

THE GUARDIAN

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Maritimes Board Of Trade

In the Maritimes the Boards of Trade are synonymous with progress in almost every field. Far from being exclusive organizations the Boards of Trade welcome men of every profession or occupation who have the well-being of their community at heart. It is very largely a business man's organization but only because business men seem to realize the necessity of assisting progress with a bit of push.

Today the secretaries of the Maritime Provinces boards gather for their second annual conference. These hard working individuals will be busy before as well as during the annual meeting. Tomorrow the two-day meeting gets under way at which reports will be presented on such matters as the need for a Maritime industrial survey, the efforts made towards traffic safety and the integration of national and regional activities.

A particularly welcome speaker will be the Hon. D. B. Sangster, Jamaican Minister of Social Welfare, who will discuss trade possibilities between the British West Indies and the Maritimes. Canada's Minister of Finance, the Hon. Douglas C. Abbott will be another guest speaker.

A great deal of work has fallen on Mr. Frank W. Curtis and Mr. J. Gordon MacDonald, presidents of the Maritime and Charlottetown Boards and on the secretaries Mr. A. T. Parkes and Mr. A. Walthen Gaudet. The success of the meetings both in attendance and work accomplished is their reward.

Conservation In Ontario

Ontario has embarked on a bold adventure in conservation. The story of what is being done in an organized way is told in the current issue of the Canadian Geographical Journal by A. H. Richardson, chief conservation engineer of the Ontario Department of Planning and Development. It is in essence the story of the Conservation Authorities, a partnership arrangement between the Province and all the municipalities lying within a given watershed. Legislation providing for the establishment and financing of Authorities was passed in 1946, and represents a landmark in efforts to protect the natural resources of the Province.

The community, as the Conservation Authorities plan sees it, is the river valley. There are already 15 Authorities in existence, with a total membership of 254 municipalities, and their activities extend to an area of 10,500 square miles.

Flood control lies at the heart of the program. Forty-seven regional flood control projects are now on the drafting board, and these will run to a total figure of nearly \$47 million. They are in addition to projects already completed or in progress, at a cost of close to \$7 million. The Ontario Government is paying 75 per cent of the cost of these enormous undertakings, while the municipalities within the affected Authority put up the rest.

A feature of the plan is that the Province, through its conservation branch, carries out all the preliminary investigations for the Authority, starting with an aerial survey of the watershed. Data are thus gathered on improved land use, reforestation, proper woodlot management, prevention of pollution, the state of underground water supplies, wildlife, recreation possibilities, and so on. This is planning for the future on a large scale, and despite the enormous cost will undoubtedly pay big dividends in years to come.

Alberta Oil Boom

Announcement by Premier Frost that a \$200,000,000 pipeline is planned to bring Alberta gas to Ontario serves to highlight the tremendous value of the new oil fields being developed in the Western Province. Another gas line to be built through British Columbia will serve the coastal area of that Province and of the United States Pacific area, and Alberta still will have all the gas required for home consumption.

Since 1947 a golden stream has been pouring into Alberta coffers, and is still pouring in. From a debt ridden Province in 1936, when it took fifty-one per cent of the total revenue to service the debt, it has reached the stage in 1952 where five per cent of the revenue would retire the entire debt in 22 years. And the Government has a nest egg consisting of cash and

investments of \$83,799,693 and another \$10,000,000 loaned to municipalities under the Self Liquidating Projects Act, which combined would come within \$2,000,000 of wiping out the provincial obligations altogether.

It was the discovery of a major oil pool near Leduc in 1947 which provided the impetus for the stupendous developments in the succeeding years and the Government's revenue from oil alone since 1947, including the estimated revenue for the current year, is \$159,057,569. And it is probable the actual figures will be still greater.

But the oil industry has even greater significance to the Province as a whole than the sale of leases, royalties and rentals accruing to the Government. Private industry in 1946 spent about \$12,000,000 in the search for, and in the production of, oil. In 1951 the amount spent was \$200,000,000 and from 1946 to 1951 inclusive more than half a billion dollars has been expended, and is continuing on an ever increasing scale. Crude oil production, exclusive of natural gasoline, from 1922 to 1934 totalled 7,700,842 barrels. From 1935 to 1950 production rose to 140,510,374 barrels and in 1951 production totalled 45,915,384 barrels.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Island potato growers have "the goods" and should miss no opportunity of putting them in the show window at such affairs as the Maritime Winter Fair.

