

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, NOV. 8, 1951

Symbol Of Our Gratitude

In the excitement over the forthcoming visit of their Royal Highnesses let us not forget that Remembrance Day falls on Sunday next and that in the meantime the annual poppy sale is being conducted under the auspices of the Canadian Legion.

Every year the number of poppy emblems distributed throughout Canada has increased until last year over four million poppies were worn by Canadians. But our population also is on the increase, and there is nothing for us to be complacent about in these figures.

Through the Legion's national campaign, the poppy symbol has come to mean more than just remembrance of the dead. We have the living with us yet, veterans of two world wars whose scars are still unhealed. Their families along with themselves have made sacrifices out of all proportion to the rewards which in peacetime we bestow on public services performed. Not all of our veterans who survived survived to prosperity. Not all of them have been subjects of DVA rehabilitation schemes. Care for them has fallen upon the Legion, among other agencies, and through this great organization we can all participate, in our small way, in repaying a debt of honour. Let us buy and wear our poppies in pride and thankfulness that the fate of so much of the present world has not fallen upon ourselves—largely because of the valour and sacrifice of those who fought and died for our deliverance.

Joyous Anticipation

Tomorrow will be a great day for Prince Edward Island, a day of holiday, gaiety and enthusiasm when old and young rejoice to have with us our very own Princess and her gallant husband. The Royal tour could have become a dreary round of official functions, endlessly repeated twice across a continent. That is, it could have been but for the Royal couple and the Canadian people.

In this Province, forthright and imagination has been applied to making the most of the opportunity for the Princess and the Duke to become acquainted with our people and how they live, and for Islanders to see as much as possible of Their Royal Highnesses. The charm and graciousness displayed by them despite earlier concern for the health of His Majesty the King have won the hearts of all our citizens, who have thrilled with a love and pride which finds best expression in the cheers and greetings of the children.

Previous Royal visits have been remembered even after those who took part have passed away. The memory was cherished and the story told and retold to children and grandchildren. Of tomorrow we shall all have our own memories to join with those of earlier Islanders of our Princess's Royal forbears when they too were young.

Boom In Genealogy

It seems that Canadians and Americans have started something of a boom in genealogical research in Britain. The basis of the development is the amount of material which has become available to researchers by the publication of parish registers, marriage licence allegations and such like; and particularly the mass of evidence contained in the volumes issued by the Public Record Office, the archives of the central government of Britain, ancient and modern.

The P. R. O.'s Historical MSS. Commission has carried on the work on papers of private families and in 1945 created a national register of archives. The object was to organize the collection of information about and compilation of a central index of private and local archives of all dates and kinds.

The effect has been to put the tracing of family trees on a mass production basis and it seems that the demand for such information is keeping pace with the supply.

Population On Increase

It is pleasing to note from the 1951 census figures issued by the Bureau of Statistics; that our population in the past decade has increased by 2,740, to a total, as of June this year, of 97,047. The increase of over 3,000 in Prince County may be attributed in part to the activities at the R. C. A. F. station at Summerside. While both

Queen's and Prince show increases, there was a decline in King's which, it is to be hoped, will be remedied in the years to come.

We are still considerably short of the 109,078 population we had in this Province more than half a century ago—a sad commentary on the blighting effects of centralization which has been going on to the aggrandizement of the Upper Provinces ever since Confederation. However, the tide is reversing and we are at least able to say that we are now holding our own. The next ten years should see a marked improvement in our population standing, if high freight rates can be circumvented by other transportation means and our basic producers brought upon a more equal level with their competitors in other Provinces.

EDITORIAL NOTES

One more day till the Royal Visit.

Flags and other decorations should be in place not later than tomorrow.

The second series of the vitally interesting contributions of Mr. Leo McIsaac begins in this issue.

In the case of a Royal visit, noblesse oblige means that the tall make sure that they are behind rather than in front of their shorter fellows.

Everything is now in readiness for a successful reception of our future Queen and her devoted and popular Royal consort. If the weather continues fine it will be a glorious occasion for all concerned.

Membership in numerous organizations is always a bit trying but on occasions, as the Royal visit, when all turn out at the same time it calls for a hard choice on the part of the joiners.

