

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1950

The Tyne Valley Grant

In the Legislature yesterday Hon. Dr. MacMillan, on a question of privilege, objected to an Ottawa despatch in The Guardian crediting Mr. Watson MacNaught, M.P., with obtaining a grant of \$7,000 under the Federal health scheme for the Stewart Memorial Health Centre at Tyne Valley. He said the Provincial Planning Commission, of which he is a member, and which acts in an advisory capacity, had received representations from Tyne Valley and had passed them on in the usual way to the Provincial Health Minister. After receiving the latter's approval, the requests are sent to the Federal Department of Health where they are finally approved. So far as the Provincial Planning Commission was concerned, they had had no request for assistance to Tyne Valley from Mr. MacNaught. If any credit is given it should go to the Provincial and Federal Governments, Dr. MacMillan maintained. He asked the Health Minister to corroborate his statements, which Hon. Mr. Matheson did insofar as the procedure in passing the grants is concerned. In this particular case, he interpreted The Guardian report from Ottawa as indicating that final approval of the Tyne Valley project has been given by the Federal Department.

To the people of Tyne Valley, who received through Wednesday's Guardian the news that their application has been approved at Ottawa, the question of apportioning the "credit" will seem a storm in a teapot. Mr. MacNaught, as the member for the constituency and one of the parliamentary assistants to the Cabinet ministers at Ottawa, may or may not have been responsible but at any rate he appears to have received the official information first, and promptly passed it on for the information of the people concerned. If he was overzealous in this respect, at least he showed a sound appreciation of the value of newspaper publicity. His example might well be followed by politicians nearer home, who sometimes forget the stepping stones by which they rise into public prominence.

Value Of A Spokesman

Yesterday's announcement about the railway wharf at Charlottetown is another proof, if proof be needed, of the value of organization when dealing with the Government. As originally reconstructed the width of the apron on the East side of the wharf was but 18 feet which made it a bottleneck in the movement of trucks to and from ships alongside and greatly increased the difficulty and time of loading and unloading. The Charlottetown Board of Trade, of which Mr. Walther Gaudet is the energetic secretary, took notice of the condition and pressed a vigorous campaign to bring the matter to the attention of the proper authorities. The fruit of their efforts is now in sight. Minister of Public Works Furnier has announced that an Order-in-Council has been made authorizing the additional work necessary to increase the width of the apron to 40 feet, which will greatly facilitate the loading and unloading of ships.

It is clear that under our system, Government is anxious to do the reasonable and proper thing but no government can be all wise and all seeing. The individual trying to influence matters of policy is at an almost hopeless disadvantage because it is the interests of groups, and the larger groups the better, that largely influences government action. Farmers' organizations, although primarily for other purposes, are invaluable in putting the farmer's case before the powers-that-be with reason and with weight.

A Success Tip

If you wish to be respected; if you want better-tasting food, and clothes that will make others sullen with chagrin at not being as well dressed as you—read your newspaper, says the Printed Word.

"Just read it. This is a short and painless process, for, unlike most school text books, your newspaper is devised to be quickly and easily read. And your newspaper costs you nothing, net. You make a profit on the deal, if you actually do read your paper.

"The profit comes in knowledge that brings respect, and brings more money too, for that wide range of commodities, like food and clothing, you can get with money.

"There are silly things in your newspaper. Politicians from time to time assert that there are inaccurate reportings of statements. Sin and suffering take up a

lot of space. But if you are one who reads his newspaper ably, you dodge through the traffic troubles, though pausing mayhap over a triviality, like Abraham Lincoln over a joke.

"You know a lot if you read your paper. You are the fellow in the crowd who knows when the House sits, when the tide turns, how The Rocket is doing, what's the matter with the Fair Deal, and where you can get a chair leg fixed. One who keeps on absorbing newspapers, breathing them in regularly, accumulates a lot of little and big bits that mount up to quite a lot of understanding about things. Will Rogers was that kind. He did not have the advantage of a college education. All he knew was what he read in the papers. The next time somebody complains that he never had a chance to get an education, set him on the highroad to success by staking him to a year's subscription to a newspaper."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Freight Rates Inquiry cost the Government \$4,876.60.

The Merrimac and the Monitor fought the historic duel in Hampton Roads this date 1862.

This may be said of the Jones Government, it is strong on bureaucracy. At present it has about 400 employees, and still adding to its numbers.

