

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, Nov. 3, 1949

Poppy Fund Appeal

Once again, in anticipation of Remembrance Day, the Canadian Legion is asking the people of Prince Edward Island to "wear a poppy".

While it is true that veterans under certain circumstances have the advantage of specific legislation, such as war veterans' allowance, it should be remembered that when an emergency crops up in any family, speed is the essential requirement in providing assistance.

While the Poppy Fund is a national appeal the money raised locally is used locally to assist veterans and their families.

The Soft Approach

It takes all kinds to make a House of Commons, says an Ottawa correspondent of the Montreal Gazette. The membership of the present Commons includes 81 lawyers (members of the legal profession have always been super-abundant in the House).

No "Twittering Calculations"

A foretaste of the style of Mr. Churchill's forthcoming election campaign can be taken from his remarks upon hearing that the Attlee Cabinet had decided not to go to the people until 1950—the last possible legal minute.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Today Historical Exhibition opens.

The nearer approach of the Gulf Stream seemed an altogether favorable development, but the catching of a shark at Montserrat puts it in quite a different light.

Settlement of the United States steel strike eliminates one factor which would

have made for a scarcity of consumer goods. The other, government restrictions, remain with us.

The new Armed Forces identification card, like some of its predecessors, gives the blood group classification of serviceman holder. The value of carrying such a record in case of injury is obvious and might profitably be imitated by civilians.

The holding of tonight's and tomorrow's historical exhibition may eventually result in the establishment of a Provincial Museum and in that case, the details of how it came about will be of historic interest in themselves.

A conference of the Nova Scotia division of the Community Planning Association of Canada is being held at Halifax. Historic Nova Scotia has planning problems similar to our own and their experience is of special interest to the Island.

The 11,461 orders-in-council passed between October 1, 1948 and June 30 give some idea of the complexity of modern government. Many of them, of course, deal only with a particular case but all have the effect of making law.

There must be something about living in the Antipodes that affects human nature. A member of the Australian Parliament has received letters from his constituents complaining about delays in getting their income tax notices!

When a swallow's nest fell from the eaves of the court-house at Stradbroke, Suffolk, England, a policeman climbed up and put a tiny, light-weight basket in its place. The parent birds lined the basket, moved their brood to it, and quickly resumed feeding and flying lessons as before.

Jobs for politicians' friends only. Transport Minister Chevrier told the House of Commons his department does not exercise any control over employment by individual contractors once a contract has been let. He was replying to a charge by Clarie Gillis (C.C.F.—Cape Breton South) that men seeking employment on a government project at the Sydney, N. S., airport first had to obtain slips from two defeated Liberal candidates in Sydney.

Over one thousand places of natural beauty and historic interest in Britain are now safeguarded for all time by the National Trust. This organization, which is entirely independent of the State, owns more than 126,000 acres. The main object for which the Trust was founded is the preservation of beautiful and interesting property for the nation. All places owned by Trust are open to visitors throughout the year.

It is the old story with the Federal Government and us. "Jam yesterday, jam tomorrow, but no jam today." Those votes and grants of which we heard so much before the election proved mostly paper memoranda, not intended to be effective, yet while at least. But one was effective instantly, viz., \$7,500 per annum rental grant for the collector of Income Tax; he had to be provided for anyway regardless of household scarcity, and non-fulfillment of the new public building grant of \$100,000.

Edward Colston, English philanthropist, born this date 1636. He was among the first of the "newly rich", who, as a Bristol merchant made enormous sums of money in the import and export trade, much of which he distributed for charitable foundations, the principal being Queen Elizabeth's Hospital in London to which he contributed £70,000. His example was followed by many other wealthy merchants, and is continued to this day, the vastly rich getting rid of succession duty and other tax nuisances, by giving away their money for endowments, etc.

Newfoundland, a Dominion in its own right before it came under Commission government in 1934, has come into Canada. Will the Dominion of New Zealand join Australia? To achieve this union is the task that Dr. John Francis Gaha, M.P. for Denison in Tasmania (named after Sir William Denison, an engineer officer who worked on Canada's Rideau Canal, 1827-1831) has set for the Australian Parliament to be elected on December 10. Dr. Gaha told his fellow-members that in New Zealand he had addressed meetings in Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin and had spoken to many members of Parliament and others and did not meet one person who did not say, "Go ahead with your plan." Dr. Gaha wants:—(1) a Customs Union, with complete free trade; (2) a common currency; (3) an Anzac army, navy and air force; (4) cheap, rapid and frequent air service; (5) a common industrial policy. In short, he advocated "complete physical union."

