

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 1951

Speech From The Throne

The Speech from the Throne delivered by His Honour the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Legislature yesterday gives an interesting review of general conditions and activities of the Government...

Financially, it is encouraging to note that the Federal subsidy for 1950 will approach \$3,000,000 from a base of \$2,100,000 in 1947, and that gross national production is expected to rise much higher in the current year...

Mention is made in the Speech to this Province's tentative agreement to the Federal proposals for old age pension readjustment. These proposals, however, are connected with a proposed change in the British North America Act to enable the Provinces to impose additional sales taxes...

Mention is made of an office of Fisheries to be established in the Department of Industry and Natural Resources, and of a new treatment centre for mental diseases in the Department of Health.

The Butter Muddle

Those who have closely followed the butter market, says the Ottawa Journal, have been convinced that a period of shortage and higher prices was inevitable.

The facts, as review by the Journal, are as follows: Government-owned butter, purchased from the 1950 surplus and put in storage, has been selling wholesale around 57 cents a pound.

Largely because of low prices for all manufactured milk for the past several years and high prices for meat, over-all milk production in Canada has been declining until now it is a billion and a half pounds yearly under the wartime peak.

There is a scramble for milk surplus to the fluid trade, which goes into cheese, butter, canned and powdered products.

and substantially less butter is being shipped East.

All last Summer, when stocks of butter would normally have been accumulated for this Winter's use, the 70 per cent of milk which goes into processed products, such as butter, was netting the farmer about \$2 a hundredweight in contrast to around \$4 received by whole milk shippers.

The milk situation in Canada has been allowed to drift, has been subject to Government interference and is now a disorganized mess with nobody within the industry (producer, distributor or manufacturer) knowing what the future holds.

One Reading Sufficient

In an early installment of his memoirs appearing in The Guardian, Judge Arsenault called attention to the unnecessary practice of re-reading the Speech from the Throne at every opening of the Legislature.

Premier Jones has been quick to take the hint. This year, for the first time so far as we are aware, the re-reading by the Speaker has been discontinued.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The ice patrol commences today. Had the mild spell continued unbroken, it might have been an ice search rather than measurement.

The early break-up of harbour ice has one valuable result. Ferries and other boats will be able to completely refit long before the peak tourist season.

An open winter brings the boon of ready traffic on the highways but also the accident toll which goes with it. Ordinary summer prudence, under winter conditions, may amount to the most breath-taking risks.

The purge in Czechoslovakia is a reminder to many contemporaries that Russia's campaign of fear is more particularly turned against fellow travellers than against the outside world.

The foods produced by the fishing industry, says the Fishing Gazette, are some of our most valuable nutriment and it is important that the economy be assured of their continued supply.

The Russians claim to have developed a perennial variety of rye which gives excellent harvest not only for one or two years, but in some cases for three years in a row without replanting.

Sir John Herschel, English astronomer, was born this date 1792. He is also a founder of the science of photography, having invented the photographic use of sensitized paper, discovered the use of hyposulphate of soda as a fixing agent and made valuable researches on the undulatory theory of light.

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.

SENATE REFORM

Sir, — I note in Senator Grant's speech delivered in the Senate on February 13th, he stated he was the last person from his constituency to get a job in the Charlottetown Post Office.

It would be disastrous if the Prime Minister would follow the precedent set by the chairman of the Civil Service Commission, and refuse to appoint any more Senators from the constituency of King's for the next fifty-two years, and at the same time keep his own counsel.

It might be better for those aspiring for a seat in the Senate, to wait until the full impact of Senator Grant's speech dies down and try their luck at a later date.

I am, Sir, etc., MONTAGUE, P. E. I.

WEST RIVER WEST, AND ROCKY POINT REMOTE?

Sir,—Readers of the Forum who studied early British history in their school days will no doubt remember the story of how the early Britons while suffering under the attacks of Picts, from the North, Scots from the West, and Saxons from the East, sent a delegation to the Roman Emperor with a document of complaints entitled "The Groans of the Britons".

