

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, JULY 3, 1951

Nutrition Division

Man, and, to a lesser degree woman, is a creature of habit, and progress is marked, not so much by the advancement of knowledge as in the improvement of those habits.

Medical science has learned much about nutrition since the Royal Navy commenced its issue of lime juice as a preventive of scurvy. No one would claim, however, that general eating habits have kept pace with scientific discovery.

The job of the new Nutrition Division of the Provincial Department of Health and Welfare is largely to bridge that gap between knowing what it is necessary to eat for health and actually following a diet which provides all the calories, salts and vitamins needed daily and with sufficient variety and attractiveness to assure enjoyment.

Deductions At Source

The increase in Income Tax rates for the present year is ten per cent but the new deduction tables for the second half-year, which become effective July 1, provide for a twenty per cent increase to balance the months during which deductions were at the old rate.

Also provided for in the tables is the principle of deducting 100 per cent of the tax rather than 95 per cent as was the rule to date. The result is that wage earners will find that upwards of 26 per cent more is being withheld than was being done.

These are, of course, percentages of the old deductions, not of taxable income and the increase for most taxpayers is something like an additional 5 per cent. However it is worked out it will not be welcomed gladly, but so long as it seems to be effective in purchasing national security and a measure of social security there should be little opposition to the levy.

Crown Companies & Parliament

One result of the Senate's examination into the current year's estimates disclosing the lack of coherent financial planning in the Government is the final decision by Prime Minister St. Laurent to bring in a revised Consolidated Revenue and Audit Act. Mr. St. Laurent announced this would be introduced at the coming Fall session. It will be referred to the public accounts committee where the whole financial structure of Government will be examined.

Among the most important of the changes in current practice there will probably be one affecting Crown corporations. Mr. R. B. Bryce, secretary to the Federal Treasury Board, gave the Senators these items: There are seventeen Crown corporations. They do not include their expenditures in the Parliamentary estimates. Whether their profits are paid to the Government or retained varies with each one. Crown corporation deficits, however, are paid by the Government. There is a variety of practices among them and no uniform law applying to all or any clear principle.

The most important change proposed in the new Act is to bring all these corporations under the direct control of Parliament to which they are not now responsible except in so far as the minister at their head desires them to be.

A Lesson From France

The belief that Communism can be successfully combatted by efforts to raise economic conditions and improve living standards is a basic assumption of those who support such schemes as the Colombo Plan. This, in essence, was the argument put forward by External Affairs Minister Pearson when he sought approval of Parliament for a twenty-five million dollar appropriation for technical assistance to the countries of east and southeast Asia.

Results in the recent French elections suggest that such assumptions rest on rather flimsy evidence. For, despite the very substantial dollar assistance given to France by the United States, and the marked improvement in that country's economic position, the Communists still polled five million votes and remain the strongest single party.

The inconclusive nature of the argument put forward by advocates of the Colombo Plan, which aims at doing for Asia what

the United States has done for much of Europe, is revealed also in Italy, where despite a veritable flood of dollars, Communism remains a potent danger. In Greece, which is held up as the classic example of how to defeat Communism through a foreign aid program, the fact remains that it was guns and other military equipment which made it possible to defeat the guerrillas.

Nor is it safe to assume that Communism always flourishes where economic conditions are bad. Canada during the great depression of the thirties, presented a singularly unhappy economic picture. Yet Communism made little progress.

It cannot, of course, be denied that a sound economy offers one of the best bulwarks against Communism. The strength of Canada's economy is sapped when people are taxed twenty-five million dollars more than they need be to give effect to such dubious undertakings as the Colombo Plan. Like charity, defence against Communism begins at home.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Festive Week continues.

Most people attended Divine Worship Sundry, for it is seemly so to do in a Christian country.

People fly to England with very much less trouble in almost half the time it took to cross to the mainland in the ice-boats.

Everyone loves a parade and the Monster Float Parade this afternoon, complete with six bands, should be a joy to behold.

