

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnetts. Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, DEC. 1, 1952

Wrong Time

Commenting on reports from Ottawa that both Government and Opposition members have been urging a general election in the early spring—before the Coronation—the Ottawa Journal raises three objections to this proposal:

1. The whole of the present session given over to electioneering, with Parliament turned into a hustings, and with little time or attention given to grave matters demanding early action.

2. Seemingly division and distraction on the eve of a great and solemn event in our history, one which should call for a maximum show of unity.

3. Risk that in the event of a change of ministries, incoming ministers, burdened with the problems of transition, would be denied time to make proper Coronation arrangements.

"In these circumstances," says the Journal, "Mr. St. Laurent must see the need of telling his supporters to curb their fears that time is not on their side, and Mr. Drew see the wisdom of checking the enthusiasm of those in his party so impatient for victory."

"So far as the public is concerned, it cannot want the work and responsibilities of Parliament subordinated to electioneering strategy, set aside to appease the panic of some partisans or the enthusiasm of others."

"The time for a general election should be after the present session of Parliament has accepted and dealt fully with its responsibilities and the Coronation has passed into history. Then will be the time to debate, discuss, and render a verdict in the time-honored, democratic way."

Jet Aerodrome Problems

The larger size and higher power of modern aircraft bring new problems of airport design and the introduction of jet aircraft introduces special considerations of its own. A symposium on aerodrome requirements for jet aircraft was held recently at Montreal under the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Some of the matters brought out were that pavements might be damaged through the effects of blast, heat and spillage of jet fuel. The latter evaporates far more slowly than aviation gasoline and has more time to affect the pavement.

Blast damage is not a problem when aircraft have jet engines mounted high and in a horizontal position, set in the wings, for instance. It can be very serious with aircraft whose engines are lower, hung in pods under the wings and particularly when takeoff is assisted by rockets, afterburners or other means.

The possibility of serious grass fires was noted in the symposium and one suggested solution was to remove the grass from 100 to 300 feet past the end of the runway. The United States has used a cover of asphalt running 300 feet behind the end of the runway for the purpose.

Jet aircraft develop a low static thrust and reach full efficiency only at cruising speed. They are generally more streamlined than piston aircraft and cannot use reversible-pitch propellers as a brake. For both taking off and landing, particularly the latter, jets require longer runs than piston-engined craft. The coefficient of friction of the runway surfaces is, of course, important.

Taxing jet aircraft is very expensive in fuel and must be speeded up, requiring long curves, holding areas for other aircraft warming up out of the way of the jets and some arrangement for passengers which will not involve the jet being brought too near to buildings or other aircraft.

Federal Farm Loans

Long term loans to Canadian farmers through the Dominion Government's Farm Loan Board declined by 10 per cent in the past fiscal year ending March 31, 1952. This decrease was in loans approved by the board, amounting in the aggregate to \$4,238,400. But the number of applications for loans in the past fiscal year dropped by 16 per cent from those submitted in the preceding year.

Altogether since the Farm Loan Board came into operation about a quarter-century ago, a total of \$28,365,986 had been ad-

vanced on first mortgage securities up to March 31, 1952, at which date the number of loans held was 16,497. In addition, the board also held 2,815 mortgage loan accounts totalling \$1,246,452. The principal assets under administration comprising loan accounts, sale agreements and real estate increased by \$1,405,819 to a total of \$28,864,551, the largest amount since 1944.

The board's report does not set out any considered cause of the decrease in loan applications. The reason may be that the Canadian farmer's position has improved. On the other hand, as the Moncton Times points out, over a lengthy period during which the Farm Loan Act has been in force, an opinion quite deeply rooted among farmers is the interest rate charged on its mortgage loans is too high. "From our lay standpoint we are not in a position to judge whether this opinion has any real foundation or hasn't," adds our Moncton contemporary. "Still, Maritime farmers at least—and they are by no means in the fattened-purse class in Canadian agriculture—have not beaten a path to the doors of Farm Loan Board offices in these provinces seeking mortgage loans on the terms offered by the Government."

Board officials state the moderate decline in volume of new business experienced in the last two years will likely be reversed during the current year as a result of the amendment to the Farm Loan Act passed last June increasing the maximum loans from \$6,000 to \$12,000. The current interest rate on first mortgage is five per cent. There is one significant feature in the Government's action doubling the maximum figure permissible for these loans. It does give oblique recognition to the impact of inflation on the solid dollar that has had the effect of reducing it to less than half of its former purchasing value.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The prospect of the United States embargo on Canadian meat being lifted March 1st has at least the encouragement of being something definite. Knowing how long the embargo is to last, Canadians can govern themselves accordingly.

