

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa, The Thomson Co. Ltd.

Editor and Manager, 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, WEDNESDAY, MAR. 31, 1954

A Healthy Exchequer

A reduction of \$226,872 in the Province's debt in the past two years, with very substantial surpluses on current account was reported by the Provincial Treasurer in his Budget address last night.

At the same time increases are allowed for by all spending departments, both over last year's estimates and actual expenditures. It follows that if production and prices remain much the same as last year the actual financial position of the Province will be much better than forecast in the Budget and there is no doubt that many a Provincial Treasurer would have confidently made such a prediction.

The Hon. Mr. Darby has been notable for producing even healthier accounts than estimates but it may well be that sooner or later conditions will change which make his caution seem the height of prudence.

The really outstanding new expenditure appears to be the quarter of a million allocated for rural electrification. No branch of government, however, can feel that it is being neglected in comparison with other years.

H - Bombs One And Two

The explosion of thermonuclear bombs on March 1st and 26th in the United States testing area in the Pacific came with a greater shock to the world than any since the original wartime explosion over Hiroshima.

Scientists long ago stated matter-of-factly that it is theoretically possible to cover the earth with radio-active dust which would destroy all life. Like many abstract statements it was accepted calmly but the recent experiments forcibly remind us that the theoretically possible may well be practical and that just possibly some one might be mad enough to set the process in motion that would wipe out all life.

The history of the development of new weapons gives small consolation. Invariably there has been horrified reaction to their use and a demand that they be banned, but also invariably they come to be used whenever it seems to the military mind that an objective can be attained in no other way.

The existence of such weapons does not make war impossible. Man, however, if he retains his sense of self-preservation, will take all necessary steps to make sure that war does become impossible. The time is past when the continued possibility can be considered tolerable.

Prime Minister's Explanation

Prime Minister St. Laurent appeared in a new role in the House of Commons the other day, and as a "repentant offender" asked leave to set forth just what he had said—and had not said—on his recent tour, about recognition of Communist China.

"Refusing to take shelter behind that well known refuge known to the press as 'I was misquoted', Mr. St. Laurent admitted he might have said the Chinese 'wanted' the Communist government—and for his carelessness he apologized. But now and officially he wished it known that (1) he doesn't believe the Chinese 'want' the Communist government but (2) the Communist government is in fact the government of China and if it abandons its aggressive warfare the time might well come when Canada would consider recognition of that government nothing more than realistic and common sense.

"To accomplish this self-described 'confession' and statement of policy the Prime Minister led the house on a somewhat tortuous course, with deviations and double-backs worthy of Aintree itself. But his intentions were so clearly honorable that the house forgave the caution, though as Mr. Diefenbaker observed it was reminiscent of the old 'conscriptio' if necessary but not necessarily conscription stand of Mr. St. Laurent's late leader. In any case, the country now knows where its government is on the question of Communist China and we imagine it is a position that will receive general support."

Fat Cattle Show

The fat cattle show and sale which is being held at the Exhibition Grounds tomorrow is the third annual event of its kind in this Province, and it is encouraging to note that this year the entries, numbering 110, are far more than those of the preceding years.

The development of exhibits of this kind requires a great deal of hard work and initiative, and it is hoped that appreciation will be shown by a large turnout of our livestock men from all parts of the Province. An important feature of the show will be the judging of the finished beef steers, which will be undertaken in the morning by Mr. Frank E. Wolf, agricultural agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway, with the sale beginning at 1 p.m. The show will present a fine exhibition of top Island Easter beef and there is no doubt but that the bidding will be correspondingly keen.

EDITORIAL NOTES

H. R. H. Duke of Gloucester was born this date 1900.

March indeed came in like a lamb and is going out like a lion.

The Saint John municipal abattoir is being leased to Canada Packers Ltd. for a 31-year term. For ten years the abattoir was operated by a commission appointed by the municipal council and lost money every year. The new lessee will maintain the custom killing facilities provided by the commission.

