

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. CIRCULATION Total City Zone 3,464 Retail Trading Zone 8,420 All Others 861 Total Net Paid 12,745 President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. 'The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink'. CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, JAN. 22, 1952

Our Forest Wealth

In discussing the two million dollar harvest of pulpwood from Prince Edward Island woodlots last year, Chief Forester J. F. Gaudet points out that while from the monetary profit it is impressive, from the conservation standpoint woodlot owners have detracted greatly from the Island's wealth. At an average of 20 cords to the acre, 6,000 acres of woodland have been cut over. If this cutting had been done properly, by taking only mature, crooked and dying trees, it would have improved growing conditions and insured the future of the woodlots for succeeding generations. On the contrary, however, by following the age-old practice of clear-cutting, most of these 5,000 acres have been laid waste. Chief Forester Gaudet rightly adds that "if our forested land is not kept productive, the farm owners and everyone else will suffer."

This was the reason for imposing a limitation on the cutting of woodlots without permit from the Provincial Department of Industry and Resources. While there has been some criticism of the Department's action, surely our farmers generally must realize that it is the only policy that will prevent the total destruction of our remaining forest wealth within a comparatively few years. Far from being an excuse for ignoring this fact, the prevailing high prices for wood make it all the more desirable that this source of income be not unnecessarily depleted.

Every Province in Canada is becoming concerned over this conservation problem. A Toronto exchange points out that in southern Ontario, the great hardwood forests of pre-settlement times have almost all been cut down. Some authorities have estimated that up to 8,000 square miles, or 3,120,000 acres of waste land in that section, might profitably be returned to forest.

It notes also the progressive action taken in New Zealand, where the largest man-made forest in the world, of 1,000 square miles, has been created. The New Zealand forest is largely of pine of the type growing on the West Coast of the United States. It is about to be made the basis of a \$30-million pulp, paper and saw-mill enterprise which, operated under principles of silvicultural management, will be able to run in perpetuity, with an anticipated production of 100,000 tons of newsprint, 10,000 tons of other papers and 10,000 tons of pulp every year. The newsprint production alone will supply New Zealand's entire needs and leave more than 30,000 tons a year for export. This is, of course, small beside Canada's enormous production of 5,525,000 tons of newsprint last year; but New Zealand's output will remain as a continuing asset in that country's economy.

In this Province our pioneer ancestors were concerned with clearing the forest as a necessary step in agricultural development. Today, the situation is quite different and what remains of our woodlands should be cropped and replenished with the same care that is given to other sources of production. Apart from their own value, of course, trees are essential in preventing soil erosion, which is already a serious problem in some areas.

Oil In Saskatchewan

It will take some time to establish whether or not the new oil discovery at Fosterton, in Southwestern Saskatchewan, indicates the existence of a major field. Nevertheless, notes an exchange, the discovery is of prime importance. For it offers the best evidence so far that high-grade oil is available in commercial quantities in the middle prairie province.

Almost all previous discoveries in Saskatchewan have been of heavy oil, of the kind found in the Lloydminster fields, which is used either for asphalt or locomotive fuel. The lighter oil discoveries were of insufficient flow for commercial exploitation. The new Prairie Roseray No. 1 well near Fosterton, however, appears to be suitable for gasoline production and to be available in large quantities. Moreover, the discovery was made at a moderate depth of about 3,100 feet, slightly less than the oil pool at Redwater and considerably less than that at Leduc.

In the area of the Fosterton well, the Saskatchewan government holds most of the mineral rights. Yet the CCF government's policies have been generous enough to induce many private companies to ex-

plore the field. Discovery of medium oil by the Socony Vacuum Exploitation Company should encourage others to enter the province.

According to reports issued before the new find was made, provincial officials expected that during 1952 the oil industry would spend about \$30,000,000 on oil exploitation in Saskatchewan. On the basis of exploration costs in Western Canada during 1951 (about \$200,000,000) the share Saskatchewan hoped for was small in comparison with that of the other provinces. As a result of the Fosterton find, Saskatchewan can reasonably expect a larger portion of the oil industry's funds during 1952.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Astronomers now tell us that half the universe's material floats around in space in the form of dust. Even before the discovery it did not seem particularly stable.

