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

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19, 1951

A Magnificent Tribute

High tribute is paid to a Prince Edward Islander by the Winnipeg Free Press in commenting editorially on the appointment of Professor Edgar W. McInnis of the University of Toronto, as President of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

"Among the historians who have done so much in the past few years to quicken and enrich the study of Canadian history," says the Free Press, "Professor McInnis has won a place of deserved eminence. His grace of style has enabled him to wear his learning lightly and with distinction. He has made his scholarship a living thing, not a mass of dead erudition, and as a result many readers have felt the stimulus of his guidance, as have countless students in his classroom.

"Yet he never has allowed his intellectual curiosity to exhaust itself even on the absorbing themes of Canadian history. His mastery of world affairs is at once judicious and profound. His genuine and unforced modesty should not obscure his title-deeds to the vast intellectual estate which he has staked out for himself. He is an authority on Canada's relations with the United States, a lifelong student of the Commonwealth and an interpreter of European affairs whose judgment is marked by integrity and insight.

"To these gifts he adds another quality, already important, and destined to grow in significance with time: he has a broad-minded understanding of India's difficulties and of the thronging problems of the Far East."

Our Winnipeg contemporary predicts that under Professor McInnis' leadership the programme of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs will assume new meaning and energy. "The scope of research," it says, "should increase, the quality of speakers at local branches improve, and the Institute's special conferences should gain increased value."

While independent of all governmental control or interference, the Institute has been a recognized and constructive influence upon the development of Canadian foreign policy. Professor McInnis will not only direct its headquarters in Toronto; he also intends to travel extensively in Canada. "Wherever he goes," adds the Free Press, "Institute members will at once feel the impress of a creative personality and larger audiences privileged to hear him will respond to the leadership of a mind which is hospitable to the truth and eager to make it prevail."

Overdue Construction

The Reserve Forces in Charlottetown have been promised new and adequate accommodation for many years now but somehow it has not been forthcoming. At the end of the Second World War a new armoury was to be built as soon as the immediate needs of civilian housing permitted. The naval barracks, H.M.C.S. Queen Charlotte, have long been recognized as unsuitable. It is to the credit of the various commanding officers and their staffs that training was carried on at as high a level as it was under every difficulty.

Charlottetown, at the end of hostilities, was to have first priority on the construction of a new naval establishment but as yet it has not materialized. Even great expense lavished on the present building would not make it properly suitable for its purpose and from its age and condition it is certain that it cannot be used even to the extent previously possible unless extensive repairs are undertaken.

Peace And Good Will

Peace on earth, good will to men represents some of the strongest cravings of the human heart. The words have again and again been made a mockery of by man's stupidity but they remain as a beacon and a promise of better things to come.

Despite the conflict which is all too notable a feature of the times there is real reason for cheerfulness at the prospect. Apart from the steps being taken to erect the structure of a peaceful world, the spirit of people has vastly changed in a single generation. There is no cry today to punish the Reds, to force them to admit that they were always in the wrong and generally to do all the things that would ensure the harbouring of hatreds for years to come.

Instead we have a determination that, cost what it may, aggression will not be permitted to succeed. Force must be proved unprofitable and would-be aggressors made to understand that they have nothing to gain by throwing their weight around except to find themselves face to face with a united world.

The United Nations must ever be prepared to negotiate when negotiations are possible and the object of negotiations must be to establish security and justice, never the imposition of penalties.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Six days till Christmas.

* * *

Car accidents are becoming altogether too numerous. A combination of frosted glass, slippery streets and speed spells trouble.

* * *

This Province is most fortunately situated in regard to weather. Apart from the actual conditions, we have the advantage of following our future changes right across the continent.

* * *

It was always so. The Navy is the forgotten branch of the defence forces. Vice-Admiral E. R. Mainguy, new chief of the Naval Staff, wants more escort vessels, minesweepers and aircraft for the R.C.N. Of such things, he says, "we will never have enough".

* * *

J. M. W. Turner, English landscape painter, died this date 1851. His early pictures are sombre but later ones are remarkable for their splendour of colouring and brilliance of light effects, as exemplified in "The Fighting Temeraire" and "The Sun of Venice Going to Sea".

