

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Resident 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, TUESDAY, FEB. 3, 1953

Handicapped Children

The first step towards dealing with a problem is to recognize its existence and that is particularly true with children suffering from some form of paralysis. All too often the parents, even, think that their child's handicaps are unique and that nothing can be done to overcome defects of speech, thought or muscular co-ordination.

A short time ago the Cerebral Palsy Parents' Association was formed to draw public attention to the situation and to make parents realize that the handicaps of these children are not unique, nor are they hopeless. The Department of Health and Welfare employs a speech therapist whose work helps individual cases and gives parents an idea of what they can do themselves.

The immediate aim, however, is to interest parents in the possibility of constructive action so that they will better understand their own problems. Only when the families of the handicapped children realize that something can be done will there be a real stimulus for public action.

Record Car Insurance Claims

Insured cars in the Maritimes ran up a record-breaking total of automobile accidents, property damage, injuries, deaths, and of course insurance claims last year. Figures compiled by the All Canada Insurance Federation indicate that in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island one out of every eight insured cars was involved in an accident resulting in a claim.

Except for the relatively light claims by the preferred group this shows a serious situation, although far from as bad as in the Province of Quebec where claims occur about twice as frequently. The increasing number of accidents and the growing cost of repairs and compensation are inevitably reflected in the cost of insurance coverage.

The Highway Problem

Noticeable as has been the progress in road building in Canada in recent years, it will need to be accelerated considerably if greater traffic congestion is to be averted in the next quarter century. This is the view expressed by Mr. C. W. Gilchrist, managing director of the Canadian Good Roads Association, who points out that at the rate of increase for the past twenty-five years we may expect a population of 20.8 million by 1978, compared with 14.8 million today.

Roads have always been a burden on the public purse. Responsibility has been divided among governments at three levels, federal, provincial and local, with the provincial bearing by far the greatest burden. In 1952 the provinces spent in the vicinity of \$350 millions, the biggest amount in history. The federal government's contribution is the relatively small mileage of national park roads it maintains, the heavy outlay it makes on the Northwest Highway System which the Army maintains, and its financial participation in the Trans-Canada Highway.

The provinces, hag-ridden by deficiencies of the past, have only certain specific sources of revenue with which to finance their expenditures: the tax on gasoline, registration fees for automotive vehicles, and

various types of operating licenses and fines for infractions of highway regulations. In 1951 provincial revenues from all these sources totalled \$252 millions. Expenditures on highways in the same year are estimated at \$300 millions.

No Canadian figures are available, but in the United States it is estimated that 90 to 95 cents of every dollar spent by the automobile owner goes to expenses involving the vehicle itself. From 5 to 10 cents are spent for the roads and streets on which it travels. The generally poorer roads in this country probably weights the balance here toward the automobile. It is a moot question whether this ratio represents the optimum economic balance between the two charges.

The alternative source is the federal government. Ottawa collects vast sums in excise and sales taxes on automotive vehicles and parts; it contributes only to park roads and military roads, and therefore should distribute some of this substantial revenue for general roads. The limiting factor in this respect is not the financial assistance the federal government is willing to extend but the conditions which the provinces are willing to accept regulating the financial assistance. The whole force of history in federal-provincial relations, however, supports the premise that the Trans-Canada Highway will be a joint responsibility in perpetuity and some form of continuing co-operation will probably emerge as an extension of the agreement.

An important factor underlying the need of highway expansion is noted by Mr. Gilchrist. It seems quite certain that urban population has reached its optimum concentration in many places and that Canadian communities will henceforth develop as smaller integrated units, interconnected with other similar units in the industrial areas. Properly planned, this development offers great opportunities in terms of human values. The question thus becomes not whether we can afford modern highways in every section of Canada, but whether we can afford not to have them.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Georgetown is rich in history but the people of the King's County capital are far from satisfied to bask in past glories. The emphasis today is on the town's potential for shipping, commerce and industry.

British Honduras has taken another step towards full self government with universal adult suffrage. The Central American possession still has a majority of its assembly and council appointed by the Governor but in ordinary course the balance can be expected to shift in favour of elected members.

Usually acts of vandalism are blamed on children who presumably have never been taught any better. The time, between 2 and 3 a.m., of the damage to cars in Charlottetown, indicates that some Charlottetown citizens have managed to grow older without growing up.

Concern and sympathy will be felt all over the world because of the violent storms which struck western Europe with winds of hurricane force and caused great loss of life and damage to property. The Netherlands, in particular, which had reclaimed much land sacrificed to the sea in the Second World War, has again found itself largely inundated.

Hugh Montague Trenchard, first Viscount, British soldier, airman and administrator, was born this date 1873. He served in the army in the South African War and entered the First World War as commandant of the military wing of the Royal Flying Corps. He became chief of air staff in 1915 and in 1918 commanded the independent Air Force in France. In peace he again became chief of air staff. From 1931 to 1935 he was commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Force, in which post he was instrumental in founding the Hendon police college and instituting other reforms.

