

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1951

Railway Glamour

There is a glamour about travel which appeals to even the most stay-at-home amongst us. A railway, as a great organization dedicated to travel, shares in that glamour.

It seems, however, that railwaymen in this country set little store on such things. In the matter of identifying locomotives, for instance, they are content with providing the powerful and highly individualistic engines with a number.

The St. Louis-San Francisco line follows this policy and its diesel passenger engines are named after famous American horses. Dan Patch, Sea Biscuit, Gallant Fox, Twenty Grand, Whirlaway, Traveler and Winchester are amongst the horses and engines so honoured.

In Prince Edward Island, especially, such a nomenclature would prove popular and there is certainly no lack of celebrated horses to act as namesakes.

Defence Production

The big fight in the House of Commons promises to be over the bill establishing a defence production department for which Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe is slated to be the head. Though the bill is still in process of being developed, the machinery for its operation is tending towards completion.

An Interesting Period

A learned Chinese, writing to his worst enemy, said to him by way of a curse: "I hope you live in an interesting period." At least that is one reply received by the "Nouvelles Littéraires" to the query: "Paris is two thousand years old. At what period would you like to have lived in Paris?"

The comment has more of Gallic wit than oriental depth. In truth there is much to be said for living in an interesting period and goodness knows, the present age should be interesting enough to suit anyone.

The stability of some rare ages of man must have exerted a depressing effect on those nameless wretches who lived in them. The individual is so puny that when society assumes anything like a stable equilibrium the chances of any one person effecting a change seem so remote that thought and enterprise are stifled before they can be given expression.

On The Record

A six-part question received a written answer in these terms a few days ago in the House of Commons.

Were tenders being called for the construction of a pier or wharf at Sept Isles, Que.? Yes, they were being prepared.

Had any engineering firm been retained to prepare plans? Yes.

What firm? C. D. Howe Company Limited, Port Arthur.

On what basis would fees be paid this

firm? 2 1/2% of the cost. Would this firm be retained to supervise construction? Yes. On what fee basis? 4% of the cost of the work. Cost of the project, it is reported, will be close to the million dollar mark. The firm is one which Trade Minister Howe headed from 1916 on, but from which he dissociated himself on entering Parliament in 1935.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Compensation to western wheat growers is resulting in a not surprising demand for a quid pro quo for Eastern farmers.

The Sportsmen's Show opens in Toronto today. The Island is represented by Mr. George V. Fraser, assisted by Mrs. Gwen Beatty so that a good many Canadians and others should soon learn what the Island has in store for hunters, fishermen, and other sportsmen.

The late Mr. Blythe Hurst, Sr., was one of nature's finest gentlemen, as well as being a scholar and writer of outstanding attainments. His contributions to this newspaper under the penname of Agricola were classics of their kind, and dealt with such a variety of subjects as to make them almost a library in themselves.

The prospects for recruiting of women for the armed forces are not very bright. At present only about 100 are wearing uniforms, and they are nursing sisters. Preparations for taking women into the Army, Navy and Air Force are, however, fairly well advanced. Present indications are that recruiting will be on a small scale.

Parents will welcome the proposed service of the Dental Public Health Division in providing sodium fluoride treatment to reduce tooth decay among City children. A word of caution, however, may not be amiss. The treatment must be administered by a skilled medical staff. Home application of sodium fluoride is either useless if safely diluted solutions are used or decidedly risky in untrained hands if used in sufficient strength to be of value.

The report that the United States has launched the first of a new class of submarines, the Trigger, capable of a submerged speed of "seventeen-plus" knots puts the whole problem of anti-submarine warfare in a new light. It cannot be assumed that potential enemies are far behind the U. S. and Canada's anti-submarine navy must be made capable of dealing with the threat.

Britain having had stolen the Irish Crown Jewels and the Scottish Coronation Stone of Scone, is endeavouring to safeguard the British Crown Jewels, the world's richest collection. They are at present in the Tower of London which is to be refurbished for the Festival of Britain this year. The authorities are keeping secret the time, the route over which the gems will be carried, and even their temporary hiding place.

