

THE GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett. Associate Editor, Frank Walker. "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, AUG. 23, 1951

Freight-Rate Equalization

The railways have filed with the Board or Transport Commissioners a study on freight rate equalization which will be the subject of public hearings commencing Sept. 10. Two alternative plans are proposed in the study, one covering a general levelling off of rates but retaining the statutory preferences such as the Crow's Nest Pass rates and the 20 per cent advantage on certain Maritime rates.

The other plan, favoured by the railways, would retain existing differences between east and west bound shipments between various regions.

Obviously the first plan is to be preferred by Maritimers although it might be objected that it should go further in enabling our products to enter the central Canadian markets. In opposing the actual disadvantages of existing rates we should not forget that we are entitled to a positive advantage to more or less balance the tariff protection enjoyed by the industries of Ontario and Quebec.

Pay For P. O. W.

The demand that Canadian soldiers be paid by the Japanese for every day spent in concentration camps will be difficult to justify. Japan was not a signatory to the conventions providing protection for prisoners of war and her treatment of them, which left very much to be desired indeed cannot be considered in the light of a breach of those conventions.

Apart from that, it is only officers who are entitled to receive the pay of equivalent ranks in the captor's forces, supposing the conventions to be in force. Other ranks are entitled only to proper pay for any work they are required to do, which itself would represent a substantial sum for the unpaid forced labour which the Japanese imposed.

Unsatisfactory as was their treatment at the hands of the Japanese, it would seem that Canadians who were prisoners of war in the East should look to our own Government for compensation.

The Road Back

The road back from the dangerous arena of socialism is not easy. It is, therefore, to the credit of Australia's Prime Minister that he is willing to attempt it, hard and tortuous though it may be. The first step towards unravelling the tangled skein of the socialist regime which preceded him, is Mr. Menzies' decision to 'de-nationalize' Amalgamated Wireless Inc., a government enterprise, by offering to sell the Government's 51 per cent interest in the organization to private individuals.

In countries such as the United Kingdom, where socialism has gone much farther than in Australia, the process of unscrambling the eggs may be even more difficult. Winston Churchill has remarked on more than one occasion that some socialist experiments in the realm of nationalization may be irremediable.

Socialism and Communism have in common one quality that does not exist in other political faiths. For both Socialism and Communism strike at the roots of the principle of private ownership, upon which the Rule of Law and democratic constitutional practice rest. The consequences, therefore, that follow in the wake of a socialist regime, extend far beyond a political reverse in which they lose the reins of power. A Socialist victory, likewise, means a change in the whole economic and political system, not just a change of party and of policy.

Security Legislation

There appears to be a certain amount of confusion with regard to the old age security legislation soon to come into effect. As of Jan. 1 the following acts will be in force in Canada: Old Age Security Act; Old Age Pensions Act; Blind Pensions Act.

The first is the universal pension which provides \$40 per month based on proof of age and residence without the means test. The second provides assistance to the needy 65 to 69 year group, with assistance based on the means test but unlike that under the present Old Age Pension Act with assistance up to \$40 per month. In addition to the means test, the applicant "must have residence in Canada for the 20 years immediately preceding the date of application for assistance, or if he has not so re-

sided, has been present in Canada prior to those 20 years for an aggregate period equal to twice the aggregate period of absences from Canada during those 20 years."

Under the Blind Pensions Act, allowances are paid in the same manner as they are under the Old Age Pensions Act, the only change made being that the residence clause has been dropped from 20 to 10 years.

Those who are eligible for the Old Age Pensions Act before January 1, 1952 with the means test, should continue forwarding their applications to the Old Age Pension Board.

It should be noted that legislation covering assistance to persons in the 65 to 69 year group has not been yet proclaimed, and the Provincial Government, while favourable to the scheme, may require the sanction of the Legislature before taking action with Ottawa on a fifty-fifty basis.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Thanksgiving is gazetted for Monday, Oct. 8, just a few days more than a month after Labour Day, Monday, Sept. 3.