The Poets Corner

LOQSERS

If I should pass the tomb of Jonah I would stop there and sit for awhile; Because I was swallowed one time deep in the dark And came out alive after all.

If I pass the burial spot of Nero I shall say to the wind, "Well, well!" I who have fiddled in a world of fire. I who have done so many stunts not worth doing.

I am looking for the grave of Sinfbad too. I want to shake his ghost-hand and say, "Neighbors of us died very early did we?"

And the last sleeping-place of Nebuchadnezzar? When I arrive there I shall tell the wind: "You ate grass; I have eaten crow—You is better off now or next year?"

Jack Cade, John Brown, Jesse James, There too I could sit down and stop. I think I could tell their head-aches: "God, let me remember all good losers."

I could ask people to throw ashes on their heads. In the name of that sergeant at Bellona Woods, Walking into the drumfire, calling his men, "Come on, you—! Do you want to live forever?" —Carl Sandburg.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

DANGEROUS WELLS

"We have heard various complaints respecting the dangerous state of several of the public wells and pumps in this town, particularly in four of them, situated near the following places, viz. Mr. Goodmans, the Court House, Mrs. Hawkins' and Mr. Drew's. Children are frequently seen peeping into the wells which are quite open, and those who go serpentine home to take their nap run no small risk." —Prince Edward Island Register, June 24, 1885.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The editor reserves the right to edit and to endorse the opinion of correspondents.

PEN-FRIEND WANTED

Sir,—I wonder if you would be kind enough to publish this letter. I would like to correspond and exchange newspapers, magazines, etc. with somebody, male or female, between the ages of eighteen and twenty five, in your city. I am nineteen years of age, am interested in most sports, my favorite being speedway. I love the theatre and books and I like the cinema, especially British films. I am, Sir, etc. MISS FRANCES E. PRICE, 19 Pownall Rd., Hounslow Middlesex, England.

Names On Medals

From various parts of Canada murmurs of protest have been heard from veterans because the medals, and stars now being issued do not have engraved on them the regimental numbers (if any), ranks and names of the recipients. The Carleton Branch No. 2 of the Canadian Legion has gone on record that its members are "very displeased. Servicemen have long been accustomed to having the identity of those to whom decorations are presented engraved around the edge of medals or on the reverse of stars. It has seemed to them that the custom marked the personal nature of the Sovereign's award to those who have rendered him service. Moreover decorations lost or stolen can be more easily restored to their owners if names are engraved on them, and it is simple to detect the unauthorized wearing of decorations by those who are not entitled to put them up.

It has not been mentioned whether it is only the Canadian forces that lack the engraving or if the same applies to all His Majesty's services everywhere. It is obvious that the separate engraving of an enormous number of names and numbers would take up a great deal of time, that to do so might postpone the issue by several years and that on this account the authorities decided to sacrifice the personal touch on the altar of mass production and accelerated distribution. This should have been explained, although there is no guarantee that it would have removed the grievance. Sailors, soldiers and airmen feel strongly when they believe anything customary is denied them. It is hard to see what can be done now about it. It seems probable that the recipients will have to take their medals to engravers and have the job done at their own expense, if they are anxious to secure this mark of ownership. Those who decide to do so had better do it now. It will not remove the cause of their complaint but it may facilitate the return of any medals that are mislaid.

For Foot Ailment Consult N. J. A. BROWN, D. P. Orthopedic Chiropodist 148 Great George Street CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.

We Hope These Fellows Will Be Friendly



Peace & Liberty

(By Michel Debre) (French Information Service)

The discussion and the ratification of the Atlantic Pact aroused great agitation in all Parliaments. But it must be recognized that this agitation was restricted almost without exception to the political world and no popular agitation was seen in spite of the intense campaigns organized at the time of the pact. Nevertheless, it is as well to make a careful examination of certain aspects of the opposition which revealed itself, for it may well prove to have rather serious consequences.

Naturally, we must not be deceived by propaganda. In discussion amongst people, and particularly in political discussions, all arguments are good; it has always been so and it will always be so. For example, to say that a pact of a defensive nature is taken of an aggressive alliance, is an argument natural in an indictment. Thus it is useless to be angry about it.

Serious and independent thinkers who have shown their hesitation or even their opposition in a considered way fall into two categories, there are some who think that the dispositions of the pact are insufficient to ensure others of whom we first think, who consider the precautions taken to be excessive. Their argument is the following: peace is our most precious possession and our first duty is to do nothing which may disturb it. Instead of giving the impression that we are preparing for war, even for a defensive war, we must first seek an understanding, for an understanding alone can avoid the conflict.

