

THE GUARDIAN

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CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 1952

Convocation

Convocation is an apt term for the year-end ceremonies of a college and Commencement is even more appropriate for such a junior college as Prince of Wales which winds up its year's work this week. The college or university calls together its undergraduate members and as many as possible of its graduates to see started off on their next step in life the students who have completed its prescribed curriculum.

In the case of Prince of Wales College, Commencement does not mean the conferring of degrees but rather a step in the direction of a bachelorhood of arts or science or of other studies to be sought in other educational institutions. Even for those whose formal education is not to be continued, the exercises mean a beginning of education in a particular field helped by the experiences and training of college rather than the closing of a chapter in life.

It is this sense of opening a door rather than closing one which is most strongly present at this time.

Show Island Products

Generally speaking tourists are anxious to be made aware that they are away from home. They probably have no desire to "rough it" but they do want to enjoy the sensation of stepping out of their regular round. In this Province there is much to offer in the way of a restful atmosphere and opportunities for enjoyment, but in addition we should try to emphasize the local differences, or even peculiarities.

Wherever a visitor goes he or she should be met with special products or a "different" way of doing things. The meals he is offered should feature Island products and recipes. Service stations should in some way differ from such features elsewhere and in whatever store or other establishment the tourist goes there should be prominently displayed some Island product or products.

A sound standard of services is essential to avoid antagonizing travellers but a very special atmosphere must be maintained to create the positive enthusiasm which will make the casual visitor become the unfailing regular.

Warnings From The Senate

In its post mortem on the Liberal defeats in Monday's by-elections the Government might well give consideration to some of the criticisms voiced in the Senate in a recent debate. The debate took place on a supplementary appropriation bill for \$246 millions. The Senators not only protested the huge amounts of supplementary estimates but the manner in which the Bill was shot to the Senate with only two hours for consideration.

Senator T. A. Crerar (Lib., Manitoba) pointed out that this \$246 millions, added to a previous \$200 millions, brought the supplementary estimates for the fiscal year 1951-52 to a total of nearly \$450 millions. "A bad practice has grown up which should be stopped," said Senator Crerar. Government Departments were supposed to prepare the main estimates before the end of the calendar year to cover everything "unless something extraordinary and unforeseen should arise." The practice of bringing in big supplementaries at the end of the fiscal year tended to make officials careless in their main estimates.

Senator John T. Haig (P.C., Manitoba) protested against having the \$246 millions appropriation bill hustled before the Senate. Though his confreres were men and women of great ability, they could not in two hours give the Bill adequate consideration.

Point was lent to Senator Crerar's emphasis that the supplementary estimates were supposed to be only for "extraordinary and unforeseen" expenditures by the fact that the \$246 million supplementaries included a major item of \$103 millions to make up deficits in the Civil service super-annuation fund. There was certainly nothing unforeseen about that item. The \$103 millions included a second \$75 millions contribution to the fund. The first \$75 millions passed a year previously.

Senator W. D. Euler (Liberal, Ontario), agreed that a supplementary amount should not be as large as \$250 millions, nor indeed the total \$450 millions cited by Senator Crerar as the 1951-52 supplementaries. "I feel," he said, "that we are spending entirely too much money in this coun-

try. We have just about reached the point where the people will not stand for these expenditures any longer. I say that advisedly because of what a great many people have told me. It is my opinion that most people are just about fed up with the large amount of taxes they have to pay. It might be pretty difficult to justify some of the expenditures at this time even for what we call defence.

"For the life of me," continued Senator Euler, himself like Senator Crerar, a former Minister in Liberal Governments, "I cannot see any reason why these estimates should not have been brought down in time for us to have them referred to a committee and obtained information from departmental officials. Had that been done, we could have dealt with the items intelligently, without feeling, as we must now, that we are acting like a set of rubber stamps."

Senator Wishart Robertson, Government leader, who introduced the Bill, was asked many questions about details of various items. He said frankly in most cases that he could not answer them as he did not have the information.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Red Shield drivers are now actively at work.

The U. S. first real attempt at world diplomacy cannot claim to be an unmixed success.

The West German peace pact has had a mixed reception, but it is a step in the right direction which time will no doubt amply justify.

