

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN WEDNESDAY, OCT. 11, 1950

Election Date

Within the statutory limit of the life of the Provincial Legislature, there is considerable scope for fixing an election date. The selection of a time for going to the country is a matter about which most of us know little and about which Government leaders of the day usually say less, although they have many reasons why they should be returned on the chosen day.

Premier Jones, in his usual forthright way, throws some light on the highly specialized art of picking the moment for an appeal to the electors. With a sizable majority, the question of being able to carry on a government does not, of course, arise. The matter of winning or losing by-elections is clearly not a decisive factor. Not even the general political tone of the Province determines when an election shall or shall not be held.

That, of course, is what the leader of the Government must seek in the latter stages of his term of office. He must find an issue on which to wage the battle of the ballots. On his "savvy" in selecting the right issue at the right time depends his party's chances of re-election. The public are not asked to weigh in a balance all the factors for and against the Government's return to power. A far simpler question must be propounded with a simple answer driven home to sway the electorate.

Farm Marketing Margins

Of interest and value to all our farmers and farm organizations is a brochure just issued by the Marketing Service, Federal Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. It is entitled Marketing Margins for Selected Canadian Agricultural Products, 1935-1949. The compilers, Messrs. F. W. Hillhouse and F. M. Schrader, state that their objective is to provide an estimate of the spread between farm and retail prices for selected agricultural products and to examine the spread and the farm share of the retail price in relation to such factors as the level of prices, wartime control, and assistance programmes.

Important differences among the selected commodities are noted with respect to the year-to-year variation during the period under review. The marketing margins of some products remained relatively stable during this period. For instance, the total margin paid to middlemen handling fluid milk between producers and consumers varied from 6.5 cents a quart in 1936 to 8.2 cents in 1941. During most of this period a margin of about 7.2 cents a quart prevailed. Similar stability existed with respect to creamery butter, flour and bread, although in all instances increased margins were experienced. In contrast, the margins for the remaining five commodities examined were more variable and of greater magnitude. The margin for marketing potatoes rose quite regularly from 9.5 cents per 15 pounds in 1935 to 27.7 cents in 1948, almost a three-fold increase.

The authors note that in periods of rising prices the prices received by farmers increase more rapidly than the prices paid at retail. This is because the costs of marketing—transportation, wages, taxes, interest, rent—tend to change but slowly and consequently farmers receive for their products a larger share of the prices paid by the ultimate consumer. Conversely and for the same reason, when prices are declining the prices of farm products and the share received by farmers decline more rapidly than the retail price level.

The rate of increase in farm share accompanying rises in retail prices varies considerably among products. It is very small for such products as potatoes and eggs which are not processed and whose handlers employ, to a large extent, a percentage mark-up method as compensation for their services. As processing becomes more extensive, it is found that the farm share increases more rapidly with given increases in the retail price.

EDITORIAL NOTES

City Hospital Bazaar tonight.

This Province was the only one last month reporting a decrease in unemployment.

Final hearings today of evidence to establish an earnings base for the Maritime Electric Company.

With the Province clearing bushes and other obstructions at blind crossings, and the city rounding off street corners, the principal crossing-dangers remaining will soon be in the smaller villages.

The Canadian Legion Book Depot, Ottawa, is appealing for thousands of books for servicemen. All types will be welcome, fiction and non-fiction, but donors should keep their own reading tastes in mind and remember that the man in uniform is not so very unlike the rest of us.

More light on marketing prospects should come out of today's meeting of the Potato Marketing Committee of the Horticultural Council of Canada. Under the chairmanship of Mr. Walter Shaw the committee should soon get down to the realities of the situation.

During this Fire Prevention Week all sorts of good advice is being hurled at the householder. Perhaps it would not be amiss to remind the furnace-tender to look to the container in which he deposits hot ashes. Although not one of the leading causes of fires, burning coals endanger the household and the lives of its members.

The Moderator of the General Assembly, Rev. Dr. Scott MacKenzie, is having a busy time visiting different parts of the Province in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Moderator is well known in the Atlantic Provinces and here especially, having been a frequent visitor when he was Principal of the Presbyterian College, Montreal.

Probably it is the same here and elsewhere so far as boarding houses are concerned. Equality of the sexes doesn't apply in Saskatoon when it comes to student accommodation. Five out of every six rooming-house keepers prefer boy boarders to girls. Mr. Claude Penson, University of Saskatchewan housing registrar, said boys seemed to be generally preferred because girls were always "washing and ironing and occupying the bathroom."

