

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, DEC. 13, 1951

First Things First

At this season we more readily than usual are prepared to get down to fundamentals. Man's relation to God and the consequent importance of man as an individual are highlighted against the background of the many lesser aspects of life and of society.

Other things have their place. The state makes its demands on all. The calls of science, of commerce, of art, of social justice, of literature and of entertainment are pressing, but these and others must be subordinated to the primary ideas of God and the human soul.

It is when enthusiasts place lesser ideas first that trouble arises. Though often good in themselves, they are not the essential good and the statesman, the businessman, the social or economic reformer or the scientist who is carried away by his interest in particular aspects of human problems may do great harm where he desires only good.

The individual can never be treated as subordinate to the cause if the cause is to benefit rather than harm mankind.

Taxing Government Property

The revision of arrangements between the City and Province for payments in lieu of taxes has been made necessary by the higher assessments and rates paid by other property holders in order to meet the higher cost of administration and services.

It used to be considered, and is still technically the law, that property owned by Federal or Provincial Governments is exempt from local taxation. It probably did little harm while Government buildings were practically restricted to Government House, the Provincial Building, the Law Courts, military barracks, Post Office and Customs.

Today, however, Governments occupy large numbers of choice sites and it would mean imposing quite unfair burdens on other property owners if all the services provided by the City were to be given without compensation to such an important class of buildings. Besides it is bad bookkeeping to have the cost of buildings maintained for the general benefit of the Province charged against a particular group within the Province selected arbitrarily by the test of their paying City taxes.

Mineral Wealth

Canada's ever-growing importance as a producer of minerals is featured in the current issue of the Northern Miner, which estimates that total mineral output this year will be \$1.2 billion, or about \$160 millions greater than in 1950.

Some of the increase is due to higher prices, but actual volume will be up substantially. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index of mineral production showed that physical volume had reached an all-time high at mid-year. Many minerals will make new records in volume and value, including zinc, iron, asbestos, petroleum and natural gas, and cement. Nickel and copper, although still below their wartime peaks of 1943, are nevertheless at record levels for peacetime.

Production facilities for all these minerals are being expanded steadily with no end to the present market for them in sight. Zinc production is being stepped up in Quebec and Nova Scotia. The Steep Rock iron mine in Ontario expects to double its yearly output of high grade ores by eight or ten times. A large iron ore development is underway in Quebec. International Nickel and Falconbridge mines are increasing nickel output. Sherritt Gordon will soon be an important nickel-copper producer at Lynn Lake in Manitoba. The oil and natural gas markets for Alberta's output are clamoring for more supplies.

Every mining province and territory is sharing in this expanded mining prosperity. British Columbia, for instance, is in the midst of its greatest base metal boom in many years. The Cobalt and Mayo camps in the Yukon are in full production of silver and lead, and the Yellowknife mine in the Northwest Territories is working overtime. Manitoba is growing again as a base metal producer.

Prince Edward Island has no great mineral wealth, which is another reason why we should concentrate on our basic in-

dustries of farming and fishing, and seek in every way to increase their productivity.

EDITORIAL NOTES

"Peace by Christmas" in Korea is again reported to be on the side of undue optimism. Alas!

An empty oil tank is far more dangerous than a full one, as is indicated by the recent tanker explosion in the Great Lakes.

Old fashioned thrift in Government is urged in Ottawa by a delegation of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. The advice is good, but as is often the case, hard to take.

Another age would have expressed it that the philosopher's stone has been discovered when copper can be converted into at least thirteen different metals. The prohibitive cost, however, makes it more like a billionaire's stone.

The druggers for Island fishing are increasing impressively since the first start last year. There have been three additions in the current year with three on order for next year. Quite a new industry is thus being built up, sponsored by our Fishermen's Loan Board.

Truly a magnificent record has been scored in R. C. A. F. recruiting at the Summerside station. It is estimated that since the recruiting unit was opened, enrollments in Prince Edward Island have been nearly five times greater than the average of the other Provinces on a per capita basis.

More and more the scarcity of food-stuffs to a rapidly growing world population is becoming an important factor in our economy. If the purchasing power of the have-not countries is raised even slightly the position of the farmer will be even more vital.

