

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Best... Published every week day morning at 105 Prince Street...

"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1956

Pleas Maritime Case

Elsewhere in today's issue we publish an appeal by a Toronto member of Parliament, Mr. J. M. Macdonnell, Q.C., on behalf of the Maritime Provinces...

What is needed, Mr. Macdonnell emphasized, is not merely to "dole out money to the Maritime legislatures in order to keep the provincial services on a parity with other provinces..."

Our Maritime Liberal members cannot afford to dismiss words of this kind as partisan speechmaking...

Salary Problem

A veteran member of the Legislature, Mr. S. S. Hessian, complains that doctors in the Provincial Health Department are getting far too much salary in proportion to other leading civil servants...

Here, for example, are the current salary figures for leading Health Department officials as compared with officials of corresponding status in other provincial departments:

Deputy Minister and Chief Health Officer \$8,500; Health Officer \$7,000; Director of Cancer Control \$8,000; Director of Dental Public Health \$6,500; Director of Laboratories \$9,000, Assistant Director \$5,250; Director of Mental Health \$3,600, two Psychiatrists, \$15,640; Psychologist \$4,400; Director of Public Health Nursing \$3,000; Director of Sanitary Engineering \$4,200; Director of Tuberculosis Control, Administrative Section \$7,000; Director of Tuberculosis Control, Preventive Section \$8,000.

In the Department of Welfare and Labour the Director of Child

Welfare receives \$3,000, of Mother's Allowances \$3,000; of Old Age Assistance, Blind Pensions and Disabled Persons Allowance \$3,320.

These salaries compare with the Deputy Minister and Director of Education \$5,100; Prothonotary \$3,640; Provincial Auditor \$4,700; Deputy Minister of Agriculture \$4,300; Dairy Superintendent \$3,760; Director of Agriculture Engineering \$3,760; Director of Veterinary Services and Provincial Animal Pathologist \$5,500; Deputy Minister of Industry \$4,300; Director of Trade, \$3,640; Director of Fisheries \$4,000; Deputy Minister of Highways \$5,900; Chief Clerk \$4,000; Deputy Provincial Secretary and Clerk of the Executive Council \$4,700; Director Tourist and Information Branch \$3,888; Deputy Provincial Treasurer \$5,600.

Obviously, in some departments our officials are underpaid. Any attempt to bring doctors' salaries into line would, we are afraid, bring the work of the Health Department to a standstill.

Crude Razors

The National Geographic Society, which is always digging up interesting information from the remote past, reports that a 2500 year old razor, made of iron, has been taken from a lake near Eire. It emphasizes, however, that razors of one kind and another go back a lot farther than that.

Even today modern razors are by no means universal. In parts of Africa and the South Pacific they are made of seashells and sharp rock, while some bold and courageous citizens don't bother with razors at all, being content to have their beards plucked out by hand...

EDITORIAL NOTES

Senator Estes Kefauver has emerged from the complexities of the New Hampshire Presidential-primary election far ahead of his rival, Adlai Stevenson. It doesn't matter a bit, actually. The same thing happened in 1952; yet by the time the nominating convention arrived, Mr. Kefauver presented no real obstacle to Mr. Stevenson.

A scientist has mentioned the possibility of a causeway across the 9 mile wide Straits of Belle Isle separating Northern Newfoundland from Labrador, as a possible deterrent to the cold Arctic current that now flows into the Gulf of St. Lawrence.



TOUGH SEASON NEARS END

PUBLIC FORUM

THE CAUSEWAY CONTROVERSY

Sir.—We are concerned and amazed to have to suggest the word controversy, when discussing the Causeway. This probable solution to our great need for better communication with the mainland should have unanimous reception and support, until qualified engineers appointed by Federal authority have pronounced their dictum on our causeway till the bugs are worked out, fail to frighten us.

This very day we discussed this subject at some length with a Captain who for the past forty years has sailed coastal waters—Northumberland Strait, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Strait of Belle Isle, experiencing the worst ice, wind and currents in the North Atlantic—and he anticipates no difficulty that cannot be overcome, and is confident and enthusiastic with regard to the practicability of the project.