Edward Colston, English philanthropist, died this date 1721. He was among the first of the wealthy class who realized that what he possessed was merely a trust to be held and spent for the common good. He was a Bristol merchant who made enormous sums of money in importing and distributing goods, much of which he devoted to charitable foundations, including Queen Elizabeth Hospital, London, spending over \$530,000 during his lifetime.

Dr. Hoyle Campbell, a member of the University of Toronto Medical Faculty has caused a sensation by his advocacy to provide more bed accommodation in hospitals—by emptying them of a number of their incurable patients. Dr. Campbell's plan includes an expensive general hospital unit, a rehabilitation centre, specialized medical unit and institution for incurables. He contends that hospitals generally are 50 per cent occupied by chronically ill patients who could be cared for in less expensive units. Under the plan, the general hospital would be used only for curative and diagnostic cases, cutting its patient population by about one-half.

Egg prices on October 6 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. At other points quotations are prices to shippers for ungraded eggs.

Table with columns for Year (1950, 1949, 1948) and rows for Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina, Charlottetown. Includes a section for Weight of Live and Dressed Poultry at Registered Stations week ending Sept. 16, 19, 22, 25, 28.



Notes From Another Island

LONDON, England:—The numbers of British people who, since the end of World War II, have thought of emigrating must add up to hundreds of thousands. Very many of these never did any more than think about it. A large proportion of the others took the first steps with careful determination, sought advice, read all the pamphlets and guide books they could lay hands on, called at the various Dominion Governments' offices to discuss prospects, decided that it all seemed very fine and then... hesitated.

A lot hesitated too long, found they had settled down one way or another almost without knowing how, and became the legion of those who "nearly went" to Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa or wherever else their fancy had lain.

Many began with every intention of seeking their fortune in other lands but found the edge of their enthusiasm somewhat blunted by the passage of time when, in the first months after the war, it was not easy to get a steamship berth. These did not hesitate voluntarily but as the months went by they, too, found that they had settled or that in the natural order of things they had discovered new interests or ties which kept them at home. So the hosts who thought about it were whittled down to the more manageable thousands who stayed the course and went abroad to start afresh.

Despite all this it would hardly be true to say that there is now less interest in emigration than there was. Indeed there is probably more, for a large proportion of those who thought about it a few years ago still ponder on whether they should have gone or stayed put, whilst others now growing up are weighing the pros and cons for themselves with particular thought to their own careers.

Regularly one sees advertisements in the newspapers, sponsored by the Australian and New Zealand Governments, offering assisted passages to ex-service men and women who wish to go out here. Canada's Director of Immigration has come to England to bring to the attention of British people that they will be warmly welcomed in Canada. And one of our mass-circulation Sunday newspapers has sent a reporter on a trip round the world to find out at first hand how those who have emigrated from Britain are making out. His despatches will be of particular interest to all those who "nearly went"; if he reports glowing successes there will be a good deal of remorse over what might seem like missed opportunities.

No, there is no less interest now than there was, say, five years ago. But it does seem that the question is taken rather more seriously than it was. Five years ago travel had become commonplace to men and women of all classes. They had been transported thousands and thousands of miles as the exigencies of war demanded, some to countries the very existence of which they had hardly been aware until they set foot there. To emigrate then seemed too easy and hardly needed a second thought, if the enthusiasm to start life in a different land was there.

It doesn't seem quite so easy now, after a lapse of years during which roots have had a chance to take hold again in familiar soil. A man who, having travelled and returned home, and discovered that it is not always simple to settle down even in his own environment and amongst his own folk, thinks more deeply of the implications of trying to start a new life in a strange land. Besides, most of the World War II ex-servicemen who were bitten by the travel bug have by this time reached the age when they feel they ought to have the general plan of their lives mapped out. They have given up to five, six or seven years of their allotted span, and feel they cannot spare much more in laying new foundations. So unless they can look for a speedy establishment after emigrating they might rightly consider themselves better off staying where they are. The younger men and women will still be attracted by prospects of unlimited opportunities overseas; so will even the not so young who possess the spirit to try their luck—and their skill—in new surroundings. But there are many

Old Charlottetown

Despatch from the War Office, Pall Mall, S. W., London, to the Under Secretary of the Colonial Office, 29th Sept., 1950. "With reference to your letter of the 24th of July last, I am directed to acquaint you for the information of His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, that Mr. Secretary Herbert has sanctioned the erection of an Hospital at Battery Point, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, on the following conditions, viz.: the reservation of the sites most convenient for the erection of Batteries, in order that no other building may be erected thereon:—the payment of an equal quit rent of £1, with power of resumption, if necessary, or of using for military purpose, the building to be erected, without consideration for rent or for such alteration and modification, as may, on an emergency, be found expedient. The necessary instructions have been transmitted to the Major General Commanding. (Signed) H. R. Drewery."

