

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink". CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1953

Family Conference

The nine Commonwealth Prime Ministers gathered in London are indeed in family conclave. Although they represent widely differing races and peoples each with their own history and culture they all hold the idea and tradition of a great brotherhood.

Prime Ministers Churchill of Great Britain, Menzies of Australia, Holland of New Zealand, Malan of South Africa, Nehru of India, Ali of Pakistan, Senanayake of Ceylon, Huggins of Southern Rhodesia and St. Laurent of Canada represent more than 500,000,000 of the earth's inhabitants but far more than that, they represent the growth of a spirit of international unity which provides an example for the whole world.

The spirit of nationalism is not less strong in the members of the Commonwealth than elsewhere but it is balanced by the idea of fellowship with other similar states and peoples in every part of the world, all focussing their otherwise rather nebulous ideas of political association on the Queen as head of the Commonwealth.

Things will be talked out in the conference. It is highly unlikely that actual statements of policy will be forthcoming but each will understand how the others are situated and policies can be adopted from time to time in accord with the one another's needs. The visit of the Prime Ministers to Cairo after the conference might seem like a risky business but it is in accord with the idea of trying at all times to understand the problem of fellow members and other countries with which we may have special relations.

Mechanical Car Signals

Mechanical directional signals on cars, such as the flashing light on American models and the illuminated signal arm on English autos, should be recognized as legal in the Maritime Provinces, Mr. R. J. R. Nelson, retiring president, told the annual meeting of the Maritime Automobile Association.

It is rather surprising that these Provinces should have lagged behind both Britain and the United States in this respect. The climate here is such that more often than not the window beside the driver is closed too far to allow him to give the hand signals which are the only ones recognized under the Highway Traffic Act. It is not advocated, at present at any rate, that mechanical signals be compulsory, but making a mechanical signal of intention to turn should be a sufficient compliance with the law.

The Maritime Automobile Association is to be congratulated on its continued interest and activity in matters of highway safety. It was the Association which started the first School Safety Patrol in the Maritimes and plans to conduct Driver Training Courses in various Maritime centres including Charlottetown.

Highway safety is one of the really pressing problems of this day of rapid travel. In earlier days the Association's principal interest was in providing assistance to its members operating their automobiles under relatively primitive conditions. The lively stable and blacksmith have long been replaced by well equipped garages and service stations so that the individual motorist is not in so much need of organized assistance. Instead the Association is steadily turning its attention to overcoming the dangers of heavy and high speed traffic.

Welcome To A Comet

The Ottawa Journal notes that at Uplands Airport, after the Comet landed there recently, Mr. Claxton, the Defence Minister, spoke of aviation being only 50 years from the Wright brothers' first flight. Among his listeners was Punch Dickens, who flew a Fokker at 100 miles an hour across the barrens on a notable pioneering flight over 20 years ago, and Squadron Leader Olsen who had piloted the Comet on a long leg of the Atlantic crossing—at more than 400 miles an hour.

"The miracle," says the Journal, "was that Mr. Claxton, born in 1898, was alive when the first heavier-than-air flight was made and in vigor still could be on hand to welcome the young airmen who had brought this swallow-like airplane out of London to Ottawa in 10 hours and 20 minutes flying time. "This welcome at Uplands represented

a milestone in progress. The Comet marks the breakaway from the piston-engined, propeller-driven aircraft which served the world in war and peace. Only a few years ago we marvelled at the speed with which aircraft could span the seas and the continents, and now comes the jet age, cutting the time required for air travel in half. And the Comet, flying out of England at speeds ranging up to 500 miles an hour, is but the beginning, comparable to the Jenny training planes World War I tyro airmen handled. The soundness of the basic design of the jet transport has been proven and with refinements in fuselage and improved engines speeds will increase without, we trust, any additional hazard."

After Canadian Market

Despite the devastation caused by the war, the German Federal Republic, according to recent figures, is producing half as much again as it did in the best pre-war years. Also, West German industrialists and manufacturers have their eyes firmly fixed on the rich Canadian market, the lion's share of which goes at present to the United States and Britain. A foreign trade paper entitled Canada, published in Duesseldorf for distribution here during the International Trade Fair at Toronto, expresses the grim determination of West Germany to penetrate the Canadian market.

