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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink"

A Timely Volume

There is no lack of historical material about Prince Edward Island, but the difficulty for the casual reader, and particularly for visitors, has been to obtain a work on the subject which is both comprehensive and readable in the way that a good narrative can be enjoyed. Such a work has now been prepared and undertaken by Mr. Lorne C. Calbeck, research specialist for the Federal Department of Agriculture in Charlottetown, and past president of the Prince Edward Island Historical Society, who has contributed some valuable articles on Island history to The Atlantic Advocate and whose first full-length book, "The Cradle of Confederation," has just been published by the Brunswick Press of Fredericton, N.B.

As indicated in a foreword, the book has been written to enable the people of Canada more fully to appreciate our centennial celebrations. It traces our history from Jacques Cartier's day to the present, giving special attention to the events leading up to the Charlottetown Conference of 1864 but omitting nothing of interest under both the French and early British regimes, and carrying the story down to our own day in a series of interesting chapters. Fittingly, it concludes with an account of the erection of the Fathers of Confederation Building as a national shrine and tangible expression of gratitude to those whose foresight and deliberations resulted in the formation of this vast Dominion.

The extent of Mr. Calbeck's researches is shown by the bibliography of some 60 works of reference cited at the end of the volume. The book itself runs to 250 pages, is attractively printed and illustrated, and is durably bound in cloth.

It is a timely occasion indeed for a work of this kind to make its appearance, and we have no doubt that it will meet with a very favorable public response.

Fiscal Deal Announced

Has the new fiscal deal with the provinces, announced last week by Prime Minister Pearson, left an embarrassing loophole in the federal tax structure? This question was raised the other day in the House of Commons by Mr. A. D. Hales, Conservative member for Wellington South, who asked if it was true "that the income tax exemptions for parents of children 16 to 17 years of age in all provinces but Quebec will be reduced from \$550 to \$500, while taxpaying Quebec parents will continue to receive \$550 exemption?"

Speaker Macnaughton ruled that the question lacked the urgency for an immediate answer and that it should be placed on the order paper. We may expect, therefore, that it will be brought up in due form this week. Meantime, it would appear that in the haste with which the new federal-provincial fiscal arrangements were made, there was insufficient time to study all the ramifications of the proposal. One aspect of the problem is thus outlined by Arthur Blakely in the Montreal Gazette:

In federal tax law, dependents are divided into two categories: those for whom Ottawa makes federal allowance payments to Canadian families and those who are not eligible for such payments. Dependents in the first category provide a

\$500 tax exemption for personal income tax purposes. Dependents for whom no family allowances are paid provide an entitlement for a \$550-tax exemption.

Until this year, Canadian 16 and 17-year-old youngsters didn't qualify for family allowances and provided the larger tax exemptions. This changed when the family allowance was extended to them under a proposal in the last budget, provided that they remained at school. In nine of the ten provinces of Canada, federal income taxpayers will henceforth receive only \$300 exemptions for 16-and-17-year-old children who remain in school.

In the Province of Quebec, however—where the provincial government already makes family allowance-type payments to youngsters in this age group who remain in school and where Ottawa has agreed to make a "compensatory" fiscal grant to cover the expenditure—such taxpayers will continue to receive the \$550-exemptions on behalf of such dependents.

According to Mr. Blakely, responsible federal sources say it is technically possible to amend the Income Tax Act to clear up this apparent anomaly, but the solution would pose political problems of its own. It is possible, also, that the Federal Government may straighten the matter out insofar as its own books are concerned, and avoid any revenue loss in making the fiscal compensation payable to Quebec for operating its own family allowance-type extension, by funding its grant to take the tax impact into account.

Room For Improvement

A continuing upward trend in new investment in the Atlantic region was reported by Mr. Arthur C. Parks, director of research for the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, at a meeting of the Montreal Economics Association recently. Examples of this trend in all four provinces were cited.

