

THE GUARDIAN

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Rural Youth Day

Calf Clubs, Poultry Clubs, Grain Clubs and Sewing Clubs will participate prominently in the Rural Youth Fair activities at the Exhibition grounds today. Great interest was taken in the inauguration of this Fair last year, and the programme on the present occasion has been enlarged to include many interesting features.

This movement represents a new approach to the problem of retaining the younger generation on the farms, where their services are so vitally important, and where every encouragement should be given to initiative and enterprise. Here, as in other Provinces, we are feeling the adverse effects of farm depopulation. One redeeming feature of this situation, however, is indicated in Dr. Lattimer's economic survey of the Province in 1944. The type of farm vacant or abandoned, he points out, is revealed to some degree by its value. Occupied farms in this Province are nearly five times as valuable as those vacated. "The vacant farms are a proof positive that the business is fairly efficiently carried on. It is proof that the competition is keen and by no means all are able to continue in the business. In fact if and when there are no vacant or abandoned farms, the inference might well be that the business was neither efficient nor competitive."

This is a somewhat controversial statement, but at least it emphasizes the importance of such events as today's Rural Youth Fair in which the promotion of higher efficiency and keener interest in, and knowledge of, livestock breeding and other farm activities is the chief objective. Those participating in today's events will be our farm leaders in the future. Some of them are already attaining that status and their younger associates are being inspired to greater endeavour by their example. This is the sort of contest in which everyone wins,—the prizes, however valuable in themselves, being of less importance than the effort put forth in competing for them. So in advance we may congratulate all today's youthful competitors, and predict for them substantial success in their honored occupation.

The Housing Problem

Charlottetown, like other cities, has felt the impact of the housing problem, though perhaps to a lesser degree than the large industrial centres. This problem is highlighted in the current issue of the Community Planning Review as the most baffling and serious one facing the Canadian people. Since the war 500,000 new housing units have been erected in the Dominion; but this has not been enough to keep pace with the country's increasing number of families. Further, after reaching a height of nearly 92,000 in 1950, the annual total began to fall off. In 1951 it was back to 75,000 and this year 55,000 to 60,000 looks like the best that can be expected.

This situation, it is claimed, is not due to any lack of manpower or building materials. According to Mr. D. B. Mansur, president of the Government's Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, there are two main obstacles, in addition to the rising cost of construction. One of these has to do with the financing of home purchases: the requirement by Government regulation of a substantial down payment, the increase in the borrower's interest rate to 5 per cent under the National Housing Act and to 6 or 6 1/2 per cent for straight loans from the lending institutions, and finally the shortage of mortgage funds. The other obstacle is the lack of "serviced" land, that is, land equipped with roads, water mains, and sewers. What was available earlier has been used up and the cost of furnishing these services at today's prices comes high. It is estimated that, including schools, it amounts to \$2,000 per home.

Loans on a 75-25 per cent basis with the provinces are, it is true, available from the Federal Government to meet the capital cost of serviced land projects. But such loans, however favorable the terms, have to be paid back and this is an additional burden on the purchaser. Further, the National Housing Act makes no contribution to the cost of building new schools, which must be financed by municipal governments. Provincial and municipal authorities feel hesitation in initiating real estate development, which traditionally has been left to private enterprise and consequently is outside the experience of the

various officials and public bodies concerned.

The most pressing phase of the problem is the shortage of rental housing for low-income families. Technical improvements in building methods may effect some improvement in this connection, but it is widely believed by those who have studied the question that subsidized low-rental housing is the only solution. Section 35 of the National Housing Act already authorizes the Federal Government to enter into agreements with provincial governments for low-rental housing and for its part to contribute 75 per cent to the capital costs of operating deficits. "The amazing thing," says the Review article, "is that in spite of the mounting need and the agitation that preceded this progressive enactment so little has been done with it since. Two and a half years have now passed and all we can point to are a few small projects in three or four provinces, still in the planning or construction stage, and two completed projects housing just over 200 families in St. John's, Newfoundland, and Saint John, New Brunswick."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Charlottetown welcomes Maritime members of the Gideons whose bibles have welcomed almost countless hotel guests since the turn of the century.

