

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, AUG. 4, 1952

The Cause Determined

Confirmation that it was anthrax of which the three horses near Roseville died will come as a shock and yet in some measure a relief to the public. Unlike foot and mouth disease which is caused by a virus, anthrax is bacteria-caused. In fact some of the pioneer work in bacteriology was on the anthrax bacillus. It is deadly but can be prevented by inoculation or simply by avoiding contact with the diseased animals or their products.

Fortunately the outbreak does not seem to have spread beyond three farms on the northwestern shore of the Province, and the control measures taken should prevent it's doing so. No one seems to know how the infection started but at least a possibility is that an infected carcass drifted ashore and the disease somehow got into the animals' feed.

While scare-mongering is never to be recommended, the public generally are level-headed enough to prefer facts to wishful thinking. They are less likely to object to precautionary warnings than to resent any attempt to keep dark the existence of trouble. In this case, now that the facts have been determined, the authorities may count on the fullest co-operation of all our farmers and they, in turn, will expect to be kept frankly informed of further developments in a matter of such vital concern to themselves and to the Province.

Cultural Windfall

The ideal in foreign trade and monetary exchange is to have all currencies freely convertible for any other currency, if not for gold, but "blocked balances" are not wholly an evil. At any rate Canada proposes to make use of her credits in France and The Netherlands to make a real contribution to Canadian culture.

It has long been a weakness in Canadian education that while creditable efforts have been made to provide some sort of scholastic training for the greatest possible number of students, great scholarship has not received anything like the encouragement that it deserves.

The present proposals start where the general education system has ended in a remarkable attenuated group of Masters of Arts derived from the great but sharply declining mass of those subjected to primary, secondary and university education.

Now, thanks to world currency difficulties, some of those who have attained a reputation for outstanding scholarship may receive the equivalent of \$4,000 for twelve months advanced study in the arts, humanities, social sciences, sciences or professions; and M. A.'s or the equivalent may obtain scholarships of \$2,000. Truly, higher education is coming into its own.

Penal Program Results

In his annual report as Commissioner of Penitentiaries, Mr. R. B. Gibson points out that the introduction of the new penal program with its particular emphasis on individual treatment and rehabilitation, seems to be obtaining results. He believes this is clearly reflected by the improvement in the prisoners' behaviour. Vocational training in the penitentiaries appears to be particularly helpful for the inmates who take the courses.

"It is significant that since the vocational training programme began at the end of 1947, eighty-five per cent of the graduates, or those who were on courses when released, have not again been in trouble with the authorities. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 1951, the percentage is 95.6 of non-repeaters," the Commissioner reported. Vocational courses are in operation at the Dorchester penitentiary as well as three other penitentiaries in Canada, Collin's Bay, St. Vincent de Paul, and the Prince Albert Penitentiary in Saskatchewan.

Four hundred and twenty-eight inmates were registered on vocational training courses in the four institutions providing the courses during 1951-52. Disposition of these trainees was as follows: 147 or 34.34 per cent graduated; 29 or 6.78 per cent non-graduates released; 66 dropped from courses through disability or lack of interest, and 186 continued their courses. During the fiscal year 1950-51 a total of 190 inmates, who had graduated from the vocational training courses, were released. Of that total 80 or 75.47 per cent were placed in employment. One graduate was hospital-

ized; 20 were unplaced or did not maintain contact with the institutions and five acquired additional criminal records.

In reviewing the past year's operations the commission notes as significant that the upward trend in commitments to the penitentiaries, which raised the inmate population from 3,362 on March 31, 1946 to 4,740 on March 31, 1950, now appears to have been halted. The increase during the past year was 77, which was more than accounted for by the admission of a large group of the Sons of Freedom sect of Doukhobors, during the summer of 1950. This is a decided contrast to the two previous years which saw the population increase annually by 374 and 515 respectively. Inmate population at March 31, 1951 was 4,817.

The general percentage of those relapsing into crime after their release from penitentiary for the year 1950-51 was 39.008 per cent. This compares with a percentage of 38.71 per cent for the latest fiscal year on which figures are available (1950-51) includes six recidivists in Newfoundland and 30 male Doukhobors at British Columbia penitentiary. If it had not been for these two factors the percentage of former inmates of penitentiaries relapsing into crime would have been somewhat less in the year 1950-51 compared with the percentage in the year 1949-50.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Birthday of H. R. H. Elizabeth, the Queen Mother.

A week from Old Home Week. From all appearances Island hospitality will be taxed to the utmost to look after the yearling-growing crowd of enthusiasts for fine horses and friendly meetings.

This date 1914 Sir Edward Grey advised Belgium to resist a German invasion by force, and promised to join France and Russia in supporting her. No formal reply was received from Germany to Britain's ultimatum which expired at midnight and Britain was at war.

Prince Edward Islanders, other than those in Charlottetown and Summerside, are being asked to turn out eleven hundred strong to the Red Cross blood donor clinics. To attain that aim would not be difficult if every previous donor brought along a friend.

Seven states, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Massachusetts, Maine and South Carolina, have been designated "disaster loan areas" as a result of a drought. The U. S. Department of Agriculture so designated them in order to obtain Federal loans and reduced freight rates on livestock feed.

That Canada would buy a new aircraft carrier from Britain for some 80,000,000 of cheese is regarded as a real proposal in London according to the Ottawa Citizen. The idea, seemingly, was taken from a dry suggestion of Defence Minister Claxton that maybe the British ought to relieve Canada's dairy production surplus by taking payment for the \$18,000,000 ship in cheese.

