

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, 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, TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 1952

Why Potatoes Are High

While it is true that the law of supply and demand is operating against the consumer in the present high price of potatoes, the Ottawa Journal suggests that this is much too simple an explanation of what has happened. One gets nearer to the truth, it adds, in the statement of an Ontario agriculture official who was quoted as saying that farmers "just got tired of growing potatoes."

For years now potatoes have been cheap and plentiful in Canada. Farm costs continued to rise so that, gradually, large potato acreage became increasingly unprofitable for many growers. The accumulative result was that in 1951 Ontario growers planted fewer acres to potatoes than in any previous year of record and Maritime supplies have not been sufficient to take up the slack.

In the normal course of things this season of relatively high prices for spuds would be followed by a bumper 1952 crop and prices would drop sharply later in the season. The Ontario Crop Association has just issued a warning that this may not take place. It points out that many of the big growers are pretty well disgusted with over-all returns from their crops in recent years and that many more smaller growers are selling seed stock for table use now because of high prices. The association predicts another reduction in acreage this season. Apparently across the border they too are worried about the seed potatoes being sold for table use.

"This is the sort of thing," says the Journal, "that all those who advocate controls or plans or a completely free market for foods must face. It is something too that consumers should realize. Cheap foods, any food that is, can remain cheap only so long, and then the inevitable reaction sets in. There is no known method to compel a farmer to plant or produce anything which becomes unprofitable to him, and this especially at times when wages and other costs are rising. We had cheap potatoes for several years and many farmers decided to get out of potatoes, we have cheap pork now with the practical certainty it will be scarce and more expensive in a year or two. A middle course would be the ideal, without this hill and dale of glut and scarcity, but it is difficult to achieve."

No Rugby For Ottawa's Policemen

Word has come from Ottawa that the capital's lady mayor is drawing attention to regulations prohibiting Ottawa's policemen and firemen from taking time off to play football or other sports.

It may be that the smooth running of the departments is disturbed by the necessity of exchanging shifts to allow players to take part in games. Crimes, emergencies or fires may occur while a game is in progress and the absent fireman or policeman be very much missed indeed.

On the other hand sports and particularly football are extremely valuable as a means of keeping fit and even more so for keeping morale at a high pitch. Ottawa may occasionally have an extra man or two on hand by barring sport but it is by no means certain that the larger number will be more effective in their coping with criminals or fires than a force containing athletes.

Is This Not Important?

The Aluminum Company of Canada's huge construction project at Kitimat, B.C., will, it is said, be the key to a most important industrial and general economic expansion on the Pacific Coast. But the power dam that is part of the scheme will put beyond reach what may be an important key to the basic history of this continent.

Water backed up by Alcan's new dam will cover areas in Tweedsmuir Park where archaeologists believe there is evidence to prove how North America was originally populated. As the Vancouver Sun suggests, along the present shoreline within Tweedsmuir Park may lie important clues to the routes taken by descendants of the Asiatic nomads from across the Bering Straits, who scientists believe were the ancestors of North American Indians, as they drifted south and east from their northern point of entry.

The dam site will start backing up water next fall. In the summer of 1951 archaeological expeditions headed by Dr. Charles E. Borden of the University of

British Columbia pinpointed over 100 pre-historic sites. They found arrow and spear points, scrapers and other instruments left by at least two pre-historic peoples. They also discovered the outlines of two pre-historic villages, though there was not time to dig them out.

Four universities, including B. C., will have archaeological workers on the ground this summer excavating the villages as much as possible before the deadline. What will limit operations is lack of sufficient funds.

It is a sad commentary on the age that while millions of dollars are available for power projects, not to speak of atomic bomb and other defense developments running into the hundreds of millions, a project contributing to the advancement of our basic knowledge about mankind must go begging. If private donations are not forthcoming this rare archaeological opportunity may be lost forever. Surely it is a matter important enough to be financed by the Federal Government if necessary, and thoroughly investigated before it is too late.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The losses of lobster fishermen as a result of last week's storm present an emergency to many fishermen. Some arrangement could, perhaps, be made to make equipment available from districts which now have a closed season.

The National Park is now opened for the season, and is certain to prove a major attraction to both residents and visitors. It is to be hoped, however, that the former will not include racketeers such as those who two weeks in succession went on the rampage at Stanhope and Dalway.