Something of a similar impression to that which we retained in our memories from reading the historic title mentioned above, must now remain in the minds of your readers who may have read the long letter which recently appeared in the Forum above the signature of P. J. M. containing an elaborated account of the peculiar grievances suffered at present by the residents of Rocky Point, and which bore the impressive title of "Remote Rocky Point".

Even the very title of P. J. M.'s letter gives us a vague impression of something dreary and far removed from civilization. But, this vague impression is made far more definite and impressive by that descriptive sentence in this letter that describes Rocky Point as being situated in such a peculiar geographical position in relation to the nearby City of Charlottetown—so near and yet so far that it might as well be five thousand miles away from it.

A more or less detailed account of the peculiar disadvantages suffered in this peculiar situation follows this general description, but these mere details would be speedily forgotten by the average reader if it were not for the impressive title of "Remote Rocky Point" and the equally impressive and mathematically descriptive phrase, "five thousand miles away".

In the meantime, however, seeing that misery makes company, may we before we afford some measure of consolation to our fellow-citizens of Rocky Point. We may, for instance, remind them that even if they have to travel 5000 imaginary miles (25 actual ones) for two or three weeks in the spring and fall of every year in order to reach Rocky Point, they are surely little worse off than the residents of a good many other districts who have to travel the same distance all the year round on roads good or bad, in order to reach the same city.

We might, for instance, mention the districts of Argyle Shore, DeSable, Hampton, Crapaud, and Victoria. We might too by way of further consolation point out to our Rocky Point citizens that for nine or ten months of the year they are within easy reach of a ferry that conveys them free of charge over Hillsboro Harbor to the City of Charlottetown, while their fellow citizens of Hampton, Crapaud, Victoria, etc., pay from one to two dollars for a return ticket to the City by bus.

It is of course true also that residents of our Province who live along the C.N.R. have a very convenient and comfortable way of travelling to Charlottetown all the year round. But they would soon get kicked off from their comfortable conveyance if they had not in their possession a paid-in-full ticket. Who then we may well ask, would citizens of Hampton, at Rocky Point (not so rocky as the name sounds) for at least nine or ten months of the year?

But to refer again to the obvious purpose of P. J. M.'s letter, it undoubtedly was intended to provoke serious consideration on the part of our Provincial and Federal Governments, on the problem of affording permanent relief from the disadvantages, real and imaginary, suffered by the residents of Rocky Point on account of their peculiar geographical situation. P. J. M. admits that the situation of Fairview, New Dominion, Nine Mile Creek, and Long Creek suffer similar disadvantages. Why he didn't mention Cance Cove, Rye Point,

How To Create An Impression



Memoirs Of The Hon. A. E. Arsenault Former Premier and Retired Justice Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

About a year previous to my trip to Paris, I had spent a week-end in company with Mr. Dennis O'Meara Reddin at Father Ronald McDonald's residence at East Point. On Saturday evening two of Father McDonald's nieces, Miss Gillis and Miss Hogan, came for a visit. Miss Gillis was a daughter of the late Paul Gillis of Charlottetown and was a nurse in New York.

A year later, during my trip to Paris, I went one evening to a store on the Rivoli to get some cigarettes. As I was leaving the little store, I saw two young ladies approaching. One of them rushed towards me saying, "Oh, Judge Arsenault, I don't suppose you know me." "I certainly do," I replied; "you are Bernadette Gillis and I spent some time with you at your uncle's home in East Point."

Some days afterwards, we decided that he and I would take a trip to Switzerland and Italy. I had a letter of introduction to church officials in Rome from Cardinal Begin of Quebec and I felt confident that such an introduction would enable us to have an audience with His Holiness the Pope. My friend, however, had to take his wife to London but he told me he would only be away about a week and that on his return to Paris we should make the trip.

While in Paris I had become acquainted with several Parisians. I had met the Countess de Ponsi, a wealthy lady who very kindly had invited me to visit her at her castle a few miles outside of Paris. My early sailing, unfortunately, deprived me of that pleasure.

