

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, SEPT. 26, 1949

Visitors On Increase

Evidence of the progress made in the development of our island tourist traffic this year is found in figures just released by the Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa, showing the number of visitors to the National Parks for the period of April 1 to August 31.

Total number of visitors to the National Parks and National Historic Parks of Canada during August was 485,133, bringing the total for the first five months of the fiscal year to 1,502,650, a substantial increase over the record five-month total of last year.

The major increases were recorded by Riding Mountain National Park in Manitoba, Elk Island National Park in Alberta, Point Pelee National Park in Ontario, and Fort Beauséjour National Historic Park in New Brunswick.

Huge Dairy Holdings

The Government of Canada is in the dairy business in a big way. As the Ottawa Journal remarks, nobody in this country ever owned as much butter, cheese and powdered milk as now stands in the name of the Dairy Products Board of the Department of Agriculture.

Buying these products to support prices was a fairly simple matter. Selling, especially if it has to be done in the domestic market, will likely prove a lot more complicated.

"It might be a good thing for all concerned," comments the Journal, "if the Government ministers and officials concerned were a little less secretive and gave some indication of how they propose to distribute the Government-owned stockpiles."

"The Government owns practically all the surplus butter held in Canada today, that is 50 to 60 million pounds in which better than \$30,000,000 have been invested. It has been intimated the Government does not intend to lose money on this, will sell at cost plus carrying charges. But there are complications, such as the need for re-grading and getting it into the hands of thousands of small retail outlets over the Winter months.

"Support prices sound fine as theory on paper but a lot of unforeseen difficulties usually crop up in actual operation. Handling butter is a complicated operation, one never intended for Government officials. And the losses can be substantial."

The Immigration Problem

Devaluation of the British pound has brought forecasts of a further drop in immigration from Britain to Canada. Under the British Government's dollar-saving restrictions, emigrants have been permitted to take to the dollar area only \$250 per year over a four-year period, of their personal capital.

"This," comments the Globe and Mail, "would be a grave misfortune both to Canada, which needs the skilled artisans, farmers and others, and to the Britons desirous of seeking opportunity in a new land. We do not think it is a condition beyond correction, if the Canadian authorities were to approach Great Britain with some constructive alternatives."

Marshall Aid

When Secretary of State General Marshall first suggested the idea of aid to Europe during a speech at Harvard University, on June 5, 1947, he said then that the United States should give assistance to Europe if the European countries combined to formulate a joint program of reconstruction.

The offer of aid was open to eastern Europe, including the Soviet Union. But Russia criticized the program on the grounds that it was intended to help the United States dump its surplus products on foreign markets and to interfere in the internal affairs of the recipients.

The United States has now made it clear that it is going to help to the line first advanced

by General Marshall. Although the U. S. this year has a large wheat surplus, it is not going to force Europe to accept this grain. The money—\$175,000,000—to be spent in Canada will then be important in the United States, for Canada is an important customer of that country.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Feast of St. Cyprian.

Dominion Day, New Zealand.

Mr. James E. McConnell realizes that there must be something radically or financially wrong with a man who does not wish to spend his life in Prince Edward Island where every prospect pleases and only blight is vile.

Repeated collisions and running down accidents at city intersections call for a reconsideration of traffic regulation. The provision of traffic lights might be the answer.

The city of Ottawa is growing in size and population, having recently absorbed Nepean, 7,420 acres and Gloucester, 14,605 acres. When the National Capital Plan is complete it will indeed be no mean city.

Bringing land into production appeals strongly to farmers but may not always prove an advantage. The governments' experts should advise on the probable effect on water tables before we embark on a programme of marsh reclamation.

Plans for a 14,000-mile air race from England to New Zealand in 1953 will recall memories of the clipper that used to race from New Zealand and Australia with wool and from China with tea in another turbulent age.

A published estimate is that the latest eight per cent freight rate increase will cost Maritime shippers about \$3,200,000 so that with the earlier increase of 21 per cent the added load is over eight millions of dollars. Maritime industries will have their difficulties meeting that.

The first shipment of British Fordson Major tractors valued at more than half a million dollars has been shipped from the United Kingdom to Canada. This was announced September 20th by Lord Airdale, Chairman of the Ford Motor Co. He added that the company hoped this initial order would be the forerunner of many more.

Mrs. (Dr.) S. R. Jenkins lived to a green old age. She never sought publicity of any kind but had it thrust upon her in a lifetime of going about doing good. The honour of M. B. E. conferred upon her by King George V. on the recommendation of Prime Minister Sir Robert Borden, was one of the few up to that time bestowed on women. Another recipient was Mrs. (Senator) William Dennis, Halifax, who also had a distinguished career of public service.

