

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, DEC. 15, 1951

The Christmas Spirit

The Christmas spirit is in the air, and it is hoped that all our readers, young and old, will find something of special interest in today's pre-Christmas issue. It is not necessary to go into the authenticity of Santa Claus to enjoy the stories about him, or to accept the fact that somehow, at this season, he turns up in a hundred places at once, and will shortly be calling at the same time at a million Canadian homes.

Over-commercialization of Christmas has rightly been censured, but on the other hand its observance without the customary exchange of gifts and salutations would be less cheerful indeed. The greeting card history reminds us that Saint Nicholas, forerunner of Santa, has been reliably traced to the person of the Bishop of Myra, in Lycia, Asia Minor, famed for his piety, zeal, unselfishness, and finally miracle working powers. He lived in the Fourth Century, A.D. During his lifetime he was the subject of considerable persecution at the hands of the Roman emperors when he denied their divine right to mistreat citizens.

Today, as in the past, it is the spirit behind the gift giving that counts. We must see to it that that aspect of the anniversary is retained, and in so doing we cannot fail to be reminded of its true significance.

They Keep Out Of Accidents

Champion truck driver of Ontario is Mr. B. H. Lehigh of Cobourg. In 16 years and 400,000 miles of driving for an oil company he never has had an accident. Runner-up is Mr. George Cummings of London. He is tractor-trailer champion because in four years of driving for a brewery, covering 160,000 miles, his record is accident-free.

"We may be certain," says the Ottawa Journal, "these two men many times in their experience have confronted situations in which accidents were averted only by their skill, their competence, their vigilance. Accidents do not just happen; they are caused. Neither do such records as those of Mr. Lehigh and Mr. Cummings happen. They come from faithful performance of sound driving practices and an intense and constant concentration on safety."

"Among those 'sound driving practices,' courtesy of the road extended to other drivers probably had a very prominent place".

In Search Of A Name

According to the Ottawa Citizen, responsibility for naming the new pension plans for older citizens has weighed heavily on Hon. Paul Martin and his Department of National Health and Welfare. Two different systems create a complication—federal-provincial pensions at 65 for those who need them, and a federal pension for virtually all Canadians at 70. Ideally, the official designations would be so right that the public would accept them joyfully. In the alternative, a more appealing popular invention will win the day.

"Family allowances" seemed a proper, appropriate, and unexceptionable term, but it was soon being crowded out by "the baby bonus". The popular choice may lack elegance, and teen-agers might complain that it is not even accurate. Nevertheless, it has aptness, simplicity, and the charm of alliteration.

"The old age pension" is an obvious and well-established name that is likely to stick. Unfortunately, it is more likely to stick to pensions at 65, where it will become decreasingly appropriate, than to those at 70. Half Canada's baby boys of today will live to 70 at least, and half the girls to 75. More people are refusing to be classed as aged at 65, and society, needing them at

productive work, would be unwise to discourage this attitude. Yet so far the best the official mind can do for the new pension is to call it "old age assistance."

For the payments at 70, "old age pension" inherits a disagreeable connotation from its means test background. It is the term used in the United States, Britain, Denmark, and Australia. New Zealand has a "superannuation benefit" and Sweden a "universal" pension. Adjectives like "retirement" and "security" would be pretentious, and anyway even at 70 fewer people in the future will be ready to retire. "Universal pension" is a term the government has used from time to time, perhaps hopefully, and "federal" or "national" pensions are being heard.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, the third Sunday in Advent.

Peace and goodwill descend upon Ottawa—as Parliament draws to a close.

Higher prices and lower quantities of potatoes means that the problem of transportation is made less difficult, both as to costs and the supply of cars.

The complete 27th Brigade is in Europe, or on its way—Canada's answer to a plea for mutual security, as earlier expeditions were a contribution to mutual defence.

Maritime Central Airways has been receiving congratulation on ten years of expansion and service. It is not, however, resting on its laurels but seeking new fields to conquer.

An increase of practically \$7,000,000 in this year's crops is predicted for the Province, the figures being \$24,098,000, against \$17,825,000 last year. Farming here is prospering these days, though not to the same extent as in Ontario and the West apart from Saskatchewan.

Izaak Walton, English author, died this date 1683. He produced a number of volumes of biography and some poetry while engaged in his trade of ironmonger in London, but is revered by fishermen everywhere as the author of "The Compleat Angler, or the Contemplative Man's Recreation."

It is to the credit of this country and the United States as well as Britain that the United Kingdom is able to meet the first installments on post-war loans. The funds could only become available by the willingness of the Western nations to buy British goods and services.