Congratulations are due to those in charge of the Prince of Wales College concert series in bringing such a fine organization as the Halifax Symphonette to Charlottetown this evening.

The decline in food prices and particularly meats is popular with the housewife. The farmer will readily be reconciled to the lower levels if the reduced cost of feed enables him to produce at the newer prices at a profit.

While no official reason has been given for the decision to award no Noble Peace Prize this year, the obvious one should be sufficient. There has been no outstanding candidate.

The regional committee of the Dominion Drama Festival is looking forward to the visit Nov. 15th to 17th of Mr. Richard MacDonald, executive secretary-treasurer. The Prince Edward Island regional festival will be held Jan. 30 and 31.

Jenny Lind, Madame Jenny Lind-Goldschmidt was born this date 1820. "The Swedish nightingale", as she was called, aroused tremendous enthusiasm and she became a popular heroine. She retired from opera in 1849 but continued to sing at concerts until 1883, four years before her death.

The cloud formed by the first British atomic explosion is reported to have taken the shape of a ragged "Z" rather than the now-familiar mushroom. In view of the heavy veil of secrecy around the project it would be more appropriate if that were really an interrogation mark.

Good news for our overseas soldier is the announcement from Ottawa that changes are being contemplated in the system of paying the troops, incorporating some of the more expeditious British and United States procedures in maintaining service pay ledger accounts.

During the year 1951-52, the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society provided direct medical services to 5,960 patients. Such services included over thirty thousand physical and occupational therapy treatments through the Society's thirty-six mobile units and approximately twenty-five thousand consultations and treatments through the twenty-three arthritis hospital clinics, which the Society assists.

A record number of sea passengers travelled from Canada and the United States to Europe this year. The number of passengers from Europe to North America also showed an increase over last year. This seems to answer the question of whether aircraft will put an end to ocean travel. Improved transportation, like other improved services, means the development of new traffic rather than merely a splitting of the former volume.

An Associated Press commentator is probably right in suggesting that the real reason for Russia's demand that United States Ambassador George F. Kennan be recalled is that the Ambassador knew too much about the Russians, spoke the language too fluently and was too practiced an observer for their taste. This move underlines the thoroughness with which the Soviets are planning their world programme.

On Guard



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.

FAITHFUL PUBLIC SERVANTS

Sir,—I sincerely deplore two recent deaths in our City of Lt. Col. C. J. Stewart and Major O. W. Campbell. Both of these fine men leave to us a splendid and enduring record both of military and public service. They both served faithfully and well in stress of war, and in time of peace. Time and space prevents me from dealing adequately and in detail with their honourable and meritorious records of devotion to King and country while fighting the battles of this great Empire in the First Great World War. After that war Major Campbell gave many years of valuable service and leadership in the P. E. I. Light Horse. Their outstanding military records stand as a wonderful inspiration to their fellow Islanders. Both Col. Stewart and Major Campbell were tried and true personal friends of mine as I was associated with them for many years in the public service of this Province.

When I was Premier and Provincial Secretary Treasurer Stewart was my deputy. I could not wish for a better or more trustworthy Deputy. Times innumerable I consulted him and his judgment was sound and his advice good. He never failed me in those tough years. I was also closely associated with Major Campbell who was Deputy Provincial Secretary and administrator of Old Age Pensions. I always found Ott Campbell fair and square and in his difficult position I know he was actuated by feelings of charity and justice in dealing with the many problem cases that came to him.

In my thirty years of public service I can truthfully say there were no better public servants than Col. Stewart and Major Campbell. Again both had much in common as their last several years were years of suffering and discomfort till Divine Providence mercifully called them home. To the families of these two dear friends of mine I extend my sincere sympathy.

I am, Sir, etc. W. J. P. MACMILLAN.

HOME OPPORTUNITIES

Sir,—The Provincial Plowing Meeting at Dundas this year by all indications was a huge success. One of the highlights that spiked the speeches of our politicians at the official opening was the lamented fact that so many of our young people were trading the farm for the factory, and this Province for more promising fields. We of this community are feeling the impact of this exodus. We miss the valuable contributions that so many of our youth were making towards the finer things of life. Can we halt this packing of suitcases and rushing across the Strait? Paved roads, a railway, and electricity will not solve all our problems but will give us one good reason to stay put. Here, we have neither. Travelling in late fall and early spring is a nightmare. Kerosene lamps, mucky roads and isolation are neither advantageous nor positive factors.

