

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than
the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, JAN. 9, 1950.

Constitutional Points

In providing machinery for constitutional amendment it must always be borne in mind that not all aspects of Canada's constitutional laws are of equal permanence or importance.

There is a third class, however, which concerns not a general right of all the Provinces or of the Federal Government, but which is the particular right and privilege of one Province or group within the country.

Alaska For Defence

A change appears to be taking place in the U. S. government attitude to Alaska. Instead of relegating Alaskan problems to the background indefinitely, 20 co-operating agencies have now pooled their information and ideas and come up with facts and suggestions that indicate an important world role for Alaska in the future.

Alaska's strategic position across narrow Bering Strait from Soviet Siberia makes an evaluation of its economic potential an important consideration for every Canadian and American.

Gen. H. H. Arnold, wartime head of the U. S. Army Air Force, expressed the thoughts of many Canadians when he said: "In this world of tomorrow Alaska is assured a position of great importance. Upon Alaska the future of North America may well rest."

Much has been written about Alaska's importance in the defence of North America. Its potentialities as an economic bulwark on the north-western corner of this continent, however, are less widely known.

Sir Stafford's Appreciation

In a recent speech in London, Sir Stafford Cripps, United Kingdom Chancellor of the Exchequer, strongly repudiated any suggestion that Canada has been trying to unload her economic difficulties onto Britain.

"The truth is that the war has destroyed the pre-war pattern of trade which enabled us to earn from three countries the dollars needed to buy all we wanted from Canada and the United States. Canada's difficulties have thereby been increased because her trade has developed on the basis of importing a great deal from the United States while selling a large part of her products to us for sterling."

"That is very trying for us all and that was one very good reason why we had the meeting in Washington to try and solve this

difficult triangular question. We all agreed it was a triangular question—that we were all concerned in it and with it and that it was only by working together that we could overcome our difficulties.

"We also agreed that it was neither a temporary nor a superficial problem that could be lightly regarded, but that it was deeply seated in economic history and that it would need bold and forceful action in all three countries to set it to rights.

"Nothing is more ridiculous in such circumstances than for anyone of us to attack either of the others as regards facts which have been beyond all our controls.

"The remarkable thing is that by helping, and Canada has helped as much as anyone, we have managed somehow to get along so far, and if we go on working harmoniously together, as we intend to do, we shall eventually solve this dollar-sterling problem."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Civic election takes place on Wednesday, February 1.

Christmas sleds have finally had their first workout.

The Provincial Government has its hands full with its negotiations at Ottawa, and preparing for the Legislature next month.

It will be interesting to learn the effect on the S. S. Mormacreed's cargo of dried corn of first a fire and then a drenching by the hose of Halifax firemen. It is easy to imagine the unfortunate ship behaving like a full saucepan of rice, spouting the swelling grain from every opening.

President Truman's optimistic picture of future prosperity is undoubtedly technically possible. On a more modest scale it has been possible for a long time, but operations on a nation-wide or world-wide scale have not yet attained the perfection which is theoretically possible.

