

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, JAN. 21, 1952 Sterling Conference

During Prime Minister Churchill's absence on this side of the Atlantic, an important conference of Commonwealth Finance Ministers is being held in London, the purpose being primarily to stop the draining of dollars from the sterling area pool.

South Africa, which has sent Mr. N. C. Havenga, has a special place at the conference as the world's greatest producer of gold. India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Southern Rhodesia have sent their representatives.

As with the Churchill conferences in Ottawa and London, there is no cut-and-dried program for the London meetings, no panacea prepared in advance.

Blessing The Cars

In seafaring communities we almost invariably find some form of religious service in connection with the fleet, be it big or little.

Although the automobile has been with us for generations now and is both as important to the community as fishing vessels could be and even more deadly, no one, seemingly, has considered the car or its driver worthy of any particular blessing or commemoration.

Perhaps it takes much longer for such an invention to achieve recognition by ecclesiastical authority but surely, if the fishermen are entitled to a special service by reason of their calling, the motorist also has a strong claim.

Ontario Farmers Worried

As one of the largest dairy Provinces in Canada, Ontario is naturally concerned over the drop in cheese production. As late as World War II Canada exported some 189 million pounds in a single year; last year this was down to some 28 million pounds, and it is doubtful whether any will go overseas this year.

Col. T. L. Kennedy, Ontario's Minister of Agriculture, declared that three years ago when he said there would come a day when Ontario would be importing food he did not expect this situation would come about so soon.

For many years, prior to the outbreak of war in 1939, Canada's loyalty to the League of Nations was a matter of disagreement and controversy, says The Winnipeg Free Press. The Liberal administration of 1935-39, under Mr. King, always insisted that it was a good League member, even when refusing to agree to any line of League policy which might give offence to

Mr. King Isolationist

aggressive dictators like Mussolini and Hitler. The war and post-war years have removed all reasons for partisan controversy in this regard and we now have the evidence of none other than Prime Minister St. Laurent that this country prior to 1939 did weaken in its support of League principles and incline toward isolationism.

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"Canada became a member of the League of Nations, and, though we never repudiated our membership, our enthusiasm certainly waned and there was with us, too, a strong reflection of the sentiment for isolation which prevailed on your side of the border."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Indications are that there will be keen competition in each ward for the forthcoming civic election.

Hon. C. D. Howe will be Canada's next Governor General, declares an exclusive story in February New Liberty.

The international truck service benefits the U. S. exporter as well as the Canadian exporter, as has been found in the potato industry where our trade with Upper Canada has been detrimentally affected.

The Naval Barracks and the Federal Building projects are again being focused, but a Watson MacNaught seems necessary to make them accomplished facts.

The third annual livestock sale is not due for a couple of months yet, but intending entrants must bear in mind that their applications must be entered by February 1.

The split in the British Columbia coalition indicates the prospects of a Federal election. The Conservatives must have felt their hands tied Federally being in coalition with their political opponents provincially.

Health Minister Martin, like his Old Country opposite number, has become aware of the need of older people to do useful work even if in receipt of a pension. It seems that a life of idleness rapidly loses its attraction as the time draws near when it may be realized.

A judge of the Ontario Supreme Court, while not questioning the principle that the Crown cannot be garnisheed, has exercised his equitable powers to issue an injunction against a CBC employee from drawing the salary to which he is legally entitled.

