

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1948

Grade Crossings

Level crossing accidents took tragic toll of human lives in this Province last year, a fact of which we are reminded by the statement in an Ontario exchange that the ten-year average of accidents on grade crossings in Canada is close to one a day and the death toll 123 a year.

These are scarcely normal times. The city of Philadelphia traded in its old police cars for new ones and received from \$39 to \$91 to boot on the deal. The dealers made their profit on resale of the old cars.

Mr. Raul Raymond is to be congratulated on acquiring the proprietorship of Stanhope Beach Inn. This is one of our oldest and favourite seaside resorts, and has been admirably managed and maintained in days past, especially by Mr. James MacFadyen.

Lord Tweedsmuir, young son of our late Governor-General, has been invited by the Imperial Association of Jamaica to tour the island in order to represent properly in the House of Lords their interests and the views they hold on Jamaican development along modern lines.

Mr. Karn Lewis is an artist of whom the Province has reason to be proud. Though still a student of art in Toronto, he has had the distinction of having his cartoons featured in leading newspapers, especially in Montreal Standard.

John Jervis, Earl of St. Vincent, British sailor and empire maker, born this date 1735. As a captain in the fleet, he took part in the expedition to Quebec, and later shared in three reliefs of Gibraltar, 1780-1782; then turned his attention again to the west as commander-in-chief of the West Indies fleet, assisting in the conquest of Martinique and Guadeloupe; later as Admiral he won the great victory off Cape St. Vincent, for which he was created an Earl.

Mrs. E. S. Blanchard expresses surprise at the attitude adopted by the powers-that-be in London and Ottawa regarding the graves of Canadians who gave their lives in the South African War. The I. O. D. E. was inaugurated by the late Mrs. Clark Murray, Montreal, just for this purpose, and officials were appointed by Government to attend to the work.

When British women are urged by the Government to leave Palestine as soon as possible, it indicates that there may be bloody revolution and civil warfare there before many weeks elapse. The present attitude of the British administration is that the only British function now is to keep order (as far as they can) until the United Nations can assume responsibility, and that as the job is getting increasingly hopeless they want the United Nations to hasten preparations.

The New York Times reports that Cape Town papers have been carrying the story of "the annexation of Prince Edward Island by South Africa" but Islanders will be reassured to find that the P. E. I. in question is situated some 1400 miles southeast of South Africa. A landing party from the frigate Transvaal hoisted the flag of the Union of South Africa. They also landed on nearby Marion Island; while an Australian expedition landed on Heard Island. These islands will, we are told, probably be used merely as weather stations, so there should be no conflict between us and our new found sister isle.

The late Mr. W. F. Tidmarsh, who passed away yesterday, was prominent for many years in all worthy activities and was a tower of strength to such organizations as the Board of Trade, the Charlottetown Free Dispensary and the Red Cross. An able business man, he was also a great humanitarian and student of life and letters. He could talk interestingly on almost any subject, and was particularly well versed in historical and economic matters.

Dr. A. W. H. Needler, director of the Atlantic biological station at St. Andrew's, N. B., reports that lobster fishing has become so intensive to meet demands that the lobster now hardly has a chance to grow much larger than the legal limits set by Federal law until he is gracing the dinner plate. Other biological studies being carried out by the Atlantic station include oysters, clams, scallops, herring, mackerel, speckled trout, smelt and salmon.

Deaths from heart disease claimed 7,634 lives in the January to March period in 1947; as compared with 8,356 in the corresponding months of 1946. The deaths from cancer were almost the same, being 3,587 in the 1947 quarter, as compared with 3,600 a year earlier. On the whole deaths from these most formidable of all diseases show a slight decline, but the toll from cancer discloses little change.

Summing up these figures, there were 33,638 more births than deaths in the first quarter of 1947, this being at the rate of a net gain of 134,552 per year, or of 1,345,552 for a 10-year period.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This year, 1948, marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Boy Scout Movement.

With two exceptions, all the members of the City Council have intimated their intention to offer for re-election next month.

Attempts to get American shipping regulations relaxed have not had much success so far. Canadian vessels, or indeed, any but American, may not carry passengers and freight between Alaskan ports.

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Notes By The Way

Success: A celebrity who makes enough money to pay his agent, manager, fiscal adviser, publicity man, lawyer and taxes. — Victoria Times.

