

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, NOV. 2, 1951

Canada's Stake In Egypt

What is Canada's stake in the Anglo-Egyptian furore? Ottawa's discreet silence on the matter, coupled with the hasty recall of H. M. C. S. Magnificent and other units of the Canadian Navy from the Mediterranean area suggests that whatever happens around Suez is no concern of ours.

In diplomatic terms, what has happened is that Egypt has angrily denounced a treaty under which British troops were accorded the right to remain within the shadow of the pyramids until 1956.

Actually, the eruption in Egypt is part of the new nationalism which, since the end of World War II, has swept like wildfire across Asia and the Middle East.

From the economic standpoint, the loss of Egypt would mean little or nothing to the Western world. Only 4% of its total land area, which is about equal to that of Spain, is arable.

In the strategic sense, however, an openly hostile Egypt would constitute a grave threat to the security of the free world.

Health Minister Martin says his department will gladly accept and examine Bibles offered by applicants for old age pensions as proof of age and, what is more, will see they are returned promptly.

Family Bibles

"We trust also", comments the Ottawa Journal, "that these volumes are handled with respect and care. In them is not only the faith and inspiration of the pioneers, but the slowly-written record of their households, the joy and sorrow, the births, the marriages and the deaths."

"Many a pioneer library consisted of the Bible and a book of suggestions on the care of illness. The Bible gave comfort in loneliness, strength in emergency, consolation in sorrow. Many which come to the hands of officials in these days are old, stained and broken, but they were cornerstones in the building of a family and a nation."

Highway Control

Commenting on the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada placing interprovincial and international highway traffic under Federal control, the Globe and Mail suggests that before the Federal Government can expect to exercise very much authority in this jurisdiction, it will first have to decide what sort of a partner it is going to be.

Another thing to be remembered, says our Toronto contemporary, is that as long as the Provincial highways provide the

facilities on which interprovincial and international traffic depends, the power to license and tax must remain the concern of the Provinces, as it is of the various States in the United States.

EDITORIAL NOTES

All Souls' Day.

A week from today the Princess and her Consort will be our guests.

The British Government has begun its tempestuous course with a defeated, but not discouraged, opposition on its track.

Prime Minister St. Laurent's decision not to take action against communist inspired defamers is probably wise. Half their game is the effort to become martyrs.

This is Signals Day and the 5th Signals Regiment, Royal Canadian Signals is appropriately honouring the wartime Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

The Princess Elizabeth made a splendid impression on Washington, as she has done everywhere, eliciting an unanticipated but deserved personal compliment from the President.

Mr. T. J. Kichham, M.P., is rendering a much needed service to the community by requiring particulars be given of the staffs and their remuneration in the Public service.

The Adjudicator for the Dominion Festival is both a French veteran and an English-trained actor, Mr. Pierre Lefevre. As a graduate of the Old Vic Theatre he should be thoroughly competent to discharge his onerous duties.

Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, daughter of the Emperor Francis I and wife of Louis XVI, was born at Vienna this date 1755. Her dislike for the moderate reformers hastened the downfall of the old order. She was executed in 1793.

The British ban on Canadian and Dutch poultry as of Nov. 12 is understandable as a measure to avoid the risk of fowl pest, but it should be possible to make satisfactory regulations so as not to bar the product of large disease free areas such as the Maritimes.

