

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1951

Transportation Report

The Royal Commission on Transportation, in its report tabled yesterday in Parliament, has substantiated the major claim of the Maritime Provinces with regard to discriminatory freight rate increases, and has recommended a system of equalization to offset the admitted advantages enjoyed by the big Central Provinces, where highly competitive rates are in force.

With regard to this Province, the Commission concedes the need of improved car ferry service at Borden, and of remedying conditions due to the fact that the ferry operation has been tied too closely to train service. It also recommends the double ferry service which we enjoyed last summer at Borden, but has apparently made no recommendations for improvement of the Wood Island service.

Nor from the summary of the report available last night was there any indication of favoring the Provincial Government's request that the operation of the Borden ferry service be taken out of railway hands and placed directly under the Department of Transport or an independent Commission.

The report undoubtedly places us in a much stronger position in arguing on the basis of our transportation needs as a Province, and fixes on the Federal Government the onus of examining the traffic situation frequently to determine the adequacy of the service. Beyond that, it is difficult to estimate how much we have gained, if anything, in furtherance of our claims under Confederation.

In other ways, the report has very far-reaching implications and may well prove, as Premier Jones has anticipated, to be a milestone in this country's transportation history.

Outdated Reports

"For the year ending March 31st, 1950," is to be found on the cover of all too many reports being tabled in the Legislature in this year of grace 1951.

Those departmental branches which continue to present reports covering the calendar year provide interesting and valuable information to our legislators and the public but on the whole neither the House nor the Province is getting the information about public affairs to which they are entitled.

Four months should be ample time in which to prepare annual reports, so that they should certainly be available for the fiscal year at any time after the end of July. If this Province must have the same year's end as the Federal Government it seems essential that there be a regular Fall session at which reports may be received and discussed while the matters contained in them are still of practical value for criticism and necessary action. Eleven months old reports covering a period beginning 23 months ago are chiefly of historical interest.

Will Mr. MacNaught Soon Be Promoted?

We are so accustomed to referring to the Member for Prince as Assistant Minister of Fisheries that we are apt to forget that that office is comparatively new in our Federal representation. An Ottawa correspondent points out that Professor McGregor Dawson, the man chosen to write the biography of Mr. King, has much to say on this subject in his book, "The Government of Canada," which it is well for our readers, and especially politicians, to know.

The practice of appointing parliamentary assistants, says the Professor, began with Sir Robert Borden and Mr. King continued it, but with little encouragement from his colleagues. In the early twenties he appointed a parliamentary assistant to the External Affairs Minister. This was to lighten his own load for Mr. King for years was External Affairs Minister as well as Prime Minister.

It wasn't until some time after the outbreak of the Second World War that the practice was extended, and after the naming of Douglas Abbott, now Finance Minister, as parliamentary assistant to Finance Minister J. L. Daley, many others were appointed, and Mr. St. Laurent has named at least an equal number since he assumed the leadership. Besides being a big help to the ministers by sharing some of their work,

the parliamentary assistants, according to Prof. Dawson, also serve to strengthen regional representation in the higher government level. A third consideration is that the position is excellent training for the post of cabinet minister, and there have been many notable instances of promotion.

It is sincerely to be desired that our Mr. MacNaught may soon be added to their number by well-deserved promotion.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Butter at 82c per lb. in Vancouver must make us green with envy—when we think of how little the producer gets.

The sheep and swine breeders are in town for their respective annual meetings. Lent is probably the only season in which they can spare the time.

The Hon. C. C. Baker's concern over the extent to which cows are being sold out of dairy herds is shared both by those interested in the industry and by the consumer of dairy products.

Mr. J. Brenton St. John, M.L.A., claims that King's County is away ahead of the other two counties in educational progress and fish production. There may be a connection between the two records, as it is commonly assumed that fish is a first-class brain stimulant.

Edward Augustus Freeman, English historian, died this date 1892. With Stubbs and Green he aroused historical interest in the period preceding the Norman conquest. In 1884 he succeeded Stubbs as regius professor of modern history at Oxford. The greatest amongst his numerous works is "The History of the Norman Conquest."

