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

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, MARCH 20, 1950

Retarded Children

Included in the brief of the Provincial Women's Institute is the proposal that a home and school be provided for subnormal children. The problem directly affects all school children because any class tends to progress at the rate possible to its slowest members.

The petition was sympathetically received by the members of the House, the principal difficulty noted being the cost of providing the desired facilities.

The Little Things

It is the little things, the almost despicable items of consumption that boosts the production in Canada's minor industries. For instance the Bureau of Statistics reports that enough chewing gum was produced in Canada last year to supply almost every person with a whole box of gum.

A Duke's Treasure Ship

Away back at the time of the Spanish Armada, a galleon named Duque Florenca was sunk off the Isle of Mull, owned by the Duke of Argyle, with a cargo of \$68,700,000 worth of Spanish ducats.

Taxing For Gifts

The other day one of the comic features displayed a girl collecting for a wedding gift from her colleagues for herself, with the excuse that she had to do so as the girl who undertook the job was absent.

Thomas M. Eldridge, president of the Davenport-Dovercourt Progressive Conservative Association, said the letter was written March 1. It was from G. McRae, assistant to the Toronto administrator of the Veterans Department, to Dr. Karl E. Hollis,

superintendent of Sunnybrook Military Hospital.

The letter listed "expected" contributions, Mr. Eldridge said: an employee receiving less than \$2,000 a year, for instance, was to give 10 cents; \$2,000-\$3,000 a year, 25 cents, and so on.

Dr. Hollis was told to keep a list of contributions, Mr. Eldridge said. A Veterans Department source said the reason for the list was that a book containing contributors' signatures was to be presented to Mr. Woods.

But Mr. Eldridge said a protest resolution, intended to be sent to Prime Minister St. Laurent, would be submitted to the Davenport-Dovercourt association.

"This smells of intimidation," said Mr. Eldridge.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Twenty more days till Easter.

Spring begins today in most of Canada. In the Maritimes, however, it arrives tomorrow, at 36 minutes past midnight to be precise.

The City's estimated deficit for the current year will not disturb the average taxpayer to any extent seeing that it does not involve an increase in the taxation rate. But the increase on valuation is another matter.

On this Island we are living in two distinct ages so far as transport is concerned. To the Lancasters of the Summerside air base we are 12 hours from Prestwick, Scotland. To the non-airminded we are 12 hours from Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Premier Jones facetiously suggests that the Trans-Canada Highway's "shortest practical route from Borden to Wood Islands" might go across the mouth of Charlottetown harbour. Bunbury would then undoubtedly be its centre of gravity.

Ottawa's purchase of British naval properties in Newfoundland for \$7,000,000 serves the double purpose of vesting those bases in the right of Canada and, at the same time, helping to provide the Old Country with dollars for purchases here.

At present the offices of Mayor and City Councillors are practically voluntary, the Mayor being entitled to a nominal sum for out-of-pocket expenses. Under the amended act of incorporation it is suggested there should be indemnity all round. This, of course, is nothing new in civic affairs, the Sewage and Water Commissioners having enjoyed such remuneration for years.

A bill originating in the Senate would do away with secret Orders-in-Council by making it mandatory for the Government to make public within 15 days all such Orders of a legislative character. This goes to the root of freedom under the law. It is shocking that Canadians can be enmeshed in violations of regulations which are known only to those who make them.

T. C. A. has been granted a permit to fly to Port of Spain, Trinidad, by way of Tampa, Florida, according to an announcement of the United States Civil Aeronautics Board. Flights will commence from Montreal and Toronto April 2nd and will also take in other West Indian points. It seems to be a case of all's well that ends well, although the dispute over the Montreal-New York route has not yet been fully disposed of.

Senator W. H. Dennis of Halifax enlightened the Senate on the position the Maritimes find themselves in as the outcome of the war. All our previous export markets are partially or wholly wiped out, and we must look elsewhere for the disposal of our produce. "Elsewhere" is hard to discover, and unless the Federal Government comes to our aid our fiscal condition will be much worse in future than in the past. The "Moses" to accomplish this is not yet in sight.

Sir Isaac Newton, English natural philosopher, died this date 1727. He was the inventor of the binomial theorem method of tangents, and fluxional calculus. Tradition has it that the sight of a falling apple in his garden first influenced him toward research concerning the attraction of the earth, which culminated in his discovery of gravity. In 1666 he turned to optical research and resolved white light into its constituent colours; in 1668 he invented the reflecting telescope, and discovered what are known as "Newton's rings". In 1692 he drew up a treatise on the calculus for mathematics; and in 1669 was appointed to the chair of mathematics at Cambridge University.

