

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, JAN. 10, 1952

Taxes And Services

The tremendous amount of taxation carried by motor vehicle owners is revealed in figures recently issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Across Canada the average amount paid in taxes on each motor vehicle was \$85, from a low of \$56 in Manitoba to tops of \$125 in Quebec.

Gigantic as this figure is, it does not tell the whole story. In addition there were such Federal taxes as the 10 per cent sales tax and 25 per cent excise tax on over a third of a million new vehicles sold last year; and several provinces add an extra two or four per cent.

All these taxes only put a motor vehicle on the road and allow it to operate. Then there comes the actual cost of gasoline, insurance, depreciation, repairs, garage and all the incidentals which accumulate throughout the year's operation.

Much of the revenue derived from these taxes, of course, goes back into highway expenditure. Indeed, it has been calculated that the provinces are spending nearly \$300 million a year on highway construction, maintenance and administration.

Improved services are so interwoven with tax revenues nowadays, that it is almost impossible to strike a balance of credit and loss. One thing certain is that no consumer can expect there will be a major, permanent decline in either taxes or his cost of living under the continuing flood of government spending.

Mr. Churchill's Policies

Of great interest in connection with Prime Minister Churchill's visit to Washington will be the outcome of his discussions on economic and military plans in Europe. The economic plan is the Schuman plan whereby six countries in western Europe hope to pool their iron, steel and coal production.

What have been Mr. Churchill's policies with respect to these two projects? The Winnipeg Free Press sums them up as follows:

He criticized the Labor Government for not attending the conference at which the principles for the Schuman plan were formulated. But even while Leader of the Opposition he refused to give outright support to the plan or to urge Britain's unqualified membership in the pool.

On the European Army, Mr. Churchill, it is true, has altered his emphasis. He was more eager in his support a year or two ago than he is now. But is he to blame? Is not the reason for his caution to be found in the increasing difficulty of European statesmen and soldiers to agree among themselves on how such an army is to be organized and financed within the immediate future?

It follows, therefore, as the second point, that the immediate defence of Western Europe must be considered not in relation to European union but in relation to the strengthening of the North Atlantic Treaty. As a supreme realist in world affairs, Mr. Churchill is acting with great wisdom when he places his first emphasis on the North Atlantic community.

Finally, Britain's economic and financial emergency—the country, after six years of socialist rule, is within sight of national bankruptcy—has compelled him, for the time being, to give primacy in his thinking to Britain's economic problems.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is a sign of a healthy interest in civic affairs when little difficulty is experienced in getting citizens to contest for election.

The jet pilots who were killed in the two Maritime fatalities died for their King and Country no less than those who faced an armed enemy. The development of advanced weapons and training in their use is as essential as actual combat.

Mr. Churchill is habitually a night owl so far as work is concerned and Mr. Truman inclined to be early to bed. It is just as well, if close contacts are to be established, that midnight at Downing Street means only 7 p.m. at the White House.

A scarcity of coal at this time of the year is a menace which could have been largely prevented by customers' booking their orders with dealers in the Fall. What became of the project to convert Georgetown into a depot just for the purpose of preventing any such mishap?

Carl Linnaeus, Swedish botanist, died this date 1778. He did a great deal of work on the classification of plants and published numerous works. The passion for order which he introduced into the science, and his terse descriptions have been of great value.

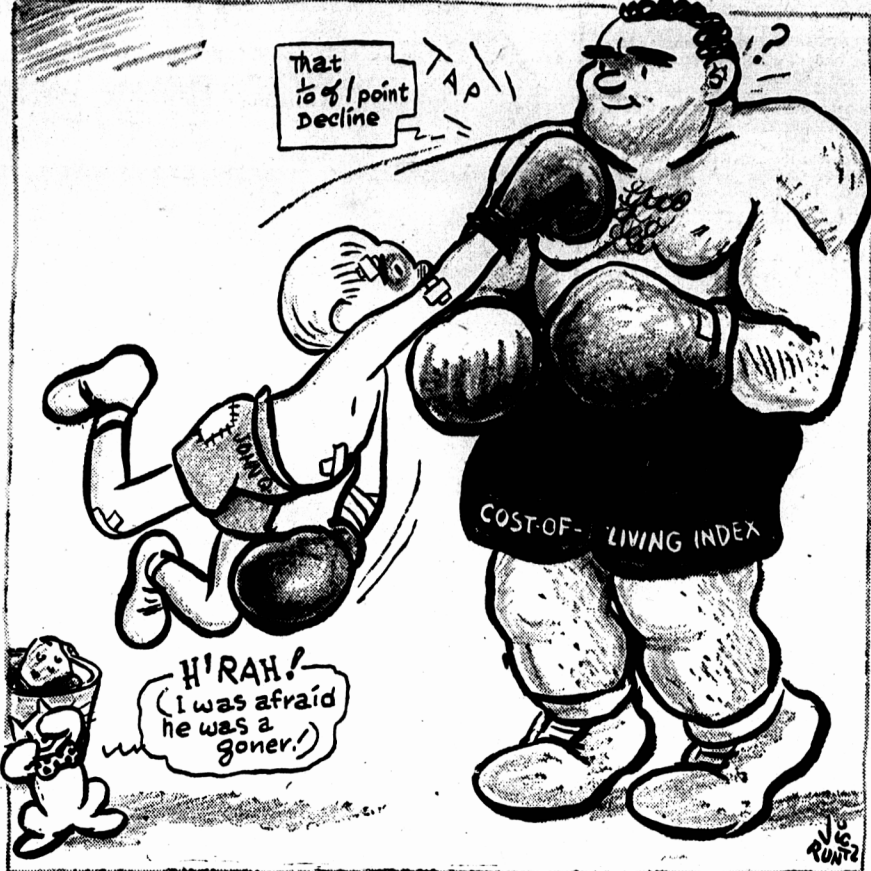
Justice Minister Stuart Garson's maiden speech to the U. N. General Assembly provoked Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky to most uncomplimentary comment. Perhaps it was what Mr. Churchill once described as, "no maiden speech at all, but a brazen hussy of a speech."

