

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1948

Words Without Action

Not the least notable feature of the Prime Minister's speech to the Advisory Council of the National Liberal Federation was his denunciation of communism.

This has not always been his attitude. Even when unmistakable indications were uncovered, disclosing organized espionage in this country by Russia, with the use of members of the Canadian Communist Party as instrument, Mr. King was loath to believe bad about our northerly neighbor.

"I did think at one time of going to Russia myself and of speaking with Generalissimo Stalin in reference to it. What I know, or have learned of Mr. Stalin from those who have been closely associated with him in the war, causes me to believe that he would not countenance action of this kind on the part of officials of his country.

Last week the climate had so far changed that he said this: "So long as communism remains as a menace to the free world, it is vital to the defense of freedom to maintain a preponderance of military strength on the side of freedom, and to secure that degree of unity among the nations which will ensure that they cannot be defeated and destroyed one by one."

How To Cook Whale

Whale meat is now arriving in this Province for fox feed, but in Great Britain it is coming into use for human consumption. Strange new recipes are being tried out by women cooks working in a series of small kitchens in Portman Square, London.

The experimental kitchens are small, the idea being to use only the facilities of the average small home. The cooks at the experimental kitchens all have domestic economy degrees and have had practical experience in selected homes, where they have learned first-hand of the tremendous difficulties facing housewives in Britain today.

When Britain first began to use whale meat, two Norwegian cooks came over to assist, but the Ministry of Food girls had to adapt all their recipes because the Norwegian recipes contained more fat than was available. Old recipes for such things as boiled pigs' trotters are also being revived.

Farm Psychology

Some reflections of a farmer surveying the present economic picture are thus given by 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.

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.

"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 strait-jacket when everybody else is out to get the last dollar."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Potential tourists are being kept out of this country by a misconception of Canada's "austerity" program. The Canadian Travel Bureau is striving to clear up this misunderstanding by giving publicity to the typical Canadian hotel menu and prices.

Fishermen's incomes continue to decline. The government promised some time ago to assist fishermen to purchase larger and more efficient boats, but little progress seems to have been made on the subject.

France's decision to depreciate the franc for external purposes is reminiscent of days of surpluses of goods, when every country tried to make its own goods cheap and foreign goods expensive. The policy seems curiously out of place in a world of scarcity.

Zero weather and fire fatalities seem to go hand in hand. Care must be exercised by everyone, great and small, to see that the policy of "safety first" prevails. Better be sure than sorry.

Opposition of Canadian and American lake carriers to the proposed St. Lawrence Seaway deserves at least attention. The carriers are, it is true, an interested party and may be influenced by their own advantage but they are in a position to know the traffic and should know what overhead it could bear.

The tail of a shirt may not be quite so skimpy as of yore but the consumer will more than pay for the additional inches. Much of the expected increase is due to the high price of raw cotton and should, therefore, be of short duration.

Amadeus Wolfgang Mozart, Austrian composer, born this date 1756. His genius, says a biographer, might be described as universal, for he shone alike in opera, in orchestral and chamber music, and in sacred compositions.

Unlike the reports from Montreal, reports from London favour ranch bred mink pelts to those from the wild. Say Lamson, Fraser and Huth Inc., under date of January 23: "It is pleasing to note the great quantity of ranch mink that has already gone into consumption this season and in consequence one can be optimistic. A strong demand existed for the best qualities and clear colours, also for Seconds and Low."

Mr. Robert Cosgrove, former Premier of Tasmania who resigned last week after being indicted in connection with the alleged receipt of money for Labor Party funds, will face six charges of bribery, six of corruption and two of conspiracy. Cosgrove's trial is expected to open Feb. 9. As head of his party he is held responsible whether or not he individually benefited from the illegal payments.

Increased Canadian interest in Australia's supply of commodities previously imported from the United States is reported by the Department of Commerce. Its monthly bulletin, "Overseas Trading," says: "Although Canadian importers are carrying reasonable stocks, inquiries indicate that they are looking to Australia for future supplies. To meet this the Department is surveying Australia's resources. This is necessary because of the recent restrictions on imports by Canada and by shortages in the Australian home market."

So far, and as far back as memory serves, the River St. Lawrence and the Gulf thereof has been pronounced by British and English speaking Canadians as "Sint Lawrence". Now since a politician of a somewhat similar name has attracted the limelight, we are having the good old-fashioned name pronounced over the radio, that corruptor of good English Sanglorong. Well, what is it going to be? Are we to abandon the English River and Gulf pronunciation or ask the proposed new Liberal Leader to be satisfied with our plain and easily understood "Mr. Sint Laurent." We have lots of Laurences, who may or may not be songs, who would be surprised to be called "Lorongs."

