

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1951

Security For Couriers

Earlier this week Mr. T. J. Kickham, the Liberal member for King's, proposed in the House of Commons that the contract system of engaging rural mail couriers be ended and the couriers employed on a mileage basis.

That the faithful carriers of His Majesty's Canadian mails deserve an increase is certain but more important than the rates paid is the system under which they work.

While every other class of worker has been demanding and getting additional security of employment, the rural courier has continued in the role of a private contractor.

In 1951 he is regarded as being able to negotiate with the Post Office Department as though he were a railway, a steamship line or an airline company.

It is high time that the hopeless disparity in bargaining positions between him and the Department was recognized and that couriers be dealt with as a body of employees.

Mr. Drew's Position

Opposition Leader George Drew has ranked himself strongly behind those who are urging decentralization of defense industries in the House of Commons.

"As a member from one of those Central Provinces," Mr. Drew said, "it does seem to me that this is a remarkable disproportion, in view of the fact that payment for these contracts will be made right across the country, in proportion to their capacity to pay."

Incidentally, in the same debate in Parliament it was pointed out that in Prince Edward Island the amount spent per head on war contracts was \$73.65, as against \$509.55 in Nova Scotia, \$172.70 in New Brunswick, \$1,576.75 in Quebec and \$1,435.35 in Ontario.

Sea Birds For Food

Action, notes the Ottawa Journal, has been started by Mr. Gordon Higgins, Progressive Conservative member for St. John's East, to restore to Newfoundlanders their former rights to shoot edible sea-birds.

This resolution, if passed by Parliament, would require an amendment to the Migratory Birds Convention Act, and Mr. Higgins is pressing for such an amendment to permit the people of Newfoundland to shoot these sea-birds for food as they were free to do before union with Canada.

"The need for relief in this matter," says the Journal, "is explained in a pathetic letter from Newfoundland. A strange effect of the union with Canada, and the application to Newfoundland of our Federal laws, was to deprive families in its more remote parts of the only fresh meat available to them in the winter months."

Prohibition of shooting many species of duck and sea-birds except in hunting sea-

sons fixed from time to time has existed for many years in other provinces of Canada. To ensure that some of these species do not become extinct as did the passenger pigeon and the great auk, agreements for the protection of these birds have been made between the government of Canada and the government of the United States.

Tight-Rope Performance

Health and Welfare Minister Martin's arguments for refusing Federal aid to education are characterized by the Globe and Mail as a masterpiece of tight-rope walking. In the House of Commons debate on this issue last week, Mr. Martin began by boasting that the Government was already contributing about \$35 million to various educational projects, and concluded by arguing that it was constitutionally impossible for it to give money to the Provinces for that purpose.

"Mr. Martin's basic contention," says our Toronto contemporary, "was that the Federal Government was unwilling to intervene, even indirectly, in what might be termed educational policy. He advanced the strange argument that assistance toward equalizing opportunity among Canadian children of every Province would be such an interference. Nobody, we believe, has seriously suggested that the Federal Government do anything which might project the question of Federal-Provincial relations on education into controversy."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Bon voyage! and happy landings, to the lads in the Zenith and Northern Cross.

The Dunkirk Pact was signed four years ago tomorrow binding Britain and France in a fifty-year alliance.

The price of potatoes leaves much to be desired but it now appears that the total revenue from the crop is far from unsatisfactory. At the same time Island breeders of livestock are doing an outstanding job, and profiting accordingly.

The celebration of Education Week begins tomorrow. The chosen slogan, "Education is Everybody's Business," might be quibbled at but it is sufficiently everybody's business to prevent wilful misinterpretation.

The Korean war has brought poignantly home to one Charlottetown family, Mr and Mrs. Allan MacKay, who will have the sympathy of the whole community in the death in action of their son, Private Elliott G. MacKay.

"There is a new spirit of initiative," an M. P. is reported as saying, which will lead to Maritime economic development. There is also the realization, perhaps, that if Maritimers do not get busy and promote industrial opportunities, Maritime development and resulting profits will be in the hands of outside interests.

A top atomic scientist has predicted that the development of the atomic bomb may mean the end of global war. Chancellor Arthur H. Compton of Washington University, Nobel prize-winning physicist and atomic scientist, made the prediction before the American Mining and Metallurgical Engineers at a convention in St. Louis. But it may also mean the end of civilization.

Here are the present average rates per mile for rural mail couriers across Canada, as tabled in Parliament this week: Charlottetown \$53.18; Halifax \$55.54; Saint John \$51.45; Quebec \$52.77; Montreal \$51.72; Ottawa \$49.44; North Bay \$57.92; Toronto \$54.49; London \$52.27; Winnipeg \$60.08; Moose Jaw \$62.36; Saskatoon \$60.02; Calgary \$56.48; Edmonton \$60.41; Vancouver \$71.53.

