

THE GUARDIAN

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Conservative Victories

The stars in their courses fought against the Liberals in yesterday's Federal by-elections, marking for the first time in several years a distinct change for the better in Conservative party fortunes. In this Province, Mr. J. Angus MacLean won out in Queen's by a substantial margin over his Liberal opponent, Mr. Cecil Miller. Mr. Howie Meeker retained the Conservative seat in Waterloo South; Mr. Walter Dinsdale captured Brandon, and Mr. Gordon Churchill, Winnipeg South Centre. Four Conservative victories in a row, unheard of since Bennett Government days!

Warmest congratulations are due Mr. MacLean on his victory in Queen's. The odds at the start were against him, it being argued that a candidate on the Government side would be more serviceable in obtaining concessions from the powers that be, and that in any case the results would not materially affect the party standing at Ottawa. By-elections are often decided on such issues, but Mr. MacLean was not discouraged. From the outset he appealed to the nonpartisan vote, pledging himself to work for the constituency as a whole, and stressing his determination to discountenance election irregularities in any shape or form. It is not unusual for politicians to pay lip service to the latter ideal, but Mr. MacLean made it the central issue of his campaign. In doing so he set a precedent which may have beneficial repercussions all across Canada.

It is generally conceded that the member-elect for Queen's will make a first class representative. His war record is a distinguished one, and since the war he has served with the R.C.A.F. in various important capacities, including that of senior officer of the Missing Persons Bureau in Europe. A farmer by profession, well qualified by experience and education to speak on any subject affecting the Island's interests, he should have no difficulty in adjusting himself to his new duties.

As will be noted elsewhere in today's issue, Mr. Miller takes his beating philosophically and with good sportsmanship. He has no complaints and no alibis, and for his opponent only words of praise. Doubtless he is looking forward to another time when Fortune may prove less fickle. In any case, he is to be congratulated on setting an example which is much more difficult to follow in defeat than in victory.

The Mystery of Ming Sung

Way back in 1949 Trade Minister Howe advanced to a Canadian shipbuilding firm \$850,000 of the taxpayers' money to enable that firm to complete and deliver ships to the Ming Sung Industrial Company Limited. Since then, thanks to Communist domination of China, the \$850,000 has been written off by Parliament as a total loss.

It is not unusual nowadays for upwards of a million dollars to be charged up to the taxpayer as a bad guess on the part of Ottawa. Public memory is remarkably short, and there the matter would probably have rested had not the Ming Sung ships turned up flying the Canadian flag while operating between Hong Kong and Communist-controlled Canton.

Soon after Mao's forces occupied the Chinese mainland the Ming Sung Company took steps to organize a Canadian subsidiary. Head office of this concern is shown in the incorporation records at Ottawa as being in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island! Nobody in Charlottetown knows a thing about the whole affair.

Other aspects of the Ming Sung incident are no less mysterious. Why, for example, did Transport Minister Chevrier exempt the Ming Sung ships from Federal shipping regulations? Why have they been allowed to operate, as the Government's own foreign trade journal states, between Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland, flying the red ensign? Why did Mr. Chevrier fail to report to Parliament, as he is required to do by law, when exemption from shipping regulations is granted? Why, for that matter, did Trade Minister Howe embark on so dubious a financial venture as to advance \$850,000 of the taxpayers' money to help the shipbuilding firm to complete its contract with the Ming Sung Company?

More serious still, have vessels paid for by Canadian taxpayers, and flying the Canadian flag, been carrying strategic war

materials to the ports of Red China? Parliament and the people demand and expect a full explanation of the whole affair from the Government.

The Senate And Inflation

For months the finance committee of the Senate has been studying Government expenditures and their effect on the cost of living. They have been impressed by the dangers involved in ever increasing Government expenditures and continually rising prices.

Apart from the dislocations and unfairness of the impact of inflation, which are probably no worse than those connected with any change in price levels, there is the threat that inflation "can have a paralyzing effect, not only on our economy, but as well upon the steadiness of thinking in the individual citizen."

The remedy, which is needed promptly, is for governments to spend less and avoid building up uncontrollable interest charges; and for the people to increase production and to save more. These proposals are by no means new but they do call for heroic action both by governments and people.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Political duties and rivalries can now be shelved for the time being and erstwhile partisans get together to assure the success of Charlottetown's Festive Week.

It is all over, including the shouting. It was a very orderly voting day, and electors seemed to take a greater interest in the contest than is usually the case at a general election.

Sport and flying have shown us that "too old" is a relative term but it has taken fluorine to show that children still of school age may be too old to build up the enamel of their teeth.

Some 167 exploratory wells have been drilled in the Maritimes within recent years with only one success. The single failure in this Province does not look nearly so bad as we are sometimes inclined to think.

Gilbert White, English naturalist, died this date 1793. Educated at Oxford, he settled at his native Selborne as curate and in 1789 published "Natural History of Selborne", a charming book which reveals him as a keen and kindly observer of nature.

