

THE GUARDIAN

Morning Daily (Founded in 1867)
Authorised as Second Class Mail, Post Office
Department, Ottawa.

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1949

"Exceedingly Worth While"

"Although voluntary effort in the fight against tuberculosis has only been part of the struggle, it has been exceedingly worth while and public health authorities tell us there is still plenty of work that can be done," reported President R. Earl Taylor at Wednesday's annual meeting of the Tuberculosis League.

While the history of voluntary effort in combating tuberculosis in this Province goes back to the beginning of this century, it is only in recent years that Province-wide interest and co-operation have been secured.

Grave Dissolution Consequences

However acceptable an early general election may be, the abrupt dissolution of Parliament with its most important business rushed through at breakneck speed is another matter entirely.

Specifically, the dissolution illustrates the insincerity of Mr. Abbott's repeated arguments for what he called "cyclical" financing.

He and other Ministers now get control of the spending in the midst of a general election campaign, without having committed themselves in committee to supply to a single safeguard.

In the meantime the refund of sums paid by citizens no longer liable to income tax is held up indefinitely. This involves 750,000 people, the great majority of whom may be presumed to be electors.

The cyclical Budget theory created last year an inordinately large surplus of \$575,000,000, so that by budgeting for a nominal surplus of only \$87,500,000 in an election year, personal income taxes could be cut by an aggregate of some \$369,000,000.

Cost Of The War

A writer in an American magazine has undertaken to calculate the cost of the Second World War. His figures are staggering. In human lives alone, the cost was 40,000,000. Of these, 10,000,000 men and women were in the armed services of the warring states and 30,000,000 were civilians.

In money it is reckoned that the war cost not less than \$4,000 billions. The size of this figure may be realized when it is observed that the people of the United States, the most productive nation, annually produce goods worth about two hundred and fifty billions.

Since no nation can produce without eating, since nearly all production is needed to

support the people who make it, only a fraction of the total output is ever left over for what the economists call capital investment, including repairs to damaged productive plant. It must be clear, therefore, that to repair losses reckoned at four trillion dollars years of effort will be required.

Much of the bill, of course, has been paid already in the current costs of the war as it proceeded. Much, in the form of damaged machinery and agriculture, has yet to be paid. In the face of the figures we need not be too impatient with the world's rate of recovery from an unparalleled disaster.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Colonel Drew had a grandmother born in Newfoundland, and perhaps he had another ancestor born in New Brunswick, for the name Drew is not uncommon round Sackville and Moncton.

The crowds in the city yesterday are likely to be repeated today and tomorrow, for there is nothing like genuine bargain sales to bring people to market. There is plenty money around, and the ladies like spending it on attractive offerings.

With the adoption of Mr. Kichham as Liberal candidate for Kings the stage is all set here for the election. From now on the candidates and their workers will be busy preparing the ground to bring out the vote on Monday 27th. June.

The return of the cost of living index to its upward trend from 159.2 for February to 159.3 for the end of March seems likely to have some permanence. The inflationary nature of the budget, which though not passed by Parliament is being generally acted upon, will almost certainly keep the index on its upward swing.

To the farmer in Britain socialism is not all beer and skittles. He is heavily subsidized by the state but must farm according to the edicts of the Ministry of Agriculture and the county farm councils or else be ordered off the land.

It has been a joyful and joyous time in the city with such varied musical programmes as have been submitted at the Festival in Prince of Wales College. The oratorical finals in Summerside should prove equally entertaining though there is not the variety that music can provide.

Prime Minister Chieffy of Australia has announced that "as far as I am concerned I shall use the name 'British Commonwealth'." It will undoubtedly be purely a matter of taste how different members or individuals refer to our great family of nations.

On June 23, 1948 the Russians imposed the Berlin blockade because of "technical troubles." Presumably those technical difficulties are now overcome. It is to be noted that the changed Soviet attitude did not follow any attempt at appeasement by the Western powers but rather the clear demonstration that they could and would take the necessary measures to counter the blockade, even through the rigors of winter.

The national leaders of both major parties starting their campaign here highlights the new importance of the Maritimes politically since the addition of Newfoundland. The Big Guns open fire here on their Dominion-wide campaign, the Leader of the Opposition on Monday 9th, and the Prime Minister on Monday, 16th. They will get a splendid reception, for they have honoured us in this early addressing us on the issues of the day.