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition have buried the hatchet. But perhaps not too deep to be dug up for further play.

Ordinarily the visit of H. M. C. S. Wallaceburg would be a major event for this city, but in Festive Week the Navy must share a welcome with landlubbers, airmen and visiting firemen.

Britain is experimenting with Tussac grass from the South American Falkland Islands in an effort to boost beef production. The grass is claimed to grow all the year round, giving it a decided advantage over native British grasses.

The streets were beautifully clean Monday for the street parades. The drowning out of the special services at Victoria Park, Sunday night, inaugurating Festive Week was most disappointing, over 2,000 people being gathered for the performance.

Development of the West Indian trade has long attracted the attention of this Province. It will be recalled that under the Matheson Government a delegation went round the various Islands and British Guiana with a view to fostering such trade, and now the West Indies are approaching Canada with a view to reciprocity.

The Ottawa Citizen's Parliamentary writer devotes more than half a column to telling Progressive-Conservatives that they intend to drop "Progressive" because the title is too cumbersome and that "the old, traditional and unadorned name Conservative is much better." Completely ignored is the fact that prior to 1942 the party was officially Liberal-Conservative.

In view of the fact we are to have so much band music here this week, it is interesting to note that Drum-Major John Seton, oldest practising drum-major in Scotland, will lead the parade of massed pipe bands down the Mound and along Princes Street, Edinburgh, at the Festival of Britain "Gathering of the Clans" in August. He will also control the biggest band of his life when 1,000 pipers will play in the grand finale to the Highland Gathering at Murrayfield.

"Confidence inspired by the superb Canadian record of debt payments and of prudent handling by Ottawa authorities of exchange problems has lulled the apprehensions on our side of the border which usually are connected with foreign investments," says New York Herald-Tribune. "Much of the investment flow into Canada is of the direct variety, in which business organizations and individuals make new connections or extend existing ones for production in branch factories, mines or other enterprises. All this is aiding the vigorous home enterprise of Canada and producing there an industrial growth comparable with our own most heady periods of expansion. There are some experts who contend that Canada is setting a new speed mark for the world in its rate of industrial build-up. They point to whole new industries that are flourishing as if by magic, and to developments of Canadian resources that were unknown and undreamed of a decade ago."

The Five Ships

(Toronto Saturday Night)

The Ming Sung affair involves ships built in Canada for an established Chinese trading company while the Chiang Kai-Shek regime still had a precarious hold on power in China. Nearly \$13 million were advanced to finance the construction under a Government guarantee. All was well until Chiang Kai-Shek was finally driven out of China. Then the Ming Sung Company incorporated a Canadian subsidiary, registered at Charlottetown, P.E.I., and transferred the ships to this company and to Canadian registry. At the same time it sought, and was granted, exemption from the provisions of the Canada Shipping Act which require Canadian-registered ships to be manned by British subjects with certain qualifications.

Five of the ships now have turned up again, plying — under the Canadian ensign — between Hong Kong, Macao and Canton. They are manned — allegedly — by Chinese Communist crews. They are subject in Hong Kong to all the export restrictions applied by the British Government there. But when they leave Macao they are subject only to the Portuguese restrictions. The Conservatives in Parliament maintain that there is a strong suspicion that they are carrying contraband from Macao to China, and that in any case there is no justification for a trade which is even questionable being carried on under the Canadian ensign.

Mr. Drew made a very strong case for his argument that Canadian registry should be immediately withdrawn. His presentation of the case was the best performance he has given in the Parliament, and the Prime Minister's reply showed that the Government was not easy about the affair. There is no question on either side of a total boycott of trade with China, but the policy of permitting trade in goods which have no application to defence does not necessarily justify the curious operations of these ships which are Canadian in nothing but name.

