

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink.

SATURDAY, JULY 5, 1947

Profitable Home Industry

Of the many activities in which the Women's Institutes in this Province have taken part, none has proved more useful and profitable than the encouragement given to handicrafts.

In this connection it is worth noting that the United States Department of Commerce estimated that American tourists will put more than a billion dollars into the products of rural handicraftsmen this summer.

But in each of the Maritime Provinces, with an already larger influx of American visitors reported within the past week, and with an all-time record number estimated to visit us in the course of this season, our varied and distinctive handicrafts will undoubtedly meet with a good share of tourist purchases.

Stressing this fact in a timely editorial, the Moncton Times says the New Brunswick Government has anticipated a rising patronage for articles of distinctive home crafts and has given every encouragement in order that such work would be more widely taken up.

Our own Provincial Government has also been active in this connection, following the lead of the Women's Institutes as above mentioned.

Hot Weather Advice

Some timely advice is contained in an article in an Old Country exchange on the subject of enjoying the midsummer vacation period without discomfort.

Perhaps we are inclined to exaggerate when we get a spell of good old-fashioned summer weather. Even a heat wave, it is suggested, has its points. Of course it is tiring, especially for the elderly and the delicate; but for the general run of people it often does a world of good.

We are apt to be safer and freer from general infections and disease during a hot spell, it is contended, than at any other period of the year.

The sun has, as we know, its dangers, especially for those unused to it, the delicate, the very fair, and those who do not tan easily. These should be careful of the direct rays, so should the man who is getting on, and a "bit thin on the top."

The "pass word" in a heat wave is "moderation," in all things—exercise, strain, diet, etc. Exercise is important, but as far as possible should be taken (easy and gentle) in the evening or early hours.

It should be unnecessary at this time of day to tell people to cut down their meat, fats, pastries, sugars and even tobacco, and rely on the nature foods—cereals, fruits, vegetables, and those C—vitamin things, such as oranges, lemons, grapefruit, limes, celery, watercress, lettuce, spinach, etc., when they can be got.

Cooked meals and hot food should be avoided generally. Sleep means much in hot weather—if one can get it!

Available Doctors

The discussion on bringing doctors to Canada from Great Britain or the displaced persons camps of Europe has been clarified by a statement in Ottawa by Mr. H. L. Keenleyside, As Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources.

Mr. Keenleyside reports that there are a number of doctors in displaced persons camps in Europe who are available to come to Canada if any Province asks for the service of these men. He also said that it should be comparatively easy to get them out of the camps and into Canada if there are jobs waiting for them.

These authoritative statements should settle once for all the basic fact which has been challenged in some quarters. It is now estab-

lished that doctors are available in Europe; that these trained people now have no chance to practice medicine; and that they can be brought to Canada.

Mr. Keenleyside referred only to doctors in Europe, but it is also known that many doctors in the United Kingdom are eager to start a practice in this country and are agreeable to practising in rural districts where the need, of course, is most acute.

Whether these doctors come from the United Kingdom, as is preferred, or from Europe, they will not be competing with Canadian doctors who have an established practice of their own. The newcomers would be going to districts which are at present without medical facilities or else whose facilities are demonstrably inadequate to meet existing needs.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

This has been the week of weeks for both farmers and holiday-makers.

It is worth noting that Parliament is desirous of proroguing in time for the celebration of "the Glorious Twelfth."

It is a case, seemingly, that everything here is as it should be for the tourist—or almost—while only our roads are vile.

The amended Election Act makes no revolutionary changes, only dots the "i's" and strokes the "t's" of the regulations already in force.

Is our Car Ferry system ill-fated? First we lose our Ferry steamer on Nova Scotia coast, then our concrete crib to help provide the Ferry dock at Tormentine runs amok and puts the Palmerston Bridge at Pugwash, N.B. out of commission.

A new process to de-ink old newspapers and produce newsprint should help to ease the serious world shortage of newsprint. A New York firm plans to renew 100,000 tons a year in the next few years.

