

Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I., by The Thomson Company Limited.  
 "Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew"  
 Editor: Frank Walker  
 General Manager: Ian A. Burnett  
 Branch offices at Summerside, Montague and Alberton. Authorized Second Class Mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa.  
 By Carrier: Charlottetown, Summerside \$15.00 per annum. Elsewhere in P. E. I. \$2.00. Other Provinces and U. S. A. \$12.00 per annum.  
 "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1955.

Maritime Farm Production

While this Province has little to fear from outside competition in farm products on a quality basis, there are other factors to be considered along production lines. The following figures, published by the research department of the Canadian Congress of Labour, apply generally to the Maritimes but they will repay study by all concerned with improving our agricultural situation locally.

In 1946, the Maritime Provinces had 9.6 per cent of the national population, 8.8 per cent of the national labour force, and 4.9 per cent of the national farm cash income. In 1953, they had 8.8 per cent of the population, 7.6 per cent of the labour force, and 4.0 per cent of the farm cash income. In the first half of 1954, however, their percentage of farm cash income was back to 4.9; but the experience of previous years suggests that the figure for the whole year will be lower. These figures, it should be noted, are cash and gross: they allow neither for income in kind (probably more important in the Maritimes than in some other parts of the country), nor for the costs of farm operations.

Another way of measuring what has been happening to Maritime agriculture since 1946 is to take the indexes of physical volume of agricultural production. Down to 1949, the Prince Edward Island index rose steadily, while the national index averaged less than in 1946. In 1951 and since, the Prince Edward Island index has lagged behind the national. Nova Scotia, on the whole, has lagged far behind the national index, and in 1953 was away below 1946. New Brunswick, down to 1950, was ahead of it, though not as far ahead as the Island; in 1951, 1952 and 1953, it was far behind. Agriculture is so subject to the vagaries of the weather that it is most unsafe to rely on figures for any one year; but it seems plain that in 1951 and since the physical volume of Maritime agricultural production has been lagging behind the national average, and that while the national total is now, ordinarily, well above 1946, the Maritime total is not.

Prince Edward Island is, of course, almost wholly agricultural, and the three Maritime Provinces together produce about 40 per cent of the national total of potatoes and other field roots. In 1946, they also produced about a quarter of the fruit; but the temporary collapse of the British market because of dollar import restrictions, and the ravages of Hurricane Edna, have reduced the proportion to about one-tenth. In 1946, they had also produced about one-tenth of the buckwheat, but in 1953 this had fallen to about 7.0 per cent. They had (as of June 1, 1954) 11.3 per cent of the nation's sheep (a little larger proportion of a much smaller total than in 1946), 7.2 per cent of its milk cows (again a slightly larger proportion of a smaller total than in 1946), 4.2 per cent of the other cattle (a slightly smaller proportion of a larger total than in 1946), 3.4 per cent of the swine (a smaller proportion of a larger total than in 1946), and 5.8 per cent of the poultry (a smaller proportion of a smaller total than in 1946). In 1953 they produced 7.9 per cent of the total eggs, against 6.7 per cent in 1946; 6.7 per cent of the total milk, against 6.3 in 1946; 7.2 per cent of the total butter, against 7.8 per cent in 1946.

Everest Remeasured

The top-level figure on world maps, Mt. Everest's official height of 29,002 feet, is bowing out in favor of a new calculation that places Earth's highest peak at 29,028 feet. British surveyors set the 29,002-foot figure more than 100 years ago. In recent years few experts considered it accurate. Even so, it stood because none of the many subsequent and higher estimates seemed precise. The new computation was reported to the National Geographic Society by Brigadier I. H. R. Wilson, Surveyor General of India, as the measurement now officially accepted by the Government of India.

The surprising thing is that so small a difference — only 26 feet — separates the old and the new official elevations. The difference could even be smaller. For the Survey of India, which performed detailed work in 1952, 1953 and 1954, admits the new figure may be off 10 feet either way because of seasonal fluctuations in the snow depth on the limestone summit of Everest.