* * *

The Government was clearly in the wrong in the matter of plans to dispense with the calling of construction tenders in certain cases. No doubt a strong case could be put up for emergency powers, but alas every act which it is inconvenient to publicise might become an emergency.

* * *

The Province does not own Hillsboro Bridge, and must pay the Federal Government $9,750 per annum rental. This has always been a sore point with Provincial Governments which successively have attempted to escape payment. Now that the question of replacement has come up, however, the matter of ownership takes an altogether different aspect.

* * *

They are all anxious to make our personal acquaintance from overseas. The Lord Mayor of London was followed by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, who, in turn was followed by the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. Now the Lord Provost and Lady Warren of Glasgow are making the grand tour, which, unfortunately does not include the Maritimes.

* * *

Two dates are being discussed by those who claim to be in the know as probable for Federal and Quebec provincial general elections in 1952. Federal general elections are nearly always held on a Monday, and the first Monday in June, the second day of the month, is held a likely polling date. There's nothing definite from Ottawa there will be an election next year, but thinking is there will be, and this is the favored date.

* * *

The Montreal Gazette Ottawa correspondent says there are mutterings within the Liberal ranks over the proposed ban on retail price maintenance. One night this week, four or five Liberal M.P.'s buttonholed Justice Minister Garson in the Liberal lobby and insisted that he justify the legislation. Within minutes the group surrounding the Minister numbered an even dozen. Before it ended his audience numbered close to 30—almost all of them backbenchers. Questioning was hot and heavy before Garson satisfied the last sceptic and before Mr. Garson satisfied the last sceptic and made good his escape.

* * *

Late legislation kept piling up at Ottawa until the week's end. Trade Minister Howe produced his bill last Wednesday in the House of Commons to provide credit to western farmers who've been affected by incomplete harvesting operations. On Thursday Finance Minister Abbott unveiled a bill authorizing the C. N. R. to make capital expenditures for new equipment up to the amount of $55,581,816. And on the same day Agriculture Minister Gardiner gave formal notice that he would introduce a measure to amend the Prairie Farm Assistance Act. Purpose of the amending bill is to make additional areas eligible for P. F. A. A. financial aid. With Christmas close at hand, the probability is that if all legislation now on hand or pending is proceeded with, prorogation won't come until late this week, or even next.

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.

MR. McISAAC'S ARTICLES

Sir,—I wish the opportunity to comment on the excellent series, "Lessons From Europe in Community Progress", presently running in your columns, especially so in the light of a letter that appeared in your Public Forum of Dec. 15th inst., signed "Old Timer". I feel that the title was rather ill-chosen, since, if Mr. McIsaac's opinions were challenged, I saw little in the way of constructive alternative, but sensed in several places much of the prevalent "status quo" attitude. I hope that I am wrong in this latter assumption, because it seems evident that we have been ineffective in dealing with present day problems largely because we cling to habits of thought and action of a different age.

One could hardly be excused, for instance, in advocating traffic lights in the horse and buggy days, but in our present modernized, mechanized, world they would seem to be an effective and sensible means of regulating traffic and better assuring the safety of all. After all our freedom is limited by the rights of others—perhaps that is a principle that was quite often forgotten in the days when our present economic and social structure was built. Perhaps too, if we wish to preserve what is good in this system, we may find much food for thought in Mr. McIsaac's proposals.

It may also be well for us to check on the real meaning of freedom, democracy, rights, duties, etc. It is difficult to see a "Marketing Board" an obstacle to freedom. True, it might be an obstacle to the unlimited freedom of a few, but it is a very democratic and necessary weapon for freedom in the hands of thousands of producers who are looking for a better deal than has been offered them this past fifty years.

It is passing strange, too, why this form of producer organization should be considered "undemocratic" by people in certain quarters. What is so wrong with a farmer joining hands with fellow farmers in an effort to gain a measure of control over the disposal of his products and over the returns received for them? Who in heaven's name has a better right to do it? Do we need a system wherein producers of primary products are largely controlled by and dependent on a few to do all their marketing and processing? One hesitates to suggest why there is opposition to this particular effort of farmers.