Consideration is being given to methods of speeding up parliamentary business. If the government would go back to the practice of presenting its legislative program early in the session so that members could study it business would go ahead at a more satisfactory rate.

Premier Jones "has a way with him," so far as ladies are concerned, and captured the hearts—though not necessarily the votes—of the big crowd of the fair sex he addressed on Thursday evening. They naturally felt flattered at being commissioned to provide the "best candidates ever" for next election.

A million more children will be educated in Britain's State Schools during the next five years. The Minister of Education emphasized this fact in a recent address. In analysing this increase he pointed out that rather more than half of it will be due to a substantial rise in the birth rate in Britain during 1943 and the remainder to the raising of school-leaving age from 14 to 15 which came into effect on April First.

Cecil Rhodes, British colonial statesman, born this date 1853; suffering from incipient tuberculosis, he was ordered at the age of twenty-eight to proceed to Natal to recuperate. Not only did he recover, but remained long enough to add practically the whole of South, South-west and South-east Africa to the British crown. Public spirited, energetic, autocratic Rhodes was an ideal "Empire-maker", and for nearly a quarter of a century was the dominating personality on the Imperial side of South African politics.

"The problem of gearing up to meet competition is a little more complicated than was the case before the war," says a sales manager for major electrical appliances. "The number of appliance distributing organizations which could be classified as large, well-established operators, has increased. Although some of the newcomers may fall by the wayside, others are here to stay. Every reputable distributor feels an obligation to provide maximum sales service to suppliers and is convinced this cannot be done under competition expected to become far more acute than pre-war without what amounts to a revolution in merchandising and sales training techniques. Prices are far higher and unless the dealer can be shown how to convince customers that the extra cost is justified, sales will slacken and the dreaded 'backing up' will set in."

Interesting experiments have been undertaken at the Long Ashton Research Station of Bristol University with the object of exerting a favourable influence on the fertility of plants by means of chemicals, that is to say by chemical compounds. Scientists demonstrated successfully that the growth of plants as well as their productiveness can be regulated, independently of seasonal considerations, by the proper use of certain chemicals. These chemicals, described as "hormones" or "plant growth regulating substances" must be very carefully administered and the slightest overdose may have disastrous consequences. The experiments definitely established that it was thus possible to obtain a good crop of tomatoes in winter. Successful efforts were, moreover, achieved in the case of plants where the blooms were manifestly "infertile" so that 20 lbs. of ripe tomatoes could be gathered at a single picking.

Notes By the Way

When Hon. Arthur Welsh, DSO, Ontario Minister of Travel and Publicity, is looking around this Province to pep up the tourist business, there is one detail to which he could give attention. He should insist that all gasoline stations maintain clean washrooms.

We were about to print a plaintive appeal to the neighbors to bring back our missing lawnmowers, but found it last night where we had cleverly hidden it last fall so that the neighbors couldn't get at it. We would print an apology for this faithless attitude toward our neighbors but for the suspicion that they would have borrowed it if we hadn't secreted it. The intrinsic value of the machine is about 85 cents, but we have had it for 25 years, and we love it. —Ottawa Citizen.

Locomotive builders are off on the most competitive race in their century-old industry. The goal is dieselization of American railroads. Preference of railroads for the oil-burning, diesel-electric locomotive over the coal-fired "Iron Horse" has been growing over the past decade. Of 638 outstanding orders for locomotives today, over 90 per cent. are for diesels. Demand for diesels has helped put more than \$300 million of orders on the books of the locomotive builders.

Woolen mills in Holland are now producing 120 per cent of their 1939 output records; their cotton mills have recorded 60 per cent of their 1939 output. A record established against overwhelming odds by a country which knew the crushing effects of the German military heel early in the war. It's apparent the Dutch, while willing to accept a helping hand, are not above helping themselves. They offer an example in which many another nation might well find inspiration. —Boston Post.

