

THE GUARDIAN

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, FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1952

Poor Tactics

If a salesman were to act on the assumption that he could bully people into doing business he would very soon find that his products might just as well be labelled "poison". It is strange that a politician should lose sight of the elementary principle of psychology that voters are no different from customers in that respect. They do not like to be threatened.

Senator Grant, of course, does not have to test his popularity at the polls any more but even so his years of campaigning should have taught him caution.

The construction of a Federal building in Charlottetown is a necessary work if Government is to be conducted with efficiency. That is recognized both here and at Ottawa and there is nothing to be gained by threatening to delay its construction until voters in Queen's County knuckle under when the whip is cracked.

The fact is, of course, that priority depends upon a vastly different set of considerations, those of national defence, and it would be the part of prudence for the Government to give as clear an explanation of the circumstances as possible before Dr. Grant's ill-considered letter is taken to express the official opinion of the Administration.

Some Folks Get All The Luck!

Most Canadians have never heard of the Mayurakshi irrigation and hydro-electric project in West Bengal. Nor does mention of the Thal Development Authority in Pakistan strike any familiar note. Yet these are but two of an imposing list of construction projects the cost of which official Ottawa proposes to underwrite at the Canadian taxpayers' expense when Finance Minister Abbott brings down his Budget on April 8.

Let anyone wonder why the cost of building dams, hydro-electric stations and houses in India and Pakistan should be a charge upon the pocketbooks of Canadian taxpayers from Charlottetown to Victoria, it need only be recalled that such undertakings are to be paid for out of official Ottawa's \$25 million appropriation for the Colombo Plan. The theory underlying the Colombo Plan is that the spread of Communism in East and Southeast Asia can be seriously hindered by such economic and technical assistance.

The sincerity of official Ottawa's conviction that such a policy will prove effective is not open to doubt. The correctness of that conviction, however, is to say the least debatable. Here in the Maritimes, for example, folks would rather see their tax money spent on such projects as hydro-electric development for this section of Canada, the new ferry for the Wood Islands-Caribou service, the Canso causeway, the Federal Building, Armouries and Naval Barracks for Charlottetown, or a decent ferry service to New England. The \$25 million Colombo Plan appropriation would take care of some at least of these requirements, and leave something over to pay for the pet schemes of other provinces.

Whither Fortress Europa?

Little more than a fortnight ago the dramatic announcement flashed from Lisbon that the NATO countries had agreed on a six-nation European army and that fifty divisions would be ready to take the field by the end of the year. The enthusiasm evoked by this heartening news has since been considerably lessened by the refusal of the French assembly to foot France's share of the cost, and the consequent continuing cabinet crisis in Paris.

It would be easy to follow the lead of those who choose merely to berate France for her seeming failure to live up to her obligations in the matter of European defence. To do so, however, serves no useful purpose and tends merely to generate fresh animosities. Rather the situation calls for an objective appraisal of the circumstances which underly France's seeming defection.

Those circumstances, as even a superficial study will reveal, are economic. Nor are they peculiar to France. The United Kingdom and, to a lesser degree Germany, face similar problems in footing the rearmament bill. The United Kingdom, while not scheduled to participate in the European Defence Force as a member, is nevertheless a vital factor in western rearmament. Her economic resources are already strain-

ed to the utmost not only by military commitments, but also by the vast burden of social security costs bequeathed the Churchill Government by the socialists. Germany, too, is still far from being an active partner in the security of the West.

Two major considerations at once emerge from an analysis of the disillusionment that has surrounded NATO since the Lisbon conference. The first is, can or will western Europe support the great and costly scheme of defence drafted at Lisbon? The second is, if the answer is in the negative, are the people of Canada and the United States willing to assume the crushing taxation costs that would be implicit in shouldering a still larger share of the cost?

While it is possible that the NATO programme is too ambitious for some members to fulfil their quota, it is obviously necessary that the defence effort of the free world be as great as possible. To have another war start because of unnecessary military weakness at critical points would be to put it very mildly, bad economy.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tonight Schurman's School Parade holds the limelight at Summerside.

The Legislature resumes discussion of the Address today.

Parkdale problem is, where to find water and how to dispose of sewage? A water supply is essential in both instances.

If a speaker cannot retain the attention of his fellow members in a twenty or thirty minute speech, how can he hope to interest the people at large?

The City requires more and better school accommodation, but it has not yet been made clear how it can be provided. There is even grave difference of opinion on how the governing body should be chosen.

