

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, SEPT. 29, 1952

Our Industrial Development

Because we are chiefly dependent on agriculture and fishing, we have come to regard ourselves as a non-industrial Province but the fact is that subsidiary industries are becoming of increasing importance to our economy. This is clearly indicated in the report on Industrial Development in Canada, 1951-52, prepared by the various Provincial Governments and submitted at the recent Trades and Industry Conference at Lindsay, Ont.

Listed among the developments of the year in Prince Edward Island has been the establishment of a fishmeal and fish filleting plant. Five new draggers are in operation for this plant and three more will be finished by the end of the season. The Government cold storage has been increased and has put in new quick-freezing equipment which takes care of all fresh fish offered. The frozen strawberry and blueberry industry has been expanded greatly. Electric power is being extended. Progress is reported in the Irish Moss industry and experiments are under way for a new process of gathering moss direct from the beds. Canada Packers Limited have added half a million dollars to their already large meat packing plant, having now one of the most modern plants in Eastern Canada. Dairy plants are streamlining their processing and packaging methods; the pickling plant has increased its facilities, and other evidences are cited to show that the Province is making progress industrially.

It is emphasized in the report, which was prepared by the Provincial Department of Industry and Resources, that the Island has ample room for further expansion along these lines. Labor troubles are non-existent, taxation is low and there are splendid water, rail and air facilities for transportation.

A bright spot has been the tourist business which enjoyed a banner season this year. In this connection the report cites the Department's program for the rebuilding of dams and also the work carried on in conservation and reforestation to maintain forest growth, which has greatly increased during the past year.

An obstacle in the way of economic advancement is our high transportation costs. It is emphasized that as freight rates increase this handicap against effective competition in larger consuming centres will become more serious. Also it is pointed out, in strong terms, that the Island has not been receiving its fair share in the distribution of defence contracts compared with other Provinces, and that this situation calls for better facilities in the way of assistance to small manufacturers, both from the banks and from the Dominion Government.

Small Store Prospects

Statistically, the men and women entering business today have much brighter prospects for success than did their counterparts in the first decade of this century. At that time the average rate of business failure was about 12 in every 1,000 firms, whereas in the period between 1940 and 1950, out of every 1,000 businesses in operation, only two failed each year. But the actual number of business failures has climbed steadily since 1946. An article in the current number of the Monetary Times points out that in 1951 the "annual total of failures under the provisions of the Bankruptcy and Winding Up Acts rose to 1,389 compared with 1,303 in 1950—an increase of 7 per cent." Of these failures, 37 per cent. occurred in businesses which were less than four years old, and the greater number of failures were among small merchandisers.

Canadians have every reason to enter the business world with high hopes. But the Monetary Times can quote figures to back up its grim statement that "all too often it means only farewell to savings. Marginal operators, indifferently trained, and even more inadequately financed, these unfortunate amateurs seldom survive the first period of intense competition."

A Canadian survey indicates that too severe competition accounts for only 2.4 per cent of all retail failures. In the unemotional tables of business mortality the words neglect, inexperience or incompetence are written beside nine out of ten business failures.

This, comments the Winnipeg Free Press, does not mean that a husband and wife

were wrong in discussing so eagerly their brave new venture. It does mean that a nest-egg and enthusiasm are not the only ingredients required. The proprietor of a small business must be at once salesman, buyer, display manager, advertising manager and bookkeeper. There are many thousands of storekeepers who manage quite well to be all these and more; it can be done, and it is well worth doing. A business of one's own can, and frequently does, mean prosperity and independence. But the cold statistics of business failures should impress upon the beginner the vital importance of careful planning, preparation and consultation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Feast of St. Michael and All Angels.

Yom Kippur—Jewish Day of Atonement.

Congratulations to Mr. F. A. Stewart Jones and Mr. B. Graham Rogers on their election as President and Secretary-treasurer of the Maritime Wildlife Federation. It is a tribute to their enthusiasm and the effective steps being taken in the matter of conservation in the Province.

An Ontario grand jury has reported that the escape of the ill-famed Boyd gang from Toronto's Don Jail is not a reflection on the physical qualities of the jail. In brief this investigating body voiced an opinion that has been expressed before—a jail is no stronger than its sustaining staff.

Robert Clive, first Baron Clive, Indian administrator, was born this date 1725. A shy, lonely clerk of the East India Company, Clive proved to be a military genius and daring soldier. His holding the town of Arcot for two months with 500 men against a French army of 10,000 may be regarded as the turning point of English fortunes in India.

