

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, MAY 10, 1948

Wanted: A Defense Policy

An American newspaper correspondent in Ottawa, reporting the debate which followed Mr. St. Laurent's impressive speech on the Communist menace, said that "it seemed at times to fail to hold the interest of Parliament."

Nobody could possibly argue that Canada, virtually disarmed, is at present "playing its full part" in making the democracies "overwhelmingly" strong.

The chief shortcoming of our existing defense force, says the Globe and Mail, is that they bear no relation to any specific military task or possible emergency.

The situation created by the St. Laurent pronouncement demands that he break new ground and produce a military program that has some meaning in relation to Canada's obligations and necessities.

All First Class Mail By Air?

President C. R. McGregor of Trans-Canada Airlines has told the House of Commons railway committee that negotiations were almost complete with the post office department by which T.C.A. would carry all Canada's first-class mail.

The proposal to move all first-class letters by air has been mooted before in Parliament. Mr. McGregor says T.C.A. is particularly anxious to carry it now because it is travelling with unused cargo space—space which could well be used by additional mail bags.

It might well be carried at the 4-cent rate, suggests an exchange. Rather than make the long overdue move to cancel the extra 1-cent "wartime" surtax on the previous 3-cent rate, the government might decide to preserve the surtax but carry all first-class mail by air between any two points.

Movement of mail by the fastest possible method is a logical advance—important to Canadian unity. Most Canadians will hope that Mr. McGregor's prediction of its inauguration by midsummer will be realized.

Judicial Protest

Severe strictures on the increasing practice of discretionary powers by government ministers and departmental officials by order-in-council were uttered at Ottawa last week in a judgment handed down by Mr. Justice E. R. Angers of the Exchequer Court.

"I must say," declared Mr. Justice Angers, "that I feel loathe to admit that the executive (the Federal cabinet) should be allowed to infringe the rights of the judiciary."

Mr. Justice Angers, comments the Winnipeg

Free Press, was only saying what is being said almost daily in a rising chorus of protests in Parliament—that ministers and their functionaries are arrogating to themselves by order-in-council not only legislative but judicial capacities.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Export of livestock is on the increase notwithstanding the U. S. embargo.

With prospects of an early Federal election fading people are waiting for the budget with resignation rather than hope.

The British diplomats succeeded in Palestine where the U. N. failed. The U. S. A. was taking no chances, they have a fleet of two cruisers and three destroyers cruising in the Ionian Sea.

Indian Mutiny broke out this date 1857. It resulted in the industrial development of that great Empire, which has now been divided into two nations and handed over to the natives to administer.

The Ottawa Journal reports that the refundable portion of personal income tax for the years 1943 and 1944 will be remitted in a single cheque before March 31, 1949.

All connected with the carrying out of the Musical Festival have good reason to congratulate themselves and to be congratulated. It was an all round success, and promises to be an outstanding annual feature in our year's round of events.

A witness, a butcher, at the prices inquiry in the House of Commons said the boost in retail price of meats was due to taxation, with which the chairman Mr. Martin agreed.

The continued attacks by western papers on the Government's feed grain freight policy are difficult to understand. The western farmer would get no more for his livestock if the freight payments were to stop but he would have more difficulty disposing of his coarse grains.

Dr. Arthur Beauchesne, Clerk of the House of Commons, is reportedly to retire at the end of the present session. He has long been acknowledged an authority on Parliamentary procedure and powers and now at the age of 72 he ends 32 years of service as clerk and assistant clerk, still vitally interested in promoting the efficiency of Parliament.

Yet another voice has been raised against the continuing housing shortage. The Ottawa Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church deplored the fact that many persons were still compelled to live under conditions breeding serious social and moral problems and called upon "all concerned" to co-operate wholeheartedly to safeguard the nation's home life.

Sir H. M. Stanley, explorer, died this date 1904. His chief claim to distinction is his expedition to find Livingstone lost in Africa, and whom he discovered well and happy in the Congo district. When Stanley made up to the veteran missionary and explorer, surrounded by nude and semi-nude natives, his first words were "Dr. Livingstone, I presume!"

Ottawa Fishery Department proposes making investigation of the prospects of a fish meal industry in the Maritimes to take care of unsold fresh fish. This recalls the fact that way back in 1914 the Mathieson Government had a plan to erect such a plant in Georgetown, and had all the data ready when a vigorous protest came from King's County against what they considered would be the polluting of their seaside summer resort. So the scheme was abandoned.

Relatives and friends of Canadians who died as a result of war service in any of the British Empire or Allied forces, except those of Canada, are requested by the Department of National Defence to send in the names of the fallen servicemen to ensure inclusion in the Second World War Book of Remembrance.

One of the outstanding figures in the newspaper world passed away in Toronto on Saturday in the person of Mr. Joseph E. Atkinson, President of The Toronto Star, at the green old age of eighty-two. His was a remarkable, aggressive personality attracting esteem and abuse in equal measure.