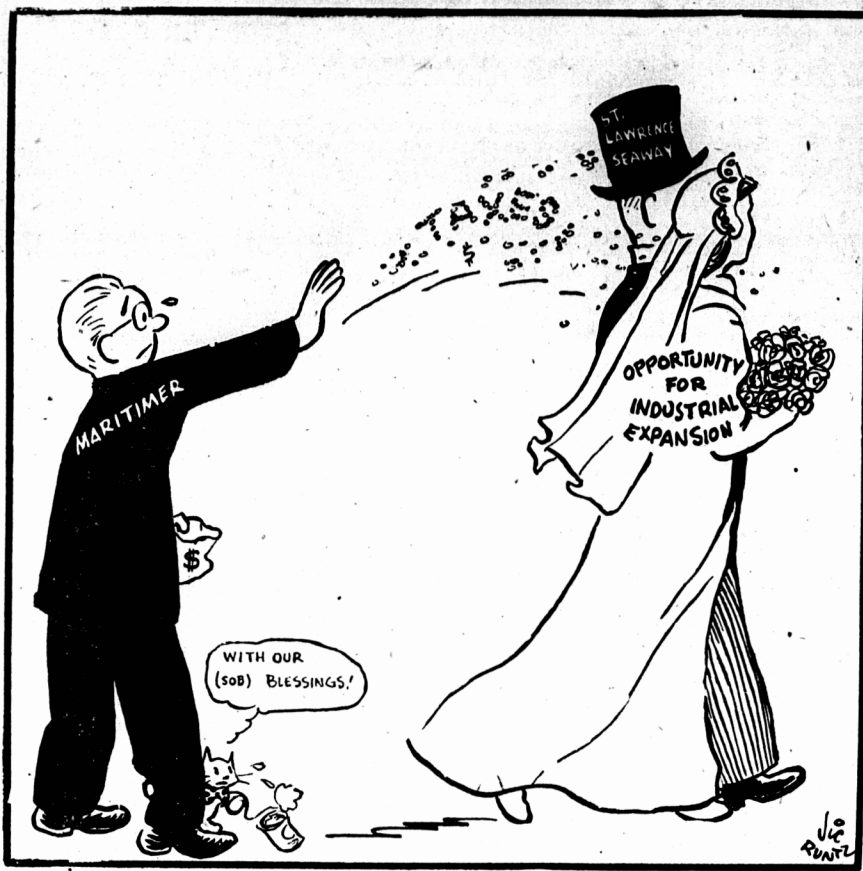
Royal honours and awards are far from common in this country and when awarded should be presented in the most appropriate way. The Lieutenant is His Majesty's direct representative in this Province and unless good reason to the contrary exists, such presentations should be made by him.

Confession is good for the soul. A Liberal member of Parliament from New Brunswick confessed to his fellow members that he has been a smuggler all his life—and intends to keep right on smuggling. He is Mr. A. Wesley Stuart (L—Charlotte), and was complaining about the high prices Canadians must pay for their goods.

To many of our citizens throughout the Province the death of Mr. Shaw MacMillan, of Alberry Plains, will be felt as a keen personal loss. Though an ardent supporter of the Conservative party and a former member of the Legislature, Mr. MacMillan was totally lacking in partisanship in his narrower sense and was deservedly popular with all classes.

Ontario Government announces it will pay half the cost of supplying free milk to children in elementary schools. This will encourage consumption of milk at a time when production is declining. Whole milk production in Ontario has fallen steadily since war ended, is now well below 1940 mark, although population has increased 30 per cent since that time.

Going Up River Together



Railway Truck Lines

(Arthur F. Halley, editor, in Bus and Truck Transport)

In our opinion organized trucking has made a bad tactical error in its opposition to Canadian National Railways' recent purchase in Prince Edward Island.

Last month Canadian National Transportation (a C.N.R. subsidiary) bought out the truck fleet of Provincial Transport Ltd., of Charlottetown, P. E. I.

Since then the Canadian Automotive Transportation Association, national trucking body, has charged that the railway action is "not in the best interests of the people of Prince Edward Island" and is a "moral violation" of Provincial Government policy.

The reasons given for these charges are (1) that C.N.R. is moving toward a monopoly of Island transportation, and (2) last year the Provincial Government turned down a C.N.R. plan for railway operation of all transport facilities in the Island.

In a province-wide broadcast, paid for by the trucking industry, John Magee, C.A.T.A. executive secretary said, "I know of no instance in which a sovereign government governing body was so blatantly defied by industry or in which the stated policy of a Provincial Government was subjected to such moral violation."

We suggest that Mr. Magee's reasoning and arguments are unsound.