The London Mirror, which Mr. Churchill sued for libel for an election-day libel, has settled the action by the publication of an apology, paying Mr. Churchill's costs, and making a substantial contribution to a charity named by Mr. Churchill.

It would seem that swine breeding is something of a sheet anchor to the potato business. If all is well with potatoes the pigs are not especially useful but they might well pull a farmer through an otherwise tough year.

The matter of another year's extension of the Government's emergency powers will almost inevitably be passed by Parliament. It is a very real danger, however, that the extraordinary powers held by the Government will come to be regarded as normal.

William Pitt, the Younger, was born this date 1759, younger son of the first Earl of Chatham. He became chancellor of the Exchequer at twenty-three and, although he wished to be a peace minister, war raged throughout his political career. He introduced the sinking fund to reduce the national debt and effected the union of Great Britain and Ireland in 1800.

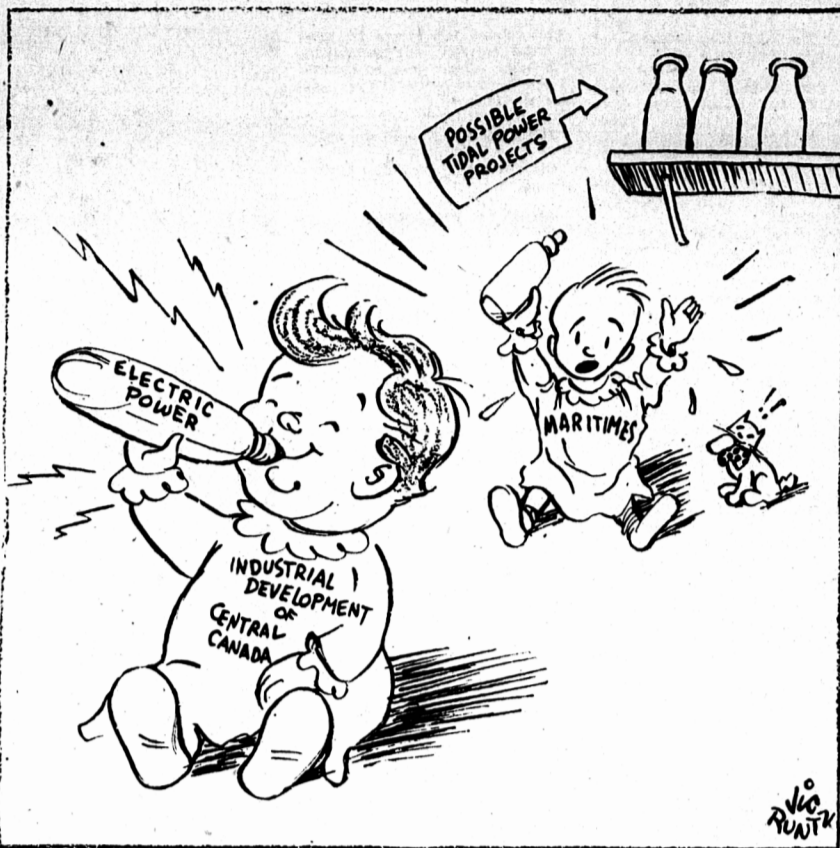
The acceptance of the tender of the L. G. Rawding Construction Co., Berwick, N. S., for improved water and sewage system at the R. C. A. F. Station, Summerside, will about complete the work in connection with the installation of the service there. The amount of the tender accepted is \$51,470, and will provide considerable employment for the summer months.

It has been suggested that the Queen should be crowned in each of the Commonwealth capitals as well as in London. That may appear to be highly patriotic, but what of the cruelty that would be inflicted on the young Queen in having to undergo the ordeal repeatedly in Ulster, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Ceylon, Pakistan and India as well?

Premier Jones has been familiarizing himself with the principal officials of the various departments in Ottawa just to remind them that there are contracts not yet let for carrying out important construction work at Charlottetown and vicinity. The serious government reverses at by-elections on Monday may tend to convince the powers-that-be of the unwisdom of neglecting the interests and welfare of constituencies. Prime Minister St. Laurent admitted that "local circumstances" contributed to the loss of seats.

