

THE GUARDIAN

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President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16, 1952

Eastern C.N.R. Service

It is evident from the indignant protests forwarded to the Postmaster General by the King's County Board of Trade and Town Council of Montague that the change back to the slow train mail service is anything but a popular move. There is no doubt but as time goes on this fact will be demonstrated more and more convincingly.

Prior to the introduction of the mail trucks to King's County last October, The Guardian pointed out the advantage of leaving Charlottetown at 6 a.m. instead of at 9, thus enabling business men to have their mail available for morning perusal, and giving all the rural couriers an opportunity of making their deliveries at a comparatively early hour the same day.

Unfortunately this proposal was not followed, it being deemed advisable by the postal authorities to wait for the morning air mail reaching Charlottetown by Flight Two. Now that they have reverted to the old train service for mails, however, the Railway might well give consideration to having its trucks leave at 6 a.m. for I.C.I. freight and express. The trucks will no longer require to wait for the air mail into Charlottetown, and there is no question but that the earlier start would prove of far greater benefit to the public.

The Railway authorities have shown commendable enterprise in launching this improved service, which had been requested unanimously by the Boards of Trade of the Province before the Royal Commission on Transportation. Doubtless it is their intention, despite the setback given by reverting to the old mail carriage, to make it as efficient and practicable as possible. We submit that the earlier morning start of the trucks at 6 a.m. would have everything in its favour. It would probably be the only truck service on the continent running, daily, nearly nine hours ahead of His Majesty's First Class Mails!

Shocking Mine Disaster

The tragedy in the McGregor Mine at Stellarton, resulting in the loss of nineteen lives, was the worst in Maritime history since the Princess Colliery disaster four years ago. It was due to a gas explosion, and points up again the hazardous nature of the miners' calling, as well as the heroism shown by those shock troops of the industry known as draegermen, who braved the death gas and smouldering tunnels to bring out the dead.

Doubtless there will be a full investigation into the tragedy, but no one has yet devised accident-proof working conditions for miners. In this case the men were engaged in walling off gas-affected sections of the mine as a safety precaution when the blast caught them. All the victims were from the Stellarton area and there will be widespread sympathy for the bereaved families.

Mr. Churchill's Warning

In his address at Ottawa on Monday evening, Prime Minister Churchill again emphasized his advocacy of a United Europe and the inclusion of German arms in a European army. He had long been an advocate of both ideas and promised that Britain will do all in her power to help them to succeed. But that, he went on, "does not mean that Britain will become a unit in a federated Europe, nor that her army, already in line upon the continent and to grow steadily, will be merged in such a way as to lose its identity."

Those who were looking for significant statements from the British Government leader might well ponder these words. They go to the root of one of the most important issues of the European rearmament scheme. There has been a persistent attempt to bludgeon Great Britain into a European federation. One leading American exponent of this policy has been Senator Green, of Rhode Island, who in a recent statement in the press appeared to threaten that unless Britain came to heel and joined a European federation, as a section of American opinion is demanding, American aid would be refused her. Prime Minister Churchill is making it crystal clear that, as the London Spectator expresses it, "Bri-

tish policy is not for sale." Britain is a leading, not a secondary, power in the United Nations and her desire is to keep her own force within the N.A.T.O. independent, as the American force naturally is. As Mr. Churchill points out, there is nothing to be said against a European Army, formed by those nations which desire to form it. Britain is pledged to associate herself with that army when it exists, but by no means to merge with it as a secondary power.

It is not known what Mr. Churchill told President Truman in discussing this issue, but it would be characteristic of him to recall the words of a venerated American statesman of another day, in connection with all such proposals. "Paying too much for one's whistle," is what Benjamin Franklin called it.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It seems somewhat heretical but a Calgary school board architect believes that schools were apt to be too well built. His idea is to build one-story schools which can be changed to meet changing needs.

The occasional hard kick given by old man winter should not obscure the fact that average temperatures are steadily becoming higher. We are a long way from having a sub-tropical climate but that seems to be what we are heading towards.

It is officially announced that notwithstanding the reversion to the slow train service for mails the truck service to King's and Southern Queen's will continue for the carriage of I.C.I. freight and express. First class mail will be excluded.

Unlike the younger generation in the 20's youngsters today are not being continually told what a mess their parents have made of things. Instead they are more often told of the jobs which remain for them to do.

Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson, famous English actor, was born this date 1853. He first won distinction as a painter, exhibiting in the Royal Academy. He then studied elocution, soon becoming one of the foremost actors of his time, noted for his beautiful voice.

