

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, JULY 5, 1949

Mr. McConnell's Appointment

During its long service to the community the Charlottetown Y.M.C.A. has had many capable and devoted general secretaries, but none who has filled the position with greater satisfaction to all concerned than Mr. James McConnell.

In the few years in which he has been one of us, a new Charlottetown Y.M.C.A. has arisen which is one of the finest institutions of its kind in Eastern Canada.

World Food Supplies Improve

In making an appraisal of the world food situation in April, 1949, the Food and Agriculture Organization reports that world food production and supplies in 1948-49 were materially higher than in the previous year, and the grain surplus the highest since 1930-31.

A number of important developments during 1948-49 afford general evidence of a turn for the better. Chief among these was the discontinuance of international allocations of all foodstuffs except rice, though for other important commodities like cereals and fats a close watch is maintained with the possibility of resuming allocations should the situation deteriorate.

The benefit of the increase in food supplies has been felt mainly in Europe, where supplies per person have probably increased by about ten per cent compared with the previous year.

Immigration On Increase

The latest annual immigration figures released by the Department of Mines, Ottawa, show that since the end of the war, nearly 300,000 people have immigrated to this country, the vast majority of them from Britain and Europe.

Although this sharp increase was registered in the total, there was an actual falling off in immigration from two sources, Britain and the United States.

The figures show a substantial increase in emigration by refugees from countries now under the control of Russia.

Of the 125,603 immigrants in the last fiscal year, the individual group, 37,660, was made up of farmers, farm workers and their families.

Skilled workers and their families made up the second largest group, 24,657, and unskilled or

semi-skilled workers and their families, totalling 16,683, accounted for the third largest.

Nearly half the total, or more than 62,000 of the newcomers, made their homes in Ontario.

One point of regret, made apparent by the report, is the almost complete disappearance of emigration from Iceland to Canada.

Incidental information to be found in the statistics includes the fact that Mexican immigration to Canada increased by 100 per cent— from two to four.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Saturday saw a tremendous advent of American citizens here visiting relatives, or just on tour.

"Dog Days" is not exactly an appropriate time to enter upon by-elections, but needs must when the Provincial government drives.

At Kensington, today and tomorrow, P. E. I. credit unions and co-operatives look back over their year's record and forward to a proposed Island Co-operative Service.

The furnishing of Green Gables with authentic period furniture should not prove difficult. There must be any number of farm homes having pieces of furniture.

"As you were" is the outcome of the soldiers' vote at the general election, confirming the Canadian Press admirable compilation and publication of returns last week.

Two-month long school holidays are entering their second week and some youngsters probably wonder how they will pass the time until school again opens.

Evidently there was too much holidaying to prevent Islanders providing their full quota for the Red Cross blood transfusion reserve.

Two hundred years ago the German poet Goethe was born, and today in the small Colorado town of Aspen a fortnight-long festival commemorates the event in the form of starting a world-wide Goethe revival.

This is how one Nova Scotia firm advertises: Famous Last Words: "Just One More Drink Won't Hurt!" There's only one thing worse than a drunken driver; and that is, two drunken drivers!

Farmers over the weekend, having had time to study election returns, declare that the Liberals could have had two members in Queens, were it not for the fact that in the city residents split their votes.