According to the latest available figures the soft-lead miners were averaging about \$69.50 a week. This is the highest average for manual workers in any of the country's major industries. The steelworkers, for instance, with their recent wage increases have an average wage of about \$55.69 a week, the auto workers one of about \$59. Yet Mr. John Lewis, who insists that his miners get a least of 35 cents an hour, or else, though the steelworkers and others have been content with one of 15 cents or less and the Northern and Western coal operators have offered 15 cents.

Question Hour In Parliament (Ottawa Journal) Among Mr. Gordon Graydon's proposals for improving Parliament is one which we should like to see adopted. This: "A system of daily questioning of the Government for the first hour, as in Britain, should be instituted." Existing rules governing questions in the Commons do violence to what Parliament should be about. A member asks a question, some minister makes a reply (often evasive), and that is the end of it. No one is permitted to pursue the matter, no cross-examination is tolerated; information is denied, or the subject of the question is beclouded. Different in the British House. There, where they know what

There are people who, professing to be concerned with free speech, fix their whole attention on the right of anyone to hire his own hall, or publish his own newspaper, or rent his own broadcasting station, or distribute his own pamphlets. Actually, these rights are but incidental; and though they must be preserved, they can be preserved only by regarding them as incidental. Freedom of speech—the substance of it—is best conceived by having in mind a forum where the speaker must respond to questions; in a gathering of scientists where the data, the hypothesis, and the conclusion are submitted to men competent to judge them; in a reputable newspaper which not only will publish when at all possible, the opinions of those who disagree but will reexamine its own opinion in the light of what they say.

Wrote Walter Lippmann: "The unexamined life, said Socrates, is unfit to be lived by man. This is the virtue of liberty, and the ground on which we may best justify our belief in it, that it tolerates error in order to serve the truth. When men are brought face to face with their opponents, forced to answer, forced to listen and learn and mend their ideas, they cease to be children and savages and begin to live like civilized men. Then only is freedom a reality, when men may voice their opinions because they must examine their opinions."

Summed up, what matters in free speech is not the utterance of opinions. What matters is the confrontation of opinions in debate; the duty of authority to speak and explain; and the right of the citizen to cross-examine and reply.

That is why we support a real "question hour" for Parliament.

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The Poet's Corner

Return, my gallant heart of youth— My courage gay and bold— That we may go adventuring As in the days of old. Come, saddle up the milk-white steed— The wing-ed steed of dreams— And we'll explore the hills of dawn And wade in crystal streams. Up, and away; the golden sun Is no less gold today. Than when in joyous life we rode Along this meadow way. Suffer by those of morning stir The fragrant dew-wet lea; All things are as they were, and yet They do not seem to be: Some chord is silent in the strain That wakes the woodland glen— Some beauty vanished from the place That will not come again: Our steed, once buoyant as a flame, Must now be spurred to soar. Ah, that high rapture that was youth Shall come no more—no more! —Lucy Gertrude Clarkin.

Sun Dried Salt Cod (Saint John Telegraph-Journal) Since Acadia days New Brunswick has exported sun-dried salt cod. In modern times our chief markets were Italy and Spain. We lost the Italian market when Canada applied economic sanctions against Italy during Mussolini's Ethiopian campaign and the saltine counteracted with an embargo against most Canadian goods. We lost the Spanish market during the Spanish civil war. The result was that the salt cod business all but vanished and great hardship was suffered by those who depended on it for a living.

In the late 1930's quick-freezing plants took the place of the drying flakes and cod fishermen turned to the production of frozen fillets. This development continued throughout the war and has been of tremendous value. But there is still an important world demand for salt cod and we should not ignore the opportunity this presents. If a balance can be struck between the salted and frozen product, it should mean more economic stability. We will not, as the old saying goes, have all our eggs in one basket.

Parliament is about, and what free speech is about. Ministers during "question hour" run a gauntlet of questions. Not merely are they compelled to give answers but they must reply to questions arising out of the answers they give. Evasion becomes impossible; dangerous at best. This is the essence of free speech and of freedom. For it free speech is not a means of promoting the discovery of truth. It is nothing at all.

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