A few contributors who have stated "they would like to see the Causeway built"—and follow with a long list of negations are suggestive of the neutralists in the Church at Laodicea of whom St. John the Divine was impelled to write, "I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of my mouth."

This project might have seemed impossible fifty years ago, but we do not now expect to go at it with a few horses and carts, nor do we expect to finish it by Dominion Day. Modern engineering can accomplish much. It may not be finished for ten years and many of us will not live long enough to see its fulfillment; but posterity and our young men and women, who will otherwise participate in the exodus daily leaving our shores for the centers of prosperity on the mainland, will with the causeway an accomplished fact remain at home to rehabilitate this dying decadent and forgotten place, and to assist in its metamorphosis to a living active Province, an integral part of our Dominion, and a sharer in its limitless potential, and its evident great destiny.

I am, Sir, etc., C.C.PRATT, St. Peters.

HOME THOUGHTS FROM ABROAD

Sir.—After reading Mr. Parker's letters and the fine editorial on Educational Needs, I wonder if it is advisable to write the letter I have contemplated for some time? However, as education happens to be one of my interests—on a par with religion and politics—I think I shall chance it. All are controversial I think that only makes them more interesting for discussion as long as it does not degenerate into argument.

Some time ago in your "Words of the Wise" I recall this bit of wisdom: "Discussion is the exchange of knowledge, while argument is the exchange of ignorance." How very true! I was fortunate enough to have been reared in a home where everything of importance was discussed—unlike too many homes today—and although ideas differed as "night the day" I never recall those discussions becoming arguments, as my father and those with whom he conversed respected each others right to differ.

As to Mr. Parker's statement that the editor has the last word and final interpretation so debate is futile where opinions differ, I'm not prepared to say. But this I do know, although there is a free Press, a contributor has no rights when writing to the "Public Forum" except those granted him through courtesy of the Press. The great majority of publishers, regardless of personal beliefs, or opinions, I believe are fair to all. This writer (if such I could be designated) has been amazed at the courtesy I am receiving, especially as I am now a "furriner".

In connection with the above, I wish to pass on a statement from Mrs. Eugene Bessac: "Evidently everyone on the Island lives and breathes by The Guardian" as she received such prompt results to a letter which appeared fairly recent-

ly in The Public Forum under the caption "eking Information. Again to quote her, "Each had read his paper and instantly snatched a pen and dashed off word to me." At the time Mrs. Bessac wrote me—on the recommendation of a cousin, who thought as I was Island born I could be of assistance, my immediate relatives in Charlottetown and vicinity were coping with serious illness, or accident, and I did not wish to burden them further should they have been able to help. Hence I suggested her best bet was to write The Public Forum of your paper, as I thought it would get results for some of the old-timers on the "Isle" and evidently my opinion was correct. I knew her communication would receive courtesy. So much for that!

To return to "Education" and all it entails, I note that last week was "Education Week" in Canada. My information is gleaned from several sources, among them "Canadian Home and School" which is a gift of a Western educator and close relative. Education like so many other things today has its special weeks, but it is a year round concern, and really starts at birth and ends—should—only at death. However, there are some when they get their first degree feel that their education is complete and it is unnecessary to open a book again. It is to be hoped they are in the minority.

to go farther afield. As there is no industry in those tract lands, the home owners have to bear the brunt of taxation—which is heavy.

Recently KCBS (CBS)-San Francisco—put on a program entitled, "Crisis By The Sea" which portrayed the problems re education where the population had grown in twenty-seven hundred. The great majority of those home owners were World War Two veterans and worked in San Francisco.

The Emerald Dairying Association are not discouraged over the cheese prospects for the coming season, although last years prices were low. They are preparing with renewed energy for the coming season and expected to do a much larger business.

TEN YEARS AGO (March 27, 1946) Senator J.P. McIntyre, speaking in the Throne Speech debate in the Senate, last night said his Province had the smallest income per capita in Canada.

