

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, TUESDAY, OCT. 14, 1952

Those Horizontal Increases

It was hoped, following the report of the Tourgeon Royal Commission, that horizontal freight increases would be abandoned altogether as a means of improving railway revenues. The unfairness of this system of freight increases was clearly pointed out by the Commission. Unfortunately it did not suggest any legislative amendment, but stated that the Railway Act in its present form gives to the Transport Board ample power to deal with such matters. The following excerpt from the Commission report is worth recalling in this connection:

"The Canadian shippers and consignees who complain of the effect of horizontal percentage increases are (1) producers who are situated at a great distance from the markets they seek to reach and (2) consumers who are far removed from their sources of supply; and in some cases the same person or corporation may be both a producer and a consumer. Producers and consumers in the United States with its large population have the advantage of a great number of widely distributed market and supply centres. The long haul is less in evidence there than in Canada. In this country, on the other hand, it is noticeable to what extent Central Canada, that is the eastern portion of Ontario and the western portion of Quebec, has become both the market centre and the supply centre for the rest of the country. Hence the long haul and the adverse effect of horizontal increases applied without abatement over the full length of that haul. Hence also the inevitable result of the continuance of this flat horizontal increase policy: (1) a greater and greater concentration of industry in Central Canada (because freight rates are one of the factors in such cases), and (2) consistently rising prices for goods shipped to consumers in distant regions."

Inventor Of Canning

The expanding canned foods industry in Canada produces goods valued at more than \$200,000,000 per year. With canned foods generally taken for granted, a Federal Department of Agriculture publication does a good service by recalling that October 23 this year marked the 200th anniversary of the birth of Nicolas Appert, the man who made canning possible.

During the French Revolution, Napoleon found difficulty in supplying his troops with fresh food, so he offered a reward of 12,000 francs to the citizen who could find a method for preserving perishable foods indefinitely. Appert decided to carry out preservation studies in addition to his duties as candy-maker, brewer, distiller and baker. He had the theory that if food was heated and sealed in a closed container it would not spoil. He worked on this theory for 14 years and finally proved it. The reward was presented to him by Napoleon in 1805 and the "House of Appert" is still an important canning organization in France.

After Appert's discovery, the canning industry spread quickly to England, Holland and America. The early canners believed that the preservation of canned food depended upon the exclusion of outside air. It was not until 1860 that Louis Pasteur proved that microorganisms were the real cause of spoilage and that the heating applied during the canning process killed the organisms.

Although the canning industry is now highly mechanized, and bears little resemblance to the experiments of Nicolas Appert, this early investigator will always be rated one of the great "Benefactors of Humanity."

Problems In Japan

It is highly significant that in the first free election held in Japan since the end of the war, not a single Communist was elected; in fact, the Communist party lost the 22 seats it held in the last parliament. While Premier Yoshida's Liberal Party lost some 50 seats, it still was returned to power with a good working majority.

The election, in short, confirmed the Japanese Government's policy of co-operating with the west and, above all, of allowing United States troops on Japanese soil in a pact of mutual security between Tokyo and Washington. This was the central issue and on it Premier Yoshida won a substantial vote of confidence.

This does not mean, however, that Japan will now settle down to a serene and

untroubled period of co-operation with the west. As the Winnipeg Free Press points out, there is acute dissatisfaction in Japan with her present relations with China. Another disquieting symptom is the election of a hard core of right-wingers who were active in nationalist movements of a rather dubious kind before the war. If Premier Yoshida should lose his grip, these people will gain in strength and their doctrines will grow more acrimonious as they feel they can with safety drop the mask which they now are wearing for prudence's sake. They are the custodians of Japan's old nationalist traditions, with its mixture of military arrogance and industrial concentration, and they will not easily yield.

Premier Yoshida can only begin to be in serious trouble if Japan's trade is blunted and blocked by artificial restrictions by the outside world so that her huge growing population cannot find means of support. Then the challenge on the Right will grow; and there will be a revival of Communism. But in Japan it always is the Nationalist rather than the Communist challenge that is to be dreaded.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Prince Edward Island division of the Navy League which is holding its annual meeting tonight is the public's principal link with the naval services and particularly with the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps.

