

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1950

Reefer Car Disclosures

The discussions in the House of Commons and in the Senate on reefer cars has drawn active attention to the inadequacy of replies to questions from members, and indeed, to Ministers' ignorance of what is going on in their departments.

The lengthening separation between ministers and their departments has been illustrated within the last few months, when a minister of finance sponsored a bill in the House which he admitted he himself was unable to explain.

Now the Legislature is practically unanimous in support of the Government's dragger policy. At one time it looked as though a political issue would be made of it.

The Charlottetown Board of Trade have as their guests this evening the City Junior Chamber of Commerce, and Kensington Junior Chamber, who have proved themselves live wires.

Maritime Home For Girls

Of nineteen girls aged 11 to 15 who were enrolled in the Maritime Home for Girls last year, 16 are described as having a history of bad home conditions and companions, and three as having no home.

Among the legacies to be received is \$1,000 from the Estate of Mr. Robert Palmer, Charlottetown, and in the light of the fact that the cost of foodstuffs has risen so that it takes \$3.50 to purchase what one dollar bought before the war, the Executive Committee is anxious to increase both Government grants and private donations.

Nothing Happens

Unscop, the famous body that decided a partition of Palestine, which no one would accept, got tremendous praise in those days for a Solomon's Judgment, (says The Letter-Review). Only trouble is that it never worked, so that U. N. Assembly now has a body instructed to work out a plan to internationalize Jerusalem.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Nine days till Easter.

Provincial budget expenditure estimates received more consideration in committee this year than they have for a generation or more.

Georgetown is still being mooted as a prospective big coal centre. The Premier's references should stimulate the Eastern capital to grasp firmly their opportunities.

P. E. I.'s car ferry is not to have a sister ship serving Newfoundland. The combined railway car ferry and automobile ferry seems likely to remain unique.

Newfoundland has decided to sign the Provincial tax agreement with Canada. Conclusion of the agreement will mean that only Ontario and Quebec will remain out.

The Charlottetown Board of Trade have as their guests this evening the City Junior Chamber of Commerce, and Kensington Junior Chamber, who have proved themselves live wires.

The New Brunswick demonstrations may have been an effective way to oppose imposition of a sales tax, but the promoters took serious chances that, once assembled, the demonstrators would behave as a mob rather than being content with "passive resistance."

Members of the R. C. M. P. are to instruct Charlottetown Boy Scouts for their Master-at-Arms badge. This direct interest taken by the "Mounties" should do as much good towards creating proper attitudes in the boys, as will the instruction in many arts and skills itself.

Rt. Rev. Paul Emile Leger, 46, Rector of the Pontifical Canadian College in Rome, has been named Archbishop of Montreal. Archbishop-elect Leger succeeds Archbishop Joseph Charbonneau, "who some weeks ago resigned because of ill health."

Ludwig van Beethoven, German composer, died this date 1727. It was in Vienna that all his chief works were composed, and in that great musical centre he formed many lasting friendships. There was much in Beethoven calculated to destroy friendly relations, for though a man of the most generous and noble character, he frequently treated his best and most intimate friends with inconsiderate rudeness and incivility.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the presentation by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Sr.—There is a matter that I wish to bring, as forcefully as I can, to the Veterans of Prince Edward Island, and that is in connection with Veterans' physical and financial affairs.

I first wish to say frankly that since I've become a Member of the House of Commons at Ottawa, I have had numerous applications from Veterans praying and petitioning me to assist them in presenting their requests for increased percentages of pension under the Veterans' Pension Act and Veterans' Allowance Act.

I usually forward the Veterans' petitioning letter, accompanied by my letter of recommendation asking for sympathetic and favorable consideration of the applicant's request. Now, it would seem to me, that surely it would be only reasonable to assume that one or more of the Veterans would be entitled to increase.

At this stage, I would not place the blame on the shoulders of the Minister of Veterans' Affairs, nor on the Government, but I would place the blame directly on the officers administering the acts.

