

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, DEC. 12, 1952

Trade With Cuba

Mf. J. H. Blackmore of Lethbridge is the second member of Parliament to make a lengthy statement, during the present session, on behalf of the Canadian beet sugar industry. The other was Mr. J. W. Murphy of Lambton West. Their concern for the industry, which is important in the areas they represent, says the Ottawa Citizen, is understandable. Their fears that competition from Cuban cane sugar in the Canadian market may cause serious setbacks to a domestic industry appear well founded. It is possible, however, to feel some sympathy with the spokesmen for a threatened industry without accepting the offered remedy. The remedy, in a word, is protection. Both Mr. Blackmore and Mr. Murphy admit frankly that the beet sugar business cannot get along without it, and the latter member, in calling for a quota arrangement on Cuban sugar, has stated that the imported product is priced "much lower than what our producers can produce this crop for." Figures presented to the Commons show a price drop (at Montreal) from \$10.20 per 100 pounds last January to about \$8.60 at the present time.

There are now seven beet sugar factories in Canada, each drawing its supplies from a contracted acreage around it. Three of these plants are in Southern Alberta, one in Manitoba, two in Southwestern Ontario, and one in Quebec. It is estimated that they either do or can produce an estimated 25 per cent of Canada's present sugar requirements.

"The current difficulties of the domestic beet sugar industry," says the Citizen, "stem from the 1951 three-year trade agreement with Cuba, under which Canada undertakes to accept 75,000 tons of Cuban raw sugar annually. Concessions obtained by Canada affect, in particular, wheat flour, salt codfish, and seed potatoes. The result has been to stimulate quite materially total trade between Canada and Cuba. Two of these products are of particular interest to the Maritimes, which some members seem to have forgotten are still part of Canada. And Mr. Blackmore's own province of Alberta stands to gain from the increased exports to Cuba of flour and wheat."

These are important considerations, and it is to be hoped will be taken into account in our trade relations with Cuba. Our Maritime members at Ottawa would do well to emphasize the importance of maintaining our seed potato market in that area, and the losses which would result if retaliatory tariffs were put into effect. This has happened before, and our potato trade suffered seriously. We cannot afford to jeopardize it again.

Provincial Financing

Both the total net general revenue and the total net general expenditure of Canada's ten Provincial Governments increased substantially in the fiscal years ended March 31, 1952, over the previous year, with net revenue showing a somewhat greater percentage advance than net general expenditure, according to a preliminary analysis of revenue and expenditures of these governments compiled and released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

The analysis is based, so far as possible, on actual results for ten months and a forecast for the remaining two months and is intended to be only a preliminary forecast of what the final tabulations will reveal when the provincial public accounts are all available.

Net general revenue of the ten provinces totalled \$1,047,983,000 in the year ended March 31, 1952, an increase of 13.5 per cent over the preliminary total of \$923,571,000 for the previous twelve months; and net general expenditure aggregated \$1,082,747,000, up 12.5 per cent from the preliminary total of \$962,406,000 for the previous year.

The yield of all taxes in the 1952 year totalled \$554,864,000, a rise of \$88,700,000 or about 19 per cent from \$466,164,000, accounting for the major part of the gain in total revenue. Among the major items in tax revenue, the yield from taxes on sales of motor fuel and fuel oil rose to \$180,863,000 from \$154,116,000; from corporation income taxes to \$159,771,000 compared with \$122,899,000, and from general sales taxes to \$90,226,000 from \$72,415,000. Profits from liquor sales continued to rise, amounting to \$111,863,000 as against \$107,556,000. Revenue from privileges, licences and per-

mits also increased to \$219,485,000 from \$199,937,000.

Most of the major items on the expenditure side rose over the previous year. Outlays on transportation and communications, mainly for highways, moved up to \$297,888,000 from \$256,437,000. The cost of hospital care totalled \$152,925,000 compared to \$132,935,000 and that of education advanced to \$190,967,000 from \$178,393,000. Expenditure on natural resources and primary industries amounted to \$87,727,000 as against \$76,350,000, most of the total increases in Ontario and British Columbia.