It looks as if the majority of Island Ayrshire herds will soon be dehorned. If the P. E. I. Ayrshire Breeders' Association agrees with the directors in the matter we will lose something in the matter of appearance but that should be more than compensated for by the reduction in damage which horns can cause.

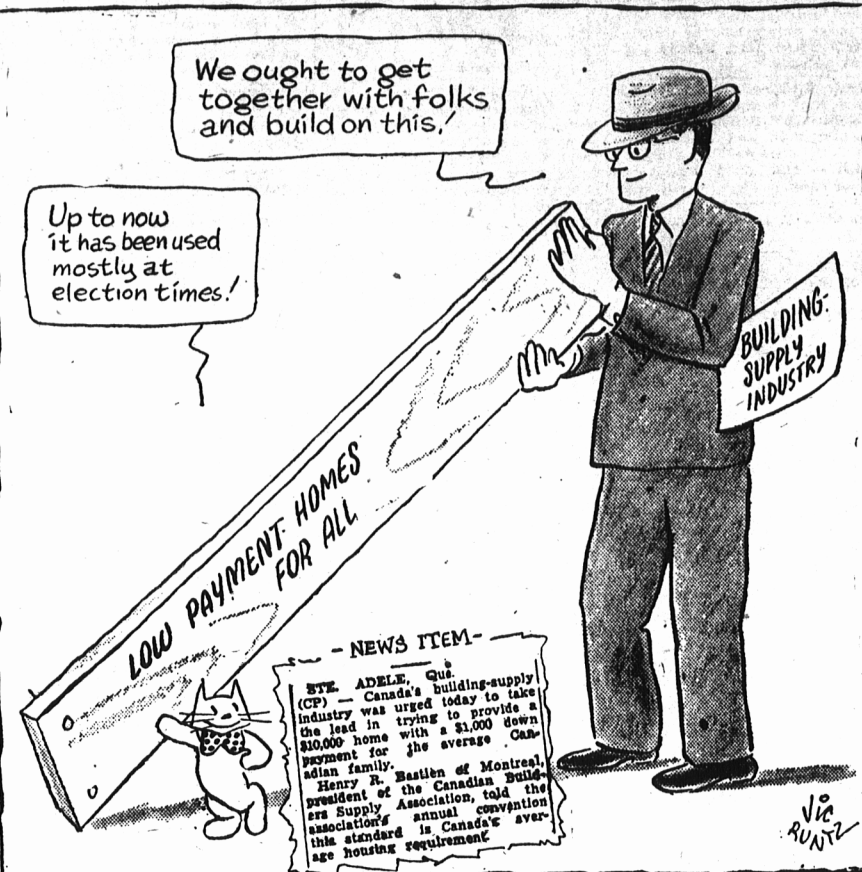
Although not a native of Prince Edward Island, the late Rev. Father Baines was very widely known and his genial smile and hearty greeting will be missed not only by his parishioners of the Holy Redeemer Church to whom he ministered so faithfully, but by all our citizens. His death is a reminder of the devoted service which is being performed by the members of the Redemptorist Order to which he belonged, and which has done so much for this community in practical as well as in spiritual matters.

Dwight David Eisenhower, American presidential candidate, was born this date 1890, of Swiss forbears who came to America before the American Revolution. Born and brought up at Abilene, Kansas, he went to West Point, graduating in 1915. He displayed a remarkable ability in training soldiers but promotion was slow until 1942 when his outstanding qualities were recognized by General Marshall. After the expulsion of Axis forces from North Africa, Tunisia and Sicily he was appointed allied supreme commander, Alexander being given merely the Mediterranean theatre. The success of the allied campaign was very largely due to Eisenhower's organising abilities and understanding of mobile warfare.

Business was down in Canadian co-operatives in 1951 for the first time since 1946, according to the just-published 20th annual summary of co-operation in Canada. Prepared by J. E. O'Meara of the Economics Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, the summary reveals that \$1,016,550,971 in total business was done by the 2,768 associations which reported (out of 4,211 known) representing a decrease of about \$23,250,000 during the crop year ending July 31, 1951. Sales of farm products through co-operative marketing associations were down by \$34,000,000 but sales of farm supplies and other goods increased by almost \$4,000,000.