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.

CLARIFICATION

Sir,—In order to clarify the position of the Federation and clear up any misunderstandings that may be in circulation, I would appreciate your printing the following explanation:

On a newscast over the weekend it was stated in effect when referring to remarks made by Premier Jones when the brief of the Federation of Agriculture was presented, that "the Farmers' Federation was highly insulted and was calling for action through the Opposition." It was correct to say that the Federation was insulted. It was incorrect to say that the Federation had called upon the Opposition for action. The action being taken by the Opposition was not suggested by the Federation, which is a completely non-political body. However, the Federation will be interested to learn what stand each member of the Legislature takes in reference to the statements made by the Premier.

I am, Sir, etc. LOUIS O'CONNOR, President, P. E. I. Federation of Agriculture, New London, P. E. I.

THE FEDERATION

Sir,—I would like to ask all farmers on Prince Edward Island if they are going to stay home and continue to work sixteen hours a day and remain ignorant of every form of society, as we would understand Premier Jones would want us to do, in his remarks to the delegation that waited on his Government, or are we going to fight by joining our Federation, and backing them up one hundred per cent?

I say to every farmer on Prince Edward Island, both big and small, get into this organization and demand every right that is the prerogative of those who do not know what to expect from the present set up marketing scheme, organized after they found out that all farmers were not sleeping.

Farmers in outlying districts please come into this Federation with enthusiasm, and show Premier Jones we are not "numb-skulls" if such a phrase exists.

I am, Sir, etc. MEMBER, Emerald.

DUNDAS ESPLANADE

Sir,—I have forwarded a letter in the following terms to His Worship the Mayor, and shall be obliged if you will publish it.

I am, Sir, etc. KENNETH BRUCE STEWART.

(Enclosure) His Worship Mayor MacDonald, The City Hall, Charlottetown.

"My Dear Mayor:—A few Hospital zone signs will bring quietness to Dundas Esplanade. I may say here that my late father, David Buchan Stewart, Esq., would under no consideration have sold his two hundred and twenty feet of residential property on Dundas Esplanade which brought the City a revenue of three hundred dollars a year, to the Episcopal Corporation of Charlottetown. The peace of the Province and a rightful pride in the scenic highway Dundas Esplanade provides them—purchased many years ago by a long-headed City Council and called Dundas Esplanade in honour of His Excellency the Hon. George Dundas, one of the most popular of the English Governors to occupy Government House.

"It is to be hoped the request of the Board of Governors of the Charlottetown Hospital will take into consideration that the ninety thousand people in this Province and the thousands who visit our shores do not want to find the King's Highway barricaded on entering Dundas Esplanade. Tolerance to all has been Charlottetown's watchword and I feel sure it will still continue to be so. My kindest regards to you. I remain yours very sincerely, "KENNETH BRUCE STEWART 162 Dorchester Street, Charlottetown, March 18th, 1950.

CRITICISMS RESENTED

Sir,—Will you please give me some of your valuable space in reply to a charge against our youth made in the P. E. I. Legislature in Charlottetown by Mr. George Saville (L-5th King's).

He said they were getting "soft" because they were not living natural lives and eating proper food. I was watching and I indignation at such a statement it prompted me to write, as I am a mother, and when it comes to the time that our youth is being ridiculed in the Legislature it is high time someone voiced an opinion. I live in a prosperous farming district, and we have a wonderful lot of young people whom we think are well fed and quite "natural". If Mr. Saville knows of youth in his 5th district of King's of that calibre he should make a distinction and not condemn all of them. The youth in his riding must be proud of the reputation he has given them. My son on picking up the newspaper said, disgustedly, "We're soft, are we? Small wonder. Tell our youth they are no good and that have you got?"

Our young people are up before dawn when it is useful, and work until dark and after. They help care for large herds of dairy cattle, calves, hogs, and the many other chores found on the farm. The work entailed in growing potatoes is no mean task. My great-great grandfather was the first settler in this district, and I have heard of all their privations and hardships, and I feel

Why Not Grain For Both?



The Age-Old Story

My flesh also shall rest in hope, for thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption.

confident if our youth were called upon to do the same they could as well as they. They cleared the land and planted what they could around stumps, kept one cow, pig and a few hens. The women carded the wool, spun and wove the homespun for clothing. We do handcraft today, also, and how many meals did they prepare for hired help in potato harvesting?

Now, I do not belittle what our forefathers did, but we have worked and saved to buy our home too, so why make such a distinction between the generations? In those days T.B. was prevalent and all other diseases. They were not supermen. How many had to go to war fifty years ago? In our generation two wars have been fought. Why are so many old age pensions being paid out if our elders were so prosperous?