It is true the purchase places C.N.R. in a strong position on the Island, since it owns the only rail line there and also operates the Borden-Tormentine car ferry. It is also true there is danger of monopoly and, like Mr. Magee, we view it with regret.

But what is the alternative? The only possible one would be a discriminatory law, aimed directly at C.N.R., and denying the railways further expansion on the Island.

Even if such a law were constitutional (and we question if it would be) we believe the evil of this type legislation, intended to protect one particular group at the expense of another, is so great as to far outweigh any danger of monopoly. However tough the competition may get for independent truckers, either in P. E. I. or elsewhere, we do not believe there is any remedy to be found in tinkering with basic business freedoms.

As to C.A.T.A.'s second plea, that C.N.R. has "morally violated" Provincial Government policy, since when did governments have to be consulted about a normal business transaction? And if government policy is so sacred, why has C.A.T.A. consistently defied the Federal Government of the issue of Provincial vs. Federal control?

The sum of it is that organized trucking has made a poor showing on an issue which it would have done better to have left alone. It has spent a large sum of money on negative propaganda against C.N.R. which could have been better used to tell the positive story of its own successes. It has employed precisely the same tactics which it has criticized the railways for using in the past. And the net result has been exactly nil.

Why did this happen? It happened because C.A.T.A., at the direction of the Provincial trucking associations, has established a policy of opposing all railway entry into the field of highway transport. Mr. Magee's efforts in P.E.I. have meant that he is carrying out this policy.

Notes By The Way

Two days after their return from Canada Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend a reception given by the Canada Club at Grosvenor House, London. — UK Information.

We want immigrants, but we do not want those who have to be spoon-fed. Nor do we desire those who back away from hard but decent and productive work. Such are not the sort who will contribute much to the development of this country or, in a personal way, do well in Canada.

In Detroit a young man who used the Stars and Stripes as a seat cover in his car was fined \$25, put on three months probation and ordered to listen to a lecture on respect for the flag.

In bestowing an honorary degree of doctor of laws on Dr. Chester S. Walters, deputy minister of the treasury and controller of finances of Ontario, the University of Western Ontario honored itself by the wisdom of its selection.

Election talk overheard in a queue at an English butcher shop: "If the Tories get in, they'll want all our free teeth and wigs back."

Much has been made of the Voice of Freedom broadcasts by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and the expense attached to these broadcasts has been stoutly defended by the supporters of the national radio system.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

Legislative Assembly, Wednesday, 6th March, 1850:

A consideration, suggested by Mr. Montgomery, as to whether or not each of the members ought to be allowed, at the public expense, during each session of the House, weekly copies of the several newspapers published in Charlottetown, was replied to by Mr. Lord and Mr. Coles; the former of whom observed that if hon. members were desirous of perusing all our public journals, they ought (as he would do if actuated by a similar curiosity) to put their hands into their own pockets, and pay for the papers; the latter gentleman remarking that one essential feature of the new order of legislation was retrenchment, and that in recognition of it they ought to commence with little things.

It was then unanimously agreed "that only one weekly copy of each of the papers should be ordered, the same to be deposited in the Library for the perusal of the members, and not taken out of it."

The Age-Old Story

And it came to pass, that when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him, for they were all waiting for him.

For Men's Clothing That Fits J.P. MacPherson & Son 157 Queen St.

Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. Molisac Part One (continued) (All Rights Reserved) GLIMPSES OF OLD NORWAY

There are so many museums, so much history to delve into, so many antique collections with objects from before the Iron age found in Norway, that it is not possible to see a great deal in one short visit.

But one exhibition which, when completed, may well attain worldwide acclaim, is the work left behind by the internationally known sculptor Vigeland. This collection of sculptural work can well be said to be the greatest ever produced by a single artist.

It actually is a detailed and impressive lesson of the facts of life, explained in this fantastic way, and surrounded by a series of fountains depicting the symbolic picture of life's journey, from childhood, through youth, to manhood, senility and death, where the soul finally meets and life is resumed in another world.