Lord Collingwood, British naval Commander, born this date 1750; served the American War, was at the battle of St. Vincent, and went to the Mediterranean; was most celebrated for his part in the victory of Trafalgar, where he led one line of ships in the Royal Sovereign. He was created a baron, just afterwards. His health failed, but he remained at sea, dying on board the Ville de Paris in 1810.

"Perfect freedom is reserved for the man who lives by his own work and in that work does what he wants to do."

Premier Duplessis of Quebec claims that since 1944 his government has contributed \$48,787,900 to social welfare and public assistance. He said Liberal administrations for 40 years before his Union Nationale came to power had done little. Health Minister Paquette said that apart from the recently enlarged Mont Joli Sanatorium, and the Begin Sanatorium, others in Three Rivers, Montreal-Rosemont, Abitibi and Gaspé were either being enlarged or built.

Five years ago next month, in October 1944, the First Canadian Army fought one of its toughest and most important battles of the campaign in Northwest Europe. This was the battle of the Scheldt Estuary. The enterprise was arduous and complex and involved a series of local operations by comparatively small forces operating under almost impossible conditions against heavily fortified positions. At the time, the Allies, as a result of a speedy dash by a British armoured column, had secured Antwerp. This meant if the approaches to the port could be cleared, that the unbelievably long supply lines which had been hampering the Allies in their drive through France, Belgium and Holland, would be tremendously shortened. Much valuable time could be saved in the headlong pursuit of the main German forces. Enemy forces were strongly entrenched on both banks of the Lower Scheldt which connects Antwerp with the sea. Before the port could be of any use to the Allies, the enemy had to be dislodged from these positions. To the Canadians fell the task of clearing the Breskens pocket. Here, German gun positions commanding the estuary had to be destroyed before the Navy could attempt to clear the heavily mined approaches to the port. South Beveland had to be cleared and Walcheren had to be taken although an attack was not launched against the latter until November 1. South-Beveland fell at the end of October, and Walcheren November 7 with the capture of the town of Middelton. The First Canadian Army, including British and Polish formations, was occupied almost a month clearing the Scheldt. Much of its fighting was done in the open, over terrain waist-deep in mud and water. Its men were cold, wet and very weary. Of the operation, both General Eisenhower and Field Marshal Montgomery have said that they consider the battle to be the most important operation carried out by the First Canadian Army in the Northwest Europe campaign.

Curb Sitting Around The Block



WITH THE INSTALLING OF PARKING METERS THIS POPULAR CHARLOTTETOWN SATURDAY EVENING PASTIME MAY NO LONGER BE REGARDED AS FREE ENTERTAINMENT

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)
BOTT'S EVENING SCHOOL

"Mr. J. R. Bott, being sensible of the great utility of such an institution in this Town, and desirous to render himself as useful as possible to the rising generation, respectfully informs his friends and the public that he proposes to open a French Evening School immediately, for those whose occupation may prevent them from attending a day school; and assures them, that every exertion will be made to advance his pupils, and every attention paid to their comfort, and trusts that they soon will be enabled to undertake any kind of business in that language. Terms, &c., may be known by applying to him at his residence in Mr. Thos. Robinson's building, Queen Street, Charlottetown."

Two Good Farmers

(W.A. Clark in the Windsor Daily Star)

Two of Canada's top farmers got together a few days ago when Hon. Thomas L. Kennedy, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, and Hon. J. Walter Jones, Premier of Prince Edward Island, visited some of the fine farms on the island. Mr. Kennedy was down on the million-acre farm for the first time. A top-notch farmer, himself, he was pleasantly surprised with the splendid farms down there. Mr. Jones has one of the good farms of the Dominion. His cattle are world famous and calves draw as much as \$10,000 each for prize Holsteins. He says it is just an ordinary farm and his women folk think he could make it look more fancy with some fancy gadgets, but he likes the farm the way it is and it is recognized as a high class one.

Mr. Baxter's Parcel

(Financial Post)

The most surprised man we have encountered in many a day was Beverley Baxter, Toronto-born member of the British parliament and writer of Maclean's London letter, who was in Toronto last week.

Before leaving London for his Canadian speaking tour, Baxter called his bookseller and asked him to make up a parcel of books he has written so that he could give them to some of his friends here. A few hours before his departure, a parcel was delivered. Baxter looked it over and found it to be a parcel of books he had written. He was in a parcel I haven't had a chance to open. But I'll make a point of opening it tonight.

