

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink."
CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1948

Significant Statement

A highly significant statement was made recently by Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, in addressing a gathering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The same idea is now pending in the United States Senate in the form of a resolution calling for association of this country "with such regional and other collective arrangements as are based on continuous and effective self-help and mutual aid."

The good neighbor policy which Canada and the United States have followed for over a century has cemented ties of enduring friendship between both countries, and the proposal of a closer merger in the interests of international peace has far-reaching possibilities.

The Women's Institutes

The annual convention of the Women's Institutes of Prince Edward Island, now in progress at the Prince of Wales College hall, is a reminder of the magnificent work performed by this organization since its foundation here thirty-five years ago.

It was in Stoney Creek, Ontario, that the first Women's Institute was established on February 19, 1897. From a handful of women (and one man) the idea spread far and wide across Canada until now there are 8,000 Institute branches and 70,000 members in the Dominion and the associated country women of the world have carried its ideals to lands beyond the sea.

Prominent Agriculturists

Each year several hundred young men and women graduate in Agriculture from the universities and agricultural colleges of Canada. They bring to the development of the agricultural industry, youth, enthusiasm and a variety of talent and abilities.

In recent weeks, several retirements, resignations and appointments have occurred among which the first to be noted is the retirement of Dr. H. Barton, deputy minister, Dominion Department of Agriculture, which takes place this month.

No announcement has been made as yet as to Dr. Barton's successor as deputy minister, but it is generally believed that he will be followed by Mr. J. G. Taggart, chairman of the Agricultural Prices Support Board, who some months ago was appointed Chief of Services in the department, and who was at one time superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, later the Minister of Agriculture in that province and, until recently, chairman of the Canadian Meat Board.

Another recent major appointment in the Dominion service was that of Mr. L. B. Thomson, superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station at Swift Current, as director of P. F. R. A. This appointment follows the retirement of George Spence, who resigned late in 1947 and is now a member of the International Joint Commission. Mr. Thomson is a native New Zealander who came to Canada in 1920.

The recent retirement of Dr. L. H. Newman as Dominion cerealist led to the appointment of Dr. C. H. Goulden to succeed him. Dr. Goulden moves from the Cereal Breeding Laboratory, Winnipeg, where he was in charge, and

has recently returned from several months in Washington where he was on loan to F.A.O. Dr. P. K. Pavlychenko, until recently Professor of Applied Plant Ecology at the University of Saskatchewan, and one of Canada's outstanding experts on weeds and chemical weed control, has resigned to become director of field research for the American Chemical Paint Company. Born in the Ukraine, Dr. Pavlychenko has been a naturalized Canadian since 1932. He will remain in Saskatoon.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Twelve days fill the plebiscite.
Auto Convention today. Welcome.

Sunday will decide whether or not there will be a railway strike.

A safety gas stove is what we all have been looking for. Now our wish may be realized.

Are there any here of the 50,000 who have not yet received their Income Tax savings refund?

There seems to have been little concern shown by most members of the City Council about the state of the dump but much about its condition being made public.

The Sorel firm are rushing repairs on the Abegweit so that it may be available for the arrival of the Governor General's party, which however, will not be for another month.

Signs seem to indicate that the ladies are taking new interest in government and all its branches. They have a long way to go before reaching a par with men in numbers and authority.

Now is the time to get Canadians into the habit of eating fish. Meat prices are sky high, and a well planned marketing and publicity campaign would have results that will not again be possible.

Today the International Labour Organization annual congress opens in San Francisco. Prince Edward Island's labour legislation may stand or fall according to decisions to be reached there.

Dad—the forgotten man—is to be remembered this week-end. Ninety per cent of the credit for raising a family belongs to Mother, the balance—or at least some of it—to Dad. That's why he is so generally forgotten.

The sudden reversal of Burma's once anti-Communist government suggests startling possibilities. Have the Western powers been watching and guarding against every Russian move to the West only to find that her real expansion was going on to the East and South?

The Ryerson Press which has been annually offering a \$1,000 award as an all-Canada fiction prize, has withheld the award this year as none of the entries has come up to the standard, though one or two manuscripts, submitted may be published at a later date.