It is obvious that the Federal powers-that-be must use restraint in the appointment of new senators, so many of the prospects being at present M.P.'s. Their appointment would create vacancies in the House, which implies by-elections, and the Government has had enough of these to last them till the general election in 1953.

The late Dr. W. H. Pethick was a gentleman of the old school, widely known and esteemed throughout the Island. Our livestock farmers owe him a great debt for his untiring efforts as senior veterinarian in the Dominion Department of Agriculture, and the Province generally for the example he set as a model official and public spirited citizen.

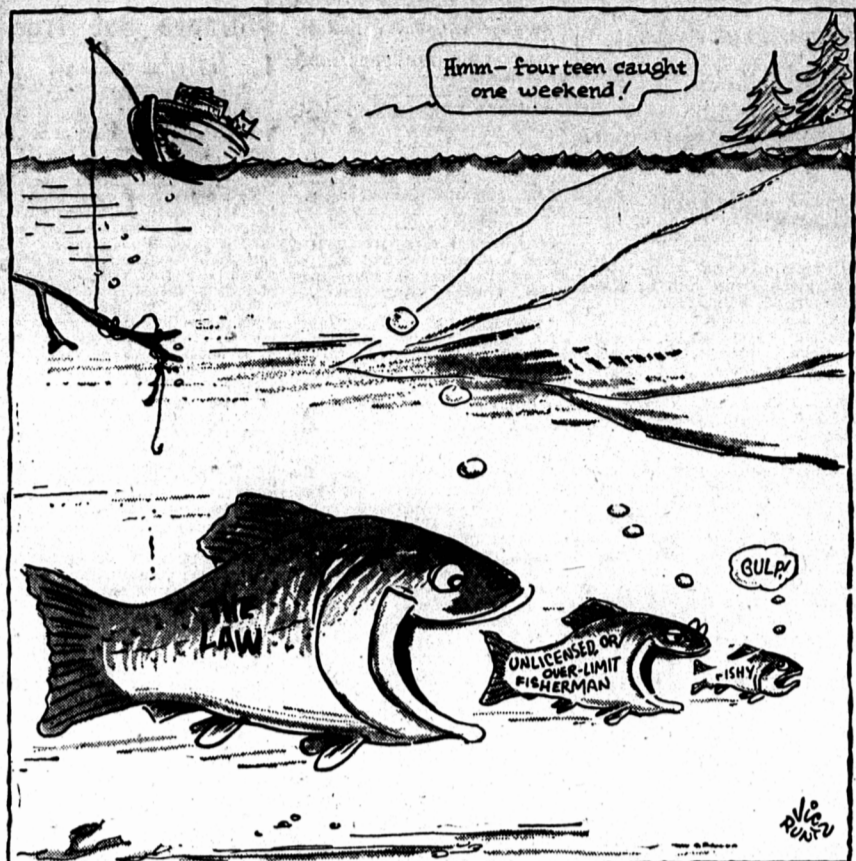
While Russia played soft music and sponsored her "peace offensive" it was necessary for the free world to hold steadfastly to the determination to gather strength to remain free. Now that the Reds have turned to the technique of sabre-rattling there is no need to strive against complacency. What is needed now is cool firmness in the face of Communist bluster.

King George V, second son of Edward VII, was born this date 1865. He was intended for a career in the Royal Navy but on becoming heir apparent in 1892 he relinquished his commission. He succeeded his father May 6, 1910 and in 1917 proclaimed the royal house to be styled "of Windsor". He travelled widely both before and after his accession. His death on Jan. 20, 1936 brought widespread grief.

Mr. J. Angus MacLean, M. P., has brought an admission from Mr. Howe, Minister of Defence Production, that he favors Ontario and Quebec for national industries, because development in the Maritimes and British Columbia would lead to the construction of houses which would have to be abandoned after the war. Was ever a more unsatisfactory excuse offered by a responsible minister? The more likely explanation is Mr. Howe is "sold" on building up the big centres at the expense of the outlying provinces, because there the big interests already control money and industries.

