

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink." CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1944

St. Patrick's Day

Historians have differed as to which country may claim to be the birthplace of St. Patrick. England, Scotland and Ireland have been named as the original home of the man whose career has set up for all after ages a mark of inextinguishable light. The main point to note, however, is that of sixty-three memoirs concerning this great missionary, the biographic sketch in four books penned by four of his own disciples, the "Confessions", written by his own hand, "The Life of St. Patrick", written by the monk Jocelin in the 12th Century, and the work of St. Evin, Abbot of Ross, entitled "Vita Tripartita Sancti Patricii," wear the stamp of authenticity, and amongst others, testify to the immense moral and spiritual power wielded by this great early gospel.

Probably few people even at this day realize how closely the history of the settlement of Christianity in the British Isles is bound up with the name of St. Patrick, or that the services rendered by Ireland to the early Church when the imperial power of Rome had collapsed and the spiritual kingdom was struggling for utterance, are today recalled by the relics of early Christian architecture profusely scattered over Irish soil. The shamrock is still the breathing springtime symbol of the shepherd and saint whose illustrious example has done so much towards awakening those quickening impulses communicated by the Irish people to science, art, literature and religion.

The observance of St. Patrick's day in Charlottetown will be along the fine old traditional lines, with a parade to St. Dunstan's Basilica by the members of the Benevolent Irish Society and a fine entertainment in aid of the Society's humanitarian activities, which is sure to draw big houses at the Prince Edward Theatre this afternoon and evening.

About Mr. Speaker

In the House of Commons last week, after the House had twice divided on challenges to the ruling of the Speaker, Mr. J. M. MacDonnell spoke of the "lamentable" situation under which the House could not discuss the Speaker's rulings. "There is a danger," he said, "that your (the Speaker's) great office is going to be dragged down, if it is not now down."

The remedy, suggests the Ottawa Journal must go deeper. "For we doubt greatly that the prestige of the Speaker, which in all conscience seems low enough, would be enhanced by debates over his decisions, which would likely produce a greater tendency to challenge them, with more waste of time, and probably as many divisions. The better course would be to take the Speaker out of party politics, to give him here, as they give him in England, an acclamation in his constituency.

"In England, and indeed in Ireland, the Speaker is kept above politics (in Eire, two weeks ago, defeat of Mr. De Valera in the Dail, left the same Speaker in the chair). In Canada, the Speaker is practically a Government appointment, nominated by the Prime Minister, and his election made certain by the Government's majority. Moreover, when Parliament dissolves, the Speaker, forced to seek re-election to the House, becomes a partisan, enters the fray as a partisan, and proceeds to denounce the opposing party. Is it not in human nature that the rulings of such a man—especially if he happens to be a weak man—are often received with suspicion?"

Farmer Psychology

The peculiar position in which the farmer finds himself today is thus aptly summed up in the Lethbridge Herald:

"He's the only man who is under price ceilings by reason of food contracts negotiated by the Government. He is the only man who isn't allowed to export his own produce. And he's the man who is the butt of all the consumers' ire over rising prices. He hears all the clamor whenever the price of pork chops goes up, but he has never heard of any of the general consumers' leagues making any representations to the Ottawa Government about the increases in automobiles and trucks, farm machinery, boots and clothing, the price of steel or the high cost of gasoline or whiskey. And his reaction to all this is that, seeing he's not being given very much encouragement to produce nor a word of thanks because Canadians are eating bread from wheat that's a good deal more than a dollar under the prices which Canada is getting for all wheat sold to countries other than Britain, he had better conserve his resources and not go all-out in production. If what he is doing is not going to be appreciated, why get in a lather about producing more?"

"It's not a very good psychology to be engendered at a time when we're having inflation because we have more dollars than goods. But it's just what the Government and the grumbling of the people over food prices are doing to the Canadian farmer today—believe it or not! He doesn't appreciate the efforts to keep him in a straitjacket when everybody else is out to get the last dollar."