The Musical Association, for a young organization, has made remarkable progress, and shows what women can accomplish in public work when they set their minds to it. They have made a wise choice in the selection of their officers, and with Col. Lowther as the President should march on to further success.

The Market Square is finally agreed upon as the site for the bus terminal. This can be said for it, it is both central and easy of access. If the recommendations of the Planning Board be adopted it will mean the Market will be more popular than ever as a place of business and comfort to out-of-towners and citizens alike.

John Wesley, founder and leader of Wesleyan Methodism, born this date 1703; ordained in 1725; was excluded from Anglican pulpits, and began to ordain clergy for the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He travelled extensively in spreading the gospel, and at the same time undertaking much literary and philanthropic work. His preaching, zeal and power of popular appeal were enormous: "Cleanliness is indeed next to godliness."

Evidently Premier Jones and Reconstruction Minister Howe are not on speaking terms at Ottawa these days, not all on account of Maple Hills. A City Councillor wants to know why it costs double to run that area now compared with the period the City Council handled it. The Premier's suggestion that citizens should live in the country for a change, is an excellent one—provided the Government sees to it that the roads are fit for travel both summer and winter. In the old days a large percentage of business men lived out of town, but then they rode horses, and the roads were suitable for that.

The Commons has passed a bill increasing to \$100,000 the amount to be spent annually on the old battlefields at Quebec City. The bill provides for payment of the larger sum for a 10-year period in place of the \$75,000 a year which has been spent in the past 10 years. The bill also authorizes the National Battlefields Commission to purchase additional land around the Plains of Abraham. The measure, which now goes to the Senate, was passed after brief debate during which Opposition members called for the restoration of various historic battlefields across Canada. Mr. Clavier Gillis (CCF—Cape Breton South) said he did not like the idea of "perpetuating" and "glorifying" war. Nothing was to be gained by holding up the old battles before Canadian school children. Evidently he would have the rising generation ignorant of the rock out of which they were hewn

Notes By The Way

The world is full of a lot of people who can lead the way—but where to?—Brandon Sun.

Then in the old days a wife with a husband problem just took in boarders and supported him.—Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

The fall ceremony of lowering the colors marked the passing out of commission at Portsmouth of the battleship Queen Elizabeth. Royal Marines bands from the Royal Naval Barracks and HMS Excellent beat retreat on the slip jetty in the dockyard to which the Queen Elizabeth had been made fast for removal to stores. Close by the slip from which she was launched in 1914. As the ensign was hauled down for the last time the bands played a musical arrangement of "Sunset." The playing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem ended the impressive ceremony.—London Times.

Well over 75 percent of B.C. veterans who went into business for themselves are now successfully resisting the tax. Only about one veteran in every 20 of those who have drawn "awaiting returns" benefits while building up a business or a farm have definitely failed. About 15 percent started to recently for their prospects to be assessed and 3.2 percent more are classed as doubtful. But taken altogether, these figures issued by the B.C. office of the Department of Veterans Affairs make up a most cheerful set of statistics. The plain inference is that the veterans have planned well, been counseled wisely and financed adequately.—Vancouver Sun.

That Edmonton is to have a 540-room, fifteen storey, \$8,000,000 hotel is very good news indeed. The men who are to spend the six million dollars here on this 15-storey 540-room hotel are coming here as businessmen, and are asking no taxation concessions, such as fixed low assessments or other indirect subsidies. They knew Edmonton needed additional hotel accommodation, and saw in that need a business opportunity. Competition being the life of trade, the G.N.R. may be stimulated to act promptly in enlarging the Macdonald, a project which has remained in the same time-in-the-future stage while Edmonton has kept right on growing.—Edmonton Journal.