The Federal Government attempting to satisfy the Boards of Trade and the Consumers League at one and the same time find it can't be done, so pass the problem to the House of Commons and Senate through a joint committee.

Among Canadians recently honoured are Dr. Thomas William Hopekirk Lamont, M.D. (University of Manitoba) elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and Mr. R. H. Vingee, Professor of Philosophy, Dalhousie University, Halifax, elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

John Milton, England's greatest epic poet, died this date 1674. At Cambridge, Milton was distinguished but at first scarcely popular with undergraduates. He wrote a number of sonnets while there and then turned to the hexameter, writing "Ad Patrem", "L'Allegro", "Il Penseroso" and others. His "Areopagitica" is a noble vindication of the freedom of the Press.

The return of radioactive snow to Central Canada following atomic bomb experiments in the United States holds a threat, it is to be hoped, to the candid cameraman. If the presence of radioactive particles becomes a general condition cameras will require to be shielded in lead, which should be enough to discourage all but the hardiest of the candid tribe.

Bringing shepherds to the fold. Six Anglican clergymen—three Englishmen, a Scot, an Irishman and a Welshman—sailed recently from Liverpool on the Empress of Canada. They are coming to Canada as a result of a "recruiting campaign" by Bishop Luxton of London, Ont., and are bound for Blyth, Dutton, Kirkton, Port Rowan, Thamesford and Southampton in Bishop Luxton's Great Lakes diocese.

The future of the Liberal Party leadership is at stake says an Ottawa correspondent. Liberal M.P.'s insist they've had no assurance yet that Prime Minister St. Laurent will lead his party into the next general election. It's an assurance that they'd like to have. If Mr. St. Laurent stays, Liberal parliamentarians would expect to win the election without serious difficulty beyond the loss of a few seats. But if he should retire to become later our first Canadian Governor General—he will be 70 next February—a new leader might pose new election problems. There have been persistent reports to the effect that Prime Minister St. Laurent would prefer to retire from public life in the near future if he could do so without embarrassing his supporters. Few Liberals believe that he would agree to lead them into a general election and then hand over his office to a lieutenant. Indications are that the Prime Minister won't disclose his decision until next year, at the earliest, when Lord Alexander vacates the Governor-Generalship. Opposition Leader Drew's Progressive Conservatives are scarcely less interested than are their Liberal colleagues.

It's In The Air!



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

HIGHLAND SOIREE

"The Highland Soiree, at the Town Hall on Friday last, went off with the most admirable effect, and too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the stewards for their ample arrangements in providing for so large a party, the taste displayed in the decoration of the building, and their kindness and attention to all present. After partaking of Tea the President of the Highland Society, the Hon. Charles Young, read a very eloquent address, and was followed with a no less eloquent and patriotic speech from the Rev. Mr. McNair, John Arbuckle, Esq., also delivered a short address. Refreshment was again partaken of and about half-past ten the President, in the name of the Society, wished the guests a good night—the Band playing 'God Save the Queen'; he then, with the older and graver part of the company, retired.

"The younger portion remained, and the old Council Chamber, now used for holding the sittings of the Small Debt Court, was converted into a ball room, when dancing commenced—the Band having taken possession of the Magisterial Bench, sent forth more eloquent music than generally emanates therefrom.—The party broke up about 1 o'clock, evidently well pleased with the rational, sober, still merry and light-hearted manner in which they enjoyed themselves. The company consisted of the most respectable society in Charlotte-town.—The Islander, Dec. 7, 1849.

The Poet's Corner

MAN IN THE REDWOODS

Here time is meaningless, where giant trees Speak not of days or years, but centuries. And yet, above all else, time whispers here Her emerald syllables, and we are near Enough to touch the ages, where they stand, And feel infinity against the hand; To lean against the gnarled and rugged bark And know the source of light beyond the dark; To hold the redolent leaf across the cheek And hear the voice of God begin to speak— To trace a branch with slow, incredulous eye, And lose it somewhere in the topless sky— To stand here, in the pale, leaf-filtered sun, And know how time, and God, and man are one! —Mae Winkler Goodman.