Every man to his taste, and Canadians' preference is for beans and molasses—hence they have been designated the "Bean Boys" at the Korean front. Bill Boss, the very efficient and enterprising CP correspondent at the front says the Australians, New Zealanders and Britons prefer ham and vegetables, the Indians like chicken hash. But the Canadians always call for beans.

Mr. Richard in the House complains of the lack of doctors and hospital facilities at Tignish; while Alberton Town Council at the request of a petition from citizens have decided to write to the Dental Association requesting better dental services for the town. In prohibition days, when doctors, both medical and dental were compensated for services rendered, there were no such complaints.

The grave closes today over the remains of the late Sister John of the Cross, Mother Superior of the Sacred Heart Home in Charlottetown, whose faithful services, particularly in the field of social welfare, have been of great value to the community and an example to all in the field of practical Christian endeavour. She brought to her sacred calling many talents and an abounding sympathy and understanding towards all who needed her help. The Guardian joins in extending sincere sympathy to the bereaved family, as well to the religious order of St. Martha of which she was such a devoted member.

The discussion on the proposed introduction of beets for sugar production is like threshing old straw. This matter was thoroughly discussed under the Mathieson Government. It was brought out in the discussion that to grow beets for sugar production, a sugar mill would be necessary, and that we could not turn out enough beets to keep a factory going for two months in the year. That was the experience in New Brunswick, and they had to appeal to the Federal Government to allow unrefined cane sugar to be introduced to keep the factory going. As cane sugar can be grown and manufactured much more cheaply than beet sugar would it resulted as might be expected, in cane substituting beet.

The appeal in our yesterday's columns of Mrs. T. B. Rogers and Miss Helen W. Smith for support of the Homecraft project is worthy of whole-hearted support, not only by the ladies but by the men as well. We once were famous for our domestic production of sewn work, including rugs and white linen. It is recalled that a family in Montreal (there may have been many) who came here every summer, used to move about the country picking up fine linen sewn table cloths, bed sheets and bed-covers which they said were much superior to anything they could buy in the best stores in Montreal. Similarly with rugs. Housewives took delight in producing them in the long winter evenings in all sorts of shapes and designs. We would not say this is a lost art, but it is a sadly neglected one. The Homecraft project should stimulate its revival.

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.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

Sir—There has been much talk about the salaries of teachers. I wish to add that we should not be simply teaching for the sake of the dollar. It seems necessary, if we wish to purchase anything, but we must remember that "the love of money is the root of all evil."

Many are leaving the teaching profession for other things. Are they leaving only to receive more money? Or have they decided to work at something with more facilities and under better living conditions? Have they become disgusted with spending the best years of their life in a dusty classroom, teaching pupils who would be more contented playing hockey?

I had the privilege last summer of making a tour of Port Elgin's Memorial High School. What a grand school! What a great opportunity the pupils of that area have! It offers the regular course to those who are good, using their heads; another more interesting and appealing course to those whose aptitude lies in using their hands.

I live a few miles from Kensington and am aware that a few pupils are attending the school at Kensington rather than their home schools. It would be much better if there was a Regional High School at Kensington (and at other centres as well) for all country pupils from, say, Grade Six up. Pupils would have a more equal chance, and teachers would be delighted to teach in such a school.

Boys and girls would all be able to have singing periods. I am pleased to hear that more districts are interested in having a music teacher come to their schools to provide instructions in music and group singing. How much easier would it be for the teacher at a larger school? She would not have to go from school to school in bad weather under poor road conditions. Roads, like schools, have to be improved.

Our schools should offer the pupils more today than they did for the pupils fifty years ago. Recently I asked a man who went to school about fifty years ago, what he liked doing best while attending. His reply was simply: "Coming home." Surely we do not want the pupils of today to say the same thing in the future.

Let us, one and all, strive to provide better facilities and conditions for both the pupils and the teachers, so that, near the end of their course, they can look back and rejoice in having spent considerable time at school. Let us have this in mind: that we should leave this earth in a better state than we found it.

I am, Sir, etc.

THEO. GROZIER, Long River, P. E. I.