William Cobbett, English political writer and reformer, was born this date 1762 at Farnham, Surrey. He became a solicitor's clerk and then an army private, serving for some time in Nova Scotia before getting his discharge. He wrote on political subjects in America and in England. His writings, admired by Pitt and Wyndham, sold so well he bought an estate at Botley in Hampshire. In 1805 he changed his political views, becoming an ardent Radical. A vigorous and original writer, Cobbett "might be said to have the cleverness of Swift, the naturalness of Defoe, and the picturesque satirical description of Manville."

Six years ago, on March 9, 1945, the 4th Canadian Armoured Brigade fought its last engagement with the enemy west of the Rhine. On the morning of that date, the Lake Superior Regiment with a squadron of the Governor General's Foot Guards carried out a rapid encircling movement on the wood between Bonninghardt and Winnenenthal. Ninety prisoners were captured without a single Canadian casualty. Then the Grenadier Guards, with a company of the Algonquin Regiment, mounted an attack on Winnenenthal itself. This proved to be a tougher nut to crack. Early in the afternoon, the Lake Superiors and tanks of the GGFG joined the attack. After an all-night battle the enemy admitted that the combination of infantry, tanks and flame-throwers was too much and about 200 hard-bitten paratroopers surrendered. The 4th Canadian Armoured Brigade included the Governor General's Foot Guards, the Canadian Grenadier Guards and the British Columbia Regiment. The Brigade landed in France in July 1944 and fought throughout the remainder of the European campaign until final victory in May, 1945.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

C. C. F. RESOLUTION

Sir,—I would like to make a short comment on your editorial of March 3rd, entitled "Mr. Drew's Position."

You pointed out that Mr. Drew supported a resolution asking for decentralization of industry. I am delighted to know that Mr. Drew is behind this move for the record. I think in all fairness it should be pointed out that the resolution demanding decentralization of industry was introduced by Clarie Gillis, the CCF member from Cape Breton South.

You also say that in the same debate it was pointed out that in P. E. I. the amount spent per head on war contracts was \$73.86 as against much larger amounts in the Central Provinces. I believe that again in all fairness you should have mentioned that the man who brought these figures to the attention of Parliament was not one of our own M.P.'s but Roy Knight, the CCF member from Saskatoon, who visited P. E. I. last fall.

I am, Sir, etc., IRVING TOOMBS

Bedeque, P. E. I.

High Speed Flying

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Research work being done in Britain by the R. A. F. Institute of Aviation Medicine underlines the many new dangers to which air-men are exposed in the operation of modern high-speed, high-flying aircraft. New hazards have come in particular into aerial combat, arising from dangers common in the operation of all fast, high-altitude aircraft.

Many of the problems of aviation medicine arise from the fact that atmosphere pressure decreases from ground level, although the percentage composition of air remains the same, even in the stratosphere—oxygen 21 per cent, nitrogen 78 per cent, inert gas 1 per cent.

At 30,000 feet a man would lose consciousness in 2 minutes and be dead in 15 without oxygen breathing apparatus; at 40,000 feet he would be unconscious in 30 seconds and dead in 5 minutes. At greater heights, even when he is breathing pure oxygen, he will lose consciousness quickly. Above 40,000 feet, and for prolonged flights near this height, aircraft must have properly pressurized cabins.

The danger in combat more than that in normal flying is that the cabin will be punctured and pressure suddenly lost. For this emergency the pilot wears a pressure waistcoat, that supplies both oxygen and a counter-pressure to chest and abdomen so he can breathe.

There is also danger in the rapid ascent to great heights due to the decrease in atmospheric pressure. Under this stress nitrogen in the airman's blood vessels and tissues comes out of solution, and gas bubbles form in the blood, causing the same decompression sickness—known as the "bends"—suffered by tunnel diggers and divers and subject to radical changes in atmospheric pressure.

As described in the London Times, detailed research leading to the improvement of all such equipment is carried on at the R. A. F. research centre at Farnborough. Much work is now being done on devices to offset the effects of extreme acceleration and deceleration in combat jet flying. Velocity itself, even when supersonic, has no effect on the human body providing it is uniform, but changes in speed subject the body to extreme gravitational pressure changes, and can cause blacking out, and even unconsciousness, at critical stages in flight. Special gravitational suits have had to be developed to offset this.