Despite unfortunate accidents, such as the burning of Britain's first four-engined Valiant jet atom-bomber, the jet aircraft offers increased safety from fire. Unlike conventional aircraft engines the jet can readily be adapted to burn kerosene and the heavier fuel oils.

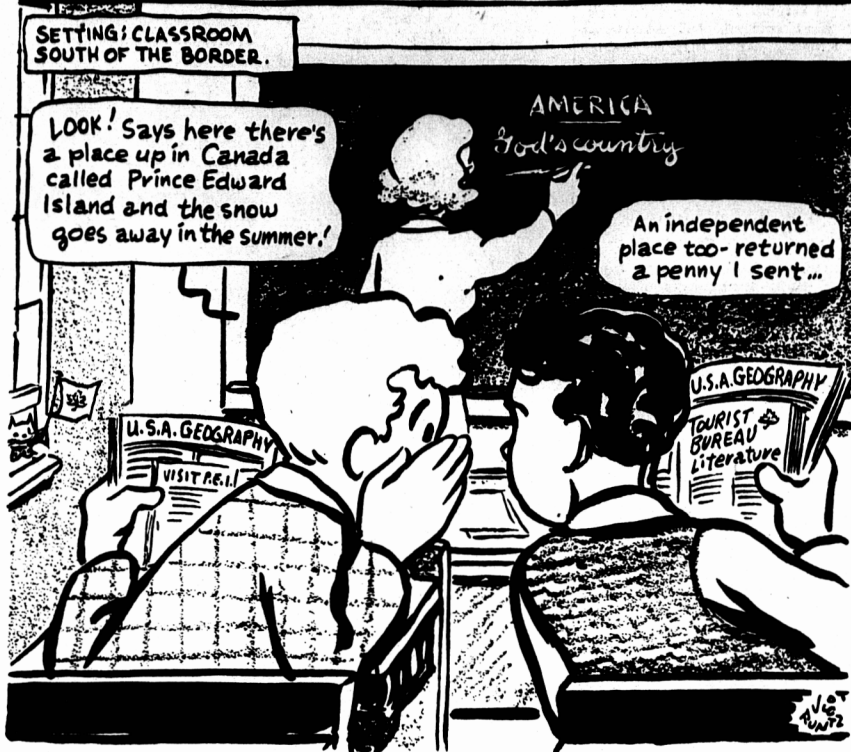
Newfoundland is able to boast that it has less public debt per capita than any other province in Canada. Premier J. R. Smallwood, passing through Montreal, took exception to the statement of Quebec's Finance Minister Onesime Gagnon's statement that the Province of Quebec could boast the lowest per capita debt in Canada at \$83. Said Mr. Smallwood: "Newfoundland has a per capita debt of \$10." He didn't elaborate.

Here is something worth recording. Norman Fisher of Alderwood, Toronto, charged with assaulting his daughter because she read the Toronto Daily Star, was given suspended sentence in a suburban New Toronto court. Fisher testified he banned the reading of the newspaper in his home prior to the Nov. 22 provincial election because he wasn't in sympathy with its editorials. He was told by the Magistrate he couldn't tell Helen Fisher, 20, what not to read.

Coming events may be casting shadows before. More than 400 Montrealers who served voluntarily on the various committees of the Royal Visit last October have received engraved testimonials. The parchment, about 12 by eight inches, bears the crest of the city and a large gold seal. It is signed by the mayor, bears the name of the volunteer and is "in grateful acknowledgement of service rendered." The parchments have been sent to military men, reporters and photographers of the city's newspapers and radio station workers.

Election talk. Says Montreal Gazette: A political soothsayer with his ear quite close to Liberal sources has brought to Montreal another appraisal of the prospects for a Federal general election this year. Here it is, and like all soothsayers' appraisals it is to be taken as such. Ontario Liberals are apprehensive after their Ontario defeat, and their feelings are shared by representatives of other provinces. Mr. St. Laurent is anxious to retire. His party would, in view of events, like to postpone the test to 1953. But the feeling is Mr. St. Laurent must lead the party through an election. If he cannot be persuaded to stay, the election will come this year. If he can, it will come in 1953. On his decision rests the timing of the election. Soothsaying ends.

'Underground' Education



'OBSERVER' NOTES AMERICAN PUBLIC ON THE WHOLE POORLY INFORMED ABOUT THEIR NORTHERN NEIGHBOUR...TOURIST BUREAU REPORTS STEADY FLOW OF REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM AMERICAN SCHOOL CHILDREN.

