

THE GUARDIAN

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Dominion Day

How fortunate we are to be Canadians! If there is one country in the world where overbearing neighbours do not oppress, where freedom of opinion or of religion exists, where want is kept at bay, it is this land of Canada. We have increased in numbers, but even fifteen million people for this vast land is but a scattering. Its wealth and resources have enabled Canadians to take a place in the world quite unwarranted by our numbers.

Possession of such a land is a great responsibility as well as a great privilege. Like the biblical talents such resources must be wisely used and the greater they are, the greater use we must put them to. It was said that the 20th century would belong to Canada and that prediction is in a fair way of being fulfilled.

In addition to material advantages we have a very special quality which will be useful to the world seeking a way to live and let live. Our people have learned to be fellow citizens with one another whether they be of British, French or other origin; whether they live on the open prairie, the Pacific Coast, the banks of the St. Lawrence, in Maritime ports, or in the great northland; and whether they operate one small dory or guide a commercial empire.

The Late Mr. Schurman

The late Mr. Maynard F. Schurman, president of M. F. Schurman Company, Limited, was head of a family which has made outstanding contributions to the business and educational life of this Province and country. He himself exemplified the family virtues of industry, enterprise and public spirit to a noteworthy degree. He lived to a patriarchal age, and retained to the end his mental and physical vigour.

As a citizen keenly concerned with the welfare of his community Mr. Schurman had many interests, but he sought no public honours, and preferred always to have his work speak for itself. And truly it can be said of him, as of the great Christopher Wren, "For his monuments look about you!" They stand in brick, stone and concrete; schools, churches, halls, hospitals, and public works of all kinds; and writ large over them all is the integrity of their builder. Here we come to the real source of Mr. Schurman's success, to the guiding principle of his character and to the reason why his achievements are not only enduring value in themselves, but still more so as an example and inspiration to others.

Fathers of Confederation

The Fathers of Confederation are the men who were delegates to the Quebec Conference in October of 1864. This was the conference which passed 72 resolutions forming the basis of the British North America Act, which created the Dominion of Canada on July 1, 1867.

There were delegates from Canada, which meant Ontario and Quebec, from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. They were: Canada: Sir Etienne P. Tache, John A. Macdonald, Georges E. Cartier, George Brown, Oliver Mowat, Alexander T. Galt, William McDougall, T. D'Arcy McGee, Alexander Campbell, J. C. Chapais, Hector L. Langevin and James Cockburn.

Nova Scotia: Charles Tupper, William A. Henry, R. B. Dickey, Jonathan McCully and Adams G. Archibald.

New Brunswick: Samuel L. Tilley, William H. Steeves, J. M. Johnson, Peter Mitchell, E. B. Chandler, John Hamilton Gray and Charles Fisher.

Prince Edward Island: Colonel John Hamilton Gray, Edward Palmer, William H. Pope, A. A. Macdonald, George Coles, T. Heath Haviland and Edward Whelan.

Newfoundland: F. B. T. Carter and Ambrose Shea.

Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick entered Confederation on the first Dominion Day, July 1, 1867.

Prince Edward Island did not come into Confederation until July 1, 1873, and Newfoundland came in on March 31, 1949. Manitoba came in on July 15, 1870. British Columbia entered on July 20, 1871. Saskatchewan and Alberta joined on Sep-

tember 1, 1905.

Of all the tributes paid to the Confederation Fathers the finest one is that inscribed on the bronze tablet in the Confederation Chamber at Charlottetown: "Providence being their guide they builded better than they knew."

Legal Anomaly

The attempt to tighten up the Criminal Code by the amendment to Section 285 covering drunken driving, notes the Winnipeg Free Press, would seem to contain an inconsistency that can work injustice to citizens unable to pay fines prescribed under sub-section 4 (a).

Under sub-section 4 of section 285, drunken drivers on first offence have automatically been receiving a seven-day jail term as well as having their autos impounded three months and driving licences suspended six months.

