Beginning in
1943, the United Kingdom has
been repaying non-interest bearing
war debts to us at an accelerated
rate. The total in 1942 was \$700-
000,000. For the three years of
1946-48, inclusive, repayments to-
talled \$287,000,000, which compar-
ed with an estimated export of
bacon and eggs by us to Britain,
on a cash basis, of \$249,000,000.

It was during that period that
Britain's dollar shortage became
very acute, resulting eventually in
last year's complete loss of our
bacon and egg contracts. In these
three years our policy of "cash-
on-the-barrel" for both debt re-
payments and these two food
items weakened Britain's dollar
position by around half a billion
dollars. At the beginning of this
year Britain had an unpaid war
debt balance to us of about \$300-
000,000. Delay in collecting that
amount would restore the hold of
these two food items in the Brit-
ish market without causing a
tremor in Canada's financial situa-
tion.

The lessons of the past few
years, if correctly read, surely
must have shown both Canada and
the United Kingdom that our eco-
nomies are complementary to the
extent that each is essential to
the other. Whatever planning may
be needed in either country, no
policies should obscure the facts
that Britain needs our food and
we need her market. When that
relationship is broken both suffer.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

MARKET ACCOMMODATION

"A stranger on entering Queen's
Square, and comparing our cost-
ly Colonial Building with the
Market House, must feel surpris-
ed that the representatives of a
purely agricultural people should
provide such splendid accom-
modation for themselves, and
leave the sledges of their con-
stituents to be preyed upon by
hungry cows, and themselves, their
wives and daughters, to market
their produce without accommo-
dation or shelter, exposed to drench-
ing rains and inclement blasts. In
short, our Market House is a
disgrace to both the Island and
its capital, and seems likely to
continue so, unless some move is
made in the matter . . ."

The present Post Office might
be made the north wing of a
building to extend towards Stamp-
er's corner, where another build-
ing of similar architecture, form-
ing the south wing, would make
an excellent warehouse for the
Agricultural Society. The space
between would afford ample mar-
ket accommodation. The rear of
the building should, like the Mar-
ket House in other places, have a
colonnade, under which carts
could be backed against a plat-
form. A space further back of
sufficient size should be enclos-
ed within which carts or sleds
might be drawn up. A large cel-
lar, extending under the whole of
the building, would form an ex-
cellent bonded warehouse for the
Excise Department, while the
whole space above the market
could be converted into a Town
Hall, affording ample room for
public meetings, agricultural
shows, industrial exhibitions, &c.
Such is a short and imperfect
outline of what your committee
considers the market accommoda-
tions for the farming population of
this Island should be."

—Report of the Agricultural
Society for the year ending 30th
March, 1854.

METERS WELL FED

BRANDON, Man. — (CP) —
Parking meters on Brandon streets
were fed 1,400,000 coins during the
17-month period ending December
31, 1949. The coins totalled up to a
revenue of \$21,757.

CIVIC TAX APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that
the Board of Appeals from
Civic Rates and Assessments
has set Tuesday, March 7th,
at 10:00 A.M. in the Court
Room in the City Building,
as the time and place for
hearing appeals from such
Civic Rates and Assessments.

J. A. FULLERTON,
City Clerk.

NORTH AMERICAN LIFE
L. S. STEVENSON
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Notes By The Way -

If research workers are about
to endow the average man with
the capacity for greater longevity,
it is time that the philosophers
and the educationists provided
with quality of mind to endure
this long experience in the flesh,
and with vocations and hobbies to
appear and satisfy this restless
and inquiring faculty. — London
Free Press.

George, the big male giraffe at
the Zoo, Regent's Park, died last
week of old age. He was seven-
teen. Bought in Kenya in 1935,
George was seventeen feet tall.
Recently he had been showing
signs of age, and for a few days
before his death had not seemed
very well, but he became serious-
ly ill only just before he died. He
remained in the Zoo throughout
the war and appeared quite un-
concerned at the bombing.—Lon-
don Times.

Government snoopers seem to
be having themselves a time
these days, judging from a num-
ber of news items picked at ran-
dom. For instance, in magistrate's
court at St. Catharines, Ont., the
other day an 89-year-old man was
charged with failing to file in-
come tax forms. The income tax
people did not even bother to
show up in court to present the
case for the Crown. Defence
counsel promptly termed this "an
abuse of the processes of the
court," but the magistrate refus-
ed to dismiss the charge. Now
the aged man must take the trip
to court once more, until auto-
crats of the income tax branch
decide to honor the court with
their presence. — Sherbrooke Re-
cord.

Even in the larger cities, there
are abandoned churches. Many
of these originally were situated
near the centre of the commu-
nity. Industrial or commercial
areas developed around them.
People moved farther out, and
didn't want to come downtown.
Some churches became surround-
ed by slum or other undesirable
conditions. As cities continue to
grow, the process which has taken
place in rural Ontario will be
repeated, and is being duplicated in cities.
The problem then arises as to
the disposition of the property. —
Windsor Star.

Notoriety has its compensations.
The people of Waterton, for in-
stance, didn't enjoy themselves
particularly when they found they
were snowbound for more than
two weeks, but now they are get-
ting quite a kick out of the ex-
perience as they read about them-
selves in the numerous newspa-
pers which reported on their plight.
The same goes for many of the
people of Southern Alberta. The
cold has been annoying, but now
that we're almost used to it we're
getting quite a morbid thrill out
of it. Remember the Winter of
1949-50? Why, stranger, I can re-
member how even the icicles
shivered. — Lethbridge Herald.

The Canadian Broadcasting
Corporation carried an overseas
radio broadcast the other night
in which two Labor Party sup-
porters and two Opposition party
members engaged in debate. The
debate was on the subject of so-
cialism and nationalization under
the Labor government and was
prepared specially for broadcast
to Canada and the United States.
Canadian listeners were some-
what surprised at the claims
made by the Socialist supporters
who dwell at some length on the
splendid recovery "under the
Labor regime. They were sur-
prised because the government
spokesmen never made the
slightest reference to the assist-
ance given under the Marshall
Aid Plan by the United States to
to the aid given by Canada. —
Sudbury Star.

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