Canada is largely continental but in these Maritime Provinces it might be a good idea for children to learn geography as they do in Britain, Holland, Denmark, Eire and Norway. Schools are associated with Ship Adoption Societies and keep in close touch with their adopted ship. Descriptions of journeys, cargoes, ports of call and weather conditions during the trips lend zest to classroom lessons.

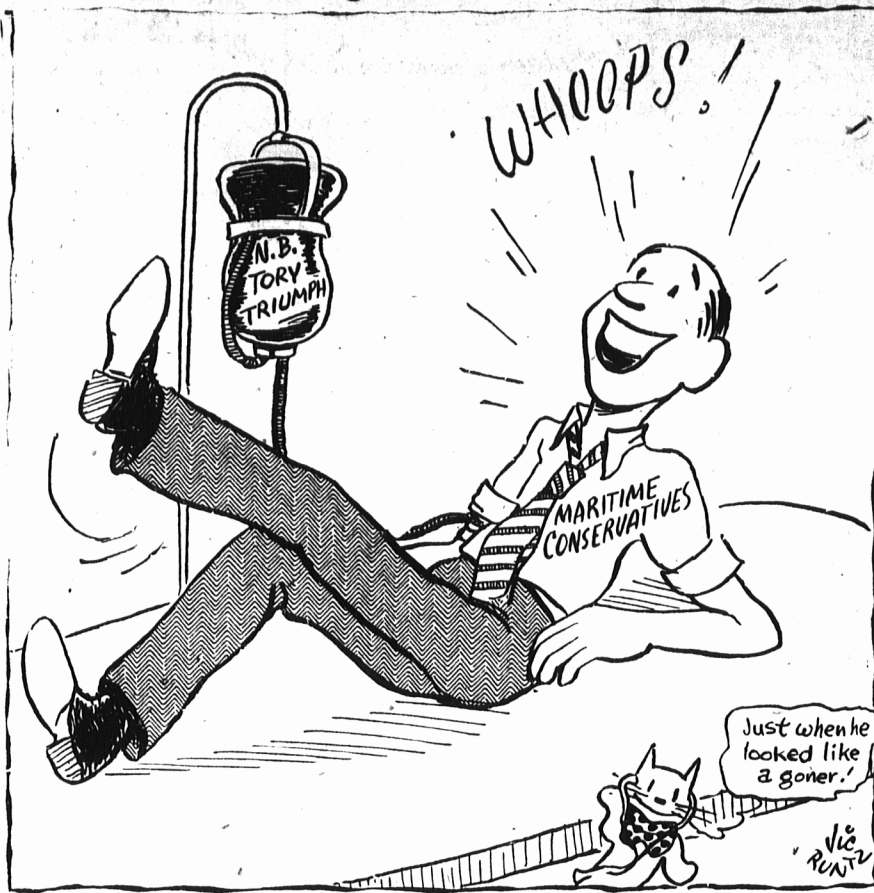
One of the most serious unsolved problems in New Brunswick today, says the Moncton Transcript, is how to save the forests—and incidentally the province's main source of wealth—from the marauding budworm. A large area containing some of the finest softwood forests in the country has been overrun by the destructive pests, and their rapid march is causing deep concern among lumber and pulpwood operators.

There is much talk about irreligion these days, but it is significant that church membership in the United States at the end of 1951 showed an increase of 1,842,515 over the previous year. This was a growth of 2 per cent compared with an estimated increase in population of 1.7 per cent. The figures, reported by the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. show that nearly three out of every five Americans are members of a church or other religious body. These 88,673,005 adherents add up to a new high in church enrollment in the neighboring Republic.

For a long time it has been known that in the body sugar splits up to form glucose and fructose, and these are both simultaneously converted to glycogen, which is a reserve food stored in the liver. However, there have been many mysteries concerning the number of steps through which sugar passes. In the last two decades scientists have discovered how to make sugar radio-active. By this method they are able to follow sugar through the body and observe the changes which take place. This method is called "tracer technique" from the procedure followed in rapid gunfire, whereby an occasional tracer shell is included among ordinary shells, to enable the gunner to see the course of his fire.

Greece has suffered another crop failure this summer, due to an exceptionally severe drought, and more than a quarter of a million people face starvation unless help is again rushed to them from abroad. To save the children, the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada is launching a second "Bread for Greece Crusade", asking its friends and supporters to donate at least one dollar; one dollar which will purchase enough Canadian flour to feed a hungry Greek boy or girl during a whole month. The President of the small village of Kominaes—only a few steps from the Albanian border, told the Director: "Tell our Canadian friends that we shall always stand like a rock at the side of our Allies." But they need to be kept alive.

