

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 7, 1950

Today's Special Session

When the Legislature meets in special session today to discuss the recent tie-up in the car ferry service and the measures necessary to insure against any further discontinuance in violation of the Confederation compact, two points in particular are worth considering.

The first is that the Dominion Government is not only obligated under the B. N. A. Act to maintain this service uninterrupted, but that under the order-in-council passed in 1925, vesting the operation of the service in the railways, the right to terminate or vary this arrangement was specifically reserved, so that the Government would be in a position to take over at any time, when the interests of the Province warranted it.

The second point is the repudiation of governmental responsibility implied in the various changes made with regard to the car ferry accounts. Prior to 1933 the operating accounts of this service were incorporated with the operating accounts of the Canadian Government Railways.

These changes were made in implementation of the Duncan Report, which recommended that the service "should not be run as part of the Railway operations, but should be run by the Railway administration under separate account for the Department."

What is needed is complete severance of our car ferry system from Railway control of any kind, and complete acceptance by the Dominion Government of its full responsibility of operating it.

Unless this is done, the calling of an emergency session will be a farce. We can imagine no more effective way of keeping the issue in the limelight than by our members stubbornly refusing to prorogue until they get absolute assurance from Ottawa that our grievance will be remedied.

A Two-Way Street

Just over a year ago Mr. Nugent M. Clougher, A.C.G.I., F.R.G.S., A.M. Inst. T., M.S.C.E., was in Prince Edward Island with a party making a market survey for the British trade publication "The Builder".

Mr. Clougher also gave a series of lectures before the City Literary Institute of the London County Council, including two on the Maritimes and Newfoundland in which the visit to Prince Edward Island formed an important part.

Canada, declared Mr. Stokes, "was a tremendously go-ahead country and although huge, had a tremendous scope for industrial expansion; if Britain had the courage she would go ahead and exceed all the efforts she had already made to sell to her. Britain's building industries had got to be contributors to the whole effort of bringing about that desirable balance of trade."

ed to this discussion and show that British industrialists and officials are keenly aware of the opportunities and requirements of developing trade with this country.

Why Not Ask Him?

Lord Alexander when asked in Edmonton the other day whether he would accept a second term as Governor General of Canada, replied that he had not been asked to stay. It is reasonable to draw the deduction that His Excellency would accept if invited, that at any rate his mind is not closed to the idea of staying in Canada for another five years.

The Ottawa Journal suggests that he should be asked to continue in his high post for another term: otherwise he will be leaving us next Spring. "Canada," it says, "is extremely fortunate in having this distinguished soldier and statesman as the representative of the King in this country and the official head of the State, and we should keep him for another term if he is willing to serve us."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The city will be welcoming today the members of the Provincial Legislature summoned to attend the emergency session.

The Uruguay potato deal certainly provides the strongest of reasons for organizing potato marketing on a Maritime basis rather than purely Provincial.

One wonders what on earth the Niagara Parks Commission were doing with \$8,000 in a safe near the Fall's scenic tunnel. It is no wonder burglars and highway robbers were tempted to break in and steal.

With cool weather ahead we may soon expect the usual outbreak of chimney fires or worse resulting from defects which could be detected by an examination of heating systems before using.

The exhibitions being held this month cannot compare in attendance or weather prospects with Old Home Week, but their agricultural displays leave the big show nowhere.

The Federal Government seems unduly cautious taking steps to fulfil this country's obligations to the United Nations. It is necessary to demonstrate in advance that each measure will receive popular support.

The P. E. I. Potato Growers' Association meeting this evening now know who their membership consists of but the "problem" seems to be to get enough of them out to authorize registration as a co-operative, if that is their desire.

Queen Elizabeth, the Virgin Queen of England and Ireland, born this date 1533. She was the daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. Her reign was marked by the rise of England's naval power, the defeat of the Armada, and the most extraordinary outburst of intellectual energy in English history.

When Defence Minister Claxton quotes forty to fifty million dollars as the first year's cost to Canada of the Korean war, it means practically nothing to the average Canadian. It will be when the increased taxes and higher cost of living come into effect that he will realize in part what it costs to keep Canada free from invasion.

On October 2nd a newly designed 10c postage stamp will be issued to replace the current design of this denomination. The new design 10c postage stamp depicts an Indian woman hanging up beaver skins mounted on stretchers to dry for the market. In the background appears an Indian wigwam, the normal shelter used by these natives in the sparsely settled areas of Canada.