EDITORIAL NOTES

"The New Look" at the Charlottetown.

St. Patrick's Day—Ireland's Patron Saint.

These are great days in our history—those alive twenty-five years hence will look back in wonderment that they passed through them with so little thought of the outcome.

Since last Nov. 17, when dollar-saving restrictions went into effect, the CBC has paid \$4,281 in United States currency to American artists, singers and musicians.

Canada's armed forces have been reduced to 33,827 officers and men in the active branches of the army, air force and navy, the Government disclosed in a series of written answers to parliamentary questions. The heaviest concentrations are in central, western and northwestern Canada.

The United Kingdom food ministry has lifted the ban imposed last September on banquets of more than 100 guests, but stipulates that licenses must still be obtained for affairs costing more than 12 shillings six pence (\$2.50) a head, including service charge.

The Old Country's reaction to Australia's proposal to take over a substantial proportion of her population, industry and debt seems to be thanks, but we intend to stay in business at the old stand.

The Canadian armed forces have 5,434 commissioned officers, of whom seven are not Canadian citizens, the Federal Government said in a return tabled in the Commons. There are 1,199 in the R.C.N. and R.C.N. (Reserve); 2,290 in the army and 1,945 in the R.C.A.F.

The Ottawa Journal has rediscovered that it is cheaper for governments, like individuals, to pay cash rather than finance on borrowed money. Not many governments, however, would ever accumulate in advance the funds for a major undertaking, so the relative cost is of merely academic interest.

Edmund Kean, English actor, born this date 1787; was a grandson of Henry Carey, the reputed author of God Save The King. After playing in various touring companies, he appeared as Shylock in 1814 at Drury Lane, and had instant success, the theatre clearing \$80,000 profit during his first season. He was equally popular in America on his visit there. Returning to London he resumed the part of Othello, but broke down at one of the performances, and died shortly afterwards at the early age of forty-five, the greatest tragedian of his time.

When the Liberal Government introduced their Civil Service Act, the Opposition criticized it from two points of view. They held it was a move to continue in office Liberal appointees and so prevent new appointments being made by a succeeding government, which, desirably if not necessarily, wished to have for advice certain men and women on whom they could rely politically. Likewise they contended it would constitute the employees of the Government masters instead of servants. The present Government is reaping the fruits and it would not be at all surprising were a move made to dispense with the Civil Service Act entirely.

In connection with Britain's abolition of the 75% American tax on films, it transpires that United States producers will be allowed to take out of Britain \$17,000,000 of their annual earnings on their films shown. This is about a quarter of what American film companies earned in 1946. In addition, they will be allowed to withdraw in dollars a sum equivalent to the earnings of British films shown in the United States, its possessions and the Philippines. The \$17,000,000, therefore represents a minimum figure which will be swollen by the size of British film earnings in the United States. Last year British-earnings in the United States were about \$4,000,000. The \$17,000,000 figure covers earnings from old films as well as the new ones to come.

It appears from the evidence presented before the Hong Kong Royal Commission in 1942, says The Gazette, that up to the time of their departure from Canada, the men of neither of Canada's units had had any training with the two-inch mortar. They had never fired a three-inch mortar, an anti-tank rifle, an anti-aircraft machine gun, a rifle grenade, or even a sub-machine gun. They had never thrown a live bomb. Moreover, the men of the Winnipeg Grenadiers had never even fired their Bren guns, and until just before their departure, had never fired service ammunition with their rifles. Yet it was the finding of Sir Lyman Duff that "Canada sent forward, in response to the British request, an expedition that was well-trained." Sir Lyman's conclusion seems to be at variance not only with these facts as to the degree of their training, but it is at variance also with the report from Hong Kong of Brigadier J. K. Lawson, the commander of the Canadian expedition (which is part of the tabled evidence), as well as with the report of Major-General C. M. Maltby, the commander of all the Commonwealth troops at Hong Kong (which was recently released for publication by the British Government). The points that emerge are these: the best evidence was not available in 1942; the most important part of the evidence given in 1942, while being suppressed as secret has been publicly interpreted from only one point of view; and much of the evidence that has been made available does not seem to support the findings of Sir Lyman Duff. From these facts, at least, some quite substantial conclusions may be drawn.

