

THE GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett Associate Editor, Frank Walker. "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1951

An Austerity Budget

Perhaps the outstanding feature of the Budget delivered by Finance Minister Abbott in the House of Commons last night was the staggering increase of 20 percent in personal income taxes. This is for defence purposes, and will not go into effect until July 1. Other changes, including a two per cent boost in sales taxes which already stand at eight percent, become effective immediately. Cigarettes, tobacco and other commodities and luxuries are hit by other tax increases.

In view of Federal proposals for amending the Constitution to enable the Provinces to impose their own sales tax, the boost in Federal sales taxes is ominous indeed. Experience has shown that whenever this retrogressive tax is raised, it usually stays at that level until hoisted again. It is rarely reduced, even in times of general prosperity. Governments find it an easy way of milking the taxpayers, especially the poor ones, and as it is pyramided before it reaches the consumer it represents a very onerous burden in many cases.

International Pork Barrel

"Pork barrel politics" is an unpleasant epithet once popular in describing a distribution of government largesse for the purpose of influencing certain electoral areas where political support for the party in power was known to be lagging. Occasionally it worked. More often it proved a dangerous boomerang. Communities which had been consistently faithful politically resented that political heretics should be favored at their expense.

In recent years pork barrel politics has been superseded by social security politics. Social security politics is what External Affairs Minister Pearson would describe as "enlightened self-interest." People imagine that everyone benefits from the political "share-the-wealth" program. People forget until budget day that it is everybody's wealth which is being shared. Meanwhile the Government reaps the credit.

Canadian Dishes

Canadian cooking has begun to come out of its comparative seclusion on the women's pages of newspapers and tends to become front-page copy. The most recent example was the story of the meals served at Quebec's historic Government House, Bois de Coulonge, to the President of the French Republic and Mme. Auriol. Others were about an Ottawa gourmets' club and Junior Chambers of Commerce suggestions for the adoption of distinctive dishes for the various Provinces or regions.

boys for our troops in Korea, who seemingly prefer beans—not necessarily without reason—to the other forms of military ration, represents a very considerable section of Canadian eaters. There is no reason why we should continue to neglect the finer things of the table. In Canada we are blessed with a great variety of choice foodstuffs and have developed the means of distributing it in prime condition. Cooks are generally only too happy to supply varied and brilliantly prepared meals if only the diner will appreciate them instead of demanding long accustomed fare.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Official nominations tomorrow.

Apparently there are going to be no acclamations in this election.

Budget and new taxation imposition the first order of the day.

Too many cooks are likely to spoil the Korean broth. It does not do to have anyone but a dictator dictating international policies.

Now we are to have a boom in Maritime trucking, provided new sales taxation on the part of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick does not intervene.

If we are to wait the outcome of the patent legislation between two contending meter companies, it is likely to be a considerable time before the new auto meters will go into operation.

The Abbott Budget reveals that in the years 1946 to 1950, more than \$9,000,000,000 of new plant and equipment was installed by Canadian industry. Alas, very little of it came to Prince Edward Island!

An increase of 12 per cent in gross national product in 1951 over last year is estimated in the Abbott Budget. This should mean a considerable increase in our payments under the Dominion-Provincial tax agreement.

It is encouraging to note that agricultural production in Canada in 1950 was higher in both volume and value than in 1949, and farmers' cash income, excluding the variations in Wheat Board disbursements, was five per cent greater in 1950 than in the year before.

Nova Scotia Legislature is to have a summer session to pass on the proposed sales tax and amend the pension law. That means Premier Angus Macdonald is sure the proposed amendment of the B. N. A. Act will be carried at the adjourned meeting of the Federal-Provincial Conference.

It is announced the Federal Government has established a bureau of current affairs to tell Canadian service men why they are serving and fighting in Korea. In view of the many contradictory propaganda addresses being given over CBC, one would think such an official bureau was highly essential.

Mr. Bell, Leader of the Opposition, accepts Premier Jones' declaration that the issue in this election is, which party should deal with the Federal Government in reference to the Dominion-Provincial agreement. This being conceded, there is practically nothing else before the electorate except to discover what each party stands for.

It must have been depressing in the extreme for the Islanders to have to go on the ice at Sydney knowing that two of their number had received a summons in connection with the previous game played in that town. They are to be heartily congratulated under the circumstances in doing as well as they did, in spite, too, of being two men short in their customary line-up.

Some extreme left British newspapers are adversely criticizing Princess Elizabeth for spending more time with her husband abroad than with her children at home. The same type of newspapers previously hinted that the Duke of Edinburgh should be transferred from the Mediterranean to Naval Headquarters in London to be near his wife. It is a case evidently "You'll be d - - ned if you don't and you'll be d - - ned if you do."