The 29,002 height derives from 1849-50 observations made from six stations in

India, each less than 300 feet above sea level and 110 miles south of the titan of the Himalayas. The six trigonometrical computations averaged out to 29,002 feet. As the years passed this value became suspect because it was found that over such a long distance and at high altitudes light rays bend deceptively under varying atmospheric conditions. Observations in 1880, 1883 and 1902, taken from the Darjeeling hills about 90 miles away, produced a figure of 29,141 feet. Other estimates were made: 29,149 that appeared on some American air maps; 29,079; and 29,610 claimed by Dr. Edouard Wyss-Dunant, leader of a Swiss climbing expedition in 1952. Early in 1954 Sir Edmund Hillary and Sir John Hunt, members of the British party that conquered Everest the previous year, suggested that the Swiss figure was credible although they stressed that the peak so far had defied exact measurement.

Some Indian surveyors believe Everest is growing steadily higher. They say the rise is comparatively fast as a result of a continuing uplift in the earth's crust, manifested particularly in the 1950 earthquake in Assam. They put the mountain's height at 29,200 feet. However, Indian government experts view a rapid rise in Everest's altitude with skepticism.

The great Himalaya range was formed, geologically speaking, a rather short time ago, during the Tertiary Period (55,000,000 to 7,000,000 years ago) when North America's mountains were re-elevated and the Andes, Alps, Pyrenees and Carpathians were formed. Everest and its companions were pushed upward by the stupendous pressure of the central Asian uplands concentrating against the Indian plains. Before that, for manifold millions of years, the sedimentary rocks that built the world's greatest range, or at least its northern reaches, were laid down in a sea that extended across the heart of Asia.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, 2nd Sunday after Epiphany.

A Prince County jailer's life is not a happy one, with the prospect of being locked in by his own prisoners at any time. It would appear that a change in the layout of the cell block is required, and the sooner it is made the better.

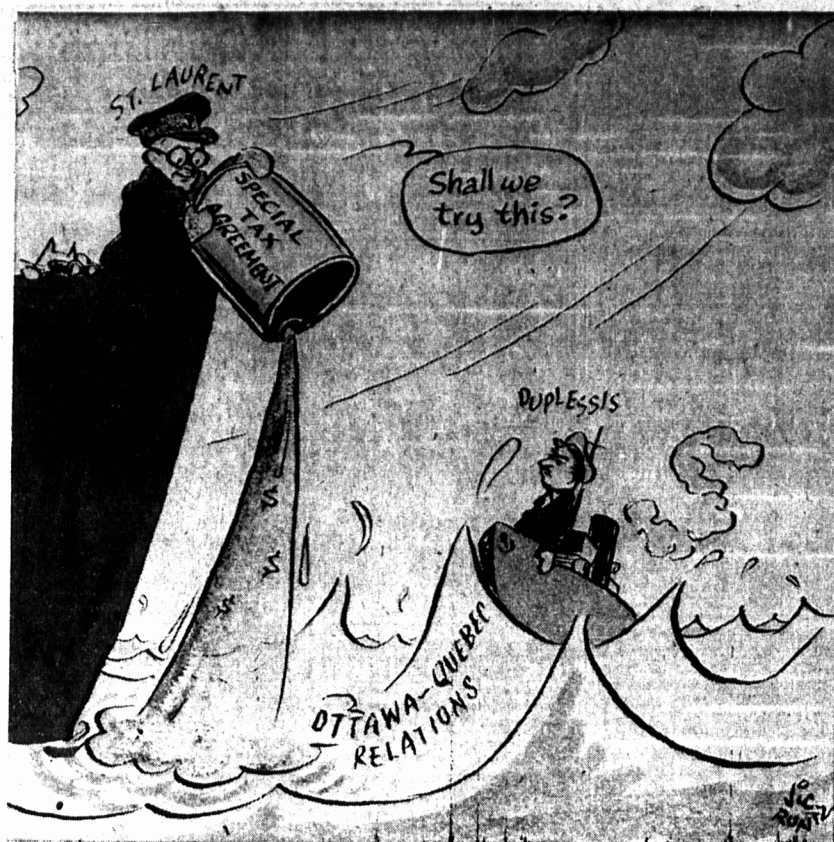
The Auditor General in his annual report finds a number of "cracks and weaknesses" in federal agency accounts, including those of the C.B.C. Parliament should give careful attention to this report, which has too often been ignored in the past.

Everyone indorses the need for lowering trade barriers, but in practise it appears to depend upon whose ox is being gored. As a spokesman for the dairy industry points out, duties on manufactured goods coming into Canada range from 15 to 37 per cent, yet the Government seems to think that a 4 per cent duty on New Zealand cheese is all the protection the Canadian product requires.