The Naval Defence Conference of the Naval Officers Associations of Canada shows that the naval men are less hide-bound than some would have expected. Their advocacy of naval air development shows that they have far more realism than their enthusiasm for things nautical might indicate.

Dr. Samuel Johnson, English dictionary-maker, critic and author, died this date 1784. One of the most familiar names of the eighteenth century, he owes his fame to his personality which made him acknowledged dictator of "The Club" and even more to the work of Boswell, his biographer and companion.

The rise of the Canadian dollar in terms of American dollars is gratifying but the frequent references to it being backed by all the resources of this great nation are rather out of place. On a free market the rate of exchange varies with supply and demand. Intrinsic worth is relatively unimportant in establishing the rate.

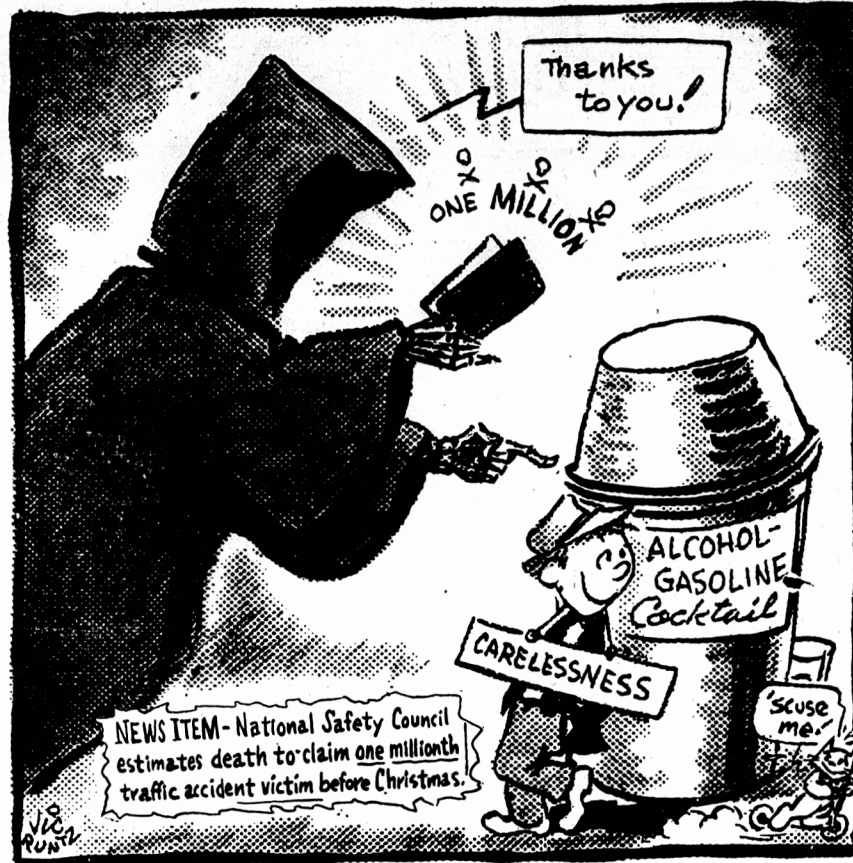
Mr. Angus MacLean, M.P., is not at all carried away by the proposed St. Lawrence seaway project. He is of the opinion that Canadian industry should be developed at home for the benefit of Canadians, including the utilizing of our Canadian ore for industries near the supply. Little is to be gained for Canada by shipping iron ore to the United States to foster industry there.

Miss Frances L. Johnston is to be congratulated on the highly satisfactory report she has been able to submit on her duties as director of the P. E. I. Arts and Crafts Guild. It is a new venture, one greatly needed, and Miss Johnston shows that it is being well appreciated both by seniors and juniors. It is initiative and enthusiasm that makes such projects successful.

The large and increasing number of U. S. Air Force bases in Britain help to put the wartime "bases for destroyers" deal in proper perspective. It certainly was no result of bargaining, but mutually desirable developments which enabled the United States to make a contribution without breaking the ban on giving away war materials.

Wonders will never cease! It is now possible in the United States for an unborn child to sue for damage sustained. The New York State Court of Appeals has decided that a child, who suffered injuries before birth as a result of alleged negligence of another person, could bring an action for damages after birth. The State's highest court, by a 5-to-2 vote thus overturned a rule of law that has been iron-clad in the state for 30 years. A mother fell down an open hatch and injured a prospective child. The child on attaining manhood has recovered for the injuries sustained.

