

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1952

The Federal Budget

The Budget delivered by Finance Minister Abbott in Parliament last evening means an overall increase in tax burdens for 1952, although there are some redeeming features which will be welcomed by the public. Medical bills can be deducted to a greater extent from one's income. The cigarette tax, which occasioned much complaint when it was boosted last year, has been placed back to where it was before the last Budget. A special excise tax on household washing machines, stoves and refrigerators has been abolished and the special 25 percent excise tax on motor cars and other luxuries reduced to 15 percent. But the reductions are more than offset by the new 2 percent social security tax. Nor will the picture be any brighter next year in the way of tax relief. That is, unless conditions at home exceed Mr. Abbott's expectations and unless the international scene clears more rapidly.

The Minister could, of course, be wrong. He is budgeting for a surplus of nine millions or so. This is no exaggeration, for last year's surplus, which he estimated at \$30,000,000 proved to be \$355,000,000. Such a staggering disproportion between prophecy and fulfillment is beyond all rational explanation. It does not necessarily mean that we are that much more prosperous than Mr. Abbott really anticipated, but he has left the figures to speak for themselves. A sizeable chunk of the surplus has gone to reduce the national debt, and superficially at least it is a very pleasing showing. The Government undoubtedly had a prosperous year. The same cannot be said, unfortunately, for some of the industries which have been unduly taxed in the process.

A great deal of the revenue necessarily goes towards stepped-up defence preparations at home and abroad, and on this score there should be no criticism. In many other departments, however, economies could surely be effected. This would be a more practical way of controlling inflation than by proclaiming its necessity from time to time, in ministerial statements which the taxpayers have come to accept rather cynically after scanning Government bluebooks.

Legislature Prorogues

The Legislature is scheduled to prorogue today after racing through the Budget debate in short order. A highly controversial dispute developed with regard to Prince of Wales College appointments towards the close of the debate, but for the most part the session was noteworthy for its lack of fireworks. A considerable number of important bills received the customary readings, and here again discussion was proceeded with expeditiously.

Many of the newer members spoke in both the formal debates, and their speeches were well received. The Ministers, for the most part, confined themselves to factual statements about their departments and showed a willingness to accept constructive criticism. Nor was such criticism lacking, both from the Opposition and from the Government's own supporters.

So far there has been little public reaction to the sessional indemnity increase which was put through with rather undue haste, and which will benefit the members to the extent of \$500 each. The Budget, however, provides for increases all along the line, including teachers' salaries, though the amounts in some cases have been disappointingly small.

The important subject financially was, of course, the next tax agreement which materially affects the budgeting for the coming year, and provides substantially more revenue. The Opposition commended the Government's presentation of our case at Ottawa, but pointed out quite properly that the result still leaves the Province far short of being able to achieve an overall balance of accounts.

Such questions as electoral reform and the railway bus proposals have still to be considered by committees appointed from the House, but the airing they have received at the present session should serve a good purpose.

As usual, the presence of out-of-town members was most agreeable to our citizens generally, and they were welcome participants in numerous social functions.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Wednesday before Easter.

The Federal Budget did not come up to expectations.

A representative of the C. N. R. is coming here next week to appear before the Bus Committee of the Legislature.

On a per-capita basis, Canada now spends much more than the United Kingdom on "welfare."

His Worship the Mayor hit the right nail on the head when he told the Rotarians that what Charlottetown suffered from was lack of real community spirit.

The warning by City Police Chief MacArthur to parents and children about the danger of using bows and arrows and air rifles is timely. Both pastimes may become a menace to life and limb.

No fewer than 52 officers and men of the R.A.F. are presently taking part in exercises over Iceland and Greenland, involving flights to within 400 miles of the North Pole.

The Federal Government will be represented here on 25th in the person of the Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence, who will attend a conference of Signal Officers, and address the Board of Trade.

There are now six Canadians in the U. K. House of Commons: Mr. E. S. T. Johnson, Commander C. E. Donaldson, Mr. Beverley Baxter, Mr. Ted Leather, Mr. William Aitken and Captain Sir Peter Macdonald. All are Conservatives.

Finance Minister Abbott is probably the only finance minister who has been able to make a greater impression by his figures on the general economy of the country than by the details of the levies which he is to impose.

