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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

MONDAY, JUNE 6 1955

Centennial Issue

It was St. Paul's boast that he was a citizen of no mean city. Charlottetonians feel the same way. And, if we are to judge by past records and performances, they always did. We have made striking progress in recent years, and in outward appearances have changed almost beyond recognition; but the spirit of civic pride is an inheritance. It was evident a hundred years ago at the first City Council meeting, when the members were admonished through the press to remember, each and every one, that "though he is mortal, the Corporation of which he is a part is destined for immortality, and that the work ordered by the Corporation should be in accordance with this difference, so that though the original founders have mouldered in the dust, the monuments of their good government and prudent administration will proudly rear their heads, and serve as an example to their successors, of the wisdom and propriety of erecting their edifices on solid foundations, and of imperishable material."

In today's special issue we have attempted to capture something of the atmosphere of the Charlottetown of other days, of its development through the years, its present situation and prospects as the capital of a Province which we believe to be on the threshold of great expansion agriculturally and otherwise. We are not ambitious of duplicating the achievements of huge metropolitan centres, but we have a distinctive part to play and a very important contribution to make to the Canada of the future.

This is a big year in Charlottetown's history, and our centennial celebration activities are many and various. There will be something to appeal to all our citizens and visitors, and we trust that the features in today's Centennial Issue will contribute both to their information and enjoyment. The motto of our issue is taken from a verse by the Victorian poet, Algernon Charles Swinburne: "All our Past proclaims our Future". It is for its inspirational value that we cherish the past, and there is indeed a priceless heritage in the achievements of those who laid the foundations of our fair city of today.

Rotary Convention

Rotarians are assembling in Charlottetown this week for their District Conference and Assembly, and for the celebration of the golden anniversary of Rotary International which is being observed by clubs throughout the world. They will receive a cordial welcome here, where Rotary is a household word, whose members for many years have been among our most prominent citizens.

Paul Harris, who headed a group of four men meeting in Chicago for comradeship and fellowship in 1905, started the Rotary Wheel in motion which is now on display at meetings in ninety countries where over 400,000 business and professional men enjoy membership in more than 8,400 clubs. Behind these impressive figures is a heart-warming story of successful community, national and international service. Rotary is dedicated to the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace, and it is worth noting that it was a former Charlottetonian, Dr. Donald A. MacRae, who formulated this phase of its objectives.

It is particularly pleasing to have visiting Rotarians with us on this jubilee occasion, when we ourselves are doing a bit of celebrating. All our citizens will join in extending best wishes for the success of their convention, and for a thoroughly enjoyable stay in our midst.

Worth Preserving

It is reported that members of military and exploratory expeditions now going into Canada's North lands have been instructed by the Government to have only necessary dealings with the native Eskimos. It is a belated attempt to protect the Eskimo way of life which, according to some sociologists, is in grave danger of succumbing to the advance of white civilization. Some say that not only the culture of the Eskimo but the race itself will soon disappear unless prompt measures are taken to deal with the situation.

From all accounts, the Eskimo is a "free" man in a sense that applies to the members of very few other races. He eats, sleeps, works, plays, just when he feels like it; he consults no clock nor time table. Occasionally he has not enough to eat,

but quite often he is able to feast for a week or ten days. In his periods of abstinence he looks forward to that feasting, and is content. He can fish and hunt all year round without having to bother about licenses and permits; at no time does he have to dodge game wardens or a guilty conscience. He can even fish for trout with worms and no one will cry him shame!

Until the Eskimo begins to consort with strangers, his ethics, so it is said, are above reproach. He does not covet other men's goods; he keeps his hands from picking and stealing and his tongue from evil speaking, lying, and slandering. He never complains about the weather; to him every day is a good day. Except when germs are smuggled in by outsiders, he does not catch cold; he knows nothing about rheumatism or the gout. When he lies down at night—or at noon day, if that seems necessary—he is at peace with himself, his neighbours, and the world. He has plenty of time for thinking out such simple issues as present themselves from day to day; and reports say he makes good use of it. He has no fear of alphabetical bombs and the like, for the simple reason that he has not heard of them—yet. If that is not a good way of life, what is? No wonder one of their chieftains told a visiting research team from Toronto: "Foreigners (all non-Eskimos are in that category) are all right—at a distance."

International Trade

Four facets of Canada's foreign trade position are presented in graph form in the current issue of the Commercial Letter published by the Canadian Bank of Commerce. In addition it is pointed out that the total of Canada's imports and exports in 1954 amounted to 34 per cent of our Gross National Product, and that an estimated 37 1/2 per cent of Canada's labour force is engaged on some aspect of our foreign trade.

The Letter deals quite fully with the "General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade" (popularly shortened to G. A. T. T.) and explains that while the recently completed session for revision was approached by many delegates — Canada's included — with the hope of strengthening trade co-operation, it seems that, apart from the provision for establishment of the Organization for Trade Co-operation, the amendments made in the G. A. T. T. have done very little in this direction.

Canadian exporters have been anticipating the return of convertibility when Canadian goods no longer will be discriminated against for reasons of balance of payments and exchange difficulties. However, the waiver clause, popularly known as the "hard core" waiver, which will give protection to countries once they have achieved equilibrium in their balance of payments or convertibility, could mean that considerable time may elapse after convertibility before Canadian trade will reap much benefit.

An international instrument such as the G. A. T. T. must be the result of a large number of compromises among the divergent views of the participating nations. As a result it cannot be completely ideal for any country. And we must face the fact that after seven or eight years of the G. A. T. T.'s operation, quantity restrictions, high tariff rates, and other barriers to trade are still in wide use. But at the same time we must realize that the G. A. T. T. has accomplished much in limiting their scope and effectiveness and that it has served, and will continue to serve, a very useful purpose in achieving co-operation in the field of international trade. Without the G. A. T. T. much of our achievement so far would not have been possible.