George Herbert died this date 1633. A younger brother of Lord Herbert of Cheshire, he was successively a teacher, public orator and clergyman. Given the living of Bromswold, near Salisbury, he there wrote his courtly and spiritual poetry which he turned over to his friend Nicholas Ferrers to be published or burned. His works include, "The Temple" (1633), "Jacula Prudentum" (1640), and "The Country Parson" (1642). Izaak Walton wrote his "Life" in 1670.

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.

CHEST X-RAYS

Sir,—In reply to "Interested" from Millbrook whose letter in Friday's Guardian indicated that the T. B. League has been unable to x-ray crippled persons because they could not be x-rayed in a sitting position, we may state that this is not a fact and it is regretted that any such people may have been deterred from this information. It is quite feasible to x-ray a person sitting down and the only limitation is the ability of a crippled person to go to the x-ray centre and be assisted into the van.

The League quite agrees with "Interested" that crippled citizens are equally entitled to the free x-ray and frequently are more in need of same than an otherwise apparently normal person. You may be assured that any person able to get to the mobile unit and sufficiently concerned to do so will receive an x-ray.

We are, Sir, etc. P. E. I. T.-B. LEAGUE Per V. N. Hodson, Executive Secretary

OTHERS ALSO INCONVENIENCED

Sir,—Many letters have been appearing in recent issues of your paper, written by residents of that narrow strip of land which lies between the lower reaches of the West River and South Shore, comprising perhaps three school districts. These letters, which seem an annual lament, bewail the terrible inconveniences which the inhabitants of these districts have to endure for a few weeks each Spring, when the Rocky Point ferry cannot cross, and the ice is no longer safe for traffic.

We people who live above the head of the West River, eighteen or twenty miles from Charlottetown, pay our taxes just as regularly as these people do and we are not carried free on board boat the last four or five miles of our journey to Charlottetown, as the residents of the Rocky Point districts are. And if we have to stay home for a short time each Spring, we don't employ the extra leisure thus afforded us, in writing long, impassioned screeds bawling our sad lot; and we still try not to hold any Government responsible for the disadvantages of our geographical situation.

I am, Sir, etc. VOX POPULI

REPLY TO MR. BROOKS

Sir,—I read with much consternation and amazement the diatribe of Mr. Brooks in the House of Commons against cutting pulpwood for the U. S. He seems to have overlooked certain facts.

1. Is Canada or Great Britain doing anything to make possible badly needed income for Island farmers whose potatoes produced nothing last Fall?

2. Where could Great Britain obtain the necessary dollars to buy at an equal market price now being received from the United States?

3. The timber which is being cut is from privately owned farm property that has been rotting away and eaten by termites in other years for lack of buyers, and owners know better than to cut their wood indiscriminately as Mr. Brooks accuses them of doing.

4. He should worry about the little impoverished people who have to live on with little or no income while he himself has no such problem.

Really Sir, it is time politicians like Mr. Brooks stopped criticising American buyers until they can justify themselves with as good results. In other words "put up or shut up."

I am, Sir, etc. FLORENCE

GIVING AND GETTING

Sir,—Gifts large or small are being solicited for the completion of a great basilica in Montreal—Oratoire St. Joseph. It is dedicated to St. Joseph, the foster father of our redeemer, Lord. Certainly St. Joseph was worthy of admiration. Those who give to help this cause expect to have a share in the benefit of St. Joseph's intercession for them, in the presence of God. There is a moral to this—where our gifts go, our prayers follow.

I remember a young man many years back who was encouraged by a neighbor to start the practice of giving one tenth of his earnings to help spread the gospel of love in the world, especially in Korea, which was then a very fruitful mission field. After practicing this for 40 years, he claims that these money investments were the most profitable that he ever made. No doubt his dividend is a developed Christian character, the sense of co-operating with God and the knowledge that Christ called the Koreans, "these my brethren."

A little girl expressed herself as wanting to go to hear the return-of-missionary speak, for he would tell where her penny, for he would tell where her penny.

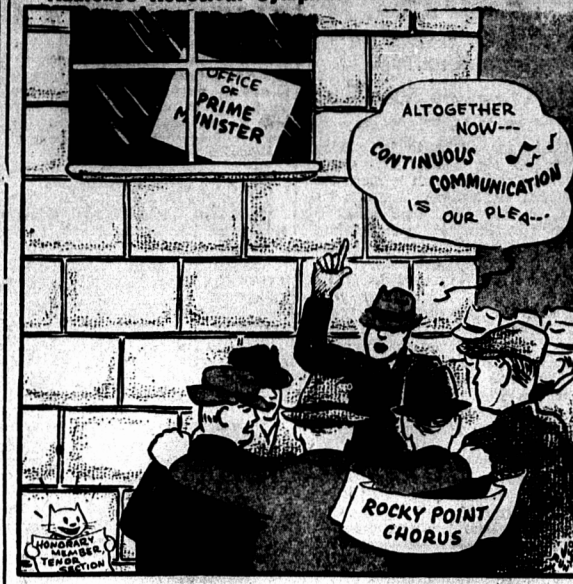
A very few of us still remember our aged pastor who often gave up a night's rest that he might spend in prayer for Korea. Dr. Murray, speaking in Montreal says that the North Koreans are largely anti-Communist and the teaching forced on them they take under protest. We feel sure that thousands of them are "witnessing a good confession."