The grave closes today over the remains of the late Mr. Duncan Livingstone, one of "the old reliables" of Charlottetown. Besides being a competent cabinet maker, an occupation now becoming practically extinct in our midst, he was for long the beadle of St. James where he was highly respected and esteemed. It was a sight worth beholding to watch him solemnly preceding the minister from the vestry with the Bible and hymn book which he placed reverently in the pulpit. Later he was the trustworthy steward of the Charlottetown Club, and was looked upon almost as one of the senior members. He will be greatly missed by his numerous family, as well as by many friends and admirers.

A Crying Need For More "Juice"



Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON, England.— Next to the Government (whatever it happens to be) the most popular target for our grumbles is probably the British Broadcasting Corporation. The BBC, like the Government, and in only slightly lesser degree, touches on the life of pretty nearly all of us, which is doubtless why we feel we have some right to comment on its activities. But whereas some people might feel that we could get along much better without a Government at all, comparatively few would say the same about radio entertainment.

We have become so accustomed to having the world brought to our firesides by the mere turn of a switch that if we are deprived of such service for any reason or other we miss it more, perhaps, than we would care to admit. Maybe our receiver might develop a fault, or some national calamity may interrupt what has become radio's natural order of things; the great fuel crisis of 1947 was an example of this, when broadcasting was curtailed in the interests of fuel economy.

It is the old story of not appreciating fully what we have until we lose it. For the truth is, of course, that despite all our complaints against the BBC we get jolly good value for our money (the equivalent of about three dollars annually for a license to operate a radio receiving set; six dollars for television).

Tactful admission of the good work that the BBC is doing has been made recently in the form of a Government White Paper, which has recommended that for at least another ten years broadcasting in this country should continue on the same lines as in the past. This, presumably, will settle for a time a good deal of controversy that has been raging lately on the subject, with one major point at issue, namely, whether or not we should have programmes sponsored by advertisers. Hitherto, advertising on the radio has been strictly taboo, and so it is to remain.

The BBC is a monopoly, and thereby hangs much of the criticism to which it is subject. If you don't like any of the programmes that are offered at any given time, you have no option but to switch off or try to find something to your taste coming from one of the foreign stations, particularly European, that may be picked up more or less successfully on receivers in most parts of Britain.

Apart from its numerous transmissions intended for overseas listeners, the BBC concentrates its activities into three main channels: the "Home Service," designed, one assumes, to provide a wide assortment of material for a wide variety of tastes among family groups; the "Light Programme," rather similar but perhaps with greater emphasis on (as the name implies) light entertainment; and the controversial "Third Programme," for listeners whose brows are high and who like to take their pleasures seriously. Generally speaking, these three channels are nation-wide. The only variations are occasional programmes put out by Regional stations in certain parts of the country for the benefit of their local listeners; but these localised transmissions are more the exception than the rule, and mostly the Regional stations link up with the central Home Service.

And this, says the critics, means what the BBC offers is much too narrow in its scope. What is wanted, they say, is a bit of healthy competition. A few other broadcasting organizations should be allowed to set up in opposition to the BBC. Or, failing that, the BBC should permit advertising on its wavelengths, so that advertisers, seeking to attract listeners, would offer first-class entertainment even if it meant paying their artists

The Age-Old Story

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (for until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. For if by one man's offence death reigned by one: much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

Books Received

MOSQUITOES IN THE BIG DITCH by Roger Burlingame (Winston, Toronto, \$1.95, 177 pp. illustrated). Three short weeks were all that fifteen-year-old Louis Martin had in Panama before he would be sent back to France by his "cousin" Corbeau. Into that time Louis crowded a lifetime of adventure. With his friend Juan Mateas he played a part in one of history's most fascinating events—the construction of the Panama Canal, a triumph for the world-famous Dr. Gorgas over the mosquito-carried Yellow Fever.

There may be something in that. But in some ways it would be sad to see what has become an "important structure of our national life" (as the Government's White Paper puts it) bowing to the winds of commercialism. One cannot help thinking that the prestige of British broadcasting would suffer.