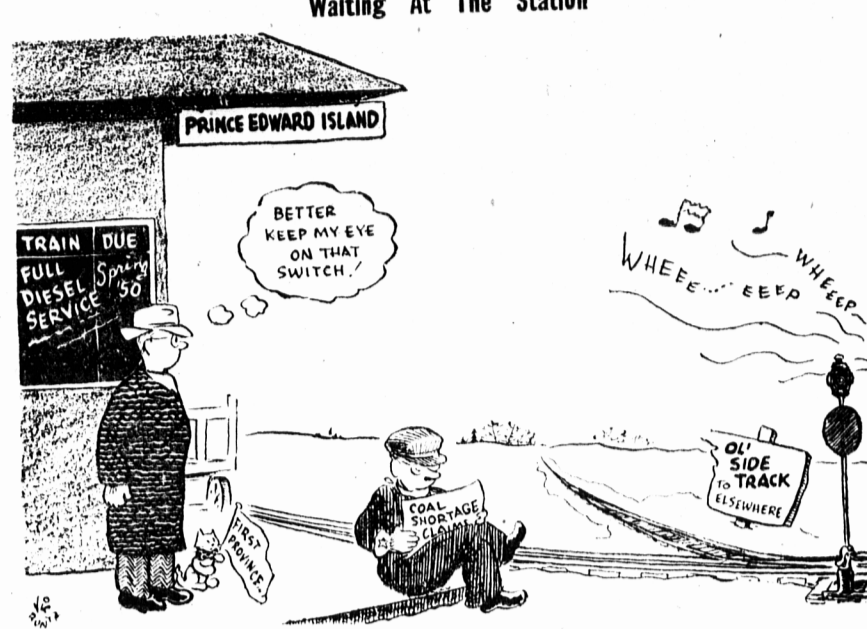
It was actress Faye Emerson, wife of Elliott Roosevelt, who is reported as saying, "I'm going down to Mexico City for my divorce. I know very little about legal matters and I understand that Mexican divorces don't take very long." Mrs. Roosevelt, and many like her, are in need of legal advice. It would be unfortunate to discover at a later date that some divorces not merely "don't take very long" but "don't take."

Wilkie Collins, English novelist, born this date 1824; he achieved popular success with two best sellers, "The Woman in White" and "The Moonstone" in which he showed much aptness in framing melodramatic stories on the basis of a secret withheld till the denouement. He was a friend of Charles Dickens and a contributor to Household Words. He wrote a drama, "The Frozen Deep" in which Dickens and other celebrities appeared.

Universities in the Old Country are becoming more practical and less theoretical. Because British industry prefers "sloggers" to "fliers", Aberdeen University is doing away with its bachelor of commerce degree. Principal Thomas Taylor told the University's General Council that large business concerns don't want the "fliers", the men with commercial degrees and diplomas.

While transactions on the Toronto Stock Exchange for the full year of 1949 were approximately the same as those of the previous year, the values of transactions recorded a smart gain. Figures issued by the statistical department of the Exchange showed the year's sales as 249,226,534 shares against 250,701,216 in the previous year, while values were up to \$452,652,332 compared with 1948's \$438,815,573.

There would appear to be nothing distinguished or memorable about George Clephane, the black-sheep of the family. But George had a sister, Elizabeth, who dearly loved him and who, when word of his death reached her, expressed her grief in the lines: There were ninety and nine that that safely lay In the shelter of the fold; But one was out on the hills away, Far off from the gates of gold, Away on the mountains wild and bare. Away from the tender Shepherd's care. There are four more verses and many, many millions of people in this world today know all five speak of "the mountains wild and bare," of "how deep were the waters crossed," the "track," so "rough and steep" and of the lost sheep—the black sheep—sick and helpless and ready to die. Years later, Moody and Sankey came to Pergus in the course of a lifelong mission. Sankey heard the story of George Clephane, went to the graveside and read Elizabeth's verses. The music which came to him gave immortality to both.



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

NECESSITOUS NOVA SCOTIANS

The census of 1753 places the population of this Island at 2,663 souls, the greater number of whom were settled near the centre, and not far from Port La Joie. Along the banks of the East River upwards of 700 resided. Immigrants were continually arriving from Nova Scotia, where the tyranny of the English Governor rendered the lives of the French inhabitants almost unbearable. This increase of population had its disadvantages, for it seriously embarrassed the authorities, who were often in great straits to supply the necessities of life to so many destitute persons.

"The immigrants from Nova Scotia were, in almost every instance, reduced to the most pitiable necessity. They arrived without food and with only scanty clothing, for their departure was so hurriedly effected, that they did not have time to make provision for the journey, much less for their sojourn in their new home.

