

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1948

A Surgeon's Creed

The Victorian idea that scientific knowledge and profound religious faith are inconsistent has been pretty thoroughly exploded in recent times. Scientists today must walk as firmly by faith as the theologians themselves. This is illustrated in the lives of the great benefactors of humanity in every field, notably those of medicine and surgery. A striking example is the case of Dr. Max Thorek, world famed authority on modern surgical technique and secretary general of the International College of Surgeons, who has written an inspiring autobiography, "A Surgeon's World", in which he deals among other things with his religious faith. His concluding words have the ring of great literature as well as of personal conviction. He says:

"Believing in God, I believe, too, in a soul. I believe in its reality and in its eternal progression. I cannot subscribe to an ancient belief that the soul is mortal. That elusive spark which makes all the difference between the quick and the dead and which no machine seems able to fabricate must live on in perpetuity, else Nature herself mocks us with her rotation of the seasons, and all emotion is fallacious with its antithesis of hope and despair, courage and weakness, success and failure.

"Nearly forty years of surgical experiences have gone to shape this creed. It is not finished. Perhaps before I have finished this earthly pilgrimage, I may become a convert to the Higher Space theories. Perhaps I shall understand—or think to understand—things shrouded in doubt and mystery to me still.

"This far I have come. On this ground I stand. It is firm rock under my feet, firm enough, I trust and hope, so that the hand I would stretch in comfort and in courage to those who stand in the valley of the shadow of Death does not shake."

At Loggerheads

Liberals and C.C.F.'s are at distinct loggerheads in Saskatchewan Legislature. Mr. A. T. Procter, Liberal member for Moomsoin, was expelled from the March 10 sitting of the House when he called Premier T. C. Douglas a "stinking skunk" and refused to withdraw the statement. Mr. Procter made the reference in replying to charges made earlier by Premier Douglas concerning a "dummy" aniline dye company which, Mr. Douglas said, had been owned by prominent Liberal party men and had dealt with the Liberal government during the years 1940-42. During the March 9 sitting Premier Douglas had stated that a company called Acme Chemical and Dye Ltd., had sold purple gas dye to the provincial tax commission and highways department during 1940-42 for \$69,160 more than it was worth. Mr. Procter was minister of highways during part of this period. "It is smears such as this that have kept honest men out of politics. The premier of this province is a stinking skunk," Mr. Procter said. Asked by Speaker Tom Johnston to retract the statement, Mr. Procter answered that he would not. "My honor has been impugned," he declared, "and I am the judge of whether it has been impugned."

The Bill Of Rights

Last summer the joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons on human rights and fundamental freedoms decided to get the opinions of the provinces and the heads of law schools on the power of parliament to enact a comprehensive bill of rights applicable to all Canada. The replies, as they have been received to date, have now been tabled by Rt. Hon. J. L. Hilsley, Minister of Justice. They show how long a road has yet to be travelled before a bill of rights can be secured.

Except for Saskatchewan there is not a single provincial government which believes the Federal Government has any such power. Some governments have not yet replied. The opinion of the law schools is also in the negative.

Mr. Large, Attorney-General of Prince Edward Island, said he doubted whether such an act could be drafted without conflicting with the B.N.A. Act. However, he reserved his opinion until he saw a draft of the proposed act.

Mr. McLennan, Attorney-General of Manitoba, wrote on August 5, 1947, saying he would consider the problem and write again "as soon as possible." There has been no indication of his views.

Very much the same response came from New Brunswick. Premier McNair said on July 30, 1947, that he would bring the matter to the attention of the Attorney-General. Since then there has been silence.

Mr. Currie, Attorney-General of Nova Scotia, said:

"In my view, because of the distribution of subject matters of legislation between the Dominion and the provinces, as contained in the British North America Act, and because a Bill of Rights would doubtless affect both subject matters that belong to the Dominion and subject matters that belong to the provinces, the parliament of the Dominion of Canada would not be competent to enact a comprehensive bill of rights applicable to all of Canada."

