

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. CIRCULATION Total City Zone 3,765 Retail Trading Zone 8,457 All Others 827 Total Net Paid 13,048

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, NOV. 20, 1951

M.F.R. Act In Jeopardy

The Moncton Transcript takes timely issue with Transport Minister Chevrier on his attitude toward equalization of freight rate structures in Canada. The four Atlantic Provinces, through the Maritime Transportation Commission, are rightly protesting against this measure in its proposed form. It could result in the statutory benefits accorded freight traffic from and to the Maritimes under the Freight Rates Act of 1927 being nullified.

As the Transcript points out, Mr. Chevrier's further assertion that there cannot be equalization if protection is to be accorded to any region, group or association ignores realities altogether. As Minister of Transport he well knows that the Prairie Provinces are being fully protected insofar as they will continue to enjoy the low-scale rates accorded them under the Crow's Nest Pass Act which will not be subject to change under any equalization plan.

It is unfortunate that when the Federal statutes were revised some years ago, the preamble of the Maritime Freight Rates Act was not retained. This preamble sets forth the findings of the Duncan Commission on which the Act was based, namely "that the Intercolonial Railway was designed, among other things, to give Canada in times of national and imperial need an outlet and inlet on the Atlantic Ocean, and to afford the Maritime merchants, traders and manufacturers the larger market of the whole Canadian people instead of the restricted market of the Maritimes themselves."

These considerations influenced Parliament at the time, and it was deemed "expedient that effect should be given to such recommendations, in so far as it is reasonably possible so to do without disturbing unduly the general rate structure in Canada." The new rates were declared to be statutory and not based on any principle of fair return. It is essential that in any scheme of freight rate equalization this provision be left undisturbed.

Civil Defence

The essence of a civil defence programme is that it is a civilian show. The armed forces play their vital part in operations but over and above that there is the matter of organizing the civil population, the working population, to withstand the attacks that will be made in case of war. The object is not to take men and women out of other employment to engage in civil defence activities. It is to maintain production at the highest possible peak and to enable the national life to continue in an orderly way.

There have been complaints of lack of direction from Ottawa, particularly in the matter of standardized defence practices and equipment. These may have some justification but the essential matter is to enroll and organize volunteers who will be prepared to carry out whatever duties events may make necessary.

In the role of evacuation reception area such as is expected of this Province, it would seem that women will be even more in demand than men and should see to it that their own neighbourhood does not lag in organization.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Fox and mink are again in the limelight as the show opens in Charlottetown.

This year Christmas falls on a Tuesday, which is a good enough reason for this country to put some weight behind the adoption of a revised calendar.

To the Communists the most significant feature of their position is that they are faced by a united world. Their efforts, obviously, are directed at making it disunited by every means in their power.

Residents of Orlebar Street are complaining very bitterly of the condition of the street since the new drainage was installed. It has become a veritable quagmire.

An Australian woman is reported to have won shares in both first and second prizes in a state lottery against odds of 9,999,800,001 to 1. But did she collect about ten thousand million dollars? The two prizes totalled only \$15,680.

The leader of Britain's Royal Marine Commandos in Korea, Lt.-Col. Douglas Drysdale, will begin training U. S. Marines next January. The task will keep Col. Drysdale in the U. S. A. for at least two years.

It is hard to imagine a more appropriate setting for a meeting of Maritime Provinces organizations than the car ferry M. V. Abegweit where representatives of Fish and Game Associations of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and this Province meet this afternoon.

Thomas Chatterton, English poet, was born this date 1752. Most of his brief life was spent producing forgeries of the works of old English poets. What there is of his own showed promise but Chatterton practically starved to death, hastening the end with arsenic.

It is nothing new for advertisers to leave Prince Edward Island off the map of Canada. Indeed, in Borden's day it was a common question among politicians at Ottawa—"Why is Prince Edward Island like an appendix to Canada? Because it could be cut out without any harm to the body politic."

