

THE GUARDIAN

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Canada and E. R. P.

The Marshall Plan which has won world-wide approval of all people interested in the well being of war devastated Europe, has caused some anxiety in Russia whose hope of influence in Eastern Europe dims in consequence.

Canada and Great Britain have gone all out in support of the plan, but of necessity the bulk of the financing must and has come from the United States which has already spent about a billion and a half dollars for food, clothing, building materials and medical supplies.

About one fifth of the money so far spent for aid under the European Recovery Program has been for purchases made in Canada, and the huge sum, approximately two hundred million dollars has boosted Canada's reserve of U. S. dollars and at the same time increased our exports of surplus commodities.

A word of caution to those who see in the plan a continued strengthening of the demand for agricultural products, is issued by the Department of Reconstruction which points out that the United States stipulates that surplus U. S. agricultural products must first be used for shipment to Europe before purchases outside the States may be made.

It may happen that all required agricultural products may be available in the United States in which case Canadian surpluses will either have to remain with the producers or purchased by the Federal Government as our share in feeding the hungry Europeans.

Whats In A Name?

It was Hon. Mr. DeValera, when Prime Minister of the Green Isle, who had legislation passed changing its name to "Eire" which, it is claimed, is the original Gaelic designation. At the same time he provided ways and means for the abolition of the English tongue there and the resuscitation of the language allegedly spoken in the Garden of Eden.

Now Mr. DeValera having been deposed and gone to Australia to become champion heavy weight lifter, his place has been taken by Mr. John A. Costello, who is visiting Montreal for the Lawyers' Convention. On his way across the S. S. Mauretania to New York he described himself as "Prime Minister of Ireland," and said that "Eire" is incorrect.

But Ulster unhesitatingly declares "hands off"! The Northern Counties "are not for sale." Interviewed in Montreal, Prime Minister Costello declined to express any opinion on the subject, saying he was in Canada not on a political mission (as he will be in U.S.A. when he returns there) but merely as a guest speaker at the Law Society's gathering.

Drunken Driving

Mr. W. C. J. Meredith, K.C., has written to Montreal Gazette recommending suggestions for the abatement of traffic hazards. He says the penalties now are far too light and should be considerably increased, and especially more severe punishment be meted out to intoxicated drivers. A fine of from \$5 to \$10, he says, is almost useless in preventing a recurrence of an offence.

"Suitable legislation," says Mr. Meredith, "should be enacted to provide for either compulsory insurance or proof of financial responsibility on the part of automobile owners and drivers. Many people have been killed and countless others have been permanently injured by reckless motorists from whom there was no prospect of recovering compensation. When it is recalled that an irresponsible person with little or no knowledge of driving can easily obtain a licence the seriousness of the situation cannot be exaggerated."

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Great Fire in London which wiped out that City, this date 1666.

Oliver Cromwell, the great English dictator, died this date 1658. He was as popular in England in his day, as his Russian prototype Stalin is now.

Apparently the weather has broken for the Fall. Everyone, or nearly everyone, will be glad to resume the even tenure of their usual work-a-day ways.

The interim Indian Government, headed by Lord Mountbatten, took office this date 1946. Out of it evolved the greatest experiment in freedom in history.

Without wishing any ill to ships and seamen most people will be glad that the West Atlantic hurricane finally went seaward rather than causing havoc along the coast.

A feature of modern life is the amount of colour in articles of daily use. Other ages invested princes with an aura of glamour because of the possession of colourful garments which would be within reach of the average school girl of today.

Helium is generally associated with lighter-than-air craft but its latest use is in exploring the depths of the sea. Using that gas instead of soluble nitrogen to dilute his supply of oxygen a Royal Navy petty officer descended to a record depth of 535 feet at Lock Fyne, Argylshire.

As Hon. Mackenzie King is to represent Canada at forthcoming international and commonwealth assemblies and should be in a position to speak with authority, Mr. St. Laurent could help the situation considerably by announcing that Mr. King is to be his External Affairs Minister in the new cabinet.

Those having the welfare of the rising youths of our city at heart should bear in mind the "Y" is still short of the objective of its recent campaign—some \$30,000. Perhaps the difference could be bridged by asking the already generous subscribers to increase their donations by a third. He who gives quickly gives twice.

The repeated deadlocks in international relations show the futility of sovereign states trying to bind one another by agreement when by definition sovereignty means independence of any compulsion. Nations must give up their jealously guarded sovereignty to a world government to achieve lasting peace.