According to "Unesco," Robert Donzel, a 37-year-old Frenchman, who is blind, deaf and dumb, has passed the Baccalaureat examination at the Lycee Henri IV, in Bourges, France. He was helped during the examination by three women assistants, a blind telephonist, a Braille copyist and a Red Cross nurse. For the translation of a Greek text, one assistant re-wrote the text in Latin characters and then dictated it to the blind telephonist, and the third assistant used the dictionary. It was necessary to "write" the letters of each word on the palm of Donzel's hand. He is believed to be the first blind, deaf and dumb candidate to pass a Baccalaureat examination.



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.

TRIBUTE TO NURSES

Sir,—There has just come into my hands a copy of John Robert Lamont Campbell's new book of poems (1st section) "The Garden of Thoughts", which, by the way, seems to be the best yet. His poem "To A Nurse" urges me to write a letter. Nurses have had a lot to do with me. I have had three majors and have spent in one hospital or another, about six months. The following poem beautifully expresses my gratitude to nurses.

"A wholesome breath like morning's spotless glory, A soothing element within the gloom; A tender heart—her every act compassion, A vision floating on from room to room.

"A queen immaculate! efficient, gentle, A kindly word—like sunshine after rain; Precious her hands so deftly comforting, Cool zephyrus blowing, through the heat of pain.

"Her smile a rainbow—to the sick and lonely, Her sympathetic kindness as a crown Of loveliness and beauty never failing, Her uniform indeed a regal gown."

I hesitate to give so much autobiography but I feel I should and here goes. My first experience was in tropical Trinidad, a little square island the size of Prince Edward, near the north-east corner of South America. I had a private room which was far from private. For purposes of ventilation, the walls were open at the ceiling for a space of two feet so that all the patients shared all the noises there were, and there was variety. At that time hammers and saws were going on a new addition so that I had more noise than usual.

But the nurses! The superintendent, a white woman, went about with a little monkey on her shoulder, fastened to her neck by a silver chain. I think that monkey did a lot of good. He would grimace and wink, first one eye and then the other, at a nurse as she passed and, perhaps, at some of the sick girls too. He was so human-like. He reminded me, greatly, of some comedians I have seen.

Of course, a monkey wouldn't do in Prince Edward Island but down there these simia are so common that no one was upset. The nurses were far from noiseless, especially when there was a sniff on, but that was interesting, for those darkey girls can put their thoughts in such a spic way that one "oes not forget. "Hush ya mou!" would come like a shot very often. But the girls were real nurses, efficient, patient and kind, yes, kinder than some patients deserved.

Down there the sun rises in the East, and I well remember how the nurse would come at 4 o'clock and open the door to let in the soothing trade-breeze and I could see the first faint gleams of the dawn. I shall never forget how glorious and comforting that was. When I left that hospital I thought I was recovering, but fainting, as I did, in a crowd on Frederick Street in Port of Spain, Dr. Reid's X-ray machine sent me to the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, where I spent forty-one days. My surgeon was the man who afterwards was flown over to Italy and operated on Mussolini. I have thought if only he could have read the future he might have saved the world much trouble, but doctors don't do that kind of thing. After twenty-eight years I still remember my doctor and his goodness. But the nurses! I didn't know a soul in the city and if it had not been for their good cheer and their kindness I would have been badly off. Of course they can't run New York City without Islanders and some of them found me out and were very kind. One of them gave me a potted hyacinth that I wanted to take home with me. Even though I was coming to "the Island" that I had not seen for years

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

Extract from the Minutes of the Executive Council, April 30, 1950: "The Hon. the Attorney General laid before the Board a letter which he had received from F. N. Gilsbourne, Esq., dated at Halifax, the 21st inst., stating that the Newfoundland Electric Telegraph Company have it in contemplation to connect Newfoundland with the continent of America by telegraphic wires, and would prefer extending the submarine cable from Newfoundland to the East Point in this Island, in lieu of Cape North in Nova Scotia, and thus the wires would pass through the centre of this Island to Nova Scotia; that this route would save to the Company about 300 miles of land wires, but would involve an additional expense of \$7,500 for the cable wires; and wishing to be informed, if our local Government would feel inclined to offer the Company any aid, pecuniary or otherwise, after the work is accomplished.

"His Excellency and Board, taking into consideration the manifest advantages that would result to this Island from this telegraphic line, feel no hesitation in giving a pledge, that so soon as the General Assembly shall be convened, they will introduce this subject to its consideration, and will use their best exertions to obtain a grant of money in aid of this great and useful enterprise, and also will render every facility to the company for the use of the public roads, already opened the whole distance of the route, being sixty feet in width, through a thickly settled and well cultivated country, and for the procuring and sinking of the necessary posts, and extending the wires throughout the Island.

"His Excellency and Board regret that as the Government have no wild lands in the route of the wires to dispose of, they cannot hold out an inducement of any grant of lands being made to the company."

