

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JAN. 11, 1952

The Knocker Knocks

It is a true saying and worthy of all acceptance that to him that hath the spirit of progress more shall be given, and from him that hath it not shall be taken away the little he hath.

A case in point is that of the improved mail service in King's County. Since its introduction it has been considered a boon and a blessing; not a single bonafide complaint of any consequence has been made by any responsible body of public opinion.

To go no farther back than the days of the late benefactor and philanthropist, Mr. Macdonald, because of opposition by a few, the consolidation of our school system was stalled, and the generous patron had his gift and prospective endowment cast back in his teeth.

When Sir Charles Dalton generously donated a sanatorium with an endowment for the benefit of the Province, it was opposed by the same non-progressive element because, forsooth, the site was alleged to be a little too far for coal and groceries to be carried to the institution!

When an opportunity presented itself of developing the Charlottetown Airport by the extension of the runway at the cost of the City, for which the money could easily have been borrowed, the same unprogressive, short-sighted people stoutly opposed the proposition—and Summerside got the airport and the R. C. A. F. as well.

Every upward and onward movement has had similar opposition. More recently a new Federal Building was opposed, and still is by the small but loud-mouthed opposition which lacks vision and foresight of any kind.

It is the same pitiable type that has been the means of depriving King's and Southern Queen's of the improved mail service, driving the intelligent community there back to the dark ages when the word progress spelled anathema.

How long will the march of progress be allowed to be held up by the toleration in our midst of such a spirit of selfish unprogressiveness?

Rural Electrification

Rural electrification is naturally a matter of prime interest and importance to members of our Federation of Agriculture, who at their annual meeting this week have strongly endorsed the proposal of establishing a Maritime Power and Hydro Commission, owned and operated by the three Maritime Provinces.

Here is a matter in which our business as well as farming communities are concerned. Our Boards of Trade could well join forces with the Federation of Agriculture throughout the Maritimes in bringing the question of increased power for both rural and industrial purposes to a head.

A few years ago Mr. J. R. MacNicol, then a member of Parliament for Toronto, proposed a plan of vast expansion of electric power plants and transmission lines in each of the three Maritime Provinces, which he maintained could be supplied from coal resources in the Maritimes as cheaply and efficiently as from hydro resources of Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia.

cluding Charlottetown, Mr. MacNicol believed.

His suggestions with regard to the power plant at Charlottetown were more or less in line with the Hogg report which was prepared for the Provincial Government in 1947, and which outlined plans for an \$8,000,000 Province-wide electrification program covering a period of ten to fifteen years.

This proposal, coming from an experienced Ontario industrialist, who had no axe to grind so far as sectional politics were concerned, deserved much more attention than it received at the time. Perhaps it will be reconsidered now if a Provincial survey of the possibilities of Maritime power expansion is made in conformity with the Agriculture Federation's request.

This Province would gain tremendously by linking up with the other Maritime Provinces in a power development scheme, and there is no question but that it would mean, if successful, a great improvement in rural conditions as well as in productive capacity.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The best news from Ottawa for sometime is the announcement that the very restricted credit conditions on consumer purchases are to be removed. Everybody will benefit from this, directly or indirectly.

Mr. Churchill is not likely to be without cigars for sometime to come. Florida cigar manufacturers have presented him with a supply, together with a specially made 18-inch one to exhibit as a personal memento.

To the tune of 758 to 72 the Farm Federation districts voted to eliminate bribery and corruption at elections. In practice care will have to be taken to see that the "Nays" do not have it.

The Federation of Agriculture has left election and other reform on the doorstep of the Provincial Legislature, calling on them at next session to take the necessary action.

The parking meters have so far wintered very well. They require snow removal rather than the more simple plowing of streets but that, apart from expense, is all to the good.

Arrangements are now being made for the annual meeting of Provincial Legislatures. The first to be announced is that of B. C., Feb. 19. The session is expected to be one of the heaviest in years.