Amherst has been fortunate in landing a contract for \$2,500,000 through Canadair Ltd. for assemblies for aircraft. It goes to the Enamel and Heating Products Ltd., which made training aircraft during the last war.

No less than \$5,000,000,000 estimated for 1952-3, and not a dollar for Charlottetown's main public works projects, Federal Building and Armouries! It is not Charlottetown's fault that the Liberals did not support their nominee in the by-election, so why should it be made to suffer?

It is now claimed that the Senate vacancies will not be filled till the eve of the next general election, and that one of the appointees will be Mr. A. B. Mosher, President of the Canadian Congress of Labour to put him on a footing with Mr. Pat Conroy, ex-secretary of the organization who walked out to become the first labour diplomat at Washington.

The Federal Government is said to be favourable to a measure of decentralization of industries that would benefit the Maritimes and Prairies. It is contended that during war it would be unduly risky to have the main manufacturing plants all located in one or two centres. However, Hon. Mr. Howe has not made up his mind on the subject, and unless he gives it his "O.K." there will be nothing doing—at least for Prince Edward Island.

Robert Southey, English poet and historian, died this date 1843. At 24 he published an epic on Joan of Arc, followed by much miscellaneous writing. On the refusal of Scott he became poet laureate. His laudatory estimate of the king, "A Vision of Judgment", provoked Byron's magnificent satire bearing the same title. Southey's prose works include lives of Nelson and Wesley.

The Lieut. Governors of the 10 Provinces are now to be allowed "entertainment and travelling expenses" in addition to their salaries. This will be a godsend, to the Maritimes and Prairies especially, as unless a man had independent means he could not afford to entertain distinguished and other guests, or travel far from home in the style befitting his position. The sum of \$80,000 is in the estimates for this purpose.

"There comes a time when it is impossible to keep family quarrels from the neighbors. They may be passed off for a while with the insistence that all is well, or the excuse that it is really nothing but a little tiff. But when the parlor lamp comes hurtling through the front window and there is a sound of crashing furniture, the neighbors are apt to suspect that whether all is well in the family, it certainly is not peaceful." This, from the present issue of Saturday Night, does not necessarily apply to the Opposition in the local Legislature.

She's A BIG Girl Now!



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 PRICES

Sir.—In a summary of last week's markets on the radio farm program, the price of a 75-lb. bag of P.E.I. potatoes was given at \$4.40 to the retailer in Montreal. Some of the farmers on P. E. I. over this period have been receiving \$3.00 for a 75-lb. bag. Others have received less than \$3.00. The cost of potatoes delivered to the retailer in Montreal is as follows: Price to farmer \$3.00, cost of bag (75 lb.) .25, Loading cost .03, Inspection .004, Freight, heat, etc., from Tignish to Montreal .40, Commission to broker in Montreal .07, Total cost delivered in Montreal \$2.754. This leaves a profit of 64 1/2 cts. per 75-lb. bag to someone. I wonder just where that 64 1/2 cts. extra, that the farmer should be getting, goes. According to these figures the farmer should be getting approximately \$2.91 per bushel. Why are we not receiving this price? I am, Sir, etc., Elmsdale, P. E. I.

TEACHERS' QUALIFICATIONS

Sir.—The Government is to be commended for its plans to increase teachers' salaries and assistance to encourage greater numbers of young people to train for this teaching profession. However, with your permission I would endeavour to bring to the attention of members of the Legislature some other pertinent facts concerning some of the teachers of this Province. Members surely know that teachers who have had a second-class license for eleven years or more, obtained that license by attending P. W. C. for one college year. Members also know that during the present year there are seventy or more teachers who have comparable or better qualifications than these second-class teachers, but they are refused a license because their qualifications are not sufficiently high. Certainly such a situation is contradictory and confusing, but it does prevail. The point is this: If these qualifications are not high enough to warrant a license to the latter group of teachers, then why have the former group been privileged to retain licenses. Or, if the qualifications are high enough for the one to retain licenses, then why refuse a similar license to the other group with comparable or better qualifications? There are also grave inequalities of salary to these two groups of teachers. The one privileged to retain a license receives the statutory salary for that classification, while the group with a comparable academic standard, but not privileged to hold a license, receive from the Department a basic salary of \$400, plus \$75, duplicate supplement, less compulsory deduction of approximately \$45, for pension fund. Thus the net amount received from the Department would only be approximately \$430, per year. From this meagre amount the teachers must pay board for about forty-three weeks at a rate of at least \$7.00 per week, making a total of approximately \$300, to be paid for board. Therefore, from the salary paid by the Department the teachers would have about \$130, for a period covering one year, or an average of less than eleven dollars per month. Therefore, there should be a new system of classification for all teachers on a basis of similar classification for equal qualifications. I. e., one year beyond grade X, a temporary Grade I license; two years, Grade II; Three years, Grade III, etc. It should not be overlooked that if it were not for the service of unlicensed teachers during the

