

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 18, 1952

A Routine Check

It was just a routine check of barns in an area northeast of Toronto that resulted in the capture of the Boyd gang after they had been at large for a week.

It must be a consolation to many individuals doing a conscientious job despite its routine nature that the spade work in this case, as in many less spectacular, paid off.

In almost every important field of modern living the experience of these men is repeated. We have very largely left behind the day of individual prowess but in its place there is faithful and intelligent co-ordination of effort which achieves results impossible to the individual no matter how gifted.

Driver Training

A railway engineer must go through rigorous training and examination before operating his equipment on rails where there are other people to do much of the worrying about traffic.

The serious situation was taken note of at the annual meeting of the Chief Constables' Association of Canada held at Winnipeg. The proposal was made that a Dominion body be set up to control drivers' tests according to one set of standards from coast to coast.

It would seem that an early step towards standardized driving techniques would be to make uniform the regulations governing highway conduct and a standardization of highway markings.

The movement of cars and drivers from province to province can be expected to increase steadily. It is desirable that all those using the highways should qualify for their responsibility.

Prime Minister's Rebuke

In Vancouver a few days ago Mr. St. Laurent made a statement which should be noted in all parts of the nation. Opening a new law building at the University of British Columbia, the Prime Minister said:

"Legal education, like other forms of education, is and should remain within provincial jurisdiction. But that does not mean that lawyers should have a provincial outlook. Nor does it mean that it is a good thing for lawyers, or for the administration of justice in Canada, to raise too high the boundary walls that divide the practice of the profession between the various provincial jurisdictions."

Undoubtedly, comments the Winnipeg Free Press, Mr. St. Laurent had in mind especially the "boundary wall" erected by the British Columbia legal profession against lawyers from other provinces. When a young man graduates from the law school of the British Columbia University he is charged a fee of \$500 for membership in the Law Society and the right to practice his profession.

"This involves a principle going far beyond the legal profession," says our Winnipeg contemporary. "In all provinces the legislatures have set up various profes-

sional organizations and delegated to them actual powers of legislation, so far as their members are concerned. These organizations lay down codes of behavior, fix fees and enforce discipline, and such powers are absolute for all practical purposes.

"The legislatures feel themselves incompetent to deal with some highly technical matters—the practice of medicine or engineering for example—but the legislatures never intended that the powers thus granted to professional organizations should be used for purely commercial purposes, as they have been used in the case of the British Columbia legal profession.

"All such organizations are the creation of some legislature by statute and the statute can always be altered or repealed if it is abused. The remedy for the situation in British Columbia rests with its legislature, which so far has been deaf to all protests but may heed the protest of the Prime Minister. Other legislatures would be wise to consider where their constant and increasing delegation of statutory powers to professional organizations and to official boards of various sorts is leading."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Latin is a dead language but not a dead issue in education. A little of it seems useless, yet it is very hard indeed to profit by any advanced course without a preliminary grounding.

China lost Port Arthur to the Japanese in 1894. It was briefly held by the Russians before 1904 and now Russia shows no inclination to give up the important railway terminal even to her faithful Communist ally, China.

The Federal civil service superannuation provisions are expected to be amended at the session of Parliament commencing Nov. 20. Temporary civil servants and widows with children under 16 are expected to benefit.

Nothing succeeds like success, and the Queen's County Plowing Match Association proved this at Pownal yesterday. The weather man was on his best behaviour, the competitors were keen and the large crowds in attendance had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

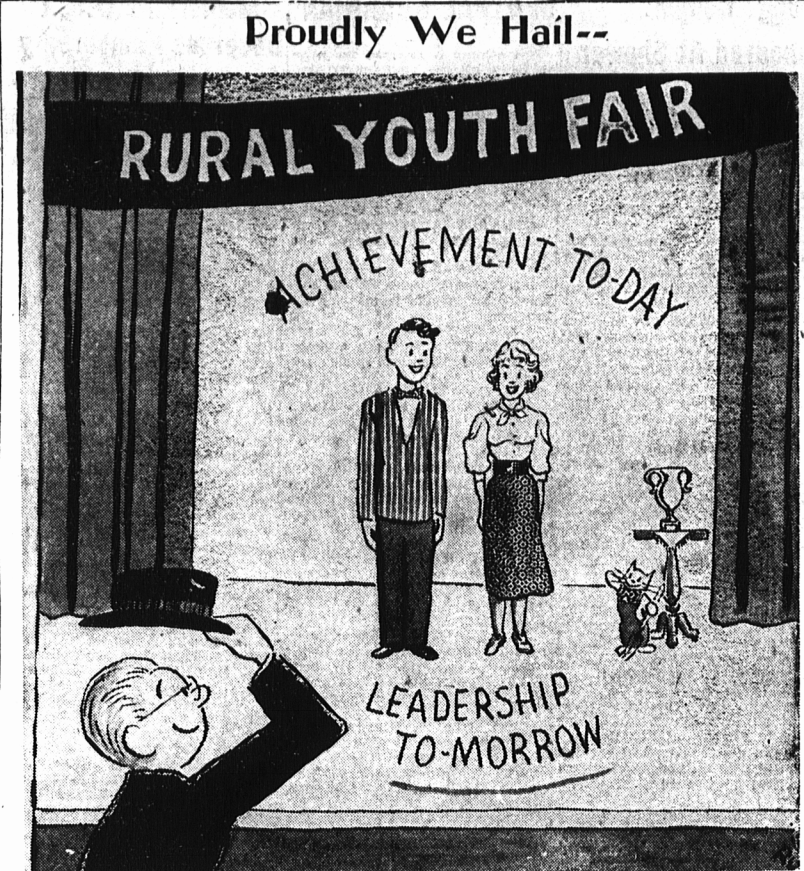
The request of teachers that the course of studies be placed in the hands of school boards before the end of the school year reflects to their credit. That they should want to become familiar with the curriculum requirements during the summer months shows a zeal which should be encouraged.