Edward Gibbon, English historian, died January 16, 1794. His great work, "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire", seems destined for literary immortality. The criterion by which Gibbon judged civilization and progress was the measure in which the happiness of men is secured, and of that happiness he considered political freedom an essential condition. It is worthy of notice that he was in favor of the abolition of slavery, when humane men like his friend Lord Sheffield, Dr. Johnson and Boswell were opposed to the anti-slavery movement.

Section 32 of the Canadian Wheat Board Act states that no person other than the board shall cause wheat or wheat products to be transported from one province to another, except as permitted under board regulations. Section 121 of the British North America Act provides that all articles of the growth, produce or manufacture of any of the Provinces shall be admitted free into each of the other provinces. Which act takes precedence? This is the issue in a lawsuit now pending in Winnipeg. Legal and grain officials anticipate a long fight ending up in the Supreme Court of Canada.

History was made by the New York Metropolitan Opera on Friday night, Jan. 7—both musical and social history. Musical, because a Negro artist demonstrated to the world in grand fashion that the colour of one's skin is not a hindrance to the richness of one's art; social, because at long last, after seventy years, the management of a cultural institution, and the professional critics who were present at the time, were persuaded, without a shadow of a doubt, that in the field of art racial discrimination is stupid, contrary to informed public opinion, and profitless. The large audience, we are told, "broke into a tremendous ovation" when Miss Marian Anderson appeared on the stage in the part of Ulrica in Verdi's "The Masked Ball".



Oil For Troubled Waters

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of subjects of general interest. The Editor does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

AGRICULTURAL TRENDS

Sir,—I agree with the conclusion arrived at by one of your letter correspondents that there is a link between the flight from the land by rural youth, and the fact that farm income is also "falling to get its fair share of the nation's total earnings."

It is about time, it seems to this reader, that the authorities on Parliament Hill probed into this imbalance and earning-power distortion, under which 17.5 per cent of the nation's labor force win less than 9 per cent of the (1953) national income?

Perhaps I may encroach on your valued white space, to bring the following revealing but none too healthy picture to the spotlight and the notice of your readers in town and countryside: "The mechanization of agriculture and commercialization of the industry are factors that are increasing the size of farms and decreasing the population in the prairie provinces. Dr. W. B. Baker, chairman of the Saskatchewan Royal Commission which has recently completed the investigation of the agricultural and rural life of that province, says that the above trends necessitate the movement from rural to urban communities of 60 per cent of the young farm people. In the 1920's southern Saskatchewan was over-populated, but now in the southwestern corner about 75 per cent of the farms have been abandoned. Farms in that province have been increasing in size, the average at present being half a section in Northern Saskatchewan, a full 640 acres in the centre and 1-2 sections in the south." (The Budget, Calgary, Alta.)

Who was it said that "Nations break down upon the farm?"

I am, Sir, etc., JUNIOR FARMER

Indestructible No. 10

(Montreal Gazette)

In 1881 a cagey gentleman named Sir George Downing, who had managed to do well both in Cromwell's Commonwealth and Charles II's Restoration monarchy, bought himself a parcel of land in Whitehall and built on it four houses. The street bearing his name is still made up of only those four houses and one other, which stood adjacent to it. That fifth house is now known as No. 10, one of the most famous addresses in the world. Designed by Christopher Wren for the Earl of Lichfield some years before Downing arrived, it became Crown property when Lichfield left England with James II and allied himself with the lost Stuart case.

In 1698 the little street was described as: "A pretty open space, especially at the upper end, where are four or five very large and well-built houses, fit for persons of honour and quality, each house having a pleasant prospect into St. James' Park, with a Terrace-walk."

The great metropolis of London has grown close and tall around that "pretty open space" but it has never ceased to be the residence of "persons of honour and quality." George I gave it to the Hanoverian Minister, Baron Bothmar, for life. On his death in 1731 George II offered it to Sir Robert Walpole as a gift. Walpole declined it as a personal property but the two agreed it should be the residence of high Government officials. Walpole was the first of these to live there.

Since that time, No. 10 has been the official residence of Britain's Prime Ministers, though some, such as Salisbury, Melbourne and Peel, have used it only for official purposes.

The 1698 observer was right, too. In saying it was "well-built" for the time could not damage its sturdy structure. It took Hitler's bombs, falling nearby to do that. To strengthen its sagging timbers, a steel frame is to be swung into the framework and concealed.

