

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1950

1775 And All That

At Lexington, Mass., 175 years ago was fired the first shot of the Revolutionary War, the war for American independence.

Warned by the alarm riders Paul Revere and William Dawes, the Minute Men of Lexington, some 70 strong, awaited the arrival of Major Pitcairn and his advance guard of 400 red coats.

In reply came the command of Captain Parker, "Stand your ground. Don't fire unless fired upon but if they mean to have a war, let it begin here."

Initial British success was succeeded in the face of heavy reinforcement of the Minutemen, by retreat through a hostile countryside to Boston.

Even at that time, the revolting colonists were not alone in their struggle. Many Englishmen, notably Charles James Fox and his followers, opposed the policies of Lord North and the King which led to the Revolution.

Diminishing Tariffs

The new Canadian customs tariff book will be published later this year. A book of more than 500 pages listing more than 1,600 items, it will not be a best seller.

The book tells the story of a diminishing tariff wall. Twenty-five years ago, only ten countries outside the Commonwealth enjoyed intermediate rates.

Canada's present day imports on imported goods are the lowest in modern times. Last year's figures have not been worked out but they compare with 1948 when the average duty collected on all imported goods, dutiable and free, was nine per cent.

Farm Prices And Costs

The rise of farm costs began to steady off in 1949. The index number of commodities and services used by farmers, published in January, April and August, 1949, by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, showed a peak (composite costs, including living costs) of 192.3 in August.

Farm wages have shown a tendency to drop during the past year. Daily wages of male farm help as at January 15 were down from the same date in 1949, though still up above 1948, except in the Maritime Provinces and Quebec.

Average values per acre of occupied farm land were still going up in all provinces except Quebec and Saskatchewan. The latter remained at \$24 per acre, the lowest in Canada.

by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at the beginning of March.

Meanwhile, the index of prices received by farmers for agricultural products for January, 1950, has been estimated by the Bureau of Statistics at 239.3, which compares with 246 last December and 257.7 in January, 1949.

EDITORIAL NOTES

When we are clear of storm windows and rubbers, Spring will be really here.

Classification is apt to be an arbitrary process but the Ottawa Citizen has established one based on observation. Small boys, that paper notes, fall into two classes—the clean and the happy.

The Russian request that Denmark grant her permission to establish a temporary base for salvage operations on an island in the Baltic reminds one of the proverbial Arab and his camel that wanted permission to put its head in his tent.

In France they are very much ahead of us in the public use of electricity. The Technical Services of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce have announced that street lighting all through the country is to be free. Fancy that.

In what are called the "dog days" when no one is doing anything newsworthy, editors are apt to look around for sea serpents or, more recently flying saucers. This retarded Spring is far from the dog days but it would seem that the absence of Premier Jones from the Province causes a similar dearth of colourful copy.

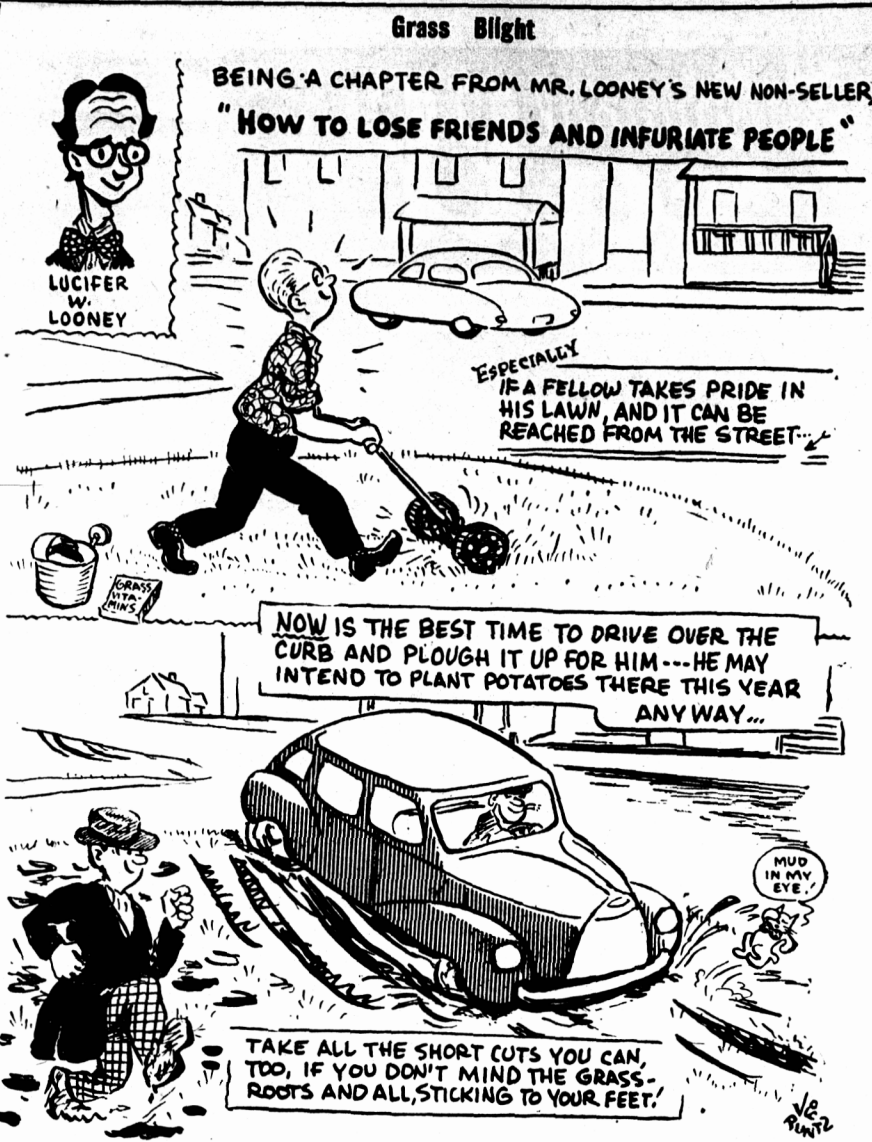
The great majority of car drivers in this Province learn to handle a car without benefit of formal instruction by a trained teacher. It would be difficult to devise a more dangerous instrument in unskilled hands than a high powered automobile, yet there is less attention paid to developing safe drivers than to the training of swimmers.