The Post Office Department is joining effectively in the game conservation campaign by issuing a series of postage stamps which will emphasize the importance of securing and restoring the wildlife resources of Canada, not only for their considerable economic value but also because they are a constant source of pleasure to thousands in every walk of life. The new issue, scheduled for the 1st of April to coincide as nearly as possible with National Wildlife Week, will take the form of three commemorative designs. A 2 cent postage stamp will display a polar bear, a 3 cent stamp a moose, and a 5 cent stamp a big-horn sheep. Stamps designed to display other wild animals of Canada will be issued in subsequent years.

There Can Be A Counter-Attraction



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.

FREEER INTOXICANTS

Sir—Drew Pearson reports that members of Republican party leaders had chipped in to establish a club with a cocktail bar for thirty members of Congress, right across the street from the House of Representatives office-building in Washington. This was the former Methodist Board of Temperance building. Contrast the influence which such a rendezvous will have!

If ever I have been disheartened, he said, it was when I learned that within a stone's throw of the capital there is going to be opened up, by the new leaders of government, a liquor lounge, where they may go for cocktails and then go into separate rooms for conferences. To have the leadership of this country work out their plans in a liquor lounge is going to be a terrible thing for the country.

The club opened on Jan. 12. P. E. Islanders may well join the wail of woe, when they sight the evidence in Charlottetown of great and still greater sale of intoxicants. More blood and tears.

I am, Sir, etc. M. M. BROWN

FARMER'S PROBLEM

Sir—I think your newspaper's editorial survey of "The Farmers' Problem" (Jan. 23) a constructive and characterful contribution to one of the top problems of the day. It seems to me to take an added meaning from the fact that the conditions outlined, in large measure apply to most countries on either side of the notorious Iron Curtain.

So far as I can make out from my reading on this agricultural theme, while technological progress "down on the farm" has been steadily working productive miracles in this basic industry, especially in the major industrial countries, this fact—involving the trend to mechanical farming and rural electrification and the epochal achievements of the agricultural research laboratories—has merely cushioned what you neatly term "the growing disparity between prices paid to the remaining farm population and the prices they must pay industrial firms and their workers for the materials used in production, and especially in competition for farm workers."

The fact, as brought forward by one of the nation's bank presidents in your advertising columns, that the "farmers have undergone in a year a price decrease of about 35 per cent"; and that, according to the official figures, total payrolls have moved forward by just 20 per cent in the past 24 months, speaks volumes. It certainly accents your conclusion that "No farmer can compete with those manufacturing wages which are chiefly responsible for the drift from the farm to the cities."

I do not believe that the situation should be permitted to drift. Off the farm Canadians generally, but especially the massed workers in the ranks of urban organized labor, will be well-advised to look around them in the dizzy race for more dollars unrelated to more production. It's up to them to keep the primary producers in fair alignment; because, if they fail to do so—either deliberately or merely through apathy and forgetfulness—there are lean and dangerous experiences coming to them.

I am, Sir, etc. "GOLDEN RULE" Toronto, Ont.

FAMOUS CATHEDRAL The spiral of Salisbury Cathedral, in England, built in the 13th century, is 404 feet high.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

PALTRY GRANTS

From a report submitted by Peter MacGowan, Esq., secretary-treasurer, at the annual general meeting of the Central Agricultural Society, Jan. 13, 1941:

"Your committee would wish to continue the practise of holding Fairs, but they regret to state that unless the Society meets with greater public encouragement than it has done for the last few years, these useful institutions must necessarily be discontinued. When it is considered that the expense of carrying on foreign correspondence, that of Fairs, Cattle and Grain Shows, as well as that of Ploughing Matches, is borne exclusively by the Central Society, which is virtually the mainstay of all the Societies in the Island, it does certainly appear most extraordinary that the Legislature, in their wisdom, last Session should have granted no more than \$150, to be divided among the different Agricultural Societies throughout the Island, of which the very trifling portion of \$16 13s. 4d. was allotted to this Society."

"If our Legislature would take a lesson from the history of our sister Province of Nova Scotia, they will find that the agriculture of that Province was in a flourishing condition, and made rapid progress for many years, as long as it enjoyed the fostering care and attention of an enlightened and paternal Legislature; but ever since the Legislature withdrew its patronage from the agricultural associations, now more than fifteen years ago, the agriculture of that Province has been on the decline, and many and loud have been the complaints from all quarters of the supineness of the Legislative body on this all-important subject."

