

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Editor and Managing Director, 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 FRIDAY, DEC. 11, 1953

A Glance Back

Good roads devoid of snow undoubtedly are boons to present day motorists on this Island. Uninterrupted traffic the year round is something about which no one, except perhaps the few who see no good in anything, would care to complain. The fact that there is no real isolation any more is cause for satisfaction.

And yet if a poll were taken it probably would reveal that more than one car driver is in the habit of looking back a bit wistfully to the late 20's and early 30's when it took a good deal of courage (or bravado) to take a car out on the roads—there were no highways then—after the first of December. In fact, driving at any time except from early June to late September was a hazardous and temper-fraying business. In the fall the frost was going into the clay and in the spring it was coming out with equally exasperating effects on the driver. In between there was the huge caravan of snow with no powerful machines to do it battle.

The truth of the matter is that for six months of the year a motor trip from any point in the Province to Charlottetown and back again was something reserved for only a few hardy souls. Most car owners put their vehicles away about the end of November, jacked them up, removed the tires and battery, and forgot about them until Spring. The winter roads for the most part were left to the horses who in all likelihood felt a sense of superiority over their mechanical rivals who, quite obviously, were not as all-powerful as they pretended to be when the roads were warm and dusty.

There were inconveniences connected with those car-less winters but there were compensations, too. The gas bill for the average driver was no more than half what it is now and the enforced rest saved a lot of wear and tear on both himself and his vehicle. When the spring arrived there was an excitement about getting out on the sun-hardened clay, somewhat in the manner of a pilgrim whose journey had been delayed but not terminated. Even now there are roads here and there which remain under the spell of mud and snow. Gradually these are being "winterized" and soon will have disappeared before the march of progress. It is right and proper and, of course, inevitable. Nevertheless, for many years to come men will find pleasant diversion in recalling the days when all roads were bad and the only choice was between "getting-bogged" and staying at home.

The Fight Against Polio

Prince Edward Island has been fortunate this year in its very small incidence of poliomyelitis, which has assumed serious proportions in some Provinces and is now regarded as a major public health problem in Canada. Preliminary figures, with 8,243 cases and a tragic toll of 354 deaths to date, indicate that this year's outbreak will prove to be one of the most serious on record. This statement was made in the House of Commons the other day by Mr. F. G. Robertson, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

As one means of helping to combat poliomyelitis, Mr. Robertson said the Federal Government has made over \$1,500,000 available to the Provinces under the national health program. Of this more than \$730,000 has been granted to extend research into the value of gamma globulin, to make possible the collection by the Canadian Red Cross Society of large quantities of blood, and to assist the Connaught laboratories at Toronto in the increased production of gamma globulin. These laboratories are also investigating the role of sewage and water in the spread of the disease, and of improved methods of recovery of the virus from pathological specimens.

The recent blood donors' campaign conducted by the Red Cross has stressed the need for increased production of gamma globulin. Mr. Robertson pointed out that the use of this blood fraction in modifying the paralysis which may follow an attack of poliomyelitis is still in the experimental stage. Reports of trials made in the United States, however, have been encouraging. It was to ensure that the limited quantities of the serum would be used to the very best advantage that an advisory

committee representing the federal and provincial health departments and university medical research was set up to assist in the distribution of gamma globulin. It was agreed that supplies would be made available only through provincial health departments and that allocations would be made by the committee to those areas where poliomyelitis reached epidemic proportions.

An important feature of the problem, Mr. Robertson said, was the recommendation made by the committee that follow-up studies should be conducted where gamma globulin had been administered. Plans have been completed with the provincial health authorities to undertake an expanded program next year under which the facilities of the Connaught laboratories will be increased so that production can be more than doubled. \$270,000 is being provided under the national health program for this purpose this year.

While gamma globulin, in the light of present knowledge, is the most effective weapon in the fight against poliomyelitis, it only provides a degree of protection for a limited time—perhaps five weeks at best. This "passive immunization" has not in the past proved entirely satisfactory for the control of other infectious diseases and will almost certainly be replaced when a more lasting immunizing agent for poliomyelitis is developed. The final answer to the problem will be found in the production of a vaccine that will confer a lasting immunity. Mr. Robertson reports hopefully that "important progress has already been made in this direction."

Governors-General

Mr. Wallace Nesbitt, MP for Oxford, has suggested in Parliament that India's Prime Minister Nehru might be Canada's next Governor-General. There is only one thing wrong with this proposal, says the Ottawa Citizen. India is now a republic, accepting the Queen as head of the Commonwealth but not as head of the state. Mr. Nehru, but being one of Her Majesty's subjects, could hardly undertake to serve as her representative. He does not owe allegiance to the Crown. If this difficulty did not exist, most Canadians would doubtless be delighted to have one of the Commonwealth's most distinguished statesmen as their Governor-General.