Notes By The Way

Mathematically speaking, people who think by the inch and talk by the yard should be moved by the foot. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

In Detroit a beauty parlor has opened which declares itself to be exclusively for men. It won't last. Women will worm into it, just as they did into barber shops. — Peterborough Examiner.

"Though grocers made their appearance in the 14th Century," says a historian, "the poor could not afford to patronize them." Must be presently caught in a cycle, wouldn't you say? — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

It is still true that agreement among the great powers offers the only conceivable surety for unity and peace in Europe. This has been consistently the hope of the western powers. It is not they who have decided to go their separate ways in a continuing perilous divided. From the first the Russians have sought cooperation only on their own terms. — The Times, London.

Traffic officials in Winnipeg are experimenting in pedestrian control. Special "Walk-Wait" lights have been installed at the intersection of Postage and Donald. So far pedestrians seem to pay little attention to the lights. The majority still cling to the Winnipeg tradition of jay walking and bucking traffic. The new "Walk-Wait" lights are synchronized with vehicular traffic signals. They do not provide for an interval in which pedestrian traffic alone moves across the intersection. — Winnipeg Tribune.

A high-grade toy-works is to be opened in Britain which will give employment exclusively to disabled miners. It will provide work for about 200 men who will be cared for by resident doctors provided by the management. The scheme is being sponsored by the chairman of the Austin Motor Company and is his personal idea. It will run without profit. Most of the necessary raw materials used for making these toys will be steel and leather left over from the manufacture of Austin cars. The first toys which the new factory will produce will be racing cars and open touring models. They will be finished up to the usual high standard of Britain's full-sized cars and fitted with dummy engines and pneumatic tires. They will be a good size and it is anticipated that they will find a ready market abroad as well as in Britain itself. — St. Thomas Times-Journal.

We suspect that men, who are confined by tradition to a few types of standard headgear, are a little envious of the ladies' wide choice of hats and their blithe bravery in pioneering new styles. It is just possible that the frequent snickering at the women-folk, and the charge that they are slaves of fashion's whim, are an expression of a masculine inferiority complex. Perhaps men unconsciously hanker for return of the days when gay blades wore colorful wide-brimmed hats with silver buckles and a splash of soft feathers cascading over the side and down the back. Perhaps their criticism of the ladies is really intended only to distract public attention from their own sullen obedience to the rule of monotony in clothing. Not having the courage to be sartorially venturesome, they pretend that they like themselves as they are, and ridicule anyone else who dares to be different. — Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Plenty of people are always hoping to get something for nothing. Stafford Cripps knows that easy money is more attractive to most people than hard work, but he cast his vote for the latter when approached by a group of bankers proposing a \$2,000,000,000 state lottery as a solution for Britain's economic crisis. Sir Stafford's religious and an astute one — gave sound practical reasons for rejecting the scheme. He may well have agreed with the further objection of the Churches Committee on Gambling that Britain needs production above all else, while a lottery "undermines the spirit of disciplined work." It is a curious and discouraging fact, in the context of the present-day Britain, that of being a "capitalist" slogan, intended to keep the worker a "wage slave." You can gamble on the toughness of British moral fiber. More exactly, you can build on it. — Christian Science Monitor.

