

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1950

The Bacon Situation

The Dominion Government's decision to continue price support of bacon beyond the present previously announced termination date of June 30 is evidence of the concern felt over the possible loss altogether of the United Kingdom market.

When queried with regard to the reason for the recent rise in pork prices, Agricultural Minister Gardiner replied that he supposed it was "because hogs took a jump from \$23.50 to \$32.00."

If the Government can succeed in obtaining the required amount of Canadian bacon to fill the British order, it will be in a stronger position to bargain for a renewal of the food agreements which were such an important factor in our trade relations with the Old Country during the war years.

Work and Social Welfare

"No one who realizes that we are devoting \$1,000,000,000 a year to measures for the health and well-being of Canadians can deny that recognition of human need is a reality in this country," declared Hon. Paul Martin, Minister of National Health and Welfare, in an address at Vancouver this week.

Nevertheless, Mr. Martin felt it desirable to sound a warning. Translating welfare expenditures into what they really mean, he said it would take "five hundred thousand workers, receiving \$1.00 an hour, a full year to pay for all our Canadian measures for social security."

"Everyone who asks that Canada's expenditure on social security should be raised beyond present levels must realize that each addition will have to be paid for—just as present measures are paid for—out of the efforts of our working force," Mr. Martin emphasized.

This last sentence was underlined by the Minister, and indeed was the keynote of his address. But the trouble is that along with increasing social security measures there is an almost universal clamor for shorter working hours, while governments themselves have taken the lead in ignoring the oldtime virtue of thrift.

Mr. Martin would do well to carry the last-quoted part of his message back with him to Ottawa, where, according to the Winnipeg Free Press (Liberal) "since the beginning of the war more than ten years ago, there has been no real attempt at economy."

could quickly be pushed over the edge by any slight change in the economic climate, when the economic climate throughout the world clearly is changing, when we now face large new military expenditures to preserve our safety, that Parliament at last is beginning to wonder where all the money is going."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Welcome to the visiting Jersey breeders from Nova Scotia. Islanders are more accustomed to the sight of Holsteins but seldom pass up an opportunity to try the Jersey's milk.

The falling off of divorce in Canada since 1946 was to be expected after the post-war rush. The peak for this Province did not come until 1948, but then we are not unselfish slow in following such developments.

The extended car ferry service at Borden officially goes into effect today. Fortunately, there was no attempt to limit operations last week to the scheduled trips. Had there been, a good many motorists would have remained on the wrong side of the Strait.

Brigadier W. L. Coke, O.B.E., Director General of Medical Services for the Canadian Army, Lt.-Col. R. B. Murray, Eastern Command medical officer, and Lt.-Col. S. W. Cavender, United States Army medical liaison officer are expected here today.

Electric fuses which "blow" seem to be an unnecessary nuisance to some householders. It should not require much electrical knowledge to realize that it is better to blow a fuse than have a house burn down from overheated circuits.

Russia's continued co-operation in supplying weather information is all the more creditable because Canadian information in this field is of much less value than that for which it is being exchanged. We get much of our weather from Russia, apparently, but little Canadian weather comes in return.

Discharge of civil servants engaged on secret work on bare suspicion of disloyalty is a practical necessity, when the Government finds it necessary to do so; however, it is under a moral duty to ensure that the discharged individual is not prejudiced thereby. His possible guilt is no grounds for punishment under our system of law.

Edward Hagerup Grieg, Norwegian composer, died this date 1907. His numerous compositions include many "Lieder," "Melodien" and "Volks-Lieder," with sonatas and other piano pieces. His best known and most popular work is probably the "Peer Gynt" suite.

It is announced that the Department of Industry and Resources is now "considering employing the services of a man to combat the skunk pest in this Province." The same announcement was made by the Minister in the Legislature last March, and \$5,000 was placed in the estimates for this purpose.

Rt. Hon. Ernest Brown, former Conservative minister of health in Britain, believes there will be an early British election. He said in a speech in Toronto that Britain would probably hold a new general election in the early autumn. He said that the last act of Parliament before the last election, in which the Labor Government won a slim majority, was the bill to nationalize the iron and steel industry.

Many people besides farmers will agree with Mr. McLure in deploring the decrease of the use of potatoes by Canadians as a staple article of food. There has been a considerable falling off in consumption over a period of years, and blame for this is placed on dietitians and competing food producers who declare potatoes are fattening and should be avoided by those who favour a good figure; otherwise slimmess.

Mr. McLure cites the pigs in disposal of this theory; when the farmer wants to fatten his pigs he reduces their potato diet and substitutes something else. How much more responsive are men compared with pigs? If advertising has tended to plant this idea in the minds of humans, advertising should be resorted to to counteract it. The fact of the matter is potatoes are more "filling" than most other foods, enabling people to "fill up" at much less cost than with fancy and more expensive substitutes.

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.

TRANS-CANADA ROUTE

Sir,—I am a resident of New Brunswick but sometimes travel throughout Prince Edward Island in connection with my business affairs.