The decision to establish a second experimental station in the Magdalen Islands may be surprising to those who think of those islands in the Gulf as being merely rocky fishing stations. Having an experimental farm station both on Grindstone and Amherst Islands should help to correct that impression.

The Quebec Historical Society has taken another step towards finding the remains of Samuel de Champlain. The historic Notre Dame de Recouvrance Church foundations have been found in the Reserve d'Alleboust near the Quebec basilica. Champlain's body was first interred there and later removed to a small chapel.

Queen Alexandra, Queen of Edward VII, was born this date 1844. She was the eldest daughter of King Christian IX of Denmark. Her eldest brother became Frederick VIII of Denmark, the second became King George of Greece, her sister married Alexander III of Russia and her youngest sister married the Duke of Cumberland, titular King of Hanover. Her second son became King George V.

A more than usually important letter to the editor appeared in Saturday's edition. From time to time the Government of Canada gave away to the different Provinces vast areas of Crown lands. This Province received neither grants nor compensation for the loss of our interest in the grants given to other Provinces, so that we have a very large claim indeed against the Federal Government which should not be forgotten.

The new sound system in the House of Commons at Ottawa makes it considerably easier to hear the Member who has the floor. As a result of the sound control man's manipulations, however, it is now very difficult to hear questions from the floor of the House. In the interest of live debate it is to be hoped that the Members' desks will soon be equipped with buttons by which the nearest "mike" can be turned on when they wish to interject a remark.

A most unusual suit against Senator F. W. Pirie of New Brunswick has been dismissed by the court because "not one iota of evidence" supported the claim that the Senator had personally benefited from government contracts. The suit was brought under the Senate Act which makes a Senator liable to a penalty of \$200 a day for every day of his interest in a contract under which Federal funds are paid. Had the suit succeeded the penalty would have gone into the pocket of the informer.

Too Much Altitude



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.

MR. PRATT'S COMPLAINT

Sir,—We attended the opening of the new plant at Charlottetown of Canada Packers Ltd., and were suitably impressed. We enjoyed the various speakers, especially Mr. Norman McLean, vice-president and general manager of this firm. A good many years ago we had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. McLean and were immensely pleased that after so casual an acquaintance and the passing of so many years he remembered us by name. It is possible that a good deal of the success that Mr. McLean has achieved is owing to this pleasing personal touch. We are sure that he at least is sincere in his expression of appreciation of the indispensable value of the farmer in our Island economy.

Mayor J. D. Stewart stated: "Make no mistake about it that in the prosperity of the farmer lies the prosperity and wellbeing of us all." We would like to believe that the Mayor, whom we admire for many qualities, is sincere, but we find it difficult to reconcile his sincerity with the actions of his Police towards farmers and their trucks.

Farmers ourselves, we had our truck seized some time ago and taken to the Police Station with the driver's helper in it. The driver had committed the unforgivable sin of stepping into a hardware store for a minute. The driver was insulted and threatened with jail when he demurred. But this is recaptulation. This week another of our sons was hurrying to the freight sheds to get some freight before closing time. He was accosted for having a broken tail-light on the truck, summarily ordered to drive over thirty-five miles of road and be in at nine o'clock or suffer the consequences. He, having due regard for the law, however unjust and ridiculous, endeavored to comply. Owing to a shortage of help and the press of morning work on a farm and the long distance from town, he was a quarter of an hour late. It was told curtly to be in again the next morning and in time. Our lawyer represented us. We could spare no more time.

This indeed seems to be implementing in reverse the Mayor's gracious injunction to "cherish the farmer." We are aware of course that it is through the over zealous officiousness of some rookie policeman that most of these unwarranted offences occur. There is some evidence of petty spite also as we got a ticket, the day we were in Charlottetown answering for the first offence, for parking five inches over the line with one of the dual wheels. As we see it the farmer is not welcome on Charlottetown streets. He is certainly treated with little consideration and no courtesy. Last season this family spent a good deal of money, quite a few hundreds of dollars, attending hockey matches, races, etc. This season we stay home, all of us, and any we can influence. We have heard many other complaints from farmers and truckers. For every dollar in spitefully inflicted fines the City collects it loses a hundred in good-will spending. We have picture

ALTERNATIVES

Now we can see beyond the last frontiers: This is the day that centuries foretold, This hour was hidden in the canvases of old Spanish sails, impaled on the journey from the east appears. How long the journey has waited for the old! And yet how unprepared we now behold The timid fusion of two hemispheres! The circle is complete. No new lands wait The overflow of crowded continents And man no longer can escape from man; Now he must find alternatives to hate Or meet the rising flood of consequence; Now he must mend with peace the breaking dam. —Myra Perkins in the New York Times.