All circles are not vicious and the developing market for King's green beans may well lead to the establishment of market gardening here on a substantial scale.

Ayrshire breeders are having a field day at the Experimental Farm today, closely following their having figuratively enjoyed a field day in R.O.P. listings as reported in the Ayrshire Review.

Ontario veterans held their annual reunion at Cornwall on Sunday, when no fewer than 2,000 of the Legionnaires participated. Rain, however, played havoc with the celebration.

Thieves in Calgary broke into the John Howard Society's headquarters, and stole a dozen shirts intended for released prisoners in that area. If convicted they may find the shirts waiting them on their release.

Sir William Wallace, Scottish patriot, was executed this date 1305 after having been captured by treachery at Glasgow. He had long fought Edward I in the name of Baliol, who was Edward's prisoner.

It is not uncommon to tell an opponent to "jump into the river." But the Mayor of Magog went one better, of his own free will and accord he jumped into a lake and, what is more, lived to tell the tale.

The Island extends a very special welcome to the Rt. Hon. Arthur Henderson and his party, who are demonstrating the proper way to commence a tour of this country. May they be the first of many not to begin at Montreal and proceed westward.

Garages and service stations are understandably looked askance at as neighbors, particularly after a big fire. Perhaps, however, when world peace is restored they will be handling gasoline in a form not unlike butter and almost as safe.

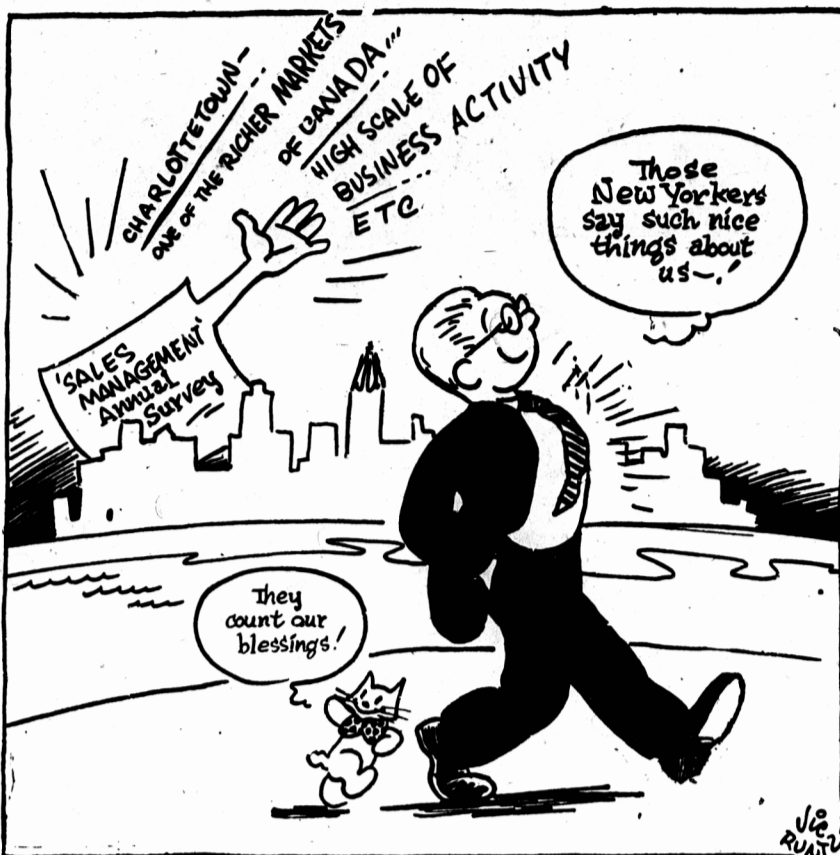
New World record for milk yields has been set up by a British cow, Manningford Faith Jan Graceful. This 13-year-old Friesian recently achieved a milk yield of 267.315 lbs., beating previous records by about 11 lbs. Her daily average yield since she first began to give milk has been 86 lbs.