A Federal-Provincial conference on highway transportation will meet in Ottawa April 26-28. The Federal Government is "reluctant" to assume the control which the Privy Council decision in February lays at its door but may well use the existence of that power to persuade the Provinces to adopt more or less uniform regulations.

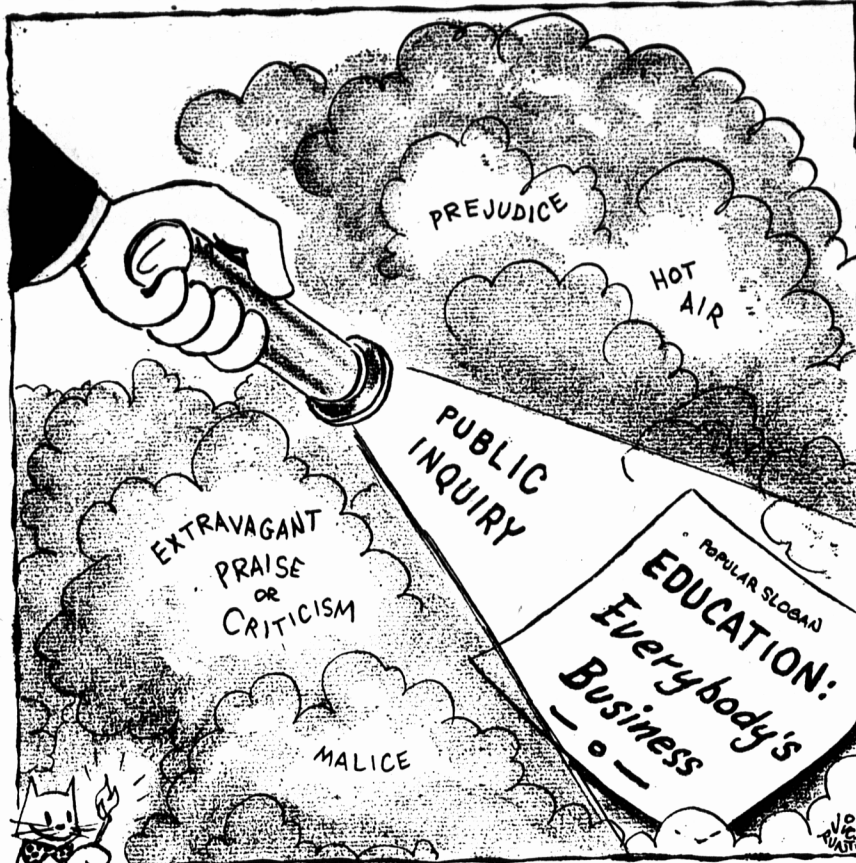
Finance Minister Abbott's prediction that the Municipal Grants Act will be amended to be somewhat more favorable to municipalities is a welcome one. On principle the grants should be increased to the amount of municipal taxation which would be paid but for the Crown's immunity.

The second half of the twentieth century will go into history as the period of the marketing revolution—the time when we finally learned to market as skillfully and efficiently as, years earlier, we had learned to manufacture, writes Reginald Clough, in Tide. The marketing revolution is much more than a revolution in retailing. Self-service, supermarket selling, and automatic vending are all part of this revolution—but they are still only small parts of something very much bigger, Mr. Clough believes.

The British Parliament made the slave trade illegal this date 1806 after some twenty years of agitation by William Wilberforce and others. In 1811 slave trading was made a felony, punishable by transportation or hard labour, and in 1824 it was declared to be piracy and capitally punishable. The Civil War, ending in 1865, put an end to slavery in the United States. The United Nations, however, continues to investigate allegations that slavery exists in various parts of the world.

In his Budget address last night Hon. Mr. Darby noted with satisfaction that the long argument in connection with the one-zone freight system for Prince Edward Island has been recently settled. "We were successful," he said, "in cooperation with seven other Provinces, in preventing at least one increase in freight rates. In the actual movement of freight and passengers we have received splendid cooperation from the Canadian National Railways and I believe there is a better understanding and general feeling of mutual cooperation between the Province and the C. N. R. than has existed for some years." He also noted that improvements are "much to be desired at Wood Islands and we are hopeful that such will take place soon."