Quebec and Alberta—two provinces whose milk

record on civil liberty leaves much to be desired—have not even bothered to acknowledge the letter from the Federal Government.

Perhaps the most legal opinion came from Professor W. P. M. Kennedy, of the law school at the University of Toronto. He declared:

"It is evident that a comprehensive bill of rights would mean, both for the Federal Parliament and the provincial legislatures, a surrender of their supreme powers. In other words, we would be departing from the doctrine of legislative supremacy, for it is obvious that a bill of rights, if it is to have any meaning, must be beyond the every-day authority of the legislatures, and must be subject to change only by some method extra-legislative. Secondly, I do not think it would be possible to have a comprehensive bill of rights covering the whole of Canada."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Junior Farmers meet.

An American view is that a Canadian general election will be held this fall. There have been lots of straws to indicate such a move.

The teaching profession had an interesting and informative convention here this week. The Federation is growing in strength and influence, due largely to the wise leadership it enjoys.

That was a well prepared and informative statement submitted to the City Council by His Worship the Mayor. There is nothing like keeping the public well informed, as Coun. Farmer declared, on public affairs; they are entitled to it, and it prevents misunderstandings.

The Charlottetown Driving Park and Exhibition Association are to be congratulated on the fine showing they have made in their first year under the new regime. President H. J. Kennedy's comprehensive report proves that the directorate made no mistake in choosing him to head the company—one of the most aggressive and progressive organizations in our midst.

The Premier did not declare what business necessitated his hurried departure for New York via Montreal, but it may be taken it was of the utmost importance to the Province or himself personally. Could it be that he had an invitation to meet Prime Minister Mackenzie King there on Federal affairs?

The increased freight rates will make it more difficult for trade to move East and West so that when the emergency restrictions are removed and the new tariff comes into effect, Canada will be a number of separate communities each engaged in trade with its American neighbour.

Going borrowing brings sorrowing is the experience of the CCF. If debtor municipalities in Saskatchewan do not pay the Federal government \$2,500,000 in seed grain debts by July 1, the provincial government will become liable for the sum, Provincial Treasurer C. M. Fines informed the legislature.

The William and Mary College, Virginia, honors our Governor General and Prime Minister today by the bestowal of honorary LL.D. degrees. Our Premier might have been included had the University become aware in time of the important niche he had attained in Canadian labour leadership.

Richard Cobden, British statesman and apostle of Free Trade, died this date 1865; was recognized by Prime Minister Peel as the man to whom the repeal of the Corn Laws was due, which gave long term prosperity to the industrial centres but discouraged agriculture, and led to the present food shortage and the herculean efforts being made to restore farming to its rightful place in the economy of Britain.

Mr. Floyd S. Chalmers, president, Periodical Press Association, says The Financial Post, estimates that the cost of turning out a publication has doubled since before the war. Practically everything the publisher must purchase is subject to price increase on short notice, Mr. Chalmers states. By the time he gets delivery now, the price may have advanced from 10 to 25% and this increase, under the original contract, must be paid. In less than two years there have been six increases in paper prices.

Trade Minister Howe, target of countless cracks about the extent of his administrative powers, heard a new one in the Commons the other day. Mr. J. H. Harris (PC—Toronto-Danforth), rising to ask Mr. Howe a question, said: "I do not know just how to address him. I might call him the Minister in Toto, or the Minister of Trade and Commerce—or of Everything." Mr. Howe's reaction was a mild appeal to Speaker Gaspard Fauteux: "Is this a question?" The Speaker did not reply. Mr. Harris asked his question, but as usual did not get much satisfaction.