The Age-Old Story

For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) but to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him.

SHAW PICTURE

LONDON (CP)—Gabriel Pascal, the only producer to whom Bernard Shaw so far has entrusted the filming of his plays, hopes to start making "Androcles and the Lion", in Rome in the middle of December. Jean Simmons and Robert Newton are likely to take the principal roles.

TEMPERATE ZONE

Hottest temperature recorded at Greenwich Observatory was 98.9 degrees on Aug. 19, 1932. Richard Linsell, the old Essex cricketer, played his last game at the age of 68.

The Poets Corner

AUTUMN'S CHANT. From the far-off, mighty rivers, Drifting, shifting, glad-life gives Throbbing, pulsing, to the lakes; From the far-off, blue-peaked mountains, From the forest-girdled fountains, Where the sunlight leaps and shags; From the spaces wild and dreary, From the cornlands far and near, Comes the Autumn's miserere, Comes the death song of the year

Comes the music of far voices, Where the season rich, rejoices, Half reluctant now to go— Over lands of dreams and vapours, Where wild hosts with half burnt tapers Light her to the days of snow; Over fields all yellow, burning With their store of ruddy heat, Over forests, ripe and turning, Red and gold beneath her feet.

From the golden, undulating Wheat fields, where the glad, pulsating Gleam of mowers, moves along— Through the day so rich and heavy, Belled with bees, a pollened bevy, Jargoning their honied song; Comes the music of far voices Dying, swelling, here to me, Thuislike all the earth rejoices At the year's maturity.

From far, northern lakes a clanging Note of wild-geese, where low-hanging Mists drift over marshes bleak; In a world of smoke and shadow, Where far over wild lake-meadow, Sunsets burn on field and creek; Comes with all the lakes far moaning On some bare coast bleak and drear, Voices wild and sweet intoning Music of the dying year. —Wilfred Campbell.

E. R. Brow & Son Fire, Auto, Life, Accident, Sickness And Plate Glass Insurance At Lowest Rates Agent at Summerside, D. O. Stewart 144 Richmond St. Charlottetown

A Good Habit W.K. Rogers Agencies Limited Of course, you are careful to change the oil in your car regularly. But, are you careful about your automobile insurance? Make a date to stop in and talk with us about comprehensive auto insurance.

Notes By The Way

The Soviet Union possesses overwhelming military strength on the ground. Free nations can cope with her best by developing decisive superiority in the air and on the sea. Any attempt to match Russian manpower, tanks and artillery will exhaust the free nations and may get them nowhere.—Toronto Star.

School teachers are blaming parents, and parents, teachers. Employers are concerned at the apparent failure of both. We do not know who is at fault, but certainly the spoken and written word of our rising generation is being marred far too frequently by a slovenly disregard of the elementary rules of grammar and spelling.—Annaprior Chronicle.

On one of its housing projects the London County Council is building a 140-foot cylindrical water tower which is not an eyesore. The tower forms part of the project's central heating scheme and is encased in attractive green glass with aluminum frames treated to retain their brightness.—UK Information Office.

The Albertian has gone to bat for the Mounted Police as often and as vigorously as any newspaper in Canada. We have unlimited faith in them as a force. But it must be admitted they are weak on public relations. In fact there is often a suggestion of contempt for the public. If they don't know, they should be told that they are servants of the public, paid by the public, and indirectly are responsible to the public. It is part of their duty to tell the public what they are doing. Just as they expect and usually get full co-operation from the public, so the public expects co-operation from them. The press, as the agent of the public, is entitled to official recognition, a cordial reception and warm respect in every R. C. M. P. detachment office in Canada.—Calgary Albertian.

The advance of science may have brought in its train many fearsome developments but it has also freed the world of a number of superstitions and grave fears. In very early times the appearance of a comet was regarded with mingled awe and fear. The sighting of one of these in the year 1456 seemed to frighten peoples, an omen of disaster, particularly since the Turks had just seized Constantinople and were threatening to advance farther into continental Europe. To the services of every Christian

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for John P. Nicholson, L.L.B.; Dr. A. L. MacIsaac; J. S. Taylor; Dr. W. R. Carson; M. Alban Farmer; MacPhee & Trainer; Bell & Mathieson; Palmer & Haslam; Joseph R. MacMillan, L.L.B.; Chas. R. McQuaid; J. A. Carruthers R. O.; J. A. McGuigan; H. E. Doane & Co.; McDonald, Currie & Co.