

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President 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, SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1952

Beware Of Substitutes

Pressure is being brought on the Federal Government to ease-up on the restrictions on butter substitutes, especially in the way of colouring. Why should the manufacturers be desirous of being allowed to use colouring? Is it not to make the substitute look like butter and sell at a lower price in competition with butter? We are told that in Saskatchewan co-operatives are buying up raw materials from which vegetable oil could be produced, such as soy beans, and utilizing them to produce a butter substitute, and all they want now is that the new spread be allowed to be coloured "like butter to be spread on bread." The cost of production ranges from 13c to 15c per lb. What farmers here and elsewhere must bear in mind is that Saskatchewan is not a farming province such as we are. It is true it has farms, but for the most part it "mines" wheat, develops oil wells, and ranches cattle. It is now an industrial province, last census showing that its urban population increased 24 per cent, and its rural population went down 23 per cent. It wants now cheap food to feed its urbanites, and is in the market for cheap substitutes. Farming means little to them, ranching, oil production, mining, lumber, manufacturing a great deal. They can raise cattle by the thousands and sell them, or could before the present embargo in Ontario and over the border. Here we have no alternative. Farming is our life blood, and dairying our life saver. If we sacrifice this for a so-called easy life and for so-called cheap competition, we kill the goose that lays the golden egg. It is a short-sighted policy to weaken the hold dairying has on our provincial economy. Farmers as a whole, and our leaders in particular, know this to be the truth. The late Dr. Robertson, of glorious memory, hauled us out of the slough in which we found ourselves sixty or so years ago, and our public men should be wary in giving any encouragement to any one advocating letting down the controls we now possess in keeping out cheap substitutes and unfair competition. There will always be a market for good butter where there is no unfair competition, and the benefit to the soil dairy cattle provides is beyond calculation in current dollars and cents.

British Emigration

Although the prospect of many years of austerity still lies ahead for the people of the United Kingdom, very few Britons are emigrating to the Dominions or elsewhere. To U. S., for instance, a land considered to be flowing with milk and honey compared with Britain, only one-fifth of the British immigration quota allowed emigrated in the year ending June 30th, 1951; a total of only 12,031 persons. Emigration to Canada is still high, but to Australia the figure dropped from 73,568 in 1950 to 63,000 in 1951—in spite of the benefits that the Australian Government is offering to its immigrants. Special priority, for instance, may be given in future to immigrants willing to work in agriculture and help Australia produce more food. New Zealand also is doing all she can to attract settlers from Britain. Early this month the turbine ship, Captain Cook carried 1,093 people to New Zealand. Their passage was paid by the New Zealand Government, under their assisted migration plan. The ship is to make four round voyages a year, carrying settlers to New Zealand.

Winter Street Clearance

The double-header storm of Thursday and the three-day storm of just a few days ago had members of the City Streets Department working overtime to keep traffic moving. That this was done is a credit to all concerned. Lessons have been learned and perhaps some thought should be given to the future. There is need for a piece of heavy equipment, a bulldozer to break the more solid drifts for the lighter snow plows to follow and widen the traffic lanes. There is need too, in some instances, of greater co-operation from citizens. This is particularly true where cars are parked for long periods of time on our streets. These vehicles remain perilously close to the centre lanes and make hazardous going for operators of snow fighting equipment. Even at that, a good job is done and the offend-

ing vehicle left unscathed. It is no easy task, under normal conditions, to operate a plow with its complicated mechanism, but to move in and out and around stalled cars calls for skill and patience if damage is to be avoided.

Another suggestion worthy of consideration, and it effects particularly our narrowed streets, is to have the snow piled on one side only. There would be one clear foot path and a good avenue for traffic. The present method allows for a single traffic lane, and the plow in manoeuvring around stalled cars often throws snow back onto cleared sidewalks, much to the annoyance of the householder.

During the last storm members of the City Streets Committee took a personal interest in the clearance problem and accompanied the available equipment in action. We feel sure that this attitude will be reflected in greater efficiency and will also be appreciated by those actually doing the job.

EDITORIAL NOTES

St. David's Day. Tomorrow, Quadragesima, 1st Sunday in Lent. The ill-wind of Thursday, and the subsequent snow, blew the taxis some good. Spring cleaning is the next domestic storm to be faced, and already painters and paperhangers are showing activity.

Only seventeen days till St. Patrick's celebration, and see the state of the city streets. There does not seem much chance of dry streets for the St. Patrick's marchers on that date.

Halifax and Dartmouth are today celebrating the turning of the first sod in the construction of the bridge which is to link the two. Islanders join in congratulating the Nova Scotia town and city.

George Grossmith, English actor and public entertainer, died this date 1912. He gave up reporting for "The Times" to go on the stage. He won special distinction as the admiral in "Pinafore." His writings include "Diary of Nobody."

No less than eight ferry boats, each with a capacity of 400 passengers and from 50 to 68 vehicles, are up for sale as a result of the new Delaware Memorial Bridge being recently opened for traffic. One of them might easily be obtained for use this summer between Wood Islands and Caribou.