Looking ahead, Mr. MacNaught is causing the Federal Transport Department to make preparation to avoid our export of potatoes being held up by frozen harbours; while members of the Innkeepers Association are arranging to let people abroad know what a desirable place this is in which to spend the summer months. Good for business in both instances.

Congratulations are in order for Wing Commander Morris MacKinnon, (son of that distinguished veteran Col. D. A. MacKinnon, D.S.O.), who has gone to Paris to join the staff of General Eisenhower for the defense of Western civilization. The Wing Commander has himself had a distinguished career following in the military footsteps of his now venerable but still active father.

It will interest most people in the Scout Movement to learn that Mr. John A. Stiles, for long Canadian Commissioner, is engaged on the history of the first ten years of Scouting in Canada. None is in a better position, or better able, to produce such a volume than Mr. Stiles, who was the right hand man and successor of the first great Commissioner, Dr. Robertson, the father of the dairy industry in this Province.

The death of Mr. Fred Morris removes another of our old time business leaders in the city, and also a musician of outstanding ability. Mr. Morris was never prominent in public affairs, but was keenly interested in the maintenance and development of local industries. As a musician he gave much time to the entertainment of his friends in their social relaxation. He will be greatly missed.

Nationalizing of doctors may have disadvantages to patients probably never contemplated. British doctors in the socialized medicine program may ask the Government for permission to fine patients who call them out on frivolous complaints or who refuse to follow doctor's orders. This is one of 30 proposals aimed at reforming the nationalized health service and improving relations between doctor and patient. Under the state-run service, doctors can be fined for breaches of contract—such as failure to attend to patients—so they feel the patients should also be made to toe the line.

With Just A Note Of Caution



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.

EXORBITANT TAXES

Sir, — The Canadian Government has been legally stealing the people's money — calling it taxation. It can be best described as a robbery in the most literal sense of the word. It is a robbery in the most literal sense of the word. It is a robbery in the most literal sense of the word.

The man on the street cries out, "What a campaign fund! A man or woman who smokes a package of cigarettes per day pays Ottawa \$100 per year in this tax alone — a nice life insurance policy. Of the four dollars one might pay for a bottle of rye, the distiller receives 84 cents and the Federal and Provincial Governments get the remaining \$3.16. In 1939 a low priced standard model automobile carried a direct tax of \$55.00. In 1951 the sales tax on this same car includes a direct tax of \$255.00. Income tax has driven people to commit suicide and this tax is the daily conversation at every fireside in the Dominion."

People have been afraid to complain too much for fear of being considered unpatriotic, but the fact is, a very small portion of this tax is used for National Defence. We taxpayers would like to build industries and keep the young people home. Would it not be better to build up our home towns rather than send our money to build a new Ottawa? We have a land of rich opportunity but if taxes continue as they are, we are sure to go into a tailspin of some kind.

These taxes tell a sad story. Behind the figures are hundreds of fresh and blood people, small retailers who are at their wits' end to know how to stave off business failure; men and women whose whole livelihood is threatened as a result of unreasonable taxes.

I am, Sir, etc., MRS. GETSON, Alberton.

MR. McISAAC'S OPINIONS CHALLENGED

Sir, — Like many others, I have been able to stand it up until now but can withhold my pen no longer. Suggesting compulsory education or "citizenship" training of what you like to call it, is not going to help the people of Prince Edward Island. It would only make second-class citizens out of many of our people. Hitler did it; Stalin is doing it today and how can we afford to pay any more taxes than we are paying now? This Mr. McIsaac is about the greatest dreamer and most unrealistic writer I ever read. Proof of the fact that our educational system is good is the great number of prominent Islanders abroad. They have been successful in all walks of life. And many of them are wealthy and highly respected stalwarts who received their education from that very effective college, "the school of experience."

As for our Co-operatives, the taxpayers of this Province are paying for a Government grant of some \$4,500 per year for their inspection. They seem to be doing very well now and will likely continue to do so until they run their course as did our old Agricultural Institutes, Co-op dairies, telephone companies and other similar groups. Perhaps closer Government inspection of co-operatives is necessary but why the unworkable idea of having this done on a Maritime basis? This is just another instance of spreading out the work so radical elements can creep in.

