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, FEB. 13, 1952

The Civic Contest

As His Worship Mayor Stewart and Councillor Gormley, Ward One, have been re-elected by acclamation, today's civic contests will be confined to Wards Two, Three, Four and Five and to the election of Water Commissioners. Coun. O'Donnell is being opposed in Ward Two by former Councillor M. Alban Farmer; Coun. Beaton in Ward Three by Mr. Frank J. Storey; Couns. Keefe and Cox in Ward Four by Messrs. W. J. Brown and Elmer MacDonald, and Couns. Prowse and Johnstone in Ward Five (three seats) by Messrs. T. Roy Cudmore, P. R. McCormac, and Charles E. Worth. For Water Commissioners (three vacancies) two members of the former Board, Chairman W. D. Gillis and Mr. Roy Bevan, have offered for re-election. New candidates running are Messrs. Ernest Clawson and Stewart Ives.

Citizens this year can have little complaint with regard to the amount of information made available in the civic reports submitted at the recent annual meeting. The financial statement showed a debt increase for the past year of $236,114, bringing the net debt up to $2,390,653. This, it was stated, was due mainly to capital expenditures, a large part of it representing assets recoverable in street and sidewalk assessments. A surplus on current account of some $6,177 was shown. It was announced by the Mayor and Finance Chairman that a new tax structure, for which a survey had been completed, would enable the city to enjoy increased revenue at a lower tax rate in future. On the other hand, the report of the Water Commissioners indicated that an increase in water rates can be expected shortly.

This, briefly, is the financial picture, and it is certainly one which indicates that the City has been going heavily into debt. Whether the expenditures have been warranted in all cases is a matter for our citizens to decide. We have discontinued the oldtime pre-election civic meetings at which candidates for office had an opportunity of expressing their view on subjects of this kind. Another important purpose served by such meetings was that candidates might be queried from the meeting as to how they proposed to put their reform programmes, if any, into effect. This old democratic method has gone by the board, and the electors are left largely to their own intuition and personal knowledge of the candidates in polling their votes.

It is a good sign, at any rate, to see new contestants in the field and to note that for the most part they are well known for initiative and enterprise in the conduct of their own affairs. Whether successful or otherwise on this occasion, they are performing a public service by entering the race for civic honors and responsibilities. Civic problems have grown tremendously in recent years, and the opportunity of voting in the best men available to handle these problems should be taken seriously by all our taxpayers. Today's voting will, it is hoped, be both large and representative.

Moscow Birthday Party

Censorship in the Soviet Union being as it is, it is not surprising that little news leaked through the Iron Curtain on so apparently innocuous a matter as a birthday celebration. Birthdays, as a rule, lack political significance. Anywhere, that is, but in the Soviet Union and its satellites. The birthday celebration accorded Soviet vice-premier and member of the Politbureau Malenkov, who recently reached the age of 50, is of political significance far beyond the confines of the Iron Curtain, for it raises once again the question of a successor to Stalin.

Soviet leaders today are of three generations. Of those over 70 only Stalin and Voroshilov remain. The latter is a harmless figurehead. The rest are dead, most of them by Stalin's own decree. The next generation, averaging 60 years in age, is headed by Molotov and flanked by President Shvernik and vice-premier Kaganovich. Malenkov belongs to the third, and due to the mysterious deaths and disappearances of the more prominent of his contemporaries, is undisputed heir-apparent to the leadership of his generation.

Speculation that he may emerge as successor to Stalin is sparked not only by the lavish celebrations marking his fiftieth birthday, but also by the fact that like Stalin himself, his rise to the upper strata of Soviet bureaucracy is attributable to organizing ability and ruthlessness rather than to any of the more desirable qualities of leadership. Malenkov is an "operative" who knows the new despotism and its mechanisms from the ground up.

Orchids, in the Soviet Union, seldom fall on those outside the warming radiance of Premier Stalin's smile. Mr. Malenkov, having succeeded in living dangerously to reach, in Soviet public life at any rate, the ripe old age of 50 and at the same time to be the recipient of official orchids, is assuredly a man worth watching.

Whereas

The rules of parliamentary procedure are very important indeed in a country in which so much is decided in public meetings as in Canada. Although every organization, or indeed every meeting, can frame its own rules of order, the ordinary rules on which we fall back when none have been especially decided upon are the rules of the Canadian Parliament.