"It is worthy of remark, that when the Central Agricultural Board at Halifax declined, all the country Societies went down immediately after. In the Session of 1840, the Assembly of Nova Scotia were pleased to pass an unmerited compliment upon this Society, by recommending the last annual report of your committee to the particular attention of the members of that House. That body, however, appear to be at length awakening from their slumbers, and it was only owing to the late Period of the Session that a vote of £2000 for agricultural purposes was not carried."

"It is true that this Society has received at different times very considerable grants of money since its commencement, amounting in the whole to the sum of \$1000— but when reference is made to the annual general statement of their affairs, it will be apparent to every unprejudiced mind, that the

The Poet's Corner

SONNET

Westward I chanced to look, ere yet the night  
Fell on a day of clouds, to note what sign  
If any, on the horizon might out-shine  
Of a fair mornow, and there met my sight  
Astounded a long line of silver light  
Off in whose soundless aery depths divine  
Peeped the faint stars, and drew these eyes of mine  
Far hence, as native to some orb more bright.

So sometimes come by the tired spirit of man  
Glimpses of rest and home, and for a space  
He feels the breath of heaven upon his face,  
Glad earnest of the glory yet to be.  
When Light and Love shall compass earth's round space  
Even as the waters fill the hollow sea.

—Thos. L. Lepage

The Age-Old Story

And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers, and the seats of them that sold doves, and said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

funds thus liberally placed under their control have not been judiciously applied, especially when it is considered what a large capital is necessarily employed in keeping on hand a stock of seeds and agricultural implements to meet the constantly increasing demands of the farmer. A loss of \$100 was sustained on the importation of the Clydesdale horse and Ayrshire cattle; in addition to which great losses are annually taking place on the different seeds and other articles imported by the Society, it being their practice to dispose of the best and rarest descriptions of seeds in most instances below cost and charges. Additional loss is frequently sustained on the importation of agricultural implements for patterns, which seldom, if ever, realize the amount of cost."

RELATIVE SIZE

Canada's total area of 3,845,000 miles is 848,000 square miles larger than continental United States.

FREEDOM FROM FEAR

Removal of fear is the privilege and the duty of insurance. It was the fearful consequences of the Great Fire of London in 1666 that gave birth to insurance. It is fear of financial loss by fire, accident, and other unpredictable and costly events, that is the main spring of the insurance business, initiated and nurtured by private enterprise, and which for more than 250 years has conferred untold benefits on the human race.

All lines of Insurance effected.

HYNDMAN & CO. LTD.

Established 1873 Representing British, Canadian, and American Underwriters, also Lloyd's Corporation of London, England.

Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN - SUMMERSIDE - MONTAGUE

Agents throughout the Province.

The Passing Scene

By Observer

FEBRUARY

Each month of the year has its own peculiar history and interest. People who base their judgement on other things besides weather conditions will say, for instance, that December is the happiest month since it contains Christmas Day. Of all the months I would say that February is in a sense the most intriguing. The name itself has pleasant and clean connotations, being derived from an old Latin word meaning "to purify".

Perhaps a little less dignified, historically, than either of its immediate neighbours, January and March, both of whom have historical association with pagan deities, but at least it is not saddled with either the two-faced characteristics of the one or the warlike propensities of the other. In an etymological sense, at any rate, there is nothing about February that is not absolutely clean and honourable.

In our part of the world February is usually clean and white in a physical sense, too. The snow sees to that. This year, should the current weather trend continue, there will be a different story to tell. Even so, February must not be expected to take all the blame. The hesitating way of the snow this winter did not just happen. If the truth were known, it may be that the weather of a year ago and even of last summer had a good deal to do with it, just as the kind of weather we are having now will have some effect on conditions next June and July. For all we know there may be many playful conspiracies hidden in the "bosom of the year".

To those who are confident that the present winter is going to pursue its gentle and kindly manner to the end it may be helpful to point out that February can be most unpredictable in its habits. There is no telling what it will do next. Before its brief tenure has been folded up we may yet witness the snows falling fast and boisterously, or it may decide to pass the responsibility on to its successor, just for the fun of it. We should not be too complacent, weather-wise, until the Ides of March have come and gone.

In referring to February's "brief tenure" I am reminded that this, too, has an interesting background. In the days when the proud Romans held sway over the earth their emperors were accorded glory second only to that of the gods. In fact, some of them, we are told, assumed divine status with all the adoration that went with it.

In such circumstances it was naturally unthinkable that the months named in honour of Julius and Augustus should have the same number of days as February which merely marked the purification of the common people. The obvious way out of the serious difficulty was to pilfer a couple of days from February and give them to the emperors' namesakes, July and August. And that is what the calendar builders did. Not without a slight twinge of conscience, however, as is evidenced by their giving back to the injured month one extra day every four years. Not that February would care very much one way or the other about the little concession, but even Roman emperors and their minions could not afford to ignore altogether the

judgment of posterity. Apart from its religious significance, Candlemas Day, a February highlight, has two special claims to distinction. One has to do with Scotchmen, the other with ground-hogs. I understand that in Scotland rents are not paid monthly, as in other parts of the world, but quarterly. This, no doubt, is intended to encourage the Scotch to hold on to their money as long as they can. Some say they don't need much encouragement in that way. However that may be (it is probably an English inspired rumour, anyway), Candlemas Day is one of the days on which rents are payable.

