

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1950

New Conservative Leader

Congratulations are due to Mr. R. R. Bell, K.C., who at last night's rousing convention of the Progressive Conservative Party was elected Provincial leader in succession to Hon. Dr. W. J. P. MacMillan.

Eloquent also were the tributes paid to Dr. MacMillan for his leadership over a long period of years, and at a time when the fortunes of the party throughout Canada were at their lowest ebb.

Mr. Bell has been successful in three general elections in the Second District of Queen's, increasing his majority each time, and this in a constituency which formerly was strongly Liberal.

At forty-eight, Mr. Bell is in his early prime as a leader, and with a great opportunity before him of service not only to his party but the Province generally.

Our National Anniversary

Tomorrow we shall celebrate the eighty-third anniversary of the birth of our Dominion, and the seventy-seventh anniversary of our own entry as a Province into Confederation.

"Since the year 1851, when Her Majesty was graciously pleased to concede to the people of this Colony the rights and privileges of self-government, Prince Edward Island has made—and is still making—steady advances in population and material prosperity, and its inhabitants are now perfectly satisfied with the free and liberal Constitution under which it is their happiness to live."

This statement was issued a few years before we entered Confederation, and, of course, a great deal has happened since. No doubt the larger advantages of union far outweighed the sacrifices we have been obliged to make.

tribution to the welfare and prosperity of the whole.

There are some who contend that "Dominion" is a term of servitude and should be eliminated from our statutes. This is arrant nonsense. The word as used in our national name is an assertion of Canada's supremacy over the vast territory enclosed within its borders.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Quebec founded this date 1608.

Tomorrow, Dominion Day.

Sunday, the 4th after Trinity.

Salvation Army Jubilee celebrated this date 1894.

There are to be Lobster Festivals at both Shediac and Pictou this summer.

Prospects seem to be good for the week-end holiday.

The Progressive Conservatives had a good convention and without "fireworks" of any kind.

Our visiting scientific farmers have had practical demonstration of what can be accomplished in a small area, well-directed by competent and enthusiastic leadership.

Federal civil servants who are again to be on a five-day week during July and August, provided Parliament prorogued in time, will be sure of having the first Saturday off along with all the rest of us.

There is no lack of things to do, indoors and out, over the holiday week-end. It is to be hoped that our visitors, and perhaps Gracie Fields in particular, enjoy their stay as much as we enjoy having them.

The new constitution of the Progressive Conservatives provides for district organizations and conventions. It represents an earnest attempt to make the party as representative as possible, but its success depends upon the interest taken by the rank and file in keeping their leaders informed on popular sentiment.

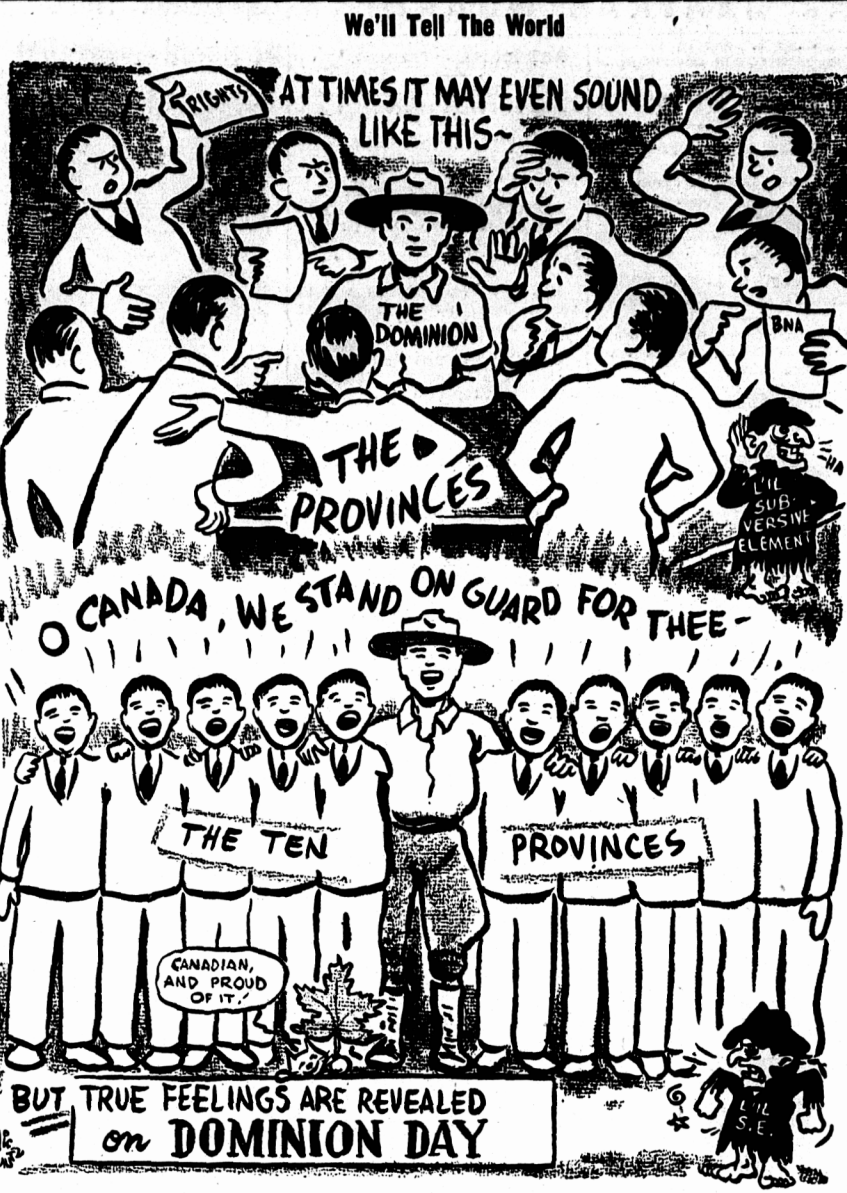
Joel Chandler Harris, American novelist ("Uncle Remus") died this date 1908. He was a noted folklorist, and a man of many other occupations, but his reputation rests on his book "Uncle Remus" (1880) which was the best seller of its day.