Edward VII, King of the United Kingdom and Ireland and of the British Dominions Beyond the Seas, died this date 1910; he spent most of his life as Prince of Wales, his mother Queen Victoria living to Jan. 22, 1901 when he had attained the age of sixty. During his brief reign he earned the title of "Edward the Peacemaker" by his tact and diplomacy, and won the affection of his own people and the respect of foreign nations; a good sportsman, a man highly endowed with common sense and savoir-faire, and a conscientious and successful ruler.

A good word for the general medical practitioner. Recent trends in the medical profession show a marked increase in the number of graduates who are becoming general practitioners, Dr. Victor Johnson, of Lunenburg, Ont., told the Quebec Division of the Canadian Medical Association at closing session of its two-day meeting in Montreal. Dr. Johnson is president of the Ontario Division of the Canadian Medical Association.

In money it is reckoned that the war cost not less than \$4,000 billions. The size of this figure may be realized when it is observed that the people of the United States, the most productive nation, annually produce goods worth about two hundred and fifty billions. Thus the United States would have to work sixteen years to earn the total cost of the war, assuming what is impossible, that all their production could be used for this purpose, with nothing left for them to live on.

The Poet's Corner

ON REVISITING THE BANKS OF THE WYE

That blessed mood, In which the burden of the mystery, In which the heavy and the weary weight Of all this unintelligible world, Is lightened: that serene and blessed mood In which the affections gently lead us on— Until the breath of this corporeal frame And even the motion of our human blood Almost suspended, we are laid asleep In body, and become a living soul: While with an eye made quiet by the power Of harmony, and the deep power of joy, We see into the life of things.

—William Wordsworth.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

ELECTION PRECAUTION

From the Journal of the House of Assembly, April 12, 1948: Read a third time, as engrossed, the Bill intitled "An Act to consolidate and improve the Laws for the Election of Members to serve in the General Assembly."

Mr. Palmer moved, that the following clause be added to the Bill, and do form part thereof, by way of rider: "That it shall be unlawful for any person, without command or order from lawful authority for that purpose hereafter to be given, to wear or carry at any Election hereafter to be held or on his journey to, or return from, any such Election, on the day at which such Election shall be held or publicly announced and intended to be held, any offensive or dangerous weapon, or any Staff, Bludgeon, Stick or other Instrument, or article by which an injury may be willfully or unlawfully inflicted on any person whatsoever; and every person unlawfully wearing, carrying or having in his possession at any time as aforesaid, any such weapon or article, shall forthwith deliver up to any Conservator of the Peace, or other Peace Officer, who shall first demand the same, such weapon or article as aforesaid, and the same shall be forfeited to Her Majesty; and every person who shall offend against the provisions of this Section, shall forfeit and pay for each and every offence, any sum not less than Forty Shillings, nor more than Five Pounds."

And the said Clause being thrice read, was agreed to by the House, and ordered to form part of the Bill, by way of rider.

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.

SMOKING HABIT DEPLORED

Sir—Professor Raymond Pearl of Johns Hopkins University, stated from his findings that up to 70 years of age the death rate of heavy smokers was double that of non-smokers. When that information comes from such a high authority, surely sensible people won't spend their money in cigarettes and cut years off of their natural life. The Professor explained from his findings that there are 19 poisons in tobacco and I believe it when we read that a clay pipe had been dug up near the City of London believed to be 300 years old and still smelling of tobacco.

How can the human body survive when it is absorbing these poisons through smoking? People never knew before that smoking was so fatal. King James of this age gives the best description of it. In his Counterblast to Tobacco he calls tobacco smoking "a custom loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs, and in the black stinking fumes thereof nearest resembling the horrible Stygian smoke of the pit that is bottomless."

These quotations speak volumes against smoking and if smokers want to get clear of this untimely evil Prof. Pearl leaves directions how to do it. He says, "Don't try to taper off, but mobilize your will power and stop at once; keep away from smokers; after each meal for a week rinse the mouth with 3-4 of 1% solution of silver nitrate, which creates a distaste for tobacco smoke, and relieves throat irritation; chew ginseng root or camomile blossoms; change the diet from seasoned foods."