It is suggested by the experts that the lobster industry might profit by shipping a larger product. It would mean some lean years for the industry, to suddenly increase the minimum size. Possibly something could be done in the way of making the increase yearly, or more rapidly in specified areas in turn.

The CCF is not going to like it very much but U. N. forces in Korea are using their initials to designate the enemy—the Chinese Communist Forces. Now they will know how the Boy Scouts felt when their swastika Thanks Badge became a Nazi symbol.

George Curzon, first Marquess, English statesman, was born this date 1859. After holding a cabinet post he became Viceroy of India and worked untiringly, if automatically, for reform. He resigned in 1905 and joined the Opposition, eventually becoming Foreign Secretary under Lloyd George, Bonar Law and Baldwin.

Now that farmers are prospering, it is only fair that labour should share in the prosperity. The trouble largely is that farmers do not find it convenient to employ labour all the year round. Elsewhere farm help is engaged by the year, not by the week or month, and thus both labour and farmer are provided with a measure of security for a whole twelve months.

Still With Us And No Spare Coal



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.

FRENCH RIVER

Sir, — I should like to describe a region, little known, but one of the most beautiful in P. E. Island. Many years ago I lived in French River and have dearly loved the place ever since. It was the home of my maternal grandfather and mother until 1883 when they went away to Colorado, following their children who had gone there to make their fortune.

Half way up the river on the west bank, old Bill Pickering built his schooner all by himself from keel to mast-head. It took him two years but Bill stuck to the job until his ship was launched. I can see him yet, working like a travler, a tall, raw-boned man with cheekbones like a North American Indian.

"Jim" Lamont was one of those men who deserve special mention. He lived on the bank of the river, above the old MacKenzie house. In the kitchen was a great open fireplace in which hung from its crane a great four-legged pot, giving off the aroma of beef stew.

The Poet's Corner

Green and blue, green and blue, And a long thin line of neither Dividing both with neutral grey. Among the smooth improbable shoulders Of the sea, the liner plows uphill. Uncaring that the seascapes curve Like shallow rainbows From its two-dimensional path.

The New Italy

The road back has been a bitter, painful, at times an almost impassable one, but Italy keeps moving forward. She's the poorest, economically, of all the North Atlantic Treaty nations, infected with the largest Communist Party outside of the Soviet Union, plagued by widespread unemployment and reeling now under the impact of the worst flood in her history, but Italy is filling her treaty obligations to the hilt.

Old Charlottetown

Text of a resolution passed by the House of Assembly, March 19, 1945: "Resolved, that this House, considering the undoubted right of the British House of Commons to liberate from confinement during Session, any of their Members arrested for debt; the demand made by almost every successive House of Assembly in this Island, that amongst other privileges, the Members should be free from molestation; and the power heretofore exercised by this branch of the Legislature of committing for contempt, is of opinion, that the practice warrants, and the interests of the electors absolutely require, that the persons of Members of the Assembly should be free from arrest under civil process during Session, and if so, arrested during the recess, that they ought to be liberated whenever the Legislature is convened."

The Age-Old Story

Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

The British .28 Rifle

(Stratford Beacon-Herald) It would appear that the controversy between Great Britain and the United States, with Canada an interested third party, over whether the British .28-calibre rifle should be adopted by all three countries, is ended for the time being at least. The United States has just announced a multi-million dollar order for the United States M-1 Garand semi-automatic rifle, and apparently the British-made weapon is no longer being considered by the United States.

Project Engineers AND Construction Inspectors

Applications are invited from fully qualified Civil Engineers and those with practical experience in heavy and light construction. 3 WEEKS VACATION SICK LEAVE ALLOWANCE HOSPITAL, SURGICAL AND LIFE INSURANCE PLAN. Duties: Engineering, surveys, layout and inspection of construction as owner's engineer and representative on defence buildings, installations and related services.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) FREEDOM FROM ARREST

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Notes By The Way

Canadian naval ratings have been issued with bell-bottom pants with pockets. Shades of Nelson and Jellico! What would the sally old matelot think, he who carried his personal belongings and his "smokes" inside his caqi, or done up in a red bandana. Seamen across the roac from us in HMCS Prevost have been issued with jackets fitted with zippers. Efficient and highly commendable and no doubt "snazzy" for going ashore, but how different. However, as long as the navy keeps its "Nelson victories" collars and its black silk scarves sartorial tradition will be maintained. — London Free Press.

