

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1951

The Wood Islands Service

In the report of the Royal Commission on Transportation, note is taken of the representations made in this Province for a new boat and improved terminal facilities for the ferry service between Wood Islands and Caribou. So far as financial assistance is concerned, the report states that the Canadian Maritime Commission is the proper body to deal with this matter.

In order to finance a project of this kind, it will be necessary for the company to obtain a long-term operating contract, with a subsidy sufficient to meet the construction cost over the period of the contract. It is also desirable that instead of fixed dates for the opening and closing of the service each season, there be provision for operating longer periods under favorable weather conditions.

There is no longer any question as to the value and importance of this ferry service, both to Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. Great as are its tourist advantages and possibilities, it is even more important from the standpoint of our produce shippers, who are faced with constantly increasing railway freight rates, and whose need for more trucking accommodation—as the surest means of keeping rail charges down—is already one of our most vital transportation problems.

77-Year-Old Tractor

Not long ago, there was discovered in California, resting in an old orchard off the beaten path, an English make Aveling and Porter steam tractor, believed to have been imported into the United States some time between January, 1871, and June, 1874, during which short period, British road machinery was permitted to come in duty free.

Federal Revenue vs. Provincial Tax

According to Hon. Mr. Darby's budget speech, under the new proposals Prince Edward Island will receive in the fiscal year 1952-53, \$3,280,000 based on assumed Gross National Product of \$17.5 billions in 1950 and \$18 billions in 1951. Indications are that the G.N.P. for 1951 will greatly exceed this estimate and, if so, the Provincial return will be considerably augmented.

and in the first year of the new agreement will be approximately \$200,000 more. "It is obvious," Mr. Darby said, "from a consideration of our estimated revenue where out of \$6,969,000, \$4,475,000 is contributed by the Federal Government, that source in the main must be looked to in order to provide the element of continuity. I will frankly admit, with the impending termination of the present tax rental agreements on March 31, 1952, that I have been much concerned with that problem."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Legislature rose on Monday night in time to permit the members to attend the triumphant end of the big hockey game at the Forum.

The teachers have a busy schedule outlined for their convention which continues until noon tomorrow but individually no doubt manage to take advantage of their stay in the city.

"The heat is on" Parkdale because of its lack of water and sewage services. The Province, not unreasonably, fails to see the point of conducting a costly public health programme and at the same time neglecting to enforce elementary principles of hygiene.

Some twenty French aviation journalists will come to Canada next week to visit certain of the Ontario training centres, and airplane-building factories. Centralia, Trenton and Rockcliffe are given as stopping off places, but no mention is made of Summerside.

Charlottetown is not the only city borrowing to keep abreast of the times. Passage of three separate New Brunswick bills seeking authority to borrow and guarantee well over \$1,000,000 before the close of the current session of the Legislature will boost Fredericton's direct and indirect bonded debt to an all-time record high of approximately \$4,250,000.

It came as a great surprise when the Budget debate, in what is supposed to be an election year, was allowed to collapse in the Legislature yesterday after only three speakers had participated, including both one member of the Government and one member of the Opposition. If this was strategy on the Government's part, it was the Opposition's duty and privilege to have forestalled it, at least to the extent of continuing the debate until its own members had spoken.

Britain and France declared war on Russia this date 1854 commencing the Crimean War, to resist claims made by the Czar which practically involved the disappearance of Turkey as a European state. The allies defeated the Russians at Alma and besieged Sebastopol, fighting two great battles for that fortress, Balaklava and Inkerman, finally after nearly a year the siege was successful following the capture of Malakoff Fort. The treaty of Paris, March, 1856, ended hostilities.

The Bureau of Statistics reports that this Province contributes more generously for church and charitable purposes per head than does Canada as a whole or any other province except Quebec: All Canada, 1.26%; P. E. Island, 1.46%; Nova Scotia, .91 of 1%; New Brunswick, 1.30%; Quebec, 2.66%; Ontario, .90 of 1%; Manitoba, .87 of 1%; Saskatchewan, .91 of 1%; Alberta, .73 of 1%; British Columbia, .48 of 1%.