Sub-section 4 (a) is intended to cover the driver who may not be drunk but is found driving while his ability to drive is impaired through use of alcohol.

However, in the case of the lesser charge the law calls for a fine on first offence of not less than \$50 or imprisonment for not more than three months; and the practice has been to impose a fine of \$50 with a 30-day jail option, with provision also for impounding the auto and suspending the driving licence.

The man charged under sub-section 4 (a) with impairment of his ability to drive (which means not drunk, presumably, but under the influence of liquor) can escape a jail term providing he can pay \$50. If not he must go to jail for 30 days, or four times as long as the man convicted under sub-section 4 of the more serious charge of drunk driving.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Festive Week continues.

Newfoundland's general health picture is claimed to have been greatly improved by the prohibition of the importation of unenriched white flour. So important did the authorities consider the measure that they had it written into the terms of union.

The picture windows which give the illusion of outdoor living can also be a hazard for certain wild life. Not so much in built up areas, but in the country birds are apt to dash themselves against the plate glass as they do against a lighthouse.

A milk shortage seems a real possibility in U. S., says the Letter Review, if present trends continue. While population has gained 10.8 per cent since 1945, milk production has fallen off 3.5 per cent. This is only to be expected as long as Americans, like Canadians, insist on buying high-standard milk at low-standard prices.

It is not clear just what is the purpose behind a recent demonstration in Ottawa. The Light Car Club there put on a "gymkhana" of blindfold driving, including driving between two stakes, parking in two garages, driving the whole course in reverse, and chasing balloons. Possibly the object is to develop intuition in drivers.

Elizabeth Barret Browning, English poetess, died this date 1861. Early injury, illness and bereavement were followed by a happy marriage and restored health. Her supply of words is extraordinary, and she has a wonderful power of pathos. Like her husband, she is at her best in lyrical work. Some of her most beautiful are the "Sonnets from the Portuguese."

A member of the House of Commons wishing to run as a candidate in a Quebec provincial election must first resign his seat in the Commons it was ruled last week. Apparently there is no objection to his being a Senator, however. In this Province both Members and Senators are barred from running for the Legislature.

Nature has a habit of making man's works seem puny. Some years ago there was quite a controversy about the danger of the Chicago canal diverting too much water from the Great Lakes and lowering their level. Now the problem is to keep the level from rising to a point where property is endangered.

Miss Margaret Reekie, speaking about living alone in a BBC programme for women says: "The first thing you have to realize if you're a single woman is that you're not a natural unit in the community. One of your problems is that you've got to be more pleasant because you can't afford not to! Couples are asked out, for instance, because they're couples... you've got to make people want you, make yourself desirable to your friends. You've got to be amusing and pleasant and interested in their children. In fact, you've got to run a bit faster to get to the same place as the married woman—if you want to get there."

MORDEEN, England—(CP)—To teach pupils more about the world and encourage young boys to make the navy their career, 41 Surrey schools each have "adopted" a ship. Routes of the ship are plotted on charts and letters are exchanged between children and crew.

Possible Unforeseen Developments



The Poet's Corner

FROM A SONG OF THE CONFEDERACY Awake, my country, the hour is great with change! Under this gloom which yet obscures the land, From ice-blue strait and stern Laurentian range To where giant peaks our western bounds command, A deep voice stirs, vibrating in men's ears As if their own hearts throbbed that thunder forth, A sound wherein who hearkens wisely hears The voice of the desire of this strong North,— This North whose heart of fire Yet knows not its desire Clearly, but dreams, and murmurs in the dream. The hour of dreams is done, Lo, on the hills the gleam! —Sir Chas. G. D. Roberts.

Being An M. P. Just A Job?

(Financial Post) The dying days of this session of Parliament have held more than usual interest for MPs. They are considering their own future—a pension scheme for their own retirement. Win or lose in the next election a lot of them will be eligible for pensions if the scheme goes through. The rapid way in which the importance which MPs have given to it, makes the taxpayer wonder to whose welfare MP's give precedence. Regardless of the outcome, all of them, except the outspoken critic of the plan, David Fulton, MP for Kamloops, have raised the hackles of many citizens—the people whose wishes and welfare are supposed to come first.