The news that the building was in danger of collapse was received calmly, probably because the structure is only a small part of the building's existence. No. 10 is built now, of the timbers of great deci-

Televising Parliament

Ottawa Journal

There seems to be as many different opinions on the CBC's televised presentation of the opening of Parliament as there are owners of TV sets. Some say the presentation was good, some say it was poor, others call it indifferent. The Journal is not much concerned with the technical effort; if it was made better next time. What is of concern is whether this televising of Parliament's opening was a good thing on balance—whether the viewing of this ceremony by more people will be sufficient compensation for some things lost.

The ceremony opening Parliament with its ritual involves things that are sacred: things woven of memories, traditions and achievements deep in our history. When somebody once twined Joseph Chamberlain for livid his hat when the Mags was being carried past Chamberlain replied warmly: "I am always ready to doff my hat in the presence of a symbol of democracy."

What we may ask ourselves then, is whether symbols which demand our veneration should be brought to the level of entertainment (perhaps held up by some to ridicule), treated as just another TV picture, sandwiched in between somebody's advertising for soap or toothpaste, made the object of cables strewn through the halls of Parliament, plus so many of those other devices which we associate with Hollywood — or with a McCarthy hearing in Washington?

The Journal suggests that these questions should be in the mind of Parliament; in the minds at least of those who know Parliament's history, who are concerned with its prestige and dignity. Specifically we think they are questions which the Parliamentary committee on radio and television, which no doubt will come later in the session, should ask itself seriously.

Especially as we are told now that this televising of Parliament's opening was only a beginning — that permission will be asked to televise hearings of Senate and Commons committees, and "move the cameras into the offices of MP's and Senators for interviews when issues of public interest arise."

In the Journal's view such a development would be very bad for our public life; threaten Ottawa with what has come in Washington where television has become the ally of demagoguery, where the conduct of government has been degraded to the level of vaudeville.

All men are human and politicians — everywhere — because of their special calling are more human than others. Politicians need the limelight; give them television, tell them that millions of people plus their constituents are watching, and almost necessarily they become actors, the worst of them posturing for applause.

What for example would have happened if some years ago when the committee on customs scandals was sitting its proceedings had been televised? What would have happened had there been television of the committees on costs and prices? Or the committee on war expenditures, with its Pea-water horses? And what would happen if they dragged the kleig lights on their platforms into our committee on public accounts? To ask these questions is to recoil from them.

Technological improvements are wonderful things. But are they so much the be-all and end-all of everything that we should permit them to blur or diminish or destroy things of the spirit which are more wonderful? The long march to political democracy had perils and the bricks of small, of the mortar of compromise and the taping of good talk.

It is good to know that its materials are going to be preserved, but nothing, really, neither bomb nor fire nor slow damp rot can ever destroy No. 10 Downing Street.

The Poet's Corner

THE COLD HEAVEN

Suddenly I saw the cold and rook-delighting Heaven  
 That seemed as though ice burned  
 and was but the more ice,  
 And thereupon imagination and heart were driven  
 So wild that every casual thought  
 of that and this  
 Vanished, and left but memories,  
 that should be out of season  
 With the hot blood of youth, of love  
 crossed long ago;  
 And I took all the blame out of all  
 sense and reason,  
 Until I cried and trembled and  
 rocked to and fro,  
 Riddled with light. Ah! when the  
 ghost begins to quicken,  
 Confusion of the death-bed over,  
 is it sent  
 Out naked on the roads, as the  
 books say, and stricken  
 By the injustice of the skies for  
 punishment?  
 —W. B. Yeats.

Burmese Proverb

(Windsor Star)

Proverbs lie down through the ages because of the truth inherent in them. They state this truth in such a graphic manner they come readily to the tongues of succeeding generations.

All races of all lands have their peculiar proverbs. One of the tricks of interpreters at the United Nations, who interpret simultaneously as a speech is being made, is to translate these proverbs immediately into other languages. They are able to do this because they become steeped in the literature of the various languages so as to know the proverbs and have translations ready-made.

An ancient Burmese proverb still has its modern application. "If a rooster ruffles up his feathers it is easy to pluck him." The advice obviously is to refrain from getting ruffled.

It is sound advice for our statesmen and diplomats, and for people generally. If democratic countries get unduly ruffled, it will be easier for the Communists to do some plucking of our plumage.