Old, Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

ICEBREAKER ADRIET

"The smoke of the 'Northern Light' was visible last night from Souris. It was probably caused by cooking operations, as she calmly drifted along the shores, surrounded by a pan of ice of very tiny dimensions." —The Examiner, Feb. 20, 1952.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE IN NEW YORK

Sir.—Surely all the leprechauns that ever inhabited the Emerald Isles were holding high holiday on 5th Avenue during the six hours' St. Patrick's Day Parade! They were heard in the joyous bag-pipes, their laughter was in the music of the fife and the beat of the drums. And they draped themselves in the streamers that poured from the windows of the tall buildings and danced in the strong winds that blew through the sun-gilded avenue. One hundred thousand sons and daughters of Erin marched gallantly to the music of such tunes as "O'Donoghue", "The Bould Soldier Boy", "Wearin' O' the Green" and the song of "O'Neill". More than a million watched and beat time to the music and whistled and cheered. The crowd loved all the marchers, but not even the thousands of school boys and girls and younger children who marched with their bands; not even the charming drum-major-ettes who stepped high over the green lines that had been painted on the avenue, received the ovation given to the Men from Galway and Derry, Armagh and Kerry and other Irish County organizations as they passed with their bright banners and killed pipers! Music and marching figures of cheer and laughter seemed to be blended into a marvellous pattern by the brilliant colors that flashed from capes and gowns, uniforms and kilts, plumed headgear, and shining musical instruments. Green of course prevailed, but it and the gold and scarlet, yellow and blue and purple that gleamed everywhere, turned 5th Avenue into a gorgeous mosaic. Two high points on the line of march gave meaning and dignity to the procession. The marchers looked with pride toward the Mayor and city officials when they passed the reviewing stand. They bowed in reverence to Cardinal Spellman, who greeted them in front of the beautiful St. Patrick's Cathedral. I am, Sir, etc., RUHAMAH SCHEINFELD FRANK

EDUCATION

Sir.—The young people on their way to school are loaded with books. Of the making of books there is no end and much study is a weariness of the flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. —Solomon. Another book right off the press is one by Fulton Oursler who is the author of "Why I Know There is a God" and "Father Flanagan of Boys' Town". But this one "The Greatest Book Ever Written" tells the Old Testament story as a previous one, "The Greatest Story Ever Told" treats on the "new". The author says that the last tells us about God the Father, the first about God the Son. The most cheering and best news on the subject is that the book is praised by the Jewish

The Age-Old Story

(And P. E. I.)

And the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God; and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. . . . And when it was day, the magistrates sent the sergeants, saying, Let those men go.

FERTILIZERS

Sir.—In my last letter to your Forum, among the eight major problems suggested, with which farmers have to contend, mention was made of the high cost of fertilizer, with the stipulation that farmers might probably solve this problem themselves. I would like on this occasion to expand a bit on the subject. Fertilizer is a combination of chemical nutrients, a plant food, without which plant life will not thrive or grow. It is used extensively the world over, to produce more abundant farm crops and other abundant production. It is used in this Province to replace the natural fertility of which many island farms have long since been severely denuded as a result of improper farming methods. It has been found to be a profitable investment from the point of view of increase in production, but whether it proves to be so on a dollar and cents basis, depends upon the price a producer receives for the crop he grows. During recent years it has progressively increased in cost, until today the price has reached a peak where it may well be termed exorbitant and the question arises as to whether the risk taken in purchasing fertilizer is not too one-sided when compared against the possibility of lower prices for farm crops six to eight months hence. That is one of the problems the average farmer has to face annually, gambling on the cost of his fertilizer. Why is the cost of these chemical ingredients continually increasing? I don't know, but I will venture to advance at least one reason. Fertilizers are used now-a-days on practically every grown crop, vegetable garden, berry plots, dry pastures, orchards, etc., to assure a more abundant yield as compared with former estimates, of not so many years ago, that its use was but a fancy fad, that soon

Notes By The Way

We apologize for the error which crept into type recently. The cost of living is not one of the items covered by the researchers' statistics which go to make up the cost of living index. Therefore, we should not state positively, as we did in a recent news column, that the cost of living has become less. —Peterborough Examiner.

