

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15, 1950

The Museum Site

If Summerside succeeds in inducing the Government to erect a Provincial Museum there it will be another example of the success of co-ordinated effort under men with a capacity for vision and leadership which seems woefully lacking in our Island capital.

A Provincial Museum has been talked of for a long time here, and advocated repeatedly in these columns; but apart from our Women's Institutes and I. O. D. E. members, what leadership has been given in the matter?

Not All Gain

It used to be assumed that theft was kept at a minimum in this Province by the difficulty of removing and disposing of the stolen goods.

Times seem to have changed. Perhaps improved transportation works to the advantage of underworld enterprise as well as legitimate business and we may reconcile ourselves to taking preventive measures on a scale comparable to other Provinces.

Manitoba Flood Costs

According to a statement issued at the opening of the Manitoba Legislature by Premier Campbell, Manitoba's flood this year has cost (excluding the voluntary fund) \$28,000,000, of which the Federal Government, so far, has taken on \$15,750,000, or 56 per cent, leaving \$12,250,000 unallocated.

Full details of the flood cost were given by Mr. Campbell. Briefly the chief items are these: Repairing private homes, \$12,000,000; municipal flood fighting and flood restoration, \$4,100,000; cost of the armed services, \$1,000,000; sand and sandbags, \$1,000,000; emergency relief and welfare costs, \$630,000; restoration of schools and university, \$450,000; restoration of homes damaged in flood fighting, \$98,000; repairs to public utilities, \$1,500,000.

These plus a number of additional smaller items bring the total to \$23 millions. To this must be added \$5,000,000 for the building of the dykes.

Toward these costs the Federal Government early last summer made an initial grant of \$12,500,000. Virtually all of this sum has gone to repair private homes. Beyond this, the Federal Government has definitely undertaken to pay 75 per cent of the cost of the dyking—or \$3,750,000. Also, the Federal Government is committed to pay 75 per cent of the cost of the permanent works necessary to solve this problem.

The Winnipeg Free Press notes that in British Columbia the Fraser river flood of 1948 cost \$17,493,664, of which the Federal Government paid \$14,122,532 or 81 per cent and the province paid \$3,371,132 or 19 per cent. This excludes the voluntary fund raised by public subscription.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Snow, frost and sunshine are not unwelcome after the spell of summer-like weather we have been having recently.

Last day of the open season on Wilson's Snipe. After today the only game birds in season will be ducks, geese and brant.

The City Council can not be blamed now for not discussing public affairs in the open; they are letting the light of day in upon their proceedings which is as it should be always.

With both the main parties having chosen candidates for Second King's Provincial by-election on December 4, the next three weeks should be busy ones for all concerned. As of yore, it will be the personal canvas that will prove most effective.

The report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics that the Prince Edward Island death rate from T.B. dropped from 40.4 per 100,000 in 1948 to 23.4 in 1949 is cause for satisfaction both for what has been accomplished and what it is clear is yet possible.

The Rome-Montreal airplane tragedy will convert a mission of joy and jubilation into an occasion for lasting sorrow and regret to relations and friends so suddenly and unexpectedly bereaved. In old days railway and steamship travel killed its dozens; now modern means of travel accounts for hundreds of deaths at a single disaster.

Twin six-week-old lion cubs were flown to Canada last week in a British Overseas Airways Corporation Stratocruiser. They were sent by the director of Barry Island Zoo, Glamorgan, Wales, where they were born, to the Calgary Zoo. A stewardess was responsible for their care during the crossing.

