

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, FEB. 1, 1951

Drastic Emergency Measures

Overshadowing everything else in the Speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament was the emphasis placed on the "further deterioration" of the world situation caused by Communist China's intervention in Korea, and the need for unprecedented peacetime emergency measures in Canada.

In the past, emergency legislation has been associated with the War Measures Act. The present intention of the Government appears to be to seek powers short of invoking this Act, but with almost as far-reaching implications.

It has also been announced that a new defense bond issue is being launched to help pay for the rearmament programme and it is likely that a savings certificate campaign is also envisaged.

Another Sales Tax?

A sorry anticlimax to the Throne Speech are the proposals, tabled in Parliament yesterday by the Prime Minister, for allowing the Provinces to impose an indirect sales tax.

Judge Arsenault's Memoirs

On the retirement of Mr. Justice Arsenault from the Supreme Court bench on December 31, 1946, the hope—now fulfilled—was expressed by many friends that he would devote some of his well-earned leisure to writing his memoirs.

In Judge Arsenault's case, the circumstances have been more favourable. His retiring years find him in the enjoyment of vigorous mental and physical health, and lifelong habits of study, note-taking and reflection have enabled him to retrace, in

a most interesting manner, highlights of a career which brought him into contact with many of the leading figures of his day, both in Canada and overseas.

As a law student in England and practising barrister at home in the early days of the century, as a leading member of the Mathieson Government during the First World War, as Attorney General and Premier of the Province, as leader of the Opposition and subsequently as a presiding jurist of the Supreme Court for more than twenty-five years, his career has indeed been noteworthy.

Judge Arsenault's memoirs are characteristically modest and straightforward. His shrewd eye missed little of the foibles of his associates, or of the undercurrents in the events of his time; but permeating the whole record is that spirit of "kindly and benevolent justice" which he exemplified on the Bench, and which the Bar Society noted appreciatively in its tribute to him on his retirement.

He has set a laudable example in thus recording his first-hand impressions of historic incidents in the making, and we feel that all our readers will appreciate this opportunity of perusing them in the installments which begin in our issue of today.

EDITORIAL NOTES

No mosquitoes about to annoy one these mornings.

Fire recognizes no class distinction when opportunity presents itself, as witness the Water Street and Experimental Station outbreaks.

The federal Forestry Branch maintains five Forest Experiment Stations. These are in New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

Sir Edward Coke, English lawyer and Chief Justice, born this date 1552. Distinguished as a legal writer, and remembered for his brutality to Raleigh whom he prosecuted as Crown lawyer.

The sympathy of the community goes out to the unfortunate people who lost furniture and clothing in the Water St. fire—a loss they can not make good of themselves.

The disastrous fire at the Experimental Farm will have consequences of a serious nature apart from the loss of the physical structure. All the records are wiped out, and the scientific apparatus destroyed.

Egg prices on January 26 this year and previous years. The prices quoted below are for Grade A Large. At Montreal and Toronto the prices are those at which graded shipments are selling to wholesalers.

Table with columns for Province, 1951, 1950, 1949. Rows include B.C., Alta., Sask., Man., Ont., Que., N.B., N.S., P. E. I.

The Poet's Corner

FROM "MY LOST YOUTH" I remember the black wharves and the ships, And the sea-tides tossing free; And Spanish sailors with bearded lips, And the beauty and mystery of the ships. And the magic of the sea. And the voice of that wayward song Is singing and saying still; "A boy's will is the wind's will, And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts."

Old Charlottetown

And P. E. I.

NOVEL INVENTION

"A double grain sowing machine, invented by Mr. George W. Millner of this city, was tested on Thursday last in a field belonging to Mr. Davies and operated to all appearance so perfectly that, to say the least, it bids fair to become not only of great utility to the farmers of this Island, but in a short time to rival the best grain sowers of modern times.

"This machine, the inventor states, is wholly original, not only as regards the manner in which it distributes the grain, but in the formation and action of the coulters, which move on a principle different from any known by him to be in use in either Europe or America. To show that this sower must be somewhat unique, we may state that when in full operation, so completely did it deposit the grain, cover it up, and roll it, that gentlemen standing by, who had seen other sowing machines at work, declared that it was not sowing at all! But Thursday last was the second day that it had been tested, and the above conclusion, which many of the spectators on the first occasion shared in, has been proved incorrect, from the fact that the grain sown at its first testing, at least so we hear, is now above ground in regular drills.