An indication that prices are at an exorbitant peak is shown by the fact that personal spending in 1950 increased more than personal income, resulting in a 30 per cent decline in net personal savings out of current income. Yet in other countries the situation was even worse. Wholesale market prices in Canada advanced 15 per cent last year, as against an increase of 19 per cent in the United States, 22 per cent in Australia, 23 per cent in the United Kingdom, and between 20 and 25 per cent in most of the western European countries.

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.

GOOD SAMARITANS

Sir,—I would be much obliged if you would allow me to express in your widely circulated paper my thanks to those people, chief among them the tractor owners, who have on many occasions pushed, pulled, and even lifted me out of the snow and mud through the period of several years that I have driven a car; especially since they were always kind enough to do it without charge! Being a clergyman I have received more than usual kindness (especially in this Province) but I know that many tractor owners never charge; and sometimes an individual tractor owner is put to considerable expense, when there is a bad hole at their gate way. I would not like them to think that I take these services too much for granted.

Many, I am sure, would join me in this expression. I am, Sir etc. REV. JOHN DOUGLAS York, P. E. I.

CRUSADE FOR GOOD READING

Sir,—The Royal Edward Chapter of the I. O. D. E. at their last monthly meeting discussed a letter published in The Guardian recently dealing with immoral literature, which is finding its way to the stands in our local stores. This was an excellent letter, written by Mrs. Regina Murray, chairman of "The Crusade for Good Reading" in the Charlottetown division of the C. W. L.

Mrs. Murray puts the matter very clearly before us and opens our eyes to the danger of allowing unclean literature to be so easily available to our people, both young and not so young.

We have read with interest and approval the report of our Public Health Department and of the huge increase in the amounts budgeted for this branch in our government estimates. And we wonder if the officials in this department could help in this important phase of public health. As Mrs. Murray points out, "How anxious and eager we are to protect our bodily health...but we do little to prevent spiritual infection which is insidiously creeping into the minds of the readers of immoral literature."

The members of my Chapter voted unanimously to join "The Crusade for Good Reading" so well organized by the C. W. L. I am, Sir, etc. HELEN A. LAWSON Regent, Royal Edward Chapter, I. O. D. E. Charlottetown.

THE SOLAR SYSTEM

Sir,—I love to think of the eight or more planets, revolving around the central sun, all held in their proper position by gravitation. Each one follows the right path and keeps the correct distance, none varying nor making mistakes.

I fancy the Almighty expects us to see in this as well as other things in nature, a spiritual lesson. The natural sun is their attracting force. They may all be receiving heat, light, life and power, as the earth one of their number does. But man, the greatest of God's creations, unless it be the angelic host, seems unable to follow God's plan for him. The Creator sets before us two courses of actions. He tells us the reward for one and the tragedy in the other. By nature we choose evil, or allow our minds to revolve around something of doubtful value. Adolph Hitler said: "I'll change the minds of the German people in 10 years. I'll rule the notions of a Supreme Being out of their thinking and let them revolve their minds around me. I'll teach them hatred and cruelty instead of love and helpfulness." He got into war before the 10 years

The Poet's Corner

GOD'S ACRE

I like that ancient Saxon phrase, which calls The burial-ground God's Acre! It is just; It consecrates each grave within its walls, And breathes a benison o'er the sleeping dust.

God's Acre! Yes, that blessed name imparts Comfort to those who in the grave have sown The seed that they have garnered in their hearts, Their bread of life, alas! no more their own.

Into its furrows shall we all be cast, In the sure faith that we shall rise again At the great harvest, when the archangel's blast Shall winnow, like a fan, the chaff and grain.

Then shall the good stand in immortal bloom In the fair gardens of that second birth, And each bright blossom mingle its perfume With that of flowers which never bloomed on earth.

With thy rude ploughshare, Death, turn up the sod, And spread the furrow for the seed we sow; This is the field and Acre of our God, This is the place where human harvests grow! —W. H. Longfellow.

Gone But Not Forgotten



conservation movement of America." During the last thirteen years of his life "Uncle Jack" Miner became one of Canada's best known and beloved citizens. Very few Canadian or American magazines and newspapers have not published an account of his work and bird sanctuary. Every year thousands of visitors journeyed to Kingsville to chat with Jack Miner and to see the sanctuary.