If our Government is so concerned with the existing situation as they claim to be, and if King's County has the rosy future awaiting it as predicted, then let these people in power rise to the challenge and take a healthy interest in districts such as this. Seeing visions and dreaming dreams will never do unless followed by concrete action. Everyone must appreciate the toll and endeavour of their forefathers with their meagre means and small returns, but times have changed. Has the Government the vision coupled with the courage to go overboard if needs be to secure the necessary capital to give the people those conveniences that help to make life more livable and

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

CIVIC FIRE WARNINGS

From the Journal of the Legislative Council, Wednesday, March 20, 1844. House in Committee on a Bill to prevent accidents by fires. "When their honours came to consider that clause of the bill which directs how the alarm is to be given in cases of fire, the Hon. Mr. Young said the gong was to be preferred before any other instrument. It could be distinctly heard at a distance of three miles, and the sound of it entered the room like a strong rushing of air, and was sufficient effectually to arouse the soundest sleeper in the night. For another reason he thought the preference ought to be given to the gong; it would only be used for the purpose of spreading alarm in cases of fire; and, when heard, there would be no doubt as to the cause of its being sounded; whereas bells, both for prayers and at manufacturing times, and the assembling of work people, were rung at different times through the day in Charlottetown, and the sound of a fire bell was not, and could not, always be distinguished from bells rung on other occasions.

Convention On Crew Quarters To Be Applied

(ILO News) An International Labour Organisation Convention which requires countries ratifying it to assure specified minimum standards of accommodation for the crews of their merchant ships will come into force next January 29, it was announced by David A. Morse, Director-General of the I.L.O. Designed to make the seaman's life healthier and more comfortable, the Convention lays down detailed standards covering the size of berths, the amount of sleeping space per man, the maximum number of men per room, the number of baths and wash basins, the lighting, heating and ventilation to be provided, and messing and recreational facilities. It provides that sleeping rooms shall be situated amidships or aft and above the load line, and specify a minimum of 30 square feet of floor area per man in ships of 3,000 tons or more. It declares that not more than four men shall occupy a room, except in certain specified circumstances, and it forbids arranging berths in more than two tiers.

Off With Their Heads

(Ottawa Journal) A curious aspect of elaborate welfare schemes is the dictatorial attitude they engender among their supporters. Evidence of this may be found in British Columbia, which has had compulsory hospital insurance since the beginning of 1940. Everybody is supposed to pay his annual premium, but a lot of people—20 per cent in fact—manage to evade it. Dealing with this situation, the Vancouver Province last week called for "more forceful methods" to obtain 100 per cent coverage. It declared: "Forceful methods are repugnant in a democratic society, but the welfare of the majority sometimes demands a little tighter discipline, even if democracy suffers a little."

Convention On Crew Quarters To Be Applied

The Convention provides further that mess rooms shall be located apart from sleeping rooms, and that the crew shall have access to open deck space. It stipulates one bath tub or shower and one water closet for every eight crew members, and a wash basin for every six. It also requires separate hospital accommodation in ships carrying a crew of 15 or more and engaged in a voyage of more than three days. The Convention was adopted at a special maritime conference of the ILO at Seattle, Wash., in 1946. It was revised in certain particulars by the ILO's general conference in 1949. It provides that it shall come into force six months after it has been ratified by seven of 23 specified countries. It is further provided that at least four of these countries shall each have at least 1,000,000 gross register tons of shipping. These conditions were fulfilled with the recent deposit by Portugal of its ratification. The other countries which have ratified are Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Norway and Sweden. Of these, Denmark, France, Norway and Sweden each have the required 1,000,000 register tons. Cuba is not among the 23 specified countries. Hereafter the Convention will come into force for a country six months after the date of the registration of its ratification. A country ratifying an ILO Convention is under obligation to bring its national standards into line with those established by the Convention. It is also required to submit an annual report on how it is giving effect to the Convention. These reports are examined each year by a special committee of experts and by the ILO's general conference in order to ensure

The Poet's Corner

INDIAN SUMMER These are the days when birds come back, A very few, a bird or two, To take a backward look, These are the days when skies put on their blue, The old, old sophistries of June— A blue and gold mistake. Oh, fraud that cannot cheat the bee, Almost thy plausibility Induces my belief, Till ranks of seeds their witness hear, And softly through the altered air Hurries a timid leaf! —Emily Dickinson

Convention On Crew Quarters To Be Applied

that ratifying countries are living up to their obligations. The Accommodation of Crews Convention is one of the 103 Conventions adopted by the I.L.O. since its establishment in 1919. The total number of ratifications of the Convention has reached 1,315.