Perhaps I shouldn't mention this, but there is another rumour to the effect that, on that account, Feb. 2 is one of the four sad days of the year in the land of the Scotch. Personally, I give very little credence to it.

As for the groundhog, known in some quarters by the more genteel name of wood-chuck, I used to think that he was credited with a flair for punctiliousness which he did not in fact possess. My view changed, however, after reading the story of the Vermont man who decided to settle the question once for all.

He captured a wood-chuck early in the summer and kept him in comfortable captivity which he made as much like the little creature's usual habitat as possible. He then bided his time. Sure enough, the wood-chuck went to sleep at the appointed time and around noon on Candlemas Day rose from his slumbers. He looked around a bit and, observing it to be a fine day, went back and continued his nap for another six weeks. In the face of evidence like that the controversy is closed for all time so far as I am concerned.

There are of course bad points as well as good ones about a winter like this. The almost total absence of snow brings delight to some and grievous disappointment to others. But at least it provides those of us who are in the "fifty years and over Club" an excellent opportunity for reminiscing about the winters when we were youngsters. "Why, years ago when I was going to school", a fellow member told me the other day, "there were always mountains of snow from November to April, and sometimes to May. A winter like this was unheard of in those days!"

Of course I agreed with him for I have had the same thought more than once. And, for those annoying fellows who persist in referring to the meteorological records, I would have believed every word he said. But what's the use of putting one's memory in competition with scientific facts and figures? The fact is that modern winters are very much like they used to be. Take them one with another, and there has been little significant change in the last hundred years.

For some reason or other, we remember the heavy snows and have forgotten the mild intermissions. There is also to be considered the fact that a three-foot snow bank looks much bigger to a youngster of 9 or 10 than it does to a man of 50. And the "long thoughts" (and one might add the "big, big pictures") of childhood are usually the impressions that remain.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

J. A. Carruthers, R.O. OPTOMETRIST 123 Kent Street Phone 2872 (Next to Simpson's Agency)

A. Walthen Gaudet, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. Phillips Building 111 Grafton Street Money to Loan Collection

MacPhee & Trainor H. F. MACPHEE, B.A., Q.C. E. SOMERLED TRAINOR, B.A. Barristers, Etc.

M. Alban Farmer, Q.C. B.A., LL.B. Barrister and Solicitor Bank of Commerce Building Charlottetown Money to Loan

Dr. W. R. Carson CHIROPRACTOR Palmer Graduate CHARLOTTETOWN Phone 1072 201 Prince St.

Dr. K. A. MacEachern DENTIST Dental X-Ray Above Charlottetown Clinic 202 Queen St. Phone 641

Allison M. Gillis, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. 130 Richmond St. - Charlottetown Phone 590

Byron J. Grant, O.D. OPTOMETRIST 126 Kent Street Phone 879 (Opposite Revere Hotel)

H. R. DOANE & COMPANY CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS 148 Great George St., Charlottetown Phones 2080 - 1447 RANDOLPH W. MANNING, C.A. ERMA F. MACPHERSON, C.A. KEVIN J. MCKENNA, C.A. Other offices at Halifax, Moncton, St. John's, Amherst, Dartmouth, Kentville, Liverpool, New Glasgow and Truro.

McDONALD, CURRIE & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Saint John, Sherbrooke, Vancouver, Kirkland Lake, Moncton, Hamilton, Edmonton, Charlottetown. Currie Bldg., Charlottetown. Telephone 1651

J. A. McGuigan BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. NOTARY, Etc. Currie Building

Palmer & Haslam A. J. HASLAM, B.A., LL.B. Barrister, Etc. Bank of Nova Scotia Chambers Charlottetown, P. E. I. MONEY TO LOAN

Chas. R. McQuaid B.A. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, NOTARY, Etc. Eastern Trust Building CHARLOTTETOWN Phone 1711

Matheson, Peake & Nicholson A. W. MATHESON, Q.C. A. H. PEAKE, B.A., LL.B. JOHN P. NICHOLSON, LL.B. Barristers, Etc. Collections - Money to Loan 175 Grafton Street

Dr. A. L. MacIsaac DENTIST Dental X-Ray GLOBIA BUILDING 179 Grafton St. Phone 29

Bell, Mathieson & Foster Barristers, Solicitors, Etc. R. E. BELL, Q.C. G. R. FOSTER, LL.B. Loans on City and Farm Properties 150 Richmond Street Charlottetown, P.E.I.