H. M. S. Worcester, famous old wooden-ware training ship lying in the Thames off Grays, is, by decision of the Admiralty, to be broken up. Built 115 years ago, she was first named H. M. S. Royal Sovereign, but after being redesigned as a screw steamer, was launched again in 1860 as H. M. S. William Frederick, a 425-ton ship of the line. Seventeen years later she was taken over by the Thames Nautical Training College and renamed H. M. S. Worcester. The college returned her to the Admiralty in 1945 on receiving a new H. M. S. Worcester, which lies at present off Greenhithe, Kent. About 5,000 cadets were trained in the old H. M. S. Worcester for commissions in the Royal Navy and the Merchant Navy. Although the ship is no longer used, her maintenance is costly. Disposal will be difficult as parts of her hull are in poor condition. — Exchange.

LINSLADE, Buckinghamshire, England — (CP) — A rat-catcher here claims there are no rats left in Linslade.

Lenten Meditations

(From The Times)

TRIUMPH OF FAITH

In the first Epistle of St. John, the expression "the world" is used with different meanings, but most characteristically it signifies everything in human life which is antagonistic to the life of the spirit. The aim, therefore, of the spiritual life is to overcome it. Such a conception, indeed, raises many questions, for it seems to imply that the world must be thought of as an enemy. But the Christian must love the world, even as "God so loved the world"; for it is love alone that can redeem. The enemy, it may be, but "the beloved enemy."

The Christian will not overcome the world by regarding it as something alien from himself. He may be thought of as standing over against the world order, yet, paradoxically, he is part of that order and cannot isolate himself from it. The world can be overcome only by maintaining contact with it at every point and by sharing its life, as indeed the Christian is bound to do.

In the early centuries many Christians separated themselves physically from the world and retired to the desert or the wilderness, by which action they deprived the world of the very influence it sorely needed. The modern Christian is unconsciously following their example when he thinks of his religion as having no concern with politics, economics, or international affairs.

But this victory must be seen as a process not of destruction but of redemption. To destroy the enemy can never be more than a partial victory; but to win him to friendliness and cooperation by changing his mind is truly to triumph over him.

The secret of such a triumph is faith, and faith in St. John's Gospel is defined as belief in Jesus as the Son of God, that is, as the ultimate revelation of the Father, and therefore as the final word about man and his destiny. For him who so believes there can never be any subjection to the spirit of defeatism, no matter how desperate the situation may become.

Winter In Bermuda

(Exchange)

The Bermuda Islands are on the peaks of a submerged extinct volcano, and consist of irregular low hills of coral limestone and sand dunes. Bridges link together the five larger islands, and about one hundred and fifty islets are strewn around the sounds and bays. Reefs surround the little archipelago and protect the coastal waters from sharks which, I am told, do not enter inside the reefs. There are a few fairly deep passages which allow vessels to enter the harbors. The archipelago, which is roughly oval in form, is about nineteen miles long, and the total area is nineteen and a quarter square miles. Hamilton, roughly in the centre of the island group, is now the capital. It is a busy little city and has good shops which cater to the tourist trade, the islands' main industry. The population of the islands is about 35,000 of whom one-third are white.

In between the hills are pockets of good soil, reddish in color, formed of a combination of coral dust and vegetation. The farmers are mostly of Portuguese stock, descendants of people who were encouraged to come to the islands about one hundred years ago.

I was interested in seeing the farming districts and traveled by the "Middle Road" for this purpose. The small fields looked well cared for. The Portuguese, I was told, are very industrious. I was also told that they still follow the farming customs of the old land, planting by the seasons of the moon, and that on a moonlight night it is not uncommon to see them out with lanterns planting.

There is no grain farming, the crops being vegetables, fruit, and lily bulbs. Two crops a year can be grown of most vegetables, winter and spring being the best growing season. Vegetables were the tourist trade has been developed the produce is all consumed on the islands. Easter lilies are grown for the bulbs which are exported. There is also a perfume factory where perfumes are made from flowers.

All over the island I saw bananas growing, a dwarf species, the fruit small but sweet and of good flavor. Another fruit is the pawpaw, used as a vegetable when green, and as a fruit when ripe. Oranges were one of the principal exports many years ago, but insects and disease destroyed the trees. During the past few years efforts have been made to re-establish them in the industry, and I have seen oranges and grapefruit growing in some gardens, also locusts, castor beans and coconuts.