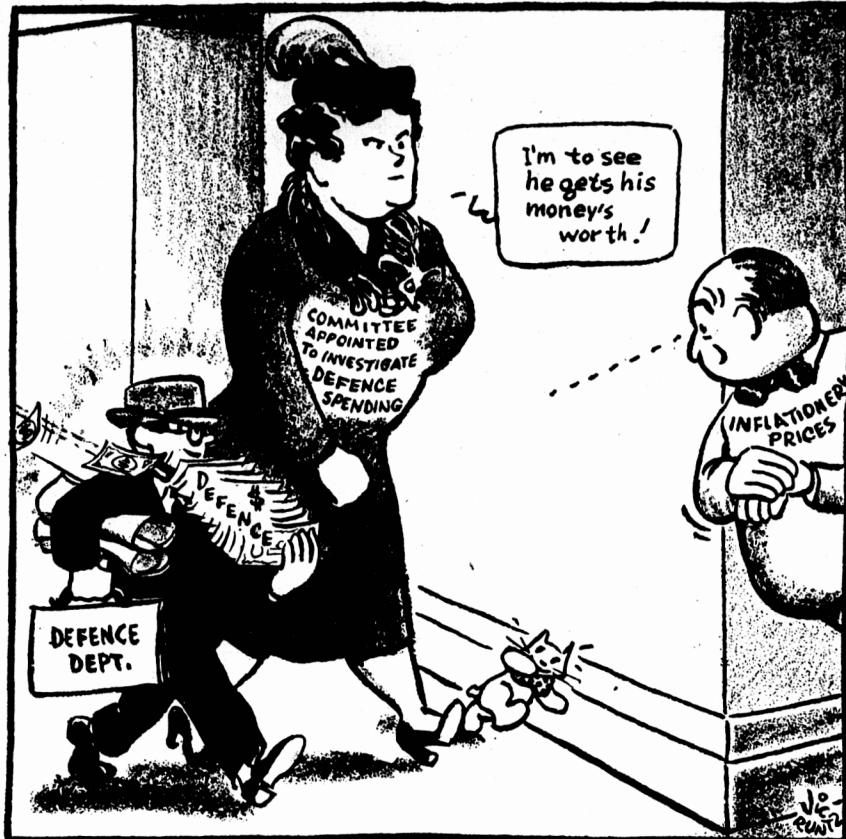
According to the Department of National Revenue's "Green Book" farmers in 1949 paid income tax as follows: 20,080 in Saskatchewan contributed \$6,647,000. 15,980 in Alberta paid \$7,153,000. 6,590 in Manitoba paid \$1,585,000. 8,010 in Ontario paid \$1,585,000. 200 in Quebec paid \$51,000. 120 in New Brunswick paid \$11,000. 160 in Nova Scotia paid \$33,000. 80 in Prince Edward Island paid \$4,000. 10 in Newfoundland paid \$2,000.

This Province has always been noted for its square or country dances. Princess Elizabeth by giving her official blessing to the square dance at Rideau Hall, did more than her share to popularize an already thriving pastime. Experts report that the success of the square dance rests upon the skill of the caller. And so that Montreal may have its share of excellent callers the Greater Montreal Branch of the Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation Inc. is just about to burst forth with a square dance callers' course—the first of its kind.

Restoring Dunstaffnage Castle. The Scottish Tourist Board have been asked by Oban Town Council to do what they can to restore public access to the ruins of historic Dunstaffnage Castle. The land in the vicinity is still held by the Admiralty, and complaints have been made that barbed wire blocks the road to the Castle. The Castle was the crowning place of the early Scottish kings. It is situated at the entrance to Loch Etive, a few miles from Oban. Flora MacDonald was a State prisoner there for ten days after aiding Prince Charles Edward's escape. The building was badly damaged by fire in 1810.

