

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, NOV. 13, 1951

Vanishing Savings

In an age when politicians profess that it is morally wrong for a man to have an income substantially larger than his neighbor it is not surprising that Parliament should have become firmly committed to a system of redistributive taxation.

The political purpose which underlies the humanitarian objectives of redistributive taxation makes it difficult to halt the process once it begins. Nevertheless, the fact remains that those who are the recipients of the involuntary largesse of the taxpayer generally spend the extra income they receive in the form of baby bonuses and old age pensions without means test and the like, rather than save it.

The trouble with the redistributive process is that ultimately, having exhausted the resources of those in the higher and middle income brackets, the tax collector is forced at long last to take away income even from those whose earnings are small.

Redistributive taxation has just about reached that stage in Canada today. Lest anyone doubt such a conclusion, let him ask himself how often during the past year he has had to borrow or dip into his diminishing savings to pay his taxes.

The Why And The Wherefor

The Bank of Nova Scotia (says The Letter Review) finds farm productivity "disappointingly low" in Canada. It notes in its Monthly Review that, while some individual farms have average yields of 10,000 pounds of milk per cow per year, and some regions 6-7,000 pounds, the national average is only 4,600.

Farm Price Prospects

According to Mr. David L. MacFarlane, professor of economics at Macdonald College, writing in the Financial Post, farm price levels will rise in the next year. This opinion is based on the assumption that Canada's industrial boom will be passed on to agriculture.

The writer notes that gross net incomes of Canadian farmers have been maintained at the record high levels of the postwar period. Cash incomes in 1951 are running higher than those in 1950.

"Looking at 1952", he says, "the prospect is that farm prices will continue high. This forecast is made against consideration of the fact that some commodity prices have weakened in the past three to six months. It also takes account of the fact that Canada is just getting nicely into her rearmament effort. To use the words of

Mr. Howe, 'Canada's rearmament effort is just emerging from the tooling stages'. And the size of the defense program is \$5 billions over a three-year period.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This is Book Week and also Young Canada's Book Week, a very proper reminder that youngsters are interested in well written books whether they be written especially for children or not.

The introduction of direct coast-to-coast telephone dialing in the United States brings another problem to the small apartment dweller, where to store telephone books for all the numbers he can dial.

Charles Kemble, British actor, died this date 1854, youngest brother of John Phillip Kemble and Mrs. Siddons. He joined his famous brother at Drury Lane in 1794.

The two-year job of dredging the Montague River is very nearly complete and another important channel of trade kept open. Trade is the life-blood of a community and transportation facilities its very arteries.

Now counting the cost. Britain has so far spent £1 (some \$3.2) billion on war damage repairs. Nearly 3 1/2 million buildings including 3,160,000 homes were damaged by enemy action. More than 40 per cent of this devastated property was in London.

Forestalling the Western United Nations. Former Norwegian foreign minister Halvdan Koht has revealed that before World War II Norway turned down a Soviet request to use a harbor in North Norway for storing coal in transit from the Soviet mines in Spitsbergen.

Mr. Churchill's announced intention to restore the ancient university representation in the House of Commons, abolished in 1945, recalls a story of a certain French politician. He asked the late A. P. Herbert what constituency he represented.

There was no "stuck-upism" on the part of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh when they made themselves at home in whatever company they were, and took a practical interest in what they were shown, never letting the conversation slacken, always asking for additional information.