Until the Vancouver aldermen stop haggling over such subjects as how many chickens should be kept in a backyard, and confine their efforts to establishing major policies, we are going to hear these walls that the City Hall has become a workhouse. Further, the city's business suffers from aldermanic preoccupation with trivialities. — Vancouver Province.

At Montreal two men were hanged for the murder of a taxi driver. Also at Montreal two men have been shot up and "captured", will go on trial in Toronto (if they recover) on a charge of bank robbery. Young fellows inclined to glorify criminals who get their names in the papers in large type note these events. The end of the road, for criminals, usually is sordid, miserable, and tragic. — Ottawa Journal.

Just about this time every year we "pale" persons who have stayed behind to brave the Canadian cold are looking with envy at the tanned faces of friends who have saved their vacations for a fling in Florida during frigid February. Our only consolation is the fact that we don't have to acclimatize ourselves to the cold March winds as do our less rugged pals who have been "softened" in the South. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

Canada is in step with other democratic countries in restricting the movement of Soviet diplomats. Those in Ottawa aren't to have that city without first informing the Department of External Affairs, which could refuse permission. The Soviet envoys can't complain. Democratic diplomats in Moscow long have been limited strictly in their travels, not being allowed to travel from that city without a special permit. The Reds can't complain on another count. The restrictions we are placing on the emissaries of the Kremlin aren't any more harsh than those the Kremlin places on its own people. Russians can't travel from their own villages without permit. — Windsor Daily Star.

There's nothing timid about D. H. E. Heming, CCF member of the Saskatchewan Legislature for Moose Jaw. He thinks his province should be extended to the North Pole. This, of course, would require

would pass away, or at least it was only for a special crop or cultivation. At that time these various chemicals could be bought at fairly reasonable prices. The quantities required today are so colossal that demand is exceeding supply and it seems a most appropriate time to advance the price, at least at point of origin. A second reason seems to be that farmers are using at least twice the quantity necessary, which it applied in a state whereby it would immediately become available as plant nourishment. And furthermore, it is generally used in "lump sum"—all at one "feeding" instead of at intervals throughout the growing season, as indications point out the plight requires. Another reason why thousands of tons of fertilizer are being annually wasted is because farmers are not sufficiently acquainted with their soil. They do not know its chemical content and generally the application of fertilizers is proceeded with in a more or less haphazard way. Extra chemical is thrown down to the ground, beyond what the growing crop requires, is of no advantage and before called upon by a subsequent crop, may have largely vanished. Frequent soil analysis is one of the most important practices that can be carried out on the farm, as the chemical content is subject to change from time to time. The average farmer should become at least slightly scientific in his farming program. It is not difficult. There are "aids" for such purposes, simplified so the ordinary "dirt" farmer can comprehend and put them into practical use. During the past few years the writer has made a rather intensive study of the use of chemical ingredients as plant food or nourishment and opinions expressed here, as well as in more extended bulletins form for free distribution, are based upon the experience and findings arrived at through research and experimentation by internationally recognized authorities, much of which should have been in practical use long ago by the farmers of the Province. My conclusions are that farmers can greatly reduce the cost of chemical fertilizers per acre by adopting a more modern method of usage and by acquiring knowledge as to what chemical assistance the soil requires in the treating of any crop. Furthermore, never over fertilize, under the false assumption the surplus will be fully recovered in a subsequent crop. I am, Sir, etc., J. A. GILLES

The Poet's Corner

HIGH AS THE MOON

Many things live in the mind, High as a stage of the moon; Shadow of print on a page; Edge of a tune.

This corner of street where we stood When blossoms were snow; The face of a girl and the doll In that window show.

Phrases and gestures unchanged For eons who return; Oak in the pattern that stirs; Flower and fern.

A kiss reaffirming its claim In the mind where it clings, Keen as the saber of star, As Progress of wings.

—Mario Speracolo

WE KEEP PLENTY of Perfection ICE CREAM



in our refrigerators

CIVIC APPEALS

All persons whose name starts with the letter L—M—N—O—P and Q, will be heard at City Hall

Wednesday morning starting at 9:30.