Feeling Much Better



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.

POTATO BOARD ORDERS

Sir.—Potato Board Order No. 10, setting minimum prices, was received by the dealers, and the general reaction from the trade is a mixture of amazement and fear; amazement that on September 15 a small group, without consultation, should set a price to be maintained for the month of October, and the price named appears to have no relation to the market of the day, but is only a guess as to what the price should be.

If the United States crop report to be issued in October shows a decrease in the total crop, the Marketing Board price would be in line, but otherwise the price is such as to prohibit the sale of our potatoes; and every other potato section except P.E.I. is in a position to go ahead and market their crop.

In the past if a dealer made this type of a guess and was wrong, he was broke and out of business; but today a Board makes the guess, and if they are wrong the farmer is the one who has to pay the piper—not the Board! The dealers fear the authority of amateurs in the potato business, making laws and levying taxes, which should only be the right of the Provincial Legislature elected to do so.

It should be remembered that the tail cannot control the movement of the dog, nor can the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board control the price of potatoes in North America, where we supply only 2% of the demand.

The Poet's Corner

AN AUTUMN GARDEN Here in the sifted sunlight A spirit seems to brood On the beauty and worth of being. In tranquility, instinctive mood; And the heart, athrob with gladness

Such as the wise earth knows, Wells with a full thanksgiving For the gifts that life bestows. For the ancient and virile nurture Of the teeming primordial ground. For the splendid gospel of color, The rapt revelations of sound; For the morning-blue above us And the rusted gold of the fern. For the chickadee's call to valor Bidding the faint-hearted turn.

—Bliss Carman.

The Age-Old Story

And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Lincoln's Proclamation

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Ninety years ago, on 22 September 1862, Abraham Lincoln promised freedom to the slaves. But the promise was little more than a banner flung against the wind. It was a sign of hope, not a guarantee of liberty. The guns of Grant and the bayonets of Sherman had first to crush the South before the pledge could become real. In Congress itself Lincoln fought a cruel opposition. Months of battle and of anguish were still to pass before the war ended; and when it did, Lincoln no longer was there to teach the nation to forget the anger of conflict in the co-operation of peace.

Lincoln closed his proclamation on the first of January, 1863, granting freedom forever to the slaves, with these words: "And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice warranted by the Constitution upon military necessity, I invoke the consideration and judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God."

Earlier, he had been ready to accept gradual emancipation and to pay the owners for all slaves freed. But moderation has no place in war, and sterner policies had to prevail. The rebellious states refused to parley. They still believed that Lee could win a war from which his chivalrous spirit had shrunk and which he had accepted only as a last act of tragic necessity. Their hardness, coupled with criticism from extremists in the North, finally drove Lincoln to sign his proclamation.

Even then he would have stayed his hand if the war had given him any choice. He acted, as he said, from "military necessity". He thought the proclamation would weaken the South, encourage desertions in its ranks, shorten the war. He was not a moralist seeking to find a home for principles of justice, though he was torn with sorrow at the suffering and sadness cast so cruelly upon the Negro. He was Commander-in-Chief of a nation turned into a divided and embattled household.

To end the fighting, to save the Union, to establish a merciful peace—these were his anxieties and by them he was consumed. The emancipation of the slaves was only a detail, a necessary detail, in the larger pattern.

Nor were all slaves promised freedom, even in Lincoln's proclamation. Some districts, though few in number, could still have slavery. However, by the end of 1864, about 1,300,000 slaves had been freed. The next stage was to make this victory permanent by having it rest on something more durable than an edict issued under the stress of war. In addition, the demand was becoming irresistible in the North to abolish slavery everywhere by law.

There was, for example, the farmer who visited a Chicago newspaper: "A sturdy farmer from Oskaloosa, Iowa, one of the bone and sinew class, called upon us yesterday in relation to business matters. Before leaving, we asked him how Mr. Lincoln stood in Iowa. 'Stands?' said the old farmer with glinting eyes and raising his brawny fist. 'Old Abe stands seventeen feet higher in Iowa than any other man in the United States.'" At the party convention in Baltimore enough delegates were present who felt like that farmer to ensure Lincoln's nomination. He carried the country with a majority of 400,000.

Now came the test in Congress. The majority was assured in the Senate, nor would there be trouble in getting the necessary approval from the State Legislatures. The problem was the House of Representatives. Could a two-thirds majority be won there? That was the issue.