Evidence continues to pile up of the effectiveness of fluoridating the water supply as a method of reducing tooth decay in children. Of its importance there can be no question.

Captain Carl Burke, a man of foresight, initiative and action has put the Province well to the fore on the air map of the world. His achievements mark him out as an outstandingly successful Islander both at home and abroad.

David Garrick, English actor and playwright, died this date 1779. He gave up law and the wine trade for the stage. He did much to restore the original form of Shakespeare's plays and introduced many reforms and improvements in the English theatre. His Drury Lane theatre eventually triumphed in a long rivalry with that at Covent Garden.

Behind the "Iron Curtain" they are pretty busy still turning out munitions of war. The Soviet Press announces the iron and steel production plan fulfilled its 1951 quota before the end of the year. This meant a rise of 4,000,000 metric tons over the previous year and that Soviet steel output now is more than 30,000,000 metric tons annually.

Evidently several British newspapers think they have enough on their hands with the King's intended visit to South Africa, and Princess Elizabeth's and Prince Philip's visit to Australia, without having a Royal romance in the case of Princess Margaret and Lord Dalkeith to look after as well, so they are discouraging interest in the romance in the meantime. Perhaps on the return of the King and Queen to England something further may develop; let us hope so any way, for all the world loves a lover as well as the bride.

Cautious Premier Angus Macdonald, while acknowledging that the Federal Government's latest financial proposal to the Provinces would materially benefit Nova Scotia in the first year, has his grave doubts about subsequent payments should a slump in trade set in. It is better now to investigate this phase before the Provinces put their signatures to a deal which might react detrimentally later. Most economists and financial experts consider that Canada has started out on the most prosperous era of its existence, but there may be setbacks, and the financial arrangements between Ottawa and the respective Provinces should be such that the latter should not be the losers.

This apropos of what Premier Jones said about more work. The forty-hour week has made entertainment, not work, the chief pursuit in North America. St. John Telegraph-Journal points out that there are 8,760 hours in a 365-day year. Allowing for 50 weeks work each year, eight hours sleep each day, one hour each day for personal details, and one and a half hours each day for meals, the 40-hour worker has this schedule:

Table with 3 columns: Activity, Hours, Per cent. Dressing, washing, etc. 365 4.166; Meals 547.5 6.250; Work 2,000 22.831; Sleep 2,920 33.333; Leisure 2,927.5 33.418

Some time ago The Guardian called attention to the wonderful record of Dr. R. J. MacDonald, of St. Peters—93 years of age and 57 years in active practice as a physician—and suggested that the Canadian Medical Association might well consider honouring him in a formal manner. Many newspapers across Canada have republished our editorial on this subject, including the Moncton Times, the Fredericton Gleaner, the New Glasgow News, the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph, the Toronto Star, the Windsor Star, the Ottawa Journal, the Kingston Whig-Standard, the Sudbury Star, the St. Thomas Times-Journal, the Niagara Falls Review, the Fort William Times-Journal, the Lethbridge (Alberta) Herald and the Edmonton Journal.

On Second Thought



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.

CANADIAN SWANS TO LIVE ON SEVERNSIDE

Sir,—During the Canadian Royal Tour the Princess Elizabeth was presented by the Dominion Government with three pairs of Trumpeter swans. The Severn Wild Fowl Trust, whose protected grounds are situated near Bristol, England, of which the Princess is an honorary life member, has been honoured by being asked to look after these rare swans. "It is the only species not at present represented in the collection," states the Trust. "The largest of all water fowl, the Trumpeter swan is the North American representative of the whooper."

I am, Sir, etc. H. V. HINDLE, Public Relations Officer, Bristol, England. (It will be recalled that the presentation of the swans was made at Government House in Charlottetown by the Hon. R. H. Winters, Federal Minister of Resources and Development, on the occasion of their Royal Highnesses' visit here.—Ed. G.)