The Federal Agricultural Department between 1939 and 1950 paid out more than \$210,000,000 in subsidies and assistance on behalf of various products, Mr. J. R. Kirk (L.-Antigonish-Guysborough) was informed in the House of Commons. The total included \$139,000,000 for freight assistance on feed grain, \$29,000,000 for cheese, \$1,435,000 for maple production equipment, and \$47,000,000 in hog premiums. Mr. Kirk was also informed that the Government has paid out \$16,201,000 in assistance since 1940 to the Annapolis Valley apple growers of Nova Scotia.

It was reported from Moncton some time ago that Charlottetown would provide the training school for diesel engine training. Now it is intimated that before the diesel engine service starts in the Maritimes generally on May 1, the C. N. R. will conduct a 30-day training program in the Maritimes to quality crews. The courses will open about April 1 at Edmundston, N. B., with a two-unit diesel and an instruction car. Later the equipment will move to Moncton, Truro, N. S., and Halifax. No mention is made of Charlottetown which was supposed to be the training centre.

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.

ROAD CONDITIONS

Sir.—How much longer have we to stand the deplorable condition of our rural roads? Talking to a highway foreman the other day he told me he had a letter from the Deputy Minister of Highways telling him not to have dragging or work done as the men doing it would not be paid. So we cannot blame the highway foreman, but they are the ones that generally get it in the neck. There always seems to be plenty of money for other things. We never pick up a paper but a delegation is going to Ottawa for something. What we want is a change of Government, C. O. or Conservative. Anything would be better than what we have now.

I am, Sir, etc. DISGUSTED LIBERAL Kensington, P. E. I.

This Is Census Year

(Royal Bank of Canada Monthly)

The door-to-door canvass that will get under way in Canada on June 1st will make all the calls by salesmen in a year look like a small operation. There will be about 20,000 men and women on the field force, gathering by direct touch with our people the information required for Canada's ninth centennial census.

There is a centralized office at Ottawa, where the key man is Herbert Marshall, Dominion Statistician. He is assisted by several men who are experts in various fields such as agriculture, mathematics and social analysis.

Two main duties devolve upon the census department: to collect the information, and to compile it into reports. The collecting is done by census commissioners, one for each electoral district, and somewhere about 19,000 enumerators hired under direction of the commissioners.

Enumerators work on a piece-rate basis, depending for their remuneration on the number of persons they enumerate, or the number of reports they complete. In a recent test the rate was 8 cents for each person enumerated in the population count, 10 cents for each housing report, and 50 cents for each farm reported on. Enumerators are also paid for the time they spend while being trained. An energetic enumerator should earn from \$8 to \$10 a day.

What are the qualifications? It is hard work, and the enumerator must, first of all, be in good health. The man doing rural work should have a car. All enumerators must be able to take a fairly heavy and intensive programme of instruction lasting three or four days. They must be reliable, so that our information will be accurate. They must be trustworthy, because the result of their work is secret. And, finally, they must be available for full time work during the census period.

Enumerators are required to use courtesy and tact in collecting the information, but citizens should bear in mind that refusal to answer a census question is penalized by law. Even in this enlightened age, there still are some people who think the census taker is something like the member of the RCMP or MVD out to grab all their belongings for the State. Instead of that, the census taker is fulfilling one of the functions of a democracy, which is co-operation of all for the good of all. The more truthfully and promptly questions are answered, the easier it will be all around.

What are the questions? There will be eight documents used in the 1951 census: (1) population; (2) blind and deaf; (3) housing; (4) agriculture; (5) irrigation; (6) live stock and greenhouses elsewhere than on farms; (7) commercial fishermen; (8) distribution.

Huge books and forms are no longer in style. Last census the enumerators carried around forms two feet, four inches wide; this year they will have forms about seven inches square. These are called "mark-sense" forms. The enumerator merely makes a mark in the right space instead of writing your answer in full. He uses an electrographic pen.

Then, instead of transcribing the information laboriously by hand, in the old manner, the census people will feed the cards into a machine. Wherever the special ink appears, an electrical contact will be made and a hole will be punched. There emerges from the machine a fully punched card, ready for automatic counting or for filing.