For some weeks, writes an Ottawa correspondent, official Ottawa has been casting about for ways and means of honoring Princess Elizabeth and her consort following completion of the Royal tour. One idea, reportedly, was that Elizabeth be made a member of the Canadian Privy Council. But protocol reared its ugly head. Membership in His Majesty's Canadian Privy Council shouldn't come, it appeared, until she had become an Imperial Privy Council member. And this—as yet—she was not. Last week, Opposition Leader Drew offered a new idea. Technically, neither Elizabeth nor Philip are Canadian citizens. This despite the fact that, constitutionally, they are Princess and Prince of Canada. Why not give them Canadian citizenship? The experts were giving the proposal the once-over.

Valuable Shopping Companion



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.

ANOTHER DOCTOR NEEDED

Sir,—It is with grave concern that we in West Prince learn that one of our medical doctors has been recalled from our midst by the executive of the Medical Association.

We in this part of the Province always stood for the things that were to benefit our living standards and the betterment of our general welfare in community life. When anything did go amiss we worked together, found the cause and made the necessary amendment. This, I may say is no exception.

A number of our local social organizations have pleaded for Dr. Hamison to be left in our midst but those pleas haven't been given consideration. Why expect Dr. Shea to stay in his office twenty-four hours per day administering to the ill-fated, not to mention the care for his patients in the Western Hospital?

Our vague rumour about letting a D. P. practice here, if conflicts with our own boys becoming doctors. If such is the case I would suggest that the executive of the Medical Association get after the powers that be and instruct them to give financial aid to the less fortunate who have the desire but not the means. In this way the medical profession would soon be replenished.

G. W. MURRAY, Elmisdale, P. E. I.

TWENTY-FIVE YEAR CLUB

Sir,—A short time ago I read an interesting account of a special event in Summerside, when the old timers and officials of the firm of R. T. Holman, Limited, gathered for a banquet and to form a club made up of those who were with the firm for twenty-five years over this annual event to be known as the Twenty-five Year Club. Looking over the list, I see members with years of service long past the quarter century mark and one grand old man with sixty years' service with the firm.

Among the many fine speeches that evening was the announcement by the president and general manager of this great firm, Mr. Robert T. Holman, that plans are underway for a pension plan for the members of the staff as they get along in the evening of life. That announcement brings a flow of gladness to us all, not only the old timers but to all of us who are members of this great family. Time marches on and outside of government jobs there are thousands who spend years and years in stores and factories and at the end of their working days have nothing to look to, only the haunting limbo of the past.

Holman's is one great big family and many of us here in this city look ahead to the evening we will sit in on that twenty-five year club when we will hold a pension cheque in our hand and look back from the evening of life down into the limbo of the past and see again in golden letters that announcement by Mr. Holman, pension plan for the staff of our store. As one who has earned his bread with many a firm, I look back with a smile to the day I was accepted by this firm and like many others here call it a lucky day.

It has been said so many times that Holman's is a great firm to deal with and as one member of the staff—and I guess that goes for us all in the Charlottetown store—Holman's is a great firm to work for. And to you in Summerside who formed the twenty-five year club, remember that many of us here hope to join soon

The Anglo-Egyptian Treaty

(By Richard Scott)

There are two outstanding issues involved in the abrogation of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936. First, the right which Britain enjoys under it to maintain up to 20,000 troops and 400 airmen with ancillary personnel in the Suez Canal Zone. Secondly, the future of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. Let us dispose of the Sudan question first because it is the simpler.

Since 1899, the Sudan has been administered under an Anglo-Egyptian condominium. It is now the Egyptian demand that the Sudan shall be united with Egypt under the Egyptian Crown. The U. K. Government continues to insist, as it has insisted for a long time, that the future of the Sudan must be decided by the Sudanese themselves after their attainment of the full self-government to which they are rapidly being brought. The U. K. Government has promised this to the people of the Sudan and is not ready to compromise its word.

The right which Britain enjoys of stationing a small force for the defence of the Canal Zone was granted at a time when Egypt had reason to fear aggression from the Rome-Berlin axis. Egypt then recognized that her own forces were not alone sufficient for the defence of her territory or of the Canal which was of such vital importance to the U.K. and the British Commonwealth. She recognizes this today. Her Foreign Minister admitted it on Wednesday.

