

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, APRIL 9, 1951

Returning A Parliament

Electoral writs having been issued by the Lieutenant-Governor it is interesting to reflect that this Province is now engaged in returning a parliament. There are those, of course, who do not consider our General Assembly to be a parliament.

These arguments are far from conclusive. The Canadian parliament was created, it is true, by the B. N. A. Act but existing Provincial legislatures or parliaments were merely continued and owe their status to the prerogative and pre-Confederation legislation.

It is for convenience that Provincial members are referred to as M. L. A.'s rather than as M. P.'s.

Budget Anticipations

Tomorrow night is Budget Night at Ottawa, and not even Provincial politics in the middle of a campaign are as important as what Mr. Abbott will have to say about our tax bills for the next twelve months.

Another 5 per cent increase on corporation taxes which were raised 5 per cent in last September's special budget, when personal income taxes were not raised.

Heavy increases of another 10 to 15 per cent on present excise taxes on motor cars, furs, jewelry, and luxury goods.

These taxes are expected to produce close to \$500 millions which will close the gap between estimated revenue and expenditure including defense expenditure.

The Budget is also likely to contain a voluntary savings bond plan aimed to postpone income tax payments on savings, a plan which has been under long and close examination by the Department of Finance.

Such a method of saving would be especially desirable for older taxpayers looking toward retirement when their income would be less, and income taxes consequently less on the bonds they cashed.

These, of course, are just anticipations. The Budget details are a closely guarded secret, but there is no doubt, in view of mounting defense expenditures and other uncontrollable increases, that tax boosts on a pretty stiff scale are in the offing.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is good news that the Wood Island-Caribou steamer service is to start earlier this year—good for both passengers and trucks.

The Navy's reserve division at Saint John has been supplied with the minesweeper H. M. C. S. Llewellyn and that

or St. John's with H. M. C. S. Revelstoke. It should not be impossible to have Charlottetown as a base for a third.

Our "relief" starch factories are to begin operations this week. Probably the farmer patrons will feel thankful for small mercies.

Total cost to the taxpayer for the Turgeon Commission has run to \$369,966.27. And total accounts still outstanding amount to an additional \$11,700.

Should the St. Laurent Government fail to introduce all-round conscription Labour Minister Gregg, V.C., will have to withdraw from membership, as he has pledged that he would never be a party to any legislation that would re-create zombies.

Mr. Louis Normand, president of Canadian Council of Provincial Government Employees, will tour the Maritime Provinces Provincial Civil Servants' Associations at an early date.

There is much to be said for establishing standard "utility" products in these times of scarcity. It means that sound workmanship in necessary products will be available at reasonable cost.

Francis Bacon, Baron Verulam and Viscount St. Albans, English lawyer, statesman and philosopher, died this date 1626. His political rise and fall were rapid.

Sir David Robertson, Member of Parliament for Calthness and Sutherland, and Lady Robertson were the principal guests at the 75th anniversary of the founding of Calthness Association in Toronto on April 4.

It is probably not important whether Britain and the United States jointly announce that the U. N. has put down aggression in South Korea and that hostilities should cease.

In this day and age two hundred dollars may not be too high a deposit for candidates to put up before contesting a seat but the Premier puts the matter on a wrong basis when he links the deposit with the cost of holding a ballot.

"To him that hath shall be given" seems to dictate the policy of the Federal Government. To the Prairie wheat growers who luxuriantly spend their winters in Florida to escape our severe winters, they propose giving \$65,000,000 of the taxpayers' money, free, gratis and for nothing.

According to Health Minister Paul Martin, the Federal Government's new contributory old age pensions program can be in effect by next Jan. 1, says The Gazette. But there are two big ifs. The first is that the provinces would have to agree very soon to go along with the pensions plan.

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.

NO CHANGE INTENDED

Sir, — My attention has been called to an article by Gerald Waring suggesting that adoption of U.S. type equipment would be accompanied by adoption of U.S. uniforms and other similar changes producing complete Americanization of Canadian forces.