His First Million Was Easy



The Poet's Corner

SUBJECTIVE

Time is not time itself but all it touches.

The wind is not the wind but what it blows on.

The stream is not the stream but what it flows on.

Space is not space but worlds to which it stretches.

Fire is not fire but ashes that it burns to.

And ice is never ice but what it freezes.

Death is not death but simply those it seizes.

Even truth is not the truth but all it turns to.

The sun is not itself but earth it rises on.

Air is not air alone but we who breathe it.

Earth is not earth but all who lie beneath it.

Life, only, is itself that comes on, goes on.

—Carleton Drewry in the Virginia Quarterly Review.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

"By cablegram to Hon. John Yeo.—Barque Muriel, Alexander Le Marchant, master, arrived at Swansboro, after a passage of 25 days from Port Hill, P. E. Island.

"By cablegram to the Hon. John Lefurgey.—The barque Katie Stewart, Capt. E. Evans, commander, arrived at Mumbles on Tuesday, the 27th inst., making the passage from Summerside in the short time of 16 days. The Katie Stewart is one of the fastest vessels owned at the port of Summerside.

"Sailed from Port Hill, on Thursday, the 22nd, barque Erica, Silvanus Williams, master, for Swansboro, Wales, with a cargo of 604 bushels potatoes, 2,345 bushels of oats, 3 cords lathwood, 72 pairs oars, 39 handspikes, 1,500 ft. deal ends, 9000 ft. deals, 56 tons hardwood timber, 3,500 ft. pine boards —shipped by Hon. John Yeo.

—The Examiner, Nov. 30, 1877.

The Age-Old Story

"Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it: he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein. . . I am the Lord: that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. . . Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof. Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice, the villages that dwell thereon; let the inhabitants of the rock sing, let them shout from the tops of the mountains. Let them give glory unto the Lord, and declare his praise in the islands.

FOR THE BEST IN DRUGSTORE NEEDS

Shop At Hughes

PHONE — 3060

Notes By The Way

A Kansas housewife has a pet crow that talks, smokes cigars and loves money, and we don't think that the small detail that it is not human should keep it from running for office.—Winnipeg Tribune.

The high pitch election fever in Central Travancore is reflected in many ingenious methods adopted to catch the eye of the voter. In Kottayam, the nerve centre of business and political life in Central Travancore, for example, pigeons and even common crows are being pressed into service. Around their necks are card-sized party labels which flutter in the air as the birds flit about. Kite flying is now no longer just a pastime; it is becoming an electioneering business. Kites that flutter in the sky wear almost all election symbols in bright colors.—India Information Service.

Ontario now has four women mayors, two being elected Monday to join Mayor Marjorie Hamilton of Barrie, who was first elected a year ago and received an acclamation this year. Mrs. Grace Burk McFarlane of Leamington and Mrs. Bernadette Smith of Woodstock are the newcomers. Miss Charlotte Whitton, of Ottawa, has been mayor for some months. In Windsor we have Mrs. Cameron H. Montrose and Miss M. Catherine Strath (the latter being re-elected Monday) as members of council. Mayor Hamilton of Barrie is a well-to-do widow who has three grown children and is a grandmother. Mayor Grace Burk McFarlane is but recently wed. Mayor Bernadette Smith is a housewife.—Windsor Star.

The finding of a message from a past curator in a Roman cinerary urn at the Soane Museum must have set a good many people wondering at the odd things people feel impelled to do in their desire to project themselves beyond the brief span of human life. Joseph Bonomi, who has in charge of Sir John Soane's collection from 1860 to 1878, wished it seems, to recall himself and his opinions to some future generation, and so in one of the urns under his care, he put his visiting card, a letter dated June 5, 1875, some Unitarian tracts, a scheme for identifying people by means of exact measurements, and some "strictures on the alcoholics and smoking habits of officials of the British Museum." To these he added a few marbles, in order that, when next the urn was moved, their rattle might attract attention.—The London Times.