FOR Tailoring and Alterations RITE-WAY CLEANERS 7887

NOTES BY THE WAY

More than half the criminals brought into court, he said, haven't the money to pay a lawyer. The rewards of crime, so to speak, are poorly distributed. The lawbreaker who needs the state's charity when police catch up with him obviously is in the wrong kind of work—Windsor Star.

When Canadians feel like letting off steam about what a fine lot of people we are, a sobering thought would be that as a nation we are so indifferent to books that an average of less than \$1.50 a year per head is spent on them. When did you last buy a book?—Brantford Expositor.

Farquhar Oliver, Ontario Liberal Leader, must be running short of what little ammunition he once had. He now resorts to the feeble complaint that the Ontario Conservative Government consists of "old men who need replacing." Never heard any such gripe about Mackenzie King when he was Liberal Prime Minister of Canada, did we? Not, at any rate, from Mr. Oliver. And what says he of Prime Minister St. Laurent (age 73), Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner (72), Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe (69)? Need we go on? — Brantford Expositor.

A hunter in the Peterborough area prognosticates a short Winter this year. His reason; he shot a bear which came out of hibernation in the month of January instead of emerging in the usual month of February. We submit that this hunter's reasoning here may be faulty. We have been reliably informed by bears themselves that they often come out of hibernation to check on the length of Winter by seeing what hunters are doing. According to some of the more knowledgeable bears in our acquaintance the sight of a hunter out in January instead of February prognosticates a long Winter. Who's right here? — Brockville Recorder and Times.

It would appear that there are cases in Canada today of families attempting to elevate their so-called "standard of living" at the expense of their health. We are thinking here of families of modest means who have so pledged the major portion of their incomes to instalment payments on television sets and electrical appliances that there is insufficient money remaining for the purchase of food in quantity and quality necessary to the maintenance of good health and strength. Certainly instalment buying has its place in our economic scheme of life, but care should be taken that payments do not reach such proportions where, by they actually enforce, as far as basic necessities are concerned, a lower standard of living. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

City people can never know the heartbreak and tragedy of a barn fire in the Winter months in which livestock perish, grain and feed, and frequently the farm implements, are destroyed. Hard-bitten farmers might deny it, but it is true, nevertheless, that there is a feeling of sentiment toward farm animals that become part of the farm family. The "muley" heifer that becomes the family's mainstay for a Winter milk supply and the foal that becomes a jewel broken colt with high spirits and good looks, form strong bonds of attachment between the farmer and his livestock. A barn and its contents usually represent the "ready cash" assets of a farmer and quite apart from the loss of livestock in the grim realization that a new barn, equipment and livestock means a mortgage on what had been a debt-free homestead. — Subbury Star.

The Northern Lights have seen strange sights but even Robert Service never visualized dancing girls and singers at Resolute Bay. Though "dancing girls" perhaps is not the phrase we should use, because we are sure none of the young women who went with the entertainment party to the RCAF weather station outpost ever could be confused with the Lady Known as Lou, Diamond-Tooth Gertie or Nellie the Pig, who vastly entertained gold rush acquaintances of Service. We admire the lively spirit of the modern entertainers who made the flight North to stage their show but we are close to the point where we will question these yarns about the loneliness of the Arctic. The entertainers left Montreal on mission just a few weeks after we had read of planes dropping Christmas trees and goodies to men on the Arctic rim. If this goes on much longer we will come to think of Arctic service, with extra pay, special gifts and dancing girls, as better than a term of duty on a Pacific isle.—Ottawa Journal.

OUTSTANDING OFFER by Tussy

Achieve perfect skin beauty with Tussy Balanced "Diet"... See how dramatically it transforms you. Normal or Cleansing "Diet"... Pink Cleansing Cream... Oily Skin... Bracing Skin Lotion... Dry Skin... Cleansing "Diet"... Emulsified Cleansing Cream, Dry Skin Freshener

CLEANSING CREAMS... \$1.50  
 SKIN LOTIONS... \$1.25  
 COMBINATION "DIET"... \$2.75  
 Limited Time Only

REDDIN BROS.  
 132 Richmond St.  
 Charlottetown  
 DIAL 4386

The Age Old Story

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn.

Outside Lighting For Centennial Year

Quotations & Advice FREE without obligation to you on LIGHTING YOUR HOME or Business Premises Consult Us NOW

Storey Electric  
 175 Grafton Dial 5337

HYNDMAN AND CO. LIMITED

INSURANCE

Since 1872.

Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN · SUMMERSIDE · MONTAGUE