I am, Sir, etc. ANXIOUS

The Age-Old Story

He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment. He shall deliver the needy when he crieth, the poor also, and him that hath no helper. He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy.

THE SHOW IS ON - SEE SOMETHIN' LIKE YA AIN'T SEEN IN YEARS - STEP RIGHT UP NOW!



IN FULL SWING NOW THROUGH MOST OF JUNE.

Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON, England: The novelty has not worn off, yet. What novelty? Well, there is only one novelty in London at the present time worth speaking of, and that's "the lights". All the world knows that electric lighting for advertising, for shop signs and for pure decoration became permissible again in England at the beginning of April after almost ten years of prohibition. First it was the war and the blackout that put an end to it, then, when the war ended, it was still banned because of the need to conserve electricity for factory power.

Now, for the summer months at any rate, there is a relaxation, and we can all burn all the electricity we like, as long as we have the money to pay for it. But you read all about this when it happened weeks ago, yet the great "switch-on" was only the start of the story, for it is a story which still fascinates us. We have all been so starved of bright lights for so long that this is one novelty that will not wear off in a hurry, and it will be many weeks before Piccadilly Circus is without its little (or not so little!) groups of people who have come up to the West End just to gaze at the night finds there.

Every night finds there, just gazing, rather like children around a Christmas tree. What they see is not particularly wonderful from the artistic point of view. The big electric signs are not arranged to any special pattern; many seem to have been put up just wherever they happened to be a bit of room, and the smaller ones have fitted themselves into whatever space happened to be left. Some of the colours clash with others, and some of the products which are advertised make curious combinations with their neighbours, inviting you to spend your money on beer or chewing gum, cigarettes or life assurance.

Occasional American soldiers who pass by seem to be a little puzzled by it all, unable to understand such a fuss over a few electric lights. "Times Square," they say, "has had lights better than these for years." That's just it — Piccadilly Circus hasn't had any at all, for years. And to see them back again after so long an absence, is like welcoming an old friend, and London seems more like itself again.

There is only one little thing that seems to be overlooked in the general spectacle; when all is said and done, it is advertising, paid for by hard cash. To most people it all seems to be just part of the system of things. I suppose the brewery company and the chewing gum manufacturer and all the others who get the bill, think it's worth it. . . .

London is not entirely a system of crowded streets jammed with traffic, smoking chimneys and teeming millions of people. All of a sudden you can turn a corner in the most thickly built up area and come across a scene as rural as anything you'll find in any part of Prince Edward Island. It may be a park or a public common, or part of the one-time private grounds of some medieval castle still defending itself against the encroachments of modern building needs; whatever it is, you can walk at your leisure across soft green grass, stand in the shade of English oak trees or lie on your back and day-dream. Then you can get up again and in a few moments be back in the turmoil of city life, as if you had dreamed the whole thing.

There is an easy way of keeping the grass tidy in many of the parks. Several hundred sheep have just arrived in London from Scotland to be turned loose in the Royal Parks during the summer. They'll feed off the grass and thus keep it nicely cropped; that way, they'll earn their keep whilst bringing an extra breath of the country air to people who can't leave the city.

Exports Essential To Britain's Survival

(United Kingdom Information Office)

Addressing the Manchester branch of the Institute of Export on April 29th Mr. Douglas Jay, M. P., Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said "The United Kingdom's greatest economic problem in 1949 and the years immediately ahead is the necessity of steering our exports to markets where they earn most in terms of real return to the United Kingdom — that is, in fact hard currency markets. The task is now not so much to increase total exports as to steer a higher proportion to hard currency destinations and above all to Canada and the United States. Both these are long-term markets we must sell, and can sell if we try, and where there is the minimum risk of currency difficulties or import restrictions imposed by the Government. We are at present, for instance, buying from Canada more than twice as much as Canada buys from us. This is indeed the main single cause of our dollar deficit. It can only be satisfactorily solved if our sales to Canada are steadily increased, and that can only be done if British exporters on the one hand make a really tremendous effort to enlarge their sales in the Canadian market, and if the Canadian authorities cooperate in making this possible.