I was very pleased to note recently that the route of the Trans-Canada Highway is to be directly from the ferry at Wood Island through the Selkirk Road to Mill View. I understand that there has been an agitation started to have the route changed to go via the Shore Road.

In the opinion of the writer, the changing of the route from the Selkirk Road to the Shore Road would not be of any material advantage to anyone. The distance would be almost ten miles greater and the highway would skirt the edge of the Province and only be of an advantage to residents living along one side of it. The direct route through the Selkirk Road would pass through the very centre of southern Queens County and would bring the industrial centres of Pictou, N. S., approximately ten miles nearer to the City of Charlottetown. The cost of the road around the shore would be approximately twice that of the highway through the Selkirk Road as the difference in terrain would make the building of a road around the shore much more expensive. It would be much more feasible to spend the additional million dollars required on improving and paving the Shore Road as it now stands and using the balance to improve other highways of the Province.

If it is desired that they change the route of the Trans-Canada Highway from the Selkirk Road to the Shore Road, then it would be much more feasible to have it follow the Town Road from Charlottetown to Montague and thence to the ferry at Wood Island. Such a route would be approximately the same distance as the route via the shore through Belle River, Flat River, etc. It would have the added advantage of passing through the Town of Montague and it would be a great boon to the residents of King's County.

I might point out that during the recent war a great deal of Federal money was spent on an airport in Queen's County and two airports in Prince County. King's County was left out in the cold. The route of the Trans-Canada Highway through Prince Edward Island as tabled in the House of Commons is to pass through Prince County and Queen's County. There is no logical reason why could not be changed to pass through the Town of Montague and give the residents of King's County the benefit of such a highway. It would be bringing the highway closer to a much greater number of people than would be the case if it were to be changed to follow the Shore Road. It would be bringing it at least twenty miles closer to the towns of Souris, Cardigan, Georgetown, etc., and it would be of much greater benefit to the people of Prince Edward Island in general.

This highway is intended as a link between the Provinces and there is no logical reason why the residents of King's County should be deprived of its benefits.

I am, Sir, etc.

FERRY WHARF AND NAVAL BARRACKS

Sir,—The inner section of the Ferry Wharf on the west side has been given some attention recently. The earth has been levelled off and graded. This is an improvement so that when the east side of the wharf has also been given the levelling process right up to the Government warehouse on the Railway waterfront and a concrete walk laid down from the Railway tracks to the waiting room on the wharf, the place will have a presentable appearance and I am sure will not only be pleasing to the citizens but will also be appreciated by the foot passengers of the Ferry.

Now what about a Naval Barracks at the outer section of the wharf? The Federal Government is quite agreeable to have H. M. C. S. "Queen Charlotte" removed to the waterfront. Premier Jones and Mr. J. Lester Douglas, M.P., got this assurance from the Minister one year ago and the further assurance was given that the work would be given priority when the matter of the construction of Naval Barracks gets under way; but of course the location must first be agreed upon. The Ferry Wharf presents a splendid site and barring any further use by the local Government it seems to me that an arrangement could be agreed upon for the Defence Department to take over and develop the property. This should be acceptable to the Board of Trade and our citizens generally.

I am, Sir, etc.

The Age-Old Story

I find more bitter than death the woman whose heart is snared and nets, and her hands as bands; whose pleaseth God shall escape from her, but the sinner shall be taken by her.

LONDON (CP)—The commissioner of police wants the ministry of transport to design a special sign for use in streets where cars may park at night without lights.

One In Hand Worth Many In The Bush



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

INCREASING PROSPERITY

"We hail the prices given a few days since at the Hon. Mr. Hensley's sale as among the very best proofs that could be adduced of the increasing prosperity of the Island. Had any one thirty years since predicted that a time would come when a cow would be sold at a public sale for the sum of \$26 he would have been laughed at as a dreamer, and with good reason."

"A few more such exhibitions as the one which we now gladly record, will prove that we have sufficient reason for indulging in the anticipation that the day is not far distant when Prince Edward Island will have obtained a name and reputation for the superiority of her horses, sheep, and swine, and that the opening of swine will be in succeeding years attended with an influx of purchasers from the surrounding places, which will astonish the sceptical of the present generation as much as would the prices of today those of thirty years since. We shall then have steam vessels crossing daily in different parts of the Island, and floating bridges thus formed which will connect us with the main and be productive of equal advantage to both."

—Hazard's Gazette, July 11, 1855.

Presbyterians Mark

75th Anniversary

(Montreal Gazette)

Seventy-five years ago this month—in June, 1875—four independent Canadian synods came together to form the Presbyterian Church in Canada. That union took place in this city. And it is in this city that the Presbyterian Church is now commemorating the completion of three-quarters of a century of testimony in this land.

The union of 1875 required only the adjustment of comparatively minor differences. All four of the synods were able to join upon the great features of Presbyterian practice and the cardinal doctrines of Presbyterian faith.