One result of the war, which has passed largely unnoticed, is the abolition of poverty in Britain, observes The New English Weekly of London. Still more remarkable, poverty has been kept at bay for over two years after the conclusion of the war in the face of immense difficulties.

A people's car, with less than half the parts of ordinary cars, and frame-body unit free from rattles, will be produced in South Australia soon. A prototype is now going through a gruelling 5,000 mile road test. Of 7 h.p., and able to run 45 miles on a gallon of gasoline, the car will probably be the cheapest on the Australian market. Except for British electrical equipment and some ball bearings, the car will be wholly Australian made. — From Australian News.

British and German experts figure that the huge Krupp armament works in the Ruhr could begin making big guns in six months from now, says The Niagara Falls Review. Although the huge works were almost continually blasted during the war and turned into twisted masses of stone and steel, it is said that many of the mammoth machines still are undamaged and that the framework of the huge works is not vitally damaged. A team of British demolition experts is busily engaged on the task, but destruction of the machines, made of high grade steel, is not easy. It is to be hoped, however, that the destruction, if it comes, will be thorough and that, even after the occupation, it may be possible for inspectors to make continual investigations to watch for the slightest signs of German rearmament. The great part of the world have been turned into ruins by the Germans. That must never happen again.

Among the Christmas gifts of which we have heard, one that appeals to us particularly is the walkie-talkie-no-back-talkie presented to President Truman. What engaging possibilities it offers! To be able to perambulate at will, to utter, to command, to demand, and to reprimand on a tiny, one-way gadget that permits the hapless recipient no chance to say "but." This should be selected for the gift to the White House all too accustomed to an endless stream of back talk from Capitol Hill. In some ways, however, we are even more taken with another of President Truman's gifts, a walkie-talkie-no-back-talkie. Little pup with the sad slink ears. Let us hope that little Peller will escape the political booby that was directed against his predecessor, Fala. A President who can talk in the buttonhole can give the solid satisfaction of a waggle-doggie at the heel. And Peller, we are convinced from his photographs, will give us back YAP. — Christian Science Monitor.

Some weeks ago we commented on the fact that some bees in Arizona, abandoning the sober and industrious ways of their forefathers, had taken to drink. Recently The Edmonton Bulletin, permeated with the spirit of its favorite tittle, now we are grieved to report that a colony of bees in Manitoba has gone still further on the downward path. Its members have been induced to drink extracts! The colony in question is the property of the Dominion Experimental Farm at Brandon. According to a report by the station at a recent meeting of the Beekeepers' Association of Manitoba, the bees have been fed an extract of alfalfa flowers. The effect of this, apparently, is to give the unfortunate creatures an extraordinary affection for alfalfa. A country doctor, who the New York Herald Tribune aptly avers, is one of the world's best students of life as it is lived from cradle to the grave, from sulphur and molasses to penicillin. Over years of itinerant practice, of seeing children grow up from transportation in baby carriages and buckboards to that of jeeps and motor ambulances, such a doctor becomes much more than an aging medical man with a black bag, a prescription blank, and a bill twice a year. He becomes as sagely experienced as Dr. Irwin, who knows that a cow a day is a way of restoring health and who can declare a marriage license unless they are able to prove that they own at least one cow as four-legged basis for a future family's well-being and a daily source of something to put even hot corn meal mush at supper time. Dr. Irwin's cow-a-day plan deserves applause and imitation, we believe, in any section of our nation where pasture lots and peaked patios exist in the same neighborhood. — Standard Beacon-Record.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

THE WICKED C.C.P.

Sir, — A bad weed is always hard to kill. We thought the thing would wither and die when the election was over. But according to the Press its members are meeting from house to house! There should be a Gestapo to line them up for questioning. There is something "creepy" about them. If, for instance, you offer them five dollars or five thousand they'll not take it unless you join them. Where they operate, in Saskatchewan, they showed their ingratitude to certain liquor interests by not only refusing the gift, but increasing the government tax on the same business! They are not Communists, for Communists close churches. These fellows close schools in that Province. They are not a half dozen schools in one and haul the children in a bus to a central one. They'll likely smother the children in hot buses. We would not want them on P.E. Island! They seem to be following the lead of countries like Sweden, Denmark, Australia and New Zealand — just trying to give a good education to everyone, good health to everyone, rich or poor. But should we work against the Biblical maxim that the poor we shall have always with us? As regards health we have always said — Let the fittest survive. But these people charge the motorist five dollars extra to register his car and insure his life for \$5,000. That encourages suicide! Oh, they make you tired. They give light and power service, but they refuse to work out the way they would use it if they had guns in their hands? Stick to the old methods. Let the rich get richer and the poor increase in numbers! I am, Sir, etc., KENSINGTON, P. E. I.