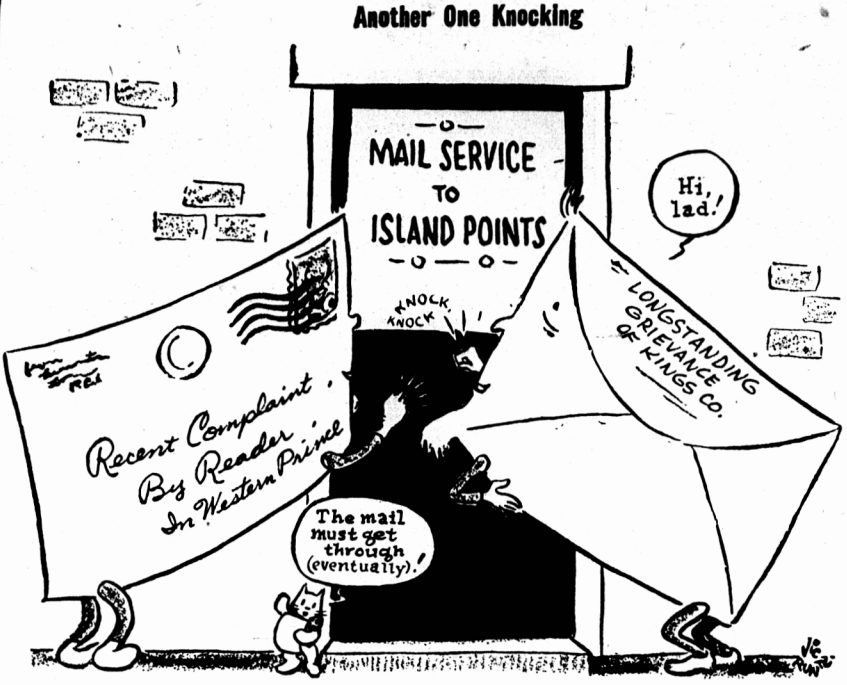
Joint political meetings, such as this Province knew them a generation ago, were rough and tumble affairs. It will be surprising if candidates grown used to these gentler times prove adept at the cut and thrust of encounters where it is not merely necessary to prepare a speech but be able to parry strokes from all directions.

On the question of the control of broadcasting, the British Broadcasting Commission gives an emphatic opinion "that the present system of monopoly broadcasting under public corporation, or some modification of it, be continued as better designed to ensure the good of the community than either Government control or commercial broadcasting."

Rt. Hon. Aneurin Bevan, P.C., M.P., born this date 1897. Was formerly a Welsh coal miner and was appointed Disputes Secretary to the Tredegar miners in 1925; became a Montgomeryshire County Councillor in 1925; Labour M.P. for Ebbw Vale Division of Monmouth in 1929, and Federal Minister of Health in 1945. Chiefly responsible for the carrying out of the National Health project of the Labour Government.

The Federal-Provincial constitutional committee meeting, now postponed until Nov. 23, is charged with preparing a report on which to base the discussions of the general conference in December. The more strictly the issues are confined to the question of amending procedure, the sooner it will be possible to consider positive measures for making the constitution itself more workable.

Eleven years ago, on November 15, 1939, Canadian Military Headquarters was organized and opened "for business" in London, England. . . . Nine years ago, on November 16, 1941, two Canadian battalions and auxiliary troops arrived at Hong Kong aboard the troopship "Awatea". . . . Seven years ago this month, as winter set in, Canadian troops were fighting heroically as part of the British Eighth Army in Italy. On November 20, the Eighth secured control of the Lower Sangro River after a fierce battle. At that time, too, we were pasting Europe with everything we had and on the 21st, 775 Allied bombers paid a visit to Berlin. . . . Six years ago this month, Canadian troops battling alongside their allies in Northwest Europe were closing in on Germany. On the 28th November the Chaudiere Regiment crossed the borders of that country—the first Canadian troops into Germany since the Great War 1914-18.



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.

RADIO FUNDIT CORRECTED

Sir,—Last Sunday, 12th inst., while listening to a well-known and highly intelligent commentator on the news, I was not greatly surprised when I heard him state that the Senators of the United States Congress are elected by the various state legislatures because this is an opinion very widely held. Up to the year 1913 it is quite true that the legislatures of the various states exercised that power, but in that same year of 1913 the Constitution was amended, giving the people of the different states the power to elect their Senators by direct vote. This at any rate is my understanding of the Constitution. I am, Sir, etc., C. S. MacDONALD.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Sir,—I would like to make a small correction in our report of the City Council meeting of November 13th. Your report states: "The proposal that salary increases totalling \$1,200,000 yearly be paid out was moved by Coun. L. E. Prowse, Chairman of Finance, and seconded by Coun. Lester O'Donnell, at a special meeting on September 11th." There was no special meeting of the Council as such on September 11th. When, where and how the signatures of all the Councillors supporting this increase were obtained remains a secret. On the strength of this document, secretly signed and left in the possession of the City Clerk, the increases in pay were being taken. The objection of Coun. C. M. Cox and myself to this highly irregular procedure to amend the Charter is a motion authorizing the increased salaries and thus made the action legal. I am, Sir, etc., EDWIN C. JOHNSTONE.