On the other hand, the cost of aid to the aged and blind declined to \$40,747,000 from \$45,046,000 as the result of the Government of Canada taking over full responsibility on January 1, for pensions to persons aged 70 years and over and assuming an equal share in assistance to needy persons 65 to 69 years old. This change, it should be noted, affected provincial expenditures only in the last quarter of the fiscal year under review.

Corporation Tax Rate

Recent reference was made by Finance Minister Abbott to the danger to the national economy of the present rate of corporation taxes. There is, remarks the Globe and Mail, no mystery about this; when we "soak the corporations," we soak ourselves. Tomorrow's jobs, tomorrow's security, tomorrow's taxes can only come from the expansion and modernization of our productive plant; our factories, mines, mills, farms and the rest. But it takes money to modernize and expand. Where is that money to come from? There is only one proper place to get it, and that is from corporation profits, retained or distributed. But more than half those profits are being drained off by income tax. This year, the corporations will pay the Federal Government at least \$1.4 billion—the hypothetical equivalent of 100,000 new jobs, new taxpayers, and new customers. As Mr. Abbott admits, it is too much; it cannot go on. The Government's whole tax structure (including corporation tax) is predicated on a high level of economic activity—a level which cannot be long maintained when income tax is taking 52% of corporation profits in nine provinces, and 54% in the tenth.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Summerside and Miscouche are home for the two most recent returning Islanders who have served their turn in Korea and been "rotated."

There is a certain amount of criticism of the Government for its expenditures under the price support programme for pork. Had no support been given there would be very little pork produced in Canada today and the consumer price index would be something to really worry about.

Things are ever so much worse in Britain than has been suspected. A correspondent of the Scottish Sunday Express writes that he has seen on the screen V. I. P.'s in uniform making a left-about turn, halting on the wrong foot and, horrors, a Guards officer stepping off with his right foot.

This year's potato crop amounts to some 10,000 carloads, a production record for this Province, according to Mr. S. G. Peppin, technical advisor to the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board. Mr. Peppin says that many farmers obtained 400 to 500 bushels to the acre, which at present prices is not hay.

Without Britain's imperative need for production, the United States is swinging drastically from the production of light and medium tanks to civilian automobiles. The time limit for tank orders has been extended and at the same time the limit on the number of cars and trucks which may be turned out has been lifted.

Robert Browning, English poet, died this date 1889. He wrote voluminously from an early age. For many years he remained in obscurity, then attained astonishing popularity in his later years, followed again by comparative neglect. His views on poetry accurately reflect his stand on spiritual truth and his ethical view that life must be faced boldly and not evaded. His marriage to the poet Elizabeth Barrett proved idyllic.

Equalization of economic opportunity is what the Maritimes want, reported Mr. E. D. Reid to the Charlottetown Board of Trade. It is also just about the most difficult thing to get. So long as the industries of central Canada are protected at the expense of the primary producer and transportation costs weighted against the Maritimer the best we can hope for is minor favours and concessions by way of compensation.

The Carollers



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.

THE VACANT CHAIR

Sir—May we not say that the chief work of the civilized world today is to achieve peace? It is the world's desire. Daily, millions of prayers ascend to heaven for peace. We may wonder why peace does not come. There must be a reason whose secret is hid in the relation between the human and the divine.

At the close of the First Great War a cartoonist pictured the Peace Conference at Versailles. There was a vacant chair. It was meant for Jesus, "The Secretary of Human Relationships," but He whose right it was to fill it was never invited, and until that chair is filled, until Jesus is admitted to the councils of the nations, human relationships will never be set right, and war is likely to follow war.

Jesus will not come into the councils of the nations unless He is invited to become chairman. He claims "the right of precedence." This does not mean that the individual or the group must be perfect, but it does mean that the life-motive must be Godward.

Jesus has not been invited into the councils of the nations. It is evident that after the First Great War there was no manifest repentance for all that war did to the nations. We put the blame on Germany. Instead of repentance there was a great upsurge of nationalism which is a form of mass selfishness in the name of loyalty; and the League of Nations which promised so very much degenerated into a debating society and resounded with the wrangling of the nations.