Bertrand Russell, according to the Printed Word, claims that folk with the least security laugh the easiest. To support this he says that primitive people living in a jungle laugh even after a tiger has jumped out at them, providing he missed them. "These are people with no security; they just happen to be alive; and yet they are good-natured about it, according to Lord Russell, and carry on amusedly, poking fun at one another. If this is so, the present age should be one of hilarious laughter. Even with some security having been attained from some old diseases like small-pox and the like, and with pieces of paper stating that the recipient is entitled to certain sums of money, being rebates of part of tax money, the citizen of a modern state has plenty to laugh at. As the money drops in value while he claps it and bombs threaten him while he plans for the future, he can take refuge in the New Testament admonition to quit worrying. If he keeps smartened up and keeps trying, he can get along on the basis that the only security is a sense of insecurity. This is the sense of primitives and the early settlers here had too, roaring at a hoe-down, but with gun handy.

The Platform Plank



The Poet's Corner

WIND TODAY The wind today is woolly as an old fat sheep Bumping along white against green in the pasture lot. The wind is fat with summer, sleepy as a cow. It comes pulling after it smells of ripe apples And sun-brown hay, honeysuckle scents, And the black earth smell of corn Cracking its knuckles in the night Stretching itself. When it was spring This wind ran long-legged and bucky as a colt. In winter it will go Slam against the barn, It will roll clouds like snowballs. But today it is fat with summer, Lazy as cows munching elder apples. It cannot even move itself up off grass To bump together two puff-ball clouds Lying on their flat bottoms in a field of blue sky. —John Dillon Husband, in The Hopkins Review.

"Parrots V Libel Laws"

(Brantford Expositor) An interesting point of law has been brought to public attention in correspondence to The Times of London. Referring to an editorial in that esteemed newspaper, Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Asquith inquires whether a person can sue a man who trains a parrot to utter defamatory remarks about him. The eminent jurist even drafts a statement of claim as follows: "On or about August 21, 1952, the defendant, by his duly authorized parrot, published and spoke of and concerning the plaintiff, the words following, that is to say: '... His Lordship then says that the sulphurous expressions would be listed in their proper place. The correspondent asks a few questions which lawyers might well ponder in the event that they may be faced with a case of this nature. "Would an application succeed to strike out such a statement of claim as bad in law on the ground that a parrot cannot be an agent?" he asks. Then he answers his own question by saying: "Possibly, but the pleader's ingenuity would not be exhausted. He would probably be allowed to amend his pleading by treating the parrot as a piece of mechanism set in motion by its owner, much as a gramophone record containing a libel is set in motion when played through. If so, would the defamatory words constitute a libel or a slander? True, they are launched on that 'fugitive' medium, the air, and so far smack of slander, but are they not also embedded in a permanent medium — namely, the parrot (permanent, since I am told, they are capable of living up to 150 years)?" We cannot recall any case of this nature ever coming before the courts, but undoubtedly one has somewhere, sometime. It so, it would be interesting to know the court's disposition in the matter. Probably the parrot, in such a case, would be asked to perform in court so the charge could be proved. In that event, the courtroom might have its traditional dignity somewhat shattered. If the parrot's trainer could not be sued, there would be little satisfaction in suing the parrot. A benevolent court might turn the bird over to the plaintiff who would probably greatly enjoy washing its mouth out with soap — or wringing its neck! At least nine species of geese are recorded in Canada, best-known being the Canada Goose.

Good Sleep Helps Success In Studies

(Moose Jaw Times-Herald) Educationists are forever figuring out what is the matter with the boy or girl who happens to fail in examinations. There are almost as many theories as teachers or pupils, but none ever reach the conclusion that the teaching system may be at fault, and perhaps it is not. In an eastern city a few years ago, a member of the board of education hazarded the opinion that too many youngsters were going to school without breakfast. When the story first broke publicly it was taken for granted these were children of the poor, who could not afford breakfast, and that hunger gnawing at their vitals prevented that close application to study that would ensure success.