With regard to our educational system, it is true that we have a great number of prominent Islanders abroad. But whether this is true because of our educational system or in spite of it, is difficult to say. In any case it is not a suitable norm by which to evaluate our system. I would rather incline to the view that the purpose of our educational system, generally speaking, should be the preparation of our young people for active and successful life in the Province. Does that not seem reasonable?

Judged by this standard then I would say that our educational system is quite a failure. Should we not try to improve this situation and should we not readjust our ideas and techniques so that this goal will be the better realized? Or is one a "great dreamer", who is seriously concerned with the hundreds of our young people who not only receive very little in the way of training to make them active and vitally interested citizens, but also very little training that would make them future farmers or better farmers' wives, to say nothing of those who fall out of the elementary school at various stages before they reach Grade X? In that case I hope we have many great dreamers. Perhaps even "Old Timer" will have a dream or two yet!

In my humble opinion, the proposals re "electoral reform", cannot fairly be considered apart from the proposal to divide the Province into twenty-eight districts as a basis for co-ordination of effort of our various people's organizations. According to this proposal, which many believe has much merit, the same local unit (districts grouped around a logical business centre) could serve the Federation of Agriculture, the Women's Institutes, Junior Farmers, Library and Film Service, Co-operatives, etc. In this way efforts of all could be more closely integrated and the various organizations would strengthen rather than weaken each other, as is now often the case.

With this in mind we can now consider the issue of electoral reform.

And what more natural (and, it would seem, workable) step could be taken than the re-aligning of our electoral districts to correspond with the local units of our various organizations? Why should our Province be divided one way for practical economic and social reasons and another way for political reasons? Under Mr. McIsaac's proposal, would we not have a more realistic basis of representation?

Historians tell us that one of the main reasons for the breakdown of parliamentary democracy in many countries was the divorce that resulted from a static basis of political representation on the one hand, and a changing industrial and economic reality on the other. It would seem more effective for all concerned to have one member given full responsibility for looking after the needs of a smaller district; our present set-up of dual representation over a larger political unit that often has nothing else in common, is perhaps due for revision.

I hope, Sir, that Mr. McIsaac's contributions bring more letters to your Public Forum. They have been an excellent series of articles. They come from a young man who worked in our Extension Department, in the Junior Farmers, and in the Federation of Agriculture. His is no governmental panacea for all our ills; it is rather a sincere appeal to all the people to grapple with some of the problems that demand a solution: it offers a sound, well-reasoned programme to the people of this Province to be discussed among themselves, and in the various organizations interested in the betterment of social, educational, and economic life here. It is my hope that the report commands the attention which it deserves.

I am, Sir, etc.,
WILFRED DRISCOLL
Morell.

TEEN-AGE READING

Sir.—I wish to speak about reading matter for the 'teenagers as well as for people grown in body but with minds immature. I bought bookstall copies of two widely sold publications. They told of the sordid things, especially in reference to the seventh commandment—"Thou shalt not commit adultery". Told of criminal attacks, and of what the law does not call criminal, but we call low down barnyard behavior. In one copy two or three columns were filled with evidence and court questioning, where the woman was trying to have her companion in vice made a criminal of. But the man having a more clever lawyer, was freed from the charge when it was proven that she had encouraged his amourous advances. It must have been a very thrilling court session as every minute detail was fed to a hungry audience.

I would suppose that the reason for publishing all this is to make the publications sell well. Could we not call this commercialising vice? The motive is unworthy. To tell the whole story word for word is not wrong if done for the good of others. Jesus told the whole story about adultery as being wide in its scope. He shows us His sense of fair play as He asked the pure ones to throw the first stones. I am afraid that the first to slip out of His presence would be the undersigned, but for the grace of God. Joseph told the whole story, word for word, when he escaped from prison His heart was right with God. As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he. So now our minds return to the advice of St. Paul—"Whatsoever things are pure, lovely and of good report, think on these."