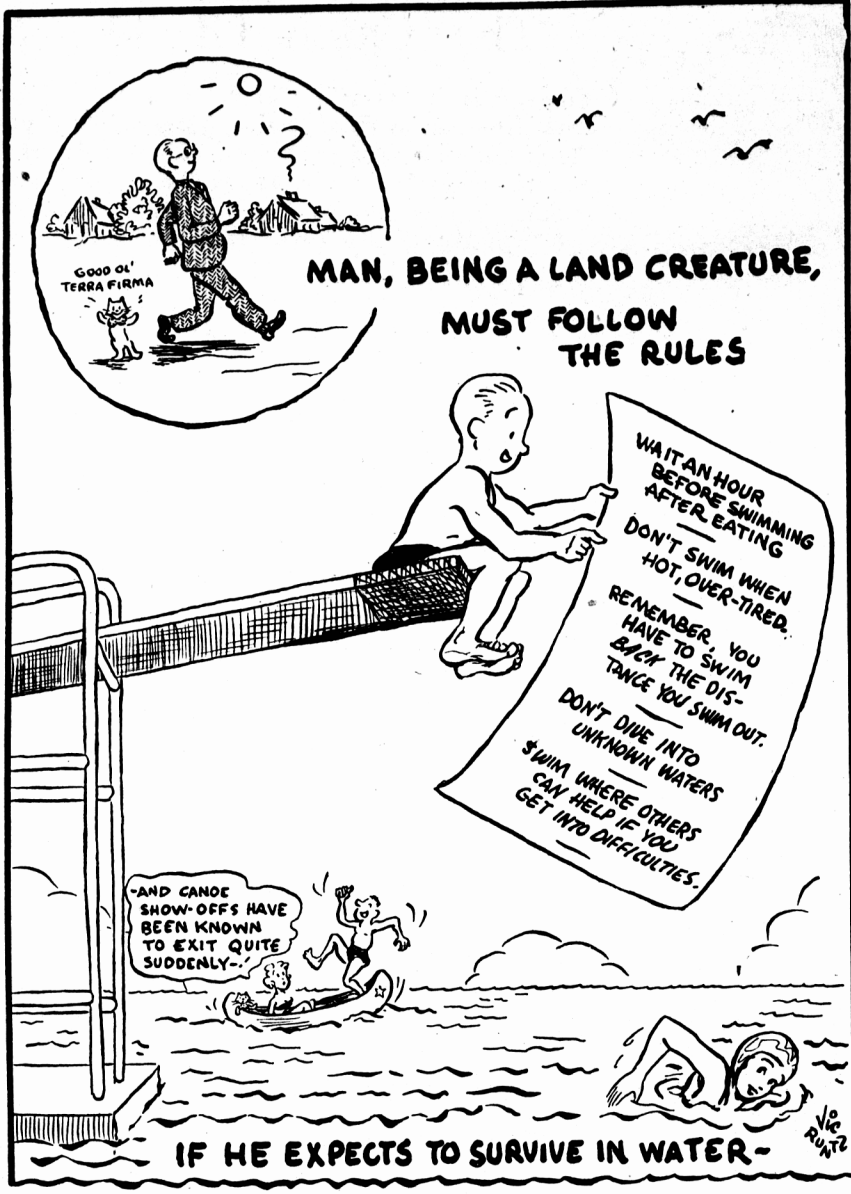
A London dispatch says Tommy Atkins will go to battle next time in collar and tie. The British Army Council announced that shirts and neckties, hitherto worn by "other ranks" only when off duty, in future will be the uniform at all times, including battle.

We have nothing on the English public spirited housewife when combining official duties and domestic chores. Mrs. Nan Harris, mayress of the Cheshire town of Stalybridge serves tea and coffee at the railway station buffet to help pay for the education of her 19-year-old son, a medical student at Manchester University.

Cecil John Rhodes, British Colonial statesman, born this date 1853, died in 1902. At the age of eighteen was sent to Natal for his health, being T.B. With his brother Herbert he made a fortune in Kimberly diamonds, then recently discovered; he founded De Beers Mining Co. in 1880.

Now that the big election is over and a minor election in the offing, let the powers that be exercise caution and economy in their undertaking by refusing to open up any new roads in this Province at the present time for a trans-Canada highway, but rather let them widen and prepare the roads that we already have for that highway.

DON'T DROWN



PUBLIC FORUM

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

SOLILOQUY ON "THE ISLAND"

Sir,—It is the time of the evening which Scots call "the gloaming" when the sun has set and the afterglow bathes the earth with a faint luminous light strong enough to make distant objects visible and soft enough to smooth away harsh lines.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

COL. LANE'S EXPERIMENT

"We notice with a good deal of interest that the Hon. Colonel Lane has been experimenting with a small piece of bog land, one corner of a farm which he owns near the town, lying on the north side of the road to Brighton Lodge.

Up from the river on the opposite hillside rise other people's fields and woods to the church on the crest of the hill, outlined dimly against the fast darkening sky.

I am, Sir, etc., "CAMERON".

PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS

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The Poet's Corner

SOUTHWEST

In the dry, brown dust of centuries Where rings of stone once sighed The wind this season sounds of drums Announcing rain that never comes.

