

THE GUARDIAN

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"The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1955

The British Election

The final results in the British election were not available last night, but it was evident that the Government has been returned with a large majority, estimated variously at between 60 and 100.

No one contributed more to the quiet atmosphere of the campaign than Sir Anthony Eden, who was returned in his own constituency with an increased majority after asking for a personal mandate as Prime Minister upon succeeding Sir Winston Churchill.

Under the Conservatives, in Sir Anthony's words, Britain has been "selling more, earning more, buying more, saving more, exporting more and eating more than it has at any time in the history of the country."

Nor had the Laborites much to offer by way of improvement on the Government's foreign policy. In broad outline their platforms were much the same.

At this distance, the election seems to have taken the course which most commentators predicted at the start. There was no great fear that under Mr. Attlee the return of a Labor administration would involve any radical changes.

Disturbing News

It has been assumed all along that, although the Soviet Union and its allies could put numerically stronger forces into the field than the Western powers, in the event of war, this advantage would be more than offset by the preponderant war-making potential of the West.

In the last few days, however, this easy complacency has been disturbed by revelations from various sources. The first inkling that all is not well came from the magazine "Aviation Weekly" which is considered to be an authority in its field.

Probably the best and most illustrative story of the British general election, notes an exchange, is that of the Labor MP who turned up to speak at a mass meeting in the Midlands a couple of days ago—in what should be the heat of the campaign.

question: "How does the strength of the United States and of the West generally compare with that of the Communists?" Since Soviet propaganda shifted from threats to peace talk there has been some agitation in the United States, and in this country, too, for a gradual lessening of defence burdens.

Senate Reform

Senator Euler's bill which, if adopted, would make it mandatory for the Government to fill vacancies in the Upper House within six months of their occurrence looks like an honest attempt to bring about much needed reform.

A year or so ago the Prime Minister intimated informally that serious consideration was being given to filling Senate vacancies by men—or women—who had rendered noted service to the country in one way or another, and irrespective of their political affiliations.

One thing seems certain: unless something is done to take the Senate out of the sad state it is in at the moment, there will be increasing public demand for its abandonment as an expensive and unprofitable appendage to our political system.

EDITORIAL NOTES

A new hydro electric scheme, to produce about 18 million units annually to help meet the rapidly growing demand in the Kintyre and Knapdale areas of Argyllshire, has been prepared by the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board and confirmed by the Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr. James Stuart.

Probably the best and most illustrative story of the British general election, notes an exchange, is that of the Labor MP who turned up to speak at a mass meeting in the Midlands a couple of days ago—in what should be the heat of the campaign.



That Takes Care Of That!

Highway Safety Problem

(By The Canadian Press)

There were 320 fewer traffic deaths in Canada last year than in 1953.

A Canadian Press survey shows 2,586 persons were killed, compared with 2,906 in 1953, a record year. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics said 1,960 were killed in all Canada except Quebec.

Highway deaths decreased in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland, the Yukon and Northwest Territories. They were up in British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

BIG DECREASE

The sharpest drop was in Quebec. Last year's 626 deaths compared with 961 in 1953.

The drop was accompanied by aggressive safety campaigns in many provinces. The campaigns are being co-ordinated into a national safety drive at a meeting in Ottawa this week of the first Canadian highway safety conference.

The meeting, called by the Canadian Good Roads Association, is attended by federal, provincial and municipal officials and representatives of business, industry and other interested groups.

SAFETY PROGRAMS

Spurred on by the record death toll in 1953 the provinces, their municipalities and civic organizations embarked on intensive safety campaigns.

In Quebec, judges co-operated with police who warned they really will be increasing public demand for its abandonment as an expensive and unprofitable appendage to our political system.

In Alberta, where 180 were killed, compared with 220 in 1953, the department of highways now has a safety engineer who makes a complete analysis of each accident. The department plans to follow this up with an individual file on every licensed driver, and to operate a clinic to help drivers.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the views of correspondents.

MILK AND ALCOHOL

Sir, — There has been considerable comment in the press during the last few months regarding Milk and Liquor. If I may be permitted, I would like to make a few comparisons of these two beverages.

Recently an Ontario dairyman's meeting a producer, after witnessing considerable numbers of fellow producers indulging the previous night, made the suggestion that if milk instead of liquor were used by producers our dairy surplus problem would be solved.

Now, was the opposition of these men justified, or could it be their opponents did not like to hear the truth? Perhaps if we examine carefully all the points involved, we can decide who is right in this matter and really present the facts in a reasonable and sensible manner.

First, we shall consider alcohol. Now at first casual glance one would possibly suppose alcohol must be a very excellent beverage, when you consider that most magazines have several pages filled with advertisements portraying the merits of the different brands; that the consumption of alcohol beverages has increased tremendously in the last few years and that in the last twenty-five years from being frowned on by respectable people, it is today, by the great majority, considered to be quite within the limits of good etiquette.

However, when we examine alcohol more closely, we find it is grossly misrepresented by its sponsors. Its use for medicinal purposes is now made obsolete by the advent of new drugs. It is definitely detrimental to the health and its continued use has caused millions to become alcoholics.

And reading how, in that far month, the ranks formed on the edge of the desert, I wish to God that I had been with them. When the first Norman leapt upon the wall. And Godfrey led the foremost of the Franks. And young lord Raymond stormed Jerusalem.