Standardised traffic regulations and highway markings would be of great assistance to motorists and lessen the danger to users of the highways. The Maritime Provinces Boards of Trade deserve thanks and assistance in getting the various authorities to make them a reality.

That our legislators can be concise as well as effective was proven Monday when 14 speakers took part in the Budget Debate. The reason, the Legislators want to get home. It is a failing of law makers, the same thing happens at Ottawa when there is a rush of business, considered and unconsidered, just before the House rises.

A landscape architect for the Federal District Commission has pointed out that the stately towering maple is out of place amid bungalows, semi-bungalows and ranch-type houses. He advises the growing of smaller trees or shrubs. It is probably too much to hope that we could go back to the building of stately homes instead.

South Africa's first Thanksgiving Day, commemorating the arrival of the first white settlers 300 years ago, has proved the beginning of a series of protest demonstrations by the non-white population. It is easy to condemn Premier Malan's racial policies but it would be much more to the point to examine the results of our own treatment of the original inhabitants here.

When Mr. J. Angus MacLean urged the Government to devote more time and money to scientific research, he may have had in mind the fact that Britain's Minister of Supply is allotting more than \$300 million to research during the coming 12 months—a \$54-million increase over last year. Provision for plant and machinery has also been increased from \$157 to \$209 million.

Francis Bacon, Baron Verulam and Viscount St. Albans, lord chancellor and philosopher, died this date 1628 shortly after stuffing a fowl with snow to see if it would keep. Bacon possessed the outstanding intellect of his day, introduced the experimental method in science, proposed the reform of the legal system and wrote outstandingly in numerous fields. As a politician his record is of the blackest.

A revenue of \$5,000,000 from our tourist traffic is not to be sneezed at; and Provincial Secretary Arsenault did well to emphasize it in the debate on the Budget. The Tourist traffic is at present our third largest industry, and, properly catered to, may before long become at least our second largest. There is untold wealth in catering to the health and wealth of holiday makers and health seekers. With improved railway service by means of up-to-date bus transportation, the prospects are unlimited.

"One Man's Meat--"



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.

CANON HASLAM'S LETTER

Sir, — I note in this morning's Guardian a letter from Canon E.H. Haslam re the account of the Anglican Church in Kensington by L.E.T. It would certainly make an interesting series of articles if it were followed up as suggested by Canon Haslam by L.E.T.

Just so that there may be no misunderstanding in the documentary association, I would like to point out that the late William Critchlow Harris was the architect above referred to.

He designed in addition St. Paul's Church, Charlottetown, and the little Chapel at St. Peter's Cathedral and the Church of St. Thomas at Long Creek.

He designed a number of Roman Catholic churches in P.E.I., also St. James Kirk and the Central Christian Church in Charlottetown, as well as others.

I thought this might be of interest, and prevent any mistakes in chronology as confusion can easily be caused by slips, however slight, in otherwise very interesting and thoughtful articles.

I am, Sir, etc., JAS. E. HARRIS, Charlottetown.

EDUCATION & THE CARNEGIE REPORT

Sir,—To hear some of the honourable members in our Provincial House reminisce about schooling in the "good old days," one would think that they referred to an educational Utopia. But to be realistic we should ask these gentlemen to kindly remove their rose coloured spectacles for a moment to glance at an educational survey report made thirty years ago by the Carnegie Foundation. In 1922 the Carnegie Report was prepared on the Request of the Maritimes with a view to suggesting a constructive policy in education. This request in itself suggests that school conditions at that time were far from ideal.

The Report states that in the Maritimes the Board of Education is the cabinet of the Lieutenant Governor. Therefore the educational policy is a political product, which has an effect of a negative policy. The widespread apathy towards education chills one like an east wind.

Speaking of teachers, the report says that teacher training is absurdly brief and that 43 per cent of the teachers had the lowest grade of license (class D). The Report deplors, too, the rapid turnover in teachers. In the rural districts the turnover of teachers is 50 per cent annually.

Because of the lack of opportunity to better themselves, great numbers of teachers trained and licensed in the Maritimes, leave for greener pastures. Consequently we train at our own expense a large majority of our best brains and when they have reached the point of benefiting our community we do not hold out enough chance for advancement to keep them with us.