The proposal is that all members will contribute 6% of their indemnity each session until payments reach a maximum of \$4,000. The taxpayer then makes his contribution, and upon retirement the MP receives \$3,000 annual pension. Can any private citizen find such a pleasing retirement plan? Under the scheme an MP could draw his pension if he retires from office after 17 sessions. In practice this means that if a man is elected at 30, he can leave Parliament at 47 on full pension.

The plan takes substantial contributions from the taxpayers, and will be paid to MP's regardless of whether they are in or out of the House. Doubtless a few members enter Parliament, but many of them also enhance their position by establishing their names in the public eye.

It is of course arguable that a pension plan would help make it possible for some outstanding men of inadequate means to enter public life but this is not a matter of weight. But we think there should be serious hesitation about any scheme which tends to professionalize the job of being a member of Parliament. We have seen legislative bodies in some other countries become professionalized, virtually full-time politicians. We don't think much of the result. Our parliamentary institutions have worked best and have won the service of outstanding men when they were least professional.

Do MP's enter Parliament for what they can get out of it? Some doubtless do. We prefer to give our regard to those who go into the House for what they can contribute. There are some things money can't buy. Surely membership in the House should not be put on a commercial basis. Certainly this pension scheme should not and need not be rushed.

MORDEEN, England—(CP)—To teach pupils more about the world and encourage young boys to make the navy their career, 41 Surrey schools each have "adopted" a ship. Routes of the ship are plotted on charts and letters are exchanged between children and crew.

Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON, England:— Somebody made a speech the other day in which he put a metaphorical finger on the greatest burden that we have to bear. It is the burden of what might be called, for want of a better word, "unrealization."

As the speaker pointed out, an uncomfortably large proportion of our population simply does not realize what is the major issue in our lives at the present time. Whether in fact all these people do not, can not, or WILL not, see the plain truth is a matter of conjecture. Nobody can say for certain because it is difficult, if not impossible, to look into the minds of millions of human beings in the short time available to us.

What, then, is the issue that confronts us. It is simply our survival as a free people, a question that seems fairly certain to be settled by our ability to remain solvent. That there could be the merest doubt about that is probably the one thing that makes the danger hard to imagine. National bankruptcy would be something new in our experience, one of these things that "can't happen here."

Somewhat it doesn't even sound all that bad. We know all about financial crises. We have had plenty of those, and—well, you get used to them after a while; a few cuts here and there, temporary shortages of this and that, and no more is heard. It is not reasonable to suppose that bankruptcy would be much the same, perhaps slightly worse? Even the word itself does not have the same forceful impact as flood, fire, earthquake, war and the other catastrophes that beset the human race.

How to get the idea across that bankruptcy would bring hardship equal to almost anything we have ever known in centuries is probably the most difficult task that confronts those who guide our destinies from the Whitehall. Churchill's words as great as any that we faced in World War II merely follow a series of similar warnings uttered with almost monotonous regularity during the past few years. The reference to the cry of "Wolf!" (being made once too often) does not strictly apply; whereas in the fable there was no wolf until the end of the tale, in our modern story the wolf has been there all along.

Perhaps familiarity with financial cares has made us contemptuous of them. But contempt is not enough. In any case it is still doubtful if it is generally realized just how great the danger is.

Too many people regard the problem (if you care to use that word, mild as it seems) as one of personal inconvenience, greatly tied up with their own immediate circumstances. Alas, it is not so. What measures the Government has so far taken to try to arrest the drift into national insolvency are unpopular; that was to be expected. However, that they should be the basis for claims from powerful Trade Unions for increased wages for their members, as compensation, is indefensible unless it is explained by sheer ignorance of the facts.

Surely, in charity, that seems the only explanation. It is hardly conceivable that people would intentionally try to obstruct the efforts of a responsible Government to avert disaster. Unless, of course, their allegiance lies outside our own country.

