

The Daily Mail

NEW BRUNSWICK'S ONLY HOME COMMUNITY PAPER

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FREDERICTON N. B., MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 1936

125,000 Retail Stores

There are approximately 125,000 retail stores in Canada, or one to every 83 persons in the country. This total includes every type of merchandising outlet, from the huge department store employing thousands of workers to the little one-man shop. The proportion of stores to population is highest in British Columbia, where there is a retail shop to every 73 persons, and lowest in Manitoba, where there are more than one hundred people to every store.

It might be thought that retail stores would be relatively the most numerous in the larger cities, and yet the figures show that there are more stores in relation to population in places of 1,000 to 10,000 population than in cities of over 100,000. Compared with the average 83 persons per store for the country as a whole, there are only 53 people to each shop in places of 1,000 to 10,000 and 72 persons per store in cities of over 100,000. Of course, in the rural sections there is relatively the least number of stores and the average for places under 1,000 is 112 persons per store. This information is contained in a report issued by the Internal Trade Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

England Obliges

The English have obliged. Colonel Charles and Mrs. Lindbergh, refugees from American criminals and sensationalism, have been given the privacy they went to England to find. After unsuccessful efforts to obtain an interview, the English reporters on Thursday withdrew from the Liverpool hotel where the aviator and his family have taken up temporary residence and left the American correspondents to it.

That the English papers would seek an interview from Colonel Lindbergh was only natural. He is, whether he likes and wants the position or not, a famous personage, an aviation expert, and consequently subject to the attentions of the public press wherever he may go. Added to that, on this particular occasion was the dramatic suddenness with which he had removed his family from the United States and his own press announcement of it.

On that basis it is questionable whether or not Colonel Lindbergh had acted fairly and reasonably with the newspapers of his adopted home. He has done everything possible to avoid them. In doing so he has created the motives for the hare-and-hounds chase to which he is constantly subjected at home. No one will deny that he and his family have numerous reasons for disliking the press. On his own admission, however, that dislike, or the reasons for it, does not apply to the English newspapers.

All that was necessary on his arrival in England was to spend five or ten minutes with the ship reporters. Had he condescended to do that, if for no other reason than to say he had nothing to add to his New York statement, and to ask their indulgence under the circumstance, he would have done the gentlemanly thing and satisfied their wishes. As it is, it is the English press which comes best out of their meeting.

Press and Pulpit

On his entry into the career of journalism, the young reporter is told over and over again by his chiefs that news is essential to the life of a daily paper. However, the first time that he reports an important happening he is altogether too surprised to note the hesitation with which each of his expressions is weighed, and with what severity he is questioned on the sources of his information. And it often happens that after a short inquiry it is explained to him why his scoop did not appear that day . . . The professional journalist will agree that the copy which most excites public curiosity goes into the basket. That is to say, that all truth may not be wise to tell, and that professional discretion is not a vain word in the calling of journalism. If one authority confides a declaration to journalists, asking them not to publish before a certain day, he can depend that they will not abuse his confidence. It is thus that certain official documents are confided to the press before Parliament has seen them . . . Yellowness, that ugly deformity from which more than one calling suffers, drives certain publications to make money at the expense of the misfortunes of others. But they quickly lose in influence what they had hoped to gain. A just law of compensation quickly applies exemplary sanctions to those exploiters.

A Family Paper

The Monitor, of Bridgetown, Nova Scotia, has a unique staff. It consists of a father and his three grown up sons. Mr. F. H. Beattie is the father while his sons are Harold, Fred and Thomas. They are all tall, well developed men and I imagine that if an irate subscriber of The Monitor came in to beat up the editor there would likely be trouble—lots of it—for the aggressor. There is division of labor in the Monitor office; one of the Beattie boys operates the linotype; another sets display type, while the third looks after the press work. Just what Daddy Beattie does I cannot say for sure, but presumably he sits around all day as all good editors and all good fathers are supposed to do. Anyhow the Beattie men are good workers and The Monitor is a credit to them, to their worthy father and to the town of Bridgetown.—(Sackville Tribune).

Thrashing the Editor

Becoming reminiscent, William McDonald, veteran editor of the Chesley Enterprise, recalls the days when it was thought all right to invade newspaper sanctuaries and thrash the editor. In forty-five years of journalism, only one such attempt was made on William McDonald, and he came out of the encounter fairly well. That was in the days when he had set out as a "journalistic crusader to reform the morals of the whole community."

The years mellowed this crusading spirit, but not before the wrath-filled reader appeared at the office door. It doesn't greatly matter now what it was all about. The main thing is that a burly farmer, "with blood in both eyes," entered and "took a swipe at the side of our head with a fist that looked as big as a prize turnip; and we saw stars that were not of the movie class."