Notes By The Way

Then there was the absent-minded barber, on his day off, who held a mirror behind the bush he had just trimmed. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

We cannot guess what statistical chances a Canadian has of becoming a millionaire. They are very great, really, for money does not grow on trees tapped by income-tax collectors.

We've read many stories about cats being rescued from trees by fire departments, and we've often wondered if it was necessary. The answer to that may be found in a question asked by a fire department official in the United States.

Until industry is brought back in some way to the smaller centres of population throughout the province our manufacturing structure will be top-heavy and loaded in favor of the larger places where the general conditions of existence, no matter how glittering, cannot be too satisfactory.

Somerville police show that they know how to take care of young rowdies who are given to vandalism. When three were rounded up after lighting the air out of automobile tires, patrolmen saw to it that the boys were put to work with a pump and that the tires were inflated properly.

A young mother we know was having difficulty with her baby crying so much. She went to the doctor about it. He asked her if she had the baby boy on one of these fancy four-hour feeding shifts. She said she followed the plan implicitly. The doctor said: "I thought so. All that's wrong with this little fellow is that he gets hungry and he hollers for some food. You just feed the little guy, and he won't cry."

It need hardly be said that it is the duty of Canadian churches to make sure that no group, whatever its language or race, is left without the ordinances of the church. European churches cannot effectively follow their people to this country, and the newcomers can be neglected only at the peril of the religious life of the nation.

Since my arrival in this country I have observed with dismay the English way of making tea. In a time of shortage it is unnecessary extravagance. I have been ably convinced English friends that they can save nearly a third of their ration by making tea properly. After warming the teapot, only one and a half spoons of tea are required for an ordinary-sized pot.

Beekeepers have long known that the "busy bee" is in reality just as lazy as it dares to be. It will never wear out its wings gathering nectar for honey provided it can accomplish the same thing more easily. A California lumber dealer who experiments with bee breeding as a side line confines his bees and feeds them invert sugar and flower pollen. The bees suck this from the feeding troughs instead of from the flowers and put it in the comb as usual.

Today the ranks of the would-be (movie) villains look pretty well decimated. Movie-makers are on guard against letting their writers take oblique slaps at the democratic way of life, which means that mortgage-holders and other traditional villains of that kind are out, because some people might interpret the movie as Communist-slanted. In fact, there is hardly anyone left now who can be safely allowed to twirl a mustache and sneer at the heroism and await his certain doom just before the fadeout—except perhaps those certain rustlers. Evidently they have not been able yet to offer a convincing case that the movies are discriminating against them. — Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

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.

APPECIATION Sir, — I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for the copy of The Guardian sent to me, also for the publication of my letter.

I have received five letters since from old friends and have had news of various changes since I left. My very best wishes to you, also for the continued success of your paper, which by the way I am reporting to another ex-auman of Charlottetown Airport, who I am certain will greatly appreciate same.

REPORTS ON QUAIL Sir, — In your issue of Saturday morning in the Hunter's Corner Column, it is reported that: "Reports coming in on Bob-white quail are far from encouraging. House cats have taken a heavy toll."

PLEASE also let him advise the number of quail that have been reported killed by cats together with the places and the names of those who have seen them killed. Knowing the interest your paper has taken in this project I am sure that you will wish to cooperate with us. All reliable data, whether favorable or unfavorable, is of immense value as we are trying to keep a close check and careful record of all information pertaining to these birds.

WHO ARE CHRISTIANS? Sir, — It was with a great deal of disgust that I read the letter in a recent edition of your paper referring to the educational picture "Mom and Dad", which is about to be shown shortly to audiences in this Province.

In rebuking certain elements of the people of His time, who were seeing immorality in almost everything, Jesus said: "There is nothing from without a man that entering into him can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man." To be specific, what the immoral persons were those who every word and action.

JUNIOR FARMERS Sir, — It sounds good to hear of youth organizing. It puts hep into old and young. It is a change from grousing about the high cost of poultry feed and so forth. Nothing like getting to work and making ideas that are within your reach.

ANTI-COMMUNIST I am, Sir, etc. "SEEKER FOR TRUTH" Summerside, P. E. I.

The Poets Corner

THE LITTLE HORSES

They are not real... I saw them in a window. A toy-shop window, only yesterday! But in the darkness now perhaps they stray Out to their fellows down the tan-bark way: Arching their dappled necks, shaking their manes, With gusty little boys upon their backs.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS

The P. E. Island Railway is being distinctly and permanently improved while under the supervision of Mr. Unsworth. No less than five new bridges have been built here this year. Three of these have already been placed in position; the others will be placed in the course of the next few weeks.

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STOCKHOLM—(CP)—The Trade Commission here has received over 50,000 applications for permits for motor boats. Although the commission had not expected more than 18,000 applications it is reported all applications will be granted if the ration is cut by about 40 per cent.

FOR FIRE and AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE CONSULT H. L. SEAR 88 GREAT GEORGE ST. TELEPHONE 320

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