EDITORIAL NOTES

With all the improvement in farm production methods, the world failed to grow more food last year for the first time since the Second World War.

Technical and scientific people in the agricultural field in Canada were the first in the world to organize themselves, says the Financial Post. From a modest beginning in 1920, their ranks have been swelled until now they embrace more than 3,000 professional workers from Victoria to Charlottetown. Their organization is the Agricultural Institute of Canada. President for the coming year is Dr. Cyril H. Goulden, director of Canada's Experimental Farms Service.

A booklet issued by the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests states that a conservation program begun in a small way 50 years ago has advanced by leaps and bounds. Development of seed for future trees, new types of machinery to enable workers to plant five times as many trees as was possible only a few years ago, and other measures were listed. Forests are shooting up over the length and breadth of Ontario and land that hitherto yielded nothing is now producing valuable crops for generations to come.



All Set For A Big Bite

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest to the community. Views necessarily endorse the opinion of respondents.

LOCAL BUSINESS HOURS

Sir,—The writer believes that Mayor Stewart's views on the matter of Charlottetown stores' business hours were concisely and impartially expressed in his statement to the representative gathering in the City Council chamber Friday evening. "It doesn't matter to me whether you close Wednesday or Saturday." However, unfortunately the real interests in the matter of being open on certain days as a service to the customers from the country who bring us the greater part of our trade and income were not considered or even referred to. This matter is not, as some infer, a matter of holding out against a movement favored by a few—for personal reasons,—but rather the best considered opinion as to what our country customers find most convenient and workable.

If our City Council will take the trouble to check into the list of well over 100 larger and more representative of Charlottetown's stores they will possibly be surprised to find that as a source of the City's revenue in taxes those who have listed themselves as favoring Saturday closing are not to be and should not be coerced toward a movement which they do not feel to be to their best advantage.

The Mayor's statement that one Summerside merchant found Saturday closing to work perfectly should have no bearing on the issue prevailing in Charlottetown. The reasons are plainly given above as to why such a majority of the major businesses neither desire nor can afford to shut the door in the face of our good customers who come to town on Saturday nights in a spirit of goodwill and expressed gratitude to those stores who remain open to give them their usual service.

I am, Sir, etc.,
A. L. WRIGHT

NINE-DAY RECOVERY

WAWA, Ont. (CP)—Edwin Bloomquist said in court Friday that, after returning from fighting a forest fire in this district 200 miles north of Sault Ste. Marie, he was drunk for nine days. Magistrate W. O. Langdon fined him \$10 and costs.

The Good Old Days

(Vancouver Herald)

The graph of federal income tax rates over the years fills us with nostalgia for the good old days when the first federal income tax was levied, a single man with no dependents paid only \$20 on \$2,000 of taxable income.

In 1925 he paid only \$10; which was cut to \$9 in 1926 and to \$8 between 1927 and 1930. The figure was up and down during the thirties, and then came the Second World War. In 1941 he paid \$300, of which \$60 was forced savings and refundable. The next year he paid close to \$500, of which \$80 was refundable.

A drop set in, so that by 1945 he paid only \$423. By 1950 it was down to \$150, but it was up in 1951 to \$165. It dropped again to \$150 in 1954.

Under Finance Minister Harris' tax-cutting budget of last April, it decreased to \$140 on this year's earnings. But the latest tax cuts apply only to the last six months of this year. Next year, if there are no further changes introduced in the spring budget of 1956, he will pay \$130.

It has been a wide swing up for our income tax over the last quarter of a century and a more limited swing down. Will we ever see it down as in those wonderful years of 1917 and just after? There is not a chance, what with social services and all the other works the people are demanding more

The Age Old Story

By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

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The Poet's Corner

LIVING FENCE

The meadow with three elm trees in its middle was bounded on north, south and west by fence, and guarded on the east by boundary bushes, a tangleberry and weadowsweet defense

with here and there swamp maple or pussywillow. The birds devoured the blue. The berry bushes were filled with wrens and white-throats, feasting fellows. I heard them singing in the evening hushes

out of their nets in maple-willow-boughs.

The elms were safe: that living fence was strong; and any man can know him well defended

who has at least one boundary of song.
—Frances Frost in 'The Christian Science Monitor.'

Congratulations

to our City on its

100th Birthday

All good wishes to our fellow citizens and a hearty welcome to all visitors.

Henderson & Cudmore

WOMEN'S WEAR

The word "parliament" was first used in an official document in England in 1242, discussing formation of such a body.



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Congratulations

To The

City of Charlottetown

On Its

Centennial Celebration

1855 - 1955

Birthplace of Confederation

Imperial Oil Limited

Congratulations on your first century, Charlottetown!

THIS IS THE YEAR Charlottetown celebrates its first hundred years...
 A happy time for a bustling, modern city.

Capital of the idyllic island the Micmaes called "Abegweit", the home cradled on the waters... built on the site of the old French settlement of Port la Jolie... named after Queen Charlotte, consort of George III... this is Charlottetown.

Incorporated in 1855... scene of the momentous Conference of 1864... by 1876 large enough to become a city... this, too, is the Charlottetown that now passes an important milestone in its history.

Shortly after Charlottetown became a city, The Bank of Nova Scotia opened its doors for business with the men and women who were building the thriving community of today. They were pioneers, and the Bank was proud to work hand in hand with them.

Now, at the turn of the city's century, The Bank of Nova Scotia looks forward to another hundred years of working with pioneers... the pioneers of tomorrow. There are 9 branches in Prince Edward Island to serve you. In Charlottetown your BNS manager is Mr. K. R. Elliott. Why not drop in to see him — you'll find he's a good man to know.

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