The Poet's Corner

better communication, more vision, more enterprise, more determined dedicated representation. We can see rejuvenated districts now deserted; we can see communal activities revived; we can see the prosperity that our grandfathers enjoyed, returning, if some proper action is taken while the people still retain heart and hope. Little Pond and Annandale still have good homes and splendid farms, but not the prosperity of the 1890's. When John Nichol, an English immigrant boy who settled in Annandale in the 1870's, died at the age of eighty-nine he had been retired for twenty-five years, had made nineteen first-class trips to the Old Country accompanied by his niece. Besides he left considerable to his relatives, when he passed on. Many farms in this and other districts could boast of full barns, cattle, horses, sheep and hogs. They had no social services, and they did not need any. Initiative was not destroyed by taxation. Big strapping sons stayed home and worked the land, while the daughters, married the neighbor's son, or went away to the States and sent home money to build up better homes. We think we have progressed. Truly we have much machinery, bigger crops per man, mechanized milk barns, electrified houses, and running water. We have also multiplied debts, and many times multiplied; we have less genuine sociability, less time to practice the little culture we have left. We are real busy in a vicious circle that does not include any real living. "Where there is no vision the people perish." Let us elect leaders with youth, vision, integrity and altruism. This could be our salvation. We are, sir, etc. St. Peter's, P. E. I. C. C. PRATT November 28.

APPEARANCE COUNTS

We specialize in Ladies' and Gents' tailored-to-measure Suits, Topcoats and Overcoats. \$39.00 and up. J. P. MacPHERSON & SON

Notes By The Way

There is a report that New York's Governor Dewey may succeed General Eisenhower as president of Columbia University. And some day they might experiment with a teacher as head of the institution. — Ottawa Journal.

Happy families are said to have no history. But although we hear little of Swiss politics it has been clear for some years that the balance of peoples and languages on which the country's stability has so far rested is gradually being upset. The "Gazette de Lausanne" points out that while fifty years ago 601 out of every 1,000 Swiss spoke German, 220 French, and 67 Italian, the corresponding figures are now 722, 202, and 59 (the tiny Romance minority accounts for the remainder). This change has come about not so much because of differences in birth rates as because of the growing industrialization of the country has led many people to drift to the towns and often out of one canton into another. — Manchester Guardian.

Old Charlottetown (And F. E. L.)

WINTER RIVER SUPPLY "A special meeting of the City Council was held this morning, to consider what action should be taken on account of the announced intention of the St. Peter's Starch Company to build their factory upon Winter River, site of the sources of supply mentioned for our proposed City water works. As in the event of this latter project ever being carried to successful completion, with Winter River as the fountain head, it would be necessary for the City to pay damages to the company for their removal from the site, the Council met for the purpose of warning the company in time that they would not hold themselves liable for damages in case the interest of the City corporation should hereafter be brought in collision. An engineer was, however, examined, who proved satisfactorily that from the site which the factory intends to occupy, no refuse or waste would be conveyed to the Charlottetown water stream. "Winter River, however, being one of those streams specially reserved by the Dominion Government for the propagation and culture of the salmon fishery, notice was taken that the starch company had obtained permission to use it for manufacturing purposes, and that refuse from the factory would exterminate the fish; and as it was generally supposed that such permission had been given inadvertently, the attention of the proper Department will be called to the mistake in order that it may be rectified before it is too late." — The Examiner, April 20, 1881.

As we near the golden age of retirement our joy at its approach is often dimmed by a gloomy feeling that once the pension cheques roll in, passion checks out; that life after sixty holds nothing more exciting than the discovery of a new way to fix graveyard stew or finding a cheaper elastic stocking. "It ain't necessarily so," as one old couple we observed on the green benches in St. Petersburg proved. We judged them both to be in their sixties. But no youth ever pressed his sweetheart's hand more ardently, nor could a stripping slipper surpass the look of desire this older best toward his loved one. "When will I see you again?" he bellowed into her hearing aid. "Next Thursday night on the waterfront," she replied gaily. "I'll tell my husband I'm going to choir practice. — Wall Street Journal.

Some people judge the approach of winter by the migration of birds and the falling of leaves, but Canadian newspaper editors have their own unfailing evidence that winter is just around the corner. "Next Thursday night on the waterfront," she replied gaily. "I'll tell my husband I'm going to choir practice. — Wall Street Journal.

The Age-Old Story

This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and they are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for J. S. Taylor (Optometrist), Gaudet & Haszard (Barristers), Dr. W. R. Carson (Chiropractor), Dr. K. A. MacEachern (Dentist), M. Alban Farmer, Q.C. (Barrister), J. A. McGuigan (Barrister), Chas. R. McQuaid (Barrister), Byron J. Grant, O.D. (Optometrist), Frederic A. Large, Q.C. (Barrister), H. R. Doane & Company (Chartered Accountants), and McDonald, Currie & Co. (Chartered Accountants).