

THE GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1857)
Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office
Department, Ottawa

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, JUNE 19, 1950

Suits Against The Crown

Amid a show of enthusiasm by the Opposition the Minister of Justice introduced a measure which will largely remove obstacles to suits against the Crown.

Apparently the ancient procedure of Petition of Right is to be retained and the Crown, as distinct from Crown corporations, is to continue in the privileged position of being subject to suit only if the Minister of Justice so desires.

This means that although say the CBC can be sued for breach of contract or for trespass, the Department of Transport is immune to such legal attack except by permission of the Minister's colleague of the Department of Justice.

Farm Production Figure

According to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Prince Edward Island led all of Canada last year in increased farm production, reaching an index peak of 162.5.

Net farm income for 1949 in Canada stood at \$1,537 billion as compared with \$1,600 billion the year before.

The annual index number of farm prices of agricultural products in Canada for 1949 stood at 250.6.

A Footnote To History

The following news item from Australia will be read with interest locally:

"Australia's Postmaster General, Hubert L. Anthony, has just ceased to be a cattle king by virtue of his office.

"When, in 1870-1872, Sir Charles Todd built the Overland Telegraph Line across Australia, there were no cattle ranches and no settlement in the centre of Australia and hardly any elsewhere in the Northern Territory.

"Gradually when Federation came in 1901 the Commonwealth Postal Department took over from South Australia the ranches and cattle.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Island held the limelight at Ottawa at the week-end—each County being heard from.

Evidently 400 feet from the ground is too short a distance to use a parachute with safety, as the student airman found at Centralia the other day.

The Exchequer Court has adjourned without any case having been submitted by the Federal Government on the Federal building site dispute.

The courts here do not observe the holiday season very strictly at any time, but this year it would seem that it is to be something in the nature of a busy season.

Halifax and Annapolis-Kings go to the polls today. The first is a by-election to replace Senator Inorn.

In the House of Commons the other day, while our Queen's County Conservative member was denouncing political patronage in connection with the management of Indian affairs at Lennox Island, our Prince County representative was absent on other business.

Sir George Alexander, English actor and playwright, born this date 1858. He had a very handsome figure, and was called the "Beau Brummell" of the stage.

The suggestion in the House of Commons that immigration policies should favor domestic servants will hardly appeal to Canadians.

One of the proposals of the Canadian Welfare Council, that fines be payable by instalments, should recommend itself to the sense of justice of many people.

The Smiths have it! A card index containing 18,000,000 names—probably the biggest in the world—has been compiled by Britain's General Post Office.

Mrs. Gordon MacDonald, who has been succeeded by Dr. W. R. Carson on the City School Board, has served very conscientiously and efficiently in that capacity for the past five years.

In an optimistic survey of Maritime prospects and activities, the Financial Post says of Charlottetown that while there has been no spectacular advance, the Island capital has made "continued steady progress."

Farm Picture On P.E.I.

(Financial Post)

Introduction of oleomargarine nettled Maritime farmers particularly. Prince Edward Island, for example, had been able to sell all its butter to its neighbors, principally Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

Swine production on the Island has increased 75% within the past five years, and on the present market, will tend to increase further.

Island beef, chiefly Shorthorn or Hereford, goes to the other two Maritime Provinces and to Newfoundland, both deficiency areas.

End of the British egg contract, tumbling prices to a point which is only recently showing signs of strength, has been reflected in fewer orders from Island farmers for day-old chicks.

Shipments of Island turnips to the States was well above average last year, taking up a slack caused by reduced Ontario production.

From divers merchants, traders and others interested in the commercial welfare of this Island, praying for the enactment of an efficient Bankruptcy Act.

Quebec Finances Are The Best

(Montreal Gazette)

The financial position of Canadian provinces is good, "but we, from Quebec, are flattered to know that the situation in our province is the best," Charles deL. Mignault, president of the Quebec Municipal Commission.