The February report of the Eastern Division, department of Fisheries issued at Halifax last night, showed an increase in the catch for Prince Edward Island. Both the catch of 445,000 pounds and the landed value of \$42,845 were up considerably from the 419,000 pounds and the landed value of \$29,123 for the similar period of 1945.

children as the bigger the banks the better the houses we could have with a minimum amount of effort! There was no, or little, transportation difficulty in those days. No gripes re lack of snow ploughs showing up as they were nil. And if roads were too badly drifted in, why a detour in the fields took care of it, and away the horse and sleigh could go making melody as it went. Good old days! When the author of Ellen's Diary writes about her sic' h rides I'd like to be able to join him.

By-the-way her column has a new-look, but old or new it is about the finest and cleverest Diary in the world. What a gift she has in being able to describe the same scenes in a million different ways! Speaking of new looks, come to think of it the whole "Guardian" seems to have it. Just to be a bit controversial, I believe I liked the old front page best with its Maple Leaves, and to be the "Guardian" of such a fine Gulf was something to be proud of. Well, it is high time to sign off with just good wishes to a my friend in the Garden Province.

I am, Sir, etc., G. S. GORDON, (Mrs. D.J.), Oakland, California

MR. MacKAY'S STATEMENT Sir.—While reading Hon. J. G. MacKay's speech published in Friday's Guardian I found it hard to believe that Mr. MacKay could make such a statement as to the operators' yearly wages and not have his conscience bother him to some extent.

Where he received those figures published I am not prepared to say but as a snowplow and bulldozer operator, my wages for 1955 amounted to \$1,500.00. So I would ask Mr. MacKay to have another look at the operators' wages and this time take notice to the lower wages paid instead of just the higher ones mentioned. Then think it over and see if he would trade places with the operators and work all hours of the night and some times through to daylight again, also most every Sunday, and take the small amount of wages those men receive of 80 cents an hour. I wonder if Mr. MacKay would be satisfied to take the highest operators wages mentioned at \$3,367 a year and get along and live on it instead of his own salary which is much much larger. If this was his yearly income I am sure he wouldn't say he was well paid.

Let him not wonder that his operators are beginning to leave one by one for elsewhere to receive easier jobs and better pay at least \$1.25 cents an hour paid by our Government to the poor abused and criticized snowplow and machine operators. I would like Mr. MacKay to come with me some day in the plow from 6 a.m. till sometime up into the night and go back to Charlottetown still saying, "We are all well paid."

I am, Sir, etc., SNOW PLOW OPERATOR New Wilshire

The Poets Corner

THE COW I USED TO CHASE That pasture should have kept a cow content. I. She hadn't a shred of excuse for breaking out. And yet the fence she leaped or circumvented. Was no more barrier than a small girl's about the house without. She had deep clover, daisies in their season, Asters, and vetch, blue cornflowers in the sun, Shade of a maple, and nowhere any reason why she should be for fancying some field was a greener one. I could faithfully pump the water for her trough, And feed her dandelions, and stroke her flanks, But turn back toward the barn and my cow was off. Gone free—and this was all I got for thanks: I learned to patch barbed wire with weariome labors, And she made me acquainted with everyone of the neighbors.

—Betty Bridgman.

OUR YESTERDAYS

From The Guardian Files — TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (March 27, 1931)

In the Legislature yesterday Hon. J.D. Stewart, leader of the Opposition, drew attention to the fact that when the House prorogued it was being led by the Hon. Mr. Saunders. Now it is apparently being led by Hon. Mr. J. G. MacKay. Yet the House has no notification of any change taking place.

An icebreaker is being sent to remove the ice impeding passenger and freight service between Prince Edward Island and the mainland. This was announced in the House of Commons today by Hon. R.J. Manion, Minister of Railways and Canals.

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TEN YEARS AGO (March 27, 1946)

Senator J.P. McIntyre, speaking in the Throne Speech debate in the Senate, last night said his Province had the smallest income per capita in Canada. The private should get special consideration in any financial arrangements drawn up at the Dominion-Provincial Conference.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

It has been suggested that jails be provided with television sets that carrying the punishment a little too far—Calgary Albertan

From the point of view of northern development, there's need for more training opportunities for Indians. The changing North will need new skills: the Indians, who know the North and its ways, are the logical people to be given the kind of education needed to push Canada's industrial frontier farther north.—Financial Post.