In a leading article it is pointed out that in 1952 Canada imported goods valued at \$22,630,000 from the Federal Republic and exported \$94,860,000 to that country, leaving it with an adverse trade balance of \$72,230,000 in Canada's favour. The writer comments: "It is impossible for such a deficit to be borne indefinitely. In order to restore the balance it will therefore be necessary either to limit Germany's imports from Canada, or the population of Canada must offer Germany economy the opportunity of selling considerably more to Canada, in order to render it possible to earn sufficient dollars to pay for the purchases from Canada."

Traditionally, however, Canada is not a major German market. In 1937, a normal pre-war year, Germany's share of Canada's total imports was only 1.7 per cent. The Federal Republic's share today is .46 per cent, somewhat less than one third of the pre-war total.

Advice To Russia

There has been wide and favorable comment on the release of William Oatis, the journalist, who was imprisoned by Communists. It is now clear that Mr. Oatis owes his freedom to a "deal" made by the Communists with the United States Government. For a time it was believed, as Pravda suggested, that the release was due to reasons of humanity and of justice. A letter written to Mrs. Oatis was mentioned. However the official statement issued by the Eisenhower Government makes it quite clear that a stiff price was expected for Mr. Oatis' freedom. In a word, this was a plain case of kidnapping. Having seized Oatis, he was held for ransom. Could anyone in a free country imagine a democratic government behaving in such a fashion?

One of the most telling comments on the incident is that of the Christian Science Monitor which points out that if the Soviet Government desires to make a convincing peace gesture it could release some 300,000 German prisoners of war who, if still alive, are held in Russian prisons or labor camps.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Constitution Day, Denmark.

A dozen Canadian made sleeping bags are given part of the credit for the conquest of Everest. The down-filled nylon and wool Arctic survival equipment of the R.C.A.F. solved the problem of preventing exhaustion from the bitter cold of night and weighs only 8 1/3 pounds.

The Federal grant of \$7,874 for civil defence projects in this Province does not seem a great deal but together with a matching Provincial grant it could be used to provide a nucleus for county fire protection. With such a lead, incorporated municipalities could be persuaded to join in an overall scheme.

Sir John Maynard Keynes of Tilton, first Baron, English economist, was born this date 1883. He made a deep study of philosophy and economics and entered the civil service. He was a member of a Royal Commission on Indian currency, worked in the Treasury and accompanied a mission to the U. S. during the First World War. He held many important posts and from 1943 played a leading part in British negotiations with America to effect a transition from war to peace conditions. Lord Keynes became a teacher of political economy to a whole generation.



The Poet's Corner

WITH A GUITAR

Oh, that such our death may be! Died in sleep, and felt no pain, To live in happier form again; From which, beneath Heaven's fairest star,

The artist wrought the loved guitar; And taught it justly to reply To all who question skillfully. In language gentle as thine own: Whispering in enamoured tone Sweet oracles of woods and dells, And summer winds in sylvan cells. For it had learnt all harmonies Of the plains and of the skies

Of the forests and the mountains, And the many-voiced fountains; The clearest echoes of the hills, The softest notes of falling rills, The melodies of birds and bees, The murmuring of summer seas, And pattering rain, and breathing dew, And airs of evening; and it knew That seldom-heard, mysterious sound

Which, driven on its diurnal round, As it floats through boundless day, Our world endures on its way. —Percy Bysshe Shelley