His report states that we must have more regulations, controls, restrictions, etc. Why? Are we not going to be free people much longer? Marketing boards, traffic lights, parking meters, etc. are all

Notes By The Way

In High Wycombe, England, public officials are weighed when they take office and again before they quit it. The theory, dating back to 1282, was a man who weighed more at the last than at the first hadn't worked very hard. Or, perhaps, that he had lived too well at the public trough. The idea has some merit, provided it weren't carried to extremes so as to work injustices. Some men are by nature fat, and inclined to grow fatter with the years. They can't help developing "aldermanic abdomens," whether they be in private or public life. "Let me have men about me that are fat,"

wrote Shakespeare, warning the danger of men with "lean and hungry look." A parliament council of lean men might be less preferable than one of fat men. Lean men might want to get fat; fat men have no ambition to get fatter. But, if we had a council or parliament composed of fat, self-satisfied men, when all their constituents were lean and dissatisfied, that definitely would denote something wrong. — Windsor Daily Star.

Of the nine Conservative senators, one was appointed by Sir Robert Borden, one by Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, and seven by Viscount Bennett, when he was prime minister, and before he became a peer. Of the nine, four represent Saskatchewan, which means that the Conservatives have only five senators spread across the nine provinces. — Windsor Star.

Since one swallow doesn't make a summer, one zootsuter with a loaded gun in his belt, we suppose, doesn't make a juvenile crime wave. But when these rowdy youths with the grotesque costumes translate themselves into potential killers, as happened at a school dance Friday night, there is more than usual reason for reviewing the conditions that bring them into being. When they turn from beating up pedestrians and school children to carrying lethal weapons, the zootsuters become something more than a mere distasteful social problem.

Two hours later the job was finished; but the mare had struggled out of the shop, across the ditch and down the hill to the end of the bridge, some forty yards away. I was sorry for the mare but proud of Jimmy. I may add, they never had any more trouble shoeing that mare, but no one but Jimmy could do it. This incident by the way.

How well do I remember their testimony meetings! There was a good deal of sameness of course, but they were sincere and trustworthy men. Every word came from the heart. I would give much to be able to step back into one of their meetings and see one after another of those dear people get up and tell what Jesus had done for him.

We have grown away from that practice, today. We express ourselves in other ways; but it did good to hear those men tell in simple, homely language what Jesus meant to them. They were quite unshamed of the Gospel of Christ.

For a weekly, public testimony of that kind we must have frequent renewals of our faith and constant experiences of the wisdom and goodness of God. But why not? His expressions of mercy toward us are more than the leaves upon a tree. Our experience of Him ought to be fresh and varied every day.

Those men are all gone to their reward and the building turned into a hay-barn; but who can measure, except God, Himself, the power of their Christian lives in making this a better world? I am, Sir, etc., W. I. GREEN, Stanley Bridge.

The Age-Old Story

Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment. And a man shall be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land. And the eyes of them that see shall not be dim, and the ears of them that hear shall hearken. And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

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

CHAPTER XXII GENERAL POLICIES

The following suggestions are credit unions which are the perhaps more directly concerned with governments but it is up to the people through their organizations to see that something is done about them soon. Our three most urgent needs on Prince Edward Island are (1) an effective marketing policy, (2) overall electrification, and (3) improved roads. However, there are other policies that are relative and necessary if these three are to be put into effect successfully.

Marketing Direct government interest in straightening out our marketing legislation is needed so that the annual cry for subsidies and the subsequent upset of marketing conditions will be relieved. The governments of the four Maritime Provinces should take a direct hand in making a complete investigation of the Maritime marketing situation and possibilities and by providing the producers with the necessary permissive legislation and other help to effect an orderly system of distributing food products therein.

Electricity Government control and immediate expansion of electricity as a public utility is the most remote corner of the Province is urgent. In order to accomplish this, it will not be possible to set up a Maritime Power and Hydro Commission similar to that in Ontario which could investigate, in the interests of the people, some of the hidden resources for generating electricity? A good start in this direction would be the immediate publication of a report, made some years ago, on the natural-gas supplies below the Tantramar Marshes in the Amherst-Sackville area. Unofficial reports at the time of the survey indicated that there were tremendous possibilities of cheap power available there, and that if harnessed it would be possible to electrify much of eastern Nova Scotia and central Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island at greatly reduced rates. But the report of the survey has never been made public; expansion of electric services have not been adequate and rates have gradually risen.

Roads In the interests of our own people and before the tourist industry can be greatly expanded, it is necessary that our roads be improved—at least built up and gravelled and tarred to eliminate the dust nuisance. The increasing return from the tourist industry, and increased fees on the registration of motor vehicles for a few years (motor vehicle fees could be doubled and yet not raise as high as in Scandinavia) would enable a great expansion in our road program. Even a 100% increase in the cost of registration would for the people, by providing better roads, be more than offset for the people by reducing unnecessary repair bills and the high rate of depreciation. In other northern countries, road machinery is kept working at least sixteen hours per day in the summer months with two shifts of men and little loss of time. There is great room for improvement in our own public works program.