In one respect there seems to be an unfortunate tendency to stray from established procedure. All motions should properly commence with the word "That." In this way if a motion meets the approval of the meeting, it may at once become the resolution, vote, or order which it purports to be. All too often, however, a series of preambles commencing with "Whereas" is inserted in the proposed resolution, an objectionable practice which, as Bourinot says, is at variance with correct parliamentary procedure.

A careful drafting of resolutions can avoid the necessity of the preliminary "Whereases" and the resolution itself can then be debated and amended in a form that leaves less room for misunderstanding of what is actually being proposed and decided.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Silver Fox Fighter Squadron sails from Saint John today for Britain to join the Cougars already based at North Luffenham.

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Taxpayers should vote early and only once. If their names have been omitted from the voters roll they may be sworn and still vote.

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Charlottetown civic election day. The administration of the City's affairs can be expected to reflect the interest or lack of it which is shown by those qualified to vote.

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Through an oversight Mr. Keefe's election card did not appear in yesterday's issue. He is still seeking the suffrages of Ward IV which he has represented for the past two years.

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Surely one week is not too long to set apart for public mourning for the loss of our Monarch. Respect for the dead is part of our Christian heritage and a measure of our state of civilization.

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One source of power which is rarely lacking in this Province is that of the wind. Large scale and private harnessing of the wind would go far towards providing needed power at a moderate cost.

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About a year ago an air transport crashed without loss of life. The reason was principally that the passengers were seated facing to the rear. A similar seating arrangement for busses and even automobiles might undoubtedly save many a life.

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Ontario lawyers are proposing that Saturday be a non-juridicial day in that Province. In Prince Edward Island we apparently already have two non-juridicial days a week. It is provided that whenever a holiday falls on a Sunday the expression "holiday" includes the following day. Sunday itself, however, is a holiday.

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Rafael Sabatini, British novelist and dramatist, died this date 1950. Born in Italy in 1875 of an Italian father and an English mother, he was educated in Switzerland and Portugal. He wrote a number of popular historical novels and many plays as well as biographies of Cesare Borgia and Torquemada. "Captain Blood" is typical of his novels.

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In discussions over absence of the word "Royal" from mail as applied to Canada's Post Office, there's been no recalling of how and why the word was first dropped. A man who was close to the situation when the change was made about 20 years ago, under the regime of Hon. Paul Sauve as postmaster-general, says the word "Royal" was dropped to achieve a bilingual wording "Postes Canada Post", which is still in use. The Royal coat of arms was and still is retained.

Picking Ourselves A Crew

Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON, England—When Winston Churchill took on the Premiership in 1940 one of the first things he told the nation was that he could offer nothing but "blood, toil, tears and sweat." How right he was we were to find out in the years that followed, yet he grew in stature all the time and when in 1945 he was voted out of office his stock was never higher and the esteem in which he was held extended far beyond the shores of his own country to all parts of the world where the ideals of personal freedom are cherished.

This approbation, so far as the United Kingdom was concerned, was all the more remarkable because throughout those five years the administration which he headed had been compelled to subjugate a large measure of that very freedom in the interests of the civilised world as a whole. The exigencies of war made it necessary for us to suffer the imposition of a more rigid discipline and curtailment of our liberties than we had known for generations. The solution is, of course, that these restrictions were accepted in the main, if not gladly, at least with an awareness of their necessity; the blame for most of our national troubles is by custom laid at the door of the Government of the day, but wartime urgency was felt to be an extenuating circumstance in this case. That Churchill's personal standing was not enough to return his party to power at the 1945 General Election can, presumably, only be explained by giving the public credit for voting for a party and not an individual.

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In this column a few weeks ago I remarked upon the similarity between the load that the Prime Minister took on his shoulders in 1940 and again last year. Once again, he was able to offer us no prospect of easy times: on this more recent occasion there may be less emphasis on the blood and the tears (though the risk is ever-present) but the toil and the sweat are joined by financial strain and increasing austerity.

We did not have long to wait, after the elections of last October, for the pronouncements that we all expected about the dangers that beset us. The most superficial thoughts on the state of the country were more than enough to make us realise that something was amiss. Financial crisis, the words that we had heard so often since the end of the war, were being written and spoken everywhere and it was being made pretty plain that this one was the father of all crisis. So what we expected, we got.