The Dominion Experimental Station's report on soil erosion in Queen's County cannot be accepted with complacency. Some 24.7 per cent of the tested soils showed slight erosion, 39.7 per cent moderate erosion and 8.6 per cent severe erosion.

American lamprey eels, vicious enemy of the trout, are to be destroyed by sound waves. The electrically powered sonic-generators are to be tuned to the eels' heartbeat with results that are expected to be fatal.

When a patient feels neglected or ill-treated by his doctor in Sweden he may appeal to a Disciplinary Committee of the Swedish Medical Association, which submits the evidence on both sides to a careful scrutiny with the help of experts in the various branches of medicine concerned.

Canadian radio is about the most immensely subsidized organization in existence. The Dominion Government is pumping an additional \$650,000 into the hard-pressed Canadian Broadcasting Corporation just to keep it floating.



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

COLONIAL BLDG. OFFICES

"The offices provided in the Colonial Building were opened on Monday for the following public officers: Colonial Secretary and Registrar, Treasurer, Collector of Impost and Excise, Surveyor General, Surrogate or Judge of Probate, Registrar in Chancery. Hours of attendance will be from 10 until 3 o'clock, with the exception of the office of Collector of Impost and Excise, which will be open from 10 until 4.

"The foundation" stone of this building was laid on the 18th of May, 1843, just five years, three months and five days up to the time of its being taken possession of by the officers above mentioned."

—The Islander, Aug. 25, 1848.

History Comes To Life

(Ottawa Citizen)

In the mammoth parade that moves through the gaily-decorated streets of Hull tonight, famous figures will bring a colorful past to life. For Ottawa's neighbor across the river is celebrating the 75th anniversary of its incorporation, the 150th anniversary of its founding, and almost 350 years of historic associations.

The farcical wealth of China first drew Frenchmen this way, seeking a passage to the Western sea. Young Etienne Brule gazed upon the mist of the Chaudiere in 1610. Champlain followed his scout in 1613, and in 1615 travelled through to Lake Huron. Then Huron mid-dlemen brought a real wealth of furs down the Ottawa, across the Chaudiere portage, and so to the French at "La Chine."

In the next era, lumber was the lure. According to Dr. Lucien Braut in his new book, Hull was named by an English surveyor from York. From New England, an ancient enemy of New France, came Philippe Wright and his band of settlers. The white pine forests fell as Paul Bunyan's legends moved inland to the heart of the continent.

Symbol of Democracy

(Fort Erie Times-Review)

In the British House of Commons, when a Speaker is chosen, this is done beforehand, and when the House meets the Clerk of the House rises and points his finger silently at the Member who has been chosen.

Then two members catch him by the arms and force him to the Speaker's chair, with every evidence of unwillingness on his part—even going to the point of shaking his fist at those who escort him. The point is that being Speaker years ago meant being the officer of the House of Commons who spoke to the King, very severely sometimes, about the liberties of the people and the amount of the people's income which the King was spending. It was sometimes a rather risky post to hold.

The full symbolism is not used at Ottawa. There is not the same clear evidence of unwillingness on the part of a new Speaker. It would be a good thing perhaps if the old-fashioned ritual were perpetuated in detail.

