

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. CIRCULATION Total City Zone 3,763 Retail Trading Zone 8,457 All Others 827 Total Net Paid 13,048 President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. 'The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink'. CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, DEC. 7, 1951

Dairy Industry Problems

The Dairy Farmers of Canada have adopted the wise policy of publicizing their problems. The advertisement appearing in our issue of Wednesday is a good example of effective publicity methods, which consist primarily in giving the facts succinctly, clearly and arrestingly. In answer to the question whether the price of milk is too high, it is pointed out that in 1939 the average hourly wage earner in manufacturing industry had to work for 15.6 minutes at his job to buy a quart of milk, whereas today it can be purchased for 10.1 minutes of work at the average hourly wage. Official index figures are cited showing that all dairy foods are low priced today in relation to other foods. It is shown also that farm labour wages have increased by 181 per cent in the last ten years, feed by 82 per cent, with many other items in the cost of milk production showing big increases. The average producer price of all milk has advanced only 78 per cent in the last ten years, a rise that has not kept pace with the greater increase in production costs. Moreover in the last decade, while Canada's population has increased by 21.6 per cent, the dairy cow population has fallen by 2.4 per cent. A decline of 18 per cent in production of milk over this period is noted. Today's per capita consumption of 1,099 pounds per year leaves a margin of only 6 per cent to feed livestock on the farms, leaving no margin whatever to ensure continuity of supply of dairy foods. Production costs and prices received being out of balance, dairy farmers are cutting down or abandoning their dairy enterprise for more attractive fields of production. The immediate danger, as pointed out in the advertisement, is the possible shortage of essential dairy foods in some Canadian markets. The longer range danger is the depletion of Canada's soils, so dependent on animals and crop rotation for the maintenance of fertility. Depleted soils lead to abandoned farms. Nowhere is the dairy industry more important to provincial economy than in Prince Edward Island. We were the first to establish a disease free cattle area on a Province-wide basis, and have made great progress in recent years in improving our cattle breeds as well as in production methods. Apart from the annual revenue accruing from this industry, our whole system of farming is based on dairying. We have therefore a big stake in the programme of education which the Dairy Farmers of Canada are carrying on at the present time. Its purpose is to show that the Dominion's third largest industry cannot be adversely affected without serious results to the national income. Our members of Parliament, and others who have the opportunity of making themselves heard on matters of public concern, should take every opportunity of endorsing the campaign and showing that we in this Province are behind it one hundred per cent.

Canadian Prices

Some interesting information has been placed before the public incidentally to the activities of the Parliamentary committee on price fixing. The Canadian and U.S.A. prices of some electrical appliances for instance: refrigerator \$479 C—\$319.95 U.S.; washing machine \$439 C—\$299.95 U.S.; and an electric iron \$15.50 C—\$12.95 U.S. Mr. B. Napier Simpson of Toronto, manager of the Canadian Electrical Manufacturers' Association pointed out that such higher prices are the penalty that Canadians pay for their citizenship and independence, that if Canada removed tariffs on U. S. items, Canadian industry might be eliminated and Canadians reduced to "hewers of wood and drawers of water." This is a point that Maritimers have been vainly trying to make for years, that the primary producers of the whole country have been subsidizing the industrial central areas. They and not the Maritimes and West are the economically weak sisters which depend for their very existence on being spoon fed out of the earnings of the rest of the nation. We do not seriously object to the situation. It would be indeed deplorable to see the industries of Ontario and Quebec vanish away. What Maritimers do vigorously resent is the calm assumption of those areas that, because they are wealthy

and the Maritimes are not, it follows that these sea-girt areas are a drag on the strength and prosperity of the body politic.