A limited number of cows are kept on the islands, and for these feed must be imported. Heralds of good stock are being maintained. The Guernsey being most favored. The fresh milk supply is augmented by canned milk, which is imported from Canada and the U. S. I have noticed quite a number of goats. Butter, eggs and meat are also imported, chiefly from the United States and Argentina, the local supply being very limited. Everything of a cereal nature is imported. I learned that the land under cultivation totals 1200 acres, and that few farm holdings are more than ten acres.

Customs Union With U. S. Proposed

(Life Magazine)

Canadians are the closest friends we have in the world, and they are in serious economic trouble. From the U.S. they need, and deserve, considerably less sympathy about their plight. More than that they need complete and permanent economic union with the U.S. The U.S. needs this too, and so does the future of a healthy world.

Many Canadians, rightly proud of the distinctive nation they have built, will fear the political consequences of an economic merger. Many will believe it would be demagogic to Britain. But Canada's political integrity is not the issue here. Canada's ties with Britain are of the heart, transcending the pocketbook. However the logic of history is forcing Britain into closer ties with the European continent, and so Canada's economic future lies with ours. We are confronted with a new situation which U.S. and Canadian citizens alike are reluctant to face up to. It is that the world order policed by Britain, which permitted Canada and the U. S. to develop their separate cultures pretty much apart from the world's tensions, has disappeared. It is a violently new world now forming.

The sixth-grade geography books always told us that Canada was the world's foremost farmer. She had well-developed markets in Britain and on the European continent. But most of the geography books were printed before World War II, so they don't tell of the tidal wave of British orders and war goods or of the anguishing flood of U.S. war contracts and subcontracts. These made Canada the world's fourth greatest industrial power.

And this wartime industrialization, with its higher wages and profits, brought Canada a definite rise in living standards. When the war ended the Canadians naturally wanted to keep right on, like a 20-year-old air force general.

Canada thought she saw a way. She had the farm and factory production; she also had plenty of customers. England signed up a four-year agreement for the most of Canada's grain at \$1.55 a bushel. This price looked good until U.S. farmers began getting twice as much and Peron held out for \$5. However all Europe clamored for Canada's new industrial production, and price seemed no barrier.

Naturally prices are less bothersome when you count your money as though it were clear-store coupons. And that's what Canada's money is. When the war was ended the Canadians naturally tried to spend it for the U.S. fruits and nylons and gadgets that go to make up a 40% better living standard.

But the Canadians even had an answer to that. They had a wartime accumulation of the U.S. "hard" money. So Canada recently expanded her plants and shipped more goods overseas. In this Canada believed she was serving the cause of humanity, as she was. She exerted a much greater effort, per capita, than did the U.S.

All this necessitated buying a steady flow of coal, oil, machines and raw materials. In addition to luxury from the U.S. Canada always our best customer, became a super de luxe customer. Still her dollars held out.

Dawn, Cold and Gray

Then, one morning in the middle of last November, Canadians awoke to find that they could see the bottom of their dollar barrel, and that their government had responded by trimming the outgo. Canadians who want to buy U.S. machinery have to get special government permission. If Canadians want to play in Miami, they have to figure how to do it. Round trip, all expenses, for \$100 a neat trick.

That rise in living standards is being cut back. The party is over; it hurts. In their less logical moments the Canadians gripe at the U.S. But we must all realize that radical changes have come to the world economy. For example, Britain, who once so very largely clothed the world with textiles, is now hard pressed to decently cover her own people, let alone export enough to pay for her food. The only safe assumption for Canada is that Britain and northwest Europe will be places of austerity, striving for greater self-sufficiency and less food, for some years to come. Even when they do recover, it may be to find populations, which means consumers, permanently depleted by extensive migration.