ON BEING TOO SCEPTICAL

Sir,—The meaning of "gullible" is—being easily deceived by an untrue story. And being "skeptical" means, being incapable of believing a true story. We agree that it is important to know what is truth. There is only one source of truth, as there is only one Creator and upholder of the universe. He said, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." "I am the Way the Truth and the Life." He is the embodiment of truth. We have been "put on the spot" for writing on spiritual healing of the body. Some say this or that against it. A larger number simply ignore it. Even after being told of concrete cases in people they know, the mind still remains closed. It is easier to convince one who has already been made well in soul, for the curing of the body is just another step forward.

It would indeed be a splendid foundation for faith, just to believe that it is the will of God that all should be well and healthy. If we take one of the Gospels, say St. Mark's, we will notice that Jesus gave about half of His time to the curing of sickness. It showed that He hated sickness as well as sin. He gave us some nine Beatitudes: Blessed are the poor in spirit, the meek, the pure in heart, the merciful, the peace makers, the persecuted for righteousness sake and so forth. But He never said, Blessed are the sick and suffering. But He called it the oppression of Satan. The Book says that faith is the gift of God. That's true. But it is also true that faith can be developed. Seek it, as for hidden treasure. We must co-operate. Seek first the Kingdom of God and you'll find that "the Kingdom of Heaven is within you."

Some, at least of these ideas have been gleaned from Dr. Cliff's book "Lessons in Living". But we must pass on something to the well in body, some who may be a surprise to the doctors. We are kept in good health by the power of God. Believe this to be true and it will be. We do not borrow this idea. I am, Sir, etc. ARCH. MACKENZIE, Kensington, P.E.I.

The Age-Old Story

Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O Lord, according unto thy word. . . . Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.

Old Charlottetown

And P. E. I. RAILROAD FINANCING

From an address by the Hon. James C. Pope, leader of the Government, at a public meeting in the Drill Shed, Summerside, Jan. 18, 1951, called to take into consideration "the advisability of asking the Government of this Island to enter upon the immediate construction of a Railroad":

"Mr. Pope said he did not anticipate that a Railway measure would be carried on the Island without opposition; on the contrary, he expected that many would be determinedly opposed to its construction. He had that day personally felt the want of a Railway, having occupied two days in coming from Charlottetown, and suffering much fatigue. It was said that the project was mixed up with Confederation. This he (Mr. Pope) emphatically denied. . . .

"A Railroad can be built from Alberton to Georgetown for \$5,000 currency per mile. He had received two offers from great contractors, offering to build a line 120 miles in length for \$600,000 currency, half to be supplied by the Treasury, and the other by the company, the company to have sole control of the line, and to charge such rates as they thought fit. They were to have a preference dividend of six percent on their half, and the Government, at the expiration of twenty-five years, would be bound to buy the company's stock at 15 percent advance on its nominal value. This offer the hon. gentleman condemned as being too favorable to the promoters. . . .

"He had received another offer, which he read to the meeting. This party proposed to construct the road complete, rolling stock, stations, etc., for \$5,000 currency per mile, taking in payment properly secured Island debentures, bearing six percent interest and payable in thirty years. . . .

"One hundred miles of Railway would cost \$500,000. This would require \$30,000 annually to be raised as interest. A duty of 2 1/2 percent would represent half that sum, and the Railway would earn \$15,000 above working expenses. A sinking fund could be formed for the repayment of the capital. The surplus revenue, and the savings from road and mail service would, he considered, if funded, be sufficient to redeem the debentures at the expiration of thirty years. The mode of paying the contractors by debentures would save the Government all the expenses of financing. There would be no bank commissions, or anything of that sort, and there could be no jobbing. Mr. Pope felt fully convinced that we were quite able to build a Railroad on our own responsibility, without the most distant reference to Confederation."

The Poet's Corner

WINTER SOLSTICE

Here on the floor of my room is the turning point of the sun, Beyond the edge of the rug, not far from the book-shelves. The movements of earth and sun in the vastness of space Are focussed here, where the window looks south. Observing the universe, marks upon my floor, In this shaft of yellow light, the march of the seasons. The narrow oaken plank with the lozenge of oblong grain Is the place of the solstice. There the sun stands still For several days at noon — and there it turns To flow, so slowly, back again to On its way to the waiting corners of the garden. —Roland English Hartley, in the Christian Science Monitor.