There, of course, we come up against one of the weaknesses of a democratic way of life: freedom of speech operates irrespective of whether a man speaks according to the dictates of his own conscience, or according to his external instructions.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

CONFEDERATION PROPHECY

The following editorial appeared in The Islander of December 30, 1864. It was forwarded by Lieutenant Governor Dundas to the Rt. Hon. Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in a letter of the same date, as accurately representing the state of public opinion in the Colony:

"The year 1864 will live in history as the Epoch of Confederation—the year in which, in our little town, assembled the leading minds of the British North American Colonies, and entered upon the discussion of the great question of a Confederation of the several Provinces, which resulted in the Quebec Conference, and the adoption of the Resolutions which are to form the basis of a Confederation destined at no very distant day to constitute one of the greatest nations of the earth."

"The expense of the Conference will be complained of by some in the Lower Provinces, especially in this Island, where the great majority of the people appear to be wholly adverse to Confederation. Let our people bear in mind, that if no other benefits should result from the Conference, than those which will flow from the interchange of sentiments between the leading statesmen of the several Provinces, and the wide dissemination of information relating to the Colonies, consequent upon the publication in all parts of Europe of the speeches delivered by the delegates, they, in several Colonies, will be amply repaid."

"For years past the statesmen of the several Provinces have been impressed with the desirability of a general meeting for the purpose of discussing matters relating to the Colonies generally. No occasion other than the Conference of 1864 could have brought together the men who met in Charlottetown and at Quebec. They were men of very different politics—members of Governments and members of Oppositions—not a few of whom had for years been mutually opposed the one to the other—often in contests availing too much of personal feeling—they met, and displaying a common desire—that of advancing the general interest of their common country."

"Well may the Press of England express satisfaction at the unanimity and good feeling which characterized the proceedings of the Conference. The unseemly differences, which are too often witnessed in the Colonies, were unknown in the Conference—the proceedings of which reflected the ability and enlightened statesmanship, such as our trans-Atlantic friends did not expect to find among Colonists."

"Prince Edward Island may not accept the offer of Confederation with her great and flourishing neighbors; but the refusal to do so will injure Prince Edward Island alone, and will not at all affect the great question. We have done our duty. We have urged Confederation—the people have declared against it; and, by-and-by, when, in Prince Edward Island, the desire for Confederation shall be as loudly expressed as today is expressed the desire to avoid it—and that hour, we predict, will come—we shall have our reward."

rest of us are insignificant in numbers if not in effort. It cannot be beyond the power of those at the head of our affairs to present the true facts so strongly that they could not be ignored. The most competent judges of character are convinced that that is all that is necessary to ensure the sort of national effort that would soon see us in the clear.

We soon saw where we stood during the late war, but then, bombs on your cities are powerful persuaders. The fact that our present-day dangers are less immediately fearful, less tangible, makes them that much more deadly and harder to ward off.

The Passing Scene

By Observer THE MONSTER OF SEAL RIVER

When it comes to casting all afternoon and evening with never a strike, I am among the experts. And I should be, for I have been doing that now, two or three times a week during the season, for twenty-five years or more.

A few days ago I was lured to Seal River, a few miles from Cardigan, by stories of the "great catches" various people were getting. Indeed, the stories so impressed me that I thought to myself: Here at last is what I have been looking for for many years. For once in my life I'll bring back my limit.

I even wondered what I would do if the first four were to weigh eight pounds in the aggregate, and the fifth two pounds eight ounces, or something like that. Should I throw the last one away just to be on the safe side of the law, or take a chance on getting away with it? Sad to relate, my anxiety on that score turned out to be unnecessary, as it has on many occasions in time past.

For six solid hours I continued to throw one fly after another, and the only creature that paid the slightest attention to any of them was a tiny fingerling who should have been home in bed instead of playing around himself in dangerous waters. And I told him so, gently but firmly. I wondered what kind of a mother he had, who would allow a youngster like that to go his own undisciplined way.