An old gardener has just died at Albrighton near Wolverhampton, whose name is known and honored wherever in the world people are interested in gardens and flowers. He was George Russell, who created the modern lupin. He found it a poor spindly thing in a few plain shades of blue and white and yellow, and he made it a superb flower. It has now become one of the chief glories of the garden with its tall spikes of lovely blossom in an immense range of glorious color. How well he succeeded all the gardening world knows, but what perhaps not every gardener realizes is how difficult the task was. The old plain lupin was a perennial. The kind of lupins that had the color he wanted were annuals. His task was to blend the beauty of the one with the vigor of the other — and make the union permanent. That is the trick, and not even Russell himself knew how he did it. He was no scientist. He was something much better, a genius at his own chosen work.—Toronto Saturday Night.

A short time ago a professor of psychology addressing a group of Toronto teachers, advocated the abolition of all forms of school discipline "from report cards to detentions." He pointed out that corporal punishment is rarely resorted to these days. But he would like to see "all the other tricks of maintaining order — the gold star, the school prize, the detentions, go also." He maintains that such things provide false motives for studying. "What we want," he said, "is a self-disciplined adult. The only way to get that is let school children discipline themselves." On the face of it, this all sounds very feasible, but we are still inclined to believe that the old adage: "Spare the rod and spoil the child." All through grown-up life children will be living in a competitive society. Those who can produce the best goods and give the better services than their competitors will get the business. The fastest runner will win the race. The best team will get the cup.—Fort William Times Journal.

HELP MAKE THEIR CHRISTMAS MERRY

The Charlottetown Branch of the Canadian Legion this year, as previously, is appealing to the public for toys, and clothing for the underprivileged.

Send also pocket sized magazines for dispatch to the fighting forces overseas. If you have any article to donate please send or phone the Legion—1222.

Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. McIsaac Part Three (continued) (All Rights Reserved) CITIZENSHIP TRAINING

Compulsory military training is today accepted as a necessary intermediary of the European countries. This type of training appears essential as a matter of national defense. There were constant objections to it until an emergency arose. Parents objected strenuously to their children "wasting" three months on military training before the last war; today, they do not object to their spending eighteen months on this type of training.

But, is this really the type of training that our young people need today? Are our defence problems a matter of being able to march in formation, fire a rifle, or a machine gun? Certainly we must be prepared for defence against attack from without, but this seems to be a matter of atomic bombs, germ warfare, etc., if and when it comes. The army today is not part-time work; it is a full time career. But if we are to defend ourselves from attack from within, which is becoming more important every day, then we must educate and enlighten the people who are susceptible to this type of attack. Present figures and trends indicate that there would be an average of about 1,100 young people sixteen years of age (who have not completed Grade XI or its equivalent) on Prince Edward Island who would be eligible for citizenship training every year.

Perhaps it would be necessary to provide special training for two semesters. It would be desirable that students receive one full year's training, or at least seven months' training in the fall and winter months, to open up to them methods by which they can successfully cope with the problems of this day and age. This would be a required course in citizenship. It would make our young people aware of the vast storehouse of knowledge and information that is available in books right at their door, through the library system. They would at least get an insight into how to read, to study, to write essays; to investigate questions for their own satisfaction; to participate in discussion groups, debates and public speaking; to weigh propositions and problems from every possible angle; to dance; to appreciate music; to play games and to enjoy their leisure hours.

Such a program would provide an opportunity to discuss with them actual trends and problems, to teach them the fundamentals of English and many of the things necessary to lead a full life. Few people appreciate the background of our forefathers, and the tremendous work done by them. Few of our young people have read the history of even our own Province. How then can they be expected to understand or appreciate national or international questions? If they—our young people—could be interested in the reading of History alone, what a tremendous impact it would have on their social outlook! Such a course given for two seasons, could include some training in book-keeping, agricultural science, etc. But most important, in either a one or a two-season course, would be the provision, that some definite time be set aside regularly for the practice of and instruction in, the religion of their belief.

The boys might be given this course during the autumn and winter months, and the girls taken in for a shorter period during spring and summer. Facilities could be arranged at our present College and University or in some of the larger towns. It is possible that a program might be worked out whereby assistance could be obtained from the Dominion Government to help provide facilities for this experiment. At the conclusion of those courses, a selection could be made of the most promising students for further training. There need not be compulsory State education for all. There is always a small percentage of any people who are mentally backward. But for those who are capable and who do not complete three years of high school or take up a military career (in which social training should be included) an alternative, positive technique of training our young people must be evolved.