Speaking of general educational conditions in the Maritimes, the report says, that while the students that manage to issue from this system are exceptional yet there is plainly an enormous waste of good student material through examinations, the selection is merciless. Those who pass, proceed but there is little effort to guarantee that all who deserve it are made fit to pass. In P. E. I. conditions are often much worse than those of the other provinces. Here, although the people are above the average in intelligence, their provincialism and insularity have resulted in an educational stagnation that is evident.

Summing up the Carnegie Report recommends that the teacher training period be extended to two years beyond high school. A well trained, fairly permanent staff of elementary school teachers and a

The Poet's Corner

ONE MORNING WHEN THE RAIN-BIRDS CALL

The snows have joined the little streams and slid into the sea; The mountainsides are damp and black and steaming in the sun; But Spring who should be with us now is waiting timidly For Winter to unbar the gates and let the rivers run.

It matters not how green the grass is lifting through the mould, How strong the sap is climbing out of every naked bough. That in the towns the market stalls are bright with jonquil gold. And over marsh and meadowland the frogs are fluting now.

For still the waters groan and grind beneath the icy floor, And still the winds are hungry-cold that leave the valley's mouth.

Expectantly each day we wait to hear the sullen roar, And see the blind and broken herd retreating to the south.

One morning when the rain-birds call across the singing rills, And the maple buds like tiny flames shine red among the green.

The ice will burst asunder and go pounding through the hills— An endless grey procession with the yellow floods between.

Then the Spring will no more linger, but come with joyous shout, With music in the city squares and laughter down the lane; The thrush will pipe at twilight to draw the blossoms out, And the vanguard of the summer host will camp with us again.

—Lloyd Roberts.

better organization of secondary school facilities would do more for the people than any other thing, concluded the Report.

Let us next consider the progress made in education in P. E. I. since the Carnegie Report of 1922. The Provincial Board of Education has been replaced by an Advisory Council of Education non-political. Our present controversy on "teachers" shows that public apathy has given away to a lively interest in education. Improvements too have been made in increased teachers salaries and higher qualifications for teachers.

We are aware of the extension rural school improvement programme of late years. No doubt there are many other improvements that could be mentioned. One of our Provincial members said in a public speech last week that there has been more educational progress made in the past four years than in the previous thirty years.

Much of the credit for our progress is due to Dr. W. Shaw, Director of Education for P. E. I., who has personally conducted a crusade for educational enlightenment among the public during his term of office. Apparently Dr. Shaw's abilities have not gone unrecognized abroad. Two years ago he was signally honoured (and P. E. I. through him) when he was chosen as President of the Canadian Education Association, which is made up of the leading educationalists of Canada. The Canadian Education Association we remember recommend that our Canadian teachers need to be well trained and well paid. But now comes the suggestion in P. E. I. that we reduce teacher training, that we take away our teachers one year of professional training.

Some say political pressure threatens a reduction in teachers training and that some voters complain about the extra cost of sending their children in to college for the additional year in normal training. But surely the welfare of the large number of school children involved is the first consideration. As an earlier writer has said, as long as other professions make high demands in training of their members, then

The Age-Old Story

And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her; and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which ye must come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. The Lord then answered him and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed; and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.

surely the teaching profession should have a reasonable standard. As long as a doctor requires seven years professional training, a lawyer five years, a nurse three years, then surely our P. E. I. teachers should retain their one year of professional training.

In the best interests of our children and the future of our island, it is to be hoped that our Government leaders will have the vision and courage to give our teachers the best training possible. At it is now, our teacher training period is the briefest in Canada. Let us not reduce it to an absurdity.

I am, Sir, etc., HELEN MACDONALD, 45 Fitzroy Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

FARM FERTILIZING

Sir,—My letter today, as intimated in a previous contribution, will be devoted to further discussion of the farm fertilizing problem and that, because of the tremendous financial proportions of the investment involved, in comparison with even an over-indulging anticipation of the possible returns at the end of the year and without allowance being made for usual disappointments. There is no other person engaged in business of any kind, who is called upon to make more momentous decisions at any time than the farm operator, especially in the spring season. He should be as well informed as a specialist of many years experience, as shrewd as a Wall Street banker, as suspicious of advice given or inducements offered, as a margin trader reared at daybreak and possessed of sufficient self-confidence to make his own decisions, following careful review of the evidence before him.

