

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, MAR. 14, 1953

Marketing Problems

The potato industry in this Province has been facing the embarrassment of a too bountiful crop. Because of last year's scarcity and strong demand during the fall there was a ready sale of Island potatoes, so much so that already we have shipped as many as in a normal year and the farmer has received an excellent return.

The Federation of Agriculture this week showed that it is wholeheartedly behind the Board in its efforts to maintain orderly marketing of potatoes and has asked for action to provide a similar service in respect to turnips as well as using the Board's authority to enforce its regulations.

The Board has had a difficult period and it is perhaps not surprising that the difficulty of enforcing minimum price regulations should have induced some members to advocate a single marketing agency.

That, however, would do away with the Board's reason for being. There would be no dealers to regulate and the sole marketing agency would have to buy all the potatoes produced and find markets where it could. The meeting did not give any approval to this suggestion but lent its support to the regulatory Marketing Board and noted with satisfaction that Ontario potato men consider such a Board as the best answer to their marketing problems.

It was, perhaps, unfortunate that the Federation meeting was held at a critical time in the marketing season but that fact certainly gives emphasis to the solid support which farmers are giving to the Marketing Board.

Basis Of Education

A warning to ultra-modern educationists was sounded recently by Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey in an address at the 75th convocation of the University of Western Ontario. Part of the "great menace of civilization is that we offer an education with too little regard for the roots of Western culture," said the Governor-General.

"In this mechanical age," comments the Windsor Star, "great stress naturally is placed on education of men and women to take their places in, and contribute to, the tremendous material progress which is being made. But that is more akin to training than to education in the real sense."

"Bricks and stones and mortar, and their modern counterparts in the field of electronics, atomic energy and other present-day miracles, all are very important. But the real progress of mankind derives from the mind, soul and spirit. Thoughts, and the motives which inspire them, still are—and always will be—the true test of man's development. Educating men to think still is more important than training them to do."

Municipalities And Sales Tax

The Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities is urging that, before the present federal budget is adopted by Parliament, the 10 per cent sales tax should be removed from all civic purchases. In an earlier appeal the Federation argued thus: "Since 1928 the sales tax has not been imposed on the purchases of provincial governments, or of any railway, commission, board of public utility operated by or under the authority of a provincial government."

The Federation has also pointed out that the municipal tax base is restricted and that communities urgently require additional sources of revenue, or relief from fed-

erally-imposed taxes, or both.

The national government's position, hitherto, has been that provinces and provincial boards and utilities are not taxed because the Crown ought not to tax the Crown. But Ottawa does not recognize a municipality as the Crown, although the local body exercises powers delegated to it by a senior government.

The distinction, comments the Ottawa Citizen, is too legalistic to impress most laymen. What seems important is the principle that one government should not tax another, at any level. However, in the case of the federal sales tax there may be practical reasons why the present structure should remain undisturbed. Exemptions tend to undermine the tax base, and cause the rate to be pushed up. They also open the door to abuses, as the record of the exemption granted to purchases by all hospitals indicates. There would be a risk of a certain amount of "chiselling" by individuals were municipalities across Canada allowed to buy all sorts of materials and supplies without sales tax.

There is, suggests The Citizen, an alternative approach. The federal government might make an annual grant to each municipality in rough compensation for the amount of sales tax paid. Precedents can be found. The government pays a grant to cities in lieu of taxes on its own property; and it also makes a grant to the City of Ottawa with respect to diplomatic residences and offices, the property of other countries, which cannot be taxed.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, 4th Sunday in Lent.

This weather makes one wonder whether we are having a late winter or an early spring.

The Island contingent to the Coronation is growing daily. There are, however, a number of official representatives to be named, both government and military. With the number of private citizens also planning to attend, the Province should be well represented.

The various farm meetings showed a healthy state of affairs. It is not always expected that people should see eye to eye on contentious questions. It is important, however, that there is opportunity for free expression of opinion and mutual respect of views.

