

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1951

Farming Discussed

Discussions in the Legislature indicate that the farmers on the whole had fairly satisfactory returns for their labours in the past year. It is true the Leader of the Opposition holds a different view, built presumably on his claim that not a few farmers have notes at the bank on which they pay interest but evidently do not reduce principal. The fact that the bank is prepared to finance farmers in good standing is one of the best recommendations agriculture could have.

Mr. Phillip Matheson, of the Second District of King's, did not altogether agree with his leader. It was true he said not a few farmers during the past few years had followed the pattern of the Government and had borrowed at a low rate of interest with the result they had found themselves like the Government—down. He argued that one of the problems facing farmers was the uncertainty of prices—something, like the poor, we have always with us. The farmer sows in hope and not infrequently reaps in more or less despair, hardly having realized the cost of production, let alone remuneration for his own labour and interest on his investment. But it has been ever thus, and while the good cultivator pulls through all right and lives to farm another year, the inefficient and unfortunately settled on unfertile land gets farther in the hole. But, claims Mr. Matheson, and also Mr. Baker, that is the exception not the rule, and they cite the good prices obtained for livestock to offset the loss in potatoes, and both strongly urge the majority of our farmers to abandon gambling in potatoes and return to mixed farming, which the late Dr. James Robertson founded to be our salvation, and was not disappointed.

The Minister of Agriculture claims that while our farmers may not have much money in their pockets their standard of living is the highest ever. This bears out a statement of a Queen's County farmer who says on his farm they kill a young ox and some swine with the result that their butcher meat costs them no more than 8c per lb., and they had hams hanging from the kitchen ceiling all the year round. Who, in any other industry, could buy in a store at such a price, far less have a reserve of hams ever at his disposal?

Fire In The Country

Montague has followed the example of Borden in keeping its fire-fighting equipment in town despite possible calls for assistance in dealing with outside fires.

The attitude, although not gallant, is reasonable for it would be a misfortune to have fire break out while the equipment paid for by citizens and property owners was away fighting other people's fires.

There should, perhaps, be some form of organization along township lines to take responsibility for protecting farm and other buildings outside the incorporated units. That, however, would mean more government expenditure when it is already complained that we have far too much already for the Island's population.

The alternative is for the Province to take action, perhaps by making grants available to organized communities on condition that they will improve their fire-fighting services and make them available to some extent at least to their surrounding districts.

Hospital Visitors

The number of unnecessary visitors to patients in our hospitals is causing concern. While many people regard visitation of the sick as their contribution to the patients' welfare and a friendly token of interest on their part, others look upon such visits as a charitable obligation of Christian people. All visitors have a genuine regard for the sick and their actions are dictated by the highest motives.

It is therefore expected that the appeal of the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the P. E. I. Hospital which appears in this issue will be respectfully heeded and the visits reduced to a minimum.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"The Ides of March."

Mr. W. F. A. Stewart is proud of Strathgartney and its surrounding hills but seems to be a little flazed at their being a

greater divide than the Rockies so far as providing a route for the Trans-Canada Highway is concerned.

The Summerside Town Council in its capacity as a public utility dealing in electric power proposes to follow a "get tough" policy with delinquent customers, an admirable but difficult stand when the customers are also electors.

In the case of both the Charlottetown and Summerside assessment boosts it is to be noted that there is little objection to the actual increase which is necessary in order to provide the services which citizens demand. Opinions differ, however, on the procedures followed.

Federal politicians deal in billions today when not so long ago a hundred thousand was an enormous outlay. Finance Minister Abbott is budgeting for \$3,586,915,000 to carry on the government for next year, all of which must come out of the taxpayers' pockets.

The special meeting of the City Council tomorrow afternoon will deal with proposed expenditures for the year, while economy in the spending of public money is urgently required, it should not be forgotten that the test of economy is the effectiveness with which necessary services are supplied without waste, rather than how the services can be dispensed with.