Since the Second World War that surpassed all past wars in deviltry we have refused to accept any share of responsibility, and nationalism has had another boost. "One world" was the very soul of the United Nations covenant when it was organized. Today the world is far from being one. It is nearer the ideal than it was seven years ago, but the United Nations, though it has been the means of much good, has had a very disappointing career. Why? Because Jesus has not been given His seat. Mass selfishness, and the worship of the god of this world, are as universal as ever, some of the symptoms of which are the increase in crimes, committed for money, and desecration of the Sabbath.

Is the religion of Jesus failing? The church in some respects is failing; but the religion of Jesus is not. The world is getting better. God is here for His salvation and He is succeeding. I see reforms coming today that could not have come a few years ago. I see a national co-operation that was not possible in 1918. A new sensitivity toward cruelty and injustice is manifest. Yes, in spite of all the disappointing conditions the world is getting better.

I am, Sir, etc. W. I. GREEN. Stanley Bridge.

The Age-Old Story

God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power be longeth unto God.

COLCHESTER, England — (CP)

A wall 15 feet thick, uncovered by a fire here, has been identified as part of the forum which surrounded the fourth-century Roman temple of Claudius. Other remains of Roman edifices are thought to have been displaced by Norman settlers in later centuries.

OLDEST PREMIER

W. E. Gladstone was 82 years old when he formed his fourth government in Britain in 1892.

Notes By The Way

A Winnipeg magistrate removed the name of a prominent Winnipeg lawyer from a list of foundlings following a "police raid. His peccadillo has been discovered. Better a lawyer be found in than a magistrate be found out.—Peterborough Examiner.

A physician in London, England, has directed an attack against the use of long woollen underwear by the people of Great Britain in the Winter. He said underwear made of cotton dishcloth was healthier, cheaper and less itchy. Tell that to a Canadian bushworker as he swings his axe, and without missing a stroke he will be apt to comment, "Is that so?"—Fort William Times-Journal.

It may seem surprising for landlubbers to find that there is a widespread campaign to eliminate excessive smoke from shipping on the Great Lakes. What happens to the smoke may not be of much concern when the vessels are out in the lake. But several ports have smoke nuisance bylaws. As a result there is an industry-wide campaign to eliminate this nuisance on vessel, and it is making substantial progress.—Owen Sound Sun-Times.

No doubt the experience in other municipalities colored the thinking of the citizens who voted against Sunday commercial sports in last Monday's plebiscites. They realized that it was the wedge in the door, and that sooner or later it would swing wide open to permit all sorts of commercial and entertainment activities on Sunday. Commercialized sport is in the strict sense of the term an entertainment; and if one type of entertainment is permitted it is hard to see how the authorities can long forbid permission to others.—Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

Britain's obligations today are the heaviest she has ever undertaken in peace-time. Ten divisions are now abroad carrying out our commitments to NATO in Europe, to the United Nations in Korea, to the Commonwealth and Empire in the Middle East, Malaya and Hong Kong. These duties are so pressing that since last year there has been no trained division home defence or to act as a strategic reserve, and - of the units overseas only those in Malaya and Korea are at full strength.—The Observer (London)

Dean Cecil Swanson, saying grace at a Canadian Club luncheon the other day, put it this way: "For what we are about to receive, thank God, and the boys in Korea. Amn." A visitor from Toronto said it was an inspiring grace, and should be said three times a day in every home in Canada. Too often we forget there are Canadian soldiers and sailors taking part in Korea battles. They're engaged in unpleasant duties, far from home, frequently risking their lives, being wounded, sometimes dying. They are in Korea, as Dean Swanson says, so that we at home, with God's help, may secure and eat our three meals a day in peace.—Vancouver News-Herald.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

CLASSICAL STUDIES

From a report submitted to the Board of Education, Dec. 27, 1931, by Messrs. A. Lane, J. Lawson, George Dalrymple and J. Spenser Smith, trustees of the Charlottetown Grammar School: "The committee have the satisfaction to report that very considerable improvement has taken place since their last communication to the Board. The number of scholars is 52, of whom 49 were present at the public examination. It is extremely gratifying to observe an addition of three to the Greek class, and that three, also were added to the higher Latin classes. The young gentlemen who were reading at the period of the last report, Cornelius Nepos, are now far advanced in Caesar's Commentaries, and would have been reading Ovid's Metamorphoses had it not been for the difficulty of procuring proper books. This induces the trustees to remark, that the provision of books of the same kind for the same classes, and at a fair and moderate rate, would contribute much to the advancement of the school, and, if fifty pounds were placed in the hands of the master, a sufficient number might be imported, and sold at nearly cost and charges to the scholars. "The trustees remarked with equal pleasure the evident progress made by the younger children in reading the English language, a branch of education of the greatest importance as it extends to all classes, and equally necessary, whatever be the destination of the pupil. The progress in writing was commended highly by all who were present at the examination. It must be very pleasant to all parties to hear, that Mr. Brown reports in the most favorable terms of the morals and general good conduct of the youth entrusted to his charge."