Some years ago, with the development of higher speed craft, it became necessary to find a means of ejecting the pilot from his craft since great speed makes it practically impossible for him to bail out unaided. Problems were also presented by the need to bail out at high altitudes—the danger of parachutes ripping from air drag, and oxygen sickness and frostbite for the pilot in slow descent from high altitude. All these factors indicated a need for foolproof apparatus for delayed openings of chutes, especially when an airman lost consciousness.

Present ejection seats shoot the pilot out of his plane, free him from the seat, and a device in the parachute ensures its opening at 10,000 feet.

There are many other problems—of body movement, and cooling and warming the body in rapid atmospheric changes. Lifejackets have been developed which will keep an unconscious man afloat in the sea, and so on. But while remarkable progress has been made and many ingenious devices have been developed to safeguard flyers, much remains to be done. The Farnborough station is now installing additional laboratory and testing equipment for the development of more and better safeguards.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

OSLO (CP)—The Salvation Army in Norway is marking its 50th anniversary. Today the army operates 38 stations, 16 nurseries and 10 summer vacation homes in various parts of the country.

This Little Pig Went "Whee" All The Way Home



Notes By The Way

The heroic bronze figure of the late Will Rogers mounted on his horse sits silently at the entrance of the Will Rogers Coliseum at Fort Worth, Texas. Texas is one

In these times of ever-soaring prices, it is rather remarkable to discover one extremely low-priced commodity whose cost has not advanced even a fraction of a cent during this period of rampant inflation. This item, as an insurance company points out, is recipes for curing inflation. The price remains constant—a dime a dozen.—(Sherbrooke Record.)

A report from Paris states that the latest fad is for a lady to dye her dog to match her dress. The Parisian pooches that are taken for a walk by their mistresses are in for a bad time if this be so. What her ladyship changes her dress several times a day and Fifi has to be dyed mauve in the morning, then washed and dyed again if she sallies forth later in a pink creation to a pink tea? And what if she chose to wear a tartan outfit?—(St. Thomas Times-Journal.)

So the elms in South Park, Pittsburgh, must come down because they are obscuring the monument to Joyce Kilmer. They have lifted their leafy arms so high that passersby can no longer read the inscription which begins: I think that I shall never see, a poem lovely as a tree. In a world where people surrender liberties to preserve them, where bombs destroy cities in order to save them and nations war to keep the peace, it is somehow oddly fitting. It is fitting to the times that lovely trees should be cut for the glory of their leafy arms. —(Wall Street Journal.)

How big an egg can a hen lay is a question perhaps not more important, but at least more capable of being answered, than the old bromide about which came first, the chicken or the egg. At Windham, New Hampshire, on the poultry farm of Dr. Henry F. Dearborn, there was until recently an ambitious lady which laid an egg which is the largest on record in the United States. It weighed 8 1/2 ounces, measured 10 inches around the long way and 8 1/4 inches around the middle. The breed of the chicken was Rhode Island Red. The previous largest egg was also laid by a Rhode Island Red hen, back in 1909. This is not the largest egg in the world, however, by quite a wide margin. Records on the subject are a little vague, but there is an egg on display at the Pasteur Institute in Paris which weighed about 1 1/4 ounces when laid.—(Cornwall Standard-Freeholder.)

The jury of the Norwegian Nobel Institute has a peculiarly difficult task in selecting the winner of the 1951 Nobel Peace Prize at a moment the cause of peace is in jeopardy. Twenty-eight candidates for the prize have been nominated and a glance at the list causes one to wonder what anyone of them actually has accomplished to entitle him to the award. Perhaps all that can be awarded is effort at a time when good intentions are futile unless they are crowned by outstanding performance. One of the more outstanding candidates, Prime Minister Nehru, can be credited with lovely intentions but he has been singularly inept in his soft-spoken words about the Communists and his sharp admonitions to the Western allies. When it comes to effort he would seem to be one who has tried harder to bring about peace than the three-man Cease-Fire Committee of the United Nations on which Canada was ably served by External Affairs Minister Pearson. If the prize were awarded on a basis of effort in behalf of peace there would be, at any rate, an element of poetic justice in awarding it to the members of the committee.—(Sydney Post-Record.)