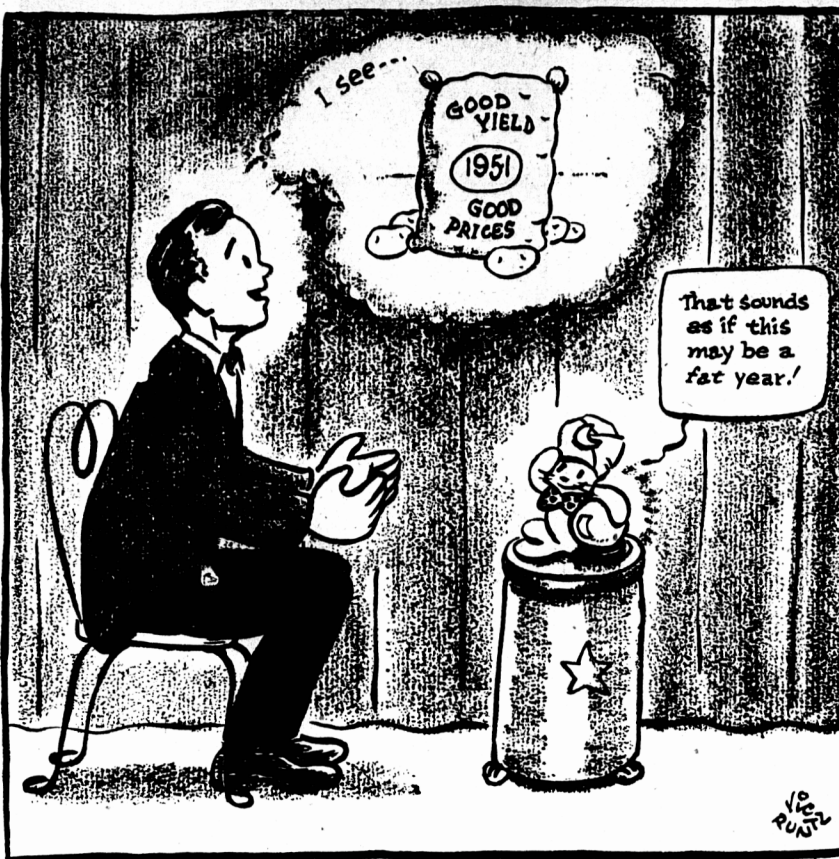
On arrival at Southampton recently, Mr. T. J. Boulstridge, managing director of J. A. Phillips & Co. Ltd., cycle manufacturers of Smethwick, said that his five-week trip through the eastern parts of Canada and the United States had netted him firm orders for cycles and parts totalling more than \$1,000,000.

Are we not thankful that we are not on the prairies these days? Premier Douglas of Saskatchewan reports that grain, valued at \$200,000,000 is lying under the snow on the farms. He has renewed a proposal for cash advances to help through the winter those farmers whose grain is still unthreshed.

Another "How not to do it". If Ella really were old, she wouldn't have told this on herself. But her official duties as grandmother took her, for the second time in a month, into a small but nice-appearing restaurant in London (Ont.).

Circles in Montreal close to the CBC expect the early retirement of Dr. Augustin Frigon, long its general manager, which will set off a chain reaction of other changes. Assistant General Manager Donald Manson, stationed at Ottawa, may be named general manager, for a short time.

Potato Grower's Dream



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.

PRINCESS ELIZABETH AND THE LAMONTS OF P. E. I.

Sir, I wonder if the Lamonts of Prince Edward Island know of the special relationship in which they stand to their Royal visitor, Princess Elizabeth?

The name "Lamont" has not, as is sometimes supposed, a French origin. It originated in Argyllshire, Scotland, and is a modified form of "Lagman" or "Lagman" (English "lawman"), the name of the founder of the Clan Sir Lauman's father was Malcolm—a good Highland name—but for some reason it was the son's name which became adopted as the surname of the clan.

Curiously enough, the Lamonts in P. E. I.—or at least one branch of them—represent another offshoot from the main Cowal line. Before crossing to P. E. I. about 1829 they had been for some centuries settled in the Isle of Skye.

It seems that one of his descendants—known as Kenneth, son of William, son of James—was given some lands in Trotternish, Skye, about the beginning of the 16th century, trained in the law and established as a kind of sheriff there to collect the King's rents and other dues.

Amongst the Lamonts in P. E. I. the descendants of Malcolm Lamont (immigrant in 1829) have preserved the names of their forefathers going right back to Kenneth. The line runs: Malcolm, Murdoch, John, Duncan, Donald, Murdoch, Duncan, Kenneth.