If he is so equipped, it is a nine to one chance on the average, in his favour and usually he is not allowed to be so. He is often confused by every wind that blows advice over the air, through the press or from a public platform. It is most appropriate that farmers become somewhat more technical in their outlook and experimental in their habits and rely to a greater extent upon their own judgment and decisions.

The fertilizing of farm fields from which crops are to be grown, in its simplest interpretation means only the act of returning to the soil, chemical nutrients extracted by a previously grown crop or crops and unless this is done, nature cannot continue to produce in abundance. Centuries ago, European, Asiatic and other foreign countries, recognized this fact and the excrement of animals to which these chemical ingredients had found their way, through the process of feeding, consumption, digestion and excretion, was spread over the fields in their raw state, to

Notes By The Way

A pupil who cannot express himself at least adequately in his native tongue leaves school at a permanent disadvantage in life. If he has not learned to read understandingly, the greatest part of the world's knowledge is barred to him. And every citizen of a country as wealthy and advanced as Canada ought to be able to write a letter which says what he means in a brief and correct form. Perhaps some of our anxieties about English studies in our schools would yield to the simple device of giving more time and more teachers to that subject.—Peterborough Examiner.

A short dispatch announces that the National Assembly has re-established the daily wine of the French army. It's the "quart de pinard" back again... on the carpet! Each country has its customs, reflected in the army. The British navy has a lot of rum. The American navy is dry, they say. And in the Canadian army? In Korea where life is tough there are rations of beer and spirits. Apparently the officers' judgment counts for much in the distribution of alcoholic drinks. That is wise provided the officers know how to keep themselves near enough to their men to exercise their judgment effectively.—(Le Droit, Ottawa.)

Many writers suppose that honeymoon originally referred to the moon or month after marriage when the ancient Teutons celebrated by drinking a liquor made of honey. In Etymological Compendium (1828) William Puleyn wrote: "It was the custom of the higher order of the Teutons, an ancient people who inhabited the northern parts of Germany, to drink mead, or methuggin, a beverage made with honey, for thirty days after every wedding. From this custom, comes the expression, to spend the honeymoon."—(Fort William Times-Journal.)

An automobile with a plastic body, dent-proof, rust-proof and stronger than steel, was displayed in Philadelphia last week. The body is moulded in one piece of polyester and is sandwiched with glass fiber and it has been given some pretty stiff tests. A bump which would give an ordinary car a crumpled fender leaves the plastic car unscratched. The 1-inch thick plastic simply springs back into its proper contours. The car is not indestructible though. In one test it was driven against a tree trunk at 25 miles an hour and the result was a 1-inch crack (in the car). But with little glass fiber and plastic the repairman had it patched up as good as new in one hour. It may be a bit early yet for motorists to be placing orders for plastic cars but possibilities are pleasant to contemplate.—(Winnipeg Free Press.)

On occasions, this practice might prove profitable, depending of course, upon the degree of timely precipitation of atmospheric moisture, but when nature withheld its quenching supplies, excepting in meagre quantity, this method of replenishing the earth with plant food, proved of little value. To meet such recurring unfavourable situations, these ancient pioneers resorted to liquefying these "solids" in order to recover their potential chemical value and make them available as plant nutriment under any prevailing weather conditions.

Nature has changed but little in its pilgrimage of time through the centuries and the relationship with man throughout the intervening generations, has always been consistent. Man has always been disposed to appropriate from nature's bounty, without ever being over-greedy in reaping what he sows. Only to be eventually faced with that inexorable law that exacts "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." And so the man on the farm too has discovered that he cannot continue indefinitely to extract from the soil, the chemical nutrients annually consumed in plant growth without returning measure for measure.

Just how to perform this very essential function so it may be economically profitable, is the major problem facing modern agriculture and it is only through research and experimentation that solution can be found. Farmers of the present must be prepared to acknowledge errors of the past ready to break with tradition, and venture, though cautiously, towards the adoption of modern developing methods and practices, if they are ever to be free from the crushing financial burden now associated with the fertilizing of their farms.

As a result of former extended and exhaustive study of this subject, based upon scientific research by world renowned chemical experts and unbiased experimentation by farmers of national repute, I have come to the conclusion that the best way to bring about by re-sowing seed treated with a liquid spray which is almost exclusively in use. Foliage and other over-ground portions of a growing crop, when sprayed, absorb the liquid spray rapidly and it is quickly sped to all portions of the plant for feeding.