Within the Commonwealth, those nations over which Queen Elizabeth reigns have been showing a preference for Governors-General of their own nationality. Canada may at some time have a British dignitary as the Queen's representative once more; South Africa is less likely to do so. But when nationalism has been gratified in this matter, it would certainly promote Commonwealth unity if member nations exchanged prominent citizens as Governors-General.

EDITORIAL NOTES

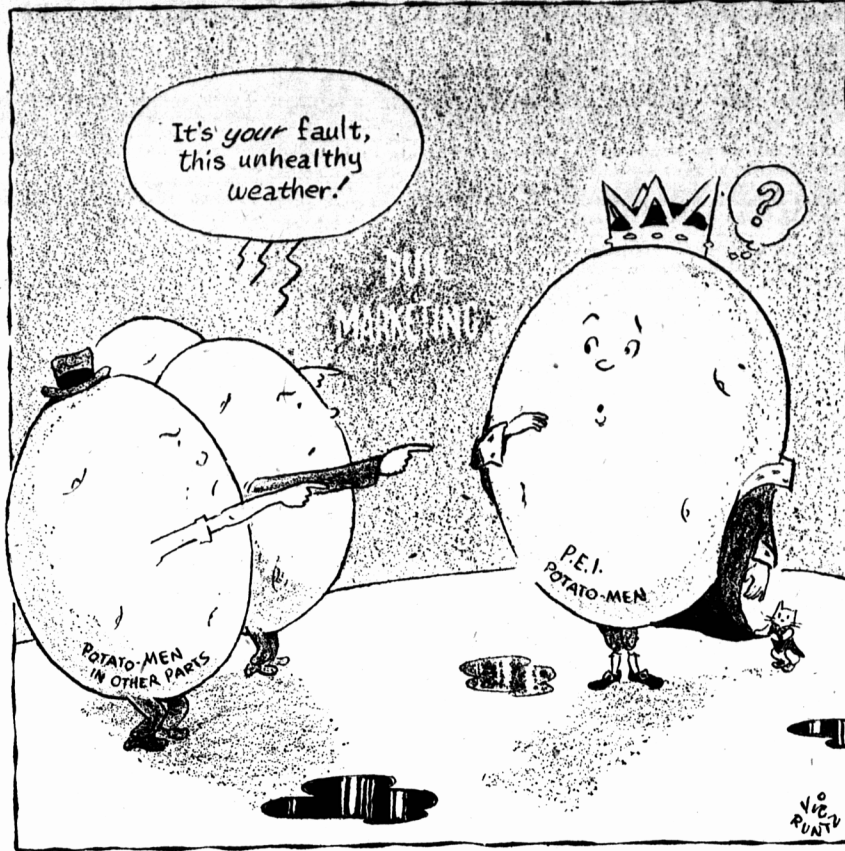
Ottawa's description of the Trans-Canada Highway in this Province as being "to the east boundary of Charlottetown" and "to the west boundary of Charlottetown" indicates that city streets will have to carry the load in between.

There has been a change in the Russian stand on atomic weapons which could be missed in the general critical tone of Mr. Vishinsky's comment on President Eisenhower's proposal. The Soviets have previously opposed any form of international supervision but the latest statement adds to the familiar demand for prohibition of atomic weapons the wholly new proposal for "strict international control".

Hector Berlioz, French composer, was born 150 years ago today. He was a romantic both in his private life and as a musician. Surprisingly, Paris took longer to acknowledge his genius than did other European capitals. He was one of the principal exponents of "programme" music and a master of orchestration. He is the origin of all the revolutionary movement which has been carried on, in search of new forms, by French musicians during the last half-century.

The late Lieut. Colonel P. W. MacNevin, D.C.M., was a fine type of citizen, serving his country effectively both as a soldier and a citizen. He had a distinguished record overseas during the First World War, and also as commander of the Artillery Reserve Unit here during World War Two. His long service on the Railway terminated with his retirement in 1950 as locomotive foreman, and he was generally regarded as one of the most capable men in his profession. He took a keen interest in his fellow war veterans, and in the welfare of his community and Province generally. Sincere sympathy is extended to his bereaved widow and relatives in his loss, which will be felt also by a very wide circle of friends and comrades.

The Price Of Prominence



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.

SEEKING IRISH COUSINS

Sir,—I am searching for cousins in Canada and would welcome data from readers of yours who know of the names Minogue, Manogue or Mannix (a variation) and, of course, from those lucky people themselves!

As a matter of fact, I would appreciate hearing from anybody wishing to be in touch with Ireland.