The sudden collapse of the debate on the Address in the Legislature came as a surprise. Evidently the Opposition had not its members lined up and in attendance, providing the Government with an opportunity which they were not slow to take advantage of to shorten the session.

Mr. Kickham, M. P. for King's, is to be commended for the initiative and aggression he is showing in suggesting remedies for the over-production of potatoes. This has been a long standing grievance which everyone interested recognizes, but so far nothing has been done to remedy.

A visitor here from Halifax over the week-end said it was a pleasure to come to a city where emphasis was not laid on unemployment. In Halifax, he said, there was gloom and discouragement because of the increasing numbers there of industrial shut-downs or knock-offs. We should learn to count our blessings.

Something a fellow fails to understand. Farmers for the last three months, and longer, have been getting less for their produce than formerly, yet the Bureau of Statistics states that the cost of living is still on the ascendant, due to "a sudden sharp rise in food prices." It seems to us farmers "get it in the neck" coming and going—at least in official statistics.

The truck road traffic is coming into its own, and helping materially to increase the prosperity of this Province. Direct contact with our best markets is of immeasurable importance to us. When our fishing industry expands, as it will, the truck service will prove of immeasurable advantage in facilitating production to markets. This was commented on by Resources Minister Cullen in his address in the Legislature.

The overcrowding of the city schools, necessitating zoning for W. K. S. and Prince Street is nothing new though it has reached a peak now. It is for the School Board and the City Council to get together and devise ways and means of relieving the situation. What is the use of insisting upon compulsory schooling unless we provide efficient accommodation where the children can be trained in decency, order and comparative comfort.

Five years ago, on March 9, 1945, the 4th Canadian Armoured Brigade fought its last engagement with the enemy west of the Rhine. On the morning of that date, the Lake Superior Regiment with a squadron of the Governor General's Foot Guards carried out a rapid encircling movement on the wood between Bonninghardt and Winnenthal. Ninety prisoners were captured without a single Canadian casualty. Then the Grenadier Guards, with a company of the Algonquin Regiment, mounted an attack on Winnenthal itself. This proved to be a tougher nut to crack. Early in the afternoon, the Lake Superiors and tanks of the G. G. F. G. joined the attack. After an all-night battle the enemy admitted that the combination of infantry, tanks and flame-throwers was too much and about 200 hard-bitten paratroopers surrendered. The 4th Canadian Armoured Brigade included the Governor General's Foot Guards, the Canadian Grenadier Guards, the British Columbia Regiment. The Brigade landed in France in July 1944 and fought throughout the remainder of the European campaign until final victory in May, 1945

Room For A Strong Representation



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.

POTATO DEALERS ORGANIZING

Sir.—So our friends the potato dealers and shippers of the Island have organized at last, or at least a group of them have. It is interesting and amusing to see that after all the cut throat competition and speculation which they admit has existed over the years, they have seen fit to concoct a Province-wide marketing association to prevent such occurrences in the future. This group representing about one hundred and thirty-five licensed dealers are also granting a special privilege to our Federation of Agriculture or our Island producers to have one member on their board.

Apparently after our farmers through their own organization along with producers in the other Provinces have taken steps toward righting this marketing situation, our friends, the very group that opposed price supports and help for producers last fall when our Federation and Government officials were pressing for some action, are now about to take over.

I hope our Government members, including those who are dealers, will wake up to the fact that farmers are organizing in earnest to protect their own interests. I am quite confident that when the results of the current marketing vote are counted, it will be shown that we have confidence in our own farmer directors and our Government to set up producer controlled boards. I think farmers have enough confidence in our own directors whom we have appointed ourselves to continue the start they have made and straighten things out in the interests of the whole industry.

What we need is a farm organization run and controlled by the farmers, working when necessary with the trade, but not dominated by it.

I am, Sir, etc.,
POTATO GROWER
Mt. Herbert, P. E. I.

OLD COINS

Sir,—I am interested in reading letters in your "Public Forum Column" from coin collectors.