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Soon after the new Parliament assembled it went into a long recess. This was a new angle. It was explained that the problems that the ministers found facing them were so great that they must have time to study them in detail without the hindrance of Parliamentary routine. That seemed sound enough, and we waited for the next move.

It came in the form of Mr. Churchill's radio address to the nation at Christmas. Full of foreboding, his words told of the strains and stresses to come, of the effort that would be required of all of us for a period of three years if we were to find ourselves back on our feet and self-sufficient. We were told that we must expect shocks in the New Year; apparently the ministers, at grips with their respective problems, were working them out and would soon be able to tell us what part we would play in their solution.

• • •

Came the New Year, and the atmosphere built up in tension as if we were all players in a theatrical tragedy, working up to some dreadful denouement that was to come when the Chancellor of the Exchequer laid the full facts on our plight before us when Parliament reassembled. We waited with bated breath. The moment arrived—and in view of all that had gone before it seemed like an anti-climax. Strict measures are there, all right, but one feels that the Government could have been a lot stricter and got away with it. Just what we expected, we were not quite sure, but that many people expected unprecedented action is shown by a businessman who told me that he was prepared even for a complete re-issue of our currency.

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Instead of that, we got much the same mixture as we had had prescribed for us in earlier crises. Perhaps it is a little more bitter than before. Perhaps—and this is still a real possibility—this medicine is only the first step in a long course of treatment. The evidence for this lies in the proposal to make Budget Day March 4th. It is many, many years since it came as early as that. There can be no doubt that there is a pressing need for it so soon. The medicine that is then prescribed may really burn our palates.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

THE WESLEYAN ACADEMY

"W. W. Anderson, Esq., late headmaster of the Newmarket Grammar School, and one of the ablest and most successful teachers in the Province of Ontario, arrived in this city on Tuesday last. Mr. Anderson has been appointed Principal of the Wesleyan Academy in this city, and will enter upon the responsible duties of his office on Monday, the 13th inst., immediately after which he will open a class in the higher branches of a liberal education. There are forty music pupils in attendance at the institution. One hundred and thirty regular pupils have already been enrolled, and it is confidently expected that the Academy will be filled to its utmost capacity in the course of the present term. Two other teachers are expected on the opening of navigation."

—The Islander, March 10, 1871.

The Poet's Corner

FROM CRANMER'S PROPHECY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH

Truth shall nurse her.
Holy and heavenly thoughts still counsel her:
She shall be lov'd, and fear'd: Her own shall bless her:
Her foes shake like a field of beaten corn,
And hang their heads with sorrow: Good grows with her:
In her days, every man shall eat in safety
Under his own vine, what he plants; and sing
The merry songs of peace to all his neighbors:
God shall be truly known; and those about her
From her shall read the perfect ways of honor,
And by those claim their greatness, not by blood.

—William Shakespeare.

The Age-Old Story

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if you knowest? Or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened or who laid the corner stone thereof? . . . Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven? canst thou set the dominion thereof in the earth?

Our Land Of Opportunity

(Montreal Gazette)

Canada is indeed the land of opportunity. But can it be said that it is equally the land of reward? It is not enough to draw up comparative tables, to show that other nations have high taxes too. The fact is that a new country, still needing the pioneering spirit, and still with the cultural and other disadvantages of a small population and relatively small communities, must offer a premium to effort.

Few would have left the better settled and developed countries in the past in order to come to Canada and even fewer would have stayed here, if there had not been the chance of an extra reward, a special inducement, a really glittering personal prize.

After all, for most people life is to a great extent personal. It is not enough to speak of "Canada's promise". It is necessary to speak of the promise for each person in this country. If this country insists in building a heavy and rigid tax pattern into its national structure, it should not be disappointed if many of its people turn away from the pioneering challenge.

It is quite true, as Mr. Churchill said that "there is no more spacious and splendid domain than Canada open to the activity and genius of free men." But perhaps Canada will really increase and hold its population only when the land of the unusual opportunity becomes equally the land of the unusual reward. Perhaps only then will this land of the rising sun really attract and hold the early riser.

When we have so much to be thankful for in this country it seems a bitter irony that we should allow unwise policy to darken our own promise.