It is not the intention of the Canadian Army or Government to change anything in the Canadian forces bearing on their traditions including titles of regiments, ranks, rank badges, badges, uniforms, affiliations with British or other Commonwealth formations.

I am, Sir, etc., BROOKE CLAXTON, Minister of National Defence, Ottawa, April 7, 1951

APPEAL FROM AUSTRALIA

Sir,—Although I am an Australian girl, I have always been interested in Canada, and particularly in the people of Prince Edward Island. Would you please help me to find pen friends? I would like to correspond with people in all parts of the Island.

I am nineteen years old, and doing an arts course at the Queensland University. I do hope that I will be successful in obtaining pen friends, and I thank you very much for helping me.

I am, Sir etc., CLAIRE HARDING, Cnr. Hants St. & Windsor Rd. Hamilton, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

ART ORGANIZATIONS

Sir,—As there seems to be confusion in the minds of many as to the art centre and the Art Society, I shall appreciate it if you will allow me space to explain the difference.

There are two distinct and separate art organizations in Charlottetown—the Art Centre and the Art Society of P. E. I.

The Art Centre, operating at present from rooms in the Market Building, has a trained organizer at its head. It is broader in its outlook and has a more extensive programme than the Art Society, taking in numerous aspects of the arts and linking them to education in general.

Although the two organizations keep their own identity, they are in no way in competition but rather they are complementary to each other. As will be noted from the advertisement, the exhibition of paintings opening on April 10th with a tea is sponsored by the Art Society of P. E. I.

I am, Sir, etc., FRIEDA I. CREELMAN, President Art Society of P. E. I.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Sir,—Right now during the week or two before the fields are fit for cultivation is the ideal time for the planting of trees and shrubs around the home, and along the home entrance ways and roadsides.

Rock maples, oaks, elms and limes which are among the ideal ornamental trees may not be easy to secure, if they have not been ordered well in advance, but there is plenty of local material available in quantity merely for the expenditure of a little labor and time.

Native red maple thrives here as in few localities, and is glorious in its autumnal coloring. Birch planted in clumps of two or three, fifty or sixty feet apart, with their trunks kept trimmed for some distance above the ground will not catch snow along the road sides, will not throw enough shade to do any harm, and will make your farm roadside a thing of beauty to all beholders.

If one prefers something even smaller for the road or lane side, try wild cherry, carb or seedling apple, dog berry or even the small leaved aspen poplar. These planted thirty or forty feet apart will not

The Poet's Corner

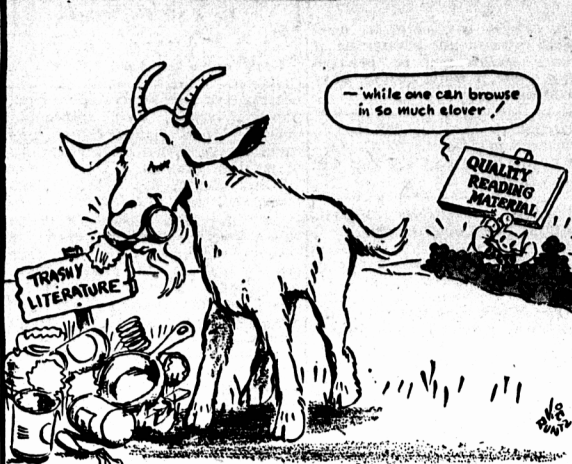
SEA COAST FARMER

If I should buy a farm it could not be bordering the sight of any sea. Where I might turn and find the blue spread wide. Just beyond my bit of countryside. I could not nod along with horse and plow. Nor contemplate the filling of a now. When, for a step or two, I might away. Flying a slim sail down an open bay.

I could not worry if the cattle failed. Or blight was in the stack, for when I called And dipped my net within a fruitful wave, Filling a boat with all that I could save, I would forget the far, phlegmatic field. The said routine, the plodding for the yield; I would plow liquid furrows in the sea. And laugh to watch them close in after me!

—Isabelle B. Longfellow.