Time in its endless cycle seems A force that cuts the earth like streams, Where years in flash-floods flowed and ceased, Leaving a land where time means least.

—Robert Westrand in the Christian Science Monitor.

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"We notice with a good deal of interest that the Hon. Colonel Lane has been experimenting with a small piece of bog land, one corner of a farm which he owns near the town, lying on the north side of the road to Brighton Lodge.

I am, Sir, etc., OBSERVER.

PLATYPUS LIVING COSTS

MELBOURNE, Australia. (CP)—Melbourne zoo has cut the price of worms used to feed their platypuses from four to two shillings for a two-pound jar.

Tunnel Might Have Lost Dunkirk Army

(By Major General Sir Edward Spears in the London Times.)

Recent letters in favor of a Channel tunnel produce some very curious arguments. One correspondent invokes Marshal Foch, whose main interest was the safety of France rather than of Britain, as saying that victory would have been won earlier had there been a tunnel in the 1914-18 war.

He forgets that as the Germans would certainly in that case have swept down the coast in 1914, the tunnel would have been used by them to invade us or blown up in the first few weeks of the campaign.

We were able to save Europe, thanks to the Channel, in this last war as in others. Not for the first time "England saved herself by her exertions and Europe by her example."

Another correspondent states that the existence of the tunnel would have been of great benefit at Dunkirk. There can be no doubt whatsoever that the contrary is the case.

Had there been one, Hitler would have hurled his Panzer divisions into the surging, almost helpless masses on the beaches, for he would have been determined to prevent their escape through the tunnel; whereas in the circumstances of 1940 he believed them to be doomed, and therefore failed to take adequate measures to prevent their evacuation by sea.

Had there been a tunnel, the government would have had the terrible choice of blowing it up and abandoning our army, or of running the certain risk of the Germans coming through it.

That is why in every war fully primed bridges always remain undestroyed: the order is not given in time for fear of abandoning some of your people on the wrong side.

No amount of tourists weighed down with dollars could ever counter-balance the loss of our priceless insularity, and it has been proved that our best contribution to European freedom is to preserve our own safety.

The Age-Old Story

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the Spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you; and on their part He is evil spoken of, but on your part He is glorified.

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Notes By The Way

The fact that the city received—and accepted—a bid of over par for \$34,000 worth of debentures, bearing interest at three and a half per cent, is a fine tribute to the excellent financial condition of Niagara Falls.

As the main cash crop of farmers in this area is potatoes, more and more attention is being given to it. This year 11 varieties are being grown in large plots and record will be made for each variety of its general growth, disease resistance and yield and marketable quality of the crop, part of which will be placed in storage and later tested for table quality.

Members of the Experimental Farms at Ottawa and at Morden, Manitoba, Raspberries, currants and gooseberries are on test, as well as a wide assortment of the common garden vegetables.

We think it shows a poor spirit if a more or less important member of an embassy staff should expect to have the right to break the traffic laws or any other law, and imperiously claim that the laws of Canada, local, provincial, or national, should not apply to him.

Members of an embassy staff, be they the top diplomat or just a minor clerk, set an example in observance of the laws of the country they are appointed to; the same observance of the laws as the people of Canada are required to submit to, and the same observance which they would expect Canadians to observe in their own country.

This privilege of diplomatic immunity has been abused in the past. There should at least be a line drawn specifying where it begins and ends, and what exactly constitutes a diplomat.

There is unquestionably a large measure of truth in the statement by Miss Emma Dunn, lecturer, teacher, writer and actress, that too much satisfaction with what we have is the type of disposition which prevents the world of many improvements.

It is an old joke about politicians kissing babies and feminines who are long past the baby stage, but we had thought that in this changed era the practice of kissing candidates had become outmoded.

It is no secret that Nazi tendencies have by no means been eradicated from German life. Large numbers of Germans have not been convinced that Hitler's way was a bad way, and erstwhile Hitlerites continue to show their totalitarian inclinations in many overt ways.

There is a law which forbids publication of anything that would "weaken the power of the German Reich in its foreign or domestic relations," or anything that would contravene the "common will of the German people, German fighting power, culture or economy," or anything contrary to "German honor or dignity."

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