"Father Girard, writing from Point Prim, Oct. 24, 1763, draws a rather gruesome picture of the poverty of these newcomers. He says: 'Our refugees in general keep up good courage, and seem to be able to support themselves by their labor; but the want of clothing, which is almost general, is a great drawback, and will prevent many from working for the winter. They have no implements to work with, nor sufficient clothing to protect themselves by day or night. Many of the children are so scantily clad, that when they enter the house they flee for very shame. All are not reduced to this extremity; but almost all are in need.' The Government, however, came to their assistance, by distributing clothing and provisions amongst them; but still much destitution and suffering prevailed."

—From "The Early History of the Catholic Church in Prince Edward Island," by Rev. John C. MacMillan, 1905.

The Ninety And Nine

(Winnipeg Free Press) For a young country, Canada is rich in historical associations. The other day, in these columns, it was noted that the little town of Dresden, Ontario, is the burial place of "Uncle Tom," who, as portrayed by Mrs. Beecher Stowe in the famous novel, became a very great influence in freeing the slaves.

Another interesting fact appears in a little booklet just issued by Beatty Bros. Ltd. of Pergus, Ontario. The town of Pergus, in Wellington county, is in the heart of western Ontario. Here in 1842 came a young Scot of good family but bad habits, George Clephane. His father, Andrew Clephane, was the sheriff of Fifehire. George had a weakness for drink and had been sent to Canada, a "remitance" man, in the hope that he would overcome it. He failed at everything he attempted and died a drunkard, in 1851, aged 32 years. He was buried in St. Andrew's Churchyard at Pergus.

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Years later, Moody and Sankey came to Pergus in the course of a lifelong mission. Sankey heard the story of George Clephane, went to the graveside and read Elizabeth's verses. The music which came to him gave immortality to both. Every year hundreds of people come to Pergus to see George Clephane's grave. Who will say that in the long reckoning of time, the black sheep did not serve better than he knows?

The Use of Atomic Energy In Industry

By Rene Sudre

M. Jean Thibaud is one of the foremost French atomic scientists. Leaving the laboratory of Duke Maurice de Broglie, he immediately gained distinction with successive pieces of research that have been presented to the Academy of science and constitute most important theoretical progress. Thus he invented as early as 1933 a magnetic method for creating clusters of positive electrons able to concentrate on a given spot, and he provided the first experimental proof for the conversion of electricity to immaterial light, of matter to light as one might say in less exact but more colourful terms. After directing the Paris school of physics and chemistry during the war, this young scientist was appointed professor at the university of Lyons where he is teaching at present. He has founded there a model Institute of atomic physics and despite the limited means at his disposal for purchasing heavy apparatus he is trying to attract students of physics and nuclear research. He is indeed a true apostle.

Professor Jean Thibaud has already published two books that have had great success: "vie et transmutation des atomes" and "Energie atomique et univers" in which he made a survey of the state of the new science after the war. He has now just written a third book which will probably arouse even greater interest on account of the political remarks he adds and his suggestions regarding the control of atomic energy. This work deserves international consideration on the same ground as that given to P. M. S. Blackett's book "Les Consequences militaires et politiques de l'energie atomique." In his first chapter, he deals with the principle of a "nuclear reactor," the typical example being the uranium pile. This problem is of supreme importance to the engineer desiring to construct an industrial engine. According to nuclear theory substances able to supply energy are either heavy or very light. An intermediate substance such as silver is indestructible.

Restricting ourselves for the moment to heavy substances, uranium and thorium, the production and capture of neutrons must be regulated so as to obtain a regular "chain reaction" that will supply the necessary heat utilizable without danger of explosion. A way of using the by-product formed by the fission of uranium 235 must also be found, namely plutonium, which in turn is a valuable generator of atomic energy. While the Fermi pile seems to be the answer to the first problem, the second has not been completely solved and Mr. Jean Thibaud gives a clear account of the facts. As the plutonium formed is able to attack uranium 233, inert matter in the Fermi pile, and to liberate atomic energy while at the same time regenerating itself, the conditions of this phenomenon must be determined. What the author calls "the raising of plutonium atoms" can diminish from 25 to 30 times the amount of raw material needed for any one generation of energy. 150 tons of fissible matter would suffice to cover all the thermic energy that the world needs.