A teacher should not have to live the life of a goldfish, with self-appointed supervisors hinting broadly to him that it is a bad example to young people to be seen going to so many dances or wearing his vacation sports shirt flapping outside his trousers. At the same time it is the responsibility of a teacher to observe the ordinary laws of decency and good taste in off-duty hours. If he makes a drunken exhibition of himself, or takes up soapbox preaching in favor of violently overthrowing the Government, or becomes known as the village "wolf", he can't expect to hold the respect of trustees, parents or children. Doctors, lawyers, clergymen, teachers, pharmacists and others cannot, and should not, lose their professional identities when they are off duty, and in varying degree everyone is vulnerable to public opinion. Teachers, inevitably, are among the most vulnerable.—Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Walking in the rain has never been a popular form of outing in America, but it is cultivated in England, where the people who are unwilling to walk in the rain will do very little walking for a good part of the year. A writer in the Manchester Guardian recently composed a delightful little essay on the theme of a walk in the rain. The walkers start out from town toward the country; they take particular care to sport umbrellas so that nobody will mistake them for ordinary hikers. They view a lengthening ribbon of new suburban homes and finally arrive at a farm, where they take shelter in a shed and discuss the sorry state of the world and England. While the person who gets caught in a heavy April downpour can be made pretty miserable, the person who time his excursion to the country for the clearing at the end of the storm can count himself doubly lucky. That is a great moment in the cycle of nature.—New York Times.

How long has it been since you passed a man or a boy whistling on the street? Is whistling a lost art? No man whistles when he is unhappy. Every whistler is a happy and contented man. Is it possible that in these perilous times none of us is happy? There is good psychology in the thought that if a man cultivates a smile and wears it on his face, it is only a short time until he is happy and smiling inside as well as outside. Is it not possible that if a man acquires the habit of whistling, he may also acquire the habit of feeling as cheerful as he sounds? The song leaders in Kiwanis should do something about this. Whistling is not a lost art. But it is a lost habit, and a fine habit it was. How about our Kiwanis song leaders including one whistling number of the program each week? In a few months we might re-establish the old boyhood habit of whistling, and as good habits as well as bad are contagious, we might re-establish whistling on this continent. It is worth a try. Some of us oldsters whose dentures have spoiled our whistling might relearn under new conditions, and with our whistles restored, we might have a bit of our youth renewed with the restoration. Will whistling if you will.—Kiwanis Magazine.

Mr. Attlee's Speech T The Foreign Press Association

The Prime Minister spoke on Thursday night, May 27th at the 50th anniversary dinner of the Foreign Press Association in London. Mr. Attlee said in the course of his speech: "After each of two World Wars there has been an intense desire to establish peace on a firm foundation. The League of Nations was the first, the United Nations is the second endeavour to create machinery for bringing nations together. The first attempt failed. We must do our utmost to ensure the success of the second. We must not allow ourselves to be discouraged by failures and difficulties. It has always been my view that it is not enough to have machinery for the prevention of war; we need to strengthen the common interests of nations in the positive tasks of building up the peace. But common interests are not enough—there must also be common conceptions and acceptance of common ideas. The strength of the British Commonwealth and Empire, which has in two great crises been tested and not found wanting, lies precisely in the fact that its member-people hold in common the same principles that ensure peaceful co-operation over so large a part of the earth's surface is a buttress to the United Nations. Groupings within a wider organization do not in any way detract from the larger unity we seek. We now seek to carry out in another field the conception of co-operation based on possession of common interests and common ideas. It is from this point of view that I should like you to consider the policy of Western Union to which this country is now committed—a policy directed against no other states but designed for the well being of all its members.

The peoples of Western Europe share a common heritage. They look back to the beginnings of their civilization to Greece, Rome and Palestine. In the course of centuries, they have influenced each other. Each country has made its particular contribution. The richness of that heritage is enhanced by the difference which heirs of a common tradition display, just as graduates of a university, though recognizable as having all shared the same general culture, exhibit differences due to particular courses of study they have followed. We have fought a great war to preserve our western heritage. In that struggle we all—whether British, French, Dutch or Luxembourg—realized how great were the things which unite us. We are united not merely by hatred of false gods, but by belief in the true. If now we must not be content with a negative attack on rival creeds, we must make our profession of faith in freedom and democracy. We must be ready to incur the sacrifices necessary to defend what we hold dear.

