

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink". CHARLOTTETOWN TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 1953

Rural Electrification

Further extension of rural electrification in this Province is a matter of great interest and importance. Recent discussions between Premier Matheson and the manager of the Maritime Electric Company, Mr. Ainsworth, have resulted in an undertaking to proceed with the servicing of the largest populated area still unprovided for, from Montrose through Tignish to Tignish Shore, with the prospect of working out mutually satisfactory arrangements for other areas in the near future. If this can be done it will avoid the obvious difficulties of Government ownership, and the necessity of implementing the wide powers of expropriation, finance, operation and regulation in the matter of electricity given under the Power Commission Act as amended at the last session of the Legislature.

The Company will, of course, be subject to the control of the Public Utilities Commission as to rates in the new areas as in others; but there is certainly more to be gained by co-operation with private enterprise than by exercising socialistic powers of government ownership and regulation except as a last resource. In this, as in other matters, moderate policies are to be preferred, so long as the end result can be obtained. The objective is rural electrification at rates which our farmers can afford, covering eventually every section of the Province, and with as little further delay as possible. Premier Matheson is hopeful of the possibilities of the present move in this respect, and has expressed his appreciation of the Company's attitude in meeting the Government proposals half way.

Korean Armistice

Agreement on terms for the release of Prisoners-of-War was reached in Korea on Monday and there seems to be nothing further to prevent an armistice. The almost three-year-old conflict comes to an end with little or no gains for anyone, which is after all the objective of the United Nations in opposing aggression. It would have been agreeable for the Republic of Korea to have acquired sovereignty over the whole of Korea and other nations will hope that such a unification can be brought about. That it has not been accomplished by force of arms is fortunate rather than otherwise for U. N. principles.

The mutual defence pact offered to the R. O. K. by President Eisenhower is a clear notification to Communist China that the United States is not giving up its principles of opposing aggression and that peace-loving peoples subjected to unprovoked attack will receive powerful backing.

It is not to be supposed that the end of hostilities means anything like a final settlement. The questions of a unified Korea, the presence of non-Korean forces north and south of the 38th parallel or rather the agreed dividing line which gives more territory to South Korea, and a general settlement in the Pacific will not be attained in short order.

The fighting men have done their job. Now it is up to the politicians and diplomats to bring about a satisfactory solution to the difficult problems of the Far East.

Important Educational Study

A project to identify and appraise the values which are common to the people of Canada and the United States has been announced by the co-chairmen of the Canada-United States Committee on Education, Professor Charles E. Phillips of the Ontario College of Education and Dr. James B. Edmonson, Dean-Emeritus of the College of Education at the University of Michigan. The project is made possible by a grant of \$10,000 to the American Council on Education by the Fund for the Advancement of Education, an independent organization established by the Ford Foundation. Research director of the project will be Professor Dennis H. Wrong, who until recently has been Research Assistant at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey.

The Canada-United States Committee on Education was organized in 1944 on the initiative of the American Council on Education. It exists as a consultative body of 20 educators who are concerned with the educational relations of the two nations

which the Committee unofficially represents. The Committee is sponsored in Canada by the Canadian Education Association in cooperation with the Canadian Teachers' Federation and the National Conference of Canadian Universities, and in the United States by the American Council on Education.

It is expected that the study, which will be developed over the next several months by the research director working in close cooperation with the co-chairmen and members of the Canada-United States Committee, will result in a report which will have broad implications for the improvement of curricular materials including text books for the schools and colleges of each country. It is anticipated that the study will get under way with an analysis of the works of statesmen and historians, sociologists, and other scholars as well as a study of popular and semi-popular writings and declarations, which will suggest what ideals and values are operative in Canada and the United States. Efforts to appraise the extent to which people of the two countries are actually aware of these common ideals and values will follow. The Canada-United States Committee on Education expects that the study will assist it and other organizations in developing procedures which will help make these values more influential in the thought and action of people of the two countries.

