

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN MONDAY, APRIL 23, 1951

The Dangerous Doctrine Of Preventive War

The undertones which give substance and meaning to President Truman's dismissal of General MacArthur lie not in the surface conflict of personalities, but rather in the resurgence which MacArthur's removal gives to exponents of the doctrine of a preventive war.

General MacArthur was removed from office because he declined to conform to the edict of the civil authority in Washington to the effect that he must refrain from public utterances on issues of foreign policy.

The Far Eastern policy advocated by General MacArthur embraces the idea of an armed attack on Red China, the blockading of its coastline, the bombing of its cities and munitions dumps, and the use of Chinese nationalist troops at present in Formosa.

The risks involved in such a policy would, of course, be far greater than those immediately at stake in Korea. For while it is apparent that Russia is unwilling to commit herself outright to war on behalf of Korea, there is no guarantee that she would maintain the same "belligerent neutrality" in event of a Sino-American war.

Good Neighbours

The United States is celebrating a good-will week with this country from April 22 to 28 and indeed it is a blessing, to use an old fashioned word, that we should get along so well with our only continental neighbour.

It could easily have been otherwise. A great nation might readily have tried to impose its will upon the small population occupying the half-continent on its northern frontier. Canada, jealous of its unique institutions and undeveloped resources, might have developed a phobia about the American colossus and relations between the two countries would have been strained and formal. Suspicion would have made every incident a deliberate slight or defiance.

Instead we live on very easy terms with the Americans. We rejoice in their good fortune and grieve for their deeper troubles. At the same time we express our opinions freely, whether they happen to be favorable or otherwise, on American conduct and attitude, in complete confidence that there will be equal candor on their part and an equal lack of suspicion or rancour.

May the day never come when it is felt necessary on either side of the border to step gingerly to avoid hurting the other's susceptibility.

Farmers' Incomes

Farmers' incomes came up for discussion at least momentarily in the Commons budget debate. Robert Fair (S.C.—Battle River) made the point that farmers, while they make up 25 per cent of the Canadian population, receive only 10 to 15 per cent of the national income.

The situation is not new, in fact it has been even worse, but it should be reflected

upon by those who are so hasty to demand anti-farm legislation whenever the price of any particular agricultural product rises above what they think is a proper price. There are few in the highly industrialized areas who make an effort to determine whether farm costs permit the product they are concerned about to be economically produced at any lower cost.

This country became accustomed to low-cost food between the two wars and some industrialists would like a return to that situation, without, of course, any reduction in the price of their own products. It would ease the pressure for increased wages and leave the consumer with more money with which to buy other goods at inflation prices.

The modern farmer, however, has become a businessman and shows no more inclination than other businessmen to maintain a high level of production if it is only going to put him in the red.

EDITORIAL NOTES

St. George's Day.

Shakespeare's birthday.

In relation to its population, New Brunswick has the heaviest funded debt of any province—\$312 per capita.

This is a date when the word "England" is ringingly spoken without a glance about to see that there are no "North Britons" about to protest.

The Pope, in fulfillment of the decision recently announced, has issued an apostolic brief proclaiming the Archangel Gabriel, Angel of the Annunciation, as the patron saint of telecommunications.

William Shakespeare, English dramatist and poet, born this date 1564. According to tradition he died upon his birthday. The record of baptism April 26. His supreme position in literature is not based on plot construction so much as on character development and poetry.

The United States Supreme Court has let stand a lower court decision that radio stations may censor speeches made for political candidates.

The 25 per cent reduction in potato acreage proposed by the P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board will make little difference to the large-scale markets in which we sell but it would be an indication of good faith to comply with the idea of such reductions by New England and New Brunswick growers.

Tourist promotion has been unsuccessful in one field. The big guns of the national political parties could have taken part in the Provincial election campaign had they owned or leased cottages or other property on the Island. It would seem that only the C. C. F. Maritime Director of Organization has put in an appearance.

The president of U. N. B. ascribes to humour the fact that the Empire continued as an expanding force rather than a crumbling ruin. Be that as it may, the Island should contain seeds of greatness for there must be few people anywhere with such a lively sense of the ridiculous.

According to Mr. Donald Gordon, Canadian National Railways president, highway competition is the railways' big problem but he does not think they should try to meet it by stifling the opposition. Instead, he told the Commons railway and shipping committee, it is up to the railways to improve their service and try to work out some arrangement with highway operators that will enable each carrier to do its own job.

Are we to return to brown from white bread as we did in the 'nineties as the result of publicity agitation? A drive for an official ban against the sale of bread made from "agenised" flour has been launched by Dr. John Coghlan, a Hull practitioner. Thousands, he says, have died as the result of eating the chemically-treated bread, while the health of thousands more is menaced. He has appealed for six human "guinea pigs" to help him prove that his warning is well-founded. Agensation, in which flour is mixed with nitrogen trichloride to give a whiter and larger loaf, has been a general practise in Britain for more than 25 years. Discontinuance of the process was recommended last year by a joint committee of the Ministries of Health and Food. At the time, however, it was declared that agensation had no harmful effects on human beings.