To parents I would say, co-operate with your public librarian in the matter of seeing what she has of the best. Or you may ask her to get you a certain book not on her shelves. And besides let us be reasonable with the bookstall people. Our clergymen no doubt would lend a hand in getting a shelf of books that might compete with the other shelves such as I have spoken of. We do not wish to put anyone out of business, but simply make it easy for such to do right and difficult to do wrong.

There is just as much appetite among the young for what is healthy and good as there is for the rotten. Let's try.

I am, Sir, etc.,
ARCH. MacKENZIE.
Kensington, P. E. I.

The Age-Old Story

Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

HAZARDOUS CROSSING

"The Mails which were forwarded from hence on the 10th inst. were detained at Cape Traverse until Saturday last, when the Courier and another person got over, in a flat somewhat larger than the ice-boat. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, they left the opposite side on their return, having a passenger with them—and had nearly all perished in the violent snow-storm of that evening. About ten o'clock they contrived to haul their boat on a small cake of ice, upon which they remained, exposed to all the fury of the tempest, the whole of that dismal night. To add to their distress, they lost their oars, by a wave breaking over them, which had nearly swept them all off.

"About ten o'clock Sunday morning, having drifted up to Egmont Bay, they were observed from the shore, when three men put off to their assistance, and relieved them from their perilous situation—almost dead with cold, and two of them frost bitten. They brought three Halifax, and two Cumberland Mails, which arrived at the Post Office last evening about nine o'clock. A number of the newspapers were soaked with water, but the letters in general escaped damage."

—Royal Gazette, March 22, 1831.

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Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. McIsaac
Part Three (continued)
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KEY TO ADMINISTRATION CHART
(See picture on page 5)

Local Level

(1) **Electoral Districts**—28 electoral districts, 31 seats, single representation (except in Charlottetown and Summerside) and elimination of property vote.

(2) **Federation and Junior Farmers' branch**—branches in same area as electoral districts with Juniors free and independent of, but working with, and in the same territory as senior Federation. Each branch could have A. I. center forestry committee, grass-drying, seed-cleaning plant and machinery pool run by Federation directors with special men to operate the unit on a year-round basis. Junior program—monthly meetings in hall at center with gymnasium, sports field, program of surveys, competitions and special lectures; would be responsible for promoting calf clubs, etc. in summer and Farm Forum programs, night school classes, etc. in winter.

(3) **Women's Institute Convention Areas**—Women's Institutes carry on same program and set-up as at present, but change areas for district conventions to coincide with areas and centers of other organizations as above; also appoint a co-ordinating committee in each convention area.

(4) **Rural Libraries and Film Council**—at least one in each electoral district at selected center.

(5) **School Boards—central boards** of school administration and taxation in each electoral district. Eventually improved school system with perhaps two, three or more large schools in each district—as the people decide.

(6) **Secretary**—with a well equipped full-time office in the library building where a young, trained and energetic man could be paid a good salary to do the secretarial work jointly for the library, school board, film council, Federation branch, and coordinating committee.

(7) **Credit Union and Cooperative Insurance**—a full time people's credit society located in all or most of the centers suggested above. It would in most cases be an amalgamation of small part-time Credit Unions now established. The Credit Union manager would also be the local agent of Cooperative Insurance and be paid by both organizations.

(8) **Cooperative Stores**—in order to have efficiency and be able to hire qualified accountants and specialized staff, our cooperatives would have to be re-organized on the "central store and branch" system. Under this system there is room for only 10 or 12 consumer co-operative associations on P. E. I. The main stores should have a self-service grocery and be departmentalized; there should be an employee's pension plan, graduated wage scale, examinations for permanent appointments and eventually a labor union for all cooperative employees.

(9) **Cooperative Branch Stores**—branch stores both for distribution and marketing purposes with a local committee appointed in each branch. Branch stores would be located at the smaller business centres to provide a greater service to the people, increase the outlets and volume for co-operative production and manufacturing and to form a solid basis for an effective marketing program.

(10) **Marketing Agents**—cooperative and private collecting agencies for marketing farm and fish products; potatoes, and vegetables, livestock, fish, small fruits, all to be assembled by local licensed dealers, and processed, stored, sold and distributed under control of Maritime commodity marketing boards specially set up by the producers of each product.