What a wonderful experience to have visited the sanctuary when guided about by "Uncle Jack"! The Miner homestead is surrounded by tall whispering pines and a large green lawn. To the west, next to the homestead, lies the large pond where tame ducks, swans, geese and other wild fowl swim and frolic. Multi-colored pheasants, peacocks, pigeons and bantam chickens strut contentedly around the sanctuary grounds. When "Uncle Jack" accompanied visitors to the pond area, the birds would come and feed from their hands for they knew his presence meant safety.

From the look-out tower large feeding ponds are observed north of the sanctuary's barns. During the fall and spring thousands of wild geese, ducks and swans alight to feed on grain strewn on the bottom of the ponds. In the ponds are wire pens where the wild fowl are trapped, banded and then released.

In autumn the sky over Kingsville is dotted with v-shaped flights of honking geese winging back and forth from Lake Erie to the sanctuary. During the hunting season the geese run a five-mile gauntlet of shot from sportsmen who prize a well-cooked Canada goose. Only the more fortunate, however, obtain such a prize for the old flock leaders are wise in aerial navigation using the wind and clouds always to best advantage.

JACK MINER'S ACHIEVEMENT

Sir,—The week of April 8 to 14 is National Wild Life Week in Canada.

In April, 1947, Parliament, by an unanimous vote, passed the Jack Miner Bill which created National Wild Life Week. The week to be observed always contains April 10th, the birthday of the late Jack Miner. This educational week stresses the value of conservation and is a living memorial to the life work of the late Jack Miner.

Jack Miner was born at Dover Centre, Ohio, near Cleveland, on April 10th, 1865. In 1878, when he was thirteen he came with his parents to Canada. He studied bird life and compiled data from the time he learned to write. One biographer stated that "Jack Miner was a naturalist from the time he was but four or five years of age when he used to put pollywogs into cow tracks along the creek to watch them develop into frogs."

In 1904 "Uncle Jack" founded the Jack Miner Bird Sanctuary at Kingsville, Ontario, in order to promote the conservation of migratory waterfowl and to encourage the establishment of bird sanctuaries. He used to say to all visitors, "Hunters feed birds to attract them to be shot. I feed birds to attract them to a place of safety to save them from extermination." In 1909 he began banding birds to study their migration routes to gain scientific knowledge. In 1915 he started to place a verse of scripture on each band. In this way wild fowl carried God's word to the Eskimos and Indians of the north and to the hunters of the south.

For thirty years he lectured throughout Canada, Newfoundland, the United States and Alaska. His audiences were captivated by his straightforward honesty, candor and simplicity of expression. Biographers contend that his greatest contribution was the part he played in educating the public to the value of bird and animal life and the need of conservation. In 1906 he was referred to as "the father of the

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Notes By The Way

One deputy struck and knocked down another member during a hot argument in the French National Assembly. This is scarcely the parliamentary way of letting your opponent have the floor—Hamilton Spectator.

Envelope stuffer, enclosed with Baby Bonus cheques and signed by National Director of Family Allowances, advises housewives to economize in various ways, one of which is by doing their own baking. Questions that arise are: (1) Who is to compensate home bakers for the batches of dough they spoil while learning the art of breadmaking? (2) If the housewives succeed in learning the art, who is to compensate the commercial bakers for lost business? (3) Who asked the Director of Family Allowances for his advice, anyway?—The Printed Word.

The 15 million dollars included in this year's estimates for the trans-Canada highway recalls the fact that of the 20 million earmarked for the project last year only eight million was spent. There has been much talk recently of the great importance of a transcontinental highway as part of the country's military preparation program. Without it no cross-Canada movement of highway transport is possible. And

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

FIRST VISITING CIRCUS

The Prince Edward Island Register of Oct. 13, 1829, notes that a company of Equestrian performers from the United States are now exhibiting their feats of Horsemanship, etc., in a large and handsome marquee in the rear of the Wellington Hotel. Large crowds attend nightly to witness their performance, being the first of the kind ever exhibited here.

This first circus ever to visit Prince Edward Island, and it was held in Mr. Douse's yard (Wellington Hotel) under the patronage of Lieutenant Governor Ready. The entertainment, as advertised, consisted of "a Grand Entree by a number of Arabian horses, who will go through many astounding Evolutions; introducing the beautiful English Mare Duchess, who will dance to her favourite tunes, 'Nancy Dawson' and 'Paddy Carney', keeping the exact time; 'The Officer and Recruit', 'The Clown deceived by a Woman on the Horse'; master feats of Balancing; Master Alexander; Horsemanship, by Master Waterman, without saddle or bridle; Mr. Hains will introduce the full-blooded Arabian Horse Arab, broke himself, which will perform the part of a Domestic—will bring a handkerchief, hat, whip, basket, etc., and conclude by mounting a Pedestal, ungirthing his saddle and

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