—Hilaire Belloc. The Age Old Story. And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward: not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit; for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

Medically Speaking

Herman N. Bundesen, M.D.

PAINFUL FALLEN ARCHES

Flat feet, or fallen arches, are normal in certain individuals — especially those of the Negro race. In such cases, there usually is no pain; in others, pain is a frequent complaint. Usually you will notice cramps in the soles of your feet or your calves, an aching back or pain in your hips.

As a rule, the trouble is due to foot strain, caused by ill-fitting shoes or a change in the type of shoes you wear. Again, illness, rapid growth may leave the muscles and ligaments too weak to support your weight.

Excessive weight and over-use of your feet may also result in fallen arches. Failure of the tibial muscles to preserve the arch is also a cause.

Young Children In young children, the condition can usually be aided by special shoes and pads. A shoe with a tilted heel and pad to support the arch generally is helpful.

Daily exercises sometimes help. Walk around on the balls of your toes, then rise on the lateral edge of your foot.

Remember to walk with your toes turned in, don't stand for long periods, and get proper nutrition by eating correctly.

There are four degrees of flatfoot: just about all of which can be helped in one way or another. If exercise doesn't help, maybe the arch can be restored through manipulation. As a last resort, there is surgery.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

L. D.: What causes gallstones? Answer: The exact cause is not known; but infection of the gallbladder, overweight and lack of exercise are factors which may lead to this condition.

alcohol. The operation of motor vehicles by drivers while intoxicated is becoming a problem of grave concern in this Province, as revealed in the recent police report. We sometimes hear the remark made that it is the people who drink that but our highways are unsafe for others to travel.

Milk does not receive such wide publicity or advertising as alcohol but in its humble way it gives good health to millions. It is the first food we take when we arrive into this world and the last we take before we leave. Milk is the best buy of any food product in relation to its food value; it is the most perfect food known to man and the price of milk places it within the reach of all.

If every quart of liquor consumed in Canada were a quart of milk, our dairy surplus problem would soon be solved. And many domestic, financial and criminal problems solved as well. So, think it over folks; next time you buy a quart, make it milk. You'll get more smiles to the gallon.

I am, Sir, JOHN W. RAYNER, Cascumpee.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Come to think of it, with all the new lounges, chairs, barbecue ovens and patio equipment this summer, will we really be living any more graciously than grandpa was, sitting on the front stoop in his undershirt? — Hamilton Spectator.

A preacher who makes the members of his congregation "feel good" when they leave church is a useless decoration on the pulpit; for the purpose of religion is to create profound dissatisfaction on Sunday with the way we live the other six days of the week. — Ottawa Citizen.

There are still 50,000 children in West Germany looking for their parents, from whom they were separated by post-war chaos. For ten years the Red Cross has maintained a search service, and has united more than 90,000 lost children with their parents or relatives. — German Bulletin.

It can be argued that the time to take a vacation is not in winter when skiing presents a threat to bone and sinew, or in midsummer when acute sunburn and poison ivy await the unwary, but in the early spring. And the place to go if travel agencies will kindly look the other way for a moment — is nowhere. That is, home is a good place to stay, in the early spring, if one has there the making of a garden. For in an uninterrupted week, in early spring, one can do what it takes a month or more to achieve, laboring only on weekends. One can, that is, if the weather is good; if it is not, and shows no sign of changes, one should see one's travel agent immediately. — New York Times.

This present age, more than any in the past, demands high standards of educational qualifications. There is every indication that the future will make even higher demands in this respect. Many jobs are becoming more technical. The result is they require men and women more advanced in their training. Talent and imagination would appear to be the watchword for tomorrow. Any young man or young woman tempted to bring an end to his or her formal education before they have completed their course will do well to act slowly and to think the matter out very thoroughly. There are those, of course, whose

judgment, must be guided by family finances, although even in such cases ways can be found if a young man or woman is sufficiently earnest in his or her desires. — Owen Sound Sun-Times.

It's funny how a man will stand out in the sun and fish when he thinks it's too hot to go to church. — London Free Press.

A child psychologist says children should not be restrained from expressing anger but should be shown some way to "clear their systems." You can always borrow a smaller child from next door for your little darling to slug. — Hamilton Spectator.

At extreme flood Guayaquil on the Parana river in Brazil has more than eight times the volume of Niagara Falls. That may be so, but it's a safe bet the Canadian-American catfish tops them all. — Toronto Star.

The United States Senate has granted the President three more years in which he can, of his own volition, alter certain tariffs. It is much better to enable other countries to obtain a share of United States domestic trade than to hand out billions in economic aid. It is simply a matter of "Trade, not aid." — Vancouver Herald.

The criminal mind is strange and hard to understand. Here was a man of 25 with what the judge called "a classical college education" and whom he described as a ringleader in a brutal robbery in which he had persuaded two younger fellows to join. They robbed a streetcar operator of money and tickets, beat him with a club, kicked him when he had him down. A real tough guy, one would have said. But he burst into tears, a report says, when the court sentenced him to three years in the penitentiary and reminded him that he was traveling a path that could lead him to the scaffold and the hangman. The judge was not impressed by this fellow's tears; nor are we if they were tears of repentance he will have the opportunity of demonstrating his reform at the end of a prison term which certainly did not cut on the side of severity. — Ottawa Journal.

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