ISLAND NEWS PAGE
Summerside And Prince County
The Guardian, Charlottetown, Fri., Jan. 18, 1963. 3

ROAD CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY IN JANUARY

Ordinarily, a picture of highway construction is of moderate interest but, in this case, there's a difference. Rarely in January in this Province are construction firms able to operate because of deep snow and frost-locked ground. Yesterday, the Mt. Stewart firm of Douglas and MacEwen were at work on the St. Peter's Highway, eliminating a bad curve in front of Marshfield School. The job will continue as long as weather permits and, as well as straightening the curve, involves installation of a five-foot-deep drainage pipe more than 80 feet long.

HOTEL FIRE CASE CONTINUES

Defence Witnesses Say Hotel Rooms Had Ropes

SUMMERSIDE — The plaintiff Mamie Eleanor Higgins, Dartmouth, N.S., was the final witness in her behalf in the $75,000 action for damages against J.E. Dalton, Summerside resulting from the destruction of the Clifton Hotel by fire, March 14, 1961, in which three men perished.

Mrs. Higgins testified she is now living near Dartmouth and supports three children, two sons aged 14 and seven and a daughter, five.

Mrs. Higgins told the court she keeps boarders from whom she gets $42 per week and with this amount endeavours to feed all of those in the household including her family.

She stated she and her late husband had been planning to build their own home in the summer of 1961. They planned to build it themselves through the Nova Scotia Co-operative plan.

On cross-examination by J. Watson MacNaught, QC, Mrs. Higgins stated she receives $150 a month from the Maritime Telegraph and Telephone Company with whom her husband was employed at the time of death.

Prior to Mrs. Higgin's evidence the plaintiff's counsel called on Raymond McCarthy of Dartmouth, and Moncton Fire Chief Murray MacKie.

Mr. McCarthy testified he was the foreman of the line construction crew working in the Summerside area at the time of the fire and the late Earl Higgins worked under him. He said Mr. Higgins had been employed by the company for nearly five years and was a good worker and had the ability to be promoted.

He testified he was staying in Room 3 at the Clifton Hotel on the night of the fire. This room was located on the first floor. After being awakened by someone yelling and finding that smoke and flames blocked his path to the stairs, Mr. McCarthy jumped out the window, he stated. He saved several people who were hanging from the windows or shouting for help. It was revealed that as a result of his work Mr. McCarthy received two citations for bravery.

Fire Chief MacKie stated the minimum requirements for a hotel according to the Dominion Fire Prevention Code, are two exits above the ground or first floor at opposite ends of the building and should be clearly marked. The code also recommends an alarm system be installed to alert guests in case of emergencies.

OBJECTS STRONGLY

John P. Nicholson, a defence lawyer, strongly objected to Mr. MacKie's evidence. Mr. Nicholson said the questions being asked Mr. MacKie should have been asked the provincial fire marshal when he was on the witness stand the previous day. He objected to an out-of-the-province witness interpreting the laws to apply to Prince Edward Island. Mr. MacKie stated that fire ropes are not considered as a means of exit in any of today's fire codes.

The first defence witness to give evidence was Clarence DeForest of Salisbury, N.B., who was staying at the Clifton Hotel on the night of the fire. The witness stated he was in Room 12 with another man. He was awakened by a yell he stated after which he heard a rumbling noise. He got up and then heard the town fire alarm. He saw black smoke coming into the room around the door lock and opened a window.

He pushed the storm window out and threw some personal effects to the street below, he stated. He forced a mattress out the window, helped his roommate to drop down on the mattress and then dropped down on it himself.

He saw others at the windows shouting and two leaped down on to his mattress, he testified. Mr. DeForest went around to the front of the hotel, saw his coat hanging in the lobby and went in and got it along with several other coats and jackets hanging there.

The witness said there was a rope near an opening (a window or door) off the second floor corridor. In cross-examination by Gerald R. Foster QC, he stated he didn't see anyone coming down a fire rope at the front of the building.

Mrs. Ada Noonan, Summerside, a desk clerk at the hotel at the time of the fire said she worked on the night of March 13 until 10 p.m. She told the court of two ropes she was aware of on the second floor adding that the roes had been installed "a year or more earlier".

NOT INSTRUCTED

In cross-examination by Mr. Foster the witness said she was never instructed by Mr. Dalton to point out the ropes to guests when they registered, and there were no signs indicating these ropes. She also stated she had no instructions as to what she should do in case of fire.