Old Charlottetown

FAMOUS CHANCERY CASE As at first constituted, the Court of Chancery in Prince Edward Island appears to have been capable of little useful work, while on the other hand it was a powerful engine in the hands of the Executive for the time being, to work out obliquely political or personal ends. Down to the year 1848 the Governor or the person for the time being administering the Government was not the Chancellor. The famous "Contempt Case" of 1832, wherein, on the complaint of Ambrose Lane, son-in-law of the Chancellor, attachments were issued against John Stewart, Donald McDonald, Paul Mabey, John McGregor, William Dockendorf and Thomas Owen illustrates at once the power vested in the Chancellor and the abuse of which it was capable. The country did not approve of the methods and policy of Chancellor Smith in administering the affairs of the Colony or of his court. At meetings held in the several Comities resolutions condemning his administration were passed and it was resolved that the same should be embodied in an address to the Crown praying for the removal of the Governor. The resolutions were published in "The Register," a newspaper edited by Mr. Haszard. They were published by the authority of the persons above named, who had been appointed a committee to send a verbal message to the Chancellor, which Act he had entirely laid aside by his own authority, so far as concerns the officers of the Court of Chancery, and that the alteration has taken place since the Lieutenant Governor superseded the Attorney General in the office of register and Master in Chancery, appointing thereto his son-in-law, Ambrose Lane, a Lieutenant on half-pay.

Too Many Weapons

Figures made public at Ottawa show there are upwards of 300,000 revolvers and pistols in Canada owned by private individuals and registered with the police. They are the pistols for which permits have been issued. Nobody knows how many more there are unregistered. Some of these weapons, no doubt, are obsolete, antiques which could not be fired or which would be more dangerous to the persons fired than to the person fired at. Such curiosities can be only a small proportion of the extraordinary registered total. Some are souvenirs brought back from the wars and kept because they played a part in one of the big moments of a man's life. These instruments, even making allowance for obsolete and curio firearms, the number is still unreasonably large. Each one represents a potential death for someone either by accident or intent. With so many lying around it would be interesting to know how far the habit of gun-toting has developed in Canada, as it has developed or persisted in some parts of the United States. Good Canadian citizens have no need of weapons. The Canadian law-enforcement establishment provides all the protection required in this peaceful country. The remarkable prevalence of curio weapons, as shown by the Ottawa report, suggests that the proper authorities should make a much closer check upon applicants for pistol or revolver permits.

A Soldier's Will

(Hamilton Spectator) The will of a soldier, General Sir Ian Hamilton, was published the other day. To his heirs this famous Gordon Highlander, who had led the Allied attack on the Dardanelles in the First World War left a variety of priceless reminders of the adventurous empire-building days when Britain was well symbolized by a lion. Sir Ian Hamilton was one of a dying generation of Britons who had fought hard and gallantly in distant lands to build up the greatest empire the world has ever known. He had tasted the fruits of victory and he had known the bitterness of defeat. He had been with the men who died like flies before the Turkish fire at Gallipoli. He knew well the blood, sweat and tears that it took to build an empire. In his will, bequests included: To Winston Churchil—a black Buddha "taken by Ghurka orderlies and myself from the deserted temple near Mandalay during the Burmese War... In the worst stage of politics and when the heathen most to rage, a glance at the placid features of this emblem of divinity will help him to keep smiling." To his great-nephew, Alexander Hamilton—"In the confident belief that when the occasion arises he will lead his men bravely into

The Poet's Corner

FALLING STAR It came out of the midnight heaven, Past Jupiter by three degrees, And fell somewhere between Farr's barn And Sugar Hill, behind the trees. But for sixty seconds by the clock The path it made was there; A long, thin, glowing green Half way to heaven in the midnight air. And where it shone there in the sky, A whippoorwill long since still Cried out three times, From the dark top of Sugar Hill, As if to say he knew Where their ingratitudes to certain liquor interests by not only refusing the gift, but increasing the government tax on the same business!

But a man who saw it happen Would know that there are things apart From human understanding out there As well as in the heart. —August Derleth in New York Herald Tribune.

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