Delay in buying a radio licence does not constitute an offence against the law, Judge Oscar Gagnon, Montreal, ruled when he dismissed six complaints against radio owners by the Federal Government. In the six complaints, the radio owners were charged with operating their instruments without procuring a licence. His Honor was informed, however, that they had all eventually procured a permit. Notwithstanding this complaints had been issued against them. "Care should be exercised by officers to verify whether the damage has not been repaired before complaints are taken," observed His Honor. "Delay or negligence in payment does not constitute violation of the law," said the court, "especially when a technical offence was repaired before a complaint was taken." His Honor ordered that the six cases be withdrawn.

Notes From Another Island

By "Anson"

LONDON, England Not far away from where I live, there is a fish and chip shop. Now that isn't important in itself, because in England almost everybody has a fish and chip shop not far away, but let me tell you what happened in ours the other night.

That's going back a bit, of course. To the days before the war when you could get a pretty substantial supper for three-pence—fish and one of chips. Nowadays prices have advanced with the times, and our two-and-one is only a fond memory!

Well, it was this episode in our local fish and chip shop that I set out to tell you about that started me off thinking like this. They have a longish counter in this shop, where you can stand and eat your fish and chips on the spot if you don't want them wrapped up to take home for supper.

It's only fair that a distinction be drawn in laying blame for snow plowing difficulties caused by parked automobiles between the inveterate, unthinking motorist who had left his car on the highway hours before the storm and the unfortunate operator who was forced to abandon his machine to the elements while en route from one point to another.

The New York Dress Institute has come out again with its list of the 10 best-dressed women. Mostly it's the same old gang done over in the new look. We'd like to shove them all back a notch or two and put at the top the little woman at our house. When we got home from work she was dressed in the cutest red-checked apron you ever saw. A smudge of flour was across her forehead where she must have pushed back a stray lock of hair. Her eyes were sparkling and her lips inviting. On the stove there was a big kettle of stew and in the oven an apple pie. Ask the Duchess to try to match that. — Minneapolis Star.

There are as many ways of avoiding a cold as there are of catching one. One doctor recommends singing as a preventative another the eating of raw onion. "An apple a day," says one; "reformed dress," says another. Cinnamon, breathing through the nose, avoiding stuffy rooms, never going to a party, never going to a theatre, never travelling in a bus or street car or railway train, are other preventatives that have their fervent advocates. All these suggestions are excellent, if one had the time to follow them. But we cannot spend all our time avoiding colds. There are other things to do in life besides this. If one must risk a cold by going to the movies and risking it. — Chatham News.

At the moment we are being asked to provide funds or clothing for use by the children and other people in Europe who are suffering to replace their rags. That this campaign should be in progress at a time when we are ourselves squandering thousands and thousands of yards of cloth on new garments which most of their wearers do not want and never did want is ridiculous in the extreme and proves that not all those suffering from mental diseases are by any means confined to the institutions set aside for care and treatment of such patients. — Brockville Recorder and Times.

George had been a fearfully sick man, but through all his long illness his faithful wife had nursed him with the most faithful and tender care. Often he had awakened in the middle of the night to find her sitting beside his bed with soothing draughts and gentle ministrations. Now on the road to recovery, he said to her, "Bessie, shall never forget your wonderful care. It will remain a golden memory to the end of my life. Why did you do it, Bessie? He paused dramatically, hoping to hear some sweet tender words of undying love and devotion. "Well, George," the faithful woman replied, "when you became so ill it seemed you would die. I set down and asked myself one question. And when I could find no satisfactory answer, I said to myself, 'I'll just have to keep him from dying.'" "What was the question, Bessie?" the convalescent eagerly inquired. "It was," his faithful wife replied: "Who in the world wants a widow and four children?" — Wall Street Journal.

Ekimons are said to bury a dead dog with a dead child, so the child will have something to guide him in the next world.

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The Poet's Corner

"IN NO STRANGE LAND"

O world invisible, we view thee, O world intangible, we touch thee, O world unknowable, we know thee.

Inapprehensible, we clutch thee! Does the fish soar to find the ocean, The eagle plunge to find the air— That we ask of the stars in motion If they have rumor of thee there? Not where the wheeling systems darken, And our benumbed concealing soars!— The drift of pinions, would we harken, Beats at our own clay-shuttered doors.

The angels keep their ancient places; Turn but a stone, and start a wing! 'Tis ye, 'tis your estranged-elegance, That miss the man-splendored thing. But, when so sad thou canst not saunter, Cry—and upon thy so sore loss Shall shine the traffic of Jacob's ladder Pitched between Heaven and Charming Cross.