Mr. Richards in the Legislature declared that men from other provinces are buying our woodlots and exporting the pulp wood. This should not be tolerated. Our woods are our natural wealth, and we have no right to allow outsiders to come here and export it for their own profit. In most British countries, and in some of our Provinces, not an acre of trees is allowed to be cut down without an acre of new trees being planted to replace them.

Dame Madge (Grimston) Kendal, English actress, was born this date 1849. She made her debut in London in 1865 as Ophelia. In 1869 she married William Kendal, the actor, continuing to appear at the Haymarket Theatre. She shared her husband's successful American tours and contributed a series of articles entitled "Dramatic Opinions" to Murray's Magazine. Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire, 1926.

The high rate of tooth decay amongst Charlottetown school children revealed this week in the Legislature is cause for serious concern. In addition to the proposed individual treatment with sodium fluoride, it would be valuable to make tests over a period of time to determine whether the city water supply is generally lacking in this chemical. It might well be found that the lack, if it exists, can be made good so that even children of pre-school age receive the benefit.

According to the Premier and Hon. Mr. Baker, Minister of Agriculture, the Government are contemplating the adoption of silos and water way importation to offset the increase in the freight on feed caused by the abolition of preferential rates by the C. N. R. How much better would our position have been had the Government heeded the advice of the late lamented Mr. Hemming, who through our columns advocated the erection of a grain elevator for just such an emergency.

It is quite evident Minister of Agriculture Gardiner is down and out so far as being the prospective leader of the Liberal Party in succession to Mr. St. Laurent when he chooses to retire. Mr. Howe, the alternate of Mr. Gardiner for the succession has put it all over his competitor in the expose he has made in connection with the proposed \$65,000,000 gift to the Prairie Provinces. Mr. Howe told the House of Commons that the United Kingdom government has lived up to legal obligations under the Anglo-Canadian Wheat Agreement and is not in default as claimed by his cabinet colleague Mr. Gardiner.

Why don't we all, farmers and industrialists alike, realize this simple analogy? "When a man lives in the community of a farm (writes Col. Robert Henriques, novelist) a community of crops, livestock, insects and all the millions of bacteria that live in every cubic yard of earth, he is bound to get some kind of sense of the purpose in creation. It is a community that has to be kept balanced—like any other community. If you take more out of the earth than you return to it—ultimately you have to pay the penalty of disease and sterility. If individual humans take more out of any community than they give back to it—the penalty is the same. It's along these lines—and others which run parallel—that a man, if he is a practising farmer, gets his inkling of the law of human existence."

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.

PIGEON WELFARE

Sir,—I had much pleasure in reading in The Guardian of March 13 about a pigeon that was rescued by the firemen of Charlottetown from the roof of the Bank of Commerce building. These men had a big heart and they must think more of the pigeons than some of the gunmen around Bedque. I have had pigeons around my place for the last thirty years and kept them as pets, but some of the idle gunmen, wanting to keep in practice, started cleaning up on my pet pigeons with the result that there is none left. They might as well shoot your chickens as your pigeons. Some of those fellows that are so good at shooting pigeons or other birds and squirrels should go over to Korea where there is good shooting.

I am, Sir, etc., P. N. TUCKER, North Bedque, P. E. I.

GEORGETOWN PROSPECTS

Sir,—There has been a lot of talk in the papers recently about a prospective ferry between Georgetown, P. E. I., and Mabou, N.S. I hope there is a little more interest taken in this project than there was in the proposed coal centre for the Town of Georgetown.

I believe the reason we did not get the centre was because of insufficient interest in the project by the town officials. We young people are proud of our harbour town and I sincerely believe that if more interest were taken and more co-operation shown between the Mayor, Council, and the people of Georgetown, we could make something of it.

I am, Sir, etc., A YOUNG RESIDENT, Georgetown, P. E. I.

"AGRICOLA'S" WRITINGS

Sir,—A good man has gone home. A visit to Blyth's Hurst was always a very happy occasion. We shall miss him more than I can say.

Is there any likelihood of his writings being edited and the most suitable items being published in book form? Perhaps no other person in the long history of Prince Edward Island has written so much of exceptional interest and value. Some at least of his material would be of assistance to a future historian.