But the blow roused William McDonald, and "with longer arms than his we got him to the front door and told him not to come back or we would punch the stuffing out of him".

In smaller communities such news travels fast and no doubt Chesley hailed its editor as a hero. The bulk and fury of his assailant would grow with every retelling of the battle, round by round, or all around the Enterprise office.

However, afterward there was no animosity between the combatants. Who could imagine the genial "Bill" McDonald nursing animosity? As he says: "We both learned to control our tempers as we advanced in years." And, "so far as the veteran editor is concerned, he let up on such large schemes of reforming the community."

SNAPSHOTS

Queen Street near the Cathedral is getting to be quite a parking place for dark cars these winter nights.

Who took the fur coat a few nights ago from the high class party?

Who is going to be Mayor for 1936? Is Fredericton going to have a Kitchen in connection with its civic establishment?

Both bus companies agree with our contention regarding a one bus service but each wants to be the one. In the meantime the local Fredericton service is becoming more popular each day with the citizens on the outlying city districts who recognize in it a long-felt want.

"I want to go on record as saying that I would infinitely prefer to live in hell itself than in that town," says a New Yorker speaking of Los Angeles. And in Los Angeles they say that the New Yorker goes.

While there are certain discrepancies in the Ethiopian battle returns, it seems pretty sure that Haile Selassie is sending in his A team.

Rains Liabile to Force Italians to Halt for Time

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operations, but their communications will be so badly disrupted they may have to retreat eventually to Addwa and Adigrat in the north and to Walwal in the south.

The "little" rains last for at least six or eight weeks. With the so-called "big rainy season" beginning in May or June, depending on the section of the country, Mussolini's widely heralded campaign to "civilize" the black empire will be at a virtual standstill until at least next October.

Loyally obeying the Emperor's strict commands to kill time and avoid being drawn into battle by the Italians, the Ethiopian chieftains now are realizing the wisdom of their little ruler's strategy.

In Paris Jean Cardinal Verdier issued a peace message. He said the Pope had told him in a recent interview that his "greatest hope" for peace lay in France's policy. The cardinal's message was interpreted as an effort to exert "moral influence" on League of Nations powers for an end of the war.

Premier Mussolini deferred a meeting of his Fascist Grand Council from January 18 until February 1 and dispatched 4,600 more soldiers to East Africa.

Three Italian fliers were killed when their plane crashed near Asmara.

Prov. Association N. B. Museum is Formed in St. John

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fits should be carried to all the people in the province. It was only recently that funds had been provided for this purpose.

The Museum Executive had before it the splendid results of the Natural History of Saint John which developed a museum and was active for many years without other funds than dues. Interest had been kept up by frequent lecturers and speakers, readings, papers, and in summer, field days and outings. A province-wide organization by providing an exchange of lecturers and speakers could organize active groups in smaller centres where it was not at present possible.

Considerable interest is already apparent in parts of the province and one local branch of twelve members has already been organized.

It is hoped that local branches can be started at once. Those interested in the formation of a branch in their locality would do well to write the officials of the association at once.

Temporary officers at the meeting were Mr. E. A. Schofield, President, Mr. Justice W. H. Harrison, vice-president, and Mr. A. C. Holman, Secretary. Others on the committee of Management are Mr. R. Corey Clarke, Newcastle; Mrs. J. C. Webster, of Sheldiac, Mr. H. H. Trimble of Moncton and Dr. G. J. Trueman of Sackville. Permanent officers for the year will be elected at the Annual Meeting to be held at the Museum at 4:30 January 21st. Those interested are cordially invited to attend.

(AN APPOINTMENT)

John Gallagher, of this city, a graduate of the Vocational Department of the Fredericton High School, has been appointed assistant to F. H. Wetmore in the Vocational Department; it was announced today from the office of the Board of School trustees.

DIED

McMINN:—A. Parker McMinn, aged 59, at his home in Oromocto last evening at 7:30 o'clock.

The funeral will be held tomorrow (Tuesday) afternoon with prayers at the home at 1:30 P. M., and service at the United Church at 2:15 P. M., by Rev. Mr. Sulstan. Interment will be made in the Burton Cemetery.

Birthmark Proves Identity Lake Baby

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Mrs. Bannister, in what police said was a voluntary statement made on Saturday, having asked to be taken before a justice of the peace to clear up the matter of the startling discovery of the infant at her home, said the child was Bertha Lake's and was brought to the Bannister home by Frances, who "told me that the child was Lake's and she had brought it from the burning shack." Mrs. Bannister was taken before Magistrate Lane and remanded in custody of R. C.M.P. as a material witness.