Lower international postal rates for newspapers, books, magazines, printed music and maps will be more widely applied as a result of decisions taken by the Universal Postal Union at its recent two months Congress in Brussels, reports a UNESCO service. A number of the new concessions are based on recommendations made by Unesco to promote the free flow of information through wider use of postal services. One provision allows all newspapers, books and magazines mailed from one country to another to enjoy a 50% reduction in postal rates, regardless of sender. This concession was previously limited to publications mailed by publishers or their agents. Another ensures that rates for publications sent abroad will parallel the favourable rates for publications posted within a country. A third amendment allows literature for the blind to be mailed free of charge.

Britain has weathered another crisis—this time in her livestock industry—and it must have been with great relief that the British Minister of Agriculture announced recently that the restrictions imposed because of the widespread epidemic of foot and mouth disease in England were being removed in a dozen countries. At no time, apparently, was there the consternation shown in Canada when the disease made its appearance in Saskatchewan, resulting in an embargo imposed by the United States on agricultural imports from the Dominion and measures taken by certain provinces to ban the movements of meat and cattle from the affected area. The epidemic in Britain, much more serious and involving far heavier losses, was dealt with calmly and provoked no political or other recriminations.

It Doesn't Take Much!



Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

TEMPERANCE PROPOSALS Petition to the Legislative Assembly, Feb. 25, 1836, from the Rev. Abraham V. G. Wiggins, on behalf of the delegates of the different Temperance Societies of this Island, assembled at Charlottetown on the 24th inst. "At the meeting of the said delegates, it was resolved to address the House, praying for its countenance and assistance to put down and abolish the degrading and demoralizing vice of drunkenness. That the said delegates have remarked that most of the liquid poison which is vended to the community issues from shops licensed to sell in quantities less than one quart; and they are persuaded, that if the retailing of spirits were confined to taverns, duly qualified by law, a great check would be given to this crying evil.

The Schuman Plan

(Montreal Gazette) After more than two years of debate and delay in adoption of the Schuman Plan, a concrete start was made in the past week toward actual, effective execution of France's ambitious project to integrate the coal and steel industries of Western Europe. The foreign ministers of the six countries involved—France, Western Germany, Italy and the three Benelux nations—agreed on the personnel to constitute the high authority, the directing executive body of the Plan, and chose provisional locations for the high authority and the joint assembly, the Plan's legislative organ.

The brain-child of Jean Monnet, the French Government's economic mentor, the Schuman Plan was publicly brought forward in May, 1950. It took nearly a year of inter-governmental negotiation to draft and get signed a treaty embodying the essential features of the Plan. It has taken more than another year to get the treaty formally ratified by the parliaments of the six countries concerned, the final vote of ratification having been given by the Italian Parliament only last month.

Soviet Bluff At Toronto

(Montreal Star) The International Red Cross conference in Toronto is making a mess of its discussion of Soviet charges that the United Nations have practiced "germ warfare" in Korea. The charges are nonsense and every sensible person knows it. Yet the demand is now coming from sundry neutralist sources that an "impartial body" should be set up to carry out the official investigation which has never been held.

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The Age-Old Story

The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works. nationalism in some countries, the problem of who is to control the Saar, and the relations between the Plan's operations and the industries of Britain.

FAST RUN

CHURCHILL, Man.—(CP)—An ambulance in a test run to the airport here set a record of 4.1-2 minutes for the two-mile trip, including time for a telephone call and a trip to the hospital for a medical orderly.

Valley at Night

When night came down and the valley filled with silence, and the hills closed in and the work was over, then two worlds appeared—the starry one in heaven. And the lighted world of barns and homes and men. A light said Garr was tardy with his milking. A neighbor, Stolisk, leaned and took his ease, his wife was humming redding up the kitchen.

THE POET'S CORNER

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Notes By The Way

Once again "our British friends and, we are proud to say, our British allies, have shown their common sense, their serenity and their profound understanding of democracy. Once again they have set the rest of the world an admirable example. The Dean of Canterbury may go on prating vicious nonsense; but the British people will go on living in liberty and in freedom.—New York Times.

Recent visitors to Lord Woolton

Recent visitors to Lord Woolton have been almost blinded as they enter the room by a glittering display of silver on his large and generous desk. Among other things there are two candle-sticks, a superb inkwell of such perfect design that for once the visitor is unable to give all his attention to Lord Woolton's rich and varied personality. Nothing delights the Lord President more than an appreciation of these treasures. Forgetting about politics, and slowly pacing up and down the room, he likes to explain that the silver was given by Queen Anne to a Lord President of her day. For years it had been locked away in the vaults of the Bank of England, until Lord Woolton heard of its existence. It was then brought out and cleaned and now blazes on his desk.—London Observer.

Good housekeeping along our main highways

Good housekeeping along our main highways is a matter of economic good sense as well as a proper feeling of pride. The Ontario Department of Highways says it is one reason why Ontario gets the cream of the tourist business from the Eastern and Middle-West states. While we are far from perfect, Americans find our highway vistas considerably better than they see at home. One factor for which the Ontario Department of Highways can take credit is the control of billboards. The regulations are strict as to the site and the maintenance of the billboards. They are not permitted to crowd the highway and they must be kept in good repair.—Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.

Advertisements for Jack Cameron (Men's Suits \$49.50), Professional Cards (J. A. McGuigan, Bell, Mathieson & Foster, Gaudet & Haszard, Frederic A. Large, Q.C., Matheson, Peake & Nicholson, J. S. Taylor, Dr. W. R. Carson, Byron J. Grant, O.D., Dr. A. L. MacIsaac), and H. R. Doane & Company (Chartered Accountants).

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