

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, MAY 5, 1953 The Late Mr. Hughes

In the passing of Mr. George A. Hughes, Prince Edward Island has lost one of its very oldest residents and the last living link with the early days of railroading in this Province. But to our many citizens who were privileged to know him personally, he was much more than that. He was in the true sense a gentleman of the old school, a man of great kindness, affection, and courtesy, who had weathered all the storms of life and had retained an abiding faith in the simple Christian verities, supplemented with a fund of experience and philosophy which made it a great pleasure to converse with him on almost any subject.

He retained to the end his physical and mental alertness, and could recall the events of yesterday, or of three quarters of a century ago, with equal precision and lucidity. Over and above his remarkable record as a railway man, he set an example of good citizenship and integrity, of devotion to his home, his church and his community, which won him the well merited esteem and respect of all classes.

As Others See Us

There is a tendency to disregard the familiar values of our surroundings and think chiefly of the things which we lack. That is what Islanders seem to be doing according to Mr. Kenneth Watson, financial adviser to the United Kingdom High Commissioner, who has become enthusiastic about the Island in the course of a brief visit.

What Mr. Watson saw was prosperous-looking farms on every side with fine buildings in a high state of repair; the town of Summerside indicating a remarkable amount of wealth for a town of its size and an equally notable lack of poverty. We do not make nearly enough of what we have, in Mr. Watson's opinion. In a few hours after his arrival here he saw a number of far more attractive scenes than any he could find depicted on the souvenir post cards which are available.

Before coming to the Province he had no idea of how attractive it is. He knew, of course, of our beaches, but it is not necessary to wait for bathing weather to find this Province a delightful place to visit.

All of this is true, of course, and none of it is new to Islanders. The important thing is that it is new to a vast number of people who would like to visit us if they knew what the Island has to offer. The Travel Bureau is doing a great deal to publicise our attractions for the tourist but it is clear that only a beginning has been made. The job is too big for a single agency to undertake. Every Islander should feel that he or she is a duly appointed publicity agent for the attractions of the Province.

Fishing Possibilities

Lobsters are not usually regarded as migratory creatures, but the National Geographic Society reports the existence of a dwarf variety of these crustaceans which are spawned in the Caribbean and wind up off the Coast of Florida. "We've found," says a Society spokesman, "that these baby lobsters travel ten to twelve miles a day." A great deal of other curious information is being gathered by the organization in co-operation with the marine laboratory of the University of Miami in a search for the mysterious spawning grounds of some fish and the paths they take through the water. Tuna, for instance, are found to bob up at a certain time of the year and then vanish.

It is hoped by these researches to develop the food resources of the ocean. But the big problem, according to Dr. Lionel Walford, chief piscatorial expert in the United States fish and wildlife service, is to change the eating habits of people on this continent in favour of the fishery industry. Fish makes up a mere three per cent of the total protein food eaten in North America. "Cultural barriers cause this," Dr. Walford says. "We happen to be a meat-eating people, and we just don't eat fish." This, he points out, is by no means an indication of superior civilization. On the contrary, "it's very primitive. Savages in the jungle won't eat anything new." Our people would not think of eating snails, yet the British eat them all the

time, and find them very good; the little ones are called periwinkles. On the other hand, "the British wouldn't dream of eating clams."

It would appear from these remarks that there is a great scope for well-directed publicity in developing the home market for our fishermen. Druggers are revolutionizing the methods of offshore fishing, and modern processing and transportation methods may be expected to improve tremendously in the coming years. But all this will be of little avail unless consumer demand keeps pace and prices are maintained at reasonably profitable levels. This matter is of particular concern to the Atlantic Provinces. The time has arrived when more aggressive efforts should be made, through federal and provincial channels, of making our almost inexhaustible fishery resources the staple diet they were intended by nature to be.

Last British Garrison

The last British garrison stationed on Bermuda said farewell to the island a few days ago and marched on shipboard for the voyage home. So ended a romantic little chapter of history. For 250 years Britain had maintained a garrison on Bermuda and now the defence of the island becomes the responsibility of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Bermuda, notes the Hamilton Spectator, became a British colony when Sir George Somers was shipwrecked on its shores in 1609. In the days of piracy and during the long wars for maritime supremacy between Britain, France and Holland, the island was of strategic importance, but for many years the peace-time garrison has rarely exceeded 200 men.