DOGS AND GUNS

Sir,—I am writing this letter on dogs and guns in reply to several articles relating to this subject that recently appeared in the Island press. The Guardian Patriot included one of these articles that called for special mention was originally written by the editor of the Field, Wood and Stream section of the New York Times, and was copied, approvingly I presume, by the Patriot. The writer in the New York Times goes on to relate how he recently spent a short vacation in Prince Edward Island, accompanied by his dogs and guns, and in regard to partridge shooting found this Province a veritable hunter's paradise; so much so, that he felt he must share the knowledge of it with others and accordingly published it in the New York Times, and therefore in the words of the Patriot, "to the four corners of the earth."

Now we may well inquire right here just what the writer of this article means by "the four corners of the earth"? The great New York paper describes the people of the Island as a hospitable people. But does he or his copyist mean to imply that the rural residents of our Province will take kindly to the alarming possibility suggested in this article? Do they really think that those residents especially the farmers, like the sight and sound of dogs and guns from the four corners of the earth in their fields and private woodlands? If so, I venture to inform them that they are greatly mistaken. I venture to say that there is not one in ten of these residents, especially among the farmers, who have anything but animosity amounting in some cases to intense hatred against these dogs and guns and the brave hunters as well, when they come in that capacity. I mention again the brave hunter, for notwithstanding his objectionable features, it is positively amusing to note the "every-inch-a-hunter" look on his face and form as he returns to his home in the city accompanied by his dogs and guns and with two or three little birds in his hunting pouch as a trophy of his prowess. For my own part, I think there is about as much prowess in shooting partridge in our grain-fields as there would be in shooting domestic fowl in our barnyards.

But now, according to latest accounts in the local press the skill and daring of the hunter is not going to be confined to the shooting of little birds, for already a pair of deer have arrived from Ontario, and the hunting fraternity anticipates the letting loose of these and others whenever they are procurable to multiply and run wild in our woodlands and unfenced fields to enhance the present hunter's paradise. If this information is correct, our rural residents should certainly wake up, at the way from East Point to West Point, and find out just what the Government intends to do about this wild project. Is it really possible that the Government intends to support the project in whole or in part? If so, then I for one will lose fifty per cent of the confidence I have always reposed in the Premier in respect to good common sense, and in the personnel of our Provincial Legislature as well. Is it really possible that our Government is now going to deliberately let loose another imported pest on our fair Island, the wild deer would be? As proof of this, I have recently talked with a friend of my own who spent some time in a park of Nova Scotia where the rascally farmers complained of the damage done to their crops by the invading deer, and a week or two ago I read an article in The Patriot, no less, written by a Nova Scotian correspondent, fully confirming the report of my friend. There is on Prince Edward Island as elsewhere, no doubt, a number of residents who will bitterly complain that the prohibition which I advocate in respect to hunting is simply taking the joy out of life for them, and who will stoutly maintain that hunting is a time-honored, wholesome and manly sport. But even if we grant each and all of the hunter's arguments in favor of what he considers a manly sport, the fact still remains that of all countries in the world, Prince Edward Island is one of the least adapted for a hunter's paradise. It is in fact as well as in name, The Garden Of The Gulf, and what mighty Nimrod wants to hunt in a garden? Most of our readers, I believe, are familiar with the theory that the primeval balance of nature conduces to its general welfare including especially that of man. And whatever amount of incorrectness may seem to be found in this theory when applied to the world in general, it will I believe be found pre-eminently true when applied to the primeval balance of nature on Prince Edward Island. The wholesale destruction of any one primeval species, I believe to be undesirable and injurious to the welfare of man on this Island. This judgment I believe holds true even in the case of the much denounced crow, and would hold true also of the now much denounced fox had he not been perverted from his normal life in the forest by enforced domestication. Likewise the introduction of any new species of wild life for hunting or trapping purposes will be found to be injurious. Our Province is in brief the one spot on earth where a man might live in perpetual peace and harmony with primeval nature, just as our pioneer ancestors found it. If therefore there is now on Prince Edward Island any considerable number of residents who find life intolerable without the fun of killing something, especially on fine days, let these residents emigrate with their dogs and guns to the jungles of Africa and India, where man and beast are constantly at war with each other in their struggle for existence; but let these residents when they have once reached these jungles, forget forever the peaceful Arcadian fields and woodlands of their native Island. I am, Sir, etc., M. McKENZIE, New Haven, P.E.I.