No Need To Be A Goat



"WHY WASTE A VALUED PERIOD OF LEISURE WITH READING MATTER WHICH LEAVES ONLY A MENTAL SHADOW WHEN THERE IS AVAILABLE SUCH A WEALTH OF SPLENDID LITERATURE TO ENTERTAIN, ENLIGHTEN AND UPLIFT?" ASKS SPOKESMAN FOR Crusade for Good Reading, IN PUBLIC FORUM.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

MEMORIAL CONCERT

"On Monday evening the members of the Charlottetown Debating Club gave an entertainment in the Market Hall, in aid of the Whelan Memorial Fund. The audience, unfortunately, was not so large as the ability of the speakers and the goodness of the cause deserved. Mr. Louis H. Davies, President of the Society, took the chair, and delivered an opening address with his accustomed eloquence. We would recommend, however, to that gentleman, to fix upon one of the five positions he places himself in while speaking, and practice the art of standing still in it.

"After Messrs. Earle and Vinicombe had delighted the audience by a musical performance worthy of the reputation they have gained, Mr. John LePage (the Island Minstrel) recited an original Monday, a simple and touching tribute to the memory of his deceased friend. Addresses on the life of the Hon. Edward Whelan were also given by Messrs. Howlan and McNeill. The entertainment was varied with readings by Messrs. G. Peake, G. Miller, P. S. McGowan and F. S. Longworth. An original poem by Mr. C. W. Hall was listened to with interest, while the boys of the audience were indebted for two comic songs to Mr. J. Welsh. At a somewhat late hour, the audience dispersed, well and justly satisfied with their evening's entertainment."

—The Islander, April 9, 1950.

N. B. And The Budget

(Telegraph-Journal) In the next three years rearmament will cost the Canadian treasury at least \$5,000,000,000. If a reasonable and fair proportion of the defence work is allocated to New Brunswick, this part of Canada will experience a major wave of industrial development. Otherwise our existing economic problems will be aggravated.

Hon. J. G. Boucher, provincial secretary-treasurer, fully realizes this. In the Legislature at Fredericton yesterday, he did not hesitate to place the rights and welfare of this region above party politics as he appraised the outlook. He sharply criticized the manner in which New Brunswick has been treated by the federal government. This is what he said:

"It is most obvious to all that the enormous industrial expansion created by our national defence program will only benefit our province in as much as its application is carried on in a decentralized way. We have learned from bitter experience what problems centralization has created in this country, particularly for the Maritime Provinces. Nothing is more exact than this expression which has been connected with the name of our province, 'New Brunswick, the Unspolled Province'. Yes, Mr. Speaker, that tells the truth—here in New Brunswick, we have not been spoiled by any special treatment, favor, consideration or attention. We were not spoiled during the depression when the province and the municipalities had to carry alone the full responsibility of providing work and food for our people. We were not spoiled by any special consideration when, during the last war, billions of dollars were spent for military purposes. We were never spoiled with special attention when freight rates and other matters, in which our general economy was deeply concerned, were discussed and settled. And more recently, Mr. Speaker, we were not spoiled by too much attention by the commission which studied the project of the Chignecto Canal. And we are certainly not being spoiled... by the consideration given at this time to the potato growers of this province."

It is refreshing and encouraging to hear a minister of the provincial government speak out in this fashion, and his words will be applauded throughout New Brunswick. It is certainly to be hoped that the Liberal government at Ottawa will listen to Mr. Boucher, long a prominent member of the Liberal Party, and will be persuaded to recognize that our province has not been justly dealt with, and that our grievances are serious.

sustained period of mass unemployment" (Bank of Nova Scotia). Clearly, nations break down upon the farm.

I am, Sir, etc., REALIST

FARM MARKETING PROBLEM

Sir,—This Ontario farm reader was highly impressed with the objectivity and reasoning of one of your letter correspondents, who dealt in what appeared to me to be statesmanlike fashion with farm problems generally—but with those of your famed potato growers particularly. I quote a paragraph which long since I promised myself to comment upon, but your correspondent's approach took in so much economic and political territory, I have not felt equal to the task: "Whether government subsidizing of agricultural pursuits, at a time when the inexorable law of supply and demand plays havoc with producer plans, is sound philosophy or not, is a debatable question, and with the demand for relief so widespread one would hesitate to argue for the contrary viewpoint..." (J. A. Gillies, in Nov. 8 Guardian).