Clipped Baby's Hair

The statement continued that the baby's hair was singed on one side and that she, Mrs. Bannister, had clipped it, "in an attempt to hide the identity of the child."

Mrs. Bannister was taken into custody Friday for questioning and was grilled for several hours. In her she contradicted her previous claim that the child was her own and not the missing Lake infant. Mrs. Bannister is still in custody here, as are Arthur, Daniel and Frances. Marie Bannister, 13, who is not held by the police, is being looked after by the Salvation Army here. She is the only one of the family of five who was not taken into custody by the police.

Mrs. Bannister is reported to have told police Sunday that she was not at her home Sunday, Jan. 5. It was not learned where she had been. She claimed, it was said, that she arrived home Monday afternoon, about three o'clock, and found the baby there. A theory that Frances had brought the baby home with her when Frances, Daniel and Arthur are said to have fled from the burning Lake home, was also advanced.

The Identification

Mrs. Omar Lutes, wife of the Canadian National Railways agent at Pacific Junction, and her son Donald told authorities here Saturday, when identification of the child was being made, that they had never heard the Lake baby called by any particular name. Otto L. Blakney, a neighbor of the Lutes, who discovered the burned cabin, the burned body of Lake and the bodies of Bertha Lake and son, Jack, was the one who positively identified the child, saying that a few days before the tragedy Bertha Lake had shown him the peculiar birthmark. Mrs. Lutes and her son were not sure, in their identification attempts, that the baby was the Lake child, but said "she resembles the baby very much." Blakney's identification closed the matter.

Confirmation of the reported finding of a letter, said written by a member of the Bannister family to a local authority, in which it was claimed that "a man and woman, strangers, brought the baby to the Bannister home Monday," could not be obtained early this morning. It was said that such a letter was in the hands of the police, who found it at the Bannister home. Mrs. Bannister had told police Friday night, when questioning of her was begun, that a strange couple had brought a baby to her house Monday. This was one of several stories police said she told and which on investigation were shown to be the without foundation.

Lively "Patient"

Meanwhile, the baby was having a lively time at the City Hospital. Homeless little waif that she is, members of the hospital staff and private patients vied with one another in doing what they could to help. A representative of the police was watching over the infant, it was stated. Dr. A. R. Landry examined the child but no statement was forthcoming.

The baby, while "thin and undernourished," had no appearance of sickness other than its small size, it was stated. For a six-month-old child, it was "very small for its age." Reports in some newspapers that the child was in a dying condition when brought to the hospital were spiritedly denied yesterday by those in charge of her. "One of the spryest patients we have; if they were all that lively they really couldn't be called patients," one attendant observed.

Counsel Retained

Sunday afternoon, H. Murray Lambert, Moncton barrister, who stated that he had been retained as counsel for Daniel and Arthur Bannister, visited the youths at police headquarters and talked with each of them for some time. Henry W. Robertson, Moncton, formerly of Saint John, who appeared at Daniel's arraignment in court Friday and announced that he was representing the accused, also conversed with them today.

Funeral of Premier Lea Held Saturday

(Continued from Page One)

vice at which Rev. H. D. Raymond, rector of St. Paul's Anglican church, delivered the address.

"This great gathering is but a token of the esteem with which he is mourned," said the minister. "This afternoon party affiliations are for a little while forgotten, and all other lines of division are obliterated, while side by side we bow our heads in deep respect for him who has gone on life's last journey."

OUR MAIL BAG

BUS SERVICE

Editor,
The Daily Mail,
Dear Sir,

I was pleased to read your piece in The Daily Mail about the bus service between Devon, Marysville and Fredericton. It is too bad that there was not one bus line. Then we would have been able to go from Marysville to any place in Fredericton for one fare. Now we have to pay one fare to the Fredericton end of the bridge and another fare from the bridge to the hospital and so on and the same way back again or double fare in all. It is for the Marysville people to get the authorities to give us a one service bus. Your points regarding a one line bus service are just what we want. It was understood by the citizens of Marysville that the Highway bus officials were to keep the winter road to Marysville open. Now we find that this is not so. Why not give us one bus service as you say?

Yours truly,
MARYSVILLE.
January 13th, 1936.

Railway Board Refuses Freight Rate Reduction

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"In my opinion, the applicants have failed to establish that the competitive tariffs on potatoes, which form the subject of this application, have resulted either in the destruction of or to the prejudice of the advantages provided to shippers in the Maritime Provinces under the Maritime Freight Rate Act in favor of persons or industries located elsewhere than in the select territory," the chief commissioner states.