Any surplus not immediately required finds its way to the roots—the plant storage bin from which it is later drawn as required. The farm operator is at all times in complete control of the quantity used, as only the amount necessary, as indicated by the appearance of the crop and its progress in growth, need be applied. Scientific research

We were sleeping peacefully when there was a noise some where that wakened us. Bill had come in and gone to bed, so we called to ask what he was doing. He said it must be the cat. We let it go at that, and slept again. It probably wasn't long afterwards till we wakened again. The cat had come up and jumped on the bed. He was licking our face with his rough, little tongue. Then he pulled at the shoulder of our pyjamas with his front paws. We were sure he was trying to get us out of bed. Awake at last, we could smell something extra hot. We pulled on our slippers and followed the excited kitten down the stairs. The stove was red-hot, a bright cherry color. Two tea towels hanging on a rack beside the stove were scorched brown. No other damage was done.—(Fergus News-Record.)

and experiment, where carried out in an intelligent manner, is practically unanimous in its conviction that liquid fertilizing and foliar feeding is about to revolutionize the method of use and manner of application of chemical nutrients to farm crops. I am, Sir, etc., J. A. GILLIES, Charlottetown.

SEEKING INFORMATION

Sir.—Several years ago I was interested in learning more about my great-grandfather, Hon. John Hamilton Gray, and wrote to the Legislative Library at Charlottetown and received a copy of a clipping from your paper of the date June 29, 1927. This was sent to me by Miss Jean C. Gill, Librarian. Miss Gill suggested that I write Mrs. Wilfred Wright of Souris.

I wrote Mrs. Wright, but she seemed to dispute my claim to being a descendant of the gentleman whose correspondence ended. Since Hon. John Gray was married three times, my grandmother was his daughter, by his first marriage. She married a man named Buchanan, and after his death, married a man named McLean. My mother was Sarah McLean. My uncle, Dan Buchanan, returned to Charlottetown many years ago to spend his last days. He had, for many years been a rancher at KallsPELL, Montana, U.S.A. My mother's sister, Annie McLean, married John Williams in Charlottetown and had nine children, most of them now living on the west coast of the United States.

John Cutliff still lives in Charlottetown. John, Will and Frank Cutliff lived at the home of my parents in the 1800's in Duluth, Minn. We children called them "uncle" although they were not related to us.

Another sister of my mother was Christine McCalder, whose three children, Katie, Annie and William, were all born in Charlottetown, as was another sister, Annie Bell, and her daughter Mabel.

I would like to come back to Charlottetown for Dominion Day this year and would like to have more information on my great-grandfather before that time. It will be sixty-three years since I was there. I spent my first birthday there.

I am, Sir, etc., FLORENCE GRAY SQUIER, 88 Spruce Place, Minneapolis 4, Minn. U.S.A.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION

Yesterday, being the day set apart for holding the Grand Temperance Demonstration, at an early hour in the morning a salute of seven guns was fired, the tower was decorated with numerous flags, and some of the shipping in the harbour displayed their colours. Divine service was held in St. Paul's Church, at the hour of 11 o'clock, and a Temperance sermon preached by the Rev. D. Fitzgerald. At the hour of 2 o'clock the Sons of Temperance, an excellent address was given at the entrance of which was built a grove of evergreens—from thence they proceeded in procession around the town, preceded by another carriage containing the chief office-bearers of the different divisions, to Government House grounds.

"The procession that moved on for some distance to a field, in the midst of a delightful shaded grove, where awnings, marquee, long tables, stoves, and an immense large boiler, for the purpose of boiling water, had been erected. From what we learn, we should suppose that upwards of one thousand persons partook of tea and cake. Immediately after tea an excellent address was delivered by Mr. F. W. Kellogg, the celebrated Temperance lecturer.

"We were much pleased to observe His Excellency and Lady Campbell join in the festivities of the evening. Members of the Sons of Temperance from the divisions in distant parts of the Island, arriving at Charlottetown, were also present. About half past seven the party returned to town, in order of procession—the Sons to the Town Hall, and the others to their respective homes. In the evening the Town Hall and several private residences were illuminated in honour of the occasion."

—The Islander, June 29, 1844