Union of the West in its essence is not a sterile military alliance. Still less is it a power bloc. It is an association of free peoples, based on a community of ideas. Co-operation for mutual economic advantage, and in defence, are necessary to give a firm material basis on which this spiritual unity can rest. This is the meaning and content of the Five-Power Treaty. We intend to press on with the execution of that Treaty. Much has already been achieved in three months but much still remains. As further progress is made, the peoples of the countries will, I am certain, receive practical evidence that economic, financial and social co-operation in the West is bringing them substantial advantages and that co-operation in defence assures them of security and enables them to use their common resources to best advantage.

During the last two decades, and especially during recent years, the heritage of culture, which in the past was so long the possession of the few, has been more widely available to the masses. The spiritual as well as the material resources of the Western nations have been more equitably shared. Had this not been so we should not have had that unity in struggle against totalitarianism. The increased prosperity which can, I am certain, be achieved in the future must be shared by all. Only the wilfully blind can hanker after lower standards of life and denials of freedom which totalitarianism has to offer.

The rehabilitation of Western Europe, the restoration of prosperity and the strength of this long-established centre of civilization will contribute to the maintenance of peace. A strong and prosperous association of free peoples will never be guilty of a war of aggression. They will only be concerned to pursue the peaceful.

Further Rise In Potato Prices

Potatoes, which have risen to 16 cents for 10 pound bags on the Montreal retail market in the past eight days, will continue to rise until the end of the month, as predicted, and wholesalers freely predicted.

Seventy-five pound bags of "spuds" on the wholesale market during the same period have risen from 75 to 90 cents. This means an increase of more than \$1 a bag by the time the products hit the grocery store counters. It was stated that new potatoes usually replace the old crop at this time of year. This year this has not been the case and supplies have shrunk at a very fast rate.

Potatoes can be imported from the United States on a quota basis. But the shortage of American dollars and the small mark-up on these allowed on potatoes by the

Notes From Another Island

LONDON, England: The nightingale is a migratory bird, and after spending the winter in some warm climate it usually returns to England in the Spring, which is what a lot of us would like to do.

It is back with us now, and the B.E.C. have lost no time in putting the bird's song on the air once more, thus carrying on a tradition which is probably almost as old as the B.E.C. itself. Certainly I can remember it long, long before the war, and the way my father, an expert on birds in his younger days, used to sit intently by the radio waiting to hear the nightingale when the B.E.C. outside man found one and stalked it with his hand microphone.

Now, as then, there is an element of chance about the business, for you can't sign up a nightingale on a contract, to sing at a stipulated time. So we have the normal programmes on the air, and the chap with the roving microphone goes out into the woods outside the city. If he comes across a nightingale exercising its vocal cords, the programmer is interrupted once or twice during the evening for just a few minutes—so that the nation can listen to a bird!

There's nothing sensational about it. We could go to the zoo and listen to much more peculiar birds, and see them, too, and in any case it's not the sort of thing that everybody cares for. Some folks will sit glued to their loudspeakers all evening so as not to miss a note if and when it comes through; others would rather have ten seconds of Dinah Shore than ten hours of the nightingale.

All the same it is a sort of traditional event, and we are sticklers for our traditions! Besides, somehow it's rather pleasant to be taken out into the woods without leaving your armchair, to listen to a bird singing its heart out in its natural environment, with only the rustle of the wind in the trees for accompaniment.

And, in the nightingale, the B. E. C. have one performer who is not likely to strike for more pay!

Muscle of a different kind caused a bit of an uproar in London's crowded West End the other Saturday evening. It was in Regent Street, one of the handsome thoroughfares that lead into Piccadilly Circus. It is a pretty busy street and that's putting it mildly. Buses and taxis and cars roar and rush about at speeds which seem rather frightening in view of the amount of traffic.

All at once, this particular Saturday, the traffic was thrown into great confusion. Suddenly brakes squealed and buses stopped in their tracks, their drivers looking too surprised to be annoyed. Taxis and cars tied up behind the buses, hooting and tooting, whilst pedestrians looked startled at all the noise.

Then another sound was heard above all the rest, and the reason for the confusion became apparent as the piercing notes of bugles shrieked out, and from the middle of the tangle marched a troop of the "Boys' Brigade, on parade! Leading the way was a youngster measuring about three feet six inches, very serious, looking straight ahead and studiously ignoring the upheaval he and his followers had caused.