To make matters worse (something always happens to do that) along came a man and asked point blank: "Having any luck?" No doubt there is a psychologist somewhere who could explain it, but for myself it has always been a mystery why no one ever asks that question if you are fortunate enough to have anything you would like to show off. It is only when your heart is deep in disappointment, frustration, and you have deferred, that anyone seems to have any real interest in the contents of your reel. I should like to see Professor Kinsey or some equally eminent authority dig into this matter in a big way. His findings would, I am sure, be a great contribution to knowledge or human behaviour.

Following my usual practice in such instances, I told the man I had two or three good strikes. "No big ones, you know, probably around a couple of pounds or so." This seemed to please him very much, and he immediately wanted to know what fly I had been using. In such cases it is generally safe to mention the Parmachenee Belle and Dark Montreal, Silver Body, so that is what I told him. "That's funny," he commented, "most of the big ones this year seem to be taking the Shrimp." I hated to disturb his apparent confidence in shrimps, so I added quickly: "Come to think of it, I believe it was a shrimp, not Montreal." "I thought so," he said, and I could see he was feeling much better about the whole thing.

Then he told me about the Monster. A most intriguing tale which in all likelihood I would not have heard at all, at least from him, had I insisted that it was a Montreal, not a Shrimp, that the mythical two pounders had struck. Which is one more proof that it pays to be agreeable.

According to this first version of the story, a little version more exciting were to follow—a "very big trout under the bridge" has been playing havoc with rods and lines for several years now. "Nobody so far has had the gear to take him" was the way my first informant put it.

"Have you any idea how big the fish is?" I asked him. "Some say one thing and some another" was his answer, but I'd say, from what different people have told me, that he'd go up to four pounds, or perhaps a little better. I suggested that while a four pound salt water trout was a good thing to have on a hook, I couldn't see that there was anything especially remarkable about it. "Why," I said, "a man I know catches bigger ones than that down at Whitlocks all the time." "I don't doubt it," said he, "but this one is different. He has the strength of an ox." I inquired if the ox-like trout had turned up this year. "Not yet," he said, "he's due any day after the next full moon."

I have never been able to subscribe to the proposition that sea trout know all about the various phases of the moon, not having calendars, but almost everybody I know assumes that they do. Anyway, I went to the car and started to dismantle my gear, all the time calculating as best I could when the next full moon might be expected to shed her golden dance. For I was determined that at that precise moment I would be at the bridge, prepared to risk my beautiful rod in combat with the Seal River Monster. Even if the rod should be smashed from reel to tip, I thought, it will be worth it. A foolish conclusion, I know, but perhaps I can be forgiven for it. No man is in his right senses after six hours of casting with nothing to show.

I knew very well I had not heard the last of the story and, sure enough, just before I started on my way another chap came along and said: "I suppose you haven't come across the Big One." "No," I told him, "he's not due till after the next full moon." "Like heck he isn't," the newcomer exclaimed, "a little gruffly I thought, 'he was right under that bridge at five o'clock this morning. I ought to know, for I hooked into the creature.' 'Lose anything?' I queried, and I tried hard to put a touch of pity in my voice. 'Yes,' he said, 'I lost a spankin' new bamboo I bought only yesterday at R.J.'s in

The Age-Old Story

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars. . . . And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. . . . And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their peace found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world; he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. . . . And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. . . . And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

PRISON TERM FOR ARSONISTS

QUELPH, Ont., June 27—(CP)—Robert McKillop, 19, of Toronto and Gerald McKillop, 22, of Bluewater, Ont., and Sydney, N.S., today were sentenced to two years in penitentiary. Both were charged with setting fire to a barn near the abattoir of the Ontario Reformatory last May 18. Little damage was done beyond the destruction of some straw.

FEWER OLD MAIDS

OSLO—(CP)—The surplus of Norwegian men over women is steadily extending to older groups so that fewer women run the risk of dying as old maids, according to Johan Vogt, of Oslo University. He warned Norwegian men that competition for wives is getting keener all the time.

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