I have a collection of 150 or more old coins, a number of them from European and Asiatic countries, including a number of half pennies, one dated 1830, and a Canadian cent of 1859, a number of P.E.I. cents (1414 a Big Oak) on one side dated 1871, a number of Newfoundland cents of 1864; besides the following older ones, an English penny of the reign of George III dated 1790. This coin was picked up in a field some years ago, the date and inscriptions are fairly visible. Another "Trade and Navigation" dated 1838. "Pure Copper Perforable to Paper" with Queen Victoria's head on reverse side. Another "One Centesimo" 1822 on inverse side. "Regno Lombardo Veneto" on reverse side. A "half penny Token" "Bank of Upper Canada" 1854. A New Brunswick penny 1854. A Nova Scotia penny token, Province of Nova Scotia dated 1843. A large American cent dated 1848. One coin, and one reverse side a split cod, underneath "St. John's, Newfoundland."

A number of old coppers such as "Speed the Plough", "Success to the Fisheries", "Ships Colonies and Commerce". Also one cent 1855 "Fisheries and Agriculture", and several "Self Government and Free Trade" dated 1857. Several "One Centemes Napoleon III, 1866, also a number of half pennies dated 1861 and many others.

I would suggest that the Charlottetown Library procure a list of those who have coin collections in their possession; until a Provincial Museum is erected. Quite often these coins are needed to be placed in the cornerstones of public buildings and churches by this procedure some of them might be available.

I am, Sir, etc.,
G. E. WADDY, L.
Wiltshire, R.R., P. E. I.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

INACCURATE BLUE BOOKS

The following complaint appears among the resolutions adopted by the House of Assembly in 1848 and subsequently embodied in an address presented to Her Majesty Queen Victoria:

"That the copies of the Blue Books laid before this House during the present Session for the years 1845, 1846 and 1847, being the first ever submitted to this House, are inaccurately filled up, defective in some instances in point of fact, and wanting in many important particulars necessary to enable Her Majesty's Colonial Minister to form full and correct judgment of the affairs of this Colony, and particularly of the amount of salaries received by some of its public officers, inasmuch as certain fees drawn by the gentlemen holding the office of Private Secretary and Accountant General in Chancery are in no wise referred to in either of the said Blue Books, and that the fees or emoluments given to the same gentlemen, who holds, and performs by deputy, the office of Clerk to the Legislative Council, do not appear; and under the reign of the Attorney General no fees for Crown prosecutions, appear in either of the said Blue Books; and that under the head of 'Returns of the Gaols, &c., question No. 20, which asks, 'Is there any insane person in confinement?' it is answered by the then Sheriff, Abercrombie Willcock, confined by attachment for non-payment of costs, is non-compos mentis, and should be removed to a Lunatic Asylum; whereas it has never yet been determined by any competent authority that the said Abercrombie Willcock is of unsound mind.

"Resolved further, That is the opinion of this House, that if the Blue Books continue to be drawn up in the same careless and inaccurate style as those above referred to they are calculated greatly to mislead, instead of inform the mind of the Secretary of State for the Colonies."

Press Censorship

(From The Washington Post)

More than one fourth of the world's populated area is directly subject to governmental censorship or other restraints on the free flow of news. Yet this dismal fact, culled from the latest semiannual world survey of news barriers by the Associated Press, by no means conveys the full impact of this kind of suppression. The whole populated world suffers from censorship wherever it is practiced.

In some countries, the Soviet Union and Egypt, for example, censorship is candid and direct, taking form of an official review of all dispatches before publication within the country or transmission outside its borders. But censorship is scarcely less effective and repressive in countries like Spain, where native newspaper men consider themselves virtually in the class of civil servants and foreign correspondents are held accountable for any "false" news they send out of the country, or in Turkey, where a newspaper can be punished for harming the "dignity of the nation." In South Africa recently, the Minister of Posts and Telegraph told foreign correspondents that "those who send reports of newspapers overseas landing South Africa... must not expect of me that all their reports will reach their destination." In greater or less degree, all such restraints tend to shackle the minds of men.

The free-press tradition of the Western democracies is a corollary to the premise that governments exist to protect the rights of individuals and derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. The press is conceived of, therefore, as a check upon the arbitrary exercise of power on the part of the government (a censor is an appropriate object of governmental censorship) and as an indispensable means of providing the governed with an informed basis for consent. A free press operates on the utilitarian assumption that truth will triumph over error in any unfettered conflict and that uninhibited expression, even of falsities, is a necessary means to the end of a mature and free society.