With peace-time duties that were mostly social and decorative, the only hardships a term of garrison duty on Bermuda could offer a soldier were monotony and separation from home. Considering that almost 90 per cent of the island's revenue is derived from tourists who pay for the privilege of visiting it, soldiers must have been hard pressed to find causes for the indispensable grouse that is a part of army life.

In making his official farewell, Sir Alexander Hood, Bermuda's governor, paid tribute to the contribution the army had long made to the island's social, cultural and sporting life. In these stern times, taxpayers can think of more useful employment for its highly paid soldiery, while the realities of the international situation make prestige an expensive luxury.

EDITORIAL NOTES

According to the North Bay Nugget, the world's record trout came from Nipigon Lake, Ont. It weighed 14 1/2 pounds and was caught in 1915 by the late Dr. J. W. Cook, of Port Arthur.

Charlottetown is the mecca for music enthusiasts this week. The quality of the competition in vocal and instrumental classes would certainly have astonished Islanders even a few years ago.

The course for the Boy Scout Fireman's badge is a fine example of co-operation between the Fire Department and the Boy Scouts Association. For many years the Department has been introducing the boys to the methods of fire fighting used in the City.

Irish moss was formerly left to the youngsters of the family to gather but that soon changed when farmers and fishermen found that the youngsters could earn more by gathering it than could the parents. The moss has a great many uses and should one day be the raw material for local industries.

The situation of this Province, entirely surrounded by warm waters and almost surrounded by fine beaches lends great importance to the work of the Swimming and Water Safety Committee of the Red Cross. The reports of last year's activities and plans for the coming summer indicate that the work is being enthusiastically supported.

Napoleon I, Emperor of the French, died this date 1821. A Corsican by birth, Bonaparte went as a cadet to the military school at Paris, becoming an officer of artillery. His first step towards high rank was the taking of Toulon from the Royalists, English and Spaniards. Later he quashed a popular rising against the Convention with a "whiff of grapeshot." He commanded the army of Italy, sending vast amounts of plunder back to France. Napoleon saved the Directory a second time. He seized Egypt but failed to conquer Syria. He returned to France and became First Consul.

An Adjudicator With His Own Opinion



M. P.'s Pensions

(Winnipeg Free Press) OTTAWA: It may surprise some taxpayers that not a cent has been paid yet in pensions to M.P.'s under the terms of the Pension Act passed in 1952 by Parliament. That's because although some 87 members were qualified last year for pensions in varying amounts, none in that category have resigned or been defeated in by-elections and remained out. Of the 87, about 48 were qualified last year for the full pension of \$3,000—three quarters of their sessional indemnity. Some 39 others were qualified for annual pensions in lesser amounts up to about \$2,750 and are still on the job.

This picture may change after the general election expected about August next—and in a big way if there were a Government turnover. The act is compulsory—every Member of Parliament is required to pay into the fund 6 per cent of his sessional indemnity of \$4,000. The \$2,000 non-taxable expense allowance does not enter the calculation. The Government contributes an equal amount to the fund, \$240 per M.P. per year. But to be eligible for a pension, an M.P. must have served in more than two parliaments. That's to cover cases where an M.P. is elected at a by-election preceding a general election. Others elected at a by-election would have to serve a portion after two parliaments to make even with the by-election members.

M.P.'s having met the above qualification and elected to take the pension, on retirement or defeat, would receive an annual pension graded in dollars according to the number of sessions they had served up to a maximum of 17 sessions carrying the full \$3,000 pension. All pensions recipients would have to pay up, either in a lump sum or instalments, all the back contributions in 6 per cent of their sessional indemnity for sessions served before the act was law; that is \$240 for each back session plus interest at 6 per cent compounded.

Members elected since 1940 get an edge over their predecessors since there were six sessions between 1939 and 1945 and five sessions between 1945 and 1949—it's the number of sessions served that count.

But there's a deadline. The act requires a member to elect to take the pension before November 30, or the coming general election, whichever is earlier. Those who do not elect, no matter how much service they have rolled up, cannot qualify after either of those dates. They would be out of luck—some members apparently do not realize this yet.

If a member has not qualified by reason of service, or not elected to take the pension, and retires or is defeated, he gets back the money he has paid into the fund—without interest.