But today, although most people would feel that the danger of aggression was as great as in 1936, Egyptian nationalism apparently demands the withdrawal of British troops on the ground that they detract from her sovereignty. The idea behind the new proposals, which were to have been presented to Egypt on October 10th by the British ambassador on behalf of the government of the U.K., the U.S., France and Turkey, was that a regional defence organization should be created in the Middle East into which Egypt would enter as a full and equal partner.

By this means, it was hoped that the security of the Canal Zone and of the whole area could have been secured by joint effort and under a unified command, without Egypt feeling that the continued presence of foreign troops on her soil was any infringement of her sovereignty; was no more of an infringement than the people in Britain feel about the presence here of American troops.

Mr. Acheson made it quite clear in a prepared statement to the press that although the abrogation of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty was a matter of direct concern only to the two peoples, yet it did raise issues which were also of general concern to the free world and he strongly condemned the Egyptian Government for its proposed unilateral abrogation of the treaty.

The position for the moment is that the U. K. Government considers the proposed Egyptian legislation for abrogation of the 1936 treaty and the 1899 agreements on the Sudan as being illegal and therefore null and void. In this, the Government is supported fully by the U.S.A. In neither of these treaties or agreements is there any provision for unilateral abrogation. Provision was made that the 1936 treaty, in which the Sudan agreements were reaffirmed, could be revised after ten years if both parties agreed to negotiations. After 20 years that is in 1956—negotiations for revision would be held at the request of either party. Yet for the past five years, Britain has been ready to discuss revision and still is.

as the years roll along. And thanks to the president and general manager for that great announcement of pensions in the evening of life and a club member when you have served twenty-five years on the staff.

I am, Sir, etc. WALTER A. O'BRIEN, Charlottetown, Nov. 19th, 1951

The Poet's Corner

IN NOVEMBER

The ruddy sunset lies Banked along the west; In flocks with sweep and rise The birds are going to rest.

The air clings and cools, And the reeds look cold, Standing above the pools, Like rods of beaten gold.

The flaunting golden-rood Has lost her worldly mood, She's given herself to God, And taken a nun's hood.

The wild and wanton horse, That kept the summer revel, Have taken the serge and cord, And given the slip to the Devil.

The winter's loose somewhere, Gathering snow for a fight; From the feel of the air, I think it will freeze tonight.

—Duncan Campbell Scott.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

NEWSPAPER ITEMS

From The Islander, April 5, 1950: A petition to Sir Donald Campbell, Lieutenant Governor, from the clergy, magistrates, and other inhabitants of Charlottetown and vicinity sets forth the obligation of strict Sabbath observance and views with "sorrow and alarm the prospect which the re-opening of navigation presents, of the continued violation of that sacred day of rest, by the employment of the Steamer 'Rose' for the transmission of the mails from Pictou to Charlottetown, and the consequent opening of the Post Office for delivery of letters."

A lecture at the Mechanics Institute on "The advantages of Chloroform" is advertised, and hope is expressed editorially "that fellow townsmen will avail themselves of this opportunity of becoming acquainted, not only with Dr. Jarvis as a lecturer, but also with this novel and important modern discovery."

W. H. Badge, distillery proprietor, Lower Great George Street, near Kent Street, informs the public that he has finished his first period of Distillation and has ready for delivery the various descriptions of Spirits which he confidently trusts will be found, upon inspection, fully equal in strength and quality to any manufactured in the British dominions. N.B.—Corn taken in payment.

M. W. Skinner, Dalrymple's Corner, opposite Mr. Henry Stampers, Queen Street, announces the receipt at his establishment of a complete assortment of superior drugs and medicines, direct from Britain.

George Beer, Jr., "having erected a Smoke House, for the accommodation of others, as well as of himself, notifies those who wish to avail themselves of the opportunity to have their cured meat smoked, that it will be in operation the ensuing week." William B. Dawson announces that he is continuing, in all its branches and at the same place, the business of Tanning and Currying formerly carried on by his father, Mr. Thomas Dawson, at his establishment on Grafton Street.

Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. McIsaac Part Two (continued) (All Rights Reserved)

MARITIME MARKETING ANOMALIES

The Eastern Provinces are a constant deficiency area in beef because there is always a large amount brought in from Western Canada. Therefore why should that theory which in the Maritimes not at least equal those in Quebec and Ontario? And why, when our farmers are being paid less, should our retailers pay slightly more? On the average minimum of 12,000 head of beef averaging 800 lbs. each, at 3 1/2 cents per pound, our Island farmers are losing at least \$336,000 every year.

These figures are in addition to losses which result from frequent maneuvering and unnecessary fluctuations on the national market levels, because of a lack of producer influence in business there. On the Island especially, sheep farmers too, are losing in the same way and in about the same or slightly greater proportion on their marketing of lambs.

Who is responsible for this situation? Many people blame the packers, big business and the government. It does not occur to them that the blame is to be placed on the system itself. The great proportion of our farmers, labourers and people generally today would themselves avail every opportunity to exploit the masses under the present defective system, if they had the money, the ability and the same opportunities as big business. Today the slogan "business is business" and the greed for excessive wealth is undermining our whole mode of living; while Communism waits for the best opportunity to offer its false solution to the depressed groups. The attitude and outlook of the people must be changed before our marketing system or any other economic practices can be improved.

For many years, far-seeing officials and farmers have outlined the possibility of developing on Prince Edward Island a source of supply for high-class, disease-free livestock for breeding purposes. Some farmers have geared their operations and breeding program to meet this demand and are being well repaid. However, out of the total of some 9,500 active mixed farmers in the Province (as indicated by a Federation of Agriculture survey of 1950, when organizing and taking marketing board vote by school districts), there are only 377 supporters and active members of all Provincial cattle breeding associations.

There are less than 300 farmers actively following a policy of raising registered breeding swine, and there are 96 owners of approved poultry flocks. This means, in short, that a maximum of 12 1/2% of the Island farmers are following a scientific livestock program or contributing to the general improvement of the basic phase of island agriculture.

There is an account of a typical local incident which occurred not many years ago in the potato industry. In early autumn potatoes were just starting to be moved by boat. A wire from a reputable wholesale merchant in Newfoundland for a boat load of table potatoes quoted a price that would allow local dealers to pay farmers \$1.20 per bushel at the wharf. This information went out to several dealers simultaneously. They all wanted "the business" and so started cutting prices by circling quotations direct to Newfoundland. The first dealer offered potatoes at \$1.15 per bushel; second, \$1.10; the third, \$1.05; until the final price paid to the farmers was 90c per bushel. The same procedure, received his same profit or rate of commission on the potatoes sold.

However, this deal not only lowered the price for that day but undermined the whole price level for table potatoes in this Province and Newfoundland, for some weeks. It also undermined the efforts of our reputable exporters and contributed to the cause of dozens of young people and farms becoming discouraged and leaving for the cities and industrial life.

Our turnip marketing system is now operating on about the same level. Markets are being flooded; price-cutting and quality manuevering is rampant. And it appears that whether our turnip producers here get 30c or 21c per bushel for turnips that are shipped to New England markets, for example, the price range to consumers there is still from six to eight cents per pound (\$3.00 to \$4.00 per bushel) across the counter. Prices to consumers bear little or no relation to prices paid to producers.

These figures show that Newfoundland people consume less than 1 1/2 eggs per week; and other Maritime people on the average eat about 3 1/2 eggs per week, including all that is used in bakeries and in home cooking. It is well known that farm people eat many more than this average, therefore the egg consumption of the non-farming population of these Provinces cannot be much higher than that of Newfoundland people. If the incomes of non-farming population of these Provinces—the four eastern Provinces—were raised so that they could afford to eat and would eat on the average one more egg per capita per week, then our present production would be insufficient. This could be partially overcome at least, by central marketing, which would effect orderly distribution of eggs and eliminate unwarranted high prices to consumers during low production periods. We could hope, also, that it would eliminate the necessity of importing eggs from Europe to Nova Scotia as has happened during the past year. It is quite difficult to understand the economics of importing Dutch eggs across the Atlantic and sending "CARE food parcels" to Western Europe at the same time.