Coronation Picture

With Coronation Day impressions still fresh in mind, a full-length film record of the event, in technicolor, is being flown from England and will be shown locally this week in the Prince Edward and Capitol Theatres, starting tomorrow. In a wire received by the manager, Mr. George Walters, from Lieutenant Governor Prowse, His Honour stated that the beautiful Coronation colours—red, white and gold—along the streets and in the Abbey, together with the solemnity and impressiveness of the scene, the enthusiastic cheering for the Queen and the popularity enjoyed by the Duke of Edinburgh, were among the features which most impressed him. The film story—a Rank production entitled "A Queen Is Crowned"—has sought to capture these and other details in gorgeous panorama. The famous Shakespearean actor, Sir Laurence Olivier, will be heard as narrator, and many other distinguished artists have collaborated to make the film the greatest national achievement of its kind. The Spencer Company is to be congratulated upon obtaining it so promptly for Charlottetown.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Today, British Columbia's Provincial general election, the second in seven months.

Royal Commissions are the order of the day. Saskatchewan's Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life expects to hear at least 150 briefs from various organizations and interests.

The timing of the report of shortages of blood in Korean hospitals makes it seem like a direct appeal to citizens of this Province, as indeed it is. We are fortunate to be in a position to do something at once for the boys who are doing the fighting.

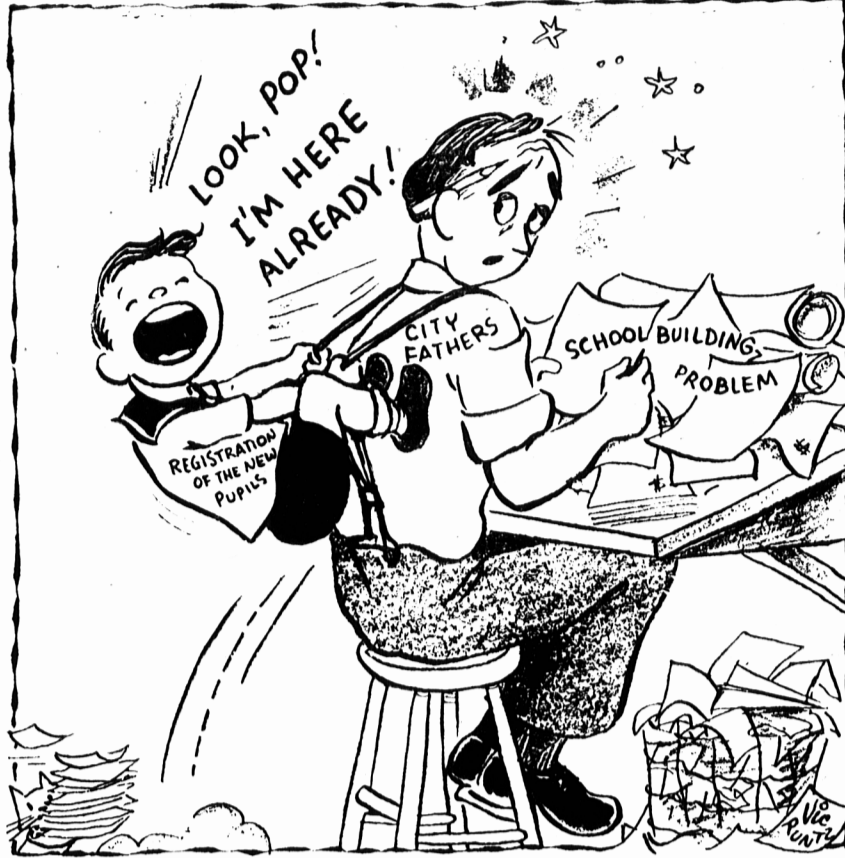
The latest figures issued by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation show 83,250 dwelling units started in Canada in 1952, a rise of 21 per cent over the previous year. The faster tempo has continued in 1953; during this year's first quarter, houses started increased by 68 per cent over the same period of 1952.

Canadian and American teachers, through the Canada-United States Committee on Education, propose a project to identify and appraise the values which are common to the people of these two countries. An earlier project was an analysis of history textbooks used in the high schools, a report of which was published in 1947.

The financing of education is the subject of a Royal Commission in Nova Scotia, the commissioner being Judge V. J. Pottier. Other provinces will watch with interest the investigation of the present distribution of educational costs and proposals for a fairer sharing of them. It will probably be a year, however, before the findings are available.

George Stephenson, railway pioneer, was born this date 1781. He worked as engineer in various mines and, simultaneously with Sir Humphry Davy, invented a safety-lamp. He designed a colliery locomotive in 1814. He was engineer for the first company to carry passengers by railroad and while engineer for a second company, designed the greatly improved locomotive, "The Rocket", which made its trial trip at 29 m.p.h.