Hens For Sale

(Windsor Star)

It might be just as wise for consumers to eat plenty of poultry and eggs now when they are cheap. Because, as a result of the present low prices, there may be quite a jump in prices later on.

Essex County poultrymen are receiving only 32 cents a dozen for their eggs now. And they have to pay $4.80 per hundredweight for laying mash. It's simple arithmetic to figure out it requires about 15 dozen eggs to pay for one bag of feed. In other words, it takes the daily production of 180 hens just to buy one bag of laying mash, even if all the hens are at maximum production.

Anyone who knows anything about hens will appreciate what happens to a farmer's profits under such a situation. A flock of 180 hens will soon gobble up a hundredweight of feed. And, if they don't get good feed, they go on a "stand-up" strike and refuse to lay an egg a day. A hen that doesn't lay eggs is a mighty poor investment.

No wonder farmers are reducing their flocks. If they do, it means fewer hens—and fewer eggs—in the future. And, once there is a shortage, prices will zoom up if past experience be any criterion.

Feeding and caring for hens (quite apart from the the investment tied up in them and their quarters) is not such fun anyone wants to do it at a loss.

AIRMAIL START

The first inter-city airmail delivery in Canada was from Ottawa to London, Ont., on Nov. 25, 1927.

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Notes By The Way

New York City has passed a law requiring motorists who drive in the city at night to show only low-beam headlights. The use of parking lights on city streets was also banned. These are regulations which other cities would be wise to enforce. As far as New York is concerned, it has been predicted that the new rules will save at least 50 lives a year. — (Brantford Expositor.)

An experiment in simultaneous "willing" took place in a London office recently, with unforeseen results. An hour from going-home time five of the staff set themselves to "will" the man in charge to notice that things were slack and to send at least some of them home early. "Go home, go home", they said in their minds, over and over again. After five minutes the man in charge seemed to be looking unsettled. After 10 minutes he got up, put on his hat and coat, and, telling his second-in-command to take over, went home. — (Manchester Guardian.)

At long last the city has got around to photographing taxi drivers and the by-law providing for display of the photo in the cab will come into effect on May 1. This is a wholesome reform. It offers additional protection to both the driver and the passenger. It makes easily identifiable those who are in many ways in a position of trust when they carry passengers for hire. Some taxi drivers have objected to this by-law but experience elsewhere shows that the honest driver has everything to gain and nothing to lose by making it possible for his passenger to identify him easily. — (Montreal Star.)

A news report in the Regina Leader-Post tells of Winter conditions at that university in language as follows: "The loose-housing type of dairy barn is proving satisfactory under severe Saskatchewan Winter conditions, experiments at the University of Saskatchewan indicate. The loose-housing lounging barn and milking parlor management system was started at the University last Fall under the dairy and animal husbandry departments." The things that caught our eye in the above paragraph, as we are sure they will catch our readers', are, of course, the loose-housing lounging barn and the milking parlor. Gone, we gather, are the days when Bossy stood bawling in the barnyard awaiting her turn for attention. Gone is the sloppy routine in which the hired man started at one end of the barn and worked his way down to the other, milking as he went, leaving the obstreperous cow to the last. — (Calgary Albertan.)

Some farmers have managed to achieve a fair degree of price stability through ceilings and floors, and pooling their products. Thus they escape the peaks and the valleys of an uncontrolled market. Can't someone do the same thing for the weather? Here in the Ottawa Valley the thermometer has been behaving with the giddiness of a roller coaster. What is wanted is an outdoor super-thermostat. This could be set at a nice even zero for night-time in the winter months and say 30 above for noon. The fellows who are so handy at splitting atoms and putting them together to form new elements should be able to tackle this modest chore. — (Ottawa Citizen.)

Many car owners who were giving lifts to strangers during the strike which had closed down Toronto's public transportation system report interesting experiences. But so far as ethnological variety goes we've heard nothing to equal the experience of a friend of ours. One evening, driving home from the office, a journey of some three miles, our friend picked up and conveyed for short distances (they weren't all in the car at the same time): A Pole, a Frenchman, a German, a girl from Jamaica, a girl from Brazil, a Negro mammy, a girl from England, a girl from British Columbia. The last-named had ridden all the way. When the last of the transients had been dropped she turned to her host and said: "Just us two Canadians left." And she was a Vancouver-born Japanese.—(Financial Post.)

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