The Poet's Corner

THE GAFFER'S SONG

A sudden wakin', a sudden weepin'; A l'il suckin', a l'il sleepin'; A cheel's full joys and a cheel's short sorrows, W' a power o' faith in gert tomorrows.

Young blood red-hot an' the love of a maid; Wan glorious hour as'll never fade; Then shadows an' sunshine an' triumphs an' tears Pile the gatharin' weight o' the flyin' years.

Now auld man's talk o' the days behind me; My darter's youngest darter to mind me; A l'il dreamin', a l'il dyin'. A l'il low corner o' airth to lie in. —Eden Phillipotts.

New Postage Stamps Issued For Centennial

The Hon. G. Edouard Rinfret, Postmaster General, has released photographs of the four postage stamps, previously announced, that will be issued to commemorate the centennial of the transfer of the administration of the postal service to British North America.

On July 28th, 1849, an Act was passed by the British Government empowering the colonies and provinces of British North America to establish independent postal systems. The Province of Canada was the first to take advantage of this authority and the necessary provincial legislation was passed transferring control of the postal system to its own Government effective the 6th April 1851. On 23rd April 1851, the Province of Canada was the first Province or Colony of British North America to issue its own postage stamps, the first stamp issued being the "Three Penny Beaver".

The four special postage stamps being issued to commemorate this event will be released on the 24th September of this year, a date that will coincide with the holding of the great International Philatelic Exhibition in Toronto. This exhibition is being organized by a private group, the Canadian Association for Philatelic Exhibitions, of which the Postmaster General is the Honorary President.

One of the four stamps being issued will be a 15c denomination that will bear as its central motif a miniature reproduction of the original "Three Penny Beaver". The original stamp reproduced on this 15c denomination was designed by Sir Sandford Fleming. This will be the first occasion that the Post Office Department has issued a postage stamp of a 15c denomination since 1908. It is anticipated that this new stamp will be found to be convenient for the prepayment of the postage or airmail letters addressed to the United Kingdom, Ireland and Europe. The colour of this stamp will be a shade of red that approximates the first colour used in the printing of the original three penny stamp of 1851.

The other three new stamps, a 4c, 5c, and 7c, will display contrasts in the means of transportation used to convey the mails in 1851 and those used today. The 4c stamp displays an old-fashioned wood burning steam engine and train that was in operation on the Bytown and Prescott Railway in 1851. The modern train appearing in the upper half of this stamp is a composite of the first streamlined diesel electric locomotive manufactured in Canada at the Montreal Locomotive Works in April, 1950, for the Canadian National Railways, and also of a train in regular passenger service on the Canadian Pacific Railway between Montreal and Vermont.

The 5c postage stamp will display a reproduction of the side-paddle wheel steamship "City of Toronto". This reproduction is displayed through the courtesy of the Canada Steamship Lines, Limited, from a drawing by Mr. G. A. Cuthbertson. This steamship was built at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Upper Canada, for the Royal Mail Line for service between Lake Ontario ports and Prescott on the St. Lawrence River. In the upper half of this stamp, there appears a reproduction of the Canadian National Steamship "Prince George". This steamship was built in Victoria, B. C., and is operated by the Canadian National Steamships from Vancouver, B. C. to Alaska.

The 7c postage stamp displays in the lower half of the stamp a stagecoach of the period of 1851 passing before Jordan's York Hotel, King Street, East, York, Upper Canada. The legislature met in this hotel in York, (now Toronto), in 1814. In the upper half of this stamp appears a reproduction of a modern Canadian built "North Star" type of airplane as used by the Trans-Canada Airlines for the transportation of mails.

The 4c, 5c and 7c postage stamps will be large size, horizontal stamps, issued in panes of 50 stamps. The colours will be black, purple and blue, respectively. The 15c denomination will be of small size, horizontal design, issued in panes of 100 stamps. The first day of issue covers of these new stamps will be handled by the Canadian Association for Philatelic Exhibitions at 70 Bloor St. W., Toronto. This Association will publicize full details describing the first day cover service that will be provided.

The Age-Old Story

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

A Song To Remember



Origin And Growth Of North Atlantic Treaty

by W. N. Ewer

April 4th was the second anniversary of the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty. It so happened that a few days before, Gromyko had said in Paris that the treaty should be listed in the agenda for the Foreign Ministers Conference as one of the causes of existing international tension.

Now, that really is to put the cart before the horse. Causes precede effects. They do not follow them. And it is a matter of history that the international tension which troubles the world today existed long before the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty in April, 1949.

One may take it, on Soviet evidence, that 1947 was the decisive year. Certainly, in October, 1946, Stalin said in an interview that there was no "increasing tension" between the Soviet Union and the U. S. A. Certainly, in October, 1947, Zhdanov proclaimed at the foundation meeting of the Cominform "the struggle is between imperialism and anti-imperialist camps."

So that the "struggle" was officially declared in 1947. The Atlantic Pact was signed in 1949. The second can hardly have caused the first.