Baxter opened the parcel. There were no books in it—just two bottles of champagne. The last we saw of him he was still wondering (a) who had wished him so sparkling a bon voyage, (b) where the books were.

The Age-Old Story

(S.H. BURROUGHS)

The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the falling together, and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed, their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain. For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

FRIGHT RECORD SET

KENORA, Ont. (CP) — A 10-year record for freight shipments on the Kenora division of the Canadian Pacific Railway was broken recently. In one 24-hour period, 1,000 cars in 21 freight trains rolled through from Winnipeg.

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.

CIVIC PENSION PLAN

The installation of a Civic Pension Plan is a proper step and worthy the commendation of a citizen. But like any forward and progressive move it must be built on a proper foundation. The statement of Councillor Johnston, corroborated by Mr. J. A. Martin, representative of Canadian government Annuitants, who should have some reliable knowledge on such a subject, would indicate that the plan as submitted may not be actually sound. This is much too important a matter to put into effect without being perfectly certain that the taxpayer of the future will not be a victim of present unsound legislation.

ORGANIZE COUNTY JUSTICE

FREDERICTON, (CP) — Magistrate W.F. Lane of Moncton, N.B., has been appointed county magistrate of Westmorland and Albert counties. The unit is the largest established to date under the New Brunswick County Magistrates Act.

FOILS FIRES

VANCOUVER — (CP) — Brian Ferguson of Vancouver has invented what he claims is an inexpensive automatic fire alarm — a heat-sensitive cord strung close to walls, floors and chimneys. When the heat melts it a bell rings.

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The Poet's Corner

BESIDE THE FIRE

Strag in my easy chair,
I stirred the fire to flame,
Fantastically fair,
The flickering fancies came,
Born of heart's desire;
Amber woodland streaming;
Topaz islands dreaming,
Sunset-cities gleaming;
Spruce on burning spire;
Ruddy-windowed taverns;
Sunshine-spilling wines;
Crystal-lighted caverns
Of Golconda's mines;
Summers, unreturning;
Passion's crater yearning;
Troy, the ever-burning;
Shelly's lustral pyre;
Dragon-eyes, unsleeping;
Witches' cauldrons leaping;
Golden galleys sweeping
Out from sea-walled Tynes;
Fancies, fugitive and fair
Flashed with singing through the air;
Till, dazzled by the drowsy glare,
I shut my eyes to heat and light;
And saw, in sudden night,
Crouched in the dripping dark,
With steaming shoulders stark,
The man who hews the coal to feed
my fire.
—Wilfrid Gibson.

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Notes By The Way

There is much talk nowadays of the need for "more education" for our young people. There is a good deal less talk, at least among laymen, about "better education" for them. This is unfortunate, for the distinction is important. Were we to keep our children in school longer, by raising the school-leaving age, we would do little to further their education if we did not, at the same time, improve the schooling to better meet more of their needs. The quality of the education, not the number of years of schooling, is the proper measure of our success in this field—Edmonton Journal.

An interesting item of news from Delhi is that India's Constituent Assembly has passed a resolution to continue teaching English, and that all natives who are given official appointments under the government must speak English. In such a large country with a teeming population, the number of officials of all kinds must be tremendous, and it is to be expected that a large percentage of people will have to be continued for many years. For more material reasons it is necessary for the building up of the new nation that the English language be maintained for commerce with the English-speaking countries. To isolate themselves behind a language barrier would be a disastrous and shortsighted policy.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Outbreaks of barn fires due to spontaneous combustion of hay occur during a short period of time between the start of the haying season and mid-August, perhaps a little later in exceptional cases. The burning of barns from this cause is a common happening, and a cause of loss running into millions every season. Spontaneous combustion fires of this kind have certain characteristic features. The chemical action starts deep in the bottom of the mow. There the temperature slowly rises, until the spreading hot area comes in contact with air. Then there is often a slight explosion and a rush of flame. Seldom is a barn on fire from spontaneous combustion, saved from destruction. The fire is usually over in a few minutes.—Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

Less chewing tobacco was manufactured in the United States in 1948 than in any year this century. Which would suggest that men are slowly shaking off one of their "bad habits." Chewing tobacco never was a very genteel custom. When men worked in rural surroundings, with plenty of room to spit, it wasn't so bad. But, it isn't a handy or nice habit to have when one is indoors most of the time, or in a city where the sidewalk offers the best place to expectorate. And, any with experience knows one requires a cast-iron stomach to swallow the juice. Actually, chewing tobacco has a utilitarian advantage in certain vocations. When working in a dusty field or at a threshing, it helps keep the mouth moist and free of dust better than practically anything else. And it does help slake the thirst.—Windsor Star.

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