The speaker also noted, however, that "none of the developments which have occurred in the region have had as yet any effect on income differentials between the region and Canada as a whole." Inherent in this situation were higher rates of unemployment, a high proportion of the labor force concentrated in low-productivity occupations, and a relatively low rate of labor force participation.

It is evident that we are only at the beginning of a long, uphill job of economic rehabilitation. Ottawa could help in this connection if it took another look at its special tax incentive scheme for so-called distressed areas, for which too few Atlantic areas have qualified, and which for some reason or other ignores the existence of Prince Edward Island altogether.

We note that APECA's next annual meeting is to be held in Charlottetown in October, and that the general theme will be "Partnership for Progress in the Atlantic Canada." We hope, also, with some measure of confidence, that the governors of APECA are now urging that the federal tax incentive scheme should not be limited to small surplus labor areas, but should be extended to the entire Atlantic region, allowing industries to choose centres offering them the greatest economic advantage.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Premier Khrushchev is "buying British." He will sign a 50,000,000 pound sterling agreement with a group of leading British firms for a supply of fertilizer plants to Russia this month in a deal which, incidentally, will help along Sir Alec Douglas Home's declared aim of relaxing tensions through bigger trade ties.



UNDERSTANDING SOME GOALS, TOO

OTTAWA REPORT by Patrick Nicholson

Seen As Win For Free Enterprise

The defeat of the Saskatchewan Social Credit government is regarded here as a personal triumph for the Liberal leader, Mrs. Thatcher. Her long and consistently plumped where feasible for the party further to the right.

FREE ENTERPRISE BACK

After his victory - assuming that recounts and late votes will maintain his majority - announced to an announcement of the massive demolition of the undesirable interference of state socialism and a return to free enterprise in Saskatchewan.

Control Of Predators

The U.S. government will soon send a protective wing over America's predators. Long-maligned animals that are coming to be recognized as assets rather than pests.

MASS DESTRUCTION

Indiscriminate killing through trapping, shooting, and wholesale poisoning because the order of the day. Professional hunters were able to earn a living from bounties paid by counties and states for the animals' pelts, ears, or tails.

The Poet's Corner

BEAUTIFUL ISLAND
Dear Prince Edward Island,
bright gem of the sea,
Sweet land of enchantment,
endearing to me,
Soft laved by the gulf stream,
I mingle my song with the voice
of your Eden more heavenly
blessed?

Fears About Pregnancy

By Dr. Theodore R. Van Dellen
I'm not and have been married two years. My wife, Mrs. S. "My husband and I would like to have a baby but we've never had a pregnancy. I go to clinics. Is there any way I can overcome this problem?"

Now and then panic is induced by an overly conscientious physician who tells the woman her uterus is small or displaced. He may indicate she is likely to miscarry or abort. Her friends may have warned her that bearing children would ruin her health. You down, says your strength, or tears you to pieces. A woman who has been told she is physically weak and unable to bear children will be very nervous.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Anybody could quit smoking by spending a few minutes a day reading, drinking or whistling. — Windsor Star.

Underpinning U.S. Economy

By Harold Morrison
Canada's Staff Writer
Aside from its political implications, President Johnson's war on poverty eventually may have an essential role in underpinning of the U.S. economy during what he depicts as an era of growing inflation, unemployment and declining military outlays.

Control Of Predators

The U.S. government will soon send a protective wing over America's predators. Long-maligned animals that are coming to be recognized as assets rather than pests.

Young Ambassadors

External Affairs Minister Paul Martin has done a sound thing in assisting students going on assignments to other countries as well as governments play a part in foreign aid.

Our Yesterdays

Twenty - Five Years Ago (April 29, 1939)
Lieut. A.F. "Black" Gormley of the Prince Edward Island Highlanders ("Black Watch") has been selected a member of the Canadian rifle team which will represent the Dominion of Canada at the 7th annual meeting of the National Rifle Association at Bisley, England.

TEN YEARS AGO

Delegates to the P.E.I. Teachers Federation annual convention were guests of His Honor, the Governor General, Lord Prosser, and Mrs. Prosser at a reception for them at historic Government House.

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