This argument must be carefully examined for however sincere it may be, it is, by its very simplicity, very dangerous. When Demosthenes was urging the people of Athens to pay attention to the threat coming from Macedonia, when he was imploring all the free towns of Greece to unite to prevent an invasion, his adversaries even at that time, declared that any effort to oppose a military danger betokened such suspicion that peace was disturbed. They wished for an understanding with Macedonia and declared that to safeguard peace, it was preferable to attempt

nothing and to seek negotiations. In the choice between war and peace, who chooses war? Nobody. Everybody desires peace. But here the difficulty begins for there are two kinds of peace. There is the peace created by an honest agreement with full respect for the rights of each partner in the complete acceptance of freedom. But there is also the peace of slavery and oppression created by the complete domination of one partner over the other. Germany wanted peace, but peace of the German kind, and all the peoples of Europe have learnt what that peace was; it was worse than war.

What we must seek is the peace of justice, not the latter. We have barely become aware of this truth when we find ourselves in agreement with this sentence of an excellent contemporary writer M. Jean Paulhan, who wrote recently: "Who strongly desires peace clenches his fists in readiness."

Indeed, when one thinks about it, the true political choice lies between freedom and oppression. The political thought and action of the western world have been directed for more than a century towards the construction of a liberal regime, that is to say towards the organization of a society which assures the respect of the human being. This effort is first made in the internal regime to avoid the setting up of arbitrary powers over the citizens. But it is also made in the realm of foreign politics so that the nations who are opposed to the very principles of our civilization have become highly dangerous powers.

There are periods in the history of the world where freedom runs no great dangers. There are others when it is constantly threatened. We are living in one of these periods and we must be able to act accordingly. Are the dispositions of the Atlantic Pact sufficient to stave off all the threats which hang over freedom? This is a question we may well ask. But what we are able to say is that the spirit which inspires it is truly that which meets the needs of the present time. It is not the spirit of "peace at any price" but the spirit of freedom without which there can be no peace for the democracies nor for men attached to their freedom.

REMEMBER Wear A Poppy BUY A POPPY TODAY! Charlottetown Branch Canadian Legion 8251

Notes By The Way

Winnipeg has just had its "blackest" week-end in the city's traffic history. Never before had three persons died on consecutive days on city streets. So far in 1949, 18 persons have been killed in traffic mishaps compared with 29 in all of 1948. —Winnipeg Tribune.

The childish practice of defacing and damaging road signs is by no means confined to the Ottawa district. Police authorities in Cornwall and other cities and towns have had to contend with this problem for many years. Usually, the main offenders are children who allow their enthusiasm for doing something different get the better of their judgment. Often, however, road sign vandals are teen-aged youths of the irresponsible type who do not stop to consider the danger their actions create for motorists who depend on the signs for guidance. —Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

There are probably countless medical reasons why women live longer than men, but we are inclined to believe that the main cause is the fact that the average man works much harder during a lifetime than the average woman. Being the bread-winner, the man has to sit up many a night devising ways and means of keeping the family ladder full without going into debt. He not only has to worry about providing for his home, but he has to get up at the most fleish hours and work for at least seven or eight hours, often at tasks which are anything but beneficial to the health. No wonder many a poor male dies at fifty-five or sixty from coronary thrombosis, high blood pressure or angina pectoris. If women worked or worried half

h so rightly said and let us make an effort to understand him better than his contemporaries did, as hard, they'd probably suffer more frequently from the same ailments. Of course there are numerous women who work just as hard as men. Businesswomen, for instance, often have the same problems as businessmen. And then there are the harassed housewives who often have to cook for a dozen people at a time. But on the whole, man works and worries much more often than woman, and that is why he doesn't live as long. —Lethbridge Herald.

The harvesting of oysters, the most succulent of shellfish, is again in full swing in New Brunswick. This year, according to best estimates, we'll reap a crop of nearly 25,000 barrels, worth more than \$250,000. It seems odd that New Brunswick oyster's are not better known. The Malpeque oysters of Prince Edward Island, for instance, have had more publicity. Yet New Brunswick oysters are nearly three times as many as those of Prince Edward Island, nearly four times as many as Nova Scotia, and nearly twice as many as British Columbia. And, according to experts, we not only have a quantity but quality. Mr. S. Andrews, for instance, probably sells more oysters than any other restaurateur in Canada. He grows them himself, in New Brunswick, at Upper Shippagan. "I wouldn't grow them anywhere else," he says. "New Brunswick oysters are the finest in the world." The Andrews "plantation" is in an arm of Bay Chaleur. The water there is very salty, since several rivers or streams flow in to dilute it. There are no settlements around to cause pollution. And the bottom is soft. On a hard bottom, oysters tend to be flat and thin; on a soft bottom they are cup-shaped and plump. —Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

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