If he has elected to take the pension, serves a period, and is defeated, he gets whatever pension is due. If re-elected, he can re-qualify for a later and larger pension but will not receive the pension while receiving an indemnity. Like all the others, he can qualify by paying up for the back sessions when he was not serving.

The back payments are pretty heavy. For example, if any of the 39 members serving in the Parliament of 1949, were defeated, they could qualify for an annual pension of \$2,754 by paying contributions for those prior sessions in a lump sum, or instalments, of \$4,543 including interest.

Some members have rolled up huge records of service. There's Charles G. "Chubby" Power, Quebec South, elected 1917 with 35 years of service and 42 sessions. Speaker W. Ross Macdonald, elected 1925, could qualify for the full \$3,000 pension by paying up contributions for the sessions before the act passed in 1952. To give a general idea of the scope of the pension policy it may

Notes By The Way

Salvelinus fontinalis, to give the speckled trout his technical name, has been sought by anglers for hundreds of years. He may weigh, in extreme cases, as much as seven or eight pounds, in which case he usually will have come from Lake Nipigon or Nipigon river, although it is claimed that larger trout may be found in more isolated parts of the province. In any event, the world's record trout came from the Nipigon river. It weighed 44 1/2 pounds and was caught in 1915 by the late Dr. J. W. Cook, of Port Arthur—North Bay Nugget.

Pedestrians who have formed the giddy habit of crossing the street just before the green light becomes yellow should consider the case of the newly produced all-electric sports car off the assembly line in Saginaw, Michigan. This electrically driven automobile, which has no transmission, can go from dead stop to one hundred miles an hour in 300 feet. This is virtually jumping off from base. The pedestrian is going to need lessons from a kangaroo—London Free Press.

Mark Twain, on his journey through England, was confronted with the rumor that he was dead. He made his celebrated reply: "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated." Perhaps the rumors that are being spread about inflation being dead. Perhaps inflation is not quite what it used to be. But it may still have within it a remarkable degree of vitality. Unless production in 1953 keeps up with earnings, or exceeds it, it may prove hard to keep inflation away from Canada's door—Montreal Gazette.

Now mind you, we have no quarrel with animals—in their proper place. We'll even go along with the gag and say that once in a while that place might perhaps be on a seven-cent issue with a blue goose or a lame duck or something on it, and it was right pretty. And although we don't often buy fifteen-centers, seems we recall the old reliable beaver appearing on

The Poet's Corner

THE PASSING LOCOMOTIVE Abiding joy of childhood's wonderland! Today, as long ago, I love the tone Of hissing steam, your whistle, bell, the groan Of clutching brakes. I like to watch your hand Beneath reluctant wheels—your headlight's grand Reflection on your bed of steel and stone: And, of all men, I envy him alone Who pulls your throttle with a master hand. But in the scheme of change whose gods compute The span of transient things in numbered days, The hour is near when you will glide to more Along your burnished rails, for Of higher forms, and quest for better ways, Are switching you to some museum floor. —Wilbur Sherron in the New York Times.

be said that there are, in all, 262 members of the House of Commons. In the present House there are 34 members who are qualified, by length of service, for the full pension. An additional 39 members, if defeated in the next election, would qualify for the lesser pension of \$2,754 annually provided of course that they made up the back payments.

that one recently. But surely that could have kept the Post Office art department happy for a while? And if they do feel an irreplaceable urge to draw up postage stamps, surely they could have designed a better one than the present mountain-goat effect, where the four-cent denomination mark is so perfectly camouflaged as to be almost invisible. Once they get an acceptable design, we can stand it nicely if they spare us the expense of running off pretty new stamp issues every couple of months. Who knows, with the money saved that way, it might even be possible for them to give us back our two deliveries per day.—Owen Sound Sun-Times.

The principal effect of removing the death penalty would probably be to increase the number of murders committed in the course of other crimes of violence. If the penalty for murder and robbery were the same, for example, it would pay a holdup man to kill his victim, or the policeman who tried to arrest him; he would have little to lose even if he were caught. The opposition to capital punishment is based largely on pity for the condemned man mixed with horror at the ugly process of execution. But we should not, out of sympathy for the guilty, remove a powerful protection for the innocent.—Edmonton Journal.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. L.) LOCAL BUILDING ROOM "Our readers will be gratified to learn that no less than eighty-eight buildings, of various classes and dimensions—exclusive of stables, etc.—have been erected in this Town during the present year, nearly the whole of which, we understand, will be completed before the close of the present season. Amongst these, it is true, there are many diminutive and unpretending edifices, but still there are among the number several of the most substantial, commodious and elegant buildings ever constructed in this town—buildings which will do credit to some places of far loftier pretensions than Charlottetown.