For it cannot be denied that the BBC's reputation for strict impartiality and rectitude is unchallenged; it never abuses its immense power. Indeed, there are times when it appears to go beyond reason in its determination to remain neutral. At General Election times, for instance, no radio comedian may make a political joke lest it should be construed as a plug for any Party, or imply criticism of another.

It counts for something in these days of high-powered (and not always scrupulous) propaganda to know that there is at least one source of unbiased information. News in these harrowing times is generally more bad or indifferent than good; at least we can take comfort from the thought that we can hear it made to sound no worse or better than it is. The BBC is nobody's mouthpiece, but a sounding-board of the world.

The Poet's Corner

IN SPRING I wander in a grey time that encloses June and the wild hedgeroses. A year's procession of the flowers doth pass My feet, along the grass. And all you wild bird silent yet, The notes that stir you so, Your songs yet half devised in the dim dear Beginnings of the year. In these young days, you mediate your part; I have it all by heart I know the secret of the seeds of flowers Hidden and warm with showers. And how, in kindling Spring, the cuckoo shall Alter his interval. But not a flower, or song I ponder Is my own, but memory's. —Alice Meynell.

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AGENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE

Notes By The Way

Reading Hansard is not usually an enlivening pastime but there are compensations. Here is an impromptu report by Mr. Churchill to a badgering rally by an opponent: "The right hon. gentleman must be very careful not, by a refinement of unreason, to manage to be wrong both times." —Winnipeg Free Press.

The "Freedom Torch," which stood as a symbol atop the building occupied by La Fresca in Buenos Aires, has finally been removed after being in darkness and covered since the newspaper was seized by Peron. Dictators can no more tolerate a token of freedom than Metropolitan police could endure the sight of the Cross. —Hamilton Spectator.

As a means of stimulating business, the traction company in Memphis, Tenn., offered free rides on its buses an hour into the city between the hours of 6 and 7 p.m. every Thursday night. The company's income doubled because the riders had to pay to get back home from the city. Just another instance showing that you don't get nothing for nothing. —Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

Herbert Kirkpatrick, of Loudoun County, Virginia, won the national corn-raising championship with a crop of 6,140 bushels from his 30-acre farm. Naturally, he used scientific methods of plowing, harrowing and fertilizing. But what explained his record? "A little trick of mine," he said, "is to use horses for planting. I can get straighter and more uniform rows that way." This is a novel idea. Maybe, if horses can make themselves useful on farms again, we can quit worrying about what's in our hamburgers. —Philadelphia Bulletin.

There seems to be an unfortunate tendency on the part of bodies outside this province to regard the oldest province in the Dominion as still something of an antique, lovingly to look at and still enjoying strong connections with their romantic past. This is true as far as it goes, and it is this aspect that has given Quebec its peculiar charm. But in reality the picture is much larger. Quebec also leads the world in the production of various precious

minerals and is presently engaged in developing these resources through industry in a manner destined to bring us soon to the brink of the greatest boom Canada has known.—Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph.

The Communists have evidently been hit in their most vulnerable spot by the discovery of how high a proportion of the prisoners at Koje refuse to return. That approximately 100,000 out of 170,000 should be ready to face any hazard rather than be repatriated is for them perhaps the most mortifying public revelation since the defection of Tito. No one should underestimate the severity of the blow they have suffered. It is not only their pride that has been hurt. The whole elaborate argument about the participation of "volunteers" in Korea has had the ground cut from under it. Even more serious from their point of view, the degree to which terror gives to a Communist regime its air of solidarity has been exposed. This is the kind of truth the Communists cannot take, and they will go to any lengths to confound and discredit it. —New York Herald Tribune.

A reader has raised an interesting point in connection with the sentences imposed on four young men involved in the death of a boy bicyclist on the south highway. There were two separate crimes committed. One was manslaughter, the other failing to return to the scene of an accident. The first concerned the accident, the second the attempt of the four men to escape the consequences of the accident. On the first, the driver of the car was sentenced to two years less one day, and the others, for their complicity, to six months. That is their penalty for killing the boy. Presumably that would have been the penalty for that crime even if there had been no second charge. On the second charge the driver was given one year in jail, the others six months. But far as it goes, and it is this aspect that has given Quebec its peculiar charm. But in reality the picture is much larger. Quebec also leads the world in the production of various precious

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