One day just before leaving Paris, I entered a church which I had noticed from the street. After saying a prayer, I glanced about me and noticed a priest walking back and forth in one of the aisles. I introduced myself and he said, "You are not French," meaning that I was not of France.

I said I was a Canadian. "Oh, a Canadian," he said. "I am glad you spoke to me. My Cardinal has asked me to go to Canada to give a little series of conferences. I know little of that country. Would you kindly come to my rooms so that you might tell me something of Canada?"

I agreed and told him the essential things that I thought he should know about a country that was as big as the whole of Europe. Finally, the subject of our conversation changed and he asked me where I had been in Paris. When I told him he gave me a list of interesting places to visit that were not even mentioned in the guide books.

On an ocean voyage one meets some interesting people. I remember, on the return trip, meeting a notable day and night, Connecticut Yankee and his wife. The old man and I became friendly, and one evening as we were standing by the rail he became expansive. I gathered from his story that he had recently retired from a business which had given him a lot of money.

"You know, Judge," he said, speaking with a slow drawing accent, "I was brought up very strictly. At home we were not allowed to play cards or to indulge in such amusements as dancing. Drinking liquor was considered a sin and a result was that I grew to manhood without having what is called much fun. I wanted my boy who

Notes By The Way

A diplomat, by one definition, is a person who pours banana oil on troubled waters.—Sault Daily Star.

"Smile Week" is coming up, and if you think there's nothing to smile about, smile anyway! Some other poor soul may think you're smiling on him, and bless you for it.—Ottawa Citizen.

Large numbers of Russian natural scientists, technicians, and intellectuals, according to American intelligence officers, would quit the Soviet empire for the freer air of Western democracies if they could be sure of jobs to support themselves. The potential value of these people with their knowledge and skills in the struggle to protect the world against Communist tyranny is inestimable.

Every so often from some point on Lake Erie or some other body of water, comes a report that fishermen have had to be rescued from detached ice floes. So intent have they been on the sport of fishing through the ice that they have failed to notice they have become Crusoes on a moving island. These reports draw attention to the fact of ice-fishing itself. As a sport, it is in a class with amateur rabbit hunting. Men who shudder at the thought of walking three blocks downtown drive into the country on blustery winter days, plow through snowy fields (without ever thinking of asking the farmer for permission) with chilled hands and running noses, all for the chance of pouring lead into a scrawny rabbit. Or they sit in a flimsy shelter on some windswept lake, jiggling a line through a hole in the ice. Sometimes it's two holes, allowing a line in each hand.

In some places, the catch the fishermen expect is smelt or relatives of smelt, but in this district what the fisherman hopes is aboard this ship with me now to have a better time than I had had. So when he graduated from his medical school, I told him I would like to give him something as a sort of reward for his splendid work in college.

"My son said nothing would please him more than a trip to Europe before he settled down as a doctor and that, because I had worked so hard all my life and had seen so little of the world, he would like me to go along with him. So off we went. Well, we have spent the last three months in visiting the different countries of Europe and this trip has changed my mind on a good many questions.

"For instance, I have seen the young people dancing aboard this ship and aboard the one I came to Europe on; I have seen them dancing everywhere I went in the European cities and I can see no harm in it. At little tables in front of cafes I have seen people of all ages sitting quietly drinking wine with their meals; I have seen them drinking on the boulevards and in all sorts of public places and I saw less drunkenness in Europe during my whole stay than I did in my own city where Prohibition is in force. It has changed my mind altogether on many subjects."

At dinner on our last day at sea, I saw the old chap whisper to the waiter and after a while I saw the waiter return with a bucket of ice in which was a bottle of champagne. "This is our last day together, Judge," the old fellow said, "so my son and I decided we should celebrate with you. And so the three of us drank the bottle of champagne. The sun did not fall from the heavens and the ship kept on an even keel as the plow moved onward toward America."

Since this story of my life makes no pretense to any chronological order, I must mention, before I forget it, a baseball game I saw when I was in Louisiana. The Yankees were there for their spring training and since New Orleans had a good team, the two teams met for an exhibition game. The game was fairly close, one reason, of course, being that the New Orleans team comprised professional players and the other that the Yankees were only in training and did not go out to play too hard. Nevertheless, I had an opportunity to see some of the wonderful fielding which has always helped to keep the Yankees in the front rank of the pennant chasers.