For the technical problems which will certainly be solved, come the economic ones. The cost price of atomic energy must not exceed that of power obtained from coal and waterfalls. According to calculations made in the United States as to the cost of the experimental pile at Hanford (2000 kilowatts), the cost is 11 cents by 23 per cent. But time will be on the side of atomic energy and against power from other sources, so that in the end the cost of both will be equal with, even, a difference in favour of the first. By close revision of these calculations, taking into account world reserves of uranium which total 50,000 tons available, Professor Thibaud maintains that the cost of nuclear energy will be placed between that of water or steam power and that of coal-steam power. But he agrees that these estimates are uncertain and in any case atomic energy cannot entirely supplant the other. Coal in particular will always have priority in certain fields of industry, and as fuel, because of its enormous reserves.

The last half of the book deals with the political aspect of the problem. Mr. Jean Thibaud lays great stress on the anxiety in the world today with regard to atomic

The Poet's Corner

THE MAN UPRIGHT

The man upright of life, whose guileless heart is free From all dishonest deeds, or thought of vanity;

The man whose silent days in harmless joys are spent, Whom hopes cannot delude, nor sorrow discontent;

That man needs neither towers nor armour for defence, Nor secret vaults, to fly from thunder's violence;

He, only, can behold with unaffrighted eyes The horrors of the deep, and terrors of the skies.

Thus, scorning all the cares that fate or fortune brings, He makes the heaven his book; his wisdom, heavenly things:

Good thoughts, his only friends; his health, a well-kept age; The earth his sober inn, and quiet pilgrimage.

—Thomas Camplon (1567-1620)

warfare. "Every electricity works of high power using a large atomic pile to generate current," he says "would constitute a factory for bombs and radioactive poisons, despite its purely industrial appearance." There should be means of controlling international use of substances that can directly or indirectly produce fission, namely uranium and thorium. But after two years of discussion, the U. N. O. has not been able to have one project carried, owing to Russian opposition. Einstein then invited all scientists to support a plan for world control. This idea also was rejected by the Russian scientists. Yet Einstein said in most moving words "I am convinced that there is no other way of eliminating the most dreadful danger that man has ever had to face. Our objective above all else must be to escape total destruction."

Yet Mr. Thibaud maintains that the scientists cannot evade the moral problem. If the atomic bomb were used again, he would have to reconsider his values and perhaps condemn science. He adds that we have not reached that stage yet. Meanwhile he considers it "necessary to admit that a distinguished scientist, after research in pure science, could refuse to undertake work intended for purposes of war." To put his conscience at ease he suggests a compromise. By this, national defence would have a team of atomic engineers who would apply the results of nuclear physics. Civilian research workers would thus not be obliged to undertake works of destruction; but they would be kept to secrecy in respect of work which could be used for military purposes. It is obvious that sheering clear of the issue with such casuistry is bound to be ineffective and that the moral problem would have to be faced. Mr. Jean Thibaud has not in fact found a solution because one does not exist as things are today; it is that which makes so tragic the age to which science has brought us willy-nilly, without having a thought for the good or ill that might spring from her work.

The Age-Old Story

Through this Man is preached that the Man is man.

Notes By The Way

Lady Astor says that modern life is made up largely of "wretched pictures of semi-nude women." Let's have reform, by all means. Meaning better pictures, of course. —Peterborough Examiner.

We dislike the optimist's habit of selecting the most favorable subjects for his preachments. He likes to assure people that every cloud has a silver lining, but he carefully refrains from pointing out that every rattle snake has a harmless end. —Kingston Whig-Standard.