"The evidence submitted by the various parties represented establishes to my satisfaction that in the matter of potato shipments in Ontario the whole difficulty has arisen through motor truck competition with the railways. Shipments of potatoes in Ontario to Ontario points have become almost negligible while motor truck shipments continually increase. The competitive tariff established by the railways have no effect whatever in respect to potato shipments from the Maritime Provinces to Ontario points. Cancellation of these potato rates would not improve the position of Maritime shippers in any degree, and would only result in depriving the railways of the small portion of the transportation of potatoes in Ontario, which they have been able to retain even under a substantial reduction of rates."

The judgment did not find in figures submitted by the applicants any justification for statements made on behalf of the Maritime board that transportation costs affect prejudicially prices to the potato growers of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. It goes at some length into price comparisons as between the Maritime growers and those in Ontario.

The suggestion that the potato application might be only first of a number resulting from efforts by the railways to meet truck competition in Ontario and Quebec, was made by Colonel Ralston during the final argument here. At that time he received the right to deal with other commodities, mentioning specifically lumber, biscuits and confectionery, iron and steel and hides.

May Confer Soon

FREDERICTON, N. B., Jan. 12—Pending careful study of the entire decision only brief comment on the "decidedly disturbing" situation was made tonight by Premier Dysart regarding rejection of the Maritime "test case" application for reduced freight rates on potatoes.

Guided largely by advice of counsel associated with the case, he intimated, governments of the Maritime Provinces might confer soon in the matter.

Mrs. N. C. Hughes, I. O. D. E. Leader, Dies in Ottawa

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ials for essays and historical lessons bearing on the growth of the Empire. This work gained her the congratulations of the Duke of Connaught, King George's uncle, when he was Governor-General of Canada. Last summer, Miss Hughes received a King's Jubilee Medal for her service.

Miss Hughes was a national life member of the I.O.D.E., and at one time a member of the National Executive Committee. Although she retired some time ago from the national work she was quite active in the I.O.D.E. activities in Ottawa, and when the national organization met there in June last she entertained delegates extensively.

Miss Hughes was the eldest daughter of the late Patrick Hughes, of Toronto, who had his dry goods warehouse on the present site of The Globe. She was educated in Toronto at St. Joseph's Convent.

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Why is Grammar, ain't it awful?
Do or don't it do us good?
Is or ain't it just as lawful?
To say Johnny seen the wood?
Don't it make it plain what Johnny done?

What more could be required?
Grammar as the schools have taught it
Always made me pretty tired.

"That," said the retired teacher, "just about expresses the attitude of the Department of Education toward the teaching of English in our schools and it is time that something was done about it."

So the scribe sallied forth to talk to educators and educatees and try, if possible, to see what it was all about, and what, if anything, could be done about it.

"Hello—Whom is it?"

The first victim of the chase was a high school boy nearing the end of his third year. He was talking to a friend on the telephone when the reporter found him, and this was his end of the conversation: "No, Bill's out . . . I don't know . . . He's went down town . . . No . . . No . . . I tell you he hasn't come back yet."

When he hung up, the reporter reproached him for his misuse of his mother tongue, but he was not in the least disconcerted. "You can't blame me," he said. "They don't tell us very much about grammar. I had it in junior and senior fourth in public school and in my second year at college. They taught me a lot more about French grammar than they ever did about English. They seem to think that English grammar will come naturally to you, but everybody talks like you heard me."

Next came the turn of a teacher in the public schools. She proved to have quite decided views on the subject, and was very indignant at the lack of opportunity for teaching English properly. "Of course," she said, "we do all we can to correct the children's speech, but, as grammar is not one of the subjects on the curriculum except in two of the forms, there is little that we can do. Classes are so large that we can give a child very little attention in school time, and so many parents are indignant if we keep their children after hours to give them a little extra tuition."


"One of our big subjects," a high school teacher told the reporter. "But how we can be expected to inculcate an appreciation of the beauties of Shakespeare when the children have only the very foggiest notion of the basic principles of the language, I do not know. There is hardly a student who knows it is wrong to split an infinitive; in fact I should be very

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"BARBARY COAST"

surprised if most of them could recognize one if they saw it."

"I agree that the situation is appalling," said Dr. H. J. Cody, President of the University of Toronto, when approached on the subject. "And do you know," he added, "only a couple of weeks ago there was a conference of the universities on this very matter."

"We cannot of course, expect too much," said Dr. Cody, "when we consider the small amount of time given to the subject by the schools, and to some extent, we can forgive a man who has specialized in applied science for misse of the language. Chiefly, I think, the fault is carelessness and we hoped to get an improvement by insisting upon the use of correct English in all examination papers, regardless of the subjects. An error in grammar in a history paper should count against a man just as heavily as an error of fact."



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