I personally have made representations in a case where the Veterans' doctor would not permit the Veteran to work at all because of a heart condition. I was then told that the Veteran had the heart condition before he entered the armed forces. Now, in my opinion, this is a pure falsehood. How any medical army examiner could place a volunteer in category A with an existing heart condition is beyond me.

It is really deplorable that what I believe to be generous federal acts to provide for veterans should be neutralized by unsympathetic officials.

If there are any persons who deserve our appreciation and respect, it is the veterans who risked their lives to defend our democratic way of life and whose life expectancy is now shorter than those of us who were not subjected to the nerve-racking strain of war.

There are demands being made to the Government for social security measures to provide for people at both ends of life, but there is no one in our society who demands our consideration in the same way as the veterans.

My first suggestion is that all veterans should contact their associated branches and discuss these problems. Secondly, instruct all veterans making applications for relief to write to the national office of the Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L., and have them take their case up with the parties concerned in their behalf.

I believe by vigorous action on the part of the veterans' own organization we might expect a measure of justice.

I am, Sir, etc. T. J. KICKHAM M.P. for King's, P.E.I.

SMOKING AND DRINKING

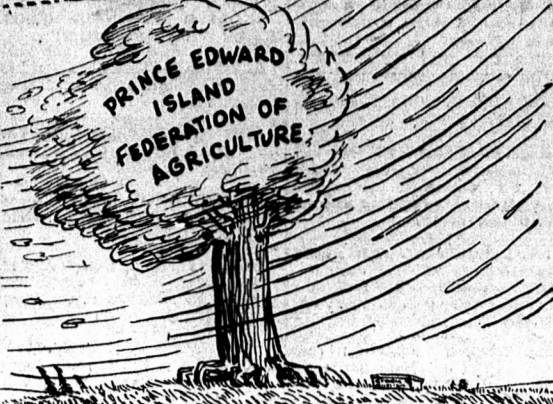
Sr.—Please allow me space for a few comments on smoking. Professor Harold Pearle, of Johns Hopkins University, compiled the life histories of 12,000 persons and traced the record of tobacco on those persons, and found that up to 70 years of age the death rate of heavy smokers was double that of non-smokers.

Dr. E. C. Princip in a recent article under the heading smoking and babies set forth some startling and little known facts. He referred to experiments with animals which proved that nicotine, the poisonous alkaloid of tobacco, consistently poisons nursing pups and calves, and that it poisons offspring while being carried by the mother animals, and he discloses other horrible facts pertaining to humans that I would not attempt to explain here.

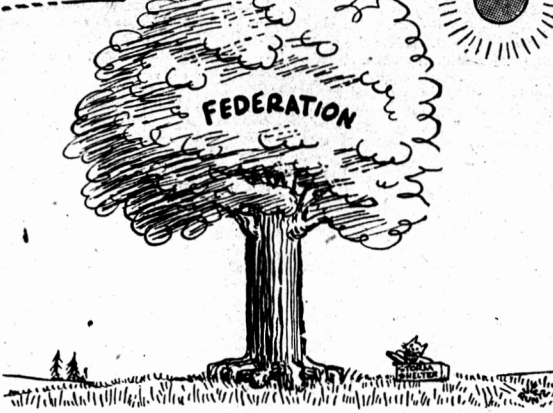
Besides being so injurious to health let us see how it robs people of their money. I heard of a man who would like to have his life insured but he can't afford to because his cigarettes cost him \$140.00 a year. Then a reliable man told me that he was brought up in great poverty because his father spent more money in tobacco than his mother had on which to feed the family. No doubt there are many poor families with children undernourished because their money goes up in smoke.

All In The Process Of Growing

THE BLUSTER



STURDIER THAN BEFORE



bacco in 1948. Compare that with \$65,000,000.00 spent on education across the Dominion in the same year, and ask ourselves are we headed the right way in national development to spend 15 times more per year on booze and tobacco than we do on education.

The Poet's Corner

The feathers in a fan are not so frail as man; the green embossed leaf than man is no more brief. His life is not so loud as the passing of a cloud; his death is quieter.

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