I am, Sir, etc., EDWARD MINOGUE, Claremorris, County Mayo, Ireland.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

WESLEYAN CHAPEL

From the reports of the Legislative Assembly, Feb. 28, 1835: "Mr. Binns presented a Petition from Isaac Smith, purporting to be on behalf of the trustees of the Wesleyan Chapel in Charlottetown, setting forth that the Chapel on Lot No. 53, in the Second Hundred of Town Lots in Charlottetown, being in a very dilapidated state, and too small to accommodate the congregation, the trustees have been induced to purchase a piece of ground, and build a larger and more commodious place of worship, and deem it necessary to sell the premises on which the old Chapel stands—that from some informality in the deed, the trustees are in doubt whether they are empowered to give a sufficient title to the aforesaid premises—and praying that the House will adopt such measures as will enable them legally to dispose of the aforesaid property, so that the proceeds may be applied to liquidate a debt which is on the premises, and the remainder towards completing the new building."

Women In Public Office

(Ottawa Journal)

The extent to which women share the responsibilities of government in the United States, as revealed in a report by the Republican National Committee, will surprise most people.

There are 12 women in Congress—one in the Senate and 11 in the House of Representatives—and 280 are members of state legislatures, both being all-time high figures. In the first 11 months of the Eisenhower regime 40 appointments of women were made to high official posts—including one to a cabinet post, two to be ambassadors to European countries, one to be a deputy civil defence administrator.

Women in the United States civil service now number almost half a million, constituting about 32 percent of the government workers in continental U.S.A. This figure seems not to include the thousands of other women serving state administrations, or the 5,000 who hold policy-making posts under state governments.

"In addition to all this," the report observes, "women are being appointed more and more to boards and commissions, especially those concerned with education, social welfare, public institutions, industrial problems, finance and business promotions." And there is another army of women serving municipal administrations—it is estimated that 800 women are municipal clerks in American cities of from 3,000 to 10,000. Canada could match these statistics in some respects, but not in all—we have no woman as a Federal cabinet minister, no woman as ambassador. That, no doubt, will come.

An Island Teacher In Japan

By Vodia Mackay, Albany, P. E. I., recently returned from three years of teaching English in Japanese High Schools (Concluded)

The school year in Japan ends in spring. After examinations, prior to school closing, it is the custom for the students in senior high school to go on class trips to cultural centres in Japan, accompanied by their teachers. The graduating class of the year usually goes on a trip of a week's duration, travelling by bus and train and staying over night at hotels. As there were more than one hundred girls in each of the senior classes in the Eiwa schools and even larger classes in many of the government schools, all the details of these trips had to be carefully worked out by the teachers in charge beforehand. Trains and buses are always crowded in Japan in the spring; students from all over the country are going on class trips with their teachers. Those from the North go South, those from the South go North. These class trips are the only opportunities many people ever have to travel as the average Japanese family cannot afford any unnecessary expenses.

Three years in Japan sped by on wings. The country and its people held many surprises for us. We went there expecting to meet some hostility but we met only friendliness and kind consideration; we expected to have many language difficulties but discovered that English is the second language of the people; we expected drab, uninteresting scenery but found ourselves in a beautiful land of green mountains, flowering trees and picturesque lakes; we expected to find a poverty-stricken people but found a clean, progressive people who, though poor, have a high degree of literacy and culture.

During our first week in Japan, many of the people we saw on trains and buses spoke to us to tell us how sorry they were about the part Japan had played in the war and how helpless the Japanese people had been in the hands of the Militarists. Many of the horrible truths of the war had been hidden from them, and it wasn't until the influx of Americans began, after peace had been declared, that many of the actual facts were revealed. The Japanese told us they were ashamed and sorry.

We were bewildered at first but as we began to understand these people, we knew that they were sincere. The Japanese have had enough of war and there is nothing which the people fear more than becoming involved in another one. And yet the danger is real. Japan is a country with an area slightly over one third that of the province of Ontario, and a population six times that of Canada. Only 20 per cent of the land is arable and the country is poor in natural resources necessary for industry. There is an ever increasing birth rate and a death rate which is lower than it was in pre-war years due to advancement in medical care and treatment.

The obvious solutions to these problems would seem to be improved farming methods, emigration and expansion of industry. However, there are complications. Japan is a mountainous country; the tiny farms are on steep hill sides. Farm machinery imported from the Western countries would not be at all suitable for use on Japanese farms. Besides, it would be too expensive for the farmer to buy. The land is intensely cultivated and the amount of arable land not under cultivation is negligible. The productivity of the little farms is already high. It is not a greater yield per acre that is needed, but more acres.