We should not deceive ourselves into thinking that the dollar export drive will be anything other than exceedingly difficult. Last year, though our total exports increased so notably and our exports to Canada and the United States also increased, the percentage of the total actually going to those markets increased very little. It has shown little tendency to increase in the early months of this year either. The fact is that exporting to soft currency markets is often easier than exporting to hard currency markets. We live today in a world where owing to the basic imbalance in trading relations many currencies are far more freely convertible, and it is only a prudent recognition of reality to assume that this situation will last for a good time yet. But as long as it does there will be a natural tendency — in the absence of deliberate planning — for our exports to flow in the wrong direction; that is, to soft currency countries where sales are easier. If we allow that tendency to run away with us we shall find ourselves with a persistent surplus of exports to some non-dollar countries (which in some cases may be useful insofar as it enables us to carry out our large and growing colonial investment programme) and simultaneously large deficits with the dollar countries. Unfortunately we cannot because of the basic world dollar shortage pay off our dollar deficit by earning surpluses in softer currencies. This is indeed one of the basic problems we are up against at the moment; and none of our calculations suggest that it will disappear at all easily even by 1952 when Marshall Aid payments end.

Therefore if the United Kingdom is going to be independent of this foreign aid by 1952, as all of us fervently hope we shall, we have got to tackle resolutely the master problem, this job of steering exports to the United States and Canada. The Government has given its lead in this campaign. The President of the Board of Trade set out three weeks ago a special export target for the markets and the method by which the Government would give assistance to industry in its dollar sales; and a special new organization has been set up at the Board of Trade to help and stimulate the whole operation. The Government will be exceedingly glad to give all the help in its power to firms trying to export to those markets, and we shall welcome warmly any practical suggestions for new and perhaps unorthodox methods."

Mr. Jay reviewed the United Kingdom's remarkable export achievement in 1948 when the volume of exports rose 25% above 1947, saying that such a rise in total exports in one year is rare in the history of any great industrial country. The end-1948 total was running at a level of nearly 50% above the 1938 volume. Coal exports fulfilled in 1948

Notes By The Way

A dollar bill, they say, will not crack or break, no matter how often it is folded. However, it will disappear as fast as ever. — Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

Reputable newspapers refrain from making sensational reports of crime, but publishers hold that the citizens of the community have a right to know when crimes are committed, of what sort they are, and how efficient the law officers are in the detection and punishment of offences. Ignorance of what is taking place in their midst is no protection to the citizens of any community. — Brantford Express.

Some people think all business makes a profit, but any investor can testify to the fallacy of the belief. The Department of National Revenue reports that for 1946 there were 7,276 Canadian corporations which showed a profit. In the manufacturing field there were 1,594 corporations showing a loss and 6,998 showing a profit. Thus, the Canadian enterprise system is truly a profit and loss system. — Sherbrooke Record.

Life is still real and one has to be reasonably earnest to get ahead. Too much in the way of hand-outs and doles (even when presented under the guise of "social security") can weaken the moral and intellectual fibre, no less than too much privation and hardship. Let the enthusiasts for uplift bear that in mind. Let them also observe that young people with spirit and stamina are urged to make their mark, properly resent molly-coddling. — Brantford Express.

George C. Grant of Regina tells Canadian hotelmen to guard their beverage rooms jealously, that such rooms are the salvation of the hotel business. He might well have told them also to pay greater attention to the dining rooms. Was a time when the average hotel took pride in the quality of food and service and when many a hotel was famous for this one service. The hotel dining room was the centre of the establishment. The average hotel dining room today has lost its glamour. Food prices in hotels have been increased in recent years but there has been little attempt to keep up the old-time quality. . . .

Mr. Jay mentioned the approaching buyers' market with the disappearance of shortages and competition from reviving countries and said Britain's only answer to this competition lay in the improvement of productive and commercial efficiency.

Success in the voluntary export drive by industry to North America with Government help "Must come very soon if Britain is to win her recovery battle. This objective is so vital we cannot afford to fail. The Government therefore invites everyone engaged in industry to join in the North American export campaign this year and in the years that follow with all the energy, enterprise and determination which the British people, faced by a challenge like this have never failed to show."