Delor Arsenault, the night clerk stated he had been employed at the Cilifton "14 or 15 months" before the fire. He told of being instructed by Mr. Dalton to install ropes and related how he purchased ¾ inch rope and secured them to iron rings attached to the underneath part of the window casing. He said his duties included a patrol through the hotel several times each night.

Mr. Arsenault testified there were three furnaces and a jacket heater in the basement and stated these had been checked before the fire — although he hadn't seen them checked, but did see "a man going down the basement" to check them.

The witness said Kenneth Dorsey (one of the three men who perished in the fire) came into the lobby from outside around 12:30. He talked for 20 minutes or a half hour before going upstairs to his room No. 15. About a half-hour later a truck driver, Lorne Morrissey (of Vernon River, P.E.I., who also died in the flames) came in and asked for a room. No room was available but after phoning several places in town without results. Mr. Arsenault told him he could have the couch in the writing room.

Mr. Arsenault said he went down to the basement shortly after and put coal in the furnaces, and came back up to the kitchen and made an eggnog. He sat down on the sofa and on looking up saw smoke around one of the lights. He started for the basement and then saw smoke on the first floor. He went up the stairs and saw heavy smoke in the corridor, he testified, around rooms 4, 5 and 6.

He said he kicked open the writing room door where Mr. Morrissey was sleeping and shouted "fire". He went down to the lobby to phone the fire department but heard the town siren before he got to the phone.

SHOUTED 'FIRE'

He went back up shouting "fire" to the head of the steps on the second floor. He said he heard people talking and moving about in the rooms. He returned to the lobby, grabbed some of his clothes and money out of the cash register and went out to his car via the front door.

On cross-examination. Mr. Arsenault said he saw no ropes in the hotel when he went to work there in 1959. He said the drapes over the windows partly covered the coil of rope (about one-half). He told the court he took between five and eight minutes to make his rounds during his periodical checks each night. On query of Mr. Foster, Arsenault stated he had seen the exit on the bottom floor locked "a couple of times" while employed here.

The action was adjourned to reconvene at 10.30 this morning.

Acting for the plaintiff are Gerald R. Foster. QC, of Charlottetown and Merlin Nunn of Halifax. Defence counsel are Neil R. MacLeod, John P. Nicholson and J. Watson MacNaught, QC.

Mr. Justice R.R. Bell is presiding.

LATE NOTICES

(Also see announcements in columns adjoining Classified Advertising section.)

MacLEAN — Suddenly at Clyde River, Wednesday Jan. 16, 1963, William Allan MacLean in his 69th year. Resting at the MacLean Funeral Home. Funeral today, Jan. 18, from the Clyde River Baptist Church with service commencing at 2 p.m. Interment will take place in the church cemetery. Please omit flowers.

BARRASS — At his home in Wilmot, Thursday, Jan. 17, 1963, Rev. Dr. E.J. Barrass in his 74th year. Resting at the Bowness Funeral Home. Funeral will be held at the United Baptist Church, Summerside, Saturday, Jan. 19 with service commencing at 2 p.m. Interment will be in Peoples cemetery. Visiting hours 2 to 5 and 7 to 10.

MacEWEN — At Toronto, Wednesday, Jan. 16, 1963, Faye Ellis MacEwen, wife of Arthur MacEwen, Jr., formerly of Summerside, in her 26th year. Remains arriving at the Bowness Funeral Home this Friday afternoon. Funeral to be held at the funeral home Sunday Jan. 20 with service commencing at 2 p.m. Interment will be in Peoples' cemetery.

Erection Of Cabot Building Followed Big Fire In 1881

(Editor's note: The following historical sketch on the Cabot building now under demolition was prepared by T. E. MacNutt.)

The fire which destroyed every frame building on the south side of Richmond Street, from Great George to Queen Streets, also in the early morning of Wednesday February 20, 1884 destroyed the first brick and stone Post Office building on Queen Square, which had been erected in 1871 at a cost of $60,000.

Immediate steps were taken towards erection of a new Post Office building on the same site as the one destroyed by fire, and which is now being demolished, and the following information regarding it is taken from the Daily Examiner February 8, 1887.

"The new post office - The erection of this splendid structure was commenced on May 1, 1885, and the building was completed on the day upon which the contract expired, January 1, 1887. Previous to this latter date preparations were commenced for the letting of the various contracts for the inside fittings, furniture, etc. so that the different offices would be ready for occupancy by February 20, the anniversary of the fire in 1884, which reduced the old post office building to ashes. Our reporter visited the building yesterday afternoon, and was pleased to notice that the inside fittings were fast approaching completion, and that the different departments would be ready for their occupants between the 12th and 20th inst.