The Islander, June 12, 1868

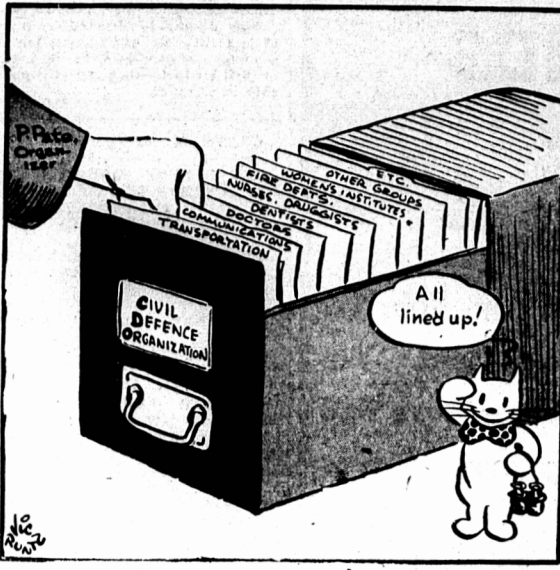
The Age-Old Story

And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery... Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned; but what sayest thou? This she said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last; and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go and sin no more.

I Was Just Thinking

By Sandy Todd (In The Weekly Scotsman) There is no royal road to learning, but if our modern Scottish educationists have their way the path of the pupil is going to be very nicely smoothed out. A recent report robbed secondary education of some of its terrors. Now the "toil and tears" are to be eliminated from the primary schools. At least, they will be if the recommendations in the latest report are adopted. Parenthetically, I often wonder what happens to these reports after they are printed.

Prince Edward Island Classified



Notes By The Way

Cigarettes and other tobacco products may get a stiff price boost but, after all, this is a voluntary tax—nobody is compelled to smoke, and we can live without smoking," notes The Ottawa Journal, in a mood of austerity. At the same time, if everybody quits smoking, the Government is going to be hard put to it to make up the revenue lost by such self-abnegation.

No longer need any father feel ashamed that he plays with the electric train which he has given to his boy. Revealed recently is the fact that in the United States alone there are more than 100,000 grown-ups who play with trains as a hobby. There are 1,000 member clubs of the National Model Railroad Association and it is estimated conservatively that fans in the United States spend \$10,000,000 a year on their hobby.

Edmonton property owners appear to be well on their way to setting a new record in the amount of taxes they will have prepaid by the middle of the month. With four full days to go they had purchased prepayment certificates to the value of \$1,219,000.

Field-Marshal Viscount Alanbrooke, former Chief of the Imperial General Staff, said that during a war-time meeting in Moscow Stalin "began to put the heat on and started handing out insults to Mr. Churchill, saying: 'We have been fighting and you have been looking on.' Lord Alanbrooke went on: 'Then Winston brought down his fist with a crash on the table that shook the whole room and started off on one of his marvelous orations. After a time Stalin got up and a broad grin came over

Supplies For The Enemy

Our Trade Department comes out to say that it stopped issuing permits for the export of aluminum to Communist countries in August of last year, but acknowledged at the same time that some aluminum shipments went to Communist countries as late as last October.

Now we have no wish to say this to the officials of our Trade Department or our aluminum companies are lacking in cautious patriotism. Nevertheless a lot of people will say that Canadian aluminum should not have been going to Communist countries up to last August and certainly not up to October, which was four months after Communist attack on us in Korea.

And not enough to say, as the Trade Department officials say, that when our aluminum was going to Communist countries in August and later it was "not in short supply." The point is whether we should have been sending such war metal to Communist countries under any circumstances.

For there is no sense or logic at all in our selling ourselves to Communist countries ere preparing to attack us while at the same time sending them metals to make things with which they will attack us.

One of the grave weaknesses of the democracies is their propensity to make their acts bark at their words.

Chaplin Revived

I'm the sort of movie-goer who never gets around to a film until it has reached the point of being a revival of a revival. So I stupidly waited until "City Lights" turned up in our neighborhood playhouse, this Fall, before treating myself to that orgy of maniacal laughter and shameless tears into which I am always plunged by the sidesplitting, heartbreaking art of Mr. Chaplin.

Memoirs Of The Hon. A. E. Arsenault Former Premier and Retired Justice Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

Early Years

My paternal ancestor, Pierre Arsenault, was a native of Normandy in France, and at the age of twenty-one migrated to Port Royal in Acadia in the year 1671. One of my maternal ancestors was a Poutincourt who accompanied Du Mont to Port Royal in 1604. Pierre Arsenault married in Port Royal and afterwards moved to Beauséjour, now the Town of Amherst in Nova Scotia. Two of his sons, Pierre and Cyrien, crossed over to Ile St. Jean, now Prince Edward Island, and founded the village of Malpeque—a name which the little community still holds.

After the fall of Louisbourg in 1758, Lord Boscawen sailed with a fleet to Port la Jolie (now Charlottetown) to deport the inhabitants of Ile St. Jean. Those in Port la Jolie and most of the villages were rounded up and placed on board the ships and deported, but as it was getting late in the fall and as the village of Malpeque was some forty miles away, its inhabitants were not molested.

They, however, had heard of the fleet's arrival in Port la Jolie, and fled to the woods where they remained for days. Some of them, including one of my ancestors, embarked on a schooner and crossed to Miramichi in New Brunswick where they remained until, a month later, they learned of the departure from Port la Jolie of Boscawen's fleet.