THE CHURCH'S MISSION

Sir—The watchman who would be true to his Lord, has need to carefully note the signs of the times and emphasize his witness accordingly. Concerning the testimony needed now there can be little, if any, doubt. An evil is in the professed camp of the Lord, so gross, so brazen in its impudence, that the most shortsighted of spiritual men can hardly fail to notice it.

During the past few years it has developed at an abnormal rate. It has worked like leaven, until now the whole lump ferments. Look which way you may, its presence makes itself manifest. "Amusement" is ousting "the Preaching of the Gospel" as the great attraction. Concerts, young people's socials and dramatic performances have taken the place of the old-fashioned prayer meeting and revival meetings. Some have gone so far as to introduce card playing and dancing into their church entertainments in this respect.

From "speaking out" as the Puritans did, the church has gradually toned down her testimony, then winked at and excused the frivolities of the day. Then she has tolerated them in her borders, and now she had adopted them and provided a home for them under the plea of "reaching the masses and getting the ear of the people." The devil has seldom done a more clever thing than hitting to the Church of Christ that part of her mission is to provide entertainment for the people, with a view to bringing them into her ranks. Truly serious souls are being led away on the pretext that this is a form of Christian work. They forget that on occasions "Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." (2 Cor. 11-14.)

Providing amusement for the people is nowhere spoken of in the Bible as one of the functions of the Church. "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature" is clear enough; so it would have been if He had added, "And provide amusement for those who do not relish the Gospel."

Then again, Christ as an ascended Lord gives to His Church specially qualified men for the carrying on of His work, but no mention of any gift for this branch of the service occurs in the list. Read Eph. 4: 11-12. Where do the "public entertainments" come in? The Holy Ghost is silent concerning them; and His silence is eloquent.

Jesus pitied sinners; pleaded with them, sighed for them, weaned them, and wept over them; but never sought to amuse them. When many of His disciples went back to the sea, He searched and sin-revealing ministry, we do not read of Him seeking to hold the crowd by entertainment. How did the Apostles carry on their work? Let the Acts give the answer: "I am, Sir, etc. A CHRISTIAN."

For Some, They Say, It Has Come Too Late!



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Prince Edward Island Register, May 26, 1829: "In consequence of the great difficulty which at present exists in procuring money for the payment of rents, Capt. Stewart announces that he will consent to receive oats, barley and wheat (clean and sound of course), at the price common in the Metropolis of the Island, and therefore trusts that from this arrangement no excuses for arrears or non-payment of rent will for the future be made, otherwise he will without distinction distrain."

G. Duck announces that the champion stallion, Roncesvalles, will stand for the season "at the corner Spring Park Farm opposite the Protestant Burying Ground, near a Charlotte-town."

Peter Macgowan, secretary of the Agricultural Society to be held at the Wellington Hotel on Saturday, the 30th inst., for the purpose of deciding on the most beneficial mode of appropriating the sum of £150 granted by the Legislature for the encouragement of agriculture. James Trant, Surgeon and Licentiate Apothecary, "avails himself of this opportunity to acquaint his Friends and the Public that he resides in one of Mr. Samuel Barnall's houses, opposite the Queen's Head Hotel, in Pownall Street where he intends following the business of his profession."

James Aitken, senior, announces for sale at Bay Fortune, a Mill, "not at present going; has an excellent pair of Stones, brought from Whitehead, N. S.—the iron works all good. There is a substantial Dam, built with clay and bushes, which has stood for 20 years. There is only one mill within 20 miles, besides itself, and the inhabitants are very desirous of having it set a-going."

Big Canadian Exhibit At B.I.F.

(U. K. Information Office) Canada will have one of the largest exhibits in the Commonwealth section at this year's British Industries Fair. The stand, 1,015 square feet, will show 100 years' expansion in Canada on the theme "Canadians, Great Producers, Great Consumers."

At the Castle Bromwich, Birmingham section of the Fair, Canada will have a trade information bureau (440 sq. ft.) where buyers will be able to discuss their problems with Trade Commissioners. The Union of South Africa will have a stand on which sections are devoted to agriculture, industry and mining. Replicas will be shown of some of the Union's world-famous diamonds and demonstrations will illustrate how these are cut.