A New Orleans batter was at the plate. The Yankee pitcher delivered and Cracker went the bat against the ball. Up and up it went as it sailed for the back fence. The Yankee fielder turned and ran at full speed for the fence. As he neared it, he turned, leaped into the air with outstretched gloved hand and stabbed that ball. The crowd went wild but I venture to say that few of them were more excited than I was for it certainly was a wonderful exhibition of fielding by a man who evidently knew his baseball.

Miller Huggins, the great Yankee manager, umpired the game. He was but a pint-size man but there was a lot of energy packed in that small body. I watched him with interest.

I also saw some racing on the Grand Circuit. The crowds and the excitement were something to see. They jumped on the seats and they yelled for their favorites. The women were worse than the men. They bet on the horses and if one ran out of money they borrowed from her neighbor. From the standpoint of a stranger and a spectator it was most amusing and interesting.

Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion, put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city... Shake thyself from the dust.

SPRING SAMPLES HAVE ARRIVED AT J. P. MacPherson & Son Men's Clothing That Fits 121 QUEEN ST.

The Ago-Old Story

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SIMPLEX MUNDITIS Still to be neat, still to be dress. As you were going to a feast; Still to be powder'd, still perfume'd; Lady, it is to be presumed, Though art's hid causes are not found, All is not sweet, all is not sound. Give me a look, give me a face That makes simplicity grace: Robes loosely flowing, hair as free: Such sweet neglect more taketh me Than all the adulteries of art; They strike mine eye, but not my heart. —Ben Johnson, (1573-1637).

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

NEWFOUNDLAND CONVICTS Strange as it may appear today, the House of Assembly of this Island deemed it necessary in 1840 to pass a law to prevent the Colony from being made a dumping-ground for Newfoundland malefactors. The Act, which was not repealed until 1886, reads as follows:

"Whereas under and by virtue of some law or usage, the Courts of the Island of Newfoundland sentence persons convicted of felonies and misdemeanors to banishment from the said Island, and the Sheriffs of the said Island, under such law or usage as aforesaid, are in the practice of issuing warrants under their hands and seals, directed to the masters of vessels, reciting such convictions and sentences, and authorizing the masters of said vessels to take in custody, and retain the bodies of persons so convicted and sentenced, and such masters of vessels have, for hire and reward, acted under such warrants, and brought such convicts to this Colony, thereby letting loose upon society, persons of infamous character, and to a certain extent, making this Colony a Convict Colony, under a warrant or authority from the said Island of Newfoundland:

"Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, that from and after the passing of this Act, if the master of any vessel, or other person whatsoever, shall bring to or land in this Island, any person or persons so convicted of felony, or of a misdemeanor, and sentenced to banishment by any Court in the Island of Newfoundland, or by any other British Colony in America, under a warrant or authority from any judge, sheriff or other officer, such master of vessel, or other person, shall, for such offence, be liable to, and pay a penalty of twenty pounds and costs, for each person so brought to, or landed in this Island—to be recovered by bill, plaint or information, in Her Majesty's Supreme Court of this Island, by any person who shall prosecute for the same, and the other moiety to be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of this Island, to and for the use of Her Majesty's Government."

Be it further enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, that from and after the passing of this Act, if the master of any vessel, or other person whatsoever, shall bring to or land in this Island, any person or persons so convicted of felony, or of a misdemeanor, and sentenced to banishment by any Court in the Island of Newfoundland, or by any other British Colony in America, under a warrant or authority from any judge, sheriff or other officer, such master of vessel, or other person, shall, for such offence, be liable to, and pay a penalty of twenty pounds and costs, for each person so brought to, or landed in this Island—to be recovered by bill, plaint or information, in Her Majesty's Supreme Court of this Island, by any person who shall prosecute for the same, and the other moiety to be paid into the hands of the Treasurer of this Island, to and for the use of Her Majesty's Government."

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