The building is constructed throughout in the strongest and most lasting manner, reflecting credit upon all interested. The foundation which is of Nova Scotia freestone, is very substantial. The wall between the surface line and the ground floor is of rock face and ashlar in large blocks of stone. The main walls of the ground and first floors are built of hard brick faced with pressed brick; while the windows, arches, string courses, cornices and other projecting finish is of brown Nova Scotia freestone, with a large amount of effective carving introduced in the panels, etc. All the main entrance steps are granite, and the entrance doors of oak. The roof, which is partly slated and partly finished with galvanized iron, is thoroughly fireproof.

The design of the building is a free treatment of Romanesque architecture, and depends for effect on solidity of construction which is expressed in deep ingoings at the side of the windows and doors, allowing the use of strong effect in powerful stone arches and by bold horizontal courses of stone running across the walls. As some of the principal fittings, etc. of the offices, have not yet been placed in position, we are unable to give a description of the internal arrangements at present, but will do so in a few days. We are given to understand that it is the intention of the Government to place a substantial stone and iron railing around the square enclosing the building in the spring, and that they have also promised to give Mr. Arthur Newbury every assistance in laying out the grounds. Neither the Grit politicians nor the Grit press can accuse the Dominion Government of extravagance in connection with the construction of this splendid edifice, as it is much more substantial, larger and better furnished than the old building, and is actually costing a smaller figure."

From Examiner 16th February. "The Post Office is now located in the magnificent new building on Queen Square. The Savings Bank, Customs Department and other offices are being made ready, and will be occupied in a few days. The fittings of the different offices are handsome as well as durable, and are the subject of much favourable comment."

From Examiner of 11th June, 1887. "The work of levelling and grading the new Post Office grounds is progressing favorably, a large quantity of debris being already removed, and the different avenue and flower beds laid off. This section is, we learn, being improved on the same plan as the adjoining one, and, when completed, will add very much to the already handsome appearance of Queen Square, Thomas May,, Esq., C. E. is rendering valuable assistance gratis, and Mr. Newbery and the officials in charge of the Dominion section are putting the Square in order as rapidly as possible."

St. Eleanors Boy Is Aided By Lions Club

SUMMERSIDE — Six-year-old Dwane Graham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Graham, St. Eleanors, yesterday afternoon was taken to the Charlottetown Hospital where he will undergo an eye operation, the cost of which will be paid for by the St. Eleanors Lions Club.

King Lion Elmer Phillips and Lion Lee Kinney, chairman of the health and welfare committee of the club, accompanied the boy to Charlottetown.

The lad was playing with some friends about a year and a half ago when a piece of wire injured an eye, and the eye has since become useless to him. The operation will be to remove this eye and replace it with a glass one.

Mr. Phillips said the Lions Club each year contributes to the CNIB also. He said the Graham boy will be in hospital for a week, then go home for about nine weeks, before returning to hospital again to have the glass eye fitted.

FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

Canadian Dairy Farmers Stage Meeting In London

The annual meeting of the P. E. I. federation held on Jan. 10 enjoyed good weather, travelling, and as a result good attendance.

The press has already reported on the meeting in detail thus there is little necessity in further reporting. The guest speaker Dr. F. Waldo Walsh now director of co-operative advisory services did an inspiring job in describing progress and developments in European countries.

His advice to the federation not to become discouraged as it is still young with important work to do was timely.

DAIRY MEETING

London, Ont., is the scene this week of the annual meeting of the Dairy Farmers of Canada. As this organization represents the dairy farmers of the country the following facts will be of some interest.

The Dairy Farmers of Canada was organized in 1942, as a strictly dairy producers' national organization. Its head office is at 147 Davenport Road, Toronto, Canada, and is under direction of John T. Monkhouse, executive secretary.

Its membership is composed of 43 dairy roducer organizations in nine provinces.

It is governed by a 27-man board of directors who are representative of each of the nine provinces. Among these producer directors are men recognized, nationally and internationally, as outstanding authorities on dairy production and the marketing of milk and dairy products.

The Dairy Farmers of Canada is a member of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. It speaks with that body on national matters of concern to the dairying industry in Canada.

It unites, represents and speaks for more than 300,000 milk and cream producers in every province in Canada, except Newfoundland. The purposes of the national producers organization are:

(a) To maintain and improve the quality of Canadian dairy products.

(b) Ta strive for and maintain uniform grade standards for dairy products.

(c) To promote, and to co-operate with all organizations in advancing the interests and betterment of the Canadian dairy industry.