During recent years, prices of eggs to producers and consumers fluctuated unnecessarily. Prices are too low some times, and too high at other times, with respect to the interests of both groups. For instance, egg prices to farmers have constantly ranged from 7c to as high as 20c per dozen below prices on the Montreal markets. This is the result of accepting prices to producers in the Maritimes not at least equal those in Quebec and Ontario? And why, when our farmers are being paid less, should our retailers pay slightly more? On the average minimum of 12,000 head of beef averaging 800 lbs. each, at 3 1/2 cents per pound, our Island farmers are losing at least \$336,000 every year. These figures are in addition to losses which result from frequent maneuvering and unnecessary fluctuations on the national market levels, because of a lack of producer influence in business there. On the Island especially, sheep farmers too, are losing in the same way and in about the same or slightly greater proportion on their marketing of lambs. Who is responsible for this situation? Many people blame the packers, big business and the government. It does not occur to them that the blame is to be placed on the system itself. The great proportion of our farmers, labourers and people generally today would themselves avail every opportunity to exploit the masses under the present defective system, if they had the money, the ability and the same opportunities as big business. Today the slogan "business is business" and the greed for excessive wealth is undermining our whole mode of living; while Communism waits for the best opportunity to offer its false solution to the depressed groups. The attitude and outlook of the people must be changed before our marketing system or any other economic practices can be improved. For many years, far-seeing officials and farmers have outlined the possibility of developing on Prince Edward Island a source of supply for high-class, disease-free livestock for breeding purposes. Some farmers have geared their operations and breeding program to meet this demand and are being well repaid. However, out of the total of some 9,500 active mixed farmers in the Province (as indicated by a Federation of Agriculture survey of 1950, when organizing and taking marketing board vote by school districts), there are only 377 supporters and active members of all Provincial cattle breeding associations. There are less than 300 farmers actively following a policy of raising registered breeding swine, and there are 96 owners of approved poultry flocks. This means, in short, that a maximum of 12 1/2% of the Island farmers are following a scientific livestock program or contributing to the general improvement of the basic phase of island agriculture. There is an account of a typical local incident which occurred not many years ago in the potato industry. In early autumn potatoes were just starting to be moved by boat. A wire from a reputable wholesale merchant in Newfoundland for a boat load of table potatoes quoted a price that would allow local dealers to pay farmers \$1.20 per bushel at the wharf. This information went out to several dealers simultaneously. They all wanted "the business" and so started cutting prices by circling quotations direct to Newfoundland. The first dealer offered potatoes at \$1.15 per bushel; second, \$1.10; the third, \$1.05; until the final price paid to the farmers was 90c per bushel. The same procedure, received his same profit or rate of commission on the potatoes sold. However, this deal not only lowered the price for that day but undermined the whole price level for table potatoes in this Province and Newfoundland, for some weeks. It also undermined the efforts of our reputable exporters and contributed to the cause of dozens of young people and farms becoming discouraged and leaving for the cities and industrial life. Our turnip marketing system is now operating on about the same level. Markets are being flooded; price-cutting and quality manuevering is rampant. And it appears that whether our turnip producers here get 30c or 21c per bushel for turnips that are shipped to New England markets, for example, the price range to consumers there is still from six to eight cents per pound (\$3.00 to \$4.00 per bushel) across the counter. Prices to consumers bear little or no relation to prices paid to producers. (To be continued)

The Age-Old Story

Knowest thou not this of old, since man was placed upon earth, that the triumphing of the wicked is short, and the joy of the hypocrite but for a moment? He shall fly away as a dream, and shall not be found; yea, he shall be chased away as a vision of the night.

JERUSALEM, Nov. 19 (Reuters)—Dr. Chaim Weizmann, veteran Zionist, today was re-elected president of Israel by Parliament. His first term of office as first president of the state came to end under the constitution today.