Who, knowing this, would want war in Korea? I am, Sir, etc. GIDEON Kennington.

NEW FIGHTER

Canada CF-100 all-weather jet fighter has 464,800 rivets compared to 400,000 in the wartime Lancaster bomber.

Audience Reaction: Sympathetic And Instantaneous



Memoirs Of The Hon. A. E. Arsenault Former Premier and Retired Justice Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

Founding Of The Tourist Association

In the early 20's, a body of the Island's leading citizens got together and decided to form a Tourist Association. Nothing of a concrete nature was done at the first meeting, but at the second, which I attended, it was definitely decided to proceed with the organization of such an association. Officers were accordingly elected.

I was asked to accept the office of president and agreed provided that: 1st, the Association would open up an office; 2nd, the Association would appoint a manager; and 3rd, the Association would receive financial backing. Those conditions were approved and I became president. Mr. Reigh Tinney became secretary and manager; Mr. S. A. McLeod, chairman of the financial committee; Mr. Harry Brown, chairman of the entertainment committee; and Mr. F. A. Clark, chairman of the attention of those gentlemen. After listening to my arguments, Weldon said, "Well, the Judge has been a good friend of the C. N. R. What do you think, Henry?" Melanson replied, "I'm in favour of a Pullman to Prince Edward Island so if you approve, we'll put it on."

Next spring it went on and has been on ever since during the summer months. The tourist bureau was in its early years with Reigh Tinney as manager when Harry Brown came to me one day and proposed an advertising stunt that struck me favourably. His proposal was that we invite prominent railway officials and officers of other transportation companies to come and spend a week on the Island. I wrote Henry Melanson, who was the General Passenger Manager of the Canadian National Railway, and asked him his opinion of the proposal. He enthusiastically endorsed the scheme and then wrote him again and asked him to send me a list of railway men who he thought should be invited.

The list was promptly sent and included the General Traffic Manager and the General Passenger Traffic Manager of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railway; the General Passenger Traffic Manager of the Boston and Maine Railway; the Traffic Manager and the Passenger Manager of the Bangor and Aroostook Railway; the Maritime Passenger Manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Saint John, N. B.; the Passenger Manager of the Eastern Steamships Company; and several officers of the Canadian National Railway, including Mr. Henry Melanson and Mr. C. K. Howard to whom we afterwards added Mr. Weldon and Mr. Robertson of Moncton.

All those invited accepted the invitation and preparations were at once begun for their reception. Our committee was ably assisted by the late W. K. Rogers and W. S. Grant.

A camp at Murray River was selected for the outing and tents were also supplied to accommodate those who could not find quarters at the Camp. A large field kitchen was set up and the C. N. R. furnished us with one of their best chefs. We provided his two assistants. All the invited guests arrived in due time. They came to Borden in their private cars and were met there by motor cars which took them to the Beach Grove Inn where a dinner was tendered them. A call was then made at Government House and afterwards they were guests at the Victoria Hotel overnight. The next day they were driven to Murray River with lunch at Montague on the way.

The week spent at Murray River by those officials was a most enjoyable one. The weather was perfect and the time was spent in swimming, boating, fishing, clam-banking, and deep-sea fishing. Those busy officials had a week of rest and relaxation such as perhaps they had never had before. One day at dinner, someone happened to mention the word "telephone." There were no telephones at the camp. The traffic manager of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford said, "Telephone! Telephone! It seems to me I've heard that word before. What is a telephone?"

When the eight days were up, we motored the railway men to Summerside where the people there had a lobster and oyster supper provided for them at the residence of the late Harry T. Holman. The result of our "advertising stunt" was that those railway men went back to talk of the wonderful time they had had in Prince Edward Island. It is impossible to estimate the amount of good which resulted from those eight care-free days spent by those men at Murray River.