Mr. Saville has our youth all wrong. They are more independent today and can use the brains and will with, and in the years ahead will stand on their own feet if given a fair chance.

If war was declared again the tune would change, and they would be lauded to the skies, for the good soldiers they would make. No "softies" then.

"We were always taught to respect our elders, but when Messrs. Saville and Jones criticized boys and girls for being soft and playing hockey instead of taking agricultural courses in Charlottetown it is more than the maternal instinct can stand. Our youth play hockey here, both boys and girls, and their parents are behind them 100 per cent as the whole district helped buy their uniforms. We believe in co-operation. Why? Because it is an all-Canadian sport, is very healthy and teaches our youngsters to get along with other folk, and good sportsmanship. It is also their right in a free country to do as they wish without being dictated to by any politician. I'm sure Premier Jones' family enjoyed the sport they chose and no one was audacious enough to comment on that.

If our leaders would give us legislation for roads which are passable and not criticize our teachers, young people and "farmers" as has been done this week, it would be more advantageous for all of us. Farmers were told to "go home", as if they were good farmers they would not be there. It just makes one wonder if we are living in an adult age.

To tell a delegation of intelligent farmers to run along home like "good little children", don their overalls and go to the manure pit and "slave" as that is about all you are fit or intended for. Is it not permissible for a farmer to put a white collar on and take one day off and visit the Legislature in Charlottetown. It is almost unbelievable to think a farmer Premier could so insult the Federation of Agriculture who are only trying to put agriculture on a sound basis and have some equality for all.

By the way when farmers go to their dairy barn let them give the good old cow an extra ration of grain and a pat and tell her her days of usefulness may soon be over, and see the look of appreciation she will give you for your care, as our animals always repay us in kind for our kindness. But not so we humans. What courtesy did the Premier show the farmers for standing behind him last June? It is rather a let-down for those who had their trust misplaced. "Man's Ingratitude" did we not learn by memory that classic in school; now it bites so sharp. We are looking forward to our next Premier, and expect civil courtesies, and much more. What the P. E. I. farmers wanted was a farmer Premier. What a chastisement. The papers headlined, "Premier Chastened Federation", and we are foolish enough to take it. But we are given more incentive to instill into our youth, their God-given right to fight for their rights, and not be trampled on; so as members and directors of the Federation of Agriculture, we will not be discouraged as we are building the bridge for our youth, God bless them, who are all we have to live for; and a memorial to them when we have them is

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

SHIPS AND WATER SUPPLY

The nuisance involved in the practice of ships being watered from public wells in Charlottetown was the subject of not infrequent complaint in early days. The following reference to this subject is from a letter appearing in The Examiner of July 18, 1889:

"The public way and pump at the lower end of Prince Street are almost daily obstructed by large casks scattered about the pump, intended to receive water therefrom for ships' uses. In accomplishing that purpose much water is wasted and thrown upon the street, until it has been guttered, ponded and generally mucked, to the annoyance and inconvenience of foot passengers—rendered obstructive and disagreeable to those who pass in vehicles for pleasure or otherwise, and further, is a cause of general complaint of the inhabitants of that vicinity.

"Under the law relating to Pumps and Wells, embodied in the City's Act of Incorporation, I find that no large quantities of water are allowed to be taken from any of the public pumps or wells for ships or other purposes therein enumerated, without permission of the Mayor or presiding Councillor, under a maximum fine of thirty shillings for each offense, and that no cask shall be permitted to lie on the street a longer time than may be required to fill it.

"A discretionary power being thus vested in the civic body, I would take leave to suggest to the consideration of His Worship the Mayor and Council the opinion of many, that it appears necessary to refuse water at any and every public cistern within the city for the use of ships prosecuting their voyages over the ocean. Our wells were formed and equipped by civic taxation—are sustained by the citizens—and intended for the internal purposes of the city. But it happens that, to supply ships, wells are pumped dry, and sometimes so low that the water is unfit for use.

"To meet the water wants of the shipping, it might be worthy of consideration by the civic body to institute and license two or more watermen, who shall be bound to provide themselves with floating tanks, furnished with proper hose, &c., to supply ships with water—the same to be taken from the springs and streams on the opposite shore, or beyond the limits of the city. By this means ship owners would have water brought alongside their vessels, and filled into casks stowed for its reception, and would have this at less cost than by the present objectionable mode."

much more than when they are in "Flanders Fields". So let Mr. Saville and Mr. Jones keep their criticisms to themselves as we do not intend to be kicked around. I am, Sir, etc. AN IRATE MOTHER. O'Leary, P. E. I.