"For several miles around a like improvement in this respect is also visible; and those who compare the present state of things with that which existed some ten or fifteen years since, must feel not a little gratified at the contrast. There is yet, however, abundant room for further improvement—particularly in the eastern part of the town, where are still to be found many valuable lots utterly destitute of buildings or improvements of any kind. "The demand for small dwellings and cottages, at moderate rentals, is at this moment far greater than can be supplied; in fact, we almost daily hear complaints of the difficulty experienced by mechanics and others, who are unable to pay high rents, in finding suitable accommodation for their families." —Colonial Herald, Nov. 5, 1842.

WHY HAVE SORE FEET? JUST RUB IN MINARD'S 'KING OF PAIN' LINIMENT

The Passing Scene

By Observer MAY

It was for Maia, the goddess of growth and the mother of Mercury, that happy, care-free messenger of the gods, that the present month was named. In Mr. Longfellow's "Poets' Calendar" she is made to say: "Hark! The sea-faring wild fowl loud proclaim My coming, and the swarming of the bees. These are my heralds and behold! My name Is written in blossoms on the hawthorn trees; I tell the mariner when to sail the seas; I wait o'er all the land from far away The breath and bloom of the Hesperides, My birthplace. I am Maia. I am May."

We smile, and with good reason, at the credulity of the ancients who assumed the existence of many gods and goddesses, but in this matter of month naming they probably did much better than we ourselves could do in like circumstances. Their imagination, with all its faults and inadequacies, was at least touched by romantic and adventurous fire, less troubled than ours by the exacting demands of the machine god. In our part of the world, May is likely to be a bit erratic in her manners. Warm sunshine one day and "lingering winter's chill" the next, are things we expect. We must wait a while for the myriads of flowers, and the poet was not thinking of this corner of the earth when he sang of the "swarming of the bees". Our bees do not ordinarily work quite so fast as that, nor do the "blossoms of the hawthorn trees". The apple trees, however, have already budded and before the north is well present a clean, white, spotless appearance to delight the eye and re-invigorate the soul. The May-flower, forerunner of summer's beauty, is lifting up its shy face to the sun, glad to be alive if only for a short period of time. "No regrets, no fear", it seems to say.

Now is the time when the possessor of a garden, however circumscribed in length and breadth, is very near to the front of life, and can share, if he will, in the marvels and glories of infinite force and beauty. No sensitive person can tread on the soft, mellow earth these days without feeling that he is walking in a holy place. With all our mechanical ability and our knowledge of the physical world, there is still deep mystery in the first appearance of the tiny plant which only a week or so ago was a dull, lifeless seedling almost invisible to the eye. And the unfolding of the first flower of May contains all we need to know, much more than we can well understand, of the sure, unerring force that permeates the universe and gives it moral direc-

tion. A garden can never fulfill its proper function so long as it is treated solely as a place of utility. It is that, of course, but its utility ought to be viewed as merely an outward sign of its inner, spiritual strength and purpose. It was in a garden, not in a machine shop or a counting house, that our first parents were placed by fiat of the Creator. It will be in a garden, if anywhere, that paradise will become paradisaic again, where "hopes will blossom and bear fruit abundantly." At this time of year, if ever, the person who is not unresponsive to natural beauty and wonder will find himself saying with Henry Van Dyke: "These are the things I prize. Light of the sapphire skies, Peace of the silent hills, Shelter of the forests, comfort of the grass, Music of the birds, murmur of little rills, Shadows of clouds that swiftly pass, And, after showers, The smell of flowers, And of the good brown earth."

There are times and seasons when all of us are very near to scepticism, for we are, even the best of us, men and women of little faith. It is then that we need to walk abroad in the fields, across the meadows, and by the streams, and take within ourselves, each according to his capacity, the meanings that lurk behind the common things.

It may be only a new blade of grass where only a few weeks ago there was nothing but barren soil. Or it may be a little cowbird or a fragile bluebell listening to all the rhythm of time unrolling.

Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils. The Norwegian Government allocated \$280,000 to aid the theatre in Norway during the 1953-54 financial year.

The Age Old Story Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

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