But in matters of religion, doctrine serves not the year or the generations but is beyond time. And looking back today, the great doctrine of Presbyterianism—the perfect sovereignty of God—has a meaning greater and more significant than ever before. It is this doctrine that now counteracts the modern tendencies in religion to introduce the kingdom of God by legislation or to curate the sins of mankind by psychology. It is a doctrine that places in God's will the seat of religious experience and conviction.

This is, surely, a faith for these times. It confirms the belief that all the great figures of Biblical story, and all others who have to their lonely stand for righteousness, were not men playing a merely quixotic role, splendid but futile. They were men who had been drawn to take their stand with the eternal itself and who have been justified by God and man.

Safeguarding The Public

(Ottawa Journal)

The Federal Department of Health has issued a circular which is intended for the guidance of manufacturers and advertisers who have to do with food and drug products, and it is interesting to note the care with which the Government thus seeks to protect the people against not only injury to health but against fraud.

The purpose of the law is to safeguard the consumer by preventing false or exaggerated claims on food or drug labels and in advertising. Thus, advertisers and manufacturers are told that to offer treatment for cancer, tuberculosis, etc., "is regarded as a form of misbranding that may be injurious to health." They are told to avoid "scare advertising" which might induce "self-medication or self diagnosis," and to use the words "pure" and "genuine" may not be used in respect to compounds and imitation foods. A food may not be represented as a tonic "No single food can be thought of as balanced or as being able to balance a meal or a diet."

The result of this extreme care is that the Canadian people are able to assume with confidence that foods and drugs are honestly labelled, honestly advertised. Within their field patent medicines serve an extremely useful purpose, and the elaborate safeguards set up for the consumer's protection are accepted cheerfully by manufacturers and advertisers as in the public interest.

SCREECH OWLS

With beaks well muffled in their feathered collars, Two screech owls huddle in a balsam fir. Staring with eyes like little yellow dollars They struggle to achieve a sinister And supercilious air. Their blunt heads pivot As I walk past. They hood their gold-globe eyes, Experimenting with a glare to rivet And fix me in a trance—to hypnotize And frighten me against disturbing them. When they would doze till sun-down. After dark Their exclamations will denounce, condemn All interlopers. They will scream and bark And gash the quiet into ragged shreds, And freeze good folks in horror to their beds.

—Cosette Middleton

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Notes By The Way

At St. Thomas, clergymen have expressed displeasure over the holding of military maneuvers on Sunday. One can sympathize with their feelings in the matter to some extent, but they should bear in mind that it is difficult to arrange an army event for non-permanent troops except over a weekend. Also, should the same forces be called to active service, they would be on duty Sundays as well as week-days! — Brantford Expositor.

Five hundred leading citizens of Delhi who have joined a new organization called the Anuvrati Sangh, the object of which is the "moral regeneration" of India, recently took a pledge to abstain from dealing in the black market, adulterating food, gambling, travelling in trains and buses without tickets, obtaining false ration cards, taking bribes and committing suicide. This leaves them free to concentrate on chain-smoking and monopolizing the paper at breakfast. — Punch.

The recent flight of a Canadian jet air-liner from Toronto to New York in less than an hour emphasizes the sad position of this country with respect to jet transports. To date there is not a single jet-powered prototype for civil use, and the military has shown no disposition to pioneer jet craft which might be adapted for airline service. Meanwhile, both Britain and Canada have experimented extensively with jet transports and have proved their practicality beyond doubt. — The Washington Post.

When governments meddle with the destiny of potatoes and seek by controls to limit production odd results are likely to happen, as the Milwaukee Journal illustrates by the story of a farmer in Wausau, Wisconsin. This farmer, obeying the behest of his government, sold his potatoes to the Federal agency for \$1.97 a bag. As he had 438 bags he received \$864.83. His government being willing, he then bought back the 438 bags at 15 cents a bag, paying out \$65.85. Up to this stage the transaction was a smashing success, at least from the farmer's point of view. He had his potatoes and, in addition, \$798.98. But instead of reducing the supply of potatoes by feeding his 438 bagful to cattle, as he was supposed to do by the terms of the deal with his government, he planted them. This resulted in a fine of \$300, or a net gain to the farmer of \$498.98 plus the crop of spuds he expects to harvest and which the government, under existing regulations will oblige him to sell to the Federal agency at \$1.97 a bag. — Toronto Telegram.

Eighty-four per cent of the public, according to a recent survey made by the Gallup Poll, believe that the baby bonus is a good idea. Included in the 74 per cent, whether they were polled or not, should be a group of young matrons in a certain Canadian city. These ladies and their husbands are all well enough off to be in no need of state relief to feed and educate their children. What, as a matter of fact, are attending private schools, for which the fees alone amount to several times the sums received from Ottawa each month; they welcome the bonus cheques as a little additional pin money for themselves. The cheques, however, are not spent on pins. Each month as the payments arrive, the ladies go to the bank to cash the cheques and then to the nearest Government vendor of spirituous refreshment where they spend the proceeds. That afternoon they hold a party and a good time is had by all. — The Printed Word.

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