A drastic decline in roughwood shipments from this Province in August compared with a year ago changed what would have been a satisfactory increase in shipments into a decrease. As far as the Island economy is concerned, however, the slackening of roughwood shipments is also a gain.

A decline of 25,000 in the number of Island horses in recent years was referred to at the Queen's County Plowing Match by Premier Jones. New times bring new methods but many regret seeing the horse being eliminated from farm operations and even to a considerable extent from plowing exhibitions.

Opening day of the Rural Youth Fair. The youthful exhibitors and the Provincial Exhibition Association are to be congratulated on their mutual co-operation. Today's exhibitors will be the strong contenders in future Provincial Exhibitions. In addition the winners here go on to the Royal Winter Fair.

The little known but highly effective work of the business experts of Canada's various provincial governments will be in the national limelight next week during the 4th annual conference of the Provincial Governments' Trade and Industry Council commencing in Southern Ontario Sunday night.

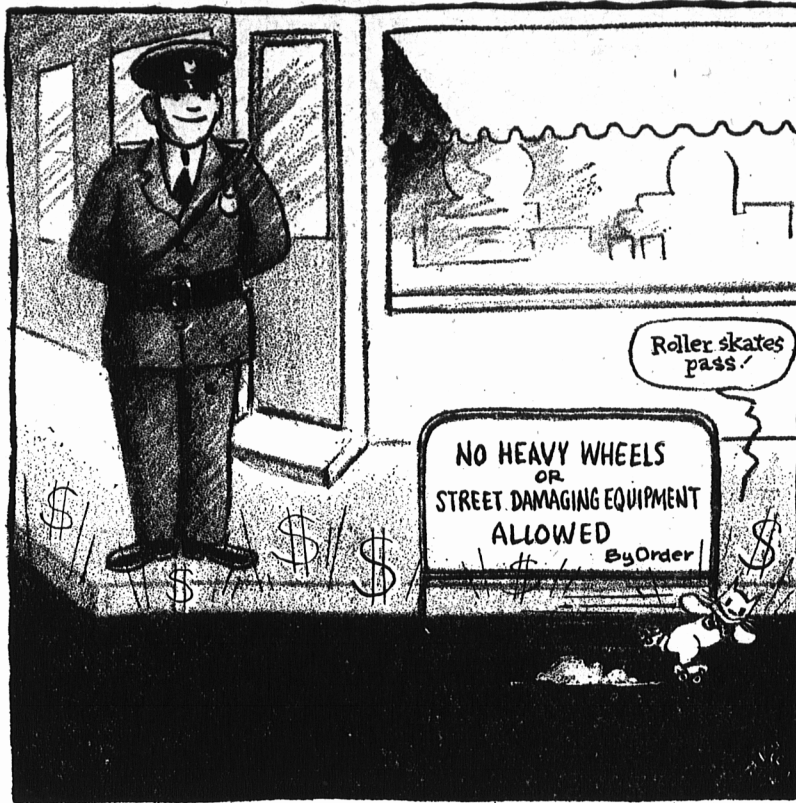
The cost of running the United Nations next year is estimated at \$47,765,200 in Secretary-General Trygve Lie's budget report to the General Assembly which convenes in New York October 14. The 174-page document shows that income for 1953 is estimated at \$6,112,500, leaving a net expenditure of \$41,652,700 for the coming year's operations. It seems little enough compared with the cost of waging war.

Louis Kossuth, Hungarian patriot, was born this date 1802. Of noble but poor family, he practiced law for a time but devoted most of his life to the cause of Hungarian nationalism. He was imprisoned for four years and became a leader of the National movement. He held power briefly and made several later attempts to end Austrian rule. He wrote "Memories of my Exile."

Newfoundland's industrial progress is featured prominently in the current issue of an American magazine, which says that a dozen new industries which will employ 9,000 Newfoundlanders have already been set up. Ten major mining firms have spent about \$3,000,000 exploring the Province this summer, and already Newfoundland's low income is up nearly 300 per cent above the 1939 level.