Away they marched, drums rattling and bugles blaring with far more regard for volume than accuracy, leaving the traffic to sort itself out. The wheels began to turn again slowly and almost shakily, as if the drivers were still wondering what happened, and peace returned to Piccadilly.

What The National Health Service Means To Mrs Britain

(United Kingdom Information) There has been a lot of talk in Britain lately about the new National Health Service, which is coming into effect in July. It's a tremendous social change. From July 5th onwards there'll be an absolutely free health service for every person in Britain, which they will have as much right to use as the roads or the sidewalks.

Every kind of medical, surgical and nursing attention will be offered free. A duke or a dustman will have an equal right to the services of doctors, surgeons, dentists, midwives, nurses, hospitals and sanatoria. Drugs of all kinds will be supplied free by the druggists taking part in the National Health Service, and in country districts many doctors will dispense their own medicines. Dental treatment will be free, including fillings and artificial dentures.

The situation is not expected to be relieved until early July when the first products of Ontario farms appear on the local markets. According to reports these will be very high priced for the first week. In all probability the government will place a ceiling on new potatoes similar to that put on home grown cabbage.

The American dollar shortage has also caused a tight situation in citrus fruits. Grapefruits are particularly scarce. This is also expected to be relieved at the end of the month when the government issues the three month quotas. Supplies of tomatoes appear to be increasing although prices continue to hold at high levels. Retailers report a heavy demand for tomatoes. This is probably due to the fact that tomatoes were practically non-existent throughout the winter and early spring months.

The Poets Corner

THE LAKE
Memory is a lake in the mind,
As even the simplest man will find,
And oh, how quickly it will start
Pouring into the unwarned heart!

I can vouch for this, and you, and you
Who have learned what little things
Under
Those floodgates; a scent, a certain
leaf,
And the mingled waters of joy and
grief
Sweet from the mind with a noise
of thunder,
All but pushing the frail heart
under.

Then the flood recedes, and we who
explore
Find pebbles of dreams on the
heart's quiet floor,
Washed by memory, jewel-bright,
And wearing the Present's golden
light.

—Pauline Havard in the New York Times

Old Charlottetown

"Upper Canada has a richer, stronger soil, but it is far from markets, both for imports and exports; and in many parts of it they have no good water. Besides, almost every one that goes there takes the fever and ague; and other fevers, which they call the lake fever and common fever, are also prevalent. . . . New Brunswick, including St. John and Miramichi, has a soil, in general, more sandy and light, except a long way up St. John's River, than that of Prince Edward Island. Nova Scotia and Cape Breton have timber as heavy as it is upon the Island, and after that is cleared away, the stones found upon many parts require as much labour as the wood to clear the soil and make it fit for agriculture; and the grain and potatoes are seldom so good in their quality as upon the Island, and much oftener a falling crop is to be expected from the injurious nature of the fogs and blighting damps. . . .

"The Island has the most pure and beautiful air, water of the very best quality in numerous springs, or at no great depth to sink for a dry pleasant soil for cultivation when once cleared of the timber, almost the whole of it sufficiently fertile for all the purposes of agriculture, and seldom a falling crop but when the cultivator has himself to blame for its local situation, the most convenient for trading in all directions, and none of the inland parts far from the shore, protected on all sides from the rude excursions of a foreign foe, and requiring only more settlers, more mechanics of every kind, more clearances, better roads and bridges, oat and barley mills, etc., to render it as pleasant a place to live in as the climate will admit of."

—Letters descriptive of Prince Edward Island, by Walter Johnston, 1820-21.

dentures. The same applies to eye treatment. People needing glasses will have them supplied free, and will be able to pay extra for fancy frames. There are already certain welfare services which provide these for some Britons who can't afford them, but the Health Service will mean that just no-one need go around with faulty eyesight because they have no money to have it corrected.

Specialists will give free treatment to those who have ear trouble and for the deaf, there'll be a new hearing aid, supplied free to anyone who needs it. An expectant mother will have free ante-natal care, the services of a midwife and, if necessary, a doctor, during her confinement, and care for herself and her baby as long as they need it, all for nothing. Local authorities are already running excellent free ante-natal and post-natal services.