Artificial Sea For Siberia

An article in the Soviet magazine News, which is published in English, discusses proposals on a gigantic scale for changing the course of rivers in Siberia. The aim is to make them flow southwards for irrigation of the desert area of Central Asia. The article says that the three rivers Ob, Yenisei, and Lena at present carry immense quantities of water yearly northwards through virgin forest and uninhabited tundras; every year some 2,382 cubic kilometres of water are emptied uselessly into the Arctic Ocean. These rivers, if controlled, could supply water for millions of hectares of the Kara-Kum and Kyzyl-

Notes By The Way

West Virginia has not merely a stenographic record but a complete tape record of the deliberations of its House of Delegates, the lower house of the State Legislature. This is the outgrowth of a system that began with the placing of a microphone on each lawmaker's desk for a public address system. A natural next step was tape recording. Among the resultant advantages, William E. Flannery, Speaker of the House reports a great saving in salaries of expert stenographers, economy of filing space for the recordings and the possibility of playing back any passage for printing in the journal or to establish exactly what was said and even with what inflection.—Christian Science Monitor.

The common habit of chewing toothpicks seems to have its dangers as evidenced by reports from time to time of addicts who come down with what is thought to be appendicitis, but which turns out to be a swallowed and imbedded toothpick. An Edmonton man, however, really did things the hard way. He arrived in a city hospital operating room with all the symptoms of appendicitis. When the surgeon opened him, he found that the patient's intestine and the adjoining abdominal wall had been perforated by no less than five toothpicks—which were held together by a rubber band! The moral seems to be that if you have a taste for toothpicks, you should handle them one at a time—and always remove the rubber band!—Edmonton Journal.

Even in St. John's, dental appointments are not easy to get, the present practitioners are overworked, and much scope seems to exist for an increase in their numbers. For most of the rest of the island there is virtually no dental service at all. Extractions may be stoically suffered at home by victims of toothache so bad that even the amateurish use of a pair of pliers from the home tool chest can be borne. Some dental surgery forms part of the work of outport doctors and nurses. But preventive dentistry is unknown to the great majority of Newfoundlanders save through the propaganda of the Junior Red Cross and other health agencies on the use of the toothbrush. There is therefore, a very sound case to be made for the subsidization of young dentists who are willing to accept difficulties of establishing themselves in remote areas where they will have a large district to cover.—St. John's (Nfld.) News.

Kum deserts and of the Kazalinsk and Aral steppes all the way to the main feature of the proposals would be the building of a dam 78 metres high on the river Ob below the point where the river Irtysh joins it. This will form a gigantic reservoir, the biggest in the world, seven times as large as the Sea of Azov. The lower Ob sea, thus formed, will reach to the Tural plateau, through which a canal 900 kilometres long would be cut. Further south virtually no artificial works would be required. The waters of the Ob would pass through the Aral Sea, eventually turning it into a salt-water lake. It would then pass through the dried-up channels of ancient rivers to Kazakhstan and Central Asia. Later, to increase the volume of water, the river Yenisei would be led into the lower Ob sea by a canal 90 kilometres long. The water would not only irrigate Central Asia and Kazakhstan but would also be used to drive many hydro-electric power stations. It is claimed that the areas covered would exceed the total irrigated area of the United States, Japan, Egypt, Italy, Canada, and Australia. Extremes of temperature in Central Asia would cease. The winters in Siberia would be milder.

Birds have risen to great heights it seems, not only literally but figuratively. Picasso's dove of peace, prodded ever up in flight of freedom by the hammer and sickle, fortunately has soared so high beyond the nebulous atmosphere that it has reached the realm of improbability and fantasy. And we hope it stays there. However, we must give Picasso some dubious congratulations for being a bit of a psychologist. According to a recent poll by the Canadian Institute of Public Opinion 25 per cent of our population voted that if they had to be any other living creature besides a human, they would choose to be a bird. Because of its freedom there's no analogy here; just a coincidence, we hope. The 664 question is, if birds had a choice would they pick us, humans?—Montreal Daily Star.

The editorial department of a newspaper, like the advertising, news, circulation and printing departments, occasionally makes mistakes. The other day, for example, the Herald's editorial department pulled a boner which made us hang our heads in shame. We said: "He shoots, he scores." What we had done. Really, it was an unintentional mistake, just one of those things that happen in even the best regulated of homes. Under an editorial in which we deplored the tragic death of Liaquat Ali Khan, the assassinated Prime Minister of Pakistan, we ran an editorial note pertaining to the approaching hockey season which said: "He shoots, he scores." Imagine our chagrin! The only consolation we received from the many inquiries as to our state of mental health was the knowledge that a lot more people read the editorial page that we imagined.—(Leithbridge Herald).

