

THE GUARDIAN

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President, Ian A. Burnett; Vice-President, Wm. R. Burnett; Secy.-Treas., G. M. Burnett; Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett; Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29,

P. E. I. Hogs Acclaimed

A fine tribute to the superior quality of Prince Edward Island hogs is paid in the October letter issued by the Industrial and Development Council of Canadian Meat Packers, Toronto.

"These figures support the contention that Canadian hogs, on the average, need more length of middle and a much lighter shoulder in comparison to their ham."

"Recently two 'A' grade carcasses of hogs were taken at random from the rail of a plant in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, and prepared as Wilshire sides."

"It will be noted that these 'Island' sides cut a middle that weighed over half the weight of the sides and that the gammon weighed fully as much as the fore-end."

The following comparative figures are given in the article. In each case they represent average weight:

Table with 4 columns: Canadian Sides in London, Danish Sides in London, Prince Edward Island Sides, and lb. % of side. Rows include Gammons, Fore-ends, and Middles.

An Unwilling Plunger?

One of the minor curiosities of the coming election campaign will be the explanation, if any, which Premier Jones will have to make of his attempts to mislead the public into believing that there would be no campaign this year.

What is the reason for this manoeuvre on the Premier's part. Rumor has it that he himself was averse to an election this year, but was outvoted by his cabinet colleagues who believe that now is the opportune time—when there is money in the till—to go to the country.

Discussion And Debate

Holding that democracies must have an informed public opinion if they are to face up to a "challenge to the death," Sir Alexander Clutterbuck, United Kingdom High Commissioner in Canada, said recently: "The more discussion there is, the better; the more political controversy, the better. Therein lies the strength of democracy."

And Sir Alexander Clutterbuck, comments the Ottawa Journal, wasn't thinking of mere speech-making, which often isn't discussion at all, and which can become a disease, sometimes a horribly boring one. He was speaking of good, hard controversy, spoken or written, of the condition under which ideas are not merely uttered but debated, and under which men who are free to speak are also compelled to answer.

This last, and this last alone, is the essence, the true value, of free speech. Walter Lippman once put it perfectly. "What matters is not the utterance of opinions. What matters is the confrontation of opinions in debate. No man can care profoundly that every fool should say what he likes. Nothing has been accomplished if the wisest man proclaims his wisdom in the middle of the Sahara Desert. This is the shadow. We have the substance of liberty when the fool is compelled to listen to the wise man and learn; when the wise man is compelled to take account of the fool, and to instruct him; and when the wise man can increase his wisdom by hear-

ing the judgment of his peers." In other words, (adds the Journal), discussion and debate mean the challenging of ideas and policies no matter how august their origin, with the citizen who is neutral, or who confuses neutrality with independence, or pretends that neutrality is independence, to be regarded as a bad citizen.

It would be well for our politicians to bear this admonition in mind during the next six weeks of election campaigning. There is only one way to get full and frank discussion of public issues in a political campaign, and that is at public meetings.

EDITORIAL NOTES

King's County Memorial Hospital in Montague opens today.

Permanent anti-freeze is very scarce this year, but the alcohol ones are in good supply.

There is something to be said for the wearing of evening dress to concerts. The stiff shirt provides better acoustics than ordinary soft ones.

Milk producers, to offset the high cost of farming, seek to have the price of milk increased. The consumers, on account of the high cost of living, protest, and on the eve of an election, the Government is being asked to decide between them.

Rt. Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, and a contender for the leadership of the Liberal Party, in succession to Prime Minister Mackenzie King, will open the Provincial election campaign in Charlottetown on November 6.

The Provincial Government seems bent on maintaining its reputation of being divided against itself. The Premier told the Canadian Press "he would not be in Toronto if there was an impending election." Next day Acting Premier Barbour here confirmed the report that the election would be on December 11.

The so-called "holding charge" is looked on with little favour by British courts. Anyone arrested is entitled to know at once what he is accused of, and the practice of laying a vagary or similar charge merely as a convenient prelude to the more serious one the police have in mind is less than just to the accused.

The International Trade Organization sitting at Geneva trying to straighten out the trading difficulties between countries have decided to permit Britain, Canada and South Africa to adjust their Ottawa preference agreement so as to enable the Mother Country a freer hand in offsetting the dollar shortage. Which is all to the good.

The Little Theatre puts on their initial play, "Gangway For Ghosts", in the Prince Edward Theatre tonight with an unusually strong cast which should insure a bumper house. Local talent must be encouraged if we are to maintain our reputation of being one of the most advanced dramatically-minded communities in the Maritimes.