Penetrating The Fog



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.

DR. BENNETT'S ADDRESS

Sir.—W. J. Enright, who writes to you from Sweetsburg, Quebec, and whose letter appeared in your issue of March 15, does some injustice to Dr. Bennett, who spoke in Charlottetown March 9, and I hope you will permit me the privilege of reply.

Mr. Enright, perhaps unwittingly, gives the best appraisal of Miss Neatby's indictment of Canadian society that has yet appeared in the press and for this achievement thoughtful people in Canada will want to thank him sincerely. Her most vocal opposition could not have described the Neatby attitude so neatly.

However, when Mr. Enright describes Dr. Bennett ironically as "the Dalhousie Sage" and refers to Bennett's scholarly examination of the issue as lack of "Neatby fortitude," all people who respect and admire Dr. Bennett, must, I think, take exception to the Enright attitude.

To describe Dr. Bennett as the Dalhousie Sage is no more than just. From Newfoundland to Vancouver Island, Dr. Bennett's wisdom, strength of mind, kindness, tolerance and above all, his regard for youth have earned him with affection and respect, to the people of Canada. The implication in Mr. Enright's reference, that Dr. Bennett has donned a cloak of sagacity that is not his to wear is not only unkind, but untrue.

The Enright suggestion that Dr. Bennett lacks the "Neatby fortitude," although intended to be interpreted, one feels, as an admirable commendation to Dr. Bennett, "Neatby fortitude" reveals itself merely as strong prejudice. Scholarship, as contrasted with prejudice, attempts to see both sides of an issue and to discover truth. Dr. Bennett is a scholar.

I am, Sir, etc. W. R. WEES, Fredericton, N.B.

MERMAID LAKE

Sir.—In recent years our Liberal governments both federal and provincial have been doing a wonderful job in water conservation throughout Canada. The Liberals always believed in water conservation and in maintaining water levels so that the soil of the farms would be more productive. Senator Jones created the Department of Natural Resources and placed our representative, Honourable Eugene Cullen, as Minister. This Department has been doing a wonderful job in water conservation with its giant machinery. Already many dams have been created including one on the farm of Senator Jones. These dams are a great help not only in raising water levels to make soil more fertile but in providing fishing and wild fowl shooting spots for both tourists and our own people. How different under the Conservative government for Dr. MacMillan the then Premier did nothing about water conservation.

Mermaid Lake in Mermaid had been a beautiful lake. It was a beautiful spot and many people went there of an afternoon. It was one of the best shooting places on the Island. I well remember the many wild geese and ducks I took off that lake in those days as well as seeing the abundant crops in that vicinity. "The high water level of the lake was the reason for the farms being so fertile and productive. I saw cattle on the farms bordering on the lake drinking out of the lake. Water fences stopped them from going to other farms. In winter the neighbours got their ice. Then on June 12, 1935 a lease of the lake was registered from the Government. Then the people's Lake MacDonal became in a terrible state. Conditions warranted a delegation from different districts to wait on the

Notes By The Way

"There's nothing juvenile about delinquency. It's a full-grown problem."—London Free Press.

Mayor Jackson suggests artificial owls be put on the City Hall clock tower to scare away starlings. The kind that don't give a hoot?—Hamilton Spectator.

The girl in her neat business suit, mannish and independent as she is in many ways, is still sufficiently under the domination of the eternal feminine to be careful that the seams are straight, her hair trim and her perfume discreetly alluring. And one can only hope that she will stay that way.—Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

Hollywood's interest represents fame of a sort, and a film about our Mounties is a form of awareness of one of the colorful aspects of our history, but we could wish that Hollywood would take our history as history and not something to be rewritten and altered to suit some director's notion of dramatic values. The fact that geography was revised too, and Saskatchewan plunked down in Alberta is a relatively minor criticism. "But undesirable is a concession that does wanton violence to the tradition which the North West Mounted Police founded and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have faithfully upheld, of preserving law and order with a minimum of force and violence. The truth about the famous force is dramatic enough to require no dressing up."—Montreal Star.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

TARDY NEWS

The tardiness of communication services in the old days is well illustrated by the following excerpts from the Royal Gazette for the year 1837:

August 1: "We are indebted to the editor of the Miramichi Gleaser, for a slip printed at his office, containing the melancholy intelligence of the late King's death which occurred at Windsor on the 20th of June. The intelligence was brought to Miramichi by a vessel from Newfoundland."