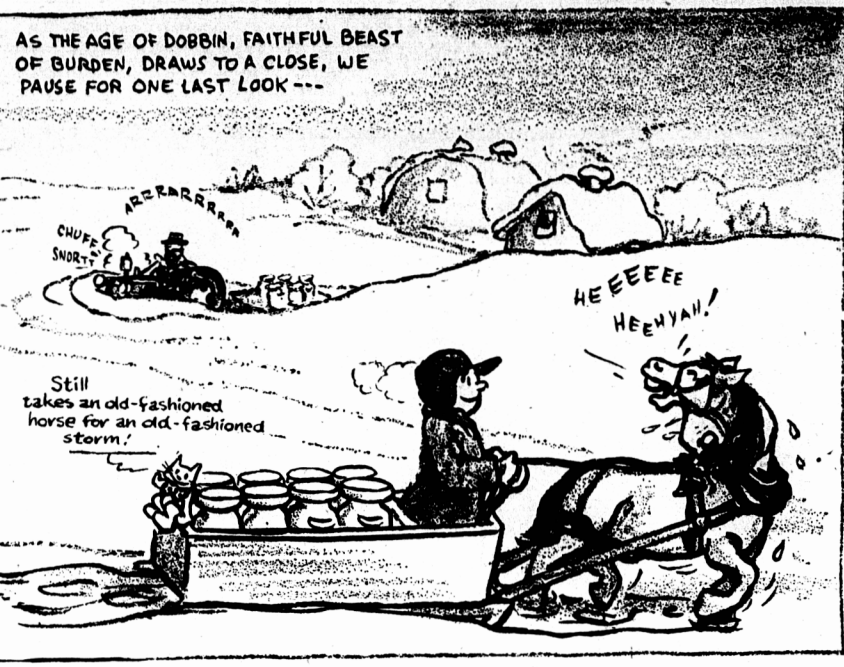
Lenin, first president of the Union of Socialist and Soviet States of Russia, died this date 1924. He early came under the influence of Marx's "Das Kapital" and the horrors of the famine of 1891 inflamed him against inequalities of wealth.

The privileged position of the Crown in choosing whether or not to answer before the Courts for the misdeeds of its servants or to be bound by contract has largely been done away with so far as the Dominion and a number of the Provinces are concerned.

The Episcopal Church of St. Columba-by-the-Castle, Johnston Terrace, Edinburgh, is being altered as part of a move to give the laity a fuller share in the liturgy. The stone altar has been brought forward from the east wall and the chancel screen removed.

An excellent new publication has appeared in the Old Country, dedicated to the service of the New. It is entitled "The Londoner: Britain's Magazine for America and Canada," and in its beautifully published first number strives to live up to its name.

Moment Of Triumph



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.

JONES OF P.E.I.

The following letter is taken from the Ottawa Journal of recent date: Sir,—I read with interest your brief editorial note with respect to the New Year's advice (to work hard in 1952) given to P. E. Islanders by their distinguished Premier Hon. J. Walter Jones.

As captain of the OAC football team shortly after the turn of the century he violated customary tackle procedure but won the coveted championship for his team.

In 1921, although always a staunch Liberal, he ran as a Farmer Progressive much against the party's wishes. In 1935 when every Tory in the provincial campaign was defeated, Jones nominated himself as an official opposition of one in order that His Majesty would not be without an opposition so essential in our parliamentary system.

In 1943 about a month before his first election as Premier the writer spent several days with Mr. Jones on The Island. He was taking me around to see many of the excellent Holstein herds and the famous Island potato fields, and although the weather was delightful in mid-July, we found few farmers at home and finally one old lady advised us that "The men folk" had all gone to the races.

The races were being held on a farmers' community track some distance from the main highway and the Premier immediately headed his car in that direction. When he arrived he was asked to take the starters' stand as one of the judges and say a few words to the gathering.

I was amazed to say the least at his brusqueness, if not impoliteness and told him he would lose a lot of votes by his actions. His reply was "You don't know the Islanders. I told them the truth and they know it. A lot of

The Poet's Corner

IN AFTER DAYS In after days when grasses high O'er-top the stone where I shall lie, Though ill or well the world adjust My slender claim to honor'd dust, I shall not question nor reply, I shall not see the morning sky; I shall not hear the night-wind sigh; I shall be mute, as all men must In after days! But yet, now living, fain would I That some one then should testify, Saying — 'He held his pen in trust To Art, not serving shame or lust. Will none? — Then let my memory die In after days! —Henry Austin Dobson.