The theory of democratic government is that the man who serves the public does so at loss and inconvenience. He risks unpopularity. He undertakes an unpleasant and unprofitable task, because it is his duty to do so. It seems a long time ago since anyone mentioned this in Canada. It seems many years ago that the idea was changed, and Canadians were given to understand that election to a legislature, or public office of any kind, was a sort of privilege, paying very good returns, and to be sought after—not avoided.

This is all the evidence of the change which has come over the idea of government in democracies. Where governments and their officials were supposed to be servants of the people, elected to serve the people well, they were paid and treated about as poorly as servants often are. There has grown up the idea that Ministers, Members of Parliament, and the civil servants are a specially favored class of people, who have won great privileges, for which they must be well rewarded. It is now becoming rather improper to say that a government is badly run, or that it wastes money, or that it tries all kinds of experiments without sufficient thought. People in this country have been

The Poet's Corner

LORD OF MY HEART'S ELATION

Lord of my heart's elation, Spirit of things unseen, Be thou my aspiration Consuming and serene!

Bear up, bear out, bear onward This mortal soul alone, To selfhood or oblivion, Incredibly thine own—

As the foamheads are loosened And blown along the sea, Or sink and merge forever In that which bids them be.

I, too, must climb to wonder, Uplift at thy command— Be one with my frail fellows Beneath the wind's strong hand.

A fleet and shadowy column Of dust or mountain rain, To walk the earth a moment And be dissolved again.

Be thou my exhalation Or fortitude of mien, Lord of the world's elation, Thou breath of things unseen! —Bliss Carman.

heard to say that anyone who says that the Prime Minister at any time is not fit for his job is being a disloyal citizen.

Probably it is not possible to go the whole way to the old system, but sensible men will agree that it would be a good thing if there were a little more idea that public office of any sort is sometimes undertaken unwillingly, at loss and inconvenience, even at the risk of unpopularity, for the solitary purpose of serving the nation unselfishly.

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Notes By The Way

The courts have taken a hand lately to force golf players to play according to the rules. On Vancouver Island, a player who neglected to cry "Fore" as a warning just as he was about to drive was judged at fault and the court assessed damages at \$600 when the ball struck a woman in the face. It is much the same principle by which the motorist is fined for failing to indicate where he intends to shoot his car before he actually turns. The Court of Appeals of New York State has confirmed a verdict for \$2,100 obtained by one golf player against another. It all goes to show that even at play, there are legal obligations which compel you to give notice to the other fellow. —Vancouver Sun.

A recent Canadian visitor to France reports considerable difficulty in getting his travelers' cheques cashed. Some hotels in Paris bluntly refused to handle them and even a few of the banks did so after a great deal of formality and some delay. In contrast there was no trouble at all in Great Britain. Hotels, merchants and railway offices gladly accepted these cheques as readily as cash and it was possible to turn them into money at almost any hour of the day or night. In Britain the tourist trade is considered of very great importance but in France it is probably the greatest single industry and certainly the one that could bring in the most dollars. Under the circumstances one would think that everything would be done to make it easier for the visitor with those dollars to turn them into spending money. —Toronto Financial Post.

The average American's well-known interest in new construction—the feats of agile cranes and rigid interlocking of girders—does not, one hears, exempt even President of the United States. Mr. Truman, displaced and handy by Blair House, is said to be making almost daily visits to inspect the 5 million job which is to restore the White House interior, build firm floors for any number of pianos, and convert Dolly Madison's once hastily deserted home into an enlarged lodgment of sixty-six rooms and twenty-two baths. More than a million bricks will be left over from old partition walls of the well-gutted White House, and on his tour of the constantly changing scene Mr. Truman is said to wear a protective steel helmet, painted white and lettered H. S. T. Thus sheltered from any falling bricks, the President displays an interest which has surprised and gratified architects who report that he can interpret a blueprint as expertly as he can compute Kansas City election returns, read a score of Mozart or understand the Branran Farm plan. —New York Herald Tribune.

"Come down to Kew in Ilia time" the poet wrote. We have never seen the Kew Gardens, as near to London, but for sheer beauty no display of Ilia could possibly exceed the picture in Calgary in mid-June of 1950. Every bush, every branch-leaf has broken out with rich, heavily-scented bloom. Even the stray and wild that have never been cared for are blossoming this year, and all the old stand-bys have two, three or even half a dozen clusters for each one of another year. It has been a bad Spring in many ways. The weather has been cold, excessively dry and far too windy. Gardens are late, pastures are shrivelling and crops are nearing the danger point. But there's always a bright side, and at the moment it's the Ilia. —Calgary Albertan.

The Age-Old Story

Great is Thy mercy towards me, and Thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

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