Brazil is one of the few places in the world today where Japanese immigrants are welcome. Many Japanese are going there to live but the population pressure is hardly affected by such small scale emigration. A Tokyo economist, speaking to a convention of Ameri-

cans, Canadians and Europeans, said that if Japan's population problem were to be relieved by emigration, and there were a country willing to accept large numbers of Japanese settlers, 5000 Japanese people would have to leave Yokohama each day (taking into consideration the rising birth and lowering death rates), and he doubted if there would be a boat large enough to carry them!

Many people in Japan believe that Japan's only hope is the expansion of her industry, and trade with less developed countries, of the East. China is her most natural market but because of political pressure, Japan is unable to sell to Red China and, as yet, the rate of mechanization in other Asiatic countries has not been rapid enough to promise Japan rescue from her precarious economic position, through the production and export of machinery for factory work. As a result, Japan is seeking Western markets and is confronted by high tariffs and serious competition from other industrial nations.

The young people of Japan, especially, are greatly concerned about the future of their country and many of them are turning in desperation towards the rich promises of Communism for a solution to their problems. Communist groups at work in the country are making the most of the situation by confusing facts and attempting to stir up anti-American feeling.

Japan, since the war, has been going through a period of political and social upheaval. A new Japan is emerging from the turmoil; a new democratic Japan, the West is hoping. But perhaps the success or failure of a democratic form of government in Japan rests upon the answer of the Western nations to Japan's economic problems. John Embree, in his book, "The Japanese Nation," asks the pertinent question, "Can the Western powers gracefully make possible a future of friendly social and economic interdependence between all modern nations, or will they resist new trends thus laying the groundwork for a second war in Asia?" It is a question which the future will answer but already the shape and form of the reply is being determined.



ETERNITY

As if the sea should part And show a further sea— And that a further, and the three But a presumption be Of periods of seas Unvisited of shores— Themselves the verge of seas to be— Eternity is these. —Emily Dickinson.

The Age Old Story

And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed; and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee. And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth. And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?

Notes By The Way

"It's a lot easier to go where you please if you develop the habit of pleasing where you go."—Suburbia Star.

A San Francisco sailor has a collection of 1,000 old ropes, and they're probably the kind we are supposed to smoke at Christmas. —Hamilton Spectator.

To save construction costs, the authorities at Edinburgh are putting up a plastic schoolhouse. In future years the scholars can look back at the happy days spent in the little red polyvinyl acetate. —Boston Post.

Somewhere in Canada are 644 people on whom the mailman never calls because the government has stopped all their letters. That's the penalty if you are suspected of trading in lottery tickets. But what happens to those monthly bills?—Brantford Expositor.

Americans are carrying about with them half a billion pounds of excess fat. Dr. Clive R. McCay, professor of nutrition at Cornell University, speaking in Chicago to the Feed Editors Conference, said too high caloric diets cause many of the ills of middle and old age. It has long been a truism that many people dig their graves with their teeth. It may be a by-product of having too much to eat. It is ironic that at a time when millions are severely under-fed, other millions are shortening their days by over-gorging.—London Free Press.

Many people realize what steam, when electricity, have done to better things in the world. Now what will come in the Atomic Age? Is this continent on the threshold of another great era that will result in a much higher standard of living? This is a possibility currently being mulled over by economists, financiers and business men. The

Atomic Age, no less, is what they envision. The effect of atomic power in peacetime uses may be revolutionary. If general application of atomic power can be achieved civilization may take its greatest step forward. And, with the background of atomic progress of the last 10 years, who can predict how soon the Atomic Age may be fact instead of theory?—St. Catharines Standard.

When the walking gets slippery, and you see a young, fatish person lose his footing and hit the sidewalk in a sitting position, don't laugh. Congratulate him on his quick thinking and shrewd sense of direction. But for his good landing he might have been injured, or at least more severely jolted. This conclusion is invited by medical evidence in a Philadelphia case. In that city a woman described as carrying excess weight fell thirteen stories from a hotel window, and landed in a sitting position, but survived. Medical testimony was that her fat cushioned the shock, and the sitting stance was the best of all to diffuse it.—Windsor Star.

In the last five buoyant years over 100,000 new factory jobs have opened up for Canadians. This represents a tremendous jump in industrial investment. According to figures published in the Labour Gazette the money spent on new equipment went up from \$1,200,000,000 in 1948 to \$1,859,000,000 in 1952. Not all this would be for manufacturing, but it is probable that seventy-five per cent of it was. On this basis the average cost of providing a job for each of the more than 100,000 new workers in manufacturing would be over \$6,000. That is what "capital" is, and the soundness of its employment is not only the key to attracting investors to Canada but the first and only guarantee of security and new jobs.—Hamilton Spectator.

IDEAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

American Home Sewing Machines now on display at Douglas Bros. and Jones. All models to choose from. Factory representative will be demonstrating the above machines today and tomorrow. Don't miss this demonstration. DOUGLAS BROS. AND JONES 155 Kent St.

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