One bill before the British Parliament will go through without alteration. It provides for the independence of Burma outside the British Empire. Such was the decision of the Burmese and it will be given full effect. There is little danger of such outbreaks as are occurring in India, as the population is almost entirely Buddhist, although at Mandalay there is a small community of Mohammedans.

John Keats, English poet, died this date 1821; abandoned medicine for literature, and ultimately had to leave England due to T.B., dying in Rome. Much of his poetry is immature in thought and style, but such poems as La Belle Dame sans Merci, The Ode on a Grecian Urn, and his sonnets are unsurpassable. His influence on later English poetry has been almost incalculable: The imagination of a boy is healthy, and the mature imagination of a man is healthy; but there is a space of life between, in which the soul is in a ferment, the character undecided, the way of life uncertain, the ambition thick-sighted: thence proceeds mawkishness.

Dr. Beauchesse, Clerk of the House of Commons, who accompanied Mr. Speaker Fauteux to London to see how they ran parliament there, reports favourably on abolishing appeals from the Speaker's ruling, divisions on which result in an unnecessary loss of time. He also considers favourably the hours of sittings in London, viz. from 2:45 P.M. to 11 P.M. At Ottawa at present the House sits from 3 P.M. to 6 P.M., and from 8 P.M. to 11 P.M.

The love of freedom develops marvellous resources in the individual concerned. A 20-year-old German prisoner of war, who escaped on August 19 from a camp at Reading, England, was picked up by the New York State police as a suspicious character when found walking barefoot on a back road near Pittstown, New York. He was identified as Martin Georg Eppich, a former corporal in the 12th S. S. Panzer Division, who was captured by the British in Normandy more than three years ago. Eppich told the police that he had sold his wrist-watch to a fellow-prisoner for \$12 and had bought civilian clothes with the proceeds. From Reading he went to Southampton by train. There he swam a mile and a half to the Queen Mary and, after clambering up a 120 ft. rope, stowed away in a lifeboat. He stayed in the lifeboat for five days without food or water, he said, and just before the vessel docked in New York he lowered himself by another rope into the Hudson River and swam ashore, only to be recaptured.

Notes By The Way

Chairman of 18 manufacturing companies, Mr. Gordon Ralph Hall Caine, of Britain, suggests that bartering is the way out of the dollar-sterling exchange impasse. But, if the United Kingdom hasn't enough goods to barter on equal terms with other nations, how would such a system solve her difficulties?—Windsor Star.

Only sandwiches will be served at the royal wedding breakfast. Without a kipped herring how will any Englishman know that it is breakfast?—Detroit Free Press.

A South Australian amateur naturalist has an excellent insurance against burglary—a young and active crocodile which prowls around the house all through the night and "gets snappy" if annoyed by strangers. It was captured in the Northern Territory and christened Gandhi because of its long fangs.—Australian News Letter.

First successful introduction of the crease in men's trousers was made by Edward VII of England, who as Prince of Wales visited the United States in 1880. The prince at that time, according to R. Turner Wilcox (The Mode in Costume, 1946), wore the crease at the sides of the leg as well as at front and back. "The crease in trousers," says the author, "was never to happen again. We have inflation at the present time, or I do not know what it is. If we do not have a change for the better and get all these strikes settled once and for all, I do not see how the average farmer can possibly carry on at all."

I am, Sir, etc., WETLAN FARMER, County Line Road.

APPEAL FROM ENGLAND

Sir,—I would be most grateful if you would give me space to appeal to your reading public to help us here at home with a tremendous task, viz. the restoration of our church.

My appeal to you is to help us to provide goods for a large bazaar which would be held at Christmas time here in Stockton. I have been in touch with the local Government Officer who informs me that parcels of food may be sent to be made up into luncheons, teas, and suppers at the Bazaar; but this food could not be sold to the public. I am also instructed that parcels of clothing could be sent to us to make up a stall representing your country. This clothing should be used clothing—not new, otherwise we could not sell without coupons. I hope to have a stall of goods from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa at the Bazaar, as well as one from the home country.

Our very grave difficulty is to provide things to sell, and we would be most grateful if any of your readers would send gifts for a stall. All donations of money, food and clothing would be most gratefully acknowledged—you know how difficult are the present days for us here at home, and had it been possible to delay this work, we would have done so. But to delay would mean the destruction of this noble House of God in a very short time, and we believe we can save this historic Church if our brothers and sisters overseas will come to our aid with their generous gifts.

I am, Sir, etc., REV. R. T. HESLTON, M.A., The Vicarage, 5 West End Terrace, Stockton-on-Tees.