Southern Rhodesia's stand, partly concerned with the production of tobacco, will also show the great expansion in recent years of her secondary industries. The value of copper in the economy of Northern Rhodesia will be emphasized in an impressive display by the largest copper-producer in the British Commonwealth.

New Zealand, in her exhibits, will stress the growth of such industries as forest products and food processing, and will show the development of hydro-electric power and transportation. Pakistan is to feature three major export industries—tea, cement, and wool.

Finally, this mission of amusement falls utterly to affect anything—God in the souls of the unconverted. It is the devil's half-way house to the world. Under the pretext of going out to reach the world, it is dragging our sons and daughters deeper into it, turning the garden of the Lord into a public recreation ground. The Church's mission is to win souls to Christ, not to provide amusement for the unconverted, to attract them to her ranks and have their names inscribed upon her register in an unconverted state.

The crying need today is for faithful men who will renounce the policy of the age, and grasp the Book of God, trusting in the Spirit Who wrote its pages, and fighting with this weapon only and always. Cease to amuse, and seek to arouse! I am, Sir, etc. A CHRISTIAN.

Notes By The Way

A man in Woodroffe maintains that a daily snowball helped him throw off a dose of flu and a heart attack last Spring? Is he sure the remedy wasn't the cause of the ailment? Personally we'll stick to hot lemonade and mustard plasters.—(Brockville Recorder and Times.)

Nothing that President Truman has said or done of late strikes us with the impact of the shirt he was photographed in the other day at Key West, Fla. It was a good shirt, as those things go, featuring palm-leaf figures prominently displayed on a tasteful blue-gray background. One might go so far as to say, with a tinge of regret, perhaps, that it was a typically American shirt—the sort of thing you might run into, in proper season, at Ebbe's Field, or Miami Beach, or even Kansas City. Critics of the President, both editorially and politically, may suggest grumpily that he might feel more comfortable with a pattern consisting of the letters, R.F.C. neatly intertwined, or perhaps with a few clear signatures of authority over to the musical criticism. However, since Mr. Truman might retaliate by emblazoning the 1948 election returns on his back, perhaps the matter and the shirt are best left as they are.—(New York Herald Tribune.)

In the Prince Edward Island Legislature a few days ago, a member called the attention of his colleagues to the fact that this is the 100th anniversary of the gaining of responsible government to the province. The Island, because of its troubles over quit rents, was later in this field than neighboring parts of Canada. Responsible government came into Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada, (Quebec and Ontario) in Newfoundland in 1865; into British Columbia and Manitoba in 1871. Interestingly enough it was not necessary to pass a law to bring this reform about. The Governors were simply instructed by the British Government to secure Executive Councils which would have the support of the Assemblies. They followed their instructions, and as a result, representative government became responsible government. In Nova Scotia it was Howe who fought incessantly for responsible government—against an entrenched Executive and a hostile Governor. In 1847, his reform party won a decisive victory. But when the House met early the next year the old Executive Council was still in office. A vote of want of confidence in the Government was moved and carried. The next day the Government resigned. And responsible government became an accomplished fact in Nova Scotia.—(Halifax Chronicle-Herald.)

The Federal Government's habit, at the slightest provocation, seems to be to demand a blank cheque from Parliament, whereby Parliament abdicates its own powers and hands arbitrary authority over to the Cabinet. The latest example, against which the Progressive Conservatives are strongly and rightly protesting, is the new Emergency Powers Bill. We do not like blank cheques for the executive arm of Government. We do not like Government by Order-in-Council. We do not like to see Parliament dumbly handing over authority, which was won after much struggle and suffering by our ancestors, as if that authority was a negligible thing to be cast aside without a second thought. The present international crisis derives from our determination to prevent democracy from being destroyed from without; let us also make sure it is not destroyed from within.—(Calgary Herald.)

Reports from northern Manitoba tell of the disquieting experience of members of a motorcade from the Tuberculosis Germ was first identified by Prof. Robert Koch in Berlin in 1882.

DISCOVERED TB GERM

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