Deserving of a cordial editorial welcome is the first edition of "Canadian Fisheries Annual", a yearly volume designed to portray the importance and significance of the commercial fishing industry of Canada from coast to coast. Featured in this issue are the proceedings of the seventh annual meeting of the Fisheries Council of Canada held in Vancouver recently. Statistics are included relating to commercial fish landings, marketing and exportation, of a nature to appear for the first time in one book, also a comprehensive list of fishing companies, processors and wholesalers. The issue carries a foreword by the Federal Minister of Fisheries, an article on Canadian-American Relations in Fisheries by Deputy Minister Stewart Bates, and other special articles, including a brief sketch of the Prince Edward Island Fisheries Federation by Mr. A. W. Gaudet, secretary.

Fish Tale



Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

EXHIBITS FOR LONDON

From the report of a committee meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, Aug. 21, 1951: "The Hon. T. H. Haviland informed the committee that the Government had voted £75 to aid the Society in obtaining articles to send to the Exhibition to be held in London and also that the Government would give assistance to manufacturers, mechanics, and others desirous of forwarding articles to the Exhibition, by paying the freight to England of such specimens of the production or manufacture of the Island as might be approved by the committee of the Society. "As the great International Exhibition at London is to take place in May, 1952, it will be necessary that all articles to be sent from this Colony should be forwarded before the close of navigation; it has therefore been resolved by the committee that the Society's grain show, which has usually been held in March, take place this year when the industrial exhibition is held (October 30th) in order that any grain, etc., selected may be had in time to send on with the other articles this autumn to England. After the prizes have been awarded at the show, the committee will be prepared to purchase at a fair price, such grain, etc., as they may deem worthy of being forwarded to the London Exhibition."

The European Defence Community

(By Maurice Lathey)

The agreement on the European Defence Community is the result of French initiative and of the work of French and German statesmen. Other powers might help and encourage, as Britain and the United States have done; other European powers might join in, as the Benelux countries and Italy have; but only the two great European rivals could take the lead in ending their age-long quarrel. It took the threat of Soviet aggression to stimulate this great enterprise (though as often happens in history the response may well prove in the long run to be more important than the challenge).

For the European Defence Community had its origin when the communist aggression in Korea opened the eyes of west Europeans to their own defencelessness. The western Governments agreed that no effective defence force could be established unless the western Germans took part in their own defence. But how could the Germans be retrained to stand side by side with those peoples who had suffered so recently and so bitterly from German aggression? Appropriately the answer came from France - thrice invaded by the Germans in 70 years - in the form of the Fleven Plan, so called after the French Prime Minister who put it forward in October 1950.

Since then, through all the changes of French Governments, through more than a year of arduous negotiation in face of bitter opposition both at home and abroad, the French Foreign Minister, M. Schuman has worked unceasingly for the treaty which he was able to sign in Paris on Tuesday, and Dr. Adenauer who signed with him has worked with no less devotion.

The resulting agreement should help to render western Europe defensible against aggression by 1954; but it should also do a great deal more than that. In the first place it should bring western Germany into the western community of nations as equal and independent partner in so far as this is possible in the present divided state of Europe.

Secondly, in doing this it provides strong safeguards against Germany again threatening the peace of Europe. The west German forces will be integrated with the forces of the five other nations taking part, un-

Lucky is the man whose wife understands why he wants to go fishing, and, with a cheerful smile, waves him goodbye and wishes him good luck. For some reason, such a woman is the exception rather than the rule. There is something in the psychology of the human male—perhaps a throwback trait to his remote ancestors—that impels him to hike into the woods in May and catch some fish before his neighbors go out and catch them all. There is also something in the psychology of the feminine...

Twenty engineering students at Durham, England, believed they figured out how they could outpull a circus elephant in a tug-of-war competition. The poor dumb elephant, without benefit of a university education, won easily. The student was too weighty for the subject. —Port William Times.

From editor and publisher we learn that Lord Beaverbrook's London Evening Standard had a between-edition change of heart in an item about the 60th birthday of another press peer, Lord Kemsley. The first edition tag-line was "For Lord Kemsley is the best liked of all the newspaper peers." The second-edition tag-line was "For Lord Kemsley is that rare figure, a really popular newspaper proprietor." —Financial Post.

With potatoes so scarce on this continent they are bringing \$6 a bag to any producers lucky enough still to have some, it seems strange they are being used for cattle fodder in any part of the world. Over in Ireland a cow was noticed slobbering at the mouth. The owner, fearing foot-and-mouth disease, hurriedly called a veterinarian who found a potato stuck in its throat. It's a strange insight into the ups and downs of the economic system that back during the depression some Ontario farmers fed their spuds to cattle and hogs. It was a sheer waste of time to haul the potatoes to market, the price was so low. —Windsor Daily Star.