The General Council of the United Church of Canada has passed a resolution asking for a special committee to draw up a report dissociating the Council from the so-called Canadian Peace Congress and from statements by Dr. James Endicott, former United Church missionary in China who heads the Congress in its pro-Communist propaganda activities. Earlier the General Council, which is meeting this week in Hamilton, defeated a resolution asking that action be taken against ministers and missionaries who support Communism. Non-concurrence in this resolution was reported "by virtue of the fact that a minister of our church cannot be disciplined except by due process of law."

Fine New Streets



Notes By The Way

The Poet's Corner

TO AN AUTHOR Your leaves bound up compact and fair In neat array at length prepare To pass their hour on learning's stage To meet the surly critic's rage: The statesman's slight, the smatterer's sneer— Were these, indeed, your only fear, You might be tranquil and resigned: What most should touch your fluttering mind Is that, few critics will be found To sift your works, and deal the wound. Thus when one fleeting year is past On some bye-shelf your book is cast— Another comes, with something new, And drives you fairly out of view: With some to praise, but more to blame, The mind returns to— whence it came. —Philip Freneau

Damascus Steel

(National Geographic News) Best of its day, steel of the famed Damascus blade that flashed in the sun of Bible lands against the Crusaders of medieval times nevertheless is greatly excelled by the product of modern steelmakers. The Damascus alloy was of iron and carbon, laboriously smelted and as varying in properties as the natural ore, says the National Geographic Society. Modern steel is amalgamated with metals of which the ancients never dreamed, is manufactured in unvarying quality, and surpasses the Damask product in strength, pliability, and willingness to stay sharp. Saracens wielding swords of Damascus successfully barred the road to Jerusalem, goal of the zealous European Christian knights, through all the ancient Crusades. British General Allenby took the Holy City at last in the first World War, in an age when the rifle had replaced the sword.

Steel Came From India The steel of which the early Damascus blades were made—the wootz of Hyderabad, called ordanque by Marco Polo—came from India by dhow and camel caravan to Damascus and other Middle Eastern cities. There it was handwrought into graceful weapons by the armorers of the teeming bazaars.

Thin strips of Indian steel and baser iron were bound together and fused by heating and pounding. Other strips were added; the process was repeated, patiently and without attention to the hour glass, until at last the craftsman was satisfied. Only then did he etch design into the curious watered pattern of the steel, affix the delicately ornamented handle and grind the edge to razor keenness. An armorer's parchment of instructions unearthed in the 19th century at Tyre indicates there may have been grisly performance tests of swords turned out for rulers and high officers. The blade, said the parchment, should be tried against a slave bound to a block, the final criterion being its ability to lop off the head of the unfortunate at one stroke without incurring a nick.

Oldest Inhabited City Damascus, fifty miles from Beirut and the capital of independent Syria, was founded no man knows when and may be the oldest city of earth still inhabited. Always those who lived there have needed good weapons. Its streets have echoed to the conquering tread of Israelites, Assyrians, Macedonians, Egyptians, Romans, Ommlads, Carmathians, Seljuks, the Crusaders, Mongolians, Ottomans, and the French. —One of the armoring industry's chief patrons was the Roman Emperor Diocletian (A.D. 245-313). His craft perished in 1401, but their time's coming.

With fish playing hard to get and small frogs selling at five cents each, a Kitchener angler reports he had unusual luck fishing in one of the Eastern Ontario lakes when he managed to catch three black bass with the same frog. — Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

From lively California comes word of the first mistake of the deer season, a hunter shooting a hog. The error is understandable: To the amateur mindrod the hog and deer look alike; same number of legs.—Ottawa Citizen.

A sentimentalist writes of the coming demise of the inefficient open grates before which generations of Britons "have toasted their cocktails." Did he forget that nearly all the heat produced by the traditional type went up the chimney? — Oitawa Journal.

The announcement by the University of Western Ontario that it plans to open winter university courses in three Northern Ontario universities. Hundreds of students now attending the four "big" colleges in the south—Varsity, Western, McGill and Queen's—come from Northern Ontario, and their travelling expenses are a problem. The south cannot expect to keep the north coming to it forever for its wants. This applies to education as much as anything else. —North Bay Nugget.