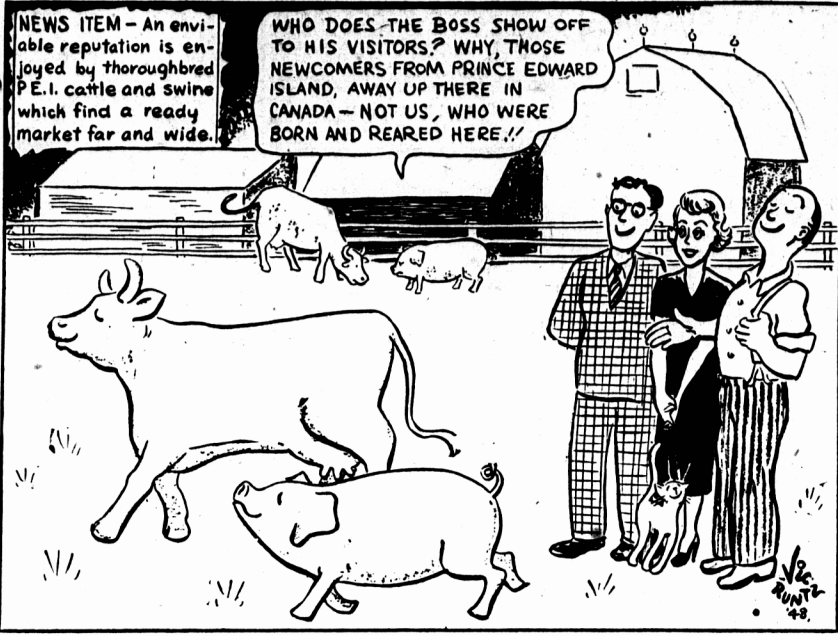
The 4-cent stamp is to be issued on October 1st commemorating the 100th anniversary of the achievement of Responsible Government in Canada. That almost revolutionary advance was made without any constitutional change except that the Royal Instructions of Provincial Governors required them to select as their advisers, men having the confidence of the elective Assemblies.

Capital investment in Canada is expected to attain a record figure of \$3,000,000,000 this year according to an Ottawa Government survey. The figure exceeds by \$200,000,000 an estimate made at the beginning of the year by the Department of Reconstruction and Supply. Capital expenditures last year were \$2,400,000,000 and part of the increase now forecast is attributed to price increases. Actual volume of the investment is expected to increase only 10 per cent over 1947.

Here is something an ordinary reader cannot understand. The Bureau of Statistics reports that between June 1947 and June 1948, our Island births exceeded our deaths by 1,957, and in addition we absorbed 211 immigrants, equalling 2,168 additions to our population. Yet the Bureau claims our population decreased 1,000 in the twelve months. Is it credible that we lost 3,168 people by emigration within the 12 months? And what is the Bureau's authority for the allegation?

An attempt is being made to induce German children to forget the past, and to become more social minded. Fifty-eight German children from the British zone of occupation are come under the scheme arranged by the Education Interchange Council and are spending the summer term with children in public and grammar schools in different parts of the United Kingdom. This is one of the schemes designed to remedy the isolation from the outside world to which the German children have been subjected since the coming to power of Hitler. Another scheme which has been launched by the Ministry of Education is for the exchange of correspondence between United Kingdom and German schoolchildren. English

Britain has a new radar device which warns pilots of death-trap clouds 40 miles ahead. It prevents disasters which overtake aircraft in a certain type of cloud as treacherous in the air as icebergs are at sea. Harmless rain clouds are ignored but the dangerous cumulonimbus clouds are shown on the radar screens. These clouds can tear an aircraft to pieces by a violent upsurge of air currents. Now the pilot will have ample warning. This is only one of dozens of peace-time developments of the British Telecommunication Research Establishment which produced the radar devices which were decisive in the air war. Nicknamed "School for Secrets," it has left its secretiveness in peace and recently it was opened to visitors from the Services, industry, the universities and the Press. Peace-time achievements include a new type electric brain capable of calculating incredible sums; an automatic gadget which keeps a telescope accurately fixed on a star, which it follows round the sky; new systems of air traffic control; and balloon-borne radio transmitters which automatically and with a new accuracy report back from 14 miles above the earth weather information to the experts.



The Indispensable Man

(Globe and Mail)

The Liberal Party and the Canadian people have heard some amazing statements from Prime Minister King in his time. None more so than the one he issued Wednesday to justify his determination to cling to the reins of office. His reasons for continuing as prime minister indefinitely are both shallow and vain—

It is no credit to the new leader or the party that Mr. King's resignation added up to the implication that Mr. St. Laurent shrinks from assuming responsibilities which ought to be his. If it did not think Mr. St. Laurent capable of a possible absence overseas of a new Administration, why did the Liberal convention choose him with such an overwhelming voice? Of a certainty, Mr. King's prolonged occupancy of office will not fortify public acceptance of the new leader as a man of stature and decision.

In the martyred spirit of "this-further-service-will-I-do-my-counting" Mr. King announced his intention to attend both the UN Assembly meeting in Paris and the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in London before assuming the duties of the head of a new Administration. The only reason for Mr. St. Laurent being absent from Canada is the Prime Ministers' Conference in London before assuming the duties of the head of a new Administration.