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

COURTS AND TAVERNS

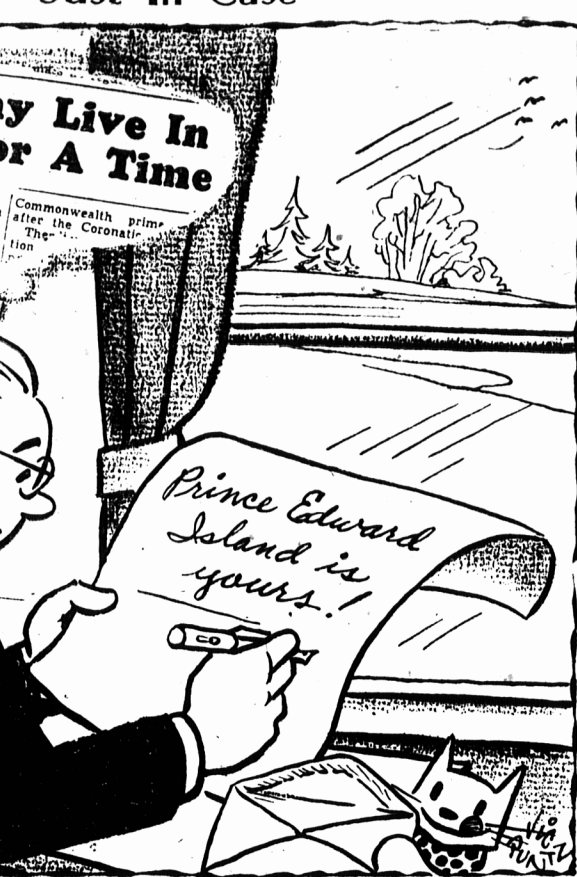
From the reports of the Legislative Assembly, Feb. 16, 1952, House in Committee on the Small Debts Bill, on the clause prohibiting the Courts being held in Taverns being read:

Mr. Rae moved that this clause be struck out entirely. He did not see a fitter place to hold the Court than a tavern. Many of those who sometimes attend Court have to travel some 20 or 30 miles; and where are they to seek refreshment for themselves and their horses, except at a tavern? He often knew a magistrate's hospitality severely taxed by providing refreshment for many of those whose business brought to the Court. Besides there were objections to holding the Court in the magistrates' own houses—sickness for instance; where, then, was the Court to be held? For his part, he could not see those objections which other members conceived they saw, especially since so many of us have become temperate; he saw no inconvenience that would arise from it, in fact, he thought the present clause would be casting a reflection on the magistrates.

Mr. Speaker (Hon. Joseph Pope) would support the clause. When he first came to the country the Courts were held in grog shops, and he was an eye-witness to several disgraceful scenes of riotousness and drunkenness, and in those places, it often happens that persons spent more than would pay the debts sued for twice over; therefore he was of opinion a penal clause was necessary to prevent such disgraceful occurrences. He did not doubt the hospitable disposition of some magistrates, but then, as it was a voluntary act on their part, and as they would obtain a name for generosity and kindness thereby, he thought them sufficiently remunerated.

Mr. Palmer agreed that it was very proper to prevent the occurrence of drunkenness at the Courts, but he had seen taverns conducted in a very orderly manner; and he would prefer giving the magistrates power to preserve decorum, and to discountenance persons and places of ill report. Mr. Dault would support the clause. He knew it would be impossible for the magistrates to preserve order, if the Courts were held in public houses; he had heard of so much drunkenness, abuse and false-swearing, and every species of immorality, that it was impossible to conduct business

Just In Case



Notes By The Way

Federal government deposits, the Bank of Canada reports, went up to \$31,945,000 during the week ended May 27. They should be swelled still further after the election by the contributions of candidates who can't persuade many people to vote for them. —Ottawa Citizen.

People of Thunder Bay have been congratulating themselves that we have had no tornado trouble here. It might be well to bear in mind that in Michigan, across the lake from us, residents have suffered no fewer than 100 twisters within the past 2 years. —Fort William Times-Journal.

Mr. L. B. Pearson, the minister of external affairs, says that Canada is a top minor league country in foreign affairs, but is not in the big leagues. However, with Senator McCarthy pitching occasional for the United States, and by the French Premier sent to the showers, Canada may make the grade yet. —Ottawa Citizen.

Three British Labor MP's members of Bevan's left-wing group, have been indulging in outspoken criticism of Britain's celebration of the Coronation. That of course does not represent the official attitude of the Labor party, and it is not something calculated to endear the Bevanites to the British voters. —Ottawa Journal.

Secretary of State Dulles is on his way back to Washington from a fact-finding tour, and Senator McCarthy is reported to be leaving on one. This thirst for knowledge by American statesmen is commendable, but it must be hard on the taxpayers. Still, if the federal government in the U.S. isn't allowed to subsidize the education of children in the schools, it might as well subsidize the education of senators and cabinet secretaries. —Ottawa Citizen.