A word to the wise farmer. The Experimental Station advises that as "the population of aphids, the transmitters of virus diseases is rising; add 1 quart of 25% DDT emulsion to each 100 gallons of late blight spray." Attention to this will mean money later in the potato growers' pockets.

Canada's Chief Justice, Rt. Hon. Thibaudau Rinfret is on a tour of the world, but when he reached Sydney, Australia, he fainted at a reception in his honour at Government House. He recovered sufficiently to proceed to Canberra as scheduled, and the doctors pronounced him to be organically fit though suffering from cold and exhaustion due to reaching Australia from India in the former's winter.

An Ottawa report has it that Mr. A. D. Dunton, chairman of the Board of Governors of CBC, is being urged to join the Department of External Affairs at ambassadorial rank. He is a brilliant young man, and could serve his country very well in such a capacity. Successor as CBC chairman has been mentioned as possibly Mr. D. C. McArthur, for many years head of the news division of CBC. His qualifications are that he has, in the main, over 15 years or more successfully defended the integrity of the news from the attacks of the less principled politicians; that he is a philosophic and articulate liberal (small "l"); is held in high regard in all quarters, and is bilingual. It would be an improvement, also, if the chairman of the CBC did not live in the political atmosphere of Ottawa.

Good For A Lift



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.

OUR FOREST HERITAGE

Sir—I have been led to write this article through a statement from Premier Jones appearing in our local paper a few weeks ago, in which he expressed concern about Prince Edward Island losing its population by the exodus of the young men to the Maritime Provinces and the U. S. Also I noticed he was concerned about the erosion that is slowly but surely completing its destruction around the coast of the Island.

Last summer I visited the Island for two weeks, after an absence of thirty-seven years, and one of the things I did was to take observations of how much the sea had encroached at Canoe Cove where the Farquhar lobster cannery was built sixty-two years ago. I found that the restless sea had swallowed up sixty feet of the land, or about a foot a year.

There is something else that Premier Jones, as a progressive, should be interested in, and that is reforestation. An article in the August Reader's Digest shows what has been accomplished here by the cross breeding of trees by the U. S. Forest Service at Placerville, California. They have been able to produce trees that will grow in half the time it took the parent tree to reach the size to make lumber.

I know it is late—fifty years late—yet I believe if the right kind of trees were planted the children now being born in Prince Edward Island might before their sojourn is ended, again hear the hum of a sawmill cutting lumber to replace the houses their fathers and grandfathers built. These homes must soon be replaced. I saw a lot of land on the Island that was not being farmed to any great advantage. The Government should acquire some of this land and reforest it.

What ex-President Hoover chose to call rugged individualism and the Communists dirty capitalism has tamed a continent in the last hundred years; but what desolation it has made of our forests! Somehow I always feel regret when I see a fine specimen of a tree that took many years to grow and had withstood the storms of winter and the heat of summer fall a prey to the woodman's axe. Only the other day I read of one of the great monarchies of the Redwood forest fall the victim of the lumberjack. It was six feet in diameter and contained nine thousand feet of lumber—enough to build a five-roomed cottage. I remember when a boy there was a fine pine tree in our wood lot, sixty or seventy feet tall and not a limb for fifty feet. Someone coveted it to build a boat, so it went the way of all good trees. I was certainly sorry to see that tree cut down.

I am sure that if the Premier is interested in what they have accomplished here at Placerville they would gladly give him any information on the subject. I don't

know what type of trees would be best suited to the Island climate. I saw a young forest on thirty acres at the back of our old place at Canoe Cove that has grown in the last twenty years on land I helped to clear fifty years ago; but they are the wrong kind of trees. Maybe if they were cross bred with some other type they would be just the trees, as they certainly grow fast; but they will never make lumber, as they are now limbs down to the ground—just good for Christmas trees.