Mr. St. Laurent feels he should have a little more time to make the necessary preparations before assuming the duties of the head of a new Administration. He also feels that it would be unfortunate were he obliged almost immediately after (taking) office, to be away from Canada for a possible absence overseas of some weeks, and this at a time when so many matters require consideration at home.

The Poet's Corner

VALLEY AT NIGHT

When night came down and the valley filled with silence, and the hills closed in and the two worlds appeared—the starry one in heaven and the lighted world of barns and homes and men.

Old Charlottetown

OXEN AS CART HORSES

On Wednesday last two sons of Michael Clark, Tryon, being in a cart drawn by a pair of oxen, the oxen took fright and ran off at full speed when the cart was upset and one of the boys, named James, aged fourteen years, was thrown out with such violence that he died in a few minutes after.

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.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE

Sir,—I believe that the farmer's high prices will boom again. Food prices have been spearheading the cost of living, and are they not largely responsible for the third round of wage increases? Organized labor's wage boosts will undoubtedly hold after prices of farm produce recede to war-time levels, then the shoe will be on the other foot and the farmer will be hard put to pay the prices on fuel and manufactured goods.

There is nothing in the affairs of the London meeting, Mr. St. Laurent's presence in London would appear to be desirable, he will endeavor to join me there.

In consideration of such responsibilities, there is one fair proposal to make every day, as it were. Were the positions reversed, were Mr. King in Mr. St. Laurent's place, with a mandate from the Liberal Party but without power to carry it out, would he be content to have Mr. St. Laurent act and speak for him? Hardly.

Britain Coal Conscious

(By James McCook, O.P. Staff Writer)

Whitehall has launched a new campaign to make every Briton coal-conscious. "Save the coal to save the nation" has become the economic catchphrase of the day.

Billion Forest Exports

(Woodland World)

"Proper forest management that would obtain the maximum yield from the forest on the basis of a crop to be harvested annually, is what we need in Canada today," according to R. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, in a statement issued today.

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Notes By The Way

Economy is what every politician sees so clearly when he has no public money to spend.—Hamilton Spectator.

Then there was the grasping female who took the rich old man for better or worse—and he got better.—Stratford Beacon-Herald.

It is significant commentary that conditions in Russia are such that many people who have been able to come out are ready to take anything rather than go back. How many would like to get out and cannot no one knows.—Pict Arthur News-Chronicle.

A leading shirtmaker says that buttons that laundries can't tear off shirts have already been invented. Anyway, the announcement suggests a number of other gadgets that would make a machine age a smoother one. Phones that can't ring while you are in the bath. Streetcar doors that won't be closed in a wind-blown passenger's face. Theatre seats that won't remain empty in the middle of the row. Shoes that can't be moved—not even by a pedestrian—against a red traffic light. Radios that get loud enough for their owners before getting too loud for the neighbors.—Christian Science Monitor.

Scientists are puzzled by the unexplained fact that eggs of many birds have not hatched out this year. They fear for the bird life of Britain. Henry G. Maurice, zoologist at Whipsnade Zoo, says this year has been breeding over-rich, pheasants and ducks, says the hens laid well but very few chicks were hatched. Among pheasants infertility was 75 per cent. Nearly all rears and ostrich eggs failed and out of six pairs of nesting cranes only one produced chicks. The remarkable thing, says Mr. Maurice, is that a similar lack of fertility in eggs had been found in other parts of the world.—London Exc.

After a silence of 100 years, the old church bell at King-Edwards, Aberdeenshire, rang again to call the people of the quiet rural parishes to worship on Sunday. In response to its summons several hundred parishioners attended a century service held amid the roofless ruins of the old churchyard. The service commemorated the closing of the church and the opening of the present one. The man Bant-Aberdeen road is actually a century ago. The old church dates back to the twelfth century. Its bell and belfry are the burial vaults of a number of old county families. The Rev. G. S. Alexander, minister of the church, arranged and conducted the service.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

The watch we want has been invented but unfortunately is not yet ready for the market. Nor do we know what it will look like or whether carrying it around will involve more trouble than the

between now and the end of the year. That is well above the present average weekly output.

Britain's coal production has gone up. This is reflected in the 1,100,000 tons she exported in the four weeks ending July 31, an increase of 65,000 tons over the post-war record set during the same period in June and more than she exported in the whole of 1947.

But increasing home demands under the pressure of the export drive tends to put the brake on the exports and Britain's move to recapture the place she once held as the world's leading coal producer. And so the cry for more production goes on.

Britain's coal miner today finds himself a most important cog in the country's economic clock-work. And efforts are being made to provide still better conditions for him and meet his demands.

Recently, the coal board agreed to the appointment of a joint committee to study the check-off system of collecting union dues from miners' claims for increased cost-of-living bonus are expected to get sympathetic hearing, soon.

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