A firm manufacturing power lawn mowers advertises that its machine is so easy to operate that everyone in the family wants to enjoy the pleasure of cutting grass. We'll go along with that one for, say, about two weeks; that is before the novelty wears off. Which of course is long before the grass stops growing. Then whom will you find running that mower, novelty or no novelty. You guessed it—Father! —Brockville Recorder and Times.

Anthony Cayer, of the well-known British shipping family, predicts the day when high speed jet planes will drive the giant ocean liner from the sea. He told a group of businessmen in Liverpool that the days of the big passenger ships are numbered. He said high-grade cargo would also be air-borne across the oceans. There was a poet who held this vision in the days when ships of sail were still traversing the trade routes of the sea. Tennyson wrote that he saw "the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails, pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales." It seems, his vision is to be fulfilled. They will be jet argosies. —Philadelphia Bulletin.

After centuries of trying to scrape a living from the barren rocks of the Hebridean island of Soay, the last settlement has been closed. Twenty-seven men, women and children have departed for Mull, 40 miles away, in search of a new and better life. It is worse in them as it should be. Hon. J. S. McDonald was of opinion that the better way would be to leave it to the good sense of the magistrates to choose the place for holding their courts. Perhaps a tavern would, in some instances, be the most convenient place to hold their meetings; he would therefore leave the choice to their own discretion. On a division, the clause was struck out.

The Passing Scene

By Observer SOME JUNE THOUGHTS

"What is so rare as a day in June? asked the poet Lowell. And Coleridge spoke of "the leafy month of June." One does not have to be a poet, however, to ponder on the delights of this month which takes its name from the Latin "junius", meaning young. It is well named for in the world of Nature youth is now prominent, if not supreme.

Young plants, young flowers, young birds, figure in our "great expectations" at this time. Even the soil itself, "ancient as the sun", renews its youth in joy and gaiety. In no other time of the year is the good earth in such a receptive and kindly mood or so willing to co-operate with human hands in the task of extracting from its treasures things new and old.

The resurrection to new life of things which had been laid away began long since with the first winds and rains of Spring. June confirms the miracle, gives it glory and substance, and proclaims to all who will listen that life and growth, not death and decay, are the essential and immutable laws by which the world is governed. Whether we look or whether we listen, we hear life murmur or see it glisten.

This is the time of the year above all others when it is well to go forth under the open sky and list to Nature's teachings, while from all around comes a still voice... a voice of gladness and a smile and an eloquence of beauty. If June did nothing else but raise up roses and apple blossoms, it would still have just claim to be reckoned among the true benefactors of man. For in them is the whole mystery of that abiding loveliness which "spite of despondence and the gloomy day will never pass into nothingness."

There is little in all the world of Nature that has more power to "move away the pall from our dark spirits". And not only the ones that live, move, and have their being in the well kept garden and orchard. These may be a bit more predictable in their habits and punctual in their appointments than their cousins that live over the hill, but they are no more appealing to the heart that goes in search of beauty.

For purposes of tabulation, the adjectives "wild" and "tame" have a limited usefulness. At best, however, they are relative terms denoting qualities which do not always fit into patterns of accuracy. The most domestic flower or plant is not entirely free of its original wildness, and the wildest one that goes its carefree way in irresponsible abandon has somewhere within its texture the softness and the gentleness of an ordered life. For that matter, is not man himself subject to the same variable law? Probe deeply

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

- J. A. McGuigan BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. NOTARY Etc. Currie Building. A. Walthen Gaudet, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. Phillips Building. H. J. Mabon, R.O. Optometrist. Palmer & Haslam A. J. HASLAM, B.A., LL.B. Barrister, Etc. Gordon E. MacMillan, B.A., LL.B., BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. Matheson, Peake & Nicholson A. W. MATHESON, Q.C. A. H. PEAKE, B.A., LL.B. JOHN P. NICHOLSON, LL.B. Dr. K. A. MacEachern DENTIST. Dr. A. L. MacIsaac DENTIST. J. A. Carruthers, R.O. OPTOMETRIST. Allison M. Gillis, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. Byron J. G. 'Trit, O.D. OPTOMETRIST. H. R. DOANE & COMPANY CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS. ERMA F. MacPHERSON, C.A. KEVIN J. McKENNA, C.A. McNEIL, LIVERPOOL, NEW GLASGOW AND TRURO. McDONALD, CURRIE & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.