Charlottetown's Federal Building will probably be started next year—if the hold-up was truly a matter of steel. Mr. P. G. Wilmot, President of the Canadian Construction Association, speaking at their Maritime Regional Meeting, said, "Increased production of steel will likely enable the granting of permits for certain types of buildings previously denied steel."

Dr. Samuel Johnson, English lexicographer, critic and author, was born this date 1709. He distinguished himself at Oxford for his classical learning and later took private pupils, including David Garrick. He turned to writing, particularly for the "Gentleman's Magazine". He wrote poetry and a biography and for almost eight years laboured on his "Dictionary". He wrote "Rasselas" to pay for his mother's funeral. His greatest claim to fame, however, is that of having inspired Boswell.

A most interesting development musically is the school for rural church organists which is being held today at Kensington. At a similar school held recently at O'Leary, thirty-seven organists and assistants representing six denominations attended the afternoon session, with 200 choir singers in attendance at the evening session. The idea, as indicated in a news item in yesterday's Guardian, originated as an experiment at Kensington two years ago, when about a dozen rural organists attended. So enthusiastic were the members that since then six schools have been held in the Province, attended by 115 organists and over 600 choir singers.

For over 30 years, the P. E. N. Club has been working on a world-wide scale to end the feeling of isolation which is such a drawback to a writer. P. E. N. (the letters stand for Poets, Editors, Novelists) is an international federation of writers' associations which is constantly arranging personal contact between more and more writers in different countries. It also awards literary fellowships, and organizes or takes part in many international cultural activities. In addition, P. E. N. keeps authors as well as the general public up-to-date on the latest developments in literature throughout the world, and arranges for the reciprocal international circulation of works.



The Poet's Corner

WILD HONEYSUCKLE Fair flower, that dost so comely grow, Hid in this silent, dull retreat, Untouched thy honied blossoms blow.

The Age-Old Story

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye: for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

Time And Change

On the night of September 2, 1752, the people of England presumably no more exhausted than usual, went to bed. When they arose it was September 14. Eleven days had been stroked off the calendar and many people were a bit upset about it.

All that had really happened was that England had belatedly acknowledged the obvious fact that for many years the calendar had been out of step with the sun. As far back as 1582 Pope Gregory XIII had ordered 10 days dropped from the calendar to rectify a minute error in the Julian reckoning.

Even when, in 1751, the issue was finally faced in England, and Lord Chesterfield introduced a Bill to amend the calendar, it met with stiff opposition from some die-hard. England, argued the Duke of Newcastle, was a land of custom and ancient traditions which should not be lightly cast aside in favor of new-fangled ideas.

That was just 200 years ago this month, and by the same calculation our clocks must now be about 37 1/2 hours slow. But perhaps it would be better to wait until the error builds up to a good round sum before we again throw things into confusion.

NARROWEST POINT England is 21 miles from the continent at its nearest point, but the north of Scotland is 400 miles distant.

Notes By The Way

In Nova Scotia a hunter of lost treasure comes up with doubts, which we had always been led to suppose were a Spanish two-pants suit. — Stratford Beacon-Herald.

No people on earth are better informed on geography than Americans, claims Dr. Grosvenor, president of the National Geographic Society. That may be true, but we sometimes wish our cousins to the south would learn more about us than our geography. There are still too many of them who think the main job of the governor-general is to collect taxes which we pay to Britain, for example. — Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

Comedians in East Germany are warned that they have become too funny in making audiences laugh at anti-Red jokes. Humour, particularly of a political nature, is an unwelcome quality for any one to have behind the Iron Curtain; the public entertainer who indulges in it is liable to laugh himself right into Siberia. — Hamilton Spectator.