Never A Dull Moment



The Poet's Corner

NIGHT ON THE DOWNLAND

Night is on the downland, on the lonely moorland, On the hills where the wind goes over sheep-bitten turf, Where the bent grass beats upon the unplowed poortland And the pine-woods roar like the surf.

Here the Roman lived in the wind-barren lonely, Dark now and haunted by the moorland fowl; None comes here now but the peewit only, And moth-like death in the owl.

Beauty was here on this beetle-droning downland; The thought of Caesar in the purple came From the palace by the Tiber in the Roman land To the wind-swept hill with no name.

Lonely Beauty came and was here in sadness, Brave as a thought on the frontier of the mind, In the camp of the wild upon the march of madness, The bright-eyed Queen of the Blind.

Now where Beauty was are the wind-withered gorses, Moaning like old men in the hill; The flying sky is dark with running horses, And the night is full of the past.

—John Masfield.

The Age-Old Story

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God; for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither can he tempt any man; but every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

The Ploughman

(Ottawa Journal) In the shadowy epochs of man's earliest husbandry, before he had learned to domesticate animals, he was a nomad and followed his herds and flocks from one feeding ground to another. Then, in perhaps the most important discovery of all human history, he learned to open Earth's breast and place in the darkness the seeds of wild grasses that he had discovered meant food for him and his animals. All our cereal grains are grasses.

First ploughs were probably heavy sticks dragged or pushed by human strength; then man learned to fasten his beasts with leather or bark straps to his rude plough and to turn jagged furrows in the soil. Wherever rifle and axe blazed the way, the plough soon took over and became the symbol of a growing nation.

The steel plough was the symbol of a new order: it turned black bottom land and powerful sod busters ripped apart the tough sod of the prairies. Today a controversy seethes among farmers as to the value of traditional ploughing; some claim we need new tools to chop humus refuse into the top inches of soil. But the countryman still uses his one-horse plough. On a May day when he clucks to his faithful old horse and the sharp point of the plough slides smoothly into Earth's breast, he feels the thrill of the year's most meaningful act.

When men place seed in the soil, they do so in full confidence that when Time is fulfilled the harvest will be waiting. Ploughing is an act of faith. It is one of man's links with the Great Spirit that ordains first the seed, then the ear, and then the full grain in the ear.

Notes By The Way

Continuity of Queen Elizabeth's descent for 800 years from the sovereigns of the House of Kenneth MacAlpin will feature an exhibition to be held this summer in the Register House, Edinburgh. Entitled "The Royal Line", the exhibition will display documents bearing the seals or signatures of every sovereign of Scotland and Great Britain from Malcolm IV to the present day. Earliest seal is that of Malcolm IV (1162) and the earliest signature that of James II (1452).—Moncton Daily Times.

A woman advertised recently for a cook and received dozens of applications for the job. She decided in favor of a woman in a small town and wrote advising her to report for work. A few days later she received a letter: "Dear Madam," it said, "Sorry to have to turn down your offer but handwriting analysis is my hobby and after examining yours I have to say you'll never amount to much and you and me would never hit it off. Yours truly," Financial Post.

If television is to be a factor in Canadian unity the price for it must be paid. Do the Canadian people want to pay the price, or merely exactly, does the government of the country consider television a sufficiently effective means of national unity to give it priority? It all depends on public reaction. But that reaction will be favorable or unfavorable according as the users are or are not convinced of its social and cultural value. The problem is not confined to our country. UNESCO which is trying to help its member nations to develop television in the interest of education of science and culture by encouraging research, by centralizing and diffusing information—has already set about a great world enquiry "for or against television."—Le Haut Parleur, St. Hyacinthe.

One ventures on shaky ground, in offering any parallel in importance to a recent announcement that "breeding" of fissionable material, or atomic fuel, has been achieved, but something comparable to the first demonstration of a chain reaction's feasibility has been accomplished. Up to now, possibilities of economic revolution through the use of atomic power have been limited by the relative scarcity of the radioactive type, or isotope, of uranium. The radioactive type makes up only one part in one hundred million of the uranium as it is mined. It must be separated; by costly processes. It is then, at present, used to produce from the stable remainder a somewhat smaller quantity of plutonium which is superior to radioactive uranium itself. So roughly 138 pounds of every 140 pounds of uranium mined is useless. Success in operating a breeder reactor, such as announced recently by Mr. Gordon Dean, chairman of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, by which at least as much new fuel is made as is used in making it, thus hints that all the uranium recoverable from the earth can be turned into power. In effect the value of our uranium supply is multiplied by one hundred and thirty-nine.—Montreal Star.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