Transportation In The News

The recent address of C. N. R. President Donald Gordon and the motorized service introduced across the Hillsborough Bridge are indications of profound changes which are around the corner. That changes are necessary has been obvious for some time. The reluctance of the people of this Province to travel from place to place by rail has become greater. The reason, of course, is the relative slowness and necessary infrequency of passenger train service in a small and far from congested area. To reduce the service would be no answer at all. Instead of carrying more passengers at longer intervals the C. N. R. would find itself carrying even fewer. It will be forced, rather, to find means of providing fast and frequent service within the Province either by light equipment on rails or on the highways or a combination of the two.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The ghastly highway accident in Britain in which a safety award winner drove a bus into marching youngsters shows again how tragically difficult it is to see and avoid unlighted obstacles on the road at night.

The Dairy Farmers of Canada are putting the facts of their industry before the public by means of intelligent advertising. Had they only been able to do this earlier they might not have had to cope with margarine competition.

The spate of cigarette smuggling which has cropped up indicates that this country is too far out of line with the United States in rates of duty. Unless prices are brought more nearly in line it is going to be a difficult and expensive proposition to check illegal importation.

Some people like cold baths, and in London the Christmas morning swim in the Serpentine is a feature of the day's observance. It is announced that for the 88th time the Serpentine Swimming Club will hold its annual swimming race in Hyde Park for the Peter Pan Trophy.

The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour this date ten years ago. Complacency in American military and civilian circles was rudely shattered by the destruction of the vital airfields and the fleet. There was great loss of life and almost all available planes were destroyed on the ground.

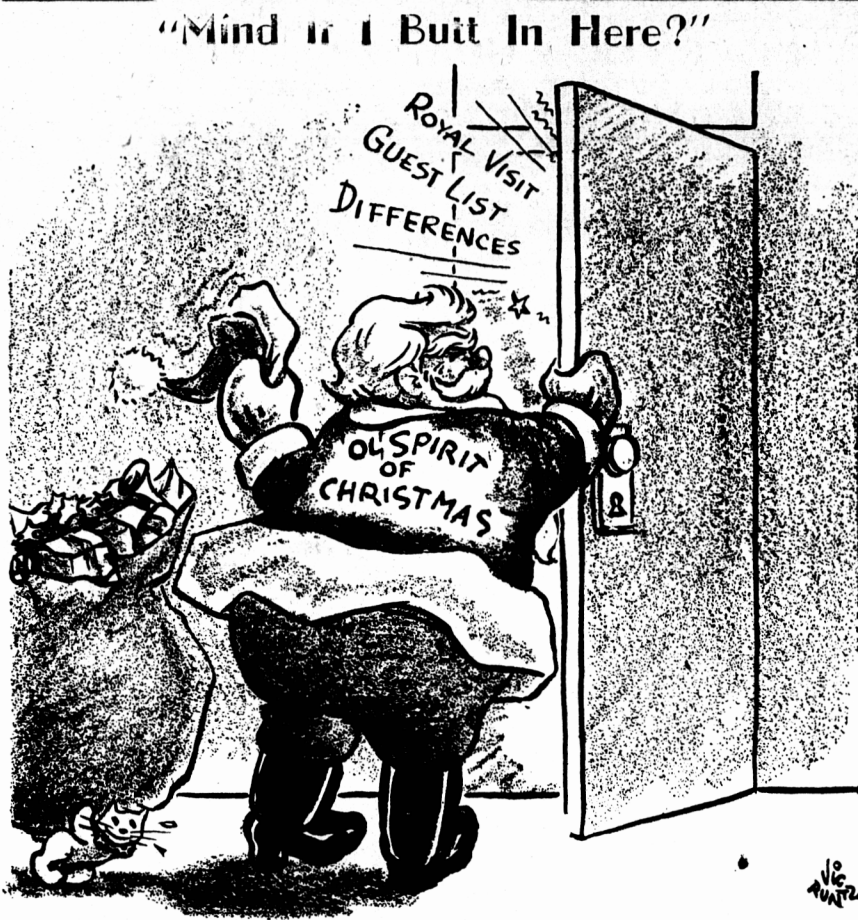
Body armour for troops is so out of line with present day ideas of mobile warfare that the attention now being directed to it seems unwarranted. A possible explanation is that it forms part of a plan to sway opinion against the general adoption of the .280, the relatively light new British rifle.