Western rearmament came later than even the signing of the pact. In 1946, it was only the Soviet Union which was already strengthening its forces. "We must strengthen the fighting power of the Red Army," Stalin announced in the order of the day of February 22nd, 1946. "We must raise still more the military might of the Soviet State." In August, he issued new regulations designed to "safeguard the further growth of the might of the Soviet Armed Forces."

This was the year in which the British Army was cut from 682,000 men to 388,000. The total defence estimates were cut from £1,200,000,000 to £900,000,000, and by 1948, they were down to just over \$750,000,000.

It was only then, only after the Soviet Union had announced and proved by its acts that it regarded itself as engaged in a "struggle" with the Western Democracies and that it was increasing the "military might" of Soviet States, that this country and the other Atlantic countries reluctantly decided that they must organize and strengthen their own defences. They could not afford to ignore the fact that on Stalin's own evidence, Russia had not only a "mighty" army on her own territory, but forty divisions in Europe outside her own borders.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

PIONEER'S OBITUARY "Died at Murray Harbour Road, on the 30th ult., Mr. Norman McPherson, at the ripe age of 102 years. He emigrated to this Island about 40 years ago, having served His Majesty George III in the 70th Highland Regiment for 16 years previous to the battle of Waterloo." —The Islander, March 5, 1960.

planning stage to the operative stage. The machinery is in existence. It is being overhauled and "streamlined." But it is already working.

On April 2nd, General Eisenhower was able to announce that "the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Powers in Europe (SHAPE) is activated as the headquarters of the Allied Command in Europe." The force which General Eisenhower commands at the moment is a nucleus which will now expand very rapidly. In the last six months most of the member states of NATO have increased their terms of military service. They have stepped up their defence budgets from a total of something like \$20,000,000 a year to nearly \$60,000,000 dollars. These money sums are being rapidly translated into trained troops and modern equipment.

Even a year ago NATO was hardly more than a blueprint. Today, it is swiftly becoming a very formidable military reality. But only now. To suggest, as Gromyko and his Government suggest, that the armed force of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is a cause of tension between the great powers, is indeed putting the cart before the horse. The one is only now coming into existence; the other has been there for years. It was the coup in Czechoslovakia which was the immediate cause of the making of the treaty; the aggression in Korea which was the immediate cause of its current translation into a formidable reality. But behind those again was all that Soviet policy which is summed up in Zhdanov's proclamation of his intention five years ago to "raise still more the military might of the Soviet State."

Return Of Capital Punishment

(Telegraph-Journal) Again the question of capital punishment for crime has come to the fore, this time in New Zealand. Ten years ago its parliament abandoned capital punishment. Murders increased. In seven years after abolition there were eighty-seven killings as compared with 54 in the seven years just before the change was made.

While it was remembered that the period under review was in wartime, or post-war, and that conditions were not stable and crime was flaring up everywhere still it was felt in New Zealand that this alone did not account for the increase in murders. It was adjudged that, fear of the gallows or the electric chair being removed, the potential slayer had less to deter him. At any rate, the convicted slayer in that country now will pay with his life for the life of another; capital punishment has been restored to the statutes. The New York disclosures of the fiendish operations of "Murder Incorporated"; the continued gang slayings and the many current news reports of killing in grim settlements of dispute between man and his neighbor will not strengthen the hands of those in the United States who are inclined to oppose the official taking of life. We in Canada are less afflicted in the matter of crimes of violence, but we should not let ourselves be lulled. We have good reason to

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Notes By The Way

Vice-Admiral The Mackintosh of Mackintosh, chief of the Gaelic Society of Inverness, said at the 80th anniversary dinner of the society it was not generally realized that there were more people of Scottish descent outside Scotland than in it. Canada, with almost one and a half million, had the lion's share he said.—(UK Information Office.)

Short sentences, like short words, strengthen our writing. The average written sentence in Queen Elizabeth's day ran to about 45 words; the Victorian sentence to 29; ours to 20 and fewer. Good writing is not achieved by rules and devices. It is an art to be practised. To wait for inspiration is fatally inefficient, although it is a common-enough ailment. The secret of success is solid daily practice. Armed with a few ideas; a genuine concern and interest in our readers; a reverence for and knowledge of our language; a background, constantly expanding, of good reading; we shall be well equipped.—(Royal Bank Letter.)

It is not so long ago that "Dollar Wheat" was the magic formula that promised to solve all Western problems. Now the magic formula is in the process of becoming "Two Dollar Wheat." The new formula appears at several points in the Western farmers' unions' brief which has been presented at Ottawa this week. The brief demands \$2 wheat in its recommendation of a special price policy for grain sold for consumption in Canada. It appears again in the discussion of the United Kingdom wheat agreement. The recommendation for a special domestic pricing policy put a \$2 floor under the price of wheat. If prices of other commodities rise, the price of wheat will be raised in sympathy. But if other prices fall, wheat remains at \$2 a bushel. The \$2 figure enters the discussion of the British wheat agreement through the demand for a final payment of 25 cents a bushel on the wheat that went through the pool. Since the farmers have had about \$1.75 a bushel out of the pool, the proposed final payment would bring the price up to \$2 for grain sold over the last five years.—Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

reflect seriously on the change of attitude in New Zealand, a decision born of disturbing experience.

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