(d) To develop markets and improve all phases of the marketing of Canadian dairy products in Canada and in other countries.

(e) To secure legislation adequate for the maintenance of an efficient and stable dairy producing industry in Canada.

(f) To disseminate information relevant and pertinent to the dairying industry to all member organizations and to provincial and federal government officers and departments.

(g) To promote better understanding between consumers and dairy producers and to provide consumers with accurate information on the quality value of dairy products, and on their production.

JUNE SET-ASIDE

This province has had a fine record in supporting the advertising program of Dairy Farmers with an almost 100 per cent contribution of funds through the June Set-aside.

The following outlines briefly what the program is and how the money has been used.

In 1951 the Dairy Farmers of Canada inaugurated a national advertising and public relations program. It is now under the direction of J. W. Trebble.

This program has continued without interruption to the present time.

Payment for the programs has been made by the dairy producers of the nine provinces through what is known as the "June Set-Aside."

Over the past 11 years these programs have had an effective influence in increasing consumption of cheese, skim milk powder and other dairy products. More recently, it has helped halt the decline of milk consumption, and, in view of the high price and substitute competition, has helped hold the decline in butter consumption to a not unrealistic level.

The advertising department has made its facilities and materials available to local dairy producer groups for local advertising and promotion campaigns. It retains Cockfield-Brown Company and Ronalds-Reynolds, two of Canada's largest and outstanding advertising firms as active consultants.

An office is maintained in Montreal, from where advertising and information in the French language is released to all media.

The advertising program promotes all dairy products. It is divided into a specified number of monthly campaigns each year, of which "June is Dairy Month" and "October Cheese Festival" are examples. During each year all dairy products are advertised and promoted.

All types of media have been used in these promotions: Daily and weekly newspapers, food trade magazines, radio and T.V. point of sale posters and other material, though not necessarily all forms of this media in every promotion.

Much of the advertising department's success has resulted through the co-operation of food stores in many of the monthly promotions. Last year more than 4,300 Canadian food stores co-operated. Every major food store chain in Canada has co-operated in some of the promotions.

DAIRY POLICY

Dr. Hannam in speaking to the dairy farmers made among others the following points:

"Most of the increase in milk production in the past 10 years has been due, not to more cows, but to more production per cow, and I think we can expect this trend to continue.

"Better feeding and management of dairy herds can, in the main, be credited with achieving this desirable objective. This is being brought about, amongst other things, by improved pasture managemet, better handling of forage crops, and specialization of dairy practices in larger herds.

"The possibility of enlarged commercial markets abroad for Canadian dairy products is not bright because most dairy producing countries are, like Canada, able to produce in excess of market outlets. This meant that we cannot count on any substantial export commercial market for our surplus dairy products to turn up."

"The other broad alternative would be for organized milk producers to ask for legislation, federal and provincial, which would enable them to control and direct a National Milk Marketing Plan.

The third alternative, of course, would be a combination of both the above-mentioned approaches, with producers and partners in a completely co-ordinated national plan.

The third alternative mentioned is I'm sure the one that the great majority will favour. If so, two questions go to the crux of the problem:

1. Will 11 governments join in one national plan, and how promptly, if new legislation is needed to make it operative?

2. Will the rank-and-file of milk producers accept the responsibilities devolving uon them in order to implement fully a national plan?

FARM FORUM

Next Monday Farm Forum will feature a program dealing with matters related to problems facing farm organizations. Whether he realizes or admits it farm organizations effect directly or indirectly every farmer. Thus all have some interest in what Farm Forum has to say about the matter Jan. 21.

Rev. E. J. Barrass Dies At Wilmot

SUMMERSIDE — The death of Rev. Dr. E.J. Barrass occurred at his home in Wilmot Valley yesterday, following a lengthy illness, in his 74th year.

Born in England, he came to Canada and was ordained into the Baptist Church ministry in 1913, following graduation from Acadia University. Wolfville, N.S. He held pastorates in Summerside, P.E.I., Bear River and Truro, N.S.

In Summerside he was the pastor at the United Baptist Church from 1944 until 1950. Prior to his retirement he was minister at the Donway Church, Toronto until the spring of 1962, following which he returned to his home in Wilmot.

Besides his widow, Mr. Barrass is survived by two daughters, Shirley (Mrs. Keith Allison), Belleville, Ont.; Dorothy, Toronto and one son Roland, Truro N.S.

The funeral will be held to the United Baptist Church, Summerside, Saturday, with service at 2 p.m. Interment will be in the People's cemetery.