The R. C. A. F. is looking for a name for the women within its ranks. What could be simpler or better than airwomen. Neither men nor women of the R. C. A. F. would thank anyone for reviving the name by which they were known to the other Services, pigeons.

Congratulations to Mr. Walter LePage on being elected President of the Maritime Region of Junior Chambers of Commerce. It is a high, responsible position and Mr. LePage's past record indicates he will be the right man in the right place.

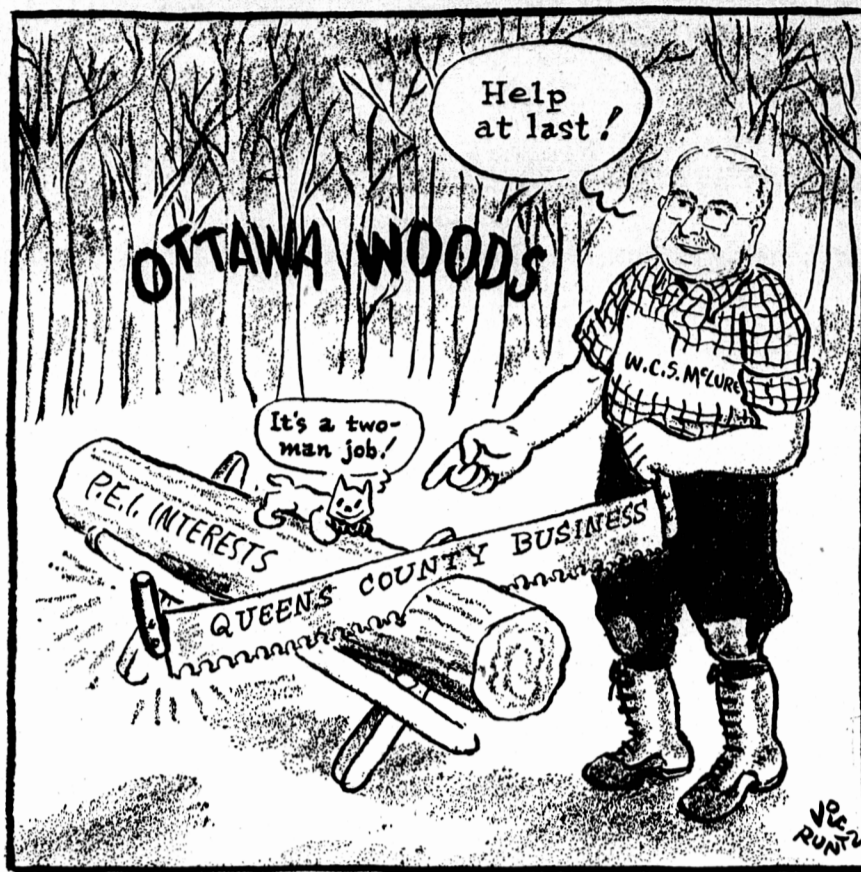
"The low down" in thieving is surely that reported from Chicago. A thirty-seven-year-old thief was convicted of robbing homes while the occupants were absent at funerals. In his possession were newspaper obituary notices. The judge in sentencing him to 10 to 15 years imprisonment said that "only a man without a conscience could commit the crimes this man has committed."

There is a discussion in certain scientific circles on the question—do animals and birds reason, and do they understand one another's "language?" Here is a contribution which is at least entertaining if not scientific. Doug Baker, 38, of West Jerdore, N. S., dropped his pipe overboard while hauling his lobster traps. A gull swooped down, picked up the pipe and flew off. Minutes later it returned, and dropped Baker's pipe back into the boat.

The Federal Building project is now definitely off till steel is more plentiful, or, till local pressure is more intensive. The original cause of the delay was the division of opinion in Liberal circles regarding the acceptability of the site chosen. Then there was the question of remuneration for forced sale of acquired property; and now it is a question whether at present Federal headquarters or munitions are the more important to warrant the necessary expenditure.

The practice of the chiropractic profession is not in opposition to the practice of medicine and it is an important complement to the medical professions, Judge Alme Chasse, Montreal, said in acquitting Gerard R. Dion of a charge of illegal practice of medicine. The judge said: "The chiropractic profession is becoming more and more advanced and is becoming more important to the general welfare of humanity. It is making a worthwhile contribution to the general improvement of health conditions."

Congratulations, Mr. MacLean! Now Here's That Job.



The Poet's Corner

PRESENCES

The shadow of the poplar Beside my cabin door Has trembled on the floor. Tho' no wind walks the forest tops Across my window sill It trembled and was still.

The broad noon sunlight basking On every flower and tree Is still as light can be. What made those withered leaves whirl up, And drift a space and fall— As they had heard a call?

Why are those hare-bells nodding As if an unseen wing Had set them all a-swing Tho' up and down the forest glade No other blade or bough Stirrs from its slumber now?

The stillness and the brightness Companion me, I hear A footfall drawing near Tho' no sound breaks the forest hush.

