

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink" CHARLOTTETOWN SATURDAY, OCT. 17, 1933

Runnymede: Symbol Of Liberty

Runnymede is a name that has echoed down the centuries as the place where Magna Carta was signed. It stands as a symbol of the fight of free men to retain their liberties, a bulwark against tyranny and a cornerstone of law and justice.

The Second World War was in a very direct sense a struggle against the ancient forces of autocracy and oppression. Hitler had nothing to offer the world but naked force but probably he justly boasted that his conquest would last for a thousand years.

The young men—they were all young men—who gave their lives in the war in the air were not, perhaps, an idealistic lot. Their ideals, at any rate, were varied.

The power was met and crushed by such men as are being commemorated. Those airmen, including more than 3,000 from this country, were in the front lines throughout the long years of the war.

Russian Farm Problem

An exchange notes that current production of meat, milk, wool and other animal products is on a lower per capita basis in Russia than in 1928. That is the background against which recently appointed First Secretary of the Communist Party, Nikita S. Krushchev, announced a new incentive policy for Russian farm producers.

It is recalled that the Russian Revolution of 1917 was sparked by promised land reform. In 1921 the Leninist New Economic Policy offered incentives for higher output and in 1925 peasants were advised to enrich themselves. But agriculture has continued to decline.

Why Higher Food Prices?

An inquiry into the growing spread between farm and retail food prices has been ordered in the United States by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson. Farmers can't understand why food prices should be rising when agricultural prices are dropping.

A similar inquiry in Canada, suggests the Toronto Star, might have equal merit. Farm prices here have been declining for some time. Yet food prices, as measured by the consumer price index, continue to climb.

During August, for example, the consumer price index advanced half a point from 115.7 to 116.2. And again the increase reflected a rise in food prices. In fact, higher prices for bread, butter, eggs,

pork, coffee and lard pushed up the food index 1.2 points—the highest increase in 21 months. The rise in retail food prices is taking place while wholesale farm prices are dropping. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of farm prices dropped two per cent between June and August. And the index for August represents a drop of 12 per cent from a year ago.

Why retail prices have dropped only one per cent, when farm prices have slipped 12 per cent is not clear. One factor, no doubt, is rising wages and costs in the distribution trades. These apparently have almost offset the decline in wholesale or farm prices.

Preservation Of Parliament

Dr. G. W. Keeton, Professor of English Law and Dean of the Faculty of Laws at University College, London, has written a book called "The Passing of Parliament" in which he examines the process of parliaments conferring on government departments wider powers of law making.

Dr. Keeton argues that in consequence of these developments the sovereignty of Parliament is in danger of becoming fiction and that all the necessary machinery for a Cabinet dictatorship has been established.

"In Canada, as in the United Kingdom," comments the Ottawa Journal, "there has been a decline in the power of the individual to influence parliamentary decisions. Rebels against party discipline are few and the proposals of Cabinet ministers are received with docility by party adherents, even when such proposals mean delegation of the powers of Parliament, which is greater than any party. If we are to have states free in name but directed and planned by invulnerable executives, individual initiative is bound to suffer. It does no harm for the voters, between elections, to remind themselves that parliaments are their servants and that a man elected even if he be a Cabinet minister, has no right to trade away the rights won by our forefathers in battling kings, barons and every other symbol of autocracy."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, the 20th Sunday after Trinity, 21st after Pentecost.

Today at Runnymede, Surrey, the Queen will unveil the Runnymede Memorial to officers and men of the Air Forces of the Commonwealth who lost their lives in the last war when operating from the United Kingdom and North West Europe.

Since the founding of the British and Foreign Bible Society in 1804 many hundreds of millions of Bibles in almost every language have been made available by the Society, its branches, auxiliaries and sister organizations. Tomorrow is being celebrated as its 150 jubilee.

The perishable nature of potatoes is frequently a source of loss and difficulty to the industry but one trouble, at least, is avoided. The great carry-over from one year to another which plagues the wheat farmer in a series of good harvests is something that the potato industry does not have to worry about.

No less than fourteen Island centres were represented at the recent convention of Prince Edward Island librarians. This Province is fortunate indeed in its library facilities. Through integrated effort by the many concerned a high proportion of our people enjoy a library service comparable to that of the large cities.

At Ottawa promotion in Parliament and the Government has taken on almost the regularity of that of the civil service. No criticism can be found with the routine-seeming appointments announced by Prime Minister St. Laurent. The regularity, however, lends very great importance indeed to junior appointments which are apt to receive comparatively little public attention.

Rene Antoine Ferchault de Reaumur, French scientist, died this date 1757. Nicknamed the "Pliny" of the eighteenth century, he was an able and observant natural historian. He produced an exhaustive history of insects in addition to discovering the white opaque glass and the thermometer which bears his name, wrote monographs on turquoise mines, the silk of spiders, gold-yielding rivers, and the manufacture of tin.

Good Time To Take Another Look



R. B. MacPHERSON, N.B. - BORN ECONOMIST, IN A RECENT MARITIME BOARD OF TRADE MEETING, CITED MANY EXAMPLES OF ACCOMPLISHMENT IN WHICH THE MARITIMES EQUALLED OR EVEN LED THE REST OF THE COUNTRY.