Major General Frank Worthington, Canada's civil defence chief, has spoken strongly against overhead wiring in city light and power distribution systems. He is not, he says, considering the matter from a beautification point of view. His concern is directly with the hazards overhead wiring poses in the event of enemy attack or sabotage. General Worthington adds a substantial argument to the case advanced by proponents of underground wiring. With or Tamerlane carried off the smiths. Modern successors of those ancient artisans are gold and silversmiths, and craftsmen who produce inlays of wood, brass and copper.

Fall Voices

(New York Times) We speak of the wind and its voices, but most of the voices are in the trees. And even those voices vary from season to season, almost from month to month. They are speaking now, as the fall winds rise—the winds, not the gales which have, beyond denial, voices all their own. The big oaks speak with a heavy voice, crisp with the crispness of their leaves. And the big maples have a strong voice, with their big leaves rustling and thousands of them. At first listening one would think, there was little difference between the voice of the oaks and that of the maples but stand in an oak grove and listen, then move to a clump of maples. The difference is clear—a softer voice in the maples, with their looser stems and softer leaves. The whisperers, of course, are the members of the willow family, the poplars in particular. The aspens and the cottonwoods whisper in anything but an absolute calm. Give them a breeze and you can hear them afar, fairly chattering, their heart-shaped leaves on long, limber stems, each leaf dancing against a dozen others. The birches come a close second with their whippers, the small gray birches in particular; and as their leaves crisp with September they, too, almost chatter. The evergreens, the pines and the spruces hum rather than speak; and theirs is closest of all to music. But the music of the pines is best heard at night, and best of all on a winter night when their deciduous brothers of the woodland stand stark in the moonlight. One has to listen most closely now to hear them at all, but their time's coming.

The Poles receiving packages from the U.S. are "urged" by customs officials to sell the contents to special shops. Frightened, they invariably comply. Luxury shops, stocked with these Western goods, dot all the main cities in Poland. The customers: Communist officials and high-producing workers. —Newsweek.

It is traditional for English missionaries to be eaten, but Rev. Eric Robinson, a Methodist minister from that country, has suffered a somewhat different fate. The Daily Telegraph, London, reports in a regrettable brief despatch from Colombo that Mr. Robinson "took part in a Hindu fire-walk ceremony in a South Ceylon jungle and is now in a nursing home with blistered feet."—Toronto Globe and Mail.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) VALOUR REWARDED "On Thursday morning over four hundred people of Rustico Parish met in the Bank Hall to witness the honour conferred upon four young men of that locality. On the 22nd of June 1880, Martin Pineau, Solomon Gallant and Maxime Gallant, moved with pity on seeing the distressed condition of the crew of the steamer "Ancilla", wrecked off Rustico Sand Bar, resolved on going to their rescue. A boat had already tried to reach the scene of the disaster, but owing to the violence of the wind and the immense waves which swept everything in their passage, they were compelled to return to shore. Mr. Pineau, seeing the unfortunate crew at the mercy of the waves, and knowing that they seemed doomed to perish in a very short time, if speedy assistance were not offered to them, resolved, in spite of two unsuccessful attempts previously made, to do his utmost to save them. He accordingly set out with three companions, at the risk of their lives, and through his skill and their bravery, succeeded in reaching the schooner and bringing ashore the four men who composed the crew. They had scarcely reached shore when the "Ancilla" became a total wreck. "The master of the schooner, Mr. Walpole, grateful to Mr. Pineau and his companions, informed the Minister of Marine and Fisheries of the bravery of the four liberators of the crew of the "Ancilla", and recommended in the warmest terms this act of bravery to the consideration of the Marine Department in Ottawa. Hon. J. C. Pope, in recognition of the inestimable services of these four brave men, sent them valuable gifts through the Bishop of Charlottetown, and requested His Lordship to present them. "In presenting Mr. Pineau with a silver watch, and his companions with a check for a sum of money, His Lordship complimented the recipients in the highest terms, and expressed the hope that their example would stimulate and foster that noble and self-sacrificing spirit which characterized the good people of Rustico." —The Examiner, Feb. 19, 1881.

