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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 1950

Political Leadership

With one and probably both major political parties here choosing leaders in the near future Islanders would do well to give thought to the qualities that are desirable in that exacting role.

Of prime importance, of course, is the ability to lead. Apart altogether from the knowledge and wisdom required by the office it is necessary that the choice should fall on one who is a leader, who is capable of reaching decisions and of securing the backing of his party and a sizable block of the electorate for those decisions.

Being able to head his party and keep it in popular favour, he must also be able to give direction to the multitude of activities in which Government is today concerned, judging accurately the capabilities of his subordinates and selecting them on merit without fearing to surround himself with those of perhaps greater ability than himself.

He must also be something of the schoolmaster to bring up the young in the way they should go, and to require of his colleagues that they fit themselves for their present duties and for others which they may be unexpectedly called upon to undertake.

Blasting Railway Commissioners

The latest judgment of the Board of Transport Commissioners granting a 3.4 per cent horizontal increase in freight rates brings into question the fitness of this body to discharge the responsibilities placed upon it by the Railway act.

This latest increase follows upon a 7.4 per cent increase in freight rates granted last March 10, which, in turn, followed an 8 per cent increase last September. In the majority judgment, the Transport Board acknowledges that the 3.4 per cent increase is a result of the failure of the Commissioners to apply accurately the formula upon which the March judgment was based.

The 3.4 per cent increase is really an amendment to the two preceding judgments. The earlier judgments are under appeal to the Governor-in-Council by the Governments of the four western provinces and of Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

In effect, the seven Provincial Governments have been placed in the position of having to go back to Ottawa to ask the Federal Government to see to it that its judgment of October 12, 1948 is carried out. As the petition shows, the Transport Board has ignored the instructions of the Federal Government, all three judgments delivered since September 1949 being in contempt of Order-in-Council P.C. 4678.

The weakness and incompetence of the Transport Board was demonstrated in April, 1948, after the delivery of the judgment increasing rates by 21 per cent. The Federal Government, not without considerable prodding in the House of Commons, conceded the fact and proceeded to reorganize the Board. It is worth noting that Mr. King, in announcing the retirement of the then chairman and the appointment to that position of Hon. M. B. Archibald, spoke of the "substantially increased responsibilities" of the Board and of the urgent need of strengthening it.

minority judgment favoring a still higher increase.

Last January, Mr. Archibald, the new Chief Commissioner, fell ill. He has not yet returned to duty. In his absence the Board has consisted largely of the persons whose judgment of March 30, 1948, brought about the reorganization and led to the appeal to the Federal Government in October of that year.

In brief, a Transport Board, consisting of the rump of the former incompetent and discredited body of March 1948, with the addition in Mr. Chase of an outright representative of the railway unions, has been handing out increases in freight rates to the railways these past several months and adding to the discrimination against the dissenting Provinces—doing so in contempt of the Federal Government whose Order-in-Council has been ignored.

"And while all this has been going on," says the Free Press, "the Federal Government has had before it a petition of appeal from seven Provincial Governments. How long does the Government intend to allow this situation to continue?"

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Shannon captured by the Chesapeake, this date 1813.

No price is set on the lavish summer; June may be had by the poorest corner.

Evidently advocates of a "Brighter Sunday" are to be an oppressed minority.

Automobile and truck tires are going up in price. Oh well, inflation might have been expected.

A solid sugar model of the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa formed the centrepiece at a luncheon in Liverpool, England, held recently by the Liverpool and District Canadian Club.

June is supposed to be the month of weddings, but actually takes second place to August in that respect. According to 1947 statistics of the Department of Health and Welfare, the most recent at hand, there were 94 marriages in August compared with 87 in June.

Seventeen past presidents had their say at Rotary this week and tonight some twenty-five P. P.'s have been invited to address the Charlottetown Board of Trade.

Charles James Lever, Irish novelist and physician, died this date 1872. He entered the consular service, and died while consul at Trieste. Had a European reputation for generosity, extravagance and eccentricity.

The news of the death of Col. H. S. Hadden, New York, will have been heard with deep regret here. He was a regular summer visitor, and as enthusiastic as any Islander in boosting its beauties, climate, and sporting facilities.

The evacuation of Dunkirk this date 1940. On May 10 Germany invaded Belgium. On 28th King Leopold capitulated. The British Expeditionary Force was left stranded and had to extricate itself from the battle front as best it could.

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Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

REVENUE BOAT GRANT

Legislative Assembly, Saturday, April 22, 1948.

On motion of Mr. F. Longworth, it was agreed to grant \$10 for the building of a boat for the service of the Impost Department of Charlottetown.

Mr. Longworth stated that the amount of revenue collected by the Impost officer was about \$1400 or \$1500 a year, and his salary only \$280 per annum; and he thought it would be very impolitic economy to refuse \$10 to enable him more effectively to protect and increase the revenue.

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The Tie That Binds

(Globe and Mail)

The family is the basic unit of society, and its welfare is of the utmost importance to our civilization. There have been many signs, however, that the integrity of the family is being threatened.

Many correctives have been suggested, and much effort has been made to provide compensations for the failure of the modern family to fulfil its function.

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Dean of Canterbury

(London Spectator)

The problem of the Dean of Canterbury becomes increasingly acute. A dean is commonly assumed to have decanal duties of some consequence to occupy him.

What is to be done about this dean (who is credited with three books on "The Socialist Sixth of the world," "Soviet Strength" and "Soviet Success," and with none on any religious or ecclesiastical subject)?

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The Poet's Corner

WHERE LIES THE LAND?

Where lies the land to which the ship would go? Far, far ahead, is all her seamen know.

On sunny noons upon the deck's smooth face, Link'd arm in arm, how pleasant here to pace!

On stormy nights, when wild northwesterers rave, How proud a thing to fight with wind and wave!

Where lies the land to which the ship would go? Far, far ahead, is all her seamen know.

The Age-Old Story

That they may return every man from his evil way; that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

create or restore a peace of mind. Though it cannot always divert trouble from our lives, it can give us strength to meet it.

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Notes By The Way - The Hamilton students who shouted down the Dean of Canterbury and broke up his meeting ought to be ashamed of themselves. They behaved like nitwits and rowdies. They acted as if they were afraid of what Dean Johnston had to say.

Birds don't care too much for white birches as housing sites. The fragile boughs are unstable. foundation for even a one-room roof-tree. An oak, an elm or a hemlock is where a wise thrush sets his airy slits.

"Do you see that chair?" our hostess asked, pointing to a lovely wing beside the fireplace. "I am going to present it to a museum when I die—on account of how it is the setting for my final thinking of the right thing to say at the time instead of next week."

EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN for HOLIDAY FUN SUN-sational - - - that's the word for our BIG VALUES in Holiday needs for comfort and sport—for leisure and pleasure—for fun in the sun!

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