Even at the risk of over-simplifying this marketing problem, I think it fair to assess the most of the explosive forces in the farm marketing scene stems from the effort, to so speak, operate Canadian economic machinery on a dual basis as between the primary and the secondary industries—i. e. half tariff and half free trade. If the aforesaid "inexorable law of supply and demand" covered us all, the situation might regularize. It would never do, of course, to have the products of the world's factories flow upon us at sea-level; for the obvious reason that our North American living standards would be destroyed. So, in the circumstances, I feel that it is up to governmental authority to do what can be done to keep rural and urban revenues in reasonable alignment.

As one of our great banks puts it, in a recent monthly letter entitled Reflections on a Quarter Century: "Most countries have learned to put a very high priority on the objective of high employment. This is right, for apart from war there is nothing more wasteful of a nation's economic strength, or more demoralizing to the individual and society than a

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Notes By The Way

The Mercury, an American publication, remarks that anyone who in 1941 lent \$75 to the government of the United States would draw out today in terms of purchasing power only \$57. Instead of realizing a profit of a third, as he expected and had been promised, he has lost a third of his investment. The facts are the same in Canada. Is this to say that there should be no borrowing? On the contrary we believe that the average worker should strive to save as much as possible, but it is important that at Ottawa they should be concerned with this grave and most disquieting situation. Saving is at the base of the prosperity of a nation, of its social peace. It must be recognized that today three factors are fighting against saving: letting inflation carry on its ravages, increasing taxation that discourages saving, sanctioning social security measures, somewhat socialist in certain cases and tending to create the impression that it scarcely pays to save.—Montreal Matin.

With the laudable purpose of elevating standards of journalism, there was set up a number of years ago in the United States the Neiman Foundation. It is an arrangement under which a handful of working newspapermen are admitted to Harvard annually for a full year of study along lines of their own choosing. Modest in scope as the arrangement is—it provides for a dozen fellowships annually—it obviously can have an important leveling influence. Broadened and enriched backgrounds are taken back to their ordinary duties by the Fellows after their year's studies. A Fellowship gives the fortunate candidate opportunity for concentrated and undistracted study of which most newspapermen dream. Only minimum stipulations are made as to how time is to be spent. The Fellow is expected to follow one course as if he were a student, but for the rest he may follow his interests. In whatever way he feels will profit him most, by taking lectures or concentrating on a course of reading. Such an opportunity is to be prized, and it is good to be able to announce that Canadian newspapermen need no longer vainly envy their United States confreres access to it. It has been opened to Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Through the generosity of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Harvard will extend the same privileges given the Neiman Fellows to one journalist from each of the three Dominions. That the Carnegie Corporation has seen fit to associate itself with this undertaking may be taken as proof that the Fellowships have shown the intended benefit which the profession in this country is now enabled to share.—Montreal Star.

Things seem to have changed quite a bit under the spreading chestnut tree since Longfellow wrote in praise of the village blacksmith. Back in those days, if the poet is to be believed, a blacksmith cheerfully worked long and hard. "His brow," we are told, "is wet with honest sweat, he earns whatever he can." He was accustomed to labor far into the evening, consoling himself with the thought that "something attempted, something done, has earned a night's repose." Most astonishing of all, these anti-social tendencies were apparently encouraged by the community; he was regarded as a model citizen, and his daughter was allowed to sing in the choir. How different things are in the progressive County of Northampton, England. There the village blacksmith, who insisted on imitating Longfellow's hero, is accused by the local Planning Department of working late hours. He has been informed his licence would not be renewed unless he promised to stop work earlier. His defence, that he had to work nights in order to finish

THE AGE-OLD STORY

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, seeing He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things. For in Him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also His offspring.

BILINGUAL AFRICANS

Nearly half the white population of the Union of South Africa speaks both English and Afrikaans.

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