The Prime Minister is in a position when he should take heed of the scriptural warning: "Woe unto you when all men shall speak well of you". The tremendous ovation he got from leaders of all parties in Parliament on the occasion of his attaining the tenth anniversary of entering the Government has been unsurpassed by anything in the political history of Canada since Confederation.

First "flying wardrobe" has flown \$6,000 worth of next year's fashions from Prestwick, Scotland to New York. An Edinburgh firm has introduced a Stratocruiser service—the garments in zippered dust bags to prevent creasing—which will enable new-style clothes to be delivered from the Scottish factory to any American city within 48 hours. More aircraft will be equipped for a seasonal fashion air-lift.

Setting a thief to catch a thief has its reverse in Toronto where the police are searching for a former military policeman, who is also the son of a retired Toronto police officer. He is accused of a half-dozen bank robberies, and also with escaping from Don St. jail. He has disappeared without leaving a trace of his whereabouts, and his wife alleges the police offered her \$500 to betray him.

We here want more people to go into farming. Mr. George Drew wants more to go into politics. "Politics is not just a game; the survival of democracy itself depends on strong political parties", Mr. Drew told an executive meeting of the British Columbia Progressive Conservatives. "If democracy is going to survive, the people have to get out of the political bleachers and into the game. Everyone must play his part. We have the right and the duty to ask people to join in the processes of democracy, and if they don't they have no right to complain afterwards if things done are not to their liking."



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.

LIBRARY LIGHTS

Sir.—The prevalence of electric lighting power during the keenest and most brilliant daylight hours in the Charlottetown Public Library is not only preposterous, but is disastrous in effecting the tender and very sensitive eyesight; needless to say the minor, lesser-important liability of useless expense. Certainly, a two-way means of illumination—the natural daylight vs. electricity—only results in absurd construction. Little wonder the local Library staff are all compelled to wear glasses, which in time may well contribute to near-blindness. Library patrons are obliged to endure a useless and brain-demoralizing strain in acutely discomforting efforts in trying to read; to be sure study concentration would be absolutely impossible. If the lights must go on, why not lower all the shades to the window base. Looking forward to a saner system and plain, natural comfort. I am, Sir, etc., IRRITATED LIBRARY PATRON.

"NICOTINE KNOCKOUT"

Sir.—I am using the above caption from Gene Tunney's article, published in the Reader's Digest ten years ago, and from which I am quoting freely in this letter. Tunney was a heavyweight world champion and when he wrote his article was in charge of athletics in the U.S. Navy. He indicts tobacco as "a poison and a fraud." I am led to write again on this subject from an experience I had this October near Halifax. My car was constantly giving me trouble and I had often to consult a garage. There I became acquainted with one of the best and smartest mechanics I have known, but he's a pack-a-day man. Professor Raymond Pearl of John's Hopkins says he will at this rate shorten his days by ten years, and if he has to go to hospital for a major operation he will have less chance of coming through. I feel keenly for this expert young man, and I quote his case because today there are so many one-pack-a-day men. This is a day of excess and yearly here in Canada more than one thousand new cigarette smokers are added. Nicotine leaps straight at the heart. The heart has to pump faster and harder in order to force the blood through the arteries, narrowed by nicotine. This is an age of excess, and some ministers of religion and even their wives have turned to worship the weed. Last year I saw the photo of a minister, high up in the church, token pipe and all. I thought, what a splendid ad for the money-mad tobacco companies and what an excuse for boys and girls to take up the habit. Those men must surely be unaware of their harmful influence. I am, Sir, etc., W.I. GREEN.