Doctors And Christianity

Nothing less than a revived Christianity can save the world, Dr. Arthur Henderson said, acting as a preacher at the 24th annual Medical Sunday service at St. George's Anglican Church, Montreal.

As has been customary on the Octave of St. Luke, the doctors' day, Ven. Archbishop A. P. Gower-Rees conducted the service, while a medical man did the preaching. Scripture was read by Dr. Archibald D. Campbell, and the Lesson by Dr. W. W. Francis, custodian of the Osler Library at McGill University.

Dr. Henderson, president of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal, attributed all the blessings enjoyed by present-day civilization to the "dynamics of civilization."

"The world was in a sorry state, he said, and in the conflict of ideologies 'the time has come when we cannot afford to be neutral or indifferent.' Communism offered no way out of present day perplexities and uncertainties. 'There is so much uncertainty, so much confusion, it often looks as if there wasn't much hope that men could learn to live together. Do we not indeed inhabit the wasteland from which there is only one way out, and that not the middle way.' 'Western nations must choose between a pagan and a Christian society' which really lives by Christian principles," he said. "A purpose for living must be found, he held. Either a new society must be created or Christianity rekindled.

"It is probably no overstatement to say that all the freedoms, liberties, privileges and blessings which our civilization enjoys today," he continued, "came to it through the dynamic of Christianity, working through the hearts and minds of men and women, submitting to its influence." "The accent in present-day living was on things of the moment rather than on things that endure," Dr. Henderson said. This reflected lack of proper perspective.

Lessons From Europe In Community Progress

By Leo P. McIsaac

Part Two

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EUROPEAN REVIEW

For readers who still think cooperation is unworkable, or that people do not really organize for their own benefit, let us review here briefly some of the more important aspects of cooperative organization. Our summary of the history and progress of such groups must of necessity be sketchy, but we hope it will provide a background for some later suggestions, and give us a broader view of this phase of social and economic activity.

This part, including the "Local Review" which follows, is subdivided according to countries, phases of organization, various problems, etc. To the reader some sections, discussing certain problems, may appear incomplete. Because of the complex nature of the matters being discussed and because of overlapping in these fields, it is admittedly difficult to avoid. Part II, however, proposes to be only a general appraisal of conditions and trends, or an introduction to our various problems. In Part III—The Blueprint—these questions are reconsidered and further developed before a solution to them is submitted.

This whole report may well be considered unscientific because it is not studied with quotations or excerpts from other works. This has been purposely avoided because quotations are too often used as a substitute for thought, and generalizations as a camouflage for knowledge. At the conclusion of each chapter, however, a list of reading material is suggested. The books and reports recommended are chiefly recent productions which are based on a democratic and Christian background, and which apply to present day conditions. But it is well also to refer to the works of some of the great thinkers and writers of the past. The writings which have had the most influence on the opinions expressed are also included and are classified under appropriate headings with the books of more recent date.

Consumer Cooperation

It is unnecessary to recall in detail the story of insecurity and poverty amongst the farmers and working people after the Industrial Revolution in Europe, Dickens, Chesterton and many other famous British authors have told this story many times. At various stages after this period, dire necessity produced the Trade Union Movement, the Cooperative Movement, the Farm Movement, and organized efforts on the part of other people in practically all professions and classes.

Those movements, of necessity, have branched out into related fields. There have been many mistakes and failures. But from trial and error, from practical experience and study, the people have been able to organize themselves in a society which, although complicated, incomplete and in many respects, revolutionary, has improved social and economic conditions to a point where they are no longer slaves of a feudal system, serfs of the Capitalist factor-owner, or insignificant tillers of the soil.

With representatives from most of the British Dominions and Colonies and from several countries in Western Europe, a visit was made to Rotterdam in England. We saw the old store where the Rochdale Pioneers in 1844 set up the first consumers' cooperative and started the movement that has spread to every corner of the globe.