It is not as if it were generally realized that the most back-breaking share of the Trans-Canada Highway has to be borne by the poorest of all the provinces. Newfoundland has the lowest per capita income and the highest cost of living of all the provinces. In terms of miles of road per thousand of the population we have by far the lar;—share of the Trans-Canada Highway to build.—St. John's News.

The charge of atheism if often made against Communists as though it explained everything that was responsible in their thought. But we would say rather that it is not the lack of belief in God but an inordinate and slavish belief in a false god—the State—which makes Communism the danger to civilization which it unquestionably is. Nothing so negative as a lack of belief generates the kind of energy that Communism possesses. It is a burning faith with a god of its own.—Peterborough Examiner

In Canada we boast of our educational systems, and private schools are looked at askance in many quarters. But the private schools—which must stand or fall by their results have always known that big classes are impractical, if serious educational work is being attempted. We will have to recognize that our public education system, if we really intend to put first things first, Good education does, and always has, cost a lot of money.—Peterborough Examiner.

In the spring there is the smell of wet tar and lilacs that give a sense of well being late in the evening; in summer there is a special aroma from the river, accompanied by that of newly-cut grass that makes a person feel good to be alive; and in the fall the wafts of chili sauce and smouldering leaves have an atmosphere of their very own. But a clear winter evening, with the moon on the wane and the snow crunching under foot, has a way of reviving the spirits and makes living in this northern climate a rather precious existence!—Brockville Recorder.

Fluoridation of civic water supplies is the greatest development in preventive medicine in the last 10 years, according to Dr. Gordon Bates, general director of the Health League of Canada. Its use, however, may be thwarted by doubting Thomases. It isn't the first time that skeptics have delayed the use of developments in the prevention of disease. There was a time when measles now commonly accepted for the prevention of such diseases as diphtheria and typhoid were withheld from application because of the opposition of the ignorant. Right now, the dissenting minority who object to fluoridation is more vocal, more loudly heard, than is the plea of that part of public opinion favoring fluoridation.—Sydney Post-Record.

A Detroit dentist hypnotized a reporter who felt no pain when jabbed with a knife. Some reporters have felt no pain for years without benefit of hypnosis.—Toronto Star.

About the only time a CCF Member of the Commons agrees with a Progressive Conservative is when the Post Office brings out a new stamp and it gets the goat of both of them.—Brantford Expositor.

Most individuals, even good spellers, have certain words which they use frequently. Despite frequent use of them, time and again they elude one, compelling recourse to the dictionary. Certain rules are helpful, but English is a language not easy to reduce to rules. Ability to spell is an advantage throughout life. In a class of speller is at a constant disadvantage. That is why it is a subject which always must be emphasized.—Windsor Daily Star.

Somebody spoke the other day of not having seen the first robin of the year. To have seen a robin before anyone else does, say along toward the idea of February, is not necessarily to have seen a "first" one. More likely it is to have seen a last one from the previous year, a very old class of program so money times Winter through. The technical reason some human being sees this robin at this time of year may be that this robin himself goes out looking for the first human being.—Christian Science Monitor

The day is probably not too far distant when the moving picture theatre will recapture much of the popularity it lost when television gained such inroads. The clamor of the home entertainment medium is slowly wearing off and theatres which present good pictures are said to be showing signs of gaining more attention. Nothing can be so boring as sitting at home times after night, watching the clatter of films, the same corny performances, the third rate singers, the beer commercials and the quiz shows. People have heard and seen the same old class of program so money times they want to get a change of entertainment pace and that is where the movie houses will be able to capture lost audiences.—Galt Reporter

Joe Louis Pulled His Punches

Why didn't ex-heavyweight Champion Joe Louis kill his opponents with his mighty punch? Sports Editor Andy O'Brien gathered some interesting information for Standard readers from the Brown Bomber himself, who says he never hit all-out to floor a foe. Something new for the record. Get The Standard—on sale now, complete with magazine, 12-page novel and 20 pages of comics. Only ten cents.

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