Notes By The Way

Chickens and turkey and eggs are most palatable when encountered occasionally. But a feeling of pleasure on meeting them can turn to a feeling of revulsion when they appear on the menu too often. Or so thinks a young Chicago newlywed whose husband insisted that she eat the surplus stock from his poultry store. Three weeks of chicken and turkey and eggs was enough. She applied for a divorce, got one. The old moral applies—one can get too much of even a good thing. — Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The whole trouble is that so long as the iron curtain of democracy remains in Eastern Europe, there is no way of checking the truth or the falsity of the Russian statements. This surely underlines the need for a conference next month where these questions can be examined in detail. The paper sees "more justice" in Stalin's remarks about the treatment of Communist China in the United Nations. Recalling Stalin's statements on previous occasions that the Communist and the non-Communist countries can co-exist without conflict, it remarks, "but the Russian policy in practice has not shown a modicum of compromise which the co-existence requires and Stalin's latest opinions still reflect a hostility and suspicion which Russia regards non-Communist policies." — The Hindu, Madras.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

MEMORABLE COURT TERM

"The Hilary Term of the Supreme Court, which during the non-resident system was a very unmeaning ceremony, was on Tuesday last ushered in under circumstances which were peculiarly interesting. It was not merely a feeling of curiosity excited by the appearance of a new Chief Justice (Hon. E. J. Jacvy) which gave an interest to the event; but it was the high satisfaction which pervaded the minds of all, in beholding an end put to a system which all had strived to pull down, and the defects of which were too glaring to escape the notice of Government itself, and in now possessing a Judge of character and integrity, whose permanent residence we are willing to consider as a guarantee of the faithful administration of justice, upon which the lives, property, liberty, interest and morals of the people are so essentially dependent.

"The interest excited on this occasion had extended even to the softer sex, a bevy of whom completely filled the small gallery in front of the bench. Long before the Court opened, the Court House was crowded to such an excess that the Jurymen had no small difficulty in forcing their way to their places. The Chief Justice, accompanied by Mr. Justice Haviland, took his seat on the bench at twelve o'clock, and the Grand Jury being called over, His Lordship observed, that he understood the practice hitherto, in this place, had been for the Jury to elect their own Foreman.

"How such a mode had ever obtained a footing he was at a loss to conceive, being totally at variance with that pursued in the Court of King's Bench, in England, and in all other English Courts, where the Court always appointed the Foreman of the Grand Jury, leaving the Petit Jurors to choose their own. As it was desirable on all occasions to assimilate as closely as circumstances would permit to the practice of the English Courts, the Court would follow their example in this respect. John Stewart, Esq., was thereupon nominated Foreman, by the Court, and the Jury being sworn, the King's proclamation against vice and immorality was read by the Clerk, after which His Lordship addressed the Jury.

"The other Grand Jurors on this occasion were Alex. Campbell, William Cullen, Benjamin Coffin, William B. Aitken, George Dalrymple, Angus B. McDonald, William Dickenson, Thomas H. Hyndman, Thomas Billing, Joseph Pope, Alex. Stewart, Malcolm McNeill, Robert Longworth, John Macdonald, David Higgins, and Donald McDonald, Esq.

—Prince Edward Island Register, Feb. 24, 1829.

been entertained by me in Prince Edward Island. He wired me, "As you are a great friend of our Mr. Wright, of course the ticket can be extended. We will get in touch with your daughter and arrange the matter." Shortly afterwards, another wire came saying that my daughter had been informed of the extension, and later, still another stating that my daughter had been met and placed on the train. The fact was that through some delay, my daughter was five minutes late arriving at the station; the train was held, and officials were on hand when she arrived to escort her to the Pullman where they told the conductor to take good care of her.

It is only fitting in this connection that I should pay a tribute to Mr. S. A. McLeod. Mr. McLeod had many outstanding qualities. As a business man he was instrumental in building up one of the outstanding commercial concerns.

As a citizen he was ever active in promoting any project that was for the benefit of the City or of the Province. He worked quietly and without ostentation, he was behind the scene, but it was his unassuming and unobtrusive efforts that succeeded. To his indefatigable efforts the success of the Prince Edward Island Tourist Association is largely indebted. As chairman of the finance committee, the responsibility fell on him of raising funds to enable the association to function, at a time when we had to depend on the public for a revenue with which to operate at a time when the benefit was being derived from the tourist traffic. The death of Mr. McLeod was a great loss to the City and the Province. He was one of our true gentlemen. (To be continued)



THE FIR WOODS The wash of endless waves is in their tops, Endlessly swaying, and the long winds stream Athwart them from the far-off shores of dream. Thro' the stirred branches filtering, faintly drops Mystic dream-dust of isle, and palm, and cave, Coral and sapphire, realms of rose, that seem More radiant than ever earthly gleam Revealed of fairy mead or haunted wave. A cloud of gold, a cleft of blue profound, These are my gates of wonder, surged about, By tumulis of tossed boughs and rocking crest. The vision lured; the spirit spurs her bound, Spreads her imprisoned wing, and drifts from out an aching, humming gloom that wraps my rest. — Charles G. D. Roberts.