I would like to see an appropriate memorial to Mr. Hurst. How best can that be done? Would a scholarship be most fitting? If so, would a principal sum of \$3,000 be sufficient?

Mr. Hurst often showed to me his note books which were written in a copper-plate hand and contained some exquisite pencil drawings. Some of them were loose-leaf and if a selection of the note books could be well bound and indexed, they would be a valuable addition to the public library and in themselves would form a memorial to him.

I am, Sir, etc., FORMER ISLANDER, Ottawa.

HOME CRAFT PROJECT

Sir,—As there seems to be considerable misunderstanding of the purpose of our project "Home-Craft" (or Home Industries), may we correct some of the mistaken ideas which are prevalent?

We are not a charitable organization, nor do we belong to any particular society or creed. We are simply a group of women who are interested in establishing a centre for the sale of home-made articles—handicapped or shut-ins.

We believe that people who do fine handwork should have a place to sell it, and with this incentive many other skills may be developed. Handicraft exchanges in other centres have done much good in this way and we think that our community would also benefit.

We handle articles on consignment, charging a 20% commission on all sales; this commission at present goes towards expenses, such as renting market space, advertising, wrapping supplies, correspondence, etc. with the surplus being banked for a fund for the establishment of a permanent shop.

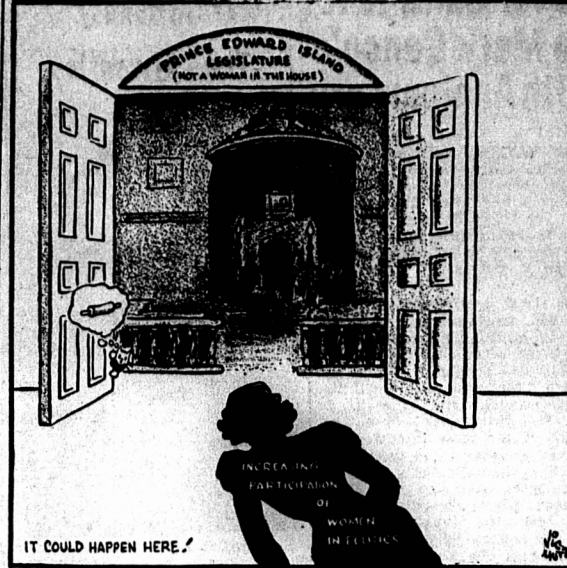
We do not price the articles. Each consignor prices his or her own, taking into account the cost of materials, a reasonable profit and the selling commission. An accurate record is kept of every article received and cheques are sent out monthly to those who have made sales.

We have already held two successful sales in the Market House and plan to continue doing so each Friday as much interest has been shown by the public.

However, there has also been some criticism on the part of those who do not understand what we are attempting to do. For the benefit of these people we would like to state that the women who have organized and taken charge of these sales, have done so on a purely voluntary basis; they realize that the Homecraft Shop will never materialize unless they are willing to work for it, and this they are doing most wholeheartedly. They, themselves, profit from these sales only on the basis of the handwork they may consign and sell at the same 20% commission as is charged other consignors.

We are proud to include in our display some very fine work done by the blind, disabled veterans and patients at the Sanatorium. It may be of interest to many

Stage For Next Year's Style Show?



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The Poet's Corner

ON LOVE

O, what is love but the bee with the clover, The passion of plunder, The giving, the taking, The ecstasy wild and the tearing asunder— And then all is over; But somewhere the honey is hid in the hive And love to the lover is more than the passion, For beauty is stored in some exquisite fashion. To be eaten in thankfulness, silence and tears On the bread of the desolate years. —Duncan Campbell Scott.