Speaking on debt administration in Canada, Mr. Mignault declared that figures fully illustrated the situation. These showed that for the fiscal year ending in 1949 the total net funded debt of the Province of Quebec stood at \$351,443,000, almost \$200,000,000 less than the funded debt in Ontario.

In addition to this, Mr. Mignault said, Quebec tops the other nine provinces as to the percentage of revenue used for debt service. He said Quebec used only 9.5 per cent while Alberta, next in line, used 10.9 per cent.

He said that no matter what the revenues of the government may be, they will never be sufficient to allow it to realize the many improvement projects with which it is faced.

Mr. Mignault cited the work of the Quebec Municipal Commission since its formation in 1932. "In order to assist municipalities in obtaining proper credit," he said, "the commission keeps constant contact with the banks and investment dealers."

Hon. Bona Dussault, minister of municipal affairs, officially opened the M.F.O.A. Quebec Division meeting yesterday afternoon.

Dinner Bells

(Windsor Star)

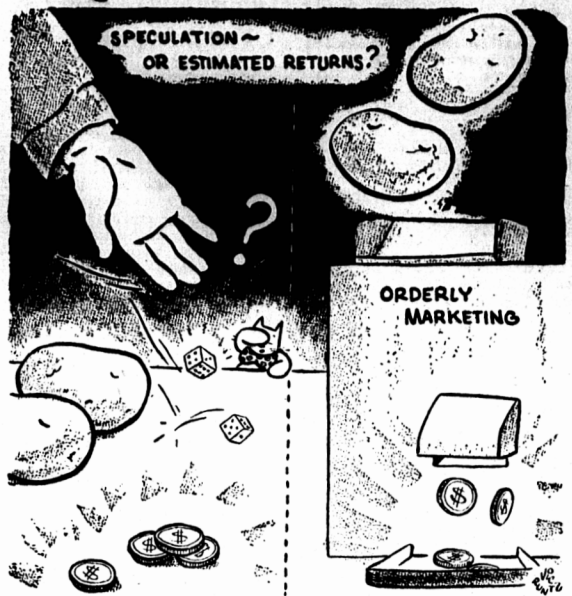
As farmers are busy in the fields at their spring work, memories of former days return. And we wonder what happened to all those dinner bells that once were a feature of rural life.

We don't mean the dinky little things of silver or brass one tinkles at the table to let the maid—if one has a maid—know it's time to bring on the soup.

We refer to the sizeable bronze or iron bell that hung at the roof of almost every farm home. Usually it was attached to the eave of the summer kitchen or woodshed. It would be rung by the pulling of a cord, about the thickness of a plow line.

It was pleasant, to a hungry

Counting Our Potatoes Before They Are Harvested



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

LEGISLATIVE TOPICS

Among the petitions presented to the Legislative Council during the session of March-April, 1951, were the following:

From John Hunter, of Herbywood, Prince County, praying for the enactment of a law to authorize petitioners to take the additional name of "Duvau", and that his signature and address be "John Hunter Duvau".

From residents of Kent Street school district, and others, praying for the repeal of the clause of the School Act authorizing the closing of the Kent Street District School, or that a special grant be made in order that the said school may be reopened.

From divers merchants, traders and others interested in the commercial welfare of this Island, praying for the enactment of an efficient Bankruptcy Act.

From the Rt. Rev. Peter McIntyre, the Very Rev. James Macdonald and the Rev. Angus Macdonald, trustees of St. Dunstan's College, praying for an Act to constitute petitioners a body corporate.

From divers inhabitants of York River, setting forth the inconvenience to which the travelling public are subject owing to the want of a tavern at Moreshead's Corner, Lot 32, and praying that, notwithstanding the opposition shown thereto by certain parties, a remedy for said inconvenience may be provided by the Legislature.

For an Act to authorize the trustees of the Georgetown School to sell the present school site therein and to appropriate a portion of the Public Square as a school site in lieu thereof.