ROADS AND ELECTIONS

Sir,—Allow me a little space in your valuable paper, in regards to our stretch of road from North Rusico to Stanley Bridge, if one can honestly call it a road.

The writer seldom has an itch to write to the press, but he is so fed up with the condition of this road, that he is compelled to do so. Many roads in our Province have had extra special attention this year, and some that have not the fifth of the traffic that the one in question has. Of course as the saying is, the political fences are looked after.

Our Government spends the taxpayers' money in advertising the attractions of our Province, and praising the good roads, etc. Of course there are some good to fair roads, but it passes the writer's comprehension why this stretch of road, one of the most travelled, especially during the summer months, has been allowed to take on this condition and appearance in places of an old-time river bed. During the last wind storm a tree was blown down across the road. Some good Samaritans broke or hacked enough off to get around it, but the trunk is still there so that two cars could not pass.

In the coming days the hustings will resound with the accomplishments of the present Government, and to be sure it is a rather poor one that has not something to its credit. But they cannot brag about this stretch of road, as well as others in Queen's Co.

Here's hoping for a better road from whatever Government is returned.

I am, Sir, etc., (Rev.) GEORGE GOUGH, Pastor of United Church, Cavendish, P. E. I.

At the recent opening of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York, N. Y., printed in English and Norwegian, with a handsome morocco binding, was presented to Secretary-General Trygve Lie, reports France-America. Without an instant's hesitation, he flipped open the sacred book to Psalm CXXXIII and read aloud the first verse: "Be- hold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." Appropriate? Well, yes; always providing the debates do not give the lie too brutally to the biblical text.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents on questions of public interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

MR. BARBOUR AND ROADS

Sir,—In reference to Hon. G. H. Barbour's boast about the good roads that his Liberal Party had built, I wish to make it clear that he promised a lot of roads that were to be done but never saw any road work done on them. He was petitioned to do a road that is in a disgraceful condition. He sent a letter saying this work would be done but so far nothing has been done. There is not a gutter to carry the water away and after every rain the road bed is all under water.

And this security for farmers that he speaks about,—I do not know where it is. All feed grains have gone up so high in price that a farmer cannot buy at all. There is a very poor price offered for farm products compared with the cost of production.

One more thing I would like to mention, that is about inflation that we were assured was about never to happen again. We have inflation at the present time, or I do not know what it is. If we do not have a change for the better and get all these strikes settled once and for all, I do not see how the average farmer can possibly carry on at all.

I am, Sir, etc., WETLAN FARMER, County Line Road.



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The Poet's Corner

AFTERMATH (For England)

And who are these, so grave in their mien, These haggard men and women pale and thin? Are they not those, O bitter irony, Who fought alone through horror and through din? Are they not those, who, unafraid still held, Whilst all around the world went crashing down, And nations toppled like a forest felled; Are these not they, who wear the victor's crown?

Tighter the belt so others' needs be met; Longer the hours, so freedom's cause be won, There's a valour we may not forget; There's a glory brighter than the sun; And theirs the aftermath of care and fret, The English Battle of the future just begun. —Anon.

Old Charlottetown (And P.E.I.)

COACH FACTORY FIRE

On the morning of the 4th of March, 1946, the citizens were disturbed from their peaceful slumbers by the terrifying cry of fire. A house situated on the west of Kent Street was discovered to be in flames, which speedily spread to the premises known as Scott's Coach Factory, which in a short time were beyond saving; but by the judicious and constant play of the five Fire Engines the fire was confined to these buildings; unfortunately, however, a tall chimney of one of the burnt houses being relieved of its support came tumbling to the ground, falling on Pipe-man Thomas Dodd, of No. 2 Engine, breaking his leg.—Pollard's History.

Measuring The Dew

(Manchester Guardian) Mr. S. Duvdevani, a Palestinian biologist, has come to London to lecture to the Royal Meteorological Society on the measurement of dew. He was first led to take an interest in the subject by passages in the Bible and the Talmud and the special Hebrew prayers for dew in summer. Was dew of real benefit to plant life as many farmers thought or was the praise of dew mere poetry and sentiment? A problem that arose was to measure dew accurately. One morning Mr. Duvdevani saw the dew glistening on a wooden gate and he took photographs. From that he evolved his method of measurement. He has brought to London a sample of his dew gauge, a wooden block about 18 inches long coated with a special paint. It is exposed at a height of a metre above level ground and the appearance of the drops is compared with a series of photographs. These photographs correspond to a set of dew scale numbers originally obtained by weight.

Mr. Duvdevani believes that this method will be useful to big-culture and to weather forecasting. There is now in Palestine a network of dew stations where measurements are taken by early-rising

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