Credit There is a great need, too, for available credit to farmers. Ready credit would enable young people who are starting to farm to modernize their farms, buy new equipment, either on a cooperative machinery pool or on an individual basis, help to set up grass-drying equipment, seed-cleaning units, etc. The Provincial Government need not directly go into this costly and unwieldy field of administering a credit policy. But it should do a great deal by lending support and interest in the furtherance of the people's own credit organizations and insurance facilities.

Land Settlement This survey shows that there is an increasing number of vacant and unproductive farms; our own boys are leaving; farmer immigrants are available to come in; and tax revenue is down because this land is not producing; therefore something must be done soon. The Prince Edward Island Government could effect not a complete, but a very helpful land settlement policy for an outlay of about \$35,000 per year simply by paying the interest on one million dollars, depositing it in equal or proportionate amounts in the "amalgamated" rural credit unions proposed above. The local credit committee could quite readily and fairly administer the fund for land settlement purposes in their district according to established regulations.

Thirty-five or forty thousand dollars additional in our rural credit unions would be a great help to our farmers.

Although there may not be a detailed precedent for this plan the reader is referred to three land settlement schemes near home which are similar in many respects. First, is the Nova Scotia Land Settlement Board which will loan up to \$8,000 at 3 per cent interest for 20 years, depending of course, on the training, background, and circumstances of the applicant; second, the Quebec Government regards a loan for land settlement as an investment in a new family, that is, of settling and helping their citizens. Land settlement loans, they claim, should not be considered as an interest making proposition for either a Government or an individual.

Third, the three different land settlement and farm improvement schemes of the American Farm Credit Administration, are also similar and warrant study by local authorities concerned with local (To be continued)

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) GOVERNOR CAMPBELL'S FUNERAL "This day at 12 o'clock, the mortal remains of His Excellency Sir Donald Campbell, Baronet, Lieutenant Governor of this Island, were removed from Government House for interment, in the following order: "The Sons of Temperance, preceded by their Band; the Sexton; the Highland Society, preceded by their Chaplain, the Rev. Robert MacNair; Detachment of 38th Regiment, forming the Guard of Honour; His Excellency's charger, fully caparisoned, led by an orderly; the Medical Attendants; the Church Warden, with their staves; Rev. C. Lloyd; Rev. Dr. Jenkins, Rector St. Paul's Church; Rev. D. Fitzgerald, Curate; the Undertaker; Hon. E. Palmer, Hon. C. Hensley, Hon. R. Hodgson, Hon. D. Erenan, Hon. J. M. Holl, Hon. G. R. Goodman, Pall Bearers; the body, borne on a hearse, drawn by four horses, each horse led by a servant of the deceased, in deep mourning;

"George Campbell, Esq., Hon. Chief Justice Jarvis, Captain Cumberland, Hon. T. H. Haviland, Colonial Secretary, Hon. Judge Peters, Judge Barrow, Chief Mourner; servants of the deceased; His late Excellency's carriage; His Honour the Administrator of the Government (Hon. Ambrose Lane) and the Commandant of the Troops; Members of the Legislative Council; Members of the House of Assembly; Officers of the Army and Navy; Officers of the Militia; Civil Officers; the High Sheriff of Queen's County, and his Deputy, with their Staves; Magistrates; the gentlemen of the Town and Country."

"The procession moved in a straight line from Government House, until it reached the north end of Queen Street, and from thence along the said street it proceeded to the corner of Grafton Street, and from thence along the street at the end of the Square until it arrived opposite to the entrance of St. Paul's Church, when the body was removed from the hearse, and borne to the Church by six Highlanders (all Campbell's) through a line formed by the Highland Society and the Troops.

"After the usual service for the dead was performed, the body was deposited beneath the chancel of the Church.

"Mr. Lobban, Sergeant at Arms marshalled the procession. As a mark of respect, nearly all the shops in the Town were partially closed; and flags on all the ships in the harbour, and on the public and private staffs, were hoisted half-mast from the day of the Lieutenant Governor's decease until after the funeral."

—The Islander, Oct. 18, 1850. The house of Romanoff was the ruling house of Russia from 1613 to the revolution of 1917. —Walter de la Mare.



EPITAPH

Be very quiet now; A child's asleep In this small cradle In this shadow deep.