People who have to go to hospital to get free, they'll be able to have specialist diagnosis, advice and treatment of all kinds, including care of mental health. Those who wish can pay for the extra privacy of small wards or private rooms, but no-one will be deprived of hospital treatment because they're poor.

Health centres are going to be built in towns and cities where doctors will have their surgeries. Behind them will be the best and most up-to-date equipment that science can supply. These will have to wait until building labour and materials are available, but in the meantime country authorities are going to provide home health services which will treat mothers and children and look after vaccination and home ensuring.

How does the working of the Service affect Mr. and Mrs. Britain? They'll just choose their doctor, same as before—most probably it will be the family doctor they've always had—but instead of paying his bill the United Kingdom Government will pay it! The doctor will provide the same confidential treatment as he does today, and if Mr. and Mrs. Britain don't like him they can change to another. Parents

will choose a doctor for their children, but husbands and wives don't have to go to the same doctor. Doctors will visit patients in their homes if they wish, just as they do now, or they can go to his office. People travelling away from home still get free treatment from any doctor taking part in the National Health Service. Foreigners, too, will get free treatment while they're in Britain. What is it all going to cost? The cost will go in with the whole contribution each Briton makes towards the whole social security plan—the scheme that gives them pensions, family allowances, unemployment and sickness benefits, and so on. For all these things an employed man will pay an insurance stamp costing 6 cents a week, and this payment will cover his wife and family—they're not wage earners—Employed women, boys and girls will pay a proportional less, and special arrangements will be made to cover people who work for themselves. The whole scheme will bring in around \$2,800,000 a week—and the people of Britain will get an entirely free health service.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

SCHOOL TEACHER METHODS

Sir—Now that the fact is established that teachers recommended by the Department, are often very incompetent, let us search for the reason. Is it not for lack of guidance and effective supervision by the Department? But some might say: "Should the fully trained require guidance?" I believe the answer to that question can best be found by examining the methods of other occupations.

A youth goes to work as a junior clerk in a grocery or department store, he may continue this work of practical experience for half a century, yet even at the end of such a long training or experience, the owner or manager does not say to him, you have now been fully trained and so you are fully qualified to make all decisions regarding prices, conditions of sales, etc. Instead even with such long practical experience he is always guided by price tags or price lists, instruction and close supervision.

The training of would-be school teachers consists of less than 200 days of theory study and here I must assert that it is not practical to give more, in fact I believe experience has proven that a month of training in theory is worth the time and cost, so that even these 200 days of training are of little, if any, practical benefit. In other words is the average teacher who now receives the two years course any more competent than the average teacher of a decade ago who only had a one year course?

However, after 200 days of training in theory, the individual is given to understand that he is fully qualified to be a teacher and so is sent forth to teach without further guidance, thus it is necessary for him to establish a method and that is the reason for so many methods. Oh yes, he is given as a guide a "Course of Studies," which is a vague outline of the studies that constitute the different grades, but it is so vague that it is not uncommon to find many interpretations of its contents.

And what supervision does he receive? I submit that the principal, because a supervisor will generally visit each school term, possibly three times. His visits are for the amazing duration of about two hours, during which time he spends mostly examining the pupils' general knowledge, such as having the pupils estimate what they consider to be ten feet of classroom space, or if it is a pleasant day outdoors he may have them go forth to estimate the size of the school building or school grounds. In other words a sort of practical test of the pupils, something they may have learned at home or from a former teacher, but there is seldom, if ever, an effort made to establish if he learned it from his present teacher.

It is a common practice of supervisors to group several grades and give them the same test, naturally the more advanced grades make a better showing than their junior grades, but that reveals little, if any, evidence of the current teaching.

Therefore without any guidance or effective supervision being given to the teachers by the Department, I submit that responsibility for lack of uniform method of teaching should be placed directly and entirely upon the Department, which has failed in its most important duty. With your permission I will comment upon the attitude of the Department in another letter.

I am, Sir, etc.

PARENT

will choose a doctor for their children, but husbands and wives don't have to go to the same doctor. Doctors will visit patients in their homes if they wish, just as they do now, or they can go to his office.

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