The Age-Old Story

Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly. . . . And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

A Day At Downing Street

(Rt. Hon. Clement Attlee in London Calling) Let me now describe a typical day in my life when I was Prime Minister. It is one of the advantages of the office that the Prime Minister lives on the job, at No. 10 Downing Street. I used to see my family at breakfast and after a short walk around the park I was ready to start work at 9.30 a.m. I worked in the Cabinet Room, sitting in the middle of the long table round which my colleagues assembled for Cabinet meetings. This room, lined with books with its window looking out on the garden, has been the scene of many historic decisions since the days of Walpole, the first Prime Minister.

I read the Foreign Office telegrams that had come in during the night. One gets up at reading these quickly. I then dealt with a variety of papers brought to me by a secretary, mostly involving a decision, though some were only for information. At 9.45 a.m. the Chief Whip came in to consult me about some business coming on in the House. I always kept in close touch with the House about the latest exchanges with the Egyptian Government and asked for my views about a diplomatic appointment. We agreed that he had better bring up to Cabinet the position which had arisen over the Occupation Statute in Germany. I took the opportunity of getting his views about the labor situation at home, for he had great experience in the subject though he had no departmental responsibility in this field.

At 10.30 a.m. the Minister of Transport and the Minister of Labor arrived to discuss the trouble in the docks. I decided that it would be premature to declare a state of emergency. The Minister of Fuel and Power brought in a draft of a statement which he was to make in the House after Questions.

At 11 o'clock the Cabinet met. The first business was a report by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. It was the practice for him to give a general survey once a week. There were many interesting points and care had to be taken to prevent the discussion becoming too wide and too lengthy. A vote is hardly ever taken in Cabinet. It is the duty of the Prime Minister to announce what he considers to be the general view if there is a difference of opinion. Generally, Cabinet meetings exhibit the characteristic British genius for compromise. Once a decision has been reached it is the duty of all members of the Government to accept it loyally.

The meeting of the Cabinet was followed by a luncheon party in the big dining room on the first floor. An all-party Parliamentary deputation from a foreign country was paying a visit. My wife and I entertained them and also members of our Parliament—Liberal, Labor, and Conservative. It is one of the features of British political life that there is often warm friendship between political opponents. I made a short extempore speech of welcome.

After lunch I dealt with a few more papers and then went down to the House of Commons for Questions. There were three questions on the Order Paper for me to answer and I had the replies which I had approved in typewritten notes for any supplementary questions which might be asked. I listened to my colleagues making a statement on the coal position. I then made a short speech paying tribute to a distinguished Commonwealth statesman who had died.

After that I listened for half an hour to the opening speech by one of my colleagues on a Government bill, saw two members of Parliament in my room at 11 Downing Street, and returned to Downing Street. I dashed upstairs for a quick cup of tea with my wife.

At 5 o'clock I went to Buckingham Palace and had an hour's talk with the King. He was very well informed and we discussed the foreign situation and a number of other matters. He wanted to know all about the dock dispute. Returning to No. 10 Downing Street I had a meeting of the Defence Committee, over which I presided. Three other Cabinet ministers and the three ministers in charge of the Defence Department, together with the Chiefs of Staff, were present. This is the only committee of which people other than ministers are actually members. We disposed of a number of routine matters and then had a long discussion on the position in the Middle East in which the Foreign Secretary took a prominent part.

There was time for a short talk with the Secretary to the Cabinet on the agenda for the next Cabinet meeting, and with my principal private secretary on future engagements, before going to bed for dinner. My wife and I drove to an embassy for a formal dinner to meet a distinguished foreign statesman. I was placed next to him at dinner, and as he had very little English I had to do the best I could with my rather indifferent French. We had a short private talk after dinner on a question at issue between our two countries.

Just as we were about to leave the embassy I got a message from the Chief Whip saying that there was a bit of trouble at the House. I drove down there and found that a group of our members was dissatisfied with a statement made by the Government spokesman in the debate. I saw two or three of them and managed to satisfy them, so the trouble blew over. At eleven o'clock I voted in the division on the second reading of a Government bill.

Back at No. 10 I found a large accumulation of papers and telegrams to read. There was also an important message from the U.S.A., and I approved the reply proposed by the Foreign Secretary. I then made notes for a speech which I had to make the next day at a luncheon. About midnight I went upstairs and so to bed.

HEALTH MEASURE

Three million chest x-ray examinations were given to Canadians in 1951, an increase of 300,000 over 1950.

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