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

POISONOUS ROOT "On Saturday, John, aged 17, and Mary, aged 11, the children of John McPhee, Savage Harbour, died from the effects of eating a poisonous root called the Wild Parsnep. The former lived only three hours, and the latter four, after they had swallowed it. Another boy, aged 16, who also partook of the fatal root, narrowly escaped with life, and in need is not yet out of danger."—Prince Edward Island Register, May 26, 1929.

The Age-Old Story

Lord, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! Or the son of man, that thou makest account of him! Man is like to vanity; his days are as a shadow that passeth away.

LONG-DISTANCE CHEFS

NEW PLYMOUTH, N. Z.—Chess players here are taking a part in a long-distance contest with the Egli Club of London. The match is being conducted by airmail and each side makes about one move a month. Some games will be finished in two or three years, others may take longer.

Memoirs Of The Hon. A. E. Arsenault

Former Premier and Retired Justice Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

Indian Affairs

In the year 1930, on the occasion of the celebration of the 76th anniversary of the meeting of the Fathers of Confederation in Charlottetown, the Hon. Mr. Crerar, then Minister of Mines and Indian Affairs, was a visitor to this Province. I took occasion of his presence here to talk with him regarding our Indian situation.

I felt that the Indians of this Province had been neglected. They were the original inhabitants of the Province and were here in 1534 when Jacques Cartier discovered the Island. They then and for many years afterwards lived well. There was any amount of small game and the streams teemed with fish. The white man came along and gradually the game became scarce and the rivers depleted of fish. They were deprived of the land and were never compensated for it as was done in the Western Provinces.

For many years materials for basket making and for axe handle manufacture were readily available, but with the cutting down of the forest and by private ownership of the lands, a time came when the Indians could no longer get these materials. They were scattered all over the Province. They still managed to get some ash and white maple and by the sale of baskets and by begging made a precarious livelihood.

In many school districts the Indian children were barred from the schools. In many parishes the priest had often no knowledge of their presence and so their spiritual welfare was neglected. By their changed mode of living they became a prey to tuberculosis and many of them became victims of this scourge.

I had then in mind some system of concentration, the building of houses for them, the erection of a modern school with a resident teacher and a resident agent. Mr. Crerar was impressed, but on his return to Ottawa he told me that after conferring with the officers of his Department, he did not think that my ideas could be carried out.

The next year I went to Ottawa and had a long interview with Doctor McGill, director of Indian Affairs. He seemed to favour the scheme and advised me to talk it over with Dr. Cansell, the Deputy Minister, and I accordingly spent an hour with him. Dr. Cansell, however, Dr. Cansell told me that he had had a scheme in mind for Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and that the proposition would receive his attention.

He accordingly commissioned one of his officers to make the inquiry, and Mr. Arnell from the Department spent some weeks in the Maritime Provinces on this mission. His report favoured the project. Later on I went to Ottawa and had a conference with Dr. Cansell, Dr. McGill, Mr. Arnell and some other officials of the Department. This conference lasted two and one-half hours and we arrived at a satisfactory conclusion.

At this and subsequent interviews it was decided to concentrate the Indians at Lennox Island. The chief reason for this was that the Indians considered the island as their home. It had been granted them by one of the original proprietors. There were the water, the woods, the church, their school, and their hall (the Lady Wood Hall) were there. It was an island and segregated, and in that way the agent could have more control over them.

After the war the Department started building operations. A two-department school was built, including departments for manual training for boys and home handicrafts for girls. Over twenty residences for Indians were constructed. The residence for the male teacher was repaired and provided with heat, water and sewerage and electric light.

A social service nurse makes daily visits to the Indian homes and gives them medical care. Their spiritual needs are attended to by a resident pastor and by the Sisters of St. Maria, who also teach them singing and music besides sewing, mending and other handicraft. The boys have a baseball and hockey team and compete with their white brothers. They prepare and give concerts and plays, listen to the radio, and motion pictures are regularly shown. The Department is building a new scow for the transport of heavy materials to the island. A tractor and truck will also be provided.

The Indians are happy and contented, and instead of going around begging, work of different kinds has been provided for them, and with other assistance given by the Department they now live a fairly independent existence.