The old historic lands of the Lamonts in Cowal have, piece by piece, been passing into other hands. But perhaps the descendants of Sir Lauman in Canada and all over the new world will be interested to hear of an attempt which is being made to ensure that the only estate now remaining will continue permanently in Lamont ownership.

Memo To Certain Voyagers

Following is the text of the poem written by Charles Bruce of Toronto for CBC's program of farewells to Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh:

Rugged and picturesque, the captions said, And the tourist-folder of land opens.

Arms of the searching sea Fade backward from the estuaries of the hills. Pulpwood drifts in the quick shallows of the Matapedia;

Now, the stone land Here on this page the swamps and barrens and the inland forests Dark on precambrian mounds.

The mountains, now. The young hard brilliant parapets Whitecarved in the sun - - - Haunting with height the city and the slope,

What breath informs it? What long pulse of life Lives in the veins of it? What is the blend of fear, strength, song and dream Slownumbering in its heart?

We cannot tell you that. There is no answer but the wordless answers That live in flesh, in nerves, heart, blood and bone;

Somewhere a mower chirps, far off, with a sound of crickets. And a sidehill tilts to the wind, Smelling of hay and sun - - -

Voices. A woman's voice. Anger and love On the tongues of time; and the shrill shouts of children Blown from the schoolhouse woods, where the apples nest By the grey roots of maples - - -

Dreams and images that live in flesh, forever moving; Forever merging with time, forever blending, reminding - - - Somewhere an axe falls, today, in a woodlot

A million answers, voyages; infinite answers. Sounds, familiar, unnumbered, Crowding the memory and the memory of memory, and the dream of tomorrow.

And so we say: Send the heart looking, voyagers. Send the heart looking. Let the mind journey and the blood remember.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.) PAINTERS' SOCIETY "A meeting of the painters of Charlottetown and vicinity was held in the carriage shop of Mr. P. H. Trainor on Wednesday evening last.

GREAT MISSENDEEN, England (CP)—A woman who purchased a shopping bag at a church rummage sale in this Buckinghamshire town discovered some currency hidden in the lining. It was returned to the person who donated the bag for the sale.

Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. McIsaac Part Two (continued) (All Rights Reserved) CREDIT AND FINANCE

Credit and finance is one of the most important fields in the whole cooperative movement. This, however, is one field which the cooperative leaders of England seem not to have studied seriously.

On the upper or national level, however, they have solved this financial problem to a point where in fact finances sometimes develop embarrassing surpluses. Their cooperative insurance company is the fifth largest in England, in some special fields of insurance.

In France, the credit unions, along with all other monetary and financial institutions, suffered some severe losses during the war. There, small parish unions are organized practically all over the country.

Whereas in the Netherlands, usually above or attached to the bank building is the residence of the treasurer or manager. Where the area and membership is small, the manager supplements his income by serving as secretary of the local farmers' union branch, the town council, the water committee, or by doing some other secretarial work of a community nature.

We were told that there was a great deal of opposition to this amalgamation policy at first, but greater efficiency and better service to the members has resulted in even more interest in, and more support for, the larger units.

The manager of the central cooperative bank in Paris is a clever and apparently very capable business man, who spent nine months in the United States last year making a survey of agricultural credit systems.

The system that appears to be working well is combining insurance facilities with the local credit bank. They are two separate societies, of course, but since they are so closely allied they work well together.

In Denmark also, there is a central mortgage bank where loans can be obtained by members wanting a large loan or mortgage. To become a member of this organization, one has to borrow, no save. For instance, when building a house or buying a farm, the member first goes to the bank, obtains a temporary loan to complete the deal for the farm, or finish the house, and then takes the deal to the cooperative mortgage company.

In the Netherlands is a small country which has a separate cooperative banks, and two separate credit systems. But they are operated in two different parts of the country and by two different groups of people. They began years ago, on a small, part-time basis, like our credit unions in Canada, but soon found the need of a central bank and direct supervision and advice.