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.

HONESTY APPRECIATED

Sir.—I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Samuel Hood, Charlottetown, and others concerned for the safe return of my wallet. This is a fine example of honesty, and is indeed very much appreciated.

I am, Sir, etc., ROSE MARIE DESROCHES, 118 Archibald Street, Moncton, N. B.

SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

Sir.—The Public School Act 1940, with amendments thereto, provides that "real estate includes any building or other thing erected on land leased from or belonging to the Crown."

In some school districts it appears that the trustees are now assessing warehouses and other buildings erected on lands belonging to the Canadian National Railway Company. The owners of these buildings hold leases from the said Company and not from the Crown, and I believe it is a well known fact that the Canadian National Railway Company is a body corporate and functions independently from the Crown.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. V. L. GOODWILL

Sir.—I wish to pay a well deserved tribute to the late Mrs. Dr. Goodwill, not only on account of the multiplicity of her general public services but especially for her great work and loyal support of the Red Cross Society both in time of war and in time of peace.

During my thirty-eight years as a member of the Provincial Executive of the Red Cross Society I can recall many splendid men and women who gave many years of loyal and fruitful service to that great humanitarian organization, but I can truthfully say that no one in my opinion was more loyal, energetic and faithful than Mrs. Goodwill. She like her late husband, Dr. V. L. Goodwill, did their full share of public service.

Her record and life is a shining example of one who seemed inspired by Divine Providence to do everything possible in every way to promote and support every movement to aid and assist children and families in suffering and in need—both during and after two world wars.

FARMERS' PROBLEMS

Sir.—In your editorial recently there was a write-up of great markets being found by Mr. Harold Clay for farm products. Bacon and eggs are being produced now at a loss on P. E. I. Mr. Clay will have to find some new markets now if he expects the farmers to produce bacon at \$26.50 per cwt., a drop of \$4.50 in a week. Canada has lost her bacon market, also her egg market to the United Kingdom. Dairy products are on the way out. Margarine has been substituted for butter made of cheap oils and fats that are being imported into this country.

The irresponsible silence of the land, The irresponsible sounding of the Speak both one message of one sense to me!— Aloof, aloof, we stand aloof, so stand Of inner solitude; we bind not these; But who from thy self-chain shall set thee free? What heart shall touch thy heart? What hand thy hand? And I am sometimes proud and sometimes meek. And sometimes I remember days of old When fellowship seem'd not so far to seek. And all the world and I seem'd much less cold. And at the rainbow's foot lay surely gold. And hope felt strong, and life itself not weak.

The Age-Old Story

Go your way, and tell John what things you have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

do everything possible in every way to promote and support every movement to aid and assist children and families in suffering and in need—both during and after two world wars. If the yardstick of public service performance is applied, Mrs. Goodwill's life stands out pre-eminently as a splendid example of a great lady inspired by the greatest of all Christian virtues. Coming first to this Province and city as a stranger and doing so much good in this city for so many years she leaves to this land of her adoption a life record of public service unsurpassed and seldom equalled. Her career should be an inspiring example well worthy of emulation.

I am, Sir, etc., W. J. P. MacMILLAN, (Patriot please copy)

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY

Sir.—Reading the editorial in your paper of Jan. 11, also the piece about "Slow Train Tom," I cannot help but write and give you some facts about the mail service over some of our rural routes. Getting the mail on board the fast truck and sending it out to the town and village post offices is not getting it out to the box holders on rural routes.

We get our mail on RR. 2 St. Mary's Road. This mail is delivered by truck to Montague where it is sorted and given to another courier to transport to St. Mary's Road Post Office, where it has to be sorted again for each of the rural routes there, three in number. By that time the couriers thought it was too late in the day to make the trip over the bad roads of their route that day; so The Guardian and other mail that got a good early start stays in the Post Office till the following day, about 9 or 10 o'clock if a fine day, if not till the next fine day following.

This has been going on since before Christmas and unless you have some means of going to the Post Office for mail you never know when you would get it. Last week I had a card mailed to me from Murray River marked A. M. Jan. 4. Murray River, (which is 3 1/2 miles from here), I received this card on Jan. 8 at the Post Office. If I had not gone there I would not have got it till Jan. 9 about 10 a. m. Is it any wonder "Slow Train Tom" has asked for the mail to be shipped back to the slow old train?