The other day I went to the zoo (announces a correspondent). Among the animals I saw on this occasion was a very large, tough rhinoceros which was standing up against the bars of its paddock before an admiring crowd. It was so close you could touch it. Pres. H. McKenzie was re-elected and exclaimed "Ooh, it's hard!" Another child then poked it. "It's quite squishy here!" The rhinoceros appeared to be quite oblivious to these experiments it had a hide like a—well, like a rhinoceros. Seeing this I gave it a tentative pat and then, as it didn't seem to mind, I began to hit it really hard. Clouds of dust flew out. The rhinoceros leaned his head against the bars and closed its eyes with an expression as near ecstasy as you can imagine in a rhinoceros. When I stopped, it slowly lumbered round in a wide circle and came back to lean against the bars the other side again. I suppose it felt uneven. When I finally left, about five people were busily beating away at them from head to tail with shrieks of delight. The rhinoceros was plainly having the time of his life: you could scarcely see it for the dust. A notice above the heads of the crowd proclaimed: "This animal is dangerous: Do Not Touch." — Manchester Guardian.

United States to stick to the Gerard was the admission by the British that quantity production could not be started before 1954. With the war in Korea, the Americans could not afford to endanger their supply of arms.

When the British get their production methods licked, there is reason to believe that the United States may reconsider the 28 rifle. In the mean time, Canada is trying to decide what course of action to take on the matter.

Why—among those who can afford to travel—January is a popular choice for trips to exotic lands is plain. Of all the months January is the least suitable for work. In fairness, it must be admitted that January is unhappily situated in the calendar. One of its neighbors, December, being the month of Christmas, has an extraordinarily soft disposition. Its neighbor on the other side—February—being the month in which the seed catalogues and absurd new hats appear, borrow some of spring's young charm. But in January the only reminder of the jolly Christmas season is a succession of unpaid bills—an spring seems still to be an eternity away. And so it is a dull, listless month, as unattractive as a discarded Christmas tree one cannot choose this month for trips to sun-drenched isles. It seems curious that the crusaders for a new world calendar have failed to propose January's elimination. — Ottawa Citizen.

The world's largest man-made forest—Kaingaroa, in New Zealand—will shortly supply newsprint under a \$30,000,000 project. Planted since 1920, the forest covers 1,000 square miles. In New Zealand's sub-tropical climate, its pine trees have matured more rapidly than in their native California and Oregon. A large pulp factory and sawmill to be built at Marupara will have an estimated capacity of 100,000 tons of newsprint, 10,000 of other printing paper and 10,000 tons of pulp. Two-thirds of the output will be available for export. — UNESCO Features.

"The female of the species" is creating unusual situations in the municipal life of Ontario. For instance, in Orillia a man and wife headed the polls, the wife as a candidate for the public school board and the husband as a candidate for the Utilities Commission. In Beaverton, nearby, Mrs. McKenzie was re-elected and exclaimed "Ooh, it's hard!" Another child then poked it. "It's quite squishy here!" The rhinoceros appeared to be quite oblivious to these experiments it had a hide like a—well, like a rhinoceros. Seeing this I gave it a tentative pat and then, as it didn't seem to mind, I began to hit it really hard. Clouds of dust flew out. The rhinoceros leaned his head against the bars and closed its eyes with an expression as near ecstasy as you can imagine in a rhinoceros. When I stopped, it slowly lumbered round in a wide circle and came back to lean against the bars the other side again. I suppose it felt uneven. When I finally left, about five people were busily beating away at them from head to tail with shrieks of delight. The rhinoceros was plainly having the time of his life: you could scarcely see it for the dust. A notice above the heads of the crowd proclaimed: "This animal is dangerous: Do Not Touch." — Manchester Guardian.

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