The Age-Old Story

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me; hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

It was, he carried that particular concession for the first time. It had always been a Tory stronghold. I am, Sir, etc. D. J. B. Central Avenue, London, Ont. January 15, 1952.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BENSON

Sir—I was very much grieved to read in a recent issue of The Guardian, of the death of T. A. Benson, and the more so, on account of the tragic manner in which his passing came about. Mr. Benson was an outstanding citizen of Canada, by adoption at least although an Englishman by birth, and was a most valuable contribution by the Mother Country to Canadian agriculture. For many years he was a member of the Dominion Government Civil Service, associated with the Poultry Division of the Federal Department of Agriculture, and one of his earliest commissions was in Prince Edward Island.

He came here, I believe, during the period when the Hon. Murdoch MacKinnon, later Governor of the Province, was Commissioner of Agriculture, as the position in the Executive Council was designated at that time, and his first assignment was that of bringing order out of chaos then enveloping the egg and poultry industry. The status of organization attained during this term of service, and its value as a revenue producing phase of our agricultural economy, when at its peak, bears excellent testimony to Mr. Benson's analysis of a bad situation and the policies he applied as remedial measures.

Application of Benson theories in a practical way, to the rehabilitation of the egg and poultry industry, was most effectively carried out by that grand old co-operative warrior, whose family name was a household word in practically every rural homestead in the Province, for over a quarter century, the late Mr. George Leightizer. Benson and Leightizer—the former primarily a theorist, latter essentially practical—constituted a combination that success found difficult to elude. Their combination act, as demonstrated in the egg and poultry association drama, proved to be the greatest of what could be accomplished through co-operative effort in this Province, before its advent or since.

Indeed, the principles involved formed the basis of every succeeding attempt to organize agriculture co-operatively in this Province beyond its borders, to an unknown extent; and their names—Benson and Leightizer—should never be allowed to fade from memory or record, even with the passing of generations. Mr. Benson did not remain in this Province any great length of time; in fact his stay in any one Province was of comparatively short duration, until he finally located in the Province of Ontario, where he remained until his retirement a few years ago. Repeated transfer was no adverse reflection upon his ability, but rather a compliment. He was an adept in organization work and when his task in one location was completed official transfer to another field became inevitable, and always carried with it promotion. No matter what his personal desires might be he was always ready to serve elsewhere, wherever duty called.

Those of us who had the privilege of being associated with him on occasions, were always impressed with his unique technique, his assessment of human nature and his peculiar approach towards difficult problems. I well remember

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) RACE GROUND PROPOSED

"It is with pleasure we hear that a few gentlemen in Charlottetown are about to get up a good race ground in the neighborhood of the City, adapted both for trotting and galloping, where, during the summer season, horses may be trained and exercised, and their qualities exhibited to intending purchasers, many of whom leave the Island disappointed in their expectation of obtaining horses chiefly from the want of a proper ground to view their performances. We believe that such a ground is not only required but that eventually, as a speculation, it will pay."

"In the States and Dominion at their Fairs and Exhibitions the show of live stock is held on the race ground, and horses are tested in point of speed and endurance as well as in shape and style of racing, thus affording buyers and sellers every facility and at the same time affording amusement to the spectators. If the race ground be used for this purpose the Legislature might properly give a small annual grant to the association which, we understand, is about to apply for an act of incorporation under the title of the 'Queen's County Association for Improving the Breed of Horses.'"

an occasion upon which he addressed a joint meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade and representatives of rural co-operative organizations, a get-together sponsored by Mr. J. O. Hyndman who was at that time President of the Charlottetown Board. And by the way, this was the only occasion if memory serves correctly, that ever such a joint meeting was held indicating that in those by-gone days, we did have men of vision and stature directing our organization affairs.

Mr. Benson took for his subject the phrase "Organized Thinking", pointing out that serious thinking must always precede effective action and that precipitate action, without sufficient forethought, usually ended in failure. This dogma seemed to be the basis of his philosophy, and his adherence thereto the secret of his outstanding success as an organizer of that portion of society with which he had cast his lot.