From divers inhabitants of the Island, protesting against the manufacture and sale of alcoholic liquors by any Justice of the Peace, "inasmuch as he is frequently called upon to try individuals guilty of misdemeanours occasioned by the use of alcoholic drinks which he himself has supplied."

The Age-Old Story

I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me forever.

The Poet's Corner

BAB-LOCK-HYTHE

In the time of wild roses As up Thames we travelled Where 'mid water-weeds ravelled The lily uncloses,

To his old shores the river A new song was singing And young shoots were springing On old roots for ever.

Dog-daisies were dancing And flags flamed in cluster. On the dark stream a lustre Now blurred and now glancing.

A tall red-down weighing The sedge-warbler fluted; One sweet note he uttered, Then left it soft-swinging.

By the bank's sandy hollow My dipt oars went beating, And past our bows fleeting Blue-backed shone the swallow.

High woods, heron-haunted, Rose, changed, as we rounded Old hills greenly mounded, To meadows enchanted.

A dream ever moulded, Afloat for our wonder, Still opening asunder For the stream many-folded;

Till sunset was rimming The West with pale flushes; Behind the black rushes The last light was dimming;

And the lonely stream, hiding Shy birds, grew more lonely, And with us was only The noise of our gliding.

In cloud of gray weather The evening overdarkened; In the stillness we heartened; Our hearts sang together.

—Laurence Binyon

Wasted Sweetness

(New Glasgow News)

For some time there has been standing on the order paper of the House of Commons, in the name of Mr. E. G. Hansell, Social Credit member for MacLeod, Alberta, the following proposed resolution: "That, in the opinion of this House, the government should take into consideration the advisability of introducing legislation making it necessary to reveal on the price of all commodities that portion of the consumer purchasing price covered by taxation of any kind."

It is a beautiful resolution and would form the background for a lively debate if the assorted parties that form the parliamentary opposition would agree to get it before the House on private members' day. The chances are, however, that like many other private members' resolutions, it has been merely born to blush unseen by all except the few readers of the order paper.

If the resolution should be debated there is little likelihood of its passing. The cracking of government whips would resound through the corridors as soon as the debate began. No government committed to a planned economy and a welfare state can afford to let the taxpayer know how he pays and pays again for Ottawa's bright days. Sales taxes, excise taxes, corporation income taxes, taxes on cheques, unemployment insurance premiums and the rest eventually come out of the pocket of the ultimate consumer.

Government policy on such matters may be based on another quotation from Thomas Gray: "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise."

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Notes By The Way

Many pay-parking lots display a sign. "Cars left here at owner's risk." The American Automobile Association has launched a nation-wide effort to fix responsibility of parking lot and garage operators for motor vehicles left in their care.

In these times of cold-war tension it is easy to oversimplify the basic struggle in the world. On the diplomatic front it is visibly a power contest between the Soviet and the United States.

Mr. Howe's "hint" is the more interesting as it comes so soon after a wave of rumours—especially rife in BC—that revaluation of the dollar was being considered in Ottawa.

Mr. F. P. Ide, Associate Professor of Zoology, at the University of Toronto, sent this newspaper a learned treatise on the habits and characteristics of what is commonly known locally as the shad or eel fly.

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Announcement that Wallace Miller, Edmonton businessman, has let the general contract for a 450-car, million-dollar downtown parking garage is an interesting development. It is an indication that private operators are beginning to realize that such a service may well prove highly profitable.

Faced on the one hand by urgent and undeniable demands for necessary civic improvements of every kind, and limited on the other hand to only those taxes which can be gouged from real estate, the plight of Ontario municipalities is critical.

The "new poor" of Canada are the white-collared workers. They may appear respectable and they are not very vocal in their complaints, but they are being driven into the low income bracket by industry, organized labor and farm groups.

The use of paper towels has now been extended to the dairy industry. Progressive dairymen make a practice of washing the udders of the cows with warm water before milking.