Britain's commitments under E. R. P. still needed a further substantial increase. Textile exports showed a remarkable rise and in 1948 (\$1000 million in 1948 were \$1000 million over 1947. Textile exports in March 1949 totalled \$34.7 (\$138.8) millions — an annual rate of over \$400 (\$600) millions. So far this year total exports had maintained their record levels and the volume for the first quarter was 156% of 1938 against 147% for the fourth quarter of last year.

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Canada has done much in recent years to make peace-time life in our services a happy and not too arduous one. But privileges can be abused—and the whole integrity of naval, military and air forces discipline upset—by false notions of "individual rights." If a man thinks enough of his country to wear its uniform and swear allegiance to the King, he must put that loyalty before his own pleasure or convenience. — Vancouver Sun.

The ill-advised habit of driving with one elbow out the window has claimed another victim. A motorist on West was sideswiped by a grain truck. It would have been an extremely minor accident, except for the fact that the driver of the car had his elbow protruding. The sharp edge of the truck caught it, and crushed it against the side of the car. It's just a habit, and a motorist actually is in better control of his car if both elbows are by his side. This isn't the first case where a driver's elbow has been pinned in a sideswipe, and it won't be the last. It's a dangerous way to drive, a profit and loss system. — Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

City bound, one may forget that on either coast the ocean rolls steadily on. Apart from the hustle of people and the whine and roar of traffic, blue of ocean blends with blue of sky, and waves follow one another in long succession to the shore. Seabirds float easily, rising and falling with the swell of the sea. Intercaps and form again, breaking on the shore and rhythmic sound. Gulls shriek and their wings whiten as they soar into the sunlight. Ships ply slowly past. Lighthouses raise sentinel heads. Wanderers make their way along the beach, stopping to dig into the sand or watch the constant motion of the sea. Children shout and old men and gaze into the endless blue. Here, with the washing of the waves and the sharp wet tang of salt, is peace. The ocean rolls steadily, reassuringly, with a solemn undertone. The breeze comes freshly, briskly. Here are wholesomeness and strength. Here are continuity and peace. — Montreal Gazette.

People who, for the first time, chance upon a mass of wild hazel in bloom get the surprise of their lives, in fact, a double-barrelled surprise. While they are enjoying the thrill of discovering a beautiful plant in bloom at a season when things are not supposed to bloom, they suddenly find themselves peppered by a rain of shot. What seem like lead pellets are the seeds of the witch hazel. Oddly, the plant ripens its fruits of last year just as this year's flowers are coming out. Seed pods and flower buds burst open together. A pod has within it a tremendous power. When jarred, it explodes, as it were, and shoots its hard bullet, as they all around us. As a rule, these are hurled about 15 feet, but I have seen them go as far as 30. I pity the man who gets hit in the eye even once with one of these little missiles. Surely, none can deny that a plant—whether or not dignified by the title of a tree—can do such things as reverse the world's seasons and shoot like a gun if endowed with a genuine witchery. — London Free Press.

Cadborosaurus has appeared again off the Pacific Coast and all is well. The sea serpent, which is the most famous tourist attraction by the green shores of Vancouver Island, turns up regularly about this time of year. This season he has been rather late—due, no doubt, to the inclemency of the coast winter. The natives of those parts, we gather, have been worried for some weeks, looking out in vain with their telescopes for the distinguished visitor. The newspapers have had their usual headlines ready but have had to keep them on ice, conveniently provided by the coldest winter season in modern times. Now the long vigil has been rewarded. Cadborosaurus has been spotted himself a few yards from the daffodils off the island shore, apparently as lively, as friendly and as large as ever. The natives are happy. The headlines have burst forth in rank seasonal growth. Spring it may be said, as a rule, has definitely arrived and is moving eastward. Even at this distance Cadborosaurus is a symbol of hope to us on the prairies. If the sea serpent comes, as Shelley might have said, can Spring be far behind?—Winnipeg Free Press.

ALL SEA CADETS — READ THIS NOTICE

All Sea Cadets are requested to attend regular drills every Friday evening 7 p.m. aboard H.M.C.S. Queen Charlotte in preparation for annual inspection to be held May 31, 1949 by Rear Admiral R. Mainguy, R.C.N., and in order to qualify for two-weeks camp at Camp Major, Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia.

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