A few miles away in the city of Manchester, we saw the headquarters of the Cooperative Wholesale Society, which began in 1884 with 51 retail members and which now supplies some 4,000 co-operative members societies, which in turn embrace approximately 25,000 retail shops. The gross sales of the Wholesale Society in 1950 amounted to about one billion dollars; the society itself produces or processes over one-third of the value of these sales. This amount means that the C.W.S. is manufacturing about fifty per cent of the total production that they could hope to economically produce themselves. There are fifty-two thousand employees in the Wholesale Society alone; they have their tea plantations in India, their citrus supply organized in West Indies; they bring their fruits from Spain, onions from Egypt, etc.; along with the New Zealand farmers, they own about 50% interest in the cooperative dairies there.

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Tremendous strides have been made in this re-organization program. New factories have been built, and now, after only two years' work, most consumers' goods are distributed through co-operative stores. The cooperatives have their own candy factory, wineries, flour processing plants, tanning plants, and are rapidly getting into the clothing and furniture lines. (To be continued)

retail trade in England is done by the cooperatives. The cooperatives have their own bank, their own insurance society, their own travel agency, their own hotels and vacation resorts. There are departments in the wholesale and the larger societies for research and statistics, for development, for labor relations, auditing, and education. They operate, not on an independent local system, but on a branch system where the central branch does all the book-keeping, supervising and manufacturing. A cooperative society of less than one thousand members is not considered an economical or efficient unit, and amalgamation of a number of small units usually takes place. Each local society has a banking department where members can make deposits and receive interest on their savings. There seems to be a further need here, however, for a credit service as there is still a good deal of credit-buying, and installment-buying policies are increasing during the last few years.

In England, as well as in the cooperative movement in other countries, there is a division between the agricultural group and the industrial or strictly consumer group. Since only about 6% of the people of Britain are farmers, it is easy to realize why the consumer movement has made such headway, and why it has become the dominant factor in the economy. The consumer cooperative movement in France, on the other hand has apparently made little or no progress since the war. In Belgium, the consumers' cooperative movement has made some progress, but not nearly as great as that of the agricultural movement.

In Holland, consumer cooperation has been instituted just recently, and has come through a very trying period, yet it does have a very great effect on business in the larger towns and cities. Monopolies, especially in flour milling, say the Dutch, were a greater economic problem than any caused by the war. Here, too, is a special consumer movement, but they deal with the farmers' cooperatives as much as possible. The Dutch operate on a branch system and have a huge wholesaling firm in Rotterdam with factories at various points throughout the country.

Germany

In Germany, of course, there are real lessons for us in all phases of cooperation. It was here that Frederick Raiffeisen started the first "Credit Union" in the world. Farmers and the industrial workers worked in cooperation for several years before agreeing that each was interested in a different field of economic work. Now consumer distributing stores, and factories are all separate and completely independent of the farmers' organizations, while in the rural areas, the farmers have established multi-purpose organizations to meet their needs.

In some of these multi-purpose farmer organizations, even the credit union is a department of the cooperative organization. This is a very dangerous practice from the bankers' point of view, because of internal investments. But often, the credit union can and does provide the accounting service for the store, the dairy, the fruit growers, the livestock marketing branch, and all the cooperative groups in the village.

The Nazis did not interfere as much with the agricultural cooperatives during the war, but they did take over, completely, the consumer movement. Consumer cooperatives were operating as local autonomous units, one often competing with another for business and members, and often, it is said, they were run more or less according to the managers' personal policies. There were central wholesales and regional wholesales all over the country, but apparently they did not have the whole-hearted support of the locals.

In order to contact and service each one of those small organizations, the cost of distribution was very high and there was no policy to assure efficiency. After having been operated by the Nazi machine during the war, the consumer cooperatives have been restored to the people. "Kopps" that were not destroyed and that are still operating after the war have been re-organized on the "central and branch" system in the western zone in Germany and the wholesale in Hamburg re-established to service them all.

Tremendous strides have been made in this re-organization program. New factories have been built, and now, after only two years' work, most consumers' goods are distributed through co-operative stores. The cooperatives have their own candy factory, wineries, flour processing plants, tanning plants, and are rapidly getting into the clothing and furniture lines. (To be continued)

The Age-Old Story

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, created man in his own image and likeness, and made him ruler over the beasts; neither is worshipped with men's hands as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things.