At a subsequent public meeting held in Charlottetown on May 4, 1950, the Government proposal of assistance to the company was enthusiastically endorsed in resolutions moved by John Lawson, Esq., Hon. Joseph Pope, Hon. George Coles and Hon. William Swabey Lieutenant Governor Bannerman, who presided, said that should the anticipations be realized, "Prince Edward Island would become known, not only to thousands, but to millions of the human family who had never before heard of the Colony; that for himself, it should ever be to him a source of high gratification should so great and useful an enterprise—supported by such intelligence and respectability as was associated at this meeting—be accomplished during his administration."

U. S. EMPLOYMENT UP

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1—(AP)—Employment in the United States jumped 1,133,000 in August to reach a record high of 62,367,000, Commerce Secretary Charles Sawyer said today. It was the first time the 62,000,000 mark had been crossed.

NEAR NORMAL

TOKYO, Sept. 5—(AP)—Transportation and communication facilities operated at near normal today in portions of Japan ravaged by a typhoon Sunday. A police casualty count showed 204 persons dead, 244 missing and thousands homeless.

The Age-Old Story

If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread; if he be thirsty, give him water to drink; for thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head, and the Lord shall reward thee.

Consult N. J. A. BROWN D. P. Orthopedic Chiroprapist

142 Great George Street CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I. For Foot Ailment

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 4—(Reuters)—Prime Minister Robert Menzies today warned Australia that heavy additions to her already sizable defence spending bill could be expected. The Government's defence program will affect Australia's economy, development and the price levels, he told a meeting of the Federal Council of the Liberal Party.

Notes By The Way

The stupid aberration of some Americans that the time has come to stock up on nylons and sugar looks even more ridiculous in the light of official Government reports on stocks of such goods in this country. In the case of food, for example, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics points out that military buying of food for Korea will not affect civilian supplies noticeably. The reason, of course is that this country has enormous food stocks purchased under the farm program. Food-hoarders, consequently, are only putting themselves to the trouble of finding some place to store the food they think they are taking away from their neighbors. The only gainers will be ants. — St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

It will require something more than a major operation to get the term "Dominion" out of the records and statutes and documents, and off the property of this nation. This fact is amply illustrated in a Canadian Government book just issued. It is the first volume of Statutory Orders and Regulations, as consolidated and printed this year. This Canadian Government volume is simply bristling with the word "Dominion"—the Dominion Coal Board Act, the Dominion Elections Act, the Dominion Lands Act, the Dominion Land Surveys Act, the Dominion Trade and Industry Commission Act... and no uncommon "phenomena" in this volume are the words "Dominion of Canada." But why extend the record when the Government's own information is compiled and published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics? — Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

An ancient king, troubled by his people's economic woes and confused by the conflicting theories and counsels of his economists, commanded that a short, simple text on economics be prepared. After many months, the economists brought many volumes replete with charts and graphs. In fury, the king banished half of them and again demanded a text he could understand. One after another, they made reports that went over his head, and one after another they went to exile. In fear and trembling, the one remaining economist quavered: "Your Majesty, I

have reduced this subject of economics to a single sentence. Here it is—There is no such thing as free lunch." — Brandon Sun.

Science leaves nothing sacred these days, and now it is turning a critical eye on the humble potato. While the potato is admitted to be an admirable vegetable, it is felt that its figure could be improved. Consequently, in the Eastern United States, agricultural scientists are reported turning the processes of selective breeding to work on streamlining its irregularities so that it will fit more neatly into a dish. They are also considering the eyes, and hope to breed them down to such small size and depth that they will no longer interfere with peeling. Thus the "spud of the future" joins the modern turkey, which was reduced in size to fit the smaller ovens—and smaller families—of the present day, and the seedless oranges, lemons and grapefruit designed to save trouble for the ultimate consumer. — Edmonton Journal.

Explorers have been unable to find a way to reach an island in the Congo River, Belgian Congo that perhaps has never been reached by man. The island lies in the middle of the river at a point where the water narrows from a width of several miles to half a mile. At that point the water races past at a tremendous speed and no boat could survive it. Waves fifteen feet high frequently are seen there. The island that is protected by this rush of water is reputed to be the home of a race of pygmies, and scientists are eager to explore it to check on a theory that man's origin was South Central Africa. Many explorers have tried to get to the island but all attempts have failed, and two persons have lost their lives crossing the river. A helicopter was taken to the area in the hope that it would be able to land on the island, but when the pilot flew over the area and studied the dense vegetation he refused to attempt a landing. — London Sunday Express.

WEBSTER IN ERROR

Daniel Webster refused to support the abolition of slavery in the United States on the ground that it would endanger the union.

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