Provincial Level

(11) **Extension Departments**—to promote adult education on the highest plane among leaders. Attend short courses and give special lectures for local cooperative, farm, labor organizations, prepare booklets, pamphlets and literature, provide facilities and help for citizenship training courses (see 17) and arrange night classes in social studies etc. for interested leaders.

(12) **Federation of Agriculture**—based on 26 local branches and other Provincial member organizations as now. Immediate projects: cost of production records and research farm, accident insurance and Maritime newspaper to all members. "Farmers' House" in city center. Promote Farm Forum and Junior Farmers' program. Have at least two field men jointly with marketing boards, or Department of Agriculture dealing with marketing and economic questions only.

(13) **Women's Institutes**—central office as at present only allowing Provincial executive the direction of supervisor and staff and complete control over annual Government grant.

(14) **Labor Unions**—Federation of Provincial unions for consultation between and working with other Provincial organizations to create mutual understanding and integrated program.

(15) **Education Board**—based on representation from each school board and the Teachers' Federation, with the Minister of Education as chairman and Government representative on the board; should decide general education policies for Province.

(16) **Library and Film Center**—source of supply for books, films, etc., as at present.

(17) **Citizenship Committee**—to consist of nine persons representing Education Department or Board, Extension Departments of S. D. U. and P. W. C., Federation of Agriculture, Women's Institutes, Clergy, etc. To be financed by 5 per cent Provincial retail sales tax and to be responsible for administering a citizenship educational program for all our young people who during their 16th year have not completed Grade XI education or its equivalent.

(18) **Provincial Government**—based on single districts with 31 seats:

Rural	26
Charlottetown	3
Summerside	2

(19) **Farmers' House**—containing central offices of all rural and marketing organizations; also restaurant exclusive for members with parcel checking, waiting rooms, rest rooms, etc.

(20) **Credit Union Central**—would be Provincial offices of cooperative insurance and Credit Union League together. From here all matters of supervision and promotion in the cooperative field of money, insurance and finance would be dealt with. Credit Unions of Charlottetown could amalgamate and operate on full time basis in same building.

(21) **Cooperative Central**—Island Cooperative Services and Cooperative Union would amalgamate so that one board of directors would have complete control and responsibility of cooperative developments on the Provincial level. Special departments of "central" would include an auditing and an education department. A cooperative training school with special courses for staff and officials would be operated by the Education Department. Membership fees to local cooperatives would eventually be abolished and each would be charged for their auditing and other services.

(22) **Marketing Boards**—regional offices of Maritime marketing boards; staff and offices could be combined for efficiency sake, e.g. small fruits board with potato and vegetable board.

(23) **Livestock Improvement**—Provincial artificial insemination unit with a local branch and operator in each Federation district. A. I. units would be financed and promoted by regional dairy products board and livestock marketing board.

(24) **Legal and Research Division**—to help prepare material for six-day short courses, to provide legal help and advice, and carry on research and investigational work for all supporting organizations.

(To be concluded)

JOIN IN PRAYER

NELSON, B. C.—(CP)—Orthodox members of the Doukhobor sect here joined with members of other faiths for a day of joint worship, discussion and inspiration. The meeting was arranged by the Ministerial Association and the Union of Spiritual Communities of Christ.

The Poet's Corner

THE TEACHER

Behind her ink-stained desk, as on a bridge
Above a dock of upturned eyes,
She sits the captain of a noisy crew
That little cares where Knowledge lies.

Adroit, discreet, her sternness but a mask
To leave her mistress of tumultuous youth,
She trims the sails of discipline and steers
The devious course that leads to Truth.

Staid watcher of soft growth still April small,
She, from the calm that autumn brings,
Sees life reborn in yearly bursts of bloom
And old despairs made glad with spring.

And sensing from the bud the open flower,
She guards those petals half-unfurled,
And in a casual hand made white with chalk
She holds and moulds the coming world.

—Arthur Stringer.

(Quoted in the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation Newsletter, from the presidential report of Miss Mabel O'Brien.)

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