It is said that owing to the introduction of machinery men are losing their pride in their work which existed in the days when hard work was in vogue. This may be so, but we believe that the true workman, no matter in what kind of work he may be engaged, whether it be in a profession or manual labor of any kind will always take a proper pride in his work. He will not do it mainly for the money there is in it. His pride will not permit him to do anything into which he has not put the best he is capable of performing. It is his own self-respect and conscience which guide him; his pride in his work is caused by these; he is the master of his work.

The Age-Old Story

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

The Poet's Corner

FROM PARACELSUS The grass grows bright, the boughs are awoln with blooms Like chrysalids impatient for the air. The shining doris are busy, bees fly along the furrows, ants make their roads. Above, birds fly in merry flocks, the lark Soars up and up, shivering for very joy; Afar the ocean sleeps; white fishing-gulls Fill where the strand is purple With their tribe. Of nested limpets; savage creatures seek Their loves in wood and plain— and God renews His ancient rapture. —Robert Browning.

The Passing Scene

By Observer SHAKESPEARE AND OUR EMOTIONS There seems to be no emotion or impulse common to our nature that is not given prominence in the works of Shakespeare. This is perhaps the outstanding mark of his genius. It is this more than anything else that makes him contemporary of all times and eras. In this article I should like to give a few examples of many that come to mind. The belief that honour is not confined to good outward appearance is universally accepted. There is a simple saying that "clothes do not make the man." In the play "The Taming of the Shrew" the gallant Petruchio puts the idea this way: "Tis the mind that makes the body rich; and as the sun breaks through the darkest cloud, so honour peareth in the meanest habit." When we look back to the time when we were children we think, with more than a touch of sadness, of carefree days when nothing seemed to bother us over any length of time. Whatever cares we had were here today and gone tomorrow. That is one of the prerogatives of the Spring-time of life. In "The Winter's Tale" the queen of Sicilia asks the visiting King of Bohemia to tell her what he and her husband were like when they were boys. They had been playmates and yours of my Lord's tricks and yours of my Lord's tricks and yours of my Lord's tricks and yours of my Lord's tricks. "We were, fair queen, two lads that thought there were no more behind but such a day tomorrow as today. And to be boy eternal. We knew not the doctrine of all doing, nor dreamed that any did. What a delightful way to put it!

A frailty common to us all is to make excuse for our faults. Often the practice makes the faults more glaring, but still we persist in it. The Earl of Pembroke in "King John" has something illuminating to say about this: "And oftentimes excusing of a fault doth make the fault the worse by the excuse; As patches set upon a little breach discredit more in hiding of the fault than did the fault before it was so patched." How often we have complained of bad "timing" in music! So did King Richard Second in the play bearing his name, and he went further and applied the idea to human living: "Sweet music is when time is best and no proportion kept! So it is in the music of men's lives! I expect we can all say amen to that. Everybody enjoys a holiday from his accustomed work. Some, indeed, could use more of them to advantage. Its chief purpose is to bring us back to the common task with renewed strength and vigor. The young Prince Henry in "King Henry Fourth" was an idle sort of and his soul.—Guelph Mercury.

It now costs the average Canadian more to run the Dominion Government than it does to eat. According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics the per capita expenditure on food in Canada last year was about \$245. In 1951 a population of slightly less than 14 million Canadians paid Dominion taxes of about four billions. That works out to about \$285 a head in Dominion taxes alone. Provincial and municipal taxes added at least another \$100 a head. Quite obviously Government in Canada has moved out of the bread-and-butter category and into the luxury class —Winnipeg Tribune.

In Waterloo North the Liberal standard-bearer, Norman C. Schneider, held the fort for the Government in a fairly close race with Elizabeth Janzen, Progressive Conservative candidate, who spear-headed a vigorous campaign with constant jabs at Government policy, particularly its financial policy, in line with the over-all Conservative strategy. Miss Janzen set a precedent in this riding by being the first woman candidate to contest either a Federal or provincial seat. It can be said that she made a remarkable showing as well as a very favorable impression as a campaigner. Her pleasing personality and numerous personal contacts drummed up many votes. —Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

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