So, Canadians cannot count upon European recovery to bring them quick or even steady economic improvement. A little help may accrue to Canada from the Marshall Plan, in that the 16 recipient countries will have some "free" dollars with which to fill needs from Canada. But the number and the use of these dollars will be closely controlled in Washington. The true long-term answer for Canada is to export more food and manufactures to the U.S. That answer has been evident for many years. But Canada and the U.S. always had some quarrel or other, from the time Canada refused to join our Revolution on through the fur seal controversy and down to the turn of this century. Then Washington and Ottawa decided it was time to patch things up. Teddy Roosevelt, followed by William Howard Taft, worked a

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THE SCRIBE What lovely things Thy hand hath made: The smooth-plumed bird In its emerald shade, The seed of the grass, The speck of stone Which the wayfarer ant Skins—and hastens on! Thought I should sit By some tarn in the hills, Using its ink As the spirit wills To write of Earth's wonders, Its live, willed things, Ere would the ages On a seedless wing Fly unto My pen drew night; Leviathan told And the honey-fly: And still would remain My wit to try— My worn reeds broken, The dark tarn dry, All words forgotten— Thou, Lord, and I. —Walter de la Mare.

reciprocal trade agreement with Canada. It was a good agreement and was actually approved by the U.S. Congress in 1911. But certain indiscreet Americans began to talk about admitting the Canadian Provinces as states. This so disturbed the Canadians that they elected a new parliament which refused to approve the treaty.

The door was held open until 1922 when in a burst of ignorance about how a creditor nation should act the U.S. Congress passed the regrettable Fordney-McCumber tariff. The U.S. reopened the question in the mid-1930s, but by that time the damage had been done. For to get inside the Imperial Preference tariff wall, U.S. manufacturers had opened branch plants in Canada. So then, as now, when Canadians wanted to increase their exports to the U.S. they had to figure out such things as how Ford of Windsor could compete in Omaha with Ford of Dearborn.

The wartime Hyde Park agreement between Mackenzie King and Roosevelt sent a new flood of war goods into Canada, for use against the common enemy. Today the enemy is hunger, despair, anarchy, Communism. Canada's surplus foods and manufactures are unquestionably needed in the U.S. John LeLachur, himself has shown that she cannot fiscally operate in today's world, and since Britain is fiscally impotent, it is up to the U.S. to act. Done so, we will not only employ Canada's considerable resources but also lighten the impact on our own food and industrial output.

Union Now!

The step we should take is a complete U.S.-Canadian customs union. This means that a manufacturer in Hartford would have no more trouble buying or selling in Toronto than in Chicago. Nor would a Canadian farm-machinery maker have more of a selling market in Iowa than in Manitoba.

Obviously this would mean some initial upset on both sides of the border, and some absorbers might have to be provided for that shock. But the long-term gain would make these upsets seem as trifles. It might open the way, for example, for a considerable movement of U.S. heavy industry to the new iron discoveries in Canada's Cote Nord as the Mesabi Range peters out.

The important thing is to start thinking and acting as partners and not as rivals. The rate and degree of economic integration that is initially desirable cannot be computed exactly in advance. Timing is perhaps the most important thing. It must be quick enough and thorough enough to rescue Canada, but slow enough to minimize damage to Britain. And it must be permanent. Canadians must not be left apprehensive about the reveal of U. S. policy.

Britain is already compelled to find more and more of her economic salvation within the European orbit. In her new position Britain will probably be the first to see that in the 20th Century Canada's lot is inevitably cast with that of the U.S. and so give a brother's blessing to the union. Political integration may be desirable, and welcome, someday, but it is not now an issue. Economic union makes sense now. It is urgent and desirable for both countries. Who's against it, and why?

SEEK PROFESSIONAL DR'S LONDON — (CP) — A committee of seven vice-chancellors and principals from British universities has just completed a tour of displaced persons camps, interviewing those with academic qualifications. Recommendations for their recruitment to professional posts are being submitted. FIRE LIFE B. H. HUGHES AUTO ACCIDENT