The commission of Governor-General Massey, like that of his predecessor towards the latter end of his term, confers on him all the Royal powers and prerogatives exercisable in relation to this country. The added powers include such things as pardon, apart from statute, and the granting and creation of honours in the name of the Queen.

Selling liquor is a profitable undertaking all right. Nova Scotia made a profit of \$9,907,448 last year and Ontario \$41,194,385. Not much when one says it quickly, but actually it represents a huge consumption of liquor. There was a drop of sales in Nova Scotia, however, of a million dollars, but in Ontario there was an increase to \$210,473,812.

This is education week, and for the next few days an extensive programme of addresses and school visitations have been arranged to make our citizens educationally-minded. The highlight of the week will be the address by Dr. Watson Kirkconnell of Mt. Allison University, who will speak at a meeting in Prince of Wales College, presided over by Dr. J. A. Clark. Principal MacKinnon will speak over CBA the previous evening.

A new, native-born Governor-General now presides at Rideau Hall. His formal duties are not extensive, signing documents and formally opening and closing sessions of Parliament, but social contacts take up much of his time. One of his first duties will be to visit the respective ten provinces and see for himself conditions and prospects there. This, however, is not the season or the weather to encourage travelling on a sight-seeing tour.

That is a move in the right direction by the City Council in an endeavour to collect arrears of assessments. For too long "Smart Ales" have been getting away with non-payment, and it was difficult for the average citizen to discover who were the evaders. The City Councillors know, and it is their business to see that flesh is not made of one and fowl of another, but all taxpayers are dealt with alike. Those in arrears should be compelled to pay up before the others have additional liabilities cast upon their shoulders.

Lion Or Lamb?



The Poets Corner

BIRDS IN THE SNOW How find the myriads, that in summer cheer The hills and valleys with their ceaseless songs, Due sustenance, or where subsist they now? Earth yields them naught: the imprison'd worm is safe Beneath the frozen clod; all seeds of herbs Lie cover'd close; and berry-bearing thorns, That feed the thrush (whatever some suppose), Afford the smaller minstrels no supply. The long protracted rigour of the year Thins all their numerous flocks. In thinks and holes Ten thousand seek an unmolested end, As instinct prompts; self-buried ere they die. —William Cowper.

Bless Me! What A Singular Device

(Montreal Gazette) Strange indeed are the ways of governments. A great many years ago—back in 1833—the English writer, Edward Bulwer-Lytton, told an economic parable. It seems very applicable to this country today. His character, named Micromegas, sees an enormous Giant, laid out at full length upon the ground in the midst of a mighty orchard laden with fruit. Chains are on his limbs, and weights upon his breast. The Giant kicks most lustily against these restraints. And his struggles so convulse the ground that some fruit is shaken from the trees. And the natives, who stand about, seize the fruit as it falls. The compassionate Micromegas approaches the Giant. "And who art thou?" he asks. "Alas!" said the Giant, "my name is Industry. And I am the parent of these ungrateful children, who have tied me down, in order that my struggles to get free may shake a few fruits to the ground." "Bless me," said Micromegas, "what a singular device!" At this moment "a whole gang of elderly ladies" comes up with a huge bowl of opium, which the elderly ladies begin to thrust down the throat of the Giant. "And what the devil is that for?" asked Micromegas. "We don't like to see our good father make such violent struggles," reply the pious matrons, "we are giving him opium to lie still." Then says the Giant: "My children, I have done my best to maintain you all, there is food enough in the orchard for fifty times your number, but you do yourself the injustice of crippling your father. You mean well by me—you compassionate my struggles—but instead of giving me liberty, these good ladies would send me to sleep. Trust to nature and common sense, and we shall live happily together."

"Nature and common sense, dear father!" cry the children. "Oh, beware of these new fangled names!" Perhaps no one would call the members of the Canadian government "elderly ladies"—and much less "pious matrons." But anyone who sees Canadian corporations held down by ponderous taxation, while the needed dollars are brought in from the United States, may well feel like saying: "Bless me, what a singular device!" ANCIENT ANIMALS Remains of red reindeer found in British peat beds show the prehistoric animals were much larger than the present-day type.

The Age-Old Story

And it came to pass, that he went through the corn fields on the sabbath day; and his disciples began, as they went, to pluck the ears of corn. And the Pharisees said unto him, Behold, why do they on the sabbath day that is not lawful? And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath; therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.