The Whitehorse, Yukon, Star knew nothing about the Toronto jail break when it printed the story of the police inspector saying the prisoner got away and asking the constable if he had guarded all exits. And the policeman's reply: "We think he must have left by one of the entrances." — Ottawa Journal.

The first truckloads of rock fill, scheduled to tumble into the Strait of Canso next Tuesday, will be cheered by Nova Scotians, who have been dreaming of the causeway link for decades. The federal government has hardly been a ball of fire in this matter. But similar criticism cannot be directed against it for delays in making another Canadian dream come true—the St. Lawrence seaway. — Ottawa Citizen.

All news to the Canadian theatre is the closing of Les Compagnons, French language group in Montreal which has for some years been the most distinguished of our native theatrical organizations. Lack of money seems the only reason for the discontinuance, at least temporary, possibly permanent, of this important and brilliant company. It is a sad commentary on the position of Canadian theatre on the home ground. — London Free Press.

Automatically we think of Civil Defence being associated with invasion, enemy aircraft, and the crunch of falling bombs. Time for revised thinking. Western Canadian communities with Civil Defence organizations established, and a degree of training given, have a new sense of security. Civil Defence arrangements work when floods, fires or other hazards appear; men and women trained for air raid emergency find they can serve effectively in any emergency for they know what to do, know where communications and transport are to be found. — Ottawa Journal.

A Shakespearean actor who gave up acting to study for the ministry, the Rev. Adrian H. Stephen, is leaving St. Cuthbert's Church, Glasgow, to take over the pulpit of Knox Presbyterian Church, Halifax, N. S. Mr. Stephen is the author of several plays and pageants and his hobby is the production of Shakespearean plays in the open air. With his wife and daughter he leaves for Canada next month. — UK Information.

Health Minister Martin, addressing a gathering of Young Liberals at Algonquin Park, said a wise and true thing when he told them that hard work was the only real source of social security. It ought to be so plain that no one

The Passing Scene

It is now upwards of twenty years since I first made acquaintance with this Island, and I have never been sorry for it. In the interim I have done a good deal of travelling in other parts of the world, and only about half of the time has been spent in actual residence here. Still, I think I can claim to have fair knowledge of the Island's geographical features, its advantages and disadvantages as a place to live, and the conditions under which many of our people spend their days and years.

My opinion is no better than that of anyone else but, for what it is worth, I would say that P. E. I., all things considered, is as good a place as any for people who want to live with a reasonable measure of contentment. And that after all is the most any of us can expect from any earthly condition or environment. We may dream all we like about ideal dwelling places, and the dream itself is not without its value and grace, but we know that the ultimate in contentment is always afar off. Only in the cheapest kind of fiction does anyone ever clasp it in his hands and cry, "Eureka!"

Recently I have done a bit of travelling right here at home and I hope to do more before Indian summer gives place to "the varied story of the autumn." My brief wanderings back and forth have already given me a clearer picture of life as it is lived on this Island. In the main, of course, it is much the same as life anywhere else, for people are much alike wherever you find them. Human hopes and aspirations do not change noticeably from one geographical area to another. The "lights and shadows" that brighten or depress them are, basically, of somewhat the same forms and textures the world over, and they are influenced by similar forces. Men are brothers in other respects besides the purely physical one. And yet there are diversities in all things that make up the human story.

One of the most revealing talks I have had was with a seventy-five year old farmer and his wife, who seemed to me to represent something very fine in our Island society. They both show signs of continuing work, but work, I am sure, that has been leavened, through the fifty years they have been on their farm, with cheerfulness and a simple, quiet dignity. I could see in their faces and I could detect in their voices the kind of courage that has overcome many difficulties and solved many problems. This is the sort of a sage that goes unsung, but it is nevertheless, the real basic strength of this province.

The story that this couple had to tell is one that could probably be told by many others in similar circumstances. More than fifty years ago they had taken over their farm which in the man's own words "was mortgaged right up to the hilt." By hard work and plenty of it, by mutual sacrifices and careful, patient planning, they had long ago cleared off the debt and raised a family of five while they were doing it.

How shall we account for our strange likes and dislikes. Whence does it come and why? One man, born and raised on the red earth, longs for a small apartment in a city block. The good hour day is his idea of eight living. Another, born and raised near hot pavements, wonders if Fortune will ever be kind enough to present him with "a nice little place in the country" where he will be able to see the sun, hear the music of the woods, and put his hands in soft earth. That he believes, would be heaven enough. It is all very mystifying.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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