BLUEPRINT For COMMUNITY PROGRESS

By L. P. McIsaac

"A laudable work and an invaluable contribution to the cause of Maritime Progress."

—Dr. M. M. Coady.

On sale during Christmas season for only \$2.75 at local Co-op Stores. In Charlottetown, write or call The Island Co-op Services Office.

Twenty-four thousand gallons

of Hereford cider, valued at more than \$4,000, have been bought for \$10 by Mr. W. Symonds, a cider market-publisher of Stoke Newington, Herefordshire. He was the only bidder for the cider at a closing-down sale of Messrs. Boultons, of Hereford, one of the oldest cider-making firms in the country. He also bought 95 100-gallon casks of cider for £30 the usual price would be £2,000.—London Times.

We don't get enough verse. And what we do get is so full of great thoughts or great loves that our immortal fingers scarcely dare to put it in so every day a thing as a newspaper. Next time someone wants to poll something or other will they find out why it is so few Canadian poets seem to see the funny side of things? But we don't lose all hope. For Maclean's Magazine recently ran this one, by May Richardson, who we trust is a Canadian:

UNINVITING. That party of yours, I view it With unalloyed dismay—I must drag my husband to it And later drag him away.—Ottawa Journal.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

THEOLOGY AND ECONOMICS

Passing reference was made in a previous article to the fact that many philosophers and theologians from Plato on concerned themselves with economic questions. Sometimes their interest was purely academic but often it took practical form.

It is interesting to note that Plato himself during the course of his profound thinking on the state of man came to believe that some form of collectivism was the best economic and social order. It was scarcely Communism as we think of that system today and certainly it had none of its modern political ideas, to say nothing of its tyranny. Like some of the pioneers of the early Christian era, Plato felt that if men could be persuaded to live together in an economic as well as a social unit they would have a far better chance to achieve individual contentment. He admitted the power of self interest and his hope was that somehow this elemental urge might be merged into the common good.

In this respect it might be said that Plato anticipated an ideal form of democracy towards which what we now call the Free World is constantly striving. For democracy in its purest form assumes a blending of individual and community interests. Aristotle who in some respects assumed the mantle of his teacher, Plato, differed from him in certain important particulars. To him self interest was not simply a tool of a good collectivist society. It was, in fact, the only influence which had strength enough to spur men on to creative and productive work. The end result, however, would be the same—a model community.

Neither of these ancient philosophers had much respect for what we would call today the dignity of the individual, and the idea of inherent equality had no place at all in the philosophy. The idea was a much later development and even now it is a long way from universal acceptance.

In the so-called "Middle Ages" of the Christian era many of the Church's scholars combined philosophy and theology with economics. In this respect Thomas Aquinas was outstanding. Indeed, it may be said that this distinguished monk and scholar laid the groundwork for successive generations of religious concern for the economic affairs of men.

Whereas the Greek philosophers for the most part looked upon work, especially common labour, as a necessary evil or at best only a slow moving vehicle in the struggle of the race for survival, Aquinas clothed it in regal dignity. Work was not simply an igniting duty but a real spiritual vocation. While Aristotle had looked upon any sort of mercantile business as utterly degrading, Aquinas went so far as to say that even merchant could be saved. And in the most menial kind of labour he saw dignity and consecration. There was nothing that a man could legitimately do to earn a living that was not capable of the highest moral significance. In the issue of private versus communal ownership of property Aquinas argued eloquently and persuasively for individual rights. At the same time he did not overlook the classical Christian tradition that individual rights are to be used in solemn trust for the common good. Aquinas was not the first great

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