Crater Theory

(Winnipeg Free Press) The theory that the mysterious giant crater recently discovered in Northern Quebec is the product of meteoric concussion is being challenged in the United States. While plenty of iron has been found in the neighborhood, with one concentration indicated magnetically under the east rim of the crater, the critics suggest that this is of logical origin like other deposits being developed farther south. Another objection is that the vast, lake-filled bowl is carpeted with layers of very large, well-rounded granite boulders quite unlike the shattered fragments usually associated with meteoric bursts. With the original hypothesis now heavily discounted, scientists are tentatively advancing a new theory to account for what is in the general view one of the most remarkable geologic phenomena on the face of the earth. Northern Quebec is covered by a vast sheet of granite which, it is said, was formed by crystallization of original sedimentary rocks. This process is presumed to have started at some point in Ungava and to have spread like an expanding balloon, with heat generated at a constant rate on the surface of the expanding sphere and being conducted backward because the newly formed granite possessed two to seven times the conductivity of the surrounding limestone or sandstone. This reduced the interior of the "bubble" to rapidly expanding plastic, which gradually raised a great dome at the surface. It is suggested that this took place at a time when the whole region was covered with mile-deep ice. The "bubble" finally broke at the top with soft granite oozing out, according to one description, "like toothpaste squeezed slowly from a tube." Two things then happened. A lake former under the ice and the molten granite "billed" to form great boulders which sank through to carpet the lake floor and the base of the dome. While this account may be somewhat less dramatic than the theory of meteoric concussion, it will appear to many quite as remarkable. It is to be expected that the new theory will also come under critical fire and it will be interesting to see how it stands up.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) ANTI-RAILROAD MEETING "A large anti-railroad meeting was held at Vernon River Bridge last evening. The Opposition speakers were the Hon. B. Davies, ex-Colonial Secretary, Louis Davies, Esq., editor of The Patriot, and Messrs. Richard Smith and J. B. Gay. The Hon. Mr. Haythorne and the Hon. James Duncan (one of the representatives of the district, and a member of the present Government) both spoke strongly in favour of Railways, but the former gentleman thinks this is not the proper time to commence such expensive undertakings. Mr. Duncan, however, held his own almost single-handed, and the feeling of the meeting showed a growing disposition on the part of the people of the district generally to accept the situation, with certain modifications. A resolution recommending a change of route, so as to bring the populous districts south of the Hillsborough into more direct contact with that portion of the line between Charlottetown and Georgetown, having been moved and well supported, was voted down by the opponents of the railway policy of the present Government." —The Islander, May 19, 1871.

Too Many Deer

(Owen Sound Sun-Times) Southern Ontario has a deer problem on its hands. In fact these lovely animals of the wilds have become one of the Department of Lands and Forests' top headaches. About 40 years ago deer were almost eliminated in the area. Then came protection and now they have reached nuisance proportions. The fault lies in the fact that Southern Ontario is too thickly populated to make it wise to encourage the deer population. It is all very well to be sentimental about the whole affair, to decry the shooting of the beautiful animals and to go into raptures about seeing them along the roadway. They are beautiful and interesting and it is most entertaining to see them. But the price for the pleasure is too high and it is not paid by those who get the pleasure out of seeing them. Deer eat the Fall wheat off the farmers' fields in the Winter when the snow does not cover it deep. They also browse on other farm crops during the growing season. They will eliminate all cedar reproduction, eating the trees as high as they can reach. Small pines in reforestation plots also fall prey to their diet choices as do the small hardwood seedlings. In other words they pretty well put an end to the bushlots' natural abilities to reproduce. Then, too, they take occasional

Notes By The Way

The Ten Commandments contain 197 words. Lincoln's Gettysburg address contains 266 words. The American Declaration of Independence contains 300 words. But Washington's C. P. S. order to regulate the price of cabbage contains 28,911 words. —Tulsa Tribune. Mayor Whitton has let it be known that she is going to the coronation, whenever it is held and whether at her own expense or as Ottawa's official representative. We think most people will applaud her decision, and will expect the capital city to send her in her official capacity, chain of office and all. A precedent was set when Mr. Stanley Lewis, then mayor, was sent to the coronation of the Queen's father. —Ottawa Journal. How overwhelming is the population pressure on the good earth of China is indicated in the figures of land distribution. The Communists have classified the farmers of China into five categories, according to holdings. A family that has five acres is pretty high in the scale! Under the land reform which the Communists have instituted, the holdings are being further fragmented, so that many, many Chinese families have to try to live off a plot that in Western terms is nothing but a patch. That sort of reform is, of course, inimical to more production; on the contrary, it is likely—in itself—to reduce production. —Washington Post. Red Skelton, entertainer, was undergoing a farcical medical examination for the edification of his giggling audience. Time came for a blood count. The nurse jabbed a needle into his finger. "Ouch!" yelled Skelton. "What did you do that for?" "That's for the count," the nurse explained. "Let the count use his own blood," Skelton cracked. "We've done enough for England." The State Department at Washington, and Americans at large, may have blushed, instead of laughing, on hearing the program. But in a democracy the guardianship of free speech toll of cars, becoming involved in accidents which frequently are quite costly to the owners. The problem rests on the fact that wild life is not adapted to thickly populated areas. Yet, given a degree of protection, they will quickly increase in these areas. We would suggest that deer should be left to such areas as the Bruce Peninsula, where large areas of wooded land and swamp provide them with necessary range. It is a case where conservation of wild life is foolish. Books Received "SEVEN DAYS AND THE SEVEN WORDS" This is a series of studies by Rev. Dr. Dickinson recalling the events of Holy Week from Palm Sunday to the walk to Emmans seven days later. They begin and end on the note of triumph, although the thoughts expressed between are necessarily related to the sad days and sad events recorded. It should prove helpful to many during Lent. The publishers are the Ryerson Press.

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