FIRST contribution to be received during "Red Cross Centenary Year" for the "Freedom from Hunger" project was made yesterday afternoon at Red Cross Headquarters when Kirby Ward, (left), vice-president, and Nancy George, secretary, of the Queen Charlotte High School Red Cross Council in Charlottetown, presented a cheque for $100 to go towards this special campaign to Mrs. W.W. Reid, director of Junior Red Cross for P.E.I.

QCHS Juniors Boost Jr. Red Cross Project

It was just a year ago that the Queen Charlotte High School Red Cross members made the first contribution of $116.87 to the "Freedom from Hunger" campaign undertaken as a special project of the Canadian Junior Red Cross in 1962, and being continued for the next few years. During the past year, other Junior Red Cross branches throughout this province contributed a further $418.71 to bring the total to $545.58 by the end of 1962.

Yesterday afternoon the vice-president and secretary of the Queen Charlotte High School Red Cross presented Mrs. W.W. Reid, director of Junior Red Cross for P.E.I. with another cheque for $100 to start off the "Freedom from Hunger" fund for 1963 which is "Red Cross Centenary Year". This amount was raised during the month of November by special activities, including the sale of special chocolate bars, by each of the classrooms at Queen Charlotte High School where Miss Doris Ferguson is the teacher-sponsor of the very active High School Red Cross Council.

As part of the five-year "Freedom from Hunger" campaign of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Canadian Junior Red Cross members are continuing to give their support to this special project in 1963. Through various kinds of fund-raising activities they will help to finance school garden activities for the young people in Sudan and Sierra Leone. The money contributed will buy seeds and garden tools and will help pay for instruction and teaching aids to improve the standard of living in these areas, and increase productivity.

This monetary assistance will enable the children of Sudan and Sierra Leone to grow their own produce as is done in Canada. Qualified instructors are teaching them to cook the products of their own gardens in order to get the most nourishment from their various crops. Young Africans are now eating what they raise and cook during their luncheon periods.

The idea of this educational project is designed to "help people help themselves". When Canadian children provide their fellow Red Cross members with the seeds, the tools and instruction, these African young people will do the job. The interest of Canadian children is undoubtedly providing the spark for healthier and happier futures for young Africans, it was stated.

Mrs. Reid said, "Perhaps the best way to sum up the program is to say that its main purpose is to demonstrate the various ways in which food can be constructively used for the lasting benefit of mankind. It can also provide a most important stepping-stone to world peace, and be a major movement towards international understanding."

First French-Speaking H & S Is Formed At Abrams Village

Parents and teachers of Abram's Village made history recently when they organized the first French speaking Home and School Association on Prince Edward Island.

The new association was formed initially under the sponsorship of the French section of New Brunswick Home and School Associations, and two representatives from that province were present at the founding meeting last week.

Also at the meeting was Dr. J.H. Blanchard, Charlottetown, who outlined the historical background of Home and School on the Island.

Dr. Blanchard pointed out that although this was the first of modern French-speaking associations here, French-Acadians in the province were holding parent-teacher meetings similar to those of today during the latter half of the 19th century.

John Martin, Parkdale, represented the P.E.I. Federation of Home and School Associations at the meeting.

The new association will be affiliated with the provincial federation.

Saints Down Sum-Hi 5-1

SUMMERSIDE — The Saint Dunstan's High School hockey team defeated Summerside high at Civic Stadium yesterday afternoon in the first game of the interscholastic "A" series by the score of 5-1.

The teams divided a brace of goals in the first period, but the visitors struck for four tallies in the middle session, and the third period was scoreless.

Carl Cheverie scored two for Vince Mulligan's charges, James Molyneaux, Leslie Affleck and Cyril MacDonald getting singletons.

Jimmie Yeo notched the only goal for Dick Nooonan's boys.

SUMMARY

First period: — 1. SDU — J. Molyneaux (J. Irwin), 2. SHS—J. Yeo (C. Wedge).

Second period: — SDU — L. Affleck (J. Irwin); 4. SDU — C. MacDonald (G. Bevans); 5. SDU — Cheverie (J. Duffy); 6. SDU — C. Cheverie (J. Irwin, L. Affleck)

Third period: — No score.

Referees were Charles Morrison and Frank Coyle.

Attention

Kensington Elementary School

All students owing tuition fees to Kensington Elementary School which were payable on commencement of the school term; also those who have property or poll tax in arrears, are asked to make settlement at once.

Signed:

Board of Trustees
Kensington Elementary School

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