The people of St. Simon and St. Jude Church, Bolton, Lancashire, observed Lent by living on present-day German rations. Explaining this, the Rev. E. Stopford who sponsored the plan for Holy Week, said some of the parishioners who subsisted on the reduced rations reported that they lost up to 2 1/2 pounds in weight. The women said what they missed most were the snacks and cups of tea between meals. Two tables in the church were later piled high with margarine, bags of sugar, tins of milk and about 50 blocks of chocolate. All to be sent to Herse, in the Ruhr valley. This was the typical "Fast" menu for the vicar and his wife: Breakfast—Weak tea and two slices of toast. Lunch—Scotch broth, the meat ration minced with oatmeal and a baked potato. Supper—Thin porridge without

Notes By The Way

That movie sign "Adult Entertainment" was first suggested as a guide to parents. What it actually does is act as a lure for morose who hope to see something salacious. It certainly does not act as a bar to the attendance of children. The Ottawa Journal suggests replacing this phony warning with some such sign as "No Childrer." It would probably serve better the intended purpose. — Woodstock Sentinel-Review.

Because United States socialists snubbed her, on account of having been a waitress, wealthy Mrs. Laura Mae Corrigan left her native land to go to Europe, there she associated with members of nobility, to whom she bequeathed \$100,000 of her \$1,347,000 estate. Seems that in escaping snobbery on this continent, she became a bit of a snob herself in Europe. — Windsor Star.

To prove to the Lewes magistrates last week that her eight months-old terrier was not vicious Miss Ethel May Attenborough, 30, of Malling Street, Lewes, called it into court and bit its nose and paw. The dog went on to Europe, there she associated with members of nobility, to whom she bequeathed \$100,000 of her \$1,347,000 estate. Seems that in escaping snobbery on this continent, she became a bit of a snob herself in Europe. — Windsor Star.

The saturation point in the absorption of unskilled workers into the mines has been reached at many mines. In the Noranda area, Noranda Mines is the only company taking on this class of help, and it is doing this with caution. Here's what one mine manager said of the situation: "I feel that we are at the turn of the road now." He went on to say optimistically that it looked to him as though conditions for mining and he was not just considering the fact that more labor is available— are definitely going to show a big improvement. — Kirkland Lake Northern News.

Human nature is odd. Some people who would never dream of cheating at cards or in business think nothing of cheating traffic laws. They will, when they think they can "get away with it," drive past stop signs without stopping, step on the accelerator because they see others doing it, ignore railway warning signals, intrude local traffic regulations and indulge in various other foolhardy actions, just because they do not see a police officer in the vicinity. — Halifax Chronicle.

March, it was once said, comes in with an adder's head, and goes out with a peacock's tail. But somehow to us it never loses that snake-like origin of its entrance and it packs venom and uncertainty to the last. It is a mistake, one of nature's miserable, muddy hesitations. It is full of colds, debates, bills and cold rain. Nearly everything associated with March is black, bony and grisly. It is no future. If it has a past it has forgotten it, or left it in the slush. — Hamilton Spectator.

Because he deplored the general lack of human kindness, a New York man started on a recent morning to spread sweetness and light in his daily contacts. His first effort was in a department store. "Good morning," he said to the woman who came to wait on him. "And how are you this fine morning?" Instead of the pleasant smile he expected to receive in return, she said: "A hell of a lot of difference it makes to you how I am." — Calgary Alberta.

About the possibility of a future war, Eisenhower expressed himself unmistakably. "Every man should work his fingers to the bone to see that war does not happen." The General held both hands out with palms upward and fingers spread. "The man who works against peace is a criminal. On the other hand, we must be strong and prepared. We cannot afford to relax in that direction, because it would weaken our voice for peace." — Interview in Saturday Review.

"Fuss-budgets" are more than a nuisance according to health leaders at Ottawa. They threaten the comfort and health of everyone around them, as they work them selves up for a breakdown. Wise people know that getting into a "flutter" doesn't pay off in results. The calm manner ensures control in any situation. It's easier, too, on the nerves of all concerned. Did you ever notice that its those who fuss the least who accomplish the most? — Chatham News.