The Poet's Corner

WHEN SUN AND TIDES RIDE HIGH

(Dedicated to Spring)

The noon-day sun rides higher now, within the heaven's dome As it ascends with Spring's advent, up from the torrid zone And Southern skies from underneath the earth's equator line Where natives had the summer heat, while we had winter time

In Northern climes we used to know, with frigid air and snow And Arctic winds of icy blast, with frost—plus twelve below And drifts of snow in mammoth depths, of thirty feet or more That blocked the roads across the Isle, and banked the buildings o'er

When men were strong and women tilled, and children longed to see The signs of Spring that brought relief, to set the snow-bound free To roam the fields and country roads; to hear the robins sing On boughs and branch and baring ground, as sleigh-bells faintly ring

Their farewell to the parting snow, and chanticleer at dawn And to the kine a-mooing loud, because their calves were born; And equines' whinny in their stalls, when red Sal has her foal And young lambs gambol in their glees, out on a sunny knoll.

The stir of Spring is on the soil; its odor fills the air As carts and trucks and wagons clank, and plows with rusty share Move into fields along the roads, from middle to the shore Where brassy men, in oil-skin suits, sail seaward to explore

Where tides ride high and white-caps run, in hurricane and squall But o'er the deep and rocky slopes, where lobsters nether crawl Far from the banks along the coast, and from the sandy beach Where winds blow strong on Strait and Gulf; and seagulls dip and screech

Their bold defiance to the storm, that rages angrily In which they ride in wild delight, in joy so gratefully Where sail and motor boats race on, into the winds that moan For those who go down to the sea, far from their family home.

So let me give this man's salute, to Spring so near at hand, With new inspiring life for all, throughout our native land; That brought us forth to seek success, on land, in air and sea O'ercoming obstacles we meet, within life's destiny.

As we recall the fateful scene, on that first Easter Dawn Where hearts that had been lone and sad, are joyful on that Morn When shadows clear in rays of hope, that roll the stones away As man in God shall rise again, on Resurrection Day.

—Peter A. Reilly
Boston, March 5, 1950.

The Age-Old Story

And the Lord thy God will circumscribe thine heart, and the heart of thy seed to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

Notes By The Way

There seems to be a curious idea around that earmuffs of the more violent colors add charm to the appearance. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

No account of the personalities of this election would be complete without tribute to Mr. Churchill. He said in his final election broadcast that as he was reminded, he was an old man. When we contemplate his undimmed fire and energy in this campaign, we have to remind ourselves of it, or else we should not believe it.—London Express.

A reader brings in a clipping from the Midway Gazette. It says the Rotary Club in that village was sending a box to a man "who is serving a jail term in Guelph following a car accident and for whom, general sympathy is expressed." The lady thinks this sympathy is misplaced. The young man is in jail—but he is alive. He won't be in jail long. His car struck another car south of Fergus. There is no doubt who was at fault. Two of the three people in the other car are dead. The third, a young university student, has not recovered after two months.—Fergus News-Record.

A community revolves around its post office to a large extent and so when it was announced that North Bay is to have a new post office, it was big news indeed. Many citizens, for sentimental reason, will be loathe to see "the old post office go," because it has long been a landmark — and a rather handsome one at that — but there is no denying that more extensive facilities are badly needed. Nipissing's member of Parliament, J. R. Garland, has revealed that the Federal Government has appropriated \$100,000 to purchase a site for the new post office building.—North Bay Nugget.

The Ottawa Journal's sniff is just about audible at this distance as it observes: "The Sault Daily Star suggests we learn to 'winterize' the human body. Presumably against 'hospitalization'." Actually we had nothing so sombre in mind, but just shivers, coughs and colds. We share The Journal's distate for the use of such gobbledygookeries — hal — as "hospitalize" and "finalize" and so on, in place of simply, plainer and more descriptive Anglo-Saxon words. But we really can't see that "winterize" is a creature of such clumsy cross-breeding. We'll continue to admire from afar The Journal's solid contribution to the great cause of good English. In cases like this, however, we'll have to admit to it that, like Bul-

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PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for Bell & Mathieson, Frederic A. Large, K.C., John P. Nicholson, L.L.B., Matheson & Peake, Joseph R. MacMillan, L.L.B., MacPhee & Trainor, J. A. McGuigan, Palmer & Haslam, Dr. W. R. Carson, H. R. Coane and Company, and Neil W. Higgins.