The royal palace, the university, and the old commercial buildings indicate the love of those northern people for beauty and architecture. Even for the new buildings—there is a tremendous housing problem under way in Oslo now, the people are seeking the cooperation and guidance of artists when making plans and designs.

And, of course, there is a Cremona, which may be seen in most cities and large towns in the north of Europe. Then, too, if you wish to get a glimpse of old Norway, and the way those people lived since the twelfth century, you can do so right here in Oslo.

Scattered all over this extensive and delightful park are about one hundred and fifty old wooden buildings from various parts of the country, including one of the oldest churches dating from the twelfth century. Those buildings are all furnished and equipped with the original objects, showing Norwegian rural life from the middle ages up to the present time.

When you walk into the shady grove-like park, you get a sudden impression that you are surrounded by an intense atmosphere of the past centuries. It is like walking through a series of villages from different countries of the world, and actually they are only from different counties of Norway.

There are some peculiar things about those log buildings. Most of them have a place under the floor where, in olden days, they kept cured meats and other foods for months and sometimes years. The beds were short; people slept, not lying down, but half sitting up, so as to be always on the alert, and wakened that if any plunderer did succeed in getting that far, he would have to stoop down and enter the room head first, giving those inside a decided advantage, in protecting themselves. The door-sill too, is high, usually a foot or more, so that it would not be possible to rush in or out.

I was in one old wooden house there, said to have been built in 1285, in one of the far northern counties. There are some marvelous collections of old tapestries, church art, tools, dishes, one of the first water wheels in the world, which give a very vivid picture of the culture and refinement of those days.

Oslo, being the capital city, is also the headquarters of the national organizations with the exception of the fishermen who have their headquarters north at Trondheim. I was fortunate in being able to meet many of the agricultural and cooperative officials and to sit in for a short time on an executive meeting of the International Cooperative Alliance. In addition to this, arrangements were made to accompany a group of delegates on a tour to some of the outlying areas. But before going on the tour, let us glance briefly at the interesting history of this country.

Relics from the stone age, at least eight or ten thousand years ago have been found on the coast of Finmark, the extreme north of Norway. Up until about the ninth century, Norway was divided into many small kingdoms, but in 872, after a great victory by the people over the more powerful kings and chieftains, the land was united into one kingdom. Olav Haraldson, King from 1016 to 1030, introduced Christianity into Norway, and after his death became their patron saint under the name of St. Olav.

The Norwegians love adventure and were great warriors, traders and mariners. This led the Vikings to set out in their galleys and conquer and settle down in large parts of England, Scotland, Ire-

land and France. Not being satisfied, they went on and colonized Iceland, and then one of them, Lief Erickson, after losing his bearings, reached North America. They did not hold those colonies long, because other countries of Europe were also expanding and their people beginning to travel. One thing to remember about Norwegian farmers is that, unlike the tillers of the soil in other countries, they always enjoyed freedom of ownership and never suffered from the landlord or feudal system.

A glance at the map will show you that the counties of north and south Trondelag and the Trondheim district occupy the central position in the Scandinavian peninsula. A glance at the pages of history will confirm this impression, and that is why most visitors to rural Norway usually start or end up in these parts. This area embraces all shades of the Norwegian landscape, reminding one of the broad dales of east Norway, the fjord country of the west and even the breath-taking high regions of the north.

The Poets Corner

SALUTE FOR AUTUMN

Arrive, then, pallid ghost of Summer's day, Spread withered wreaths and autumnal splendours; No sun-warm calyx will prod buds to play Good hosts to swarming honey-laden bees. Green leaves that briefly shone, In bloom's deep jade, Turned russet, gold; O, bright, yet life-devoid; Silk fronds whose damask sheen Begun to fade, With winds that left frail stems destroyed. Behold chilled Autumn moon, In the frozen boughs, So like the scarecrow in some barren field; Bleak clouds swim overhead, In idle plows Will rust until new roots cut through earth's shield. The night must pass before bright day begins, With winds that may and frost are nature's twins. —Alex Jackson, in the New York Times.