Montreal is reported to have the highest per capita consumption of fish of the 11 consuming regions of the country. If the conditions existing there of excellent communications, specialized handling and skilled preparation could be duplicated elsewhere, the consumption of fish products would make the problem one of supply rather than demand.

Over 900 boys of Harrow County School each received one pound of apples as a gift from the fruit growers of British Columbia last week. The Hon. Byron Johnson, Premier of British Columbia, was present to distribute some of the apples to the boys.

Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, died this date 1881. Successful novelist and dandy, he was unsuccessful as a Radical in politics. Returned as Conservative member, made disastrous failure of his maiden speech, but though shouted down was heard to say, "I will sit down now, but the time will come when you will hear me."

The recently published news that France has started to examine a plan for the construction of autostrada will give particular pleasure to those who are aware of the geographical importance of the country in relation to Europe, and especially to those who remain true still to certain values in civilization. Up till now, while indisputably possessing the finest system of major and secondary roads in Europe, France has as yet very few routes specially adapted to the motor-car and its needs.



The Poet's Corner

IN PRIZE
A ship was built in Glasgow, and oh, she looked a daisy—
(Just the way that some ships do!)
An' the only thing against 'er was she alius steered so crazy
(An' it's true, my Johnny Bowline, true!)

True Liberalism

MR. C. A. GLADSTONE
in the Times, London
My grandfather was four times Liberal Prime Minister. I am a liberal by birth and tradition, by instinct, and by conviction.

Mr. King's Papers

Canadians who are awaiting the publication of Mr. King's memoirs with much eagerness will naturally be interested in the announcement that 85 per cent. of President Roosevelt's personal papers, which total five million items, have now been opened to the public for research purposes.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

WHALE IN THE HILLSBORO

"On Tuesday last, the 21st inst., the son of Mr. John Ferguson, Lot 43, a lad of about fourteen years of age, whilst ploughing, was startled by hearing an extraordinary noise proceeding from Mr. Braedock's creek; upon going to investigate the cause, he discovered it proceeded from a monster of the deep, which was evidently out of its latitude, and in difficulty. He immediately ran home, when his father, with no other assistance than his son and a lad named McCormack, about the same age, went to the creek, made a raft of longers, and at once proceeded to the attack.

ATTENTION

ALL BREEDERS OF SHORTHORNS
We have inquiries for Bulls and Heifers open or bred. List immediately anything you like to sell with the undersigned.

The Age-Old Story

He looketh upon men; and if any say, I have sinned and perverted that which was right, and it profited me not; He will deliver his soul from going into the pit, and his life shall see the light.

COMPLETE VISUAL REFRACTION and ANALYSIS

G. F. HUTCHESON & SON
Optometrists
53 Grafton St.

Mr. King's Papers

Mr. King's position is different in many respects from Mr. Roosevelt's. For one thing, the oath of cabinet secrecy, if strictly enforced, may serve to keep some of Mr. King's papers under a seal of lasting silence.

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Mr. Churchill Eats Australian Oysters
By Angus Brammall
Live Australian oysters have been flown to most parts of the world. They have been relished in London by Mr. Winston Churchill and Viscount Montgomery, served to connoisseurs in California, and are being sent by air from Sydney to Asian cities every week.

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