Notes By The Way

"Souvenir" guns may be dangerous. In many cases, weapons brought back from overseas during two world wars require ammunition which is specially made for them and while it may appear that shells made in Canada are of the same size, there may be fractional differences which could lead to choked barrels and exploded chambers. — Ontario Lands and Forests Department.

Forest fire losses in Canada are reported to be less than usual, although there are more than the usual number of visitors to the woods. This doesn't mean that people are suddenly becoming more careful with fire; it merely points up the fact that the weather, in most parts of the country, has been good from a fire prevention standpoint. — Ottawa Citizen.

The tryout by Westchester County (N. Y.) police of a radar camera which automatically clocks and photographs the license plates on automobiles traveling faster than the legal speed limit gives some indication of the ratio of speeders to law-abiding drivers. Of the 300 cars clocked on the county parkway, nearly half were violating the speed regulations. — Ottawa Citizen.

One of the pleasant developments of the last year or two has been the disappearance of Kilroy. Mr. Kilroy has either passed on or has become sedentary. It is possible now to go to many almost inaccessible places and find no sign that "Kilroy was here." It is even normal now to enjoy his absence and lack of evidence of his visit to public places of interest. — Victoria Times.

One can hardly pick up any Manitoba paper these days without seeing an item about a bear being shot in some part of the province. It would seem that the person who does the killing is regarded as a kind of hero. Frankly such items leave us cold. The Manitoba bear is in the main an amiable fellow that roams through the woods minding his own business and doing nobody any harm. When in his make-up and the visitor to the woods who has the good fortune to get a glimpse of one while cutting up antics gets a thrill. — Winnipeg Tribune.

I learn with interest—and I am sure that Mr. C. S. Forester will learn with great interest—that the existence of a Horatio Nelson Hornblower—a real live one—has been discovered. It is perhaps not quite accurate to describe him as a real live one, because in fact he is a real dead one. But he was a live one once. The record of his death has been discovered, according to the Bookseller, in the register of St. Mary's Church,

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Swansea. But despite his name there was not much of the salty marine about him. He was a clerk in the local zinc works. — Janus in London Spectator.

The growth of local government has been one of the healthiest developments in the recent history of Newfoundland politics, and has shown a tendency to mushroom during the past four years. In 1948 there were 15 Town Councils. Today there are 34. The population living in incorporated towns in 1948 was 67,000. Today it has risen to 113,000. Including St. John's, nearly half the population of the Province is living in municipal areas. — St. John's Evening Telegram.

New York State is going in for the brightest kind of colors to safeguard school buses from accidents. It is encouraging the use of a shade of light chrome yellow emphasized by deep black stripes and trimmings to let other motor vehicle operators know the identity of the bus and the precious cargo it carries. The adoption of the idea follows the advice of experts who have been studying the matter of color and its relation to highway accidents. They believe that conventional colors used for both passenger-vehicles and trucks actually serve as a sort of camouflage which makes for accidents. — Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

In commemoration of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II a scheme is to be launched by the Scottish Tourist Board to enhance the beauty of Scotland by "beautifying" areas which have become unsightly. In cities, towns and villages where unsightly corners, streets and odd pieces of land occur, they are to be cleaned up, rearranged and set out with flowers, shrubbery and ornamental trees. This is an excellent and highly commendable memorial to the young Queen. What more gracious tribute to youth and royalty than to remove ugliness and restore beauty! We might well emulate this Scottish plan here. — London Free Press.

The Age-Old Story

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things.

MADRAS, India, Oct. 5.—(Reuters)—Prime Minister Nehru warned Saturday that any form of attack on the disputed Kashmir territory "will be met and resisted to the utmost." He told a press conference that India has tried to settle its dispute with Pakistan over the territory by negotiation and will continue to do so for the sake of peace.

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