The familiar little tune of "Happy Birthday to You" is not heard as often as it used to be in stage productions or on the screen. Producers have learned to their astonishment that it is still very much in copyright, and that an alert lawyer, Samuel Mann, is on the job to track down all infringements. The lyrics were written by Patty Hill, and the music by her sister Mildred, in 1898, when the two of them were conducting a kindergarten in Louisville, Ky. The copyright was renewed in 1921. Every time a cafe orchestra serenades a customer with "Happy Birthday to You," while the celebrant's friends applaud, and wax from the candles on the cake drip onto his best blue serge, ASCAP collects gold for those Hills. Attorney Mann got after Western Union, too. He told Bert McCord, of the Herald Tribune, that the reason they dropped the song as a singing telegram some time ago was because "they just got tired of paying royalties." — B. Carr in Saturday Review.

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.

O'LEARY'S PROUD RECORD

Sir,—Would "W. G. D." be good enough to advise the public why he considers clergymen should be allowed a discount on all their purchases. I am, Sir, etc. WEST PRINC. P. S. I notice that drugs were not included in the letter. W. C.

Antarctica Britain's Position

(United Kingdom Information)

In view of the present public interest in Antarctic exploration and, as its accompaniment, the ventilation of claims of different countries to territorial sovereignty in the South Polar Regions, the following details of the United Kingdom position, and the United Kingdom scientific activities may be appropriate. The Antarctic was first discovered by Edward Bransfield of the Royal Navy on January 20th, 1820, when he sighted Trinity Peninsula in Graham Land. The only Antarctic area of which the United Kingdom Government is responsible is the Falkland Islands Dependencies, embracing South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands, South Orkney Islands, South Shetland Islands, and Graham Land.

Britain's title to the Falkland Islands Dependencies rests on a Royal Patent of July 21st, 1808 and March 28th, 1817. Secondly, the continued administration of the Dependencies to the extent necessary in view of their character. In international law there are broadly three different types of claims to sovereignty over new territory. Firstly, a claim by virtue of discovery. This confers an inchoate or provisional temporary right to acquire territory by occupation. Secondly, commencement of occupation, which also confers an inchoate right, only effective for a limited time, to perfect a claim by administration. Thirdly, the completed acquisition by occupation, that is the establishment of the necessary administration for the territory as suited to local conditions. Settlement in the sense of the establishment of a resident population is not legally necessary. The essential criterion is that control should be sufficiently effective.

Britain's claim to the Falkland Islands Dependencies is based on completed acquisition by occupation.

Similarly, New Zealand's claim to sovereignty over the Ross Dependency, that of Australia in the area extending from Victoria Land to Enderby Land, that of Norway for Queen Maud Land and of France for Adelle Land are considered by the United Kingdom Government to be well-founded. The U.S.A. Government officially neither makes nor recognizes claims to annexation.

The Chilean and Argentine Governments have each put forward claims in the South Polar area southward of the South American Continent, and are at present operating naval forces in British waters in the area of the Falkland Islands Dependencies with the declared object of enforcing claims to sovereignty in this area. The United Kingdom Government has suggested that the whole matter be referred to the International Court of Justice in order that a ruling may be obtained on the legal aspects of the various claims, but the Argentine and Chilean Governments have refused to take this course. The Argentine Government has suggested that there should be some form of international reference and the United Kingdom Government is at present considering this proposal.

The United Kingdom Government's scientific and survey work in the Falkland Islands Dependencies, interrupted in 1939 by the outbreak of war, was resumed in the southern summer of 1943-44 when an expedition employing two ships, the "William Scoresby" and the "Fitzroy" was sent out. Fully equipped bases were at Port Lockroy in the Palmer Archipelago and at Deception Island in the South Shetlands. One year later a second expedition with three ships, the "William Scoresby", the "Fitzroy" and the "Eagle" established a new base at Hope Bay in North Graham Land. Again during the 1946-46 season a third expedition with three ships, the "Trespasser" replacing the "Eagle" established bases at Cape Geddes on Laurie Land in the South Orkneys and at Nyen Fjord on the island in Marguerite Bay off South-west Graham Land, the southernmost base of all. The organization was now termed the "Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey" and placed under the control of the Colonial Office.