Aug. 15: "We learn by the steamer from Miramichi this morning that the official news of the late King's death had been received in New Brunswick, by way of New York, and that the Queen had been proclaimed with the usual formalities, at Saint John and other parts."

Aug. 22: "On Friday the 18th inst. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor having received official accounts of the demise of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, and of the accession of her present Majesty Queen Victoria to the Imperial Crown of Great Britain and the Dominions thereunto belonging, directions were immediately given by His Excellency for the proclaiming of the Queen and the requisite solemnities and ceremonies."

The Poet's Corner

O HAPPIE DEATH

O happy death, to life the ready way, The end of grief, and save of sorrows all; O pleasant sleep, thy pines they are but play; Thy coup is sweet, although it taste of gall. Thou brings the bound and wretched out of thrall Within the port sure from the stormy blast, For after death no mischief may befall, But wo, wan-chance, and perils all are past. Of kindle death none suld afraid be But sich as hope for na felicitie.

—Alexander Hume, (1587-1609).

When in the library I met a gentleman who seemed to have a wonderful education, gained much by travel but more by reading. He suggested that I read the "Life of Samuel Johnson," in three volumes. Next he asked if I had ever read "Life of Christopher Columbus." That seemed more within my range and I told him what little I knew. Moreover, I taught us in the spiritual realm was of more value than the discovery of a continent, namely that God can do most anything through human instrumentality if He finds the dedicated personality. I stressed the point that the man allowed himself to be a willing slave for the Almighty not being driven but gently led.

After the Crimean War a group of survivors were each separately asked regarding those who had been in the conflict, whose name would live the longest in the world. They all gave the same answer: "Florence Nightingale, the lady with the lamp."

This woman is the spiritual mother of the nursing profession. She saved her life by giving it. With both these, there seemed to be a hidden Power within.

As far as the open mind and a willingness to learn is concerned, we are all in the game of life as children in school.

The A.A.'s speak of a Power outside of themselves. Whether without, within or above them, they simply recognize and rely on this Power.

It's the same Power that made the worlds and guides the planets in their course, who became flesh and dwell among us, full of grace and truth. (St. John's Gospel, chapter 1, verses one to 18).

I am, Sir, etc. ARCH. MacKENZIE, Kensington.

The Passing Scene

By Observer

APRIL AND CLOCKS

"The winter was long and dreary, but it is all over now." So began a paragraph which I remember reading in elementary school days. I wish I could recall the entire text but it's a good while ago and there are some good things which one forgets with the passing of the years.

Like all middle-aged folk I cling to the belief that present day winters are not nearly as severe as they used to be; this, in spite of the meteorologists and other experts with high sounding titles who quote figures and records to prove that the belief has not a particle of truth in it.

Anyway, it doesn't matter now. Spring is here, which means that the debate about winter can be adjourned for a few months. Not that I have any grievance against winter; in its own way and according to the best it knows it can be just as pleasant and intriguing as any other season.

April is a hopeful month; on every side there are reminders that life is good. Only man, of all created life, is fearful of what may happen tomorrow, next week, next month, or next year. In the great heart of Nature there is no fear, no doubt, no regrets, no pining for what is not. And man himself, with all the things that keep his soul in dread, is at his best in Spring.

It is no circumstance of chance that very few, if any, of the great wars of history have begun in April or May. Almost always they have started in the heat of summer when hope has given place to fulfillment. It is not without its controversies, however. Every year about this time the battle lines are drawn between those who want to put their clocks ahead and those who do not. Daylight Time versus Standard Time is the issue. Some refer to the latter as "God's time"; but I suggest, is an unwarranted assumption since all time systems are of human creation as distinct, of course, from Time itself which comes and goes its way regardless of clocks or any other instrument of man's invention.