To withdraw Canadian registry may involve writing off the debts still owed on them. We appreciate the Government's care for the taxpayers' money. But the total debt is rather less than one dollar for each Canadian; and at this we think we'd rather have a clear conscience. It is one of the minor results of the Western world's previous policy towards Chiang Kai-shek which was always a triumph of hope over experience.

The most serious thing about the whole Ming Sung debate is the revelation of yet another case in which the Government has ignored its legal obligation to make public its acts. Under section 138A of the Canada Shipping Act the Minister of Transport, Mr. Lionel Chevrier, was entitled, to exempt the Ming Sung ships from the obligation to carry British crews. But he was bound to report to Parliament that he had done so. He did in fact table a list of the other cases in which exemptions were granted. But this case — peculiar and far more important than the others — was omitted.

Mr. St. Laurent explained that the list tabled came from steamship inspectors; this item was in a different file and had been overlooked. This is precisely equivalent to saying that an individual's salary was reported to the inspector of income tax as a matter of routine, but the income received from dividends happened to be overlooked. We know very well what the government and the courts would make of such a defence. No private individual would dare to put it forward. It is shameful that the Prime Minister should dare to put it forward.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. L.)

A PATRIARCHIAL AGE

"Died at the head of Elliot River, on the 24th inst., at the patriarchal age of 107 years, Mrs. Mary Gibbons. She was native of Holland, and emigrated about 82 years ago to South Carolina, at which time she was married, and the mother of a family. At a subsequent period she settled in Prince Edward Island. She retained her faculties to the last, and walked without assistance across her room the day before she died." — Prince Edward Island Register, Dec. 29, 1829.

The Poet's Corner

IN A GARDEN

This quiet garden is a refuge for Flicker and robins and bright hummingbirds. Racing their motors while they hang to sip. The honey sweet from multicolored flowers. Here orioles flash their black and golden splendor. And sparrows dart while, hiding in the hedge. Small finches paint their yellow on the green. All day the water splashes in the basin. Where birds come without fear to seek its cool. And air is filled with chattering and wings. Heart now starts singing in reply and eye. Feast upon light and color while the ear. Content to hear rustle of wings and branch. Splashing of water, blowing grass and leaf. Hears the whole garden blended in one song.

—Helen Howland Prommel.

This is It!



Monthly Review Of The Bank Of N. S.

Business conditions in Canada this spring have been remarkably stable. The current Monthly Review of the Bank of Nova Scotia. Though inflationary pressures appear to have lessened for the time being, underlying forces point to rising employment and incomes as defence outlays expand.

To a considerable extent, states the Review, the very heavy demands on the economy in the early months

of the year were the result of expectations of future shortages and price rises as the defence program made increasing calls on supplies. In actual fact, the defence program has been slower in getting under way than many people expected. Civilian production through the first quarter of the year showed little evidence of material shortages: indeed, it was probably a record. Moreover, imports were exceptionally large.

The resulting ample supplies, together with the fact that substantial advance purchases, have recently tended to cause some slackening in demand — a development which has been accentuated by the restrictive effects of higher prices, increased excise taxes and the tighter credit policy. This slackening of demand, coupled with concern about inventories created by the recent declines in world prices of a few important commodities has caused some reduction in activity in such branches of civilian manufacturing as tanneries and woolen mills. At the same time, the growth of the defence program both in the United States and Canada is beginning to make itself felt in material shortages, particularly of steel, with some resultant layoffs. In the coming months, slack spots may well develop in some industries and some areas at the same time that shortages of labour are evident in others.

The main factors in the economic outlook, however, are factors of strength. The tight world supply situation for such materials as base metals and wood products implies a continued strong demand for these basic Canadian exports. The defence program as planned involves large and growing expenditures and, finally, Canada has in progress a capital investment program on the

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Notes By The Way

It may take hundreds of nuts to hold an automobile together, but just one can break it apart. — Hamilton Spectator.