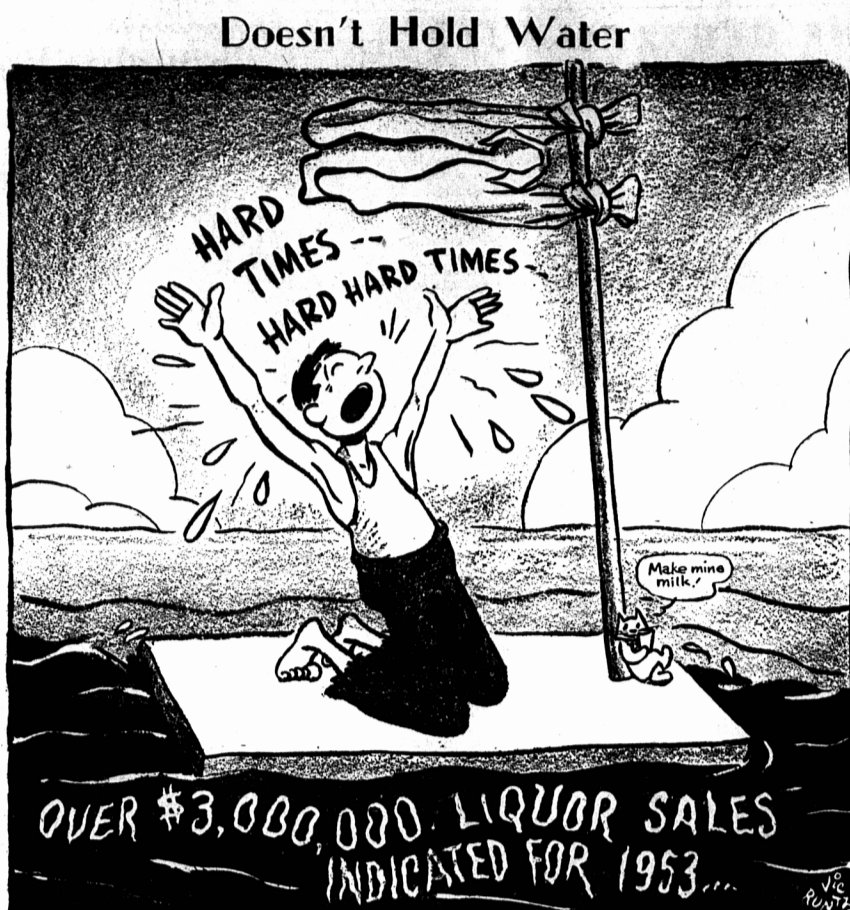
Several years ago the City Police and R. C. M. P. joined forces in a check-up of cars on City streets. This included brakes, lights, horn and general condition of the automobile. A quiet street was selected for this quick inspection. Each car cleared was given an OK sticker. The idea might with advantage be tried again this Spring.

The increase in potato shipments crossing at Borden from 327 carloads in February, 1952 to 682 last month is a reminder that the present relatively depressed potato market did not prevent farmers from getting high prices for the bulk of their large crop. It is not unlikely farm revenue will actually be greater than from the soaring prices at the end of the last crop year.

Decidedly depressing is the possibility mentioned by the C.O. of the R.C.A.F. Station, Summerside, that the present specialist navigation course may be the last conducted at the station. The numbers of airmen may, of course, be kept up with the change to operational status but Summerside's unique position in North America will be no more.

Karl Heinrich Marx, founder of revolutionary socialism, died this date 1883. A German, he was converted to Socialism in Paris, where also he met Engels, his lifelong partner and friend. Expelled from France, he made his permanent home in London. There he and Engels published the "Communist Manifesto" in 1847. In 1873 appeared the first volume of "Capital." A number of other works were published posthumously.

The biggest factor in U. S. economy is that country's large and rapidly growing population. Directing attention to this fact, General Robert E. Wood, Chairman of Sears-Roebuck, points out that U. S. population has increased by 2.5 million in each of the last three years. If this continues, U. S. will have 175 million people by 1960. The significance of such growth, as seen by General Wood: "It means that the factories of the United States have a continuously increasing outlet for their goods; that there is no over-production, but that capacity will have to be increased. It means that within ten years, the old problem of farm surpluses will disappear, with the possible exception of wheat and tobacco." As pointed out by The Printed Word, the long term prospects in Canada are equally favourable to the farmer.



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.

TODAY'S QUESTION

Sir.—Everyone has it on his lips. "Whither Soviet Intentions?" Where are we to get a safe answer? Men like Churchill, Eisenhower and others who have sources of information closed to all but high State officials, when they advise the public can be relied upon to indicate with fair accuracy in what direction the needle points. At the best it is like a shake of the dice: now you have it and now you have not. You know the old adage about the best laid plans of mice and men. Barely a month ago the Hon. Mr. St. Laurent, Winston Churchill and other men high in State and Church were saying that the world situation looked brighter than it had a year ago. Then came Stalin's sudden illness and death and Malenkov, and the needle took a sharp dive in the opposite direction.