Truly we need a faster and better mail service for King's and Southern Queen's, but what we had was no better, but worse. True it was O.K. for the towns and villages but not for the rural areas.

GOVERNMENT & MOONSHINE

Sir.—In the Guardian I read: "The U. S. narcotic agents, today, snapped a giant trap on the narcotic underworld and seized more than 500 suspected peddlers." Good! Fine! These peddlers are enemies of the country, debauching, especially the teenagers of the nation, in and out of day-schools. But why get after the dope-peddlers and let go the drink peddlers, who involve far more people, young and old, than all kinds of dope put together? Alcohol is a narcotic poison, a habit forming drug, that poisons the human system. It poisons the drinker's relations with his neighbours, and especially with his own family; and yet all this nar-

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

SKATING RINK COMPANY

"At a meeting in this City on Tuesday evening last, it was resolved to form a joint stock company, with shares of £3 each, for the purpose of building a Skating Rink, in Charlottetown, or suburbs. Messrs. L. H. Davies, C. L. Strickland, R. R. Fitzgerald, James Palmer and Charles Yates were appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions. Quite a number of shares have already been taken, and the residue should be disposed of without much difficulty, as the institution can scarcely fail to prove a paying proposition."

—The Journal, Feb. 3, 1871.

Three thousand dollar cars, well dressed and with a white collar at all times. With the poor old farmer it's different. He's unshaved and wearing last year's overalls. As a long residing farmer of this Island, this is my picture of it. The money men do the buying and selling of the farmer's produce. He isn't in business at all. He's only working.

I am, Sir, etc., R. F. D. Mount Stewart.

(As noted in a correction in yesterday's issue, the figure given for average farmer's income in 1951 should have read \$300 per month, not per week.—Ed. G.)

For Men's Clothing That Fits

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Notes By The Way

The answer to an old poser as to what happens when an irresistible force meets an unmovable body is difficult, but anybody knows what happens when an unfrustratable child tangles with an unbreakable toy. — Peterborough Examiner.

"The Toronto strike," one writer says, "is further proof of the advantages of living in a small town where you can always walk to work." And the popular town for that would be one not more than a block wide and two blocks long. — Ottawa Citizen.

"Relax, relax, and then relax some more," is the advice going the rounds these days. Quite a number of people relax all their lives but not of their care and attention shall cease destroying the young of our land? Why? Why do dope peddlers run the risk of long jail sentences and heavy fines? Because big money is to be made in drug peddling. The problem of the liquor traffic is financial. The brewers and their agents would rake the lowest floor of the bottomless pit if there was money to be got there and run the risk of being singled.

A young man whose farm butted on the river thought he saw a chance to make easy money. It was in the rum-running days and with his little boat he met the big boat outside the harbour. The Mounties got after him and he had to flee this Island and could not return.

Our Government debated the problem. They said, "rum-running is going to continue. The making of home-brew will not cease. Bootlegging is a regular money-making business. We had better go into the liquor business ourselves and get what profit can be made." Some members were shocked at the suggestion. "Do you mean," they said, "that we, the Government, elected by the people, to guard the highest interests of this Province, should legalize the sale of intoxicating liquor?" The answer comes from the front bench, "Why not? The people are going to get liquor anyway and we might better get the profit. It's bad for the people, we admit, but that is their business. No man is compelled to drink, and here's the point, the Government has a chance to make money out of this business."

If a commission could be set to work to find out what it costs the Government in: (1) Court procedure; (2) Jailing drunkards; (3) Road accidents; (4) Loss of time in industry,—not to speak of money mispent, and loss of self respect,—elected by the people, to guard the highest interests of this Province, should legalize the sale of intoxicating liquor? The answer comes from the front bench, "Why not? The people are going to get liquor anyway and we might better get the profit. It's bad for the people, we admit, but that is their business. No man is compelled to drink, and here's the point, the Government has a chance to make money out of this business."

At Trenton four young children were rescued from their burning home where they had been left alone while their mother visited a beverage room. She has been sentenced to not more than two years in the Ontario reformatory. There have been too many of these cases and there will be public support for the imposition of sentences upon the guilty parties. In some instances the parent or parents were more excusably absent than in this one. But they nevertheless neglected the precaution of providing a baby-sitter for the little folks they left at home, and children have lost their lives as a result. In the Trenton case, what would the mother have felt if her visit to the beverage room had left her childless? What a price for a drink or two! — Toronto Star.

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