"Hitler," says the British Recorder, "in certain respects was no fool" and he is quoted as saying in 1940: "If I destroy this (British) Empire 500 million yellow, brown and black natives become leaderless. Murder and death

will stalk and the whole world will go to pieces. So I must proceed very carefully." One has only to glance at the world today to see what weakness of the British has resulted in. It is sometimes forgotten that up to 1914 at least, the British Empire was the greatest and most effective League of Nations which ever existed in world history. — St. Catharines Standard.

part of business, institutions and governments so large that steps have been taken to curtail it.

Direct control over materials, particularly of steel, is already affecting some kinds of building, notably commercial construction, while the more stringent mortgage and general credit situation and some material shortages are exercising a dampening effect on house building. The tighter money policy is also affecting the construction plans of municipalities and other public bodies. Nevertheless, it is clear that the construction program this year will tax resources of manpower and materials.

The Review goes on to discuss in more detail economic conditions in the main regions of Canada. Of the Maritime Provinces it says that conditions have shown a marked improvement, which has been reflected in a sharp decline in the amount of unemployment this winter and spring as compared with last. Behind this improvement, says the Review, lie a heavy demand for forest products, an active winter shipping season, considerably more building construction than a year ago, and a high rate of activity in the iron and steel and other heavy industries. In particular, the economic situation in Newfoundland, which caused grave concern last year, has benefited from revived export demand for pulp and paper and iron ore, and from an easing in the marketing problem for salt cod. On the other hand, marketing difficulties have persisted for Maritime apples and potatoes.

As in other parts of Canada, the Review notes, a substantial program of expenditures for new industrial plant and equipment is scheduled for this year, while defence construction projects of some size are already under way or contemplated. In addition to the expansion under way at the Wabana iron-ore mine, which will make possible a further large increase in production, a considerable amount of basic-metal exploration work is going on in Newfoundland, and several other projects including factories for the production of wood products, gypsum products and cement are under construction or planned.

In the Cape Breton area, the mechanization program is proceeding in the coal mines, there is some renewal of metal mining development, and a new fish-processing plant is nearing completion. In New Brunswick, the pulp and paper industry has a substantial expansion program in view.

On Pileain Island, of "Mudny on the Bounty" fame, there are 21 children of whom 18 are Wolf Cubs or Brownies, Boy Scouts or Girl Guides. Patrol Leader of the Scouts is Thomas Christian, a direct descendant of Fletcher Christian of "The Bounty." — Boy Scout News.

The English language is full of potholes for the young, so perhaps there is some excuse for the nine-year-old Wirral schoolgirl who what wakened at the start of a new past tense. "Mum sprang-clean the kitchen yesterday," said she, "because we're getting a new carpet for it on Saturday." — Manchester Guardian.

—Let us suppose you live in Calcutta and decide to move to another part of the city. Your first inclination is to call a moving van, but then you discover that this would be the most expensive way of all to move your furniture. For half the cost of a moving van you can hire two large bullock carts — with four massive bulls and eight men. But there is an even cheaper way than the bullock cart. You can hire 15 men to carry your furniture and belongings across the city by barefoot. They would make as many round trips as were necessary, and the total cost would still be much less than the bullock cart and only a fraction of what a motor truck would cost. Suppose you have a small farm in the south of India somewhere near Madras. The farm requires irrigation. You could buy an imported Diesel engine to pump the water — the most efficient but also the most costly method. Or you could put the great bulls to work on a crude but durable water-drawing pulley device. But human muscle would be cheapest. In Bombay I spoke to a businessman who is part owner of a firm that bottles natural water. He told me that when analyzed his costs he discovered that the labor cost per bottle was less than the cost of the water itself. Thus life is cheaper than water. It is difficult to think of anything in India that is as cheap as human life. — Norman Cousins in SRL.

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WELCOME

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visited in which in 1864 twenty-three statesmen and three secretaries sat

down to consider the tremendous problem of welding the scattered colonies

of British North America into a self-sufficient whole—the present

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during Festive Week when Special Sales will be featured in many of the

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