Women, who are usually extremely tasteful when it comes to buying chesterfield covers, draperies, linoleum, and wallpaper, forget that men are not furniture, windows, floors or walls, to which they buy them neckties. The taste which usually runs to flowery designs, intricate patterns, or vivid colors in home furnishings does not change when the time comes to buy ties. —Lethbridge Herald.

Even when error and corruption have lost some bastion of the free world, even when Stalin is able to parade his more conquests in Moscow, there is no cause for despair. The strongest oligarchy equipped with all the machinery of propaganda and suppression that is at the disposal of a modern tyranny, has inherent weaknesses. Power corrupts in more than one sense: It threatens those who wield it by raising up rivals, deepening suspicions, leading to a cutting of the leadership off from the confidence and the support of the people. —New York Herald Tribune.

The lady who had her own suite on the BOAC aircraft leaving for New York is named Lenling Cassiopeia. She is a Siamese kitten, and she goes as a gift from English breeder Ella Martin, of Great British breeder to American stage star Mary Martin. The suite is a two-storey affair in wood, built especially for flying cats. It has built-in fish and milk saucers, designed for minimum aerobatics, when the pilot turns or climbs. Cassiopeia must bring her own cushion. Though Cassiopeia goes as a gift, Siamese cats are a regular export line from Britain. Most of them, like Cassiopeia, go by air. —The Herald (London).

Einstein has never set out to create an atomic bomb, or bring about any other specific material accomplishment. He has given his life to an attempt to explain the inexplicable which have always resided at the end of every telescope or microscope; to formulate higher concepts which will overcome the logical difficulties that present themselves with every effort to grasp the realities of time and space and energy; to devise new ways of thinking that will carry us another step farther into the unknown that bounds our attempts to impose a rational system of thought upon the multiplex incomprehensibles of the

universe. That is what society still does not quite grasp as it stands at the feet of "science." It still thinks incorrigibly in terms of possible material achievements. But it will have to understand its scientists, as it once well understood its philosophers, if it is to use the great gifts they bring. —New York Herald Tribune.

Canada's northern wildlife is about two years away from the "crash", when rabbits, upland game birds and some other animals will die off by the tens of thousands victims of the mysterious 10-year cycle. Dr. William Rowan, Canada's outstanding expert on the subject, in a recent article in the Forest and Outdoors magazine, a publication of the Canadian Forestry Association, urges that a full-scale investigation, financed by the Government and backed by sportsmen and the fur trade, be launched. He considers that the approach of the low ebb in animal life makes this a propitious time to commence investigations. Various attempts have been made to trace the origin of the riddle to weather, crowded conditions brought on by the cycle itself, atmospheric conditions in the North, but to no avail. —Kitchener Daily Record.

Manitoba's rapid industrial expansion is illustrated by the impressive figures given by R. E. Grose, director of the provincial department of industry and commerce, in his address at the convention of the Associated Chambers of Commerce. It is estimated that this year value of production will reach an all-time high of \$433,000,000, some three and a half times greater than in 1939. The number employed in industry in the province is 42,000, almost twice as many as ten years ago. Payrolls for 1949 are estimated at \$87,000,000. —Winnipeg Tribune.

George A. Marlin, president of the Canadian Association of Tourist and Publicity Bureaus, and a large resort owner himself, has suggested to the Canadian Congress of Labor that Labor Day should be moved forward to the third Monday in September, instead of the first. This, he argues, would add two weeks to the regular tourist season, would put the summer resort business on a more economic basis, and might boost the nation's earnings of American currency by \$50,000,000 a year. —Calgary Herald.

SQUIRREL IS CULPRIT

SUBURBAN, Ont., Jan. 5 —(CP) — Strange were the noises and undercover goings-on in the kitchen of Mrs. Chester McGillivray of suburban Lockport—until she had Mr. McGillivray take the stove apart. Hidden at the back of the range were apples and most of the family's Yuletide nut supply, stolen and stored there by a squirrel. Mrs. McGillivray made friends with last summer.

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