Prince of Wales College and St. Dunstan's will get \$48,800 between them from the proposed University grant by the Federal Government approved by Parliament. That is on a 50c per capita of the population, but as a Province we are entitled to a higher rate.

It is highly satisfactory to learn that our agricultural cash income should have risen last year from \$22,106,000 in 1950 to \$25,234,000. This is due not only to the increased price obtained for our potatoes, but to the fine market established by Mr. Harold Clay in bacon pigs, and also in the export of dairy and beef livestock.

Reference was made in our columns yesterday to go-ahead Saint John having built an airport ten miles out of town to save them having to go 40 miles distant to another airport. This is how the Telegraph Journal views it: "The community is now not only a leading national port, a vital railway terminal, but a complete transportation centre—served by air, sea, railway and highway facilities."

Striking Back



Jews In Russia

(Windsor Star) During the early years of the Communist regime in Russia, much was made of the "tolerant" spirit which prevailed. For centuries Jews in Russia had been kicked around, subjected to pogroms and compelled to live in ghettos.

But the ideal evidently was never reached. In 1934 it was announced the Biro-Bidjan area of the Soviet Far East was established as an "autonomous region" for the Jews.

In Russia, as in other countries, most Jews are tradesmen. They are not pioneers in the sense of going out to clear the land. Biro-Bidjan is a rugged undeveloped area, and the Jews just didn't migrate there.

Jews, because they are scattered throughout the world, have an innate internationalism. This doesn't mean they are disloyal to the countries of which they are citizens.

Soviet Trade Bid A Trojan Horse

(Montreal Gazette) The ancient admonition urging wariness of Greeks bearing gifts could very well be rewritten, to suit modern times, to give warning against Russians bearing olive branches.

The political and diplomatic approaches from Soviet sources toward a false and treacherous "peace" have been thoroughly exposed, discredited and rejected. Having failed in that propaganda offensive, Soviet strategists are trying a new tack with a concerted, systematic campaign to extend economic links between the Soviet bloc of effort is to establish, revive and expand trading countries and the rest of the world.

Persistent efforts are being made to induce representative business and industrial leaders from various countries, including the U.S., to take part in a trade-promoting east-west conference in Moscow next spring.

The Poet's Corner

CYRANO DE BERGERAC

I carry my adornments on my soul, I do not dress up like a pipinjay; But inwardly, I keep my daintiness. I do not bear with me, by any chance, An insult not yet washed away—a conscience Yellow with unpurged bile—an honour frayed To rags, a set of scruples badly worn.

The Age-Old Story

For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord, and there is none else.

Efforts also are developing to establish exchanges of trade with Malaya, Burma, Thailand, India and Iran.

The very fact that Russia is so anxious to press this economic program; for both its commercial benefits and its political implications, is reason enough to regard it with caution and stand firm against the inducements held out.

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Old Charlottetown

TEMPERANCE CRUSADE

The inhabitants of the thriving little town known by the name of 'Montague Bridge' have at last discovered that the liquor traffic is the bane of that neighborhood, and are manfully exerting themselves for its suppression.

Whereas the great and increasing traffic in ardent spirits at Montague Bridge and vicinity tends to demoralize and injure the best interests of the people; therefore resolved, that those persons engaged in the sale of such, and having license, be requested, on the expiration of their present term of license, to desist.

A committee was appointed to wait upon those parties engaged in vending ardent spirits, and request a decided answer, as to whether they would give up the traffic in compliance with the foregoing resolution.

U.S. CASUALTIES

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—(AP)—Announced United States battle casualties in Korea reached 104,064 today, an increase of 346 since last week.

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Notes By The Way

Detatorships have been admired in some otherwise unlikely quarters because "they get things done." An excellent example is now on view in Argentina, where in this case it is the farmers who are being done.

Long ago Manitoba gave its name to the best there is in wheat. Manitoba No. 1 Hard Northern is to wheat what the 24-karat stamp is to gold.

A philosopher likes to talk, but he does not like to be talked to; ergo, he does not marry. A philosopher must have long periods of quiet; therefore a philosopher does not surround himself with children.

It is unfortunate that so few people bother to read Hansard. An impression seems to prevail that no little suffering is likely to result from a steady literary diet.

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