For myself I have never been able to understand why disagreement in the matter of a clock should be considered a serious thing or why there should be any disagreement at all, although I have heard all the arguments both ways. It seems that usually workers in stores and offices prefer Daylight Saving, while others, notably farmers, like Standard. Why shouldn't both groups be allowed to place themselves in the matter? What possible harm or inconvenience could it cause anybody, say in Charlottetown and Cherry Valley, if one place were on Daylight Time and the other on Standard?

However, assuming that two plans, fast and slow, are impracticable, what is the trouble about having one? And why is one of the two possible systems any better than the other? What difference does it make? Farm-ers, or at least any I have ever known, do not allow themselves to be enslaved or even governed by clocks. They get up when they think they should and they stop work by the same principle. Supposing the Government were to proclaim Daylight Saving Time as the official time for the whole Province, town and country alike. What then? The farmer who now gets up at 6, let us say, could stay in until 7, if that would suit him better. He would have exactly the same number of hours at his disposal as he has now. I don't see how he would be at the slightest disadvantage.

Again, supposing the Government were to adhere to Standard Time. What difference would that make to the clerks and office workers who, understandably, want an extra hour of daylight in the evening after work is done? What is to hinder the stores and offices from opening one hour earlier in the morning and closing one hour earlier in the evening? I don't think the stores would lose much business that way. Indeed, it one may believe what the farmers say (and of course one may) their chief complaint is that the stores don't open early enough at any time of the year.

It may as well be recognized that neither Daylight Saving nor Standard is going to suit the convenience of every individual in town or country every day and under all circumstances. I know one farmer, for example, who gets up before daylight and stays in the fields (with time out for quick meals) until 10 o'clock at night, sometimes later. I doubt that he ever looks at a clock, except on Sundays.

There may be other things I don't know about this time business; but, judging by any of the arguments I have heard expressed, I would say that the Government might very well consider putting two pieces of paper—one marked Daylight and the other Standard—in a hat and have someone pick out one of the pieces; the piece drawn would decide the question and everybody would agree to abide by the decision without any complaining or dissent. It's a pity that April, of months, should be troubled by division over such a little thing.

I once heard a man say that if he had his way all clocks would be stopped on the first of May and not started again until the first of October. Perhaps that's the solution to the problem.

The Age Old Story

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

- Dr. W. R. Carson, CHIROPRACTOR, Palmer Gracuate, Charlottetown. M. Alban Farmer, Q.C., B.A., LL.B., Barrister and Solicitor, Bank of Commerce Building, Charlottetown. Palmer & Haslam, A. J. HASLAM, B.A., LL.B., Barrister, Etc., Bank of Nova Scotia Chambers, Charlottetown. J. Elmer Blanchard, B.A., BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY, Etc., 165 Queen St. Gaudet & Haszard, GILBERT A. GAUDET, B.A., LL.B., Barristers and Solicitors, Money to Loan, Canadian Bank of Commerce Bldg. Byron J. Grant, O.D., OPTOMETRIST, 126 Kent Street, Dial 5811. Gordon E. MacMillan, B.A., LL.B., BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc., 134 Prince St. Allison M. Gillis, LL.B., BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc., 130 Richmond St. J. A. Carruthers, R.O., OPTOMETRIST, 123 Kent Street, Phone 5811. McDONALD, CURRIE & CO., CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Saint John, Sherbrooke, Vancouver, Kirkland Lake, Moncton, Hamilton, Charlottetown, Edmonton. H. R. DOANE & COMPANY, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, 148 George St., Charlottetown. RANDOLPH W. MANNING, C.A., ERMA F. MACPHERSON, C.A., KEVIN J. McKENNA, C.A., Office at Halifax, Moncton, St. John's, Amherst, Dartmouth, Kentville, Liverpool, New Glasgow, Truro and Corner Brook.