The Poet's Corner

SONG

The feathers of the willow Are half of them grown yellow Above the swelling stream; And ragged are the bushes, And rusty grown the rushes, And wild the clouded gleam

The thistle now is older, His stalk begins to moulder, His head is white as snow; The branches all are barer, The linnets' song is rarer, The robin pipeth now.

—Richard Watson Dixon.

Old Charlottetown

(And F. E. L.)

JOHNSTONE'S ITINERARY

From a letter descriptive of Prince Edward Island, by Walter Johnstone, 30th July, 1821. Continued from yesterday's issue: "As we pass out of the harbour's mouth along shore towards the west, there are few settlers till we come to a place called Drapable (Desable); then to Crapaud (Crapaud) where small vessels load with timber. A little to the west is Tryon River, a very small river but the prettiest settlement in the Island. The clearances are long and regular, the arable land rising gently behind the marshes and both dry and convenient for all the purposes of agriculture.

"Here the Island begins to narrow as we proceed on to Cumberland Cove, Augustine Cove, Cape Traverse and Seven Mile Bay, and a little further west a large Bay called Halifax Bay intersects the Island on the southern side, and Richmond Bay on the north, so that, I believe, the Island is not more than three or four miles in breadth between the head of one bay and the other. The head of this bay is divided into two branches, one of which is called Dunk River and the other Wilmot Cove. Around these is a well-cleared settlement. The settlers, however, are indolent farmers, and much of the land is running wild and barren under their management. "A little to the west, Cape Egmont juts out and recedes to a cove beyond it of the same name. West Cape, half way down it, and Cape Wolfe still farther. But it is all unsettled here, as it is all round the west end of the Island. But at the North Cape I have been told there is a farm under such good management that it is the most productive of any on the Island. From this the land is all unsettled till we come to Caspuccop or Holland Bay. Here are great ranges of sand hills along the shore. "We come next to Richmond Bay, which is very large and spacious, with good anchorage for ships of heavy burden. On the west side there is good settlement on Lots 13, 14 and 16; on the eastern side is Malpeque or Princetown, inland as the third County town on the Island, there is a single house of it has hitherto been built. The lands round it were long since settled, and the firewood is nearly all destroyed and far to haul. To the eastward we have a long track of shore, without any harbour, till we arrive at New London, where schooners can enter. The land here is good and there are large clearances. "A little way from there, we come to Great Rustico or Harris Bay, which is said to admit only small fishing schooners. The next settlements are Brackley Point and Little Rustico or Cove-Head, which are old and good clearings, though the harbour will admit only small schooners. To the east of this a little way we come to Tracadie, or Bedford Bay. This is also an old settlement, mostly peopled with

Notes By The Way

Our Iron Curtain informant tells us about a Russian worker who was walking along the street with a friend and remarked: "It's a rotten government." A guard seized him by the arm. "You are under arrest," said the guard. "What for?" answered the worker. "Because you said it was a rotten government." The citizen protested. "But I never said what government!" "No good," returned the guard. "There is only one rotten government, and you know it. —This Week

Rat-proofing of the area 200 miles long and 25 miles wide along the Saskatchewan border from the Saskatoon to the Cypress Hills was completed at the end of July. The contractor for the extermination job rat-proofed approximately 2,700 farmsteads as well as all villages and hamlets in the area. This work started in June, 1932, involved treating 8000 buildings with 70 tons of rat contact powder containing arsenic. The powder is placed so that the rats must pass through it to enter buildings for food and shelter. To date, no rats have been reported west of this rat-proof zone. —Alberta Information

The Duke of Edinburgh plans to visit Canada next summer. The itinerary of his 20-day tour could be studied with profit by Canadians. Besides Victoria and Vancouver, Ottawa and Montreal, the Duke will visit Edmonton, British Columbia; Port Radium, Coppermine and Yellowknife, in the Northwest Territories; and Churchill, Manitoba, the Hudson Bay port. In other words, by the end of his tour the Duke will know more about Canada's North, its wealth, its development and its prospects, than most Canadians do. He will not be alone in this. Overseas and American visitors to this country have a notable record for making such tours—while Canadians go to Florida. —Montreal Gazette

Five of Canada's ten provinces, Ottawa reports, "haven't touched a penny" of the more than \$2,000,000 in civil defence funds offered them by the Federal Government this year and last. The five are Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. All provinces can have this Federal money on a "matching" basis, Ottawa being "willing to put up one civil defence dollar for every dollar put up by the provinces." While a variety of reasons are given for this failure to take advantage of the Federal scheme, the most direct comes from Quebec and Ontario—that "the Federal Government should shoulder the entire expense of civil defence across the country. —Halifax Chronicle-Herald

Triangular Stamps (Manchester Guardian) Two new South African stamps mark a centenary that should revive schoolboy memories even for those not now interested in stamps—that of the triangular Cape of Good Hope. They recall also one of the most remarkable deals in stamps. It was in the early 1860s that young Stanley Gibbons gave £5 to two sailors for a kitbag containing thousands of the Cape triangular stamps, and set himself well on the road to founding the world-renowned firm that bears his name. He eventually made over £500 profit on the deal, but his selling prices were modest enough. There is on record an offer of his in 1864 to supply a customer with any quantity of the 1d, 4d or 6d denomination at 10s a dozen, and at about the same time he wrote to a Torquay collector, "If I send you any more 1d blue and 4d woodblocks they will be 4s each, as I am offered that by several dealers." Today the market price for one of the Capes young Gibbons offered at 10s a dozen is, according to condition, a pound or so upwards, but that of the 1d blue and color in a supply printed locally from stores—can be anything in three figures. The centenary stamps are, rectangular, with the original Cape triangular stamp incorporated in the design.