CENTRAL ACADEMY

"Since the debate in the House of Assembly on the Academy Bill, which took place on Tuesday last, up until two or three years ago the number of pupils at that institution was made by some hon. members, we have been at some pains to ascertain the truth upon that point, and have found, from authentic records, that the average number, during the last six years, is forty-six—which is about the present number. When it is taken into account that a large proportion of these have been instructed in the classics, mathematics, etc., and have acquired repeated testimonials of very respectable progress from highly official as well as other well informed sources, we think it is going very far to say, that the money devoted to the Academy has been thrown away, or that the masters were not qualified for the trust."—Colonial Herald, March 25, 1843.

Advertisement for G. H. Taylor Jewellers. Features a large diamond engagement ring with the text 'priceless... yet priced LESS!' and '5-DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RING 125.00'. The ad concludes with 'G. H. TAYLOR JEWELLERS FOR FOUR GENERATIONS'.

The Passing Scene

By Observer CONCERNING DESECRATIONS

In my view there is nothing in the world of Nature more pleasing to the eye or more helpful to the spirit than a clear, clean, running stream. If it be one where there is "here and there a lusty trout," so much the better. But it is the stream itself that bears on its way messages of freedom and joyfulness for all whose ears are not closed to the finer accents of creation. There are times, of course, when the best behaved stream gets a bit muddy. The heavy rains are too much for its accustomed tidiness and for a little while, perhaps a few days, its sparkling beauty is obscured. It is but a transitory disarray, however, and soon the stream is back to its normal purity, ready and eager to do its share of duty as of old. Wordsworth's tribute: "Nature never did betray the heart that loved her."

I thought of this poetic line on a recent afternoon when I visited a favourite stream for the first time this year and found it had been desecrated. Instead of its former sparkling waters there was gravelled drabness, miles and miles of it. What was once one of the best trout streams in the Province is now the helpless victim of a steam shovel.

No doubt the desecration is being done in the name of expediency. There is nothing original in that, for most desecrations can find some measure of self-justification. For myself (needless to say I speak for no one else) I find it incredible that any government would permit the polluting of a river or stream under any pretext whatsoever. If it can be done in one place it can be done in another as soon as some excuse can be found for it. The logical and almost inevitable result of that is that within a few years, will be dirty, gravel-infested streams from one end of the Island to the other. Meanwhile, a few roads may be widened.

Speaking of roads, they, too, have felt the heavy hand of expediency. Up until two or three years ago the stretch of highway from Cherry Valley to Vernon River and beyond was ablaze with glory in late spring and early summer. The tall and graceful spikes of the lupin waved gaily in the breeze, making a picture of beauty that delighted the eyes of friend and stranger alike. It was yet another proof

that Nature did never betray the heart that loved her. But someone, with more botanical curiosity than imagination, discovered that there was a cackle hidden somewhere among the purple foliage. So, in order that the miscreant might be put out of its way, the order went forth for a new slaughter of the innocent. Down went the gorgeous wayside dwellers before the poison of the spray gun and once again expediency had scored a great triumph. I have not yet heard that the Mayflower is to be outlawed; but, no doubt, that will come in time.

We hear a lot today about the need for conserving our natural resources, and I believe we even maintain a department of government whose function it is to care for these resources and, where possible, to develop them. What, in fact, are the natural resources of a country? Do they include all the gifts which nature bestows from her primeval bounty on those who mean to exploit in their efforts to make a living?

What of conservation itself? Is it binding on all or only on some? Is it a principle of fundamental worth or only a fad, a fashion, that will pass when the time comes? Shall parents teach their children, or teachers their pupils, reverence for beauty when all around them are spoiling of Nature's art? It is of little use to encourage a child to look for books in the running brooks when all he can see when he does come to a brook is mud and silt thrown in by a machine in the name of "expediency."

Do we of this generation have permanent title deeds to the natural resources that came to us quite by accident, or are generations yet unborn entitled to some share in them? Is consideration for posterity a something to be honored or is it a myth to be scorned? If desecration of our streams, plant life, and wooded lands be permitted under certain circumstances, who is to say when it shall stop or that it shall stop at all? Where does the principle of law and order stand in such a confused situation? I don't know how it may seem to others, but these are some of the questions that came to my mind when I saw a once lovely stream being troubled and hindered by pollution.

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