A sweet breath stirs my hair— But there is nothing there! What gracious presences Are these I cannot see Tho' they come close to me? I think I shall have pleasant dreams

In silence charmed and deep When I lie down to sleep. —Sir Charles G. D. Roberts.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

THE CRICKET GROUND "The cricket ground, kindly given by the Charlottetown Cricket Club by the City Council, in Victoria Park, has been sodded and is now in splendid condition for playing the many old English game. His Honour Lieutenant Governor Hodgson and Judge Young are patrons of the Club. We hope soon to hear that matches have been arranged with Cricket Clubs of Pictou, Halifax, St. John and Fredericton, and to be able to chronicle the success of the Charlottetownians."

A Lady At The Butts (Telegraph-Journal)

There is something unnerving for the male sex in the news that a sixteen-year-old school girl turned in one of the best scores at the Inter-Maritime Rifle Shoot. A pretty charmer who has registered six straight shots in the bull's eye at 500 yards ought to command a lot of respect. There will, of course, be comfort for the man who wins her hand in the knowledge that she is a dead shot. He will be able to go around with a chip on his shoulder if he likes—and if his wife isn't out of shooting range.

In a generation hardened to excessive familiarity and to the decline of chivalry, ladies who excel in shooting, fencing, archery, ju-jitsu and like pursuits have a better chance of persuading men to raise their hats and to stand promptly when the gentle sex joins their company. Even an expert at the throwing of plates and rolling pins is not to be fitted with; and so it seems only fitting that men should make their obsequies to a young lady who can get her man at 500 yards.

The Usefulness Of Latin

(Ottawa Evening Citizen) The poet Goethe once said, "The man who knows no foreign language knows nothing of his mother tongue." Whether or not that dictum be accepted completely, it does seem evident that the user of English should find considerable value in the proper study of a language in which English is deeply rooted. This consideration becomes the justification of high school Latin, popular target of the narrow pragmatists.

Toronto's Board of Education, which has just announced its intention to "spruce up" the classical subject for grade nine students, will do well to emphasize this fact. The will do well also to fashion course, content and teaching methods in such a way that what is taught is made useful in the best sense of the word.

What needs to be emphasized is that language is a vital tool of modern world society. Its invention was as consequential as the discovery of fire, the first fashioning of the wheel, the development of the internal combustion engine. Other things being equal, the more highly developed are oral and written speech, the more highly developed is the society which uses that speech. To a large extent the limitations of a primitive society are the limitations of language. This being true, any factor which gives precision and power to a man use of his native tongue has value. If a study of Latin, through examination of root meanings, is able to sharpen that usage, then Latin is a worthwhile discipline. The same might be said of Greek. The whole matter takes on added importance in terms of current semantic investigations of the relationship of words to international understanding. The searching studies of such modern philologists as Hayakawa, Korzybski, Ivor Brown and Mario Pei are emphasizing the pressing need for language to become the much more effective vehicle of ideas

The Age-Old Story

I am the Lord: that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them. . . . And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; they will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.

While they are attempting to add interest to grade nine classical study, it is to be hoped that the Toronto educationists will do away with the pugnacious bellicose Latin that used to plague beginning students. The teachers might wisely make the subject a study of matters social, domestic, civic, and even perhaps amatory. Incidentally, the four adjectives describing the foregoing qualities are all derived from the Latin.

KITCHENER, Ont. (CP)—The Kitchener-Waterloo collegiate in cooperation with a local trust company has received permission to open a banking office. Deposits of \$1 or more will be accepted, but no withdrawals will be allowed from the school banking office.

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Notes By The Way

Fortunately skunks are kindly little creatures. Unlike many of the human family, they are given to minding their own business, if permitted to do so. Their deadly weapon is only for occasions of defence. And its potent qualities are testified to be the continually slow, indifferent manner in which Mr. and Mrs. Skunk and family are by these predators like eggs. They are particularly fond of pheasant and partridge eggs. Therefore they can be regarded in great disfavor by sportsmen who don't care about the eggs but do like to kill what comes from those eggs later on. It is indeed fortunate that so many of Nature's children for which men have a particular yen also are much desired by other members of Nature's family.—(Owen Sound Sun-Times).

The administration of a vast forest area is a long-term task which requires multiple efforts. The foremost, in regard to Crown reserves, consists in drawing up a periodic inventory of the forest so as to establish a ten-year plan to be submitted to Government experts. The preparation of such a blueprint for a single district, that of the Gatineau for example, has cost more than half a million dollars to the company operating there. We might be astonished at such an expenditure. It is, nevertheless, necessary for the orderly administration of forest areas leased by the public authorities to private enterprises. It is by the inventory that the best way of helping nature to reforest the district can be determined. This is done by removing trees that are already old or diseased and replacing them by saplings, for the new generation to assure us with future harvests. Each citizen being in some measure the owner of a share of these natural heritages, nobody can afford to neglect this important forest question.—(Le Soleil, Quebec).

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