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Notes By The Way —

I have always noticed that composers, and musicians generally, experience great difficulty in coming to a stop when they have finished. They continue to repeat the same phrase over and over again in a different tone of voice. Mr. Igor Markevitch is a composer and a musician. The book which he has written about the Italian is as formless, as repetitive and as engaging as a blackbird's song. — Harold Nicolson in Observer.

Some United States firms, whose glance seldom extends beyond American shores, are awakening with alarm to the fact that foreign goods actually are entering the American market. They are discovering that this business of vigorous competition, which they have lauded as the American way of life and prescribed for foreign lands, is a rather rigorous bird when it comes home to roost. An American textile journal tells of the "feeling of misgiving" aroused as more woollens and worsteds begin to arrive from Britain. One firm in a good fire-eating advertisement calls it a "menace" to the American standard of living. — Christian Science Monitor.

A rich asbestos manufacturer built a fine house just across the street from the minister of the local church. The manufacturer and his family then proceeded to enjoy themselves in what seemed to the minister to be a very worldly fashion and not once did he see them in church on Sunday. But the minister was never known to speak ill of anyone. He only said to his wife: "Dear me, they must have great faith in their asbestos." — Wall Street Journal.

Though the name of the man who plants a tree is frequently forgotten, he may if Nature is kind acquire a claim on time which is not to be despised. Others whom he never saw, living in societies of which he probably never dreamed, continue through generations to enjoy the blessings of his labor. Few become presidents or prime ministers—but a great many have it in their power to enrich their communities through the planting or preservation of trees. — Winnipeg Free Press.

In the towns and villages, and on the farms, most folk work a six or seven-day week. In the cities, many people now work only five days a week. Much of what city people buy is produced by a long week in the country. Much of what rural folk have to buy is produced by a short work week in the city. Yet earnings in the towns, villages and farm hamlets are, on the average, lower than those of city dwellers. This means that most country folk are working longer hours for less money so that some of their urban neighbors can earn more money working shorter hours. Equal pay for equal work might lead to an economic revolution, and a consequent decentralization of commerce and industry which would yield major benefits in trade, health and citizenship. — Hanover Post.

The death of Mr. Emile Patrel, a former mayor of Shediac, and a prominent figure in the fishing industry of Eastern Canada, will be regretted by a wide circle of friends. Salmon angling was his favorite hobby. At a sportsman's dinner in New York, years ago, he got into an argument with an American angler about the proper weight for a salmon rod. He contended that a light rod was all that was necessary, and wagered that he could land a salmon with a rod which weighed only one ounce. A one-ounce rod, which looked like a small buggy whip, was fashioned for him by a New York rod-maker. He took a thirty-pound salmon with it on the Rte. 1, thereby winning his bet. — Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Sir Will Lawther's use of the phrase "Tory blatherskite politicians" in a week-end oration may give some comfort to those who deplore the "dry pallor of contemporary political invective. The kind of man Sir Will no doubt had in mind is one who might alternatively confess, in the words of Skelton, "I blunder, I bluster, I blowe, and I blather"—the last of these attractive verbs being a variant of "blather", a Middle English word of Scandinavian origin

meaning "to talk nonsense." From this the abusive nouns "blatherskite", "blatherskate", and "blather-gab"—a blustering, blatherative foolish fellow—are derived. "Blatherskite" is still current in Northern England, and in Scotland—and it is not unknown in America. It is a good word, a richer mouthful than babbler, chatterer, prattler, prater, or cackler. But if Sir Will really wishes to live things up he might consider this line of Burns—"A blitherin, blusterin, drunken, bledlum." — Manchester Guardian.

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The Poet's Corner

THE GREATER CATS

The greater cats with golden eyes Stare out between the bars. Deserts are theirs, and different skies,

And night with different stars. They prowls the aromatic hill, And mate as fiercely as they kill. And hold the freedom of their will To roam, to live, to drink their fill: But this beyond their wit know I: Man loves a little, and for long shall die.

Their kind across the desert range Where tulips spring from stones, Not knowing they will suffer change Or vultures pick their bones.

Their strength's eternal in their sight, They rule the terror of the night: They overtake the deer in flight, And in their arrogance they smile; But I am sage, if they are strong: Man's love is transient as his death is long.

Yet oh what powers to deceive My wit is turned to faith, And at this moment I believe In love, and scout at death. I came from nowhere, and shall be Strong, steadfast, swift, eternally: I am a lion, a stone, a tree, And at the Polar star in me Is fixed my constant heart on thee. Ah, may I stay forever blind With lions, tigers, leopards, and their kind.

—Victoria Sackville-West

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