Investigation by the health department of that city disclosed the fact that children were going to school without breakfast, not because there was no food in the house or not time in which to eat it. These young people of the schools were out until all hours nearly every night at social functions of one sort or another, and were consequently not in a fit condition to study effectively, no matter how excellent the instruction imparted by the best teachers obtainable.

The children can no more burn the candle at both ends than their parents, without paying the penalty of their folly. The cause of failure may be traced in parental instances to want of parental control. There are so many things going on for the school children that many times opportunity for study is wholly lacking, and the result is that study is neglected for pleasure, as sleep is lost for the same reason.

The Age-Old Story

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: that thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him; for he is thy life, and the length of thy days.

STILL HAS BULLET

CAPETOWN (GP) — Edward Williams, 15, was shot with a real bullet while playing cowboys. The bullet landed in the sac around the heart but surgeons decided not to remove it since the native boy appeared fit and well.

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) CATHOLIC TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

"On the evening of Monday, the 24th of March, the members of the Roman Catholic Total Abstinence Society assembled at their rooms, in Pownall Street, at half past four, for the purpose of electing office bearers for the ensuing year.

"After the receipts and disbursements were arranged, and several new members elected, Mr. Richard Walsh, on motion, left the chair, and Mr. Hugh Hennessy was called thereon. It was resolved that a unanimous vote of thanks be given to the officers of the past year, for their zeal and activity. The vice president returned thanks on behalf of the officers, and commented at some length on the great benefits which temperance was calculated to bring on the Society and community at large, by strictly adhering to the principles of their pledge.

"The following persons were elected office bearers for the ensuing twelve months: Rev. Father Reynolds, president; Messrs. William Toole, vice president; Hugh Kelly, assistant vice president; Hugh Hennessy, treasurer; Patrick Gelligan, assistant treasurer; John Phelan, secretary.

"Committee — Messrs. Daniel Danelly, John Bowers, John Egan, Matthew May, James King, Patrick Doorley, Patrick Goughlan, Patrick Quirk, Robert Fowler, Arthur O'Neill, James MacCarroll and John Finnigan. "On Monday the 8th, at an early hour, the banners of the Society were seen flying from the windows of that spacious building on Dorchester Street, belonging to Dennis Reddin, Esq., and at 10 o'clock his Reverence the president celebrated High Mass, for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the members.

"At five o'clock, the members sat down to a splendid dinner, prepared by Mr. Patrick Gelligan. The room was tastefully decorated with the banners of the Society and wreaths of evergreens planted on platforms — all around, which brought home to the memory of every Irishman present the fond recollections of the land of their youthful affections."

—The Palladium, April 18, 1844

Notes By The Way

It looks increasingly as though the resolve to reduce taxes for election purposes may involve a definite purposeful interference with the defence program. Mr. St. Laurent's Government will have to conduct some neat political manoeuvring if it is not to appear both cynical and vacillating. — (Toronto Saturday Night)

Mr. St. Laurent has predicted a population of 35,000,000 for Canada by the end of the century. Mr. Walter Harris, in a speech in support of immigration, is more modest. He foresees from 25,000,000 to 35,000,000 by the year 2,000. But would it be remarkable for a country of Canada's size and resources to do no better than double its present population during the next fifty years? Newfoundland, a relatively small island of limited resources by comparison with mainland Canada and until recently a victim of chronic poverty, has been experiencing a population growth almost as great as that. We have about 360,000 people today. If the present rate of natural increase continues, we shall have more than 600,000 by the end of the century. — (St. John's Daily News)

A film was made of a six-inch gun crew during firing drill somewhere in Britain recently. When the film was shown it was noticed that the No. 6 man of the gun crew was standing stiffly at attention at the back of the gun, doing absolutely nothing. No reason could be found for this until a sergeant major of the Boer War recalled that No. 6 had been the man who used to hold the horses. So reports the Manchester Guardian. The No. 6 man was quickly assigned to other duties as a result of the film. We cannot help feeling that the military should be careful of making sudden changes of this kind. The first thing we know someone will want to take the spurs off the tank of officers. — (Winnipeg Tribune)

NORTHERN SETTLERS Grande Prairie, about 250 miles northwest of Edmonton, had its beginning about 1910 when first settlers arrived.

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