It is evident that, apart from the few families in Malpeque, not many of the Acadians had escaped from Boscawen when Captain Holland surveyed the Island of St. John in 1769 (it had become an English possession by the Treaty of Paris in 1763), he found only thirty-five Acadian families on the Island.

The inhabitants of Malpeque were settled on both sides of Malpeque Bay—often called Richmond Bay. Their church was at the place now called Low Point which is situated on the Lot 14 side of the Bay, and on Sundays those on the Malpeque side crossed to attend service. The church bell which called the people to worship was one of three which had been presented to the Acadians of Ile St. Jean by the then King of France; it is still in existence and is now in possession of the United Church at Malpeque.

How long it was after the Acadian Dispersion of 1758 before the bell was taken from the French Church at Low Point, I do not know, but the Reverend Dr. E. H. Ramsay, retired minister now residing in Saint John, N.B., and at one time pastor of the United Church at Malpeque, informed me that it was hung up in the Presbyterian Church at Malpeque, that it had become cracked, and that it had been stored in a cupboard under the church stairs where it had remained for several years. Later, he said, the bell had been repaired, but had not been used since the Presbyterian Church at Malpeque had become the United Church.

Another of the three bells was hung in the French church at St. Peter's. Shortly after the inhabitants of that settlement had been deported in 1758, the bell was found to be missing. It had been buried by some of the Acadians before they had been rounded up by the British men. When it was discovered many years later, it was found to be cracked. However, it was re-cast and hangs today in the tower of the church at Rollo Bay. The whereabouts of the third bell continues to remain a mystery.

The bell now in the United Church at Malpeque is the only genuine relic existing in the Province, so far as anyone knows of the French occupation of Prince Edward Island. On the bell is inscribed in Latin "Amongst those born of woman there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist" (Luke 7:28).

I made application to the congregation of the United Church at Malpeque for the return of the bell to the Acadians of the Province and made an offer of payment for it. My request was supported by the Rev. Dr. Ramsay and the Rev. Mr. Murchison, both former pastors of the United Church in Malpeque, but so far no action has been taken respecting my request.

Some years ago, quite by accident, I came upon what may be another relic of the Acadian occupation. While visiting a friend in Malpeque one day, I was shown a pair of wooden shoes (sabots) by my good friend Miss Anna Kier. It was her intention, she said, to offer them for sale at a rummage sale to be held in aid of the Malpeque Church. The shoes had been found about the year 1820 in an out-building owned by the last French resident to leave Malpeque. When I told her that the last Frenchman to leave Malpeque had been one of my ancestors and that I should be pleased to contribute towards the rummage sale if she would give me the sabots, she kindly agreed.

The Acadians who remained on the Island after the deportation of 1758 were left in a sad state. Those at Malpeque had to leave their lands and settle wherever they could. Many leased lands from a Colonel Copton at a place then called Riposte but now known as North Platte Eleanor. However, he made so many difficulties for them that they were constrained to leave. Some purchased a tract of land at a place called La Belle Alliance (Miscouche); some went to the western part of the Province and settled at a place called Le Secumpe; and later some began to all over again at Le Grand Ruisseau (Mont Carmel). Other settlements were established at Racicot (Rustico) and Taguanish, Indian name for Tignish.

Those early Acadians had little opportunity for education so that very few of them could read or write. There were exceptions, of course. I have been told of one man, a brother of my maternal grandfather, who obtained sufficient education through his own efforts to become a land surveyor. It is recorded of him that he measured the tall of a comet with no other equipment than a sextant and a knotted cord. My own father was so eager to obtain an education that he used to walk sixteen miles a day to and from school.

The original Acadians had brought from France the habits and customs of their native Normandy. They made their own linen from flax which they grew themselves, and they carded, spun, and wove their own wool into blankets and wearing apparel. They were frugal and wasted nothing. If a cow or a pig was slaughtered, every part of the animal was put to use and what could not be eaten in its fresh state was salted away for future need. They made sausages from the blood of the pig and their potted meat was much superior to most of what is sold under that name today. From the hide of the cow or steer they made their moccasins. They ate the liver and the stomach of the animal; they slaughtered from the horns of their animals they made powder horns, spoons, and knife handles.

A substantial meal was made by boiling meat with barley which had first been pounded and shelled in wooden pestles. They prepared the spruce gum which they chewed and so kept their teeth clean and well preserved. Dentists were unknown. The friot, a favorite dish, was made by frying chicken with pork. To this was added shallots, diced potatoes, and a thickened butter sauce which was made with a piece of fat which was filled with chicken, pated lean and fat pork, cubed apples, wild raisins, and a little maple sugar to sweeten the mixture. Their flour mills were primitive so that their flour was the whole wheat flour which is more nourishing and more tasteful than the white.

Professional Cards section including Chas. R. McQuaid, J. A. Carruthers, Byron J. Grant O.D., Gaudet & Hazzard, H. E. Doane & Co., and McDonald, Currie & Co.