Of course here in California the growth is faster on account of the mild climate and the amount of sunshine we get. In my neighbour's yard is a cypress tree that has grown four feet each year for the last three years. I am sure, however, that fifty years from now if the Island would again have trees that would make lumber, generations yet unborn would bless those who made such a heritage possible.

I am Sir, etc. J. E. MCKENZIE 346 Carroll St. Sunnyvale, California.

LEARNING'S HIGH COST

Sir—Soon, in fact in less than one month in some cases, the colleges and universities across our country will throw open their doors to welcome thousands of students both graduate and undergraduate to their halls of learning.

With the approach of the opening of this new scholastic year it would not be amiss for some of us at least to recall the problem of the Canadian student so precisely and accurately appraised in the June 9th editorial of The Standard.

We are facing a situation in which financial ability is the determining factor in the selection of our university student body with the result that in many cases where the "mental capacity" and "personal stamina" are present, these potentialities are thwarted by this very factor. The cause of this so fittingly described "priced out of the market" education is of course due to the all-time high cost of living. Even with the ratio of government aid against university cost declining, this decline it would seem could in some measure be offset by scholarships from sources other than the government, even though our governments have become totalitarian enough to provide citizens with no provision is necessary.

As the above mentioned editorial points out, much could be done by business, community organizations and by individuals. Adding my personal opinion I should like to re-emphasize the part which the individual could take. So much

could be done by way of helping this far from ideal situation by those who have the means lying idly by in anticipation of a rainy day which in most cases never comes, and if it does is rarely so rainy as to dwindle the pile any appreciable amount.

Our students are doing their utmost in most cases for themselves in the form of summer employment. Their earnings from this source, it can be said, go a long way in our local colleges (P. E. I.), but when education must be sought elsewhere their problem becomes at least twice as great and is often five times as great.

For each of us this matter should be of interest; for the student it presents a real problem, and for many of us it involves a duty. Let's remember our students, those who provide so large a percentage of leaders in our governments, our professions and business. Let not the financial factor play such a role in their selection. Let's educate all of the so-called "cream of the crop" of our younger generation; then this threat to our "democratic concepts" and hazard to our future "public welfare" will be removed.

I am, Sir, etc. F. R. B. Charlottetown R. R. 5.

PROHIBITION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Sir—On March 25th, 1948, the Government gave Prohibition a knock-out blow; but though it went down for the count it will be back in the ring again, for this Province is becoming fed up with all that is wasted in liquor and its consequent mischief. Prohibition can be enforced. For the first 18 years of its life the law was respected, because the Government was behind it; but then the forces of propaganda got busy. The Government was told this law is unnatural and cannot be enforced. People want liquor and are going to get it, hook or crook. The brewers said to the Government "You had better give the people what they want, legally, and reap what profit you can from the sale." Then the Government, convinced of what seemed to be the truth, got busy and finally convinced the people that this Prohibition law can't be enforced, and the majority fell under the forces of propaganda.

Laws people don't like can be enforced. I remember when tax laws first began to be mooted. Politicians turned pale at mention of the idea. Long ago, voters became well used to these laws. Grinding tax laws are now enacted and people keep them.

A prohibition law can be enforced by the Government, backed by the people, when word is passed to the enforcement agencies that they want this law kept and, here is the truth, the majority in this Province really want such a law. They were fooled by the propaganda. When they see, as they are beginning to do, that the New Temperance Act is a failure they will vote this "right little tight little Island" dry again as it once was.

Statistics are an abomination, but here are a few that prove that Prohibition is the only permanent settlement of this vexed problem of intoxicating liquor. The United States has become progressively intertemperate since the days of Prohibition in 1922. Sales have gone up from two billions in that year to nine billions in 1948, with consequent increase in crime. Here in Canada the story is the same. In 1942 we spent \$472 millions. In 1946 \$1,026 millions, or \$1,600,000 per day in beverage alcohol.