The Age Old Story Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else. Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thine children after thee, and that thou, mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, for ever. Roman Catholics. No large vessels can enter here. The next place is Savage Harbour, which is of little importance in any respect whatever. A little to the east we come to the bottom of St. Peter's Bay, which runs in a slanting, easterly direction about ten miles into the country. This was the principal seaport at the time the French were masters of the Island; but the entrance has now become narrow and difficult, and will only admit small craft.

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The Passing Scene

It was warm in the October manner when I reached my favourite creek. I sat down in a clump of bushes, lighted my pipe, and waited for a flock of ducks with whom I had an appointment at high tide. At least I thought I had. Without warning a gawky crane arrived and settled on a tree no more than ten feet away. She was so close that I could see her eyes quite plainly. In them I saw surprise and irritation but hardly any fear. Is she not on the protected list? I appreciated her tacit acknowledgement of my respect for the game laws and I told her so. Then the chattering began. And what a harsh monologue it was! I can't say her speech was particularly well modulated, nor did I understand much of it, but I do know it was forceful. And it amused me for, for the first time in my life, I was being scolded by a crane. After the fractious bird had gone I tried to piece together such fragments of her language that I did understand and they all added up to the fact that my room was preferred to my company. What business did I have there anyway? Why did I not stay where I belonged? Cranes don't invade my territory, so why should I invade theirs? Nowadays a peaceable, self-respecting bird has scarcely a resting place she can call her own. If I was waiting for ducks to come and be shot I was just wasting my time. They are much wiser than they used to be and wisdom begets caution. It is true that the crane would never qualify as a beady and she occupies a much lower place on the social list than her distant cousin, the Flamingo. For all that she is not as homely looking when seen at close quarters as when viewed at a distance. Her ungainliness in the air is made up, in part at least, by the sure and certain way in which she seats herself on a good strong limb. Her eyes, when seen at close range, reveal a measure of warmth and affection. Cranes, I suspect, are like people, in that you have to get to know them before you become qualified to pass judgement on their good or bad qualities. A little way up the stream that empties into the creek I ran into a beaver busily engaged in getting his house ready for winter. The house looked comfortable enough as it was but, no doubt, the owner could see defects that I could not. Not being familiar with the ways and standards of beavers I am unable to give an authoritative report on the details of this one's activities. Or, hand, I would say he was putting up storm windows. Anyway, he kept going up and down a ladder carrying some thing resembling a hammer. He shouted to him that it was a bit early to substitute storm windows for screens but he paid no attention to the remark. Once he descended to sniff in my direction and, sensing at once that he had no use for tobacco smoke, I put my pipe away. Whether the pleased him or not he did not take the trouble to indicate but, at any rate, he did no more sniffing. Just for the fun of it, with no intention of pulling the trigger, I pointed my gun in his direction. That gesture, too, went unnoticed. Then, I threw a small stone in his bath-tub close by, thinking that that might goad him into some sort of remonstrance. But, not quite evidently he was accustomed to the bluffing tactics of rude strangers and knew how to deal with them. Just as I was leaving he did glance at me with a look of half pity and half relief at my ignorance of his ways and relief at my impending departure. Like the crane, he was probably much annoyed at my unannounced arrival, but, being of a different temperament, he preferred the silent mien to the loquacious tongue. Of the two it is usually, though not always, the more effective weapon. On my way back, with fading hopes that the ducks would yet turn up (they never did, as a matter of fact) I walked up to a chipmunk; the tiniest, I think, I have ever seen. I have such regard for this little fellow that I walk in the woods is quite satisfying if he does not come across my path. Very rarely does he disappoint me. This one was engaged in what is apparently the chief pastime of his kind—crunching an acorn, or a chestnut, or some such delicacy. And with that energy he goes at it! His front paws work with lightning speed and I am sure his teeth must be, for their size, the sharpest cutting instrument in the world. Before I could count ten he had "polished off" one of the hard tidbits and was vigorously assaulting another. The process always reminds me of my own efforts to bite sweet corn from the cob. However, it is done with greater ease and with much more dignity. When he had finished his snack he scampered up to the tree-top and back again and then looked at me as if to say: "Now see if you can do it!" LONDON, (CP)—Bars in some London theatres now take precautions against playgoers straggling back late after intermission refreshments. A loudspeaker gives a crisp warning three minutes before certain time.

CONCERNING A CRANE, A BEAVER, AND A CHIPMUNK By Observer

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