Mr. Benson has taken his final transfer! Canadian agriculture has benefited much because of his sojourn among us, and has suffered a loss in his exit. I am, Sir, etc. J. A. GILLIES Charlottetown.

HISTORIC SITE

Sir,—Now that perhaps a site for the Naval Barracks may be chosen in Ward One West on land now occupied by the lumber yard of L. M. Poole & Company, the following may be of interest.

In the eighties hundred and sixties Fort St. George was dismantled and the land divided into twenty-one building lots. The three lots now comprising the lumber yard could have been purchased by the late John Ings, Esq. (a newspaper publisher, the name of his paper being The Islander) for three hundred dollars, when he purchased three other lots, for his residence, his vegetable garden by the water and his coach house and stable on Haviland Street. It remained for Owen Connolly, a merchant prince of that era, to purchase the three lots, now the lumber yard. Mr. Connolly's wharf property at one time was one of the busiest on the harbour front.

It is well to remember at this time the widow of this merchant, whose humanitarian interest made it possible for the Sisters of Charity, known as the Grey Nuns of Quebec, to acquire a site for their hospital. The land Mrs. Connolly gave them was her orchard and adjoining her rambling house on Dundas Esplanade. Today the only remaining Crown land of Fort Saint George is the sixty foot wide Dundas Esplanade, reserved for the people by His Excellency Lieut. Governor George Dundas. I am, Sir, etc. KENNETH BRUCE STEWART

Notes By The Way

Doctors in Great Britain complain that the public is using them just as dispensers. Physicians in this province, during the years of the Ontario Temperance Act, used to protest that there were being used as dispensaries. — Hamilton Spectator.

The proper sort of television program can act as a spur to the child's imagination, curiosity, and fruitful interest in the world around him, enriching his play, his reading, his school work. But there is precious little of that sort of program coming over the channels at present. Adult Americans who have been waking up in recent years to the dire needs of the public school evidently need to be awake to the full seriousness of the challenge from the school's greatest competitor today. — Christian Science Monitor.

Time was when the state of the fisheries was the commonest of all Newfoundland topics, the most important news, and the subject of constant discussion in editorial columns. But times have changed. Salt fish remains a vital element in the economy but it does not have pride of place and is far from being the sole determining factor of our prosperity as it was not so many years ago. Once some 60,000 people were employed in the catching and curing of fish. That was one quarter of the population at the time. The number of people has grown and the number of fishermen has declined so that today fishermen do not constitute one-fourteenth of the population. But no other industry gives as much employment or spreads it as widely and so it remains as we have pointed out a vital element in the economy. — St. John's (Nfld.) News.

In the days of our youth "By Jumping Jimminy" was a permissible form of profanity. The phrase came back to us when we read of a lecture given by Professor James Gray of Cambridge University on the ability, or lack of it, of animals to jump—and he included man in his survey. Answering a self imposed question, he declared fleas are much better jumpers than men. A trained flea can jump (high jump) six inches, while the best most trained athletes can do is about six feet. That doesn't seem to be startling information until one is told the flea can jump 100 times the length of its body, while man can only jump about the height of his own body. Other expert jumpers are the locust which can jump 12 times its own length, the frog, four times and the kangaroo twice. The height an animal can jump apparently depends upon the speed of its take off, which sounds reasonable. Jumping animals have usually long shanks. — Windsor Star.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for Dr. John E. Starns (Veterinary Surgeon), Palmer & Haslam (Barrister, Etc.), Dr. A. L. MacIsaac (Dentist), A. Walthen Gaudet (Barrister, Solicitor, Etc.), Frederic A. Large (Barrister, Solicitor, Notary), J. A. Carruthers (Optometrist), J. S. Taylor (Optometrist), H. R. Doane and Company (Chartered Accountants), and McDonald, Currie & Co. (Chartered Accountants).