Yea, in the night, my Soul, my daughter, Cry—clinging Heaven by the horns; And lo, Christ walking on the water Not of Genesareth, but Thames. —Francis Thompson.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

OBNOXIOUS PETITION

A curious case of treatment by the Legislative Assembly of an obnoxious petition occurred on the 7th of February, 1925, when, after reading a petition on behalf of the inhabitants of Lot 20, it was moved that it lie on the table; the Attorney General moved in amendment, that it be thrown under the table, and the amendment was carried. —Warburton's History.

Mr. King, Politician

(Montreal, Casette)

OTTAWA, Jan. 24 — Like others who have held the public eye, straddled the nation's stage, Mackenzie King has heard all the notes of public feeling from fervid praise to bitter blame, has in times of stress won strange support, know disturbing desertions, incurred the lasting enmity of political foes.

That Mr. King has been exceedingly adroit most of those who sit across from him in the House will admit; that he has seldom met a major issue head-on, but has preferred the flank attack, is a criticism with which many of his supporters will agree; that he began his leadership as an active Liberal but in his later years has shown a tender solicitude for property is a taunt from radical opponents that is difficult to dismiss.

While Liberals hold that Mr. King has made so many political enemies because he has won so many elections, those who face him in the House contend that the customs proba, the Beauharnois's exposures and the conscription controversy did real harm to Mr. King's name, even though after all of them he emerged with electoral success.

Maybe Lost Liberalism

After the sediment of party feeling has had a chance to settle to the bottom, it may be that the historian will decide that while Mr. King won the battles, he lost the war, that while he got his party back into power, he lost Liberalism. He kept right on punching, and during the season, seemed to have a little the better of the scrap, all the way through.

An eminent editor of a well-known Conservative paper remarked to me at the end of that memorable day in 1926, when Mackenzie King rang all the constitutional changes on Parliament: "Mr. King wasn't talking to Parliament today; he was talking to the two Oxfords. He may lose an argument in the House but he has a way of winning the votes, and votes do count."

This man, who has led his party for nearly 30 years, has known defeat, but they haven't soured him. His psychology failed him in 1930 when he either was unable or refused to see the coming depression. In the general election of 1925 he himself and more than half his Cabinet were defeated, and many times he has been forced to seek seats far distant from that which he first contested.

It has been said that Mr. King is a tedious speaker in the House and often on the platform. He is that unless he is annoyed either by a personal or political development. Probably the most impressive performance was that in his first Parliament, about 24 years ago. His attack upon Andrew McMaster, eminent Montreal lawyer and Gladstonian Liberal, who crossed the floor to the progressive seats in protest against a Fielding budget, sounded to Liberals like a clarion call.

Good Terms With Press

Another aspect of Mr. King's career is worth mention and that is his relations with the press. To begin with, he has very seldom shown any resentment at what has been said of him by a writer, and, moreover, he has always displayed a remarkable knack of being on good terms with the press. And this has been accomplished without apparent effort, for he began earning a living as a reporter of The Toronto Globe. This doesn't explain, though, the exceedingly rare press conferences he has granted. He has explained this by saying he didn't wish to be thought seeking publicity.

He closes his political career as the man from Glangarry, for that county made famous by Ralph Connor is the seat he now represents in Parliament. But it must be pointed out that Glangarry is predominantly Scottish and Presbyterian, can now show a considerable French-speaking majority.

CRAFT TRAINING

The system of apprenticing a young man to a craftsman for several years until he becomes a craftsman himself, can be traced to the 13th century.

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Western Comment On Conservative Showing
(Ottawa Correspondent of The Country Guide, Winnipeg)
A fine place to take a last look at 1947 is opening day of parliament, back there in December. I had been to a lot of openings, and I expected that the Opposition would, as usual, start with one quick thrust, then fold up. I had anticipated that John Bracken, Progressive Conservative leader, would come out—and go out—like One-Punch McGorry. Instead he rused from his corner like Jersey Joe Walcott, and landed one on the Champ's chin after the bell. He kept right on punching, and during the season, seemed to have a little the better of the scrap, all the way through.

I myself think the government was over-confident, and was trying to fight with one hand tied behind its back. They figured that the P. C.'s under Honest John would be the usual push over, and what was the use of trying too hard? Now, as the Liberals swing into the New Year, their complacency is gone, and they enter the political arena of 1948, a much-chastened government.

LEGAL WORD

Apology was originally a Greek word signifying a defence made in a court of justice.

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