The electronic statistical machine is one of the "wizards" among machines. It will reject cards containing errors. For example, if the enumerator has put a mark opposite "6" for a lad's age, and another mark opposite "married", the circuit won't take it. Similarly, if a farmer's card has a hole punched to indicate he got something like \$55 a bushel for his wheat, the circuit won't take that either. These cards would be thrown out by the machines for correction.

The machines are merely rented to the Canadian Government. When our census is finished, they will be shipped to some other country.

Taking everything into consideration—men, machines, printing, and all the rest—it is estimated that the cost of our census will be about \$9 million. More than 70 per cent of the money goes to enumerators throughout Canada, and to staffs in the regional and provincial offices. The whole sum is about 64 cents per person.

Canada's census is of interest

Remedy. For best results must be administered at home while the child is quite young. ANTI-DELINQUENCY SERUM. INSTILLING RESPECT FOR OTHER PEOPLE, THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS AND THE LAWS OF THE LAND. O' DOG PERSPICACITY.

The Poet's Corner

EROS ON EINSTEIN. Could we match pace with time, All winds were still; Tommors would come not; and the opening rose Would be a rose forever; and our eyes— Like this—like this—stay looking face on face Never to close ...

not only to Canadians, but to people in many other lands. Every wave length will carry the news when it is released about the end of the year.

As the outcome of effort by the United Nations, some 40 countries are counting heads during 1950 and 1951. In the Western Hemisphere, 22 countries are working co-operatively to take a census of the Americas—the first attempt to gather vital economic and social information about the 300 million inhabitants of North and South America at about the same time.

Each nation takes its own census of course, but certain facts have been agreed upon so that a reasonably accurate comparison may be made of the resulting figures.

It is interesting, in this connection, that Nathan Keyfitz, senior research statistician of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, has been sent on loan to Burma where he will help plan the census of 1952. In this way, among others, Canada is co-operating with the Technical Assistance Administration of the United Nations.

With the co-operation of all our people, we shall have at his year's end a full-length portrait of ourselves. The first rough total should be published by November, and by December the count should be available for municipalities. The first detailed results should be ready by March 1952, telling such things as age distribution, sex and so on. The complete report is expected by March 1953.

Old Charlottetown

SETTLEMENTS NAMED. "A meeting was held at Back Settlement, Lot 14, on Tuesday evening, the 14th February, for the purpose of establishing a new school. Mr. John Harkness was called to the chair. After the business connected with the said school was finished, it was moved by Mr. Neil MacKinnon, seconded by William Dennis, and agreed to unanimously, that this Settlement be hereafter known as 'Arlington'."

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Notes By The Way

If "unauthoritative" is a recognized word, why aren't there unauthorities—like our unheeded colonials, bursting with their global strategies.—Winnipeg Tribune. The need of North America to recover the will to work is the theme of a new and soundly provocative book. It is "The Nineteen Fifties Come First," just published in Canada by Clarke, Irwin and Company. The author Dr. Edwin G. Nourse was until recently, the chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers appointed by the U. S. Congress to guide the President of the United States. He resigned from the council because he did not wish to become a party to a fraud. And the fraud was the popular idea that people can get out of the economic system more than they are willing to put into it. In his new book Dr. Nourse says: "The proposition that you can't earn more by producing less may seem so obvious that it should not be dignified by a serious book." But the sad fact is that most economic groups in North America have been flying in the face of it. Instead of trying to promote a general economic welfare by enlarging production, they have been trying to improve their economic position or security by restricting production. Now that the Russians are knocking at the doors, it might be well for the viewpoint on relations to be realistically revised.—Montreal Gazette.

According to the Sydney Fish and Game Society, the fox population of Cape Breton Island has greatly increased and the foxes are dining regularly on succulent chickens and lambs. Considering the price of housewife nowadays pays for poultry and lamb chops, it would seem that the free meals enjoyed by foxes puts those handsome animals in a privileged class. It would appear, however, that the Fish and Game Society has a concern in this matter applicable to more than the flocks of Cape Breton farm-ers. It is assumed that the foxes would be interested in the 1,000 pheasant chicks to be released in Cape Breton during the coming Summer. That's an interest shared alike by foxes and men.—Sydney Post-Record.

The Age-Old Story

O God, thou art my God; earth will I seek thee; my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; to see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

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