Thus since the resumption of survey work five bases have been established. They are re-provisioned each year by Meteorological stations are maintained at each base, and an investigation is being carried out into the possibilities of weather forecasting in the South Atlantic with special reference to the development and movement of Antarctic depressions. In addition, a comprehensive program of geological, biological and physical research is being conducted as the opportunity offers. It is interesting to note that in addition to personnel from Britain, speculations in the press,

The Poets Corner

QUIET DAY

I have fallen completely and quietly in love with today's tranquility; My heart spins softly round in a hum of secret content. Today is a tree, having roots by the rivers of serenity. In a fertile continent.

Today is a cat on the hearthrug, holding its own counsel. A book lying open on the table beside the empty chair; All uncontroversial things that are wise and secure and gentle. Today has printed here.

I love, as much as the next man, the days when everything happens. And you live on the sun-tipped wing of vivid anticipation; When the hours are whirling balls of kaleidoscopic patterns. In brilliant cocoonage.

I love the color and quickness and courage of modern living. But amid the patchwork of purple and gold and aquamarine Give me the shadows slowly, silently slipping. Over a field of green.

—Rosemary C. Cobham in Christian Science Monitor.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

SEALS IN ABUNDANCE

Seals are to be seen in all our rivers and harbours; it is hardly possible to cross either without seeing them. Upon the setting in of the winter, when by the general freezing of the creeks and rivers, they are obliged to quit them, they assemble in great numbers on particular parts of the coasts, where they know by experience that the surface will continue long open; they often quit the water at this period, and lay in great numbers carelessly sleeping on the ice. From this habit a curious circumstance, happened a few years ago: on the setting in of the winter of 1797, a great number of seals had assembled in a part of Hillsburgh Bay, where the strength and rapidity of the tide had prevented the surface from freezing, though all the rest of the bay, the harbours and creeks which run into it were completely frozen; and as usual great numbers of them were lying on the ice, when the severity of the frost increased so rapidly, that the whole of this opening, on which they depended for a communication with the sea, was frozen up so strongly in a few hours, that when they observed their situation they could not penetrate the ice, and as there was no water in sight of them, instead of going seaward on the ice, they look to the land, and attempted to cross the island to get into the gulph at the north side thereof, but this was an exertion for which they were totally unqualified, and few of them got above two miles into the woods before they were completely exhausted. In this state they were discovered by some of the neighboring settlers, and several hundred of them killed, providing a valuable booty, as many of them were large.

Besides the seals which constantly frequent the waters of the Island, there is a larger kind brought on the coast annually in the month of April by the floating ice from the northward, which are often in great numbers, and the taking them is frequently very productive to those who follow the business. The oil is generally carried to Halifax or Quebec, where it sells at from twenty-five to thirty-two pounds per ton. The method of taking the seals is by following the ice with schooners; the success depends on the quantity of northern ice that may be brought by the wind on the coast. Sometimes vast quantities come, other years little or none; when the fishermen meet with the ice they either fasten their vessels to it, or if from appearance they judge that to be unsafe, leaving part of their crew on board to manage the vessel, the rest go upon the ice, where they find the seals asleep, frequently many hundreds together, and being an unwieldy heavy animal, which can only move very slowly out of the water, they are easily killed. A great many are shot, some are speared, others are killed by the stroke of a heavy stick on their noses. In these ways they frequently in two or three days get as many seals as their vessels will carry; sometimes the number taken is very trifling, either from there being little ice on the coast, or the weather being so bad as not to permit the vessels going among the ice; it is a precarious business, and attended with a considerable risk of the lives employed in it.

—"An Account of Prince Edward Island" by John Stewart, 1806.

the bases were manned by scientists and technicians from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Rhodesia and the Falkland Islands, while the crews of the ships mainly are Newfoundlanders.

At the end of 1946 a fourth expedition set out with the "Trespasser" and the "Fitzroy" to re-provision the five bases and extend the scope of research, and in December, 1947, the "John Biscoe" left London on a similar mission. It may be added that no report of the presence of radio-active minerals like uranium in the Antarctic Continent have been received to justify the recent speculations in the press,



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