Do we realize what these vast vested interests of the liquor traffic are doing to our country? Think how we are doing. On the one hand we engage in a fearful and bloody war to protect our homes and our liberties and on the other we tolerate a traffic that destroys our homes and, annually, robs thousands of our young men and women of their money and their character. And this is done by a gang of men who, as they would say, don't care a d—n what happens to our people so long as their dividends flow in. In the name of all that is good why do we put up with this?

I am, Sir, etc. W. I. GREEN, Audrey Alexandra Brown, Stanley Bridge.

Notes By The Way

Now that mass swims of the English Channel are in vogue (there were 20 contestants in this year's race) the shipping insurance underwriters should examine their rates. For Channel swimmers take their place among the dangers to navigation, along with rocks, shoals, derelicts, and deceased whales. Marine experts will probably place them in the category of floats and jetsam. — Ottawa Citizen.

One of the meanest persons on record is the auto driver who damages a fender of a parked car by bumping or scraping it, and then drives away before he is detected. Not all do this. There are drivers who, when they accidentally bump a parked car enough to damage it, wait until the owner appears. Those who park their cars at the mercy of the hit-run drivers, but if any are caught an example should be made of them. Boston Post.

In Britain's new House of Commons, members of parliament in session are under constant scrutiny by a man peering through a periscope. He is not a police-state observer. He is not a technician sitting in the middle of flashing lights and dials and his job is to regulate an elaborate air conditioning system in the legislature chamber. The technician uses a periscope to see whether the House of Commons is crowded or nearly empty. He regulates the amount of inflowing fresh air by what he sees. — Associated Press.

A Chicago doctor has discovered that the failure of people to release pent-up anger contributes directly to poor health. He says the most cheerful parents with the least frustration and tension

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

A MICMAC WELCOME

On Thursday, the 13th instant Louis Francois Alguimou, being deputed by the other chiefs, waited upon His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Young with the following address:

"May I please Your Excellency, 'We the Chiefs, and other Officers of that part of the Micmac tribe who inhabit Prince Edward Island, on our own part, and on the part of our people humbly beg to congratulate Your Excellency on your appointment to the Government of our Island. From the Representative of our gracious Sovereign our people hope to receive that protection which was guaranteed their forefathers by solemn treaties, and accorded them by Your Excellency's predecessors, and which their loyalty to their King gives them reason to hope for. That Your Excellency's administration in our Colony be long, and prosperous, is the sincere prayer of Your Excellency's devoted servants."

(Signed) Louis Francois Alguimou, Oliver Thomas, Francois Bernard, Francois Eksewel, Jose Piel Eksewel, Francois Pierre.

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:

"I thank you for your address upon my arrival. You may rely upon every protection from me. The favorable opinion entertained by your late Governor of your general good conduct and propriety of demeanour, cannot fail in exciting an interest on my part towards you."

This venerable son of the forest, by whom the above address was presented, is now in his eightieth year. He remembers the days when the British Chief said to his fathers, "Lay up the Tomahawk. We will be friends. We will become your fathers. Instead of the French fathers, our Great Father beyond the ocean will protect you, and call you children."

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has humanely ordered a quantity of blankets, and powder and shot, to be distributed amongst the necessitous of the Indians. — Royal Gazette, Oct. 13, 1831.

The Age-Old Story

And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat, and the whole multitude stood on the shore. . . . And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. . . . And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: for this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

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The Poet's Corner ESCAPE I spoke so often but you did not hear; Speak to me now. I shall be far away In the green fields of silence where White daisy opens to the eye of day. Or in the nested glades of solitude Deep in the shadow of the changing leaf I'll sit and feel the wholeness of the wood And be at one with gladness and with grief. Then if you see me smile, I shall have smiled At the shy thoughts that come like deer to feed, And look upon me, trustful as a child, And drink the water by the standing reed. You, that suppose me dear and think me true And are convinced I have your liverly on— You'll never guess how I escaped from you; You will not even know that I am gone. I am, Sir, etc. W. I. GREEN, Audrey Alexandra Brown, Stanley Bridge.