Conclusion that requires a police squad is not workable in cases like this. However, it would not be an infringement on our democratic rights to require that a person be qualified, before being entitled to vote, to become a school teacher, to run for government, to enter any such important public positions. It could be legislated that persons who have not successfully completed Grade XI or XII or its equivalent, or at least, attended this youth course in citizenship, would not be entitled to such rights.

This would not be any more restrictive than the property vote requirement or very dissimilar in principle from the right of a person to practice medicine, law, teaching or assume other such responsibilities in our country, without special training. Training and responsibility in the field of citizenship is as necessary today, as is training and responsibility in any of these professions. Such programs should be administered, not by the Government alone, but by a combined committee of representatives of the people's own organizations, the educational institutions, and the Government. Finances would be made available to this official committee to supervise the program and have it completely independent of government or political interference. Abundant finances for such a program might be obtained either on a Provincial level, by a small sales tax on retail sales, specifically designated for this youth and adult education program.

Retail sales of essential goods for Prince Edward Island annually average about \$32,614,000. A three per cent "educational sales tax" on this amount would provide \$978,420 annually to carry out this program; a five per cent tax would provide \$1,630,000 a year. What a tremendous development could be carried out on this basis! People generally object to a sales tax because it usually goes directly into the public treasury. But it is doubtful that there would be much objection to paying for a definite and effective overall adult educational program which everyone realizes is so important in these days both as a matter of defense from internal corruption and as a basis for constructive development.

May we suggest that this proposal is so important that it demands immediate investigation? Perhaps such a program might be attempted on a voluntary scale for a few years, until a complete and workable schedule is evolved. If this plan is found workable and it is seen that such a program could end should be attempted on a Dominion level, then we may suggest another principle of financing which could be placed on the list of social improvements. Without being wholly critical of our social security policies, there is good reason to believe that some of our family allowance money is squandered and could be put to much better use in the field of adult education. After all, are our social problems going to be solved by a system in which the Government is continually "handing out" jobs and help directly to relieve economic troubles? Would not some assistance to equip people to help themselves, be a more permanent method? How many farmers are there who, having a married son who is not equipped to earn a living, agree to give that son a monthly allowance to relieve his worries? Does not the prudent farmer help him to buy a farm and equip him to provide for himself? Since 1946, there has been a yearly average of 1,598 425 families receiving family allowance cheques from the Dominion Government. The total amount of money allowed to the first two children in each family, annually amounts to approximately 19 million dollars. If this amount were put in a fund to help educate the youth of this country when they come of age, right it not be of far greater benefit both to the children and to the nation? What tremendous expansion in youth educational work would result from this expenditure annually. Then, both to encourage and to help larger families, the present family allowance system could be carried on with less overhead costs and serve the real purpose for which it was originally intended. An allowance starting with the third child could be paid directly and the equivalent of the amount now paid to the first two in each family, allotted as assistance to youth education as suggested above. Would this not be a more effective policy of defense against Communism, and a more constructive way to build a social and workable democratic order based on the people themselves? The same amount of money, whether paid in family allowances or for youth education, would be kept in circulation, and paid to each Province; only it would be ear-marked for mental equipment to maintain peace instead of being recollected now in taxes and spent on guns and planes to wage war. If such a program were effected locally think what progress could be made with our rural libraries! What a change could be effected in the outlook of the people! Consider the leadership which would be available for our organizations! Farm Forums and similar programs could be accepted as the method of keeping up to date with current problems and affairs. The teaching of Christian and natural moral principles would obviate a great deal of the expenses, running into millions of dollars, which crime detectives and police protection are costing today. At the present time there is not enough direct contact to teach religion to the unformed group which is never reached through high schools or colleges. And the various church approaches are not providing those people with the greater store of religious training and information that they need today. On this, then, we could base our whole social progress, our cooperative movement, and sound government; a successful experiment such as this on Prince Edward Island could set an example for the whole world. Academic Education If, on the basis of twenty-eight electoral districts there can eventually be twenty-eight distinct school boards and twenty-eight school boards units, then those school boards should have some control of the Provincial planning of our educational program. It would not be wise to disperse (Continued on Page 5 Col. 1)