In connection with the Indians of Prince Edward Island, I should like to give a brief history of the Lady Wood Fund for the use of the Indians, of which I have been one of the trustees for the past twenty years.

During his incumbency as Governor of Prince Edward Island, Governor Fanning acquired large tracts of land in this Province. Among them were lands left in trust for the founding of a school at Malpeque which was named the Fanning School. The other lands were by his will divided between his daughters, one of whom married a Colonel Wood in England. Dame Louise Augusta Wood as a young girl resided here with her father and evidently became interested in the Miqmaq Indians of

the Island. By her last will and testament bearing date the 8th day of May 1870 she gave and devised to trustees 2673 acres of land on Lot or Township number sixty-seven in Queens County to be sold and the proceeds held in trust, one half for the education of the deaf and blind and one half for the benefit of Indians of Prince Edward Island. For some unknown reason this will was lost sight of for many years. About the year 1910 the late Gilbert Gaudet of the firm of Haszard and Gaudet, while ferreting among old papers in the attic of the Court House, came across this document. His attention was drawn to it from the fact that it was of parchment and consisted of many papers. After studying the document, he realized that a trust had been created and which had never been administered. He looked up the lands mentioned in the will, in the land office, and found that the Government had sold them to a large number of individuals and that Government deeds had been issued to them.

By the Act of the Provincial Legislature, 3 Geo. V., Cap. 21 intitled "An Act to confirm the Titles to certain Purchasers of Land on Township Number Sixty-seven from the Commissioner of Public Lands, the above facts were set out with a recital that "Whereas doubts have arisen regarding the title of the Commissioner of Public Lands to the said lands so sold and conveyed by him to tenants and other persons on said Township No. 67, and it is desirable to remove such doubts and to confirm and make valid the deeds executed by the said Commissioner of Public Lands" The Act then went on to confirm the deeds so issued with the following proviso: "Provided always nevertheless that nothing herein contained shall prejudice or affect any claim which the trustees of the will of the said Dame Louise Augusta Wood or those now representing the trustees of the will or the survivor of them or any other persons may have against His Majesty the King in his Government of Prince Edward Island in respect of the lands so sold and conveyed by the said Commissioner of Public Lands as aforesaid."

Subsequently, proceedings were instituted in the Court of Chancery and the said trusts were declared good and valid. In pursuance to this judgment, the Legislature enacted 5 Geo. V., cap. 12 being "An Act to provide compensation to the trustees of the will of Dame Louise Augusta Wood for certain lands on Township No. 67 sold by the Commissioner of Public Lands." The preamble recited the pertinent facts and by agreement with the trustees, the Act authorized the payment of the sum of eight thousand five hundred dollars to the trustees as the share of the fund to be allotted for the benefit of the Indians. As the Government was charged with the education of the deaf and blind, the share allotted for this purpose was retained by the Government. Trustees were appointed from time to time to administer the funds for the benefit of the Indians.

On the death of the then trustees, Mr. Arthur A. Alley and Mr. Gilbert Gaudet and myself were in the year 1931 appointed trustees. Mr. Gaudet and Mr. Alley having died, Mr. Sylvère DesRoches was appointed co-trustee. Mr. DesRoches enlisted in the Armed Forces resigned, and Mr. H. F. MacPhee, K.C., was appointed in his place. (To be concluded)

The Poet's Corner

FROM THE BURIED LIFE.

Only—but this is rare— When a beloved hand is laid in ours, When the dead with the rush and glare Of the interminable hours, Our eyes can in another's eyes read clear. When our world-deaf'd ear Is by the tones of a loved voice caress'd, A bolt is shot back somewhere in our breast And a lost pulse of feeling stirs again: The eye sinks inward, and the heart lies plain. And what we mean, we say, And what we would, we know. A man becomes aware of his life's flow And hears its winding murmur, and he sees The meadows where it glides, the sun, the breeze. —Matthew Arnold.

MOSTLY WASTELAND

Egypt has 386,000 square miles but only about 13,900 square miles are inhabited.

MANY USES

Methods of converting wood wastes to commercial products are under constant study at the Ottawa forest products laboratory.

SPRING SAMPLES HAVE ARRIVED AT J. P. MacPherson & Son Men's Clothing That Fits 157 QUEEN ST.