STANLEY BRIDGE

THE TURNIP SITUATION

Sir.—There have appeared in your paper lately various items which look toward the establishment of a Turnip Marketing Board. After the fiasco of the Potato Marketing Board, established by this same group of agricultural marketing theorists, it would appear that the failure of one effort is no deterrent to the trying of a similar one. The Potato Marketing Board, which was openly advocated to be a cure-all for "the price cutting competition of the dealers," resulted only in the growers receiving just what the market would pay for the 1950 crop, which was very little. The Government support for this crop, and for which the Potato Marketing Board was the prin-

Notes By The Way

Canada has lost the wheat crown to a Michigan farmer, who won the prize at the International Hay and Grain show at Chicago. It's nice to win this event regularly, as Canada has for the past 22 years but even if the country loses once in a while, it will still be recognized that Canadian wheat grown for consumption makes just about as fine bread as wheat grown for show. —Ottawa Citizen.

In Maroa, Ill., Herbert Marlow, a fun-loving farmer, mounted Oscar, a stuffed pheasant, in his fenced-in bean field, then sat back to watch the sport from his picture window. Oscar was noticed by more than 100 passing hunters. Only two of them asked Farmer Marlow's permission to take a shot at him. The others generally brought their cars to screeching stops and leaped out to blaze away at the stuffed bird. After one hunter nearly shot his companion in his haste to get the bird, Mrs. Marlow made her husband bring Oscar back into the house. —Time Magazine.

In many parts of Southern Alberta where crops are still out in the fields, under snow or silt, great flocks of ducks have broken their flight south and refuse to resume it. Those who know ducks say they will not leave as long as the rich banquet table spread before them offers yet another meal. This could mean that they may stay so long the migration impulse will have faded, and then they may die by the tens of thousands in the blizzards and cold snaps of next February and March. Migratory ducks are a hardy species and could weather a normal winter but if they do there will not be much grain left in the fields for the spring salvage. —Medicine Hat News.

An unusual dictionary is being shown in London. Everyone talks about Cambridge blues, pillar-box reds or elephant out, but when it comes to the point how red exactly is a pillar-box? Or what particular shade of grey do you match with an elephant? The color dictionary provides the answer to this and any other question you may care to ask within its scope.

Capital agent and spokesman, was the poorest and most awkward program ever offered in the history of the industry. The good crops of the 1951 crop, which the growers are now reaping, are the result of the law of supply and demand; and the Marketing Board's only action was to put a minimum price on Sebago seed of \$1.10 per bushel, which was as ridiculous then as it is today. Inexperience will over-ride good intentions in any field of practical endeavour, and this applies to the Board's actions and to the very frequent comments appearing in the press under the name of the head of the Board, concerning the future prospects of the potato marketing, about which, because of its uncertainty, even the most experienced people hesitate to express an opinion.

Most practical farmers have found that the freely offered advice of inexperienced officialdom is, to say the least, a dangerous basis for action. On the whole, Prince Edward Island has a very limited market for turnips, so long as the Ontario turnip growing areas are able to supply the demand. Our freight rate to New York City is 83 cents per cwt., and it takes ten days to deliver a carload, while the freight from the Guelph area of Ontario is 71 cents per cwt., and delivery is made in about two days. We are therefore at a distinct disadvantage in this very large market.

Boston is the centre of our distribution in the U. S. A., and it is a well-known fact that the best way to lose one's shirt is to ship there on consignment. This is not at all necessary, and the daily price in Boston has little effect on the farmers' price here. The value of turnips here is based on the returns that are now available as we meet the Ontario turnips in the Southern areas of New England. The Ontario turnip grower is a professional in this particular branch of agriculture, and is growing and marketing a profitable crop of large volume; and the product is free from injury, packed in sizes to suit the trade requirements, and looks as neat and as pretty as the picture in the seed catalogue. Our best eating turnips have no equal for flavour, but the advantage in this is lost to quite a degree because of the quantity of poor eating and strong fibre turnips that go out under the P. E. I. name. If our growing and grading of turnips was equal to the Ontario standard, and only the mild, mellow flavoured turnips marketed, we would considerably increase the area in which we can market our product, and at the same time give the growers a paying return for their labour. If turnips continue to be grown for cattle feed, and then it is expected that they can be shipped to a food market, no quantity of officialdom with autocratic authority to hamper all movement can ever improve the net returns to the grower. We are, Sir, etc., POTATO AND TURNIP DEALERS' ASSOCIATION

Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. McIsaac Part Three (continued) (All Rights Reserved)

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Re-organization of Institute district convention areas in accordance with the above plan of local districts would be most desirable. This larger Institute unit, could perhaps take a more lively interest in social and economic questions. A definite policy of promoting interest in rural libraries and film councils might also be arranged in addition to the regular program. It would be well if a coordinating committee was then set up in each of the districts to plan community projects in advance. In such a plan, the Institutes would be the official women's organization and the district Federation branch, strictly an organization of the men. A community center and modern sports field, the rural library, film council, and one, two, three, or more, rural high schools in each district (whatever the people decide upon) and a central school taxation unit and board of trustees, should definitely be within the ten-year goal of each and every district. Women's Institute members who constitute the majority of our better educated rural residents, cannot afford to let such pressing questions as that of larger school units pass by without thorough investigation, regardless of their connection with or dependence upon Government financial support.

Labor Unions

Labor Unions are needed in Prince Edward Island. Our truckmen especially, are obviously—if the speed at which they drive is indicative of their need—being deprived of their economic due. But too, nothing would start our farmers operating on a more efficient and business-like basis than a good strong Farm Workers Union that would demand over-time for unnecessary late hours caused by mismanagement and lack of planning. Such a Union would raise the standard of living especially for the married farm worker to the point where those men who are worth hiring as farm workers would be treated as equals and valuable citizens of a great country. There are many honest, dependable and hard working men who would rather work on the farm than anywhere else if they were assured of decent hours, a house to live in and reasonable wages. In fact, there are so many of these, if fair wages and good family living conditions were provided, it would be unnecessary to hire the many misfits who are about the only type willing to suffer general farm working conditions today.

Recommended Reading

Moore, Arthur: The Farmer and the Rest of Us. Robinson, Edward and Carolyn: The Have More Plan. Robinson, Joan: Introduction to the Theory of Employment. Ruskin, John: Unto This Last. (To be continued)

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

A FINE NEW VESSEL. "The new brig, 'Archibald', owned and loaded by Messrs. A. Macdonald & Bros., cleared at the County House today for the Old Country, and will sail with the first westerly wind. Her cargo consists of 18,000 bushels oats, 320 boxes potatoes, 300 pieces deal, valued at \$8,500. The 'Archibald' was built at Cardigan Bridge, and her construction was supervised by Mr. John D. Lewis, who has good reason to congratulate himself upon the appearance and workmanship of this vessel." —The Examiner, Nov. 30, 1877.

The Poet's Corner

EPILOGUE FROM POMPEY THE GREAT

And all their passionate hearts are dust. And dust the great idea that burned. In various flames of love and lust Till the world's brain was turned. God, moving darkly in men's brains, Using their passions as his tool, Brings freedom with a tyrant's chains And wisdom with the fool. Blindly and bloodily we drift, Our interests clog our hearts with dreams. God make my brooding soul a rift Through which a meaning gleams. —John Masfield.

The Age-Old Story

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. (OXFORD, England, Dec. 5 (Reuters)—Painted slogans on a manding "Adenauer go home" were discovered today on rail and buildings in this ancient West-vernity town shortly before Ad- German Chancellor Konrad Ad- enauer was due to arrive for one-day visit. Adenauer, first Ger- man Chancellor to visit England since 1931, drove from London in a convoy of five cars, each flying the federal German flag.