The Age-Old Story

Jesus went unto the Mount of Olives. And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them... The Pharisees therefore said unto him, Thou barest record of thyself; thy record is not true. Jesus answered and said unto them, Though I bear record of myself, yet my record is true; for I know whence I came, and whither I go; but ye cannot tell whence I come, and whither I go. Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man... Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning; and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it... He that is of God heareth God's words; ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

BREAKWATER

YARMOUTH, N. S.—(CP)—With milder weather, construction is going ahead full speed on the new breakwater here. The work, of steel and concrete, is one of the most modern designs in Canada, to give adequate protection to Yarmouth harbor.

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MAN MADE FOR FAITH

Sir,—His Eminence, Cardinal McGuigan, in his very helpful "Thoughts For Our Time" tells us truly that faith is a great healer of broken minds, of which there are, today, an alarming number. It may be added that God created man for faith. Every cell in his body responds to faith, every function operates by faith. Faith may be compared to the oil that is put into its proper places in a machine. Fear, faith's opposite, acts upon the body like sand in the gear-box of a car, grating and grinding, and finally, ruining the machine. We were not made for fear. Why should we be afraid when there is a God to trust Who is within and around us, as an atmosphere, nearer than our hands, as our shield and our strength, every moment, day and night? How often Jesus said to His followers, "Fear not!" Fear is expelled. It shrivels up the body cells. It dries up the wholesome juices. It cramps the muscles. It sends wrong messages out along the nerves. It is the parent of every disease. Fear is a foreign invader of the human body and does nothing but harm. Faith belongs to us. God has made us to trust. Perhaps the mercy and loving providence of God is nowhere more evident than just here, that He has made us for faith. We have greatly missed this way of faith because we have got into the way of worshipping the creature more than the Creator whom we were born to serve. I am, Sir, etc., W. I. GREEN, Stanley Bridge.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

SHAM FIGHT

"Yesterday a sham fight, of which the following was the plan of attack and defense, took place in the Garrison and in Pownall Square: "Attack: 1. Advance guard de-bouche from the road into Pownall Square, and commence skirmishing, in order to drive the enemy's outpost into the Fort, and to cover the advance of the guns. 2. Engineers throw up a Gabion battery in the centre, calculated for a gun to silence the Artillery of the Fort. While forming this battery they are covered by the Artillery on the right, and small arms on the left. The attack is discontinued and a retreat in confusion ensues on the enemy rallying out in force. 3. Rally and return to the attack. Advanced guard drive in enemy's skirmishers and gradually effect a breach of the Fort. Columns of assault formed, move to the storm, and carry the breach. "Defense: 1. Outlying picket retires skirmishing before enemy's guard, and reconnoitres the force of the enemy. 2. Artillery opens to destroy the approaches of the attack. A vigorous sally is made and the enemy's batteries taken. Gabion battery thrown down, but guns found too heavy to be drawn off in time. Skirmishers endeavor to prevent the enemy's advance. 3. Retreat rapidly into the Fort on the enemy's rallying. Open a general fire from the ramparts, until the breach being made practicable the assault is given and the defenders driven from the parapets. "The Fort, which was constructed of snow, well cemented by the frost, with embrasures for the Artillery, etc., was erected in the open space in the rear of the Garrison. The day being fine, a great number of spectators assembled to witness the manoeuvres, and were all apparently highly gratified with this, to us, novel spectacle. The whole was under the immediate direction of Capt. Moorsom, 52nd Regiment." —Prince Edward Island Register, Feb. 17, 1829.

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Notes By The Way

Until very recently coal mining has been Alberta's second biggest industry, surpassed only by agriculture. Now it is in a struggle for existence. Severe blow in that struggle is the announcement of freight rate increases, which will shut off the Eastern Canadian market.—(Calgary Albertan.)

Nova Scotia has rightly plumed itself on the historic fact that its greatest export has been brains. The record proves it. Now we learn from Government records tabled in the House of Commons that Nova Scotians eat more fish than any other Canadians. Second are the British Columbians. It is sea fish on which the brainiest people in Canada feed—fish which live on plankton and the sea weeds and dulse, and fortify themselves with essential liver fats, and have their being within the element which scientists tell us is the source of all life. Not only brains but brawn, and vigor, and durability seem to emerge from those raised on sea food, so that even when they move to the effete in-

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