Old Charlottetown

PROVINCIAL SAVINGS BANK (And P. E. I.) "Ever since its establishment in the summer of 1864, the Savings Bank has been growing in public usefulness and favour. On the 1st of January, 1868, the sum in the Bank, on deposit, was £14,428 6s. 11d. compared with £11,205 at the corresponding period last year. The amount deposited during the past twelve months was £8,895, and the amount withdrawn £6,597. Total interest paid to depositors £282 2s. 6d., total interest paid by the Government on deposits £735. Number of depositors was 580. "The Savings Bank is established in connection with the Provincial Treasury, and is open for business on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a. m. to 3 p. m. It is intended for the investment of the poor man's savings, as well as for the pennies of childhood and youth, but all classes of the community avail themselves of the many advantages which it offers. The rate of interest allowed is 5 per cent, the smallest deposit is £5, and the largest to bear interest £100. The interest on deposits may be added to the principal, quarterly, £10,000 of the moneys in the Savings Bank may at any time be invested in Government securities, yielding to the Bank interest at 6 per cent per annum." —The Islander, Jan. 10, 1868.

The Age-Old Story

By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac; and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said that in Isaac shall thy seed be called; accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

MINK DOES SHARE FOR FLOOD FUNDS

VANCOUVER, Nov. 13.—(OP)—One live mink was worth \$400 to a fund to aid Manitoba fur ranchers wiped out by last spring's great Red River floods. The little animal was auctioned off at the annual dinner here of the Lower Mainland Fur Breeders Association of British Columbia. The amount will be sent to aid fellow fur ranchers in Manitoba.

J. A. Carruthers R.O.

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Notes By The Way

I found a delightfully simple person. In no way what one imagines a great man to be like—unless one happens to have met a number of great men, when one comes to the conclusion that great men, more than others are entirely without affectation, and extremely easy to get on with. — G. B. Shaw's Simplicity.

Parking meters seem to be the main topic of conversation in and around Annapolis these days and a lot has been said for and against them. Results are not finalized, as yet, on the petition that has been circulated among the merchants of the town, advocating the removal of meters. We are not going to express an opinion on the matter, but we feel that a lot is to be said for and against them and we are not going to side with either faction. — Annapolis Chronicle.

London — A \$10,000 Canadian order for coffee percolators and saucapans has just been completed by a British housewife, who four years ago knew nothing about making them. Auburn-haired Mrs. Patricia Armstrong was an Annapolis housewife. On marrying, she found that her experience over the kitchen stove were worth more than those of male saucapan manufacturers. She designed table and culinary ware really adapted for housewives. Samples were sent out everywhere and orders flowed in. Today, she employs 60 people, and personally inspects every tea service, coffee percolator and saucapan before it is packed for export. In the meantime, she has made a complete study of metallurgy and production technique and is applying the theory to a rapidly growing business. — Halifax Herald.

Officials of our neighboring town, Smith Falls, might like to point out to the Ontario Department of Highways that a slight, but to civic-minded residents, most annoying mistake has been made in the spelling of the town's name on the recently erected highway signs. We noticed that the spelling on the sign at the corner of King and Perth streets here, as well as the one on the eastern limits of Kingston, pointing the way to the town has been printed as "Smith's Falls" and any resident is quick to point out that there is positively no apostrophe in the name. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

The fog drifts damply on the bitter sea. Somewhere the droning breakers far away. With voices low like thunder, seem to say Mute things in ageless sentences to me. The waves in wind-swept spaces rank and roll. Their wild foam from the ice on Greenland shore, And cold clouds hurry down the Labrador. With messages of winter from the Pole. The lonely rocks of turreted Belle Isle, Where sea-marks hold their imprint ribbed and curled. Behold the blue bergs' southward drifting file. As when the Norse Gods with their sails unfurled Came crowding down the sea-lanes mile on mile And trafficked 'on the highways of the world. — Alfred Goldsworthy Butler.

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