In this crisis Lincoln acted like a politician as well as a noble leader. He bought votes with patronage and favors, threats and promises, and all the devices that can be used by the White House. Edmund Burke said a sacred veil hides the beginning of things; a sensitive man will hesitate to lift the veil on the deals and intrigues that led to the adoption of the 13th Amendment, outlawing slavery in the United States. Yet at last the work was done.

Enough Democrats changed sides or stayed away, to give the two-thirds majority. On 21 January 1865, the House carried the amendment by 119-56, with 8 Democrats being absent. Three affirmative votes cast the other way would have prevented victory.

President P. E. I. Federation of Agriculture

Notes By The Way

Raising wages and raising prices to offset them amounts to about the same thing as a kitten chasing his tail, but presumably the kitten has fun out of it. —Kings-ton Whig-Standard.

Christopher Columbus had to yield his honors as discoverer of America first to the Vikings who sailed the East Coast long before him, and now must bow according to a South African anthropologist, to Arabs who were in the New World as early as 1000 A. D. —Ottawa Journal.

A device is available that closes windows and raises the top of a convertible automobile at the first drops of rain. Not only rain but dew or mist or snow will actuate the mechanism. The top will close and the windows to roll up and save damage to upholstery and dash instruments. A micro-moisture grid that can be mounted on the exposed part of the car controls the mechanism. —Rotarian Magazine.

Lt. Col. Frank J. G. Cunningham, a lawyer with wide experience which included reorganizing the administration of justice in Singapore, has been appointed director of the Northern Administration and Lands Branch of the Resources Department. He succeeds Mr. G. E. B. Sinclair, who has retired on superannuation because of ill-health. Ever-increasing interest is being shown in the North and its potential greatness; the appointment of capable men to continue the good work for that vast new region is welcomed. —Ottawa Journal.

The Japanese, whom we would have expected to be firmly attached to the dollar area in these matters, have ordered two Comet air liners from Great Britain. These are only the latest items in a list of orders which is already quite substantial. How much more substantial it would be if Comets were in reasonable supply one can only guess, because Comets are barely in supply at all. At present Britain makes about one a month. By 1954 we shall have reached the staggering figure of three. Even by British standards this is hardly mass production. —News Chronicle, London.

As an outlet for the multiplying population, the Dutch have government sponsored emigration schemes. Started originally as a voluntary body, the emigration bureau has been taken over officially, and in two years had increased the number of emigrants from 20,000 to 50,000 a year and by next year will probably be exporting half the annual net increase in population. The pattern of emigration is interesting: 20,000 to Canada; 18,000 to Australia; 6,000 to New Zealand; 4,000 to South Africa and 1,000 to South America. In the case of Canada, Australia and New Zealand, farm emigrants are in smaller proportion than industrial emigrants.

Montreal daily papers informed us last week that the police of Montreal had achieved the arrest of four automobile thieves. And Captain Armand Gagnon, head of the automobile theft squad, hastened to tell the newspapers the "ingenious" method of the robbers in getting hold of the automobiles. Mr. Gagnon took pains to explain clearly this method for the benefit of all those who would like to do the same thing. And almost every time a daring robbery is committed the police find the criminals have got their tracks. Is that sensible? We wonder whether our young delinquents do not learn from this "police school" how to become "ingenious" bandits. —Le Progrès

From the report of a committee tabled in the Legislative Assembly, April 12, 1942: "Previous to 1830, no law existed in this Colony compelling the claimants of townships to contribute to the expenses of making roads through such townships. Since that time, a law was passed compelling them to contribute to the formation (but not to the maintenance) of such roads as should thereafter be run through the land claimed by them, in so far as a jury should find that such land was increased in value by said road; but if deteriorated, then the Treasury had to pay the amount of such deterioration to the claimants of the land. Under this law, which was put into operation in 1833, verdicts have been given against the claimants of land to the amount of \$2,929, and in their favour, as for damages, \$351; showing the balance on them to be \$2,578.

"Thus it appears that the total amount which the proprietary claimants, as such, have been assessed for roads, since the Colony received a Legislature, is only one-half of what was last year voted by the House of Assembly, in aid of roads, bridges and wharves, and not more than one-fifteenth of what has, by vote of successive Houses of Assembly, been paid for similar purposes since 1824, and half of what was last year voted by statute labour; and of this annual assessment, only \$388 appears to have been paid—a sum not far exceeding the expense to which the country has been put in summing and paying juries and witnesses, etc., to obtain the whole of the verdicts."

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

EARLY ROAD ASSESSMENTS

From the report of a committee tabled in the Legislative Assembly, April 12, 1842:

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