The Age-Old Story

And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams. Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah that will make known unto the king the interpretation... Thou, O king, sawest, and hold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, his legs of iron, his feet of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth... And after these shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron... And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.

LONG CHURCHGOERS

SAINT JOHN, N. B. (CP) — In its annual roll call service the Charlotte Street United Baptist Church honored two long-time members. Miss Lydia Fullerton, 96, has been a member for 80 years. Her sister Bessie joined the church 69 years ago.

CHARLOTTETOWN

The Australian koala bear is up to 26 inches in length when fully grown.

The Poet's Corner

Old Charlottetown

Invitation to a Cat: Between us two, of course, there cannot be the possibility of ownership. I should as soon aspire to own the sea. Or claim possession of the fish that slip through its mysterious dimness, darkly free. As call you mine; while you, with proper pride, Would never condescend to owning me. Since self-possession keeps you satisfied. This being so, you need not hesitate. Through fear of my presuming, should you care To make my home your own, and contemplate My hearthfire of an evening, while we share The quiet understanding that perfects A good relationship, in all respects. — Jane Merchant, In the New York Times.

Old Charlottetown

The proprietors, who, it may be believed, had not been inattentive spectators of what was going forward, saw that there was no time to be lost. They could not help seeing that if the Act went into operation, the game was all up with them. They knew that there was hardly a township in the Island that had the number of settlers required by the grants under which they claimed. A large amount of the quit rent, too, would, if the truth were stated, have also to be paid. One thing, however, was in their favour — the Governor was a large proprietor himself — and upon that they seem to have founded their hopes. How they contrived to stifle the bill, and evade the payment of the quit rent, has been hitherto a mystery. But the dark veil which has so long shrouded their proceedings is now about to be withdrawn. According to our correspondent, a statement was transmitted to the Government purporting to be a correct account of the number of acres settled and unsettled at the commencement of 1803, by which it was made to appear that even at that day twenty-six Townships were wholly and twenty-five partially settled, making the number of acres actually occupied in 1803, exclusive of the Towns and Royalties, 648,000 or nearly half the Island. What a monstrous fabrication! "A copy of this document has been sent up for insertion by the same correspondent, and side by side with it he has placed the statistical account of the Island taken in 1827, a quarter of a century afterwards, by order of the Legislature, at which time it was ascertained, by actual survey, that

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The Passing Scene

"If we had a change of government things would be better", a friend suggested to me the other day. We happened to be talking about the low prices which farmers are getting for their potatoes, cattle and other products. I really don't know enough about the situation either to agree or disagree with my friend's observation. It set me thinking, however, about many things, one of them being the popular concept that seems to prevail with respect to the functions of governments generally. Apparently, they are given a measure of both credit and blame which they do not always deserve. When things go right, it's the government that is praised. When things go wrong, it's the government that is blamed. So far I haven't heard anyone blame the government either in Charlottetown or Ottawa for last year's good winter we have had this year, but I am expecting to hear something of the sort any day now. All of which leads me to the conclusion that we have gone a long way from the original concept of government as a group whose sole function was to make laws for the community.

In the very early days of the life of man there was probably no government at all in the sense we understand the term today. Anarchy, which one eminent historian has called "the best form of government," was probably the norm in the days of man's primitive innocence. And, so long as everybody was willing and able to do the right thing, laws were presumably unnecessary. It should be stated, of course, that anarchy as a philosophical idea and anarchy as a weapon of violent men in modern times are entirely different things. The time, if it ever existed, when "no government" was feasible did not last long, for the innocence of human life was short-lived. The earliest form of organized government of which history gives any record was the patriarchal system. The head of the family ruled in absolute power and authority. His will was law. There was no appeal from it. Even today there are certain primitive tribes in various parts of the world who live under the patriarchal system but, so far as we know, they are not making much contribution to good government on the world level. The time may come when they will. There is no telling what the future may bring. As society became more complex the family became less and less the centre of law and order, and new forms of government gradually

in all the Townships there were only 328,386 acres of land occupied, of which 56,944 were under cultivation. — Royal Gazette, Oct. 16, 1832.

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