Adding To The Pains

(Montreal Gazette). Those skilled in veterinary science have a rather sharp instrument for the relief of cows suffering from gaseous inflation. This instrument somewhat resembles a well-pointed skewer. As the cow lies in her inflationary distress, the veterinarian thrusts his instrument into her side. It is a harsh treatment. But the relief that follows is said to make it quite worthwhile. . . .

The Government has been following a very similar practice in attempting to relieve inflation in Canada. Taxation is the skewer. It is certainly not a pleasant instrument. It is reputed to hurt the Government more than it hurts the patient. But the drastic state of national inflation is said to allow of no other course of treatment. . . .

There is always some reason to question whether the methods of veterinary science can be suitably applied to the human species. And certainly there is reason to question whether the drastic use of the taxation skewer will really produce the relief that is needed.

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Notes By The Way

George Lang, of the St. Thomas Public Utilities Commission wants to preserve the name "Dominion" which the Ottawa Government is discarding by calling the Kettle Creek storage basin "Lake Dominion." That's the spirit, George. Let those fellows down in Ottawa know we don't agree with everything they do. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Montreal's traffic problem steadily becomes worse instead of better. Fresh aggravation is added almost daily to the snarling and congestion of traffic in virtually all sections of the city, to the sluggish flow of all types of vehicles into and out of the central downtown area, and to the jamming of principal traffic arteries through most of every business day. — Montreal Gazette.

The Queen is benefiting greatly from the rest and change at Sandringham. While the King was ill and, indeed, for some time before his operation the strain under which she was living was tremendous, and to her fell the task of keeping up appearances not only in public but before the members of the Royal family. When the King was at last out of danger it was noticed that Her Majesty looked very strained, and tired, but until she left London before Christmas, she still refused to spare herself in the matter of engagements and public duties. The King and the Princesses became very concerned about her health at that time. Now, however, she has been able to rest and relax and has thoroughly enjoyed entertaining her family house-party. — "From A Window in Fleet St.", Ottawa Journal.

Faced with necessity, there is no limit to man's ingenuity. Even if it entails using water from lakes to provide water for the creeks—and other uses. Prof. Aleksis Dreimanis, of the University of Western Ontario, investigated the disappearance of underground water in the Aylmer, Ont., district. As a solution he proposes artificial recharge of the underground area. He would store water from the Catfish Creek in gravel-filled pits and still-pools so it could soak deep into the soil and replenish the water supply there. If sub-surface water, due to heavy industrial demands upon it, continues to be pumped out, it will become less equal to the needs in

certain Ontario districts, it is not beyond possibility water will some time be pumped from our great lakes to renew underground supplies inland. — Windsor Daily Star. A good deal of attention has been called by the press to the transfer by his heir of a million pounds by the Duke of Marlborough; it is still perfectly legal in England for a man to give money to his son, and if he lives for five years after the gift, no succession duties can be charged on it. The Duke's gift is, in a sense, a wager with death; if he lives for five more years (and he is only 54 now) he wins his bet and the government loses a very large piece of swag. We hope the Duke wins his bet. Many hard things are said against inherited wealth, but it's a plain fact of history that families which have enjoyed a measure of ease for several generations have contributed greatly to the roster of able statesmen, scholars and artists. The Churchill family has done well by England, and means to go on doing so as long as it is allowed. Meanwhile it is preserving the alms of that continued service. —Peterborough Examiner.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Grid of professional advertisements including: Dr. John E. Sterns (Veterinary Surgeon), Gaudet & Haszard (Barristers and Solicitors), M. Alban Farmer (Money to Loan), Dr. W. R. Carson (Chiropractor), J. A. McGuigan (Barrister, Solicitor, Etc.), MacPhee & Trainor (Barristers, Etc.), Allison M. Gillis (Barrister, Solicitor, Etc.), A. Walthen Gaudet (Barrister, Solicitor, Etc.), Frederic A. Large (Barrister, Solicitor, Notary), J. A. Carruthers (Optometrist), J. S. Taylor (Optometrist), H. R. Doane and Company (Chartered Accountants), Randolph W. Manning (Other offices at Halifax, Moncton, St. John's, Amherst, Dartmouth, Kentville, Liverpool, New Glasgow and Truro), McDonald, Currie & Co. (Chartered Accountants).