

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1951

Up To The Electors

The issues in today's Federal contest in Queen's have been fully discussed, and now it is for the electors to pass judgment. The only point on which all the party speakers were in agreement was in urging every voter to get out and exercise his or her franchise. The fact that this is a by-election and not a general election should not deter the voters from performing their duty on this occasion.

In the final analysis, however, it is the electors on whom the onus of this responsibility falls. Rum and money are not the only means of buying votes; patronage and preferment are also potent incentives. The line is sometimes hard to draw, but a good general rule to follow is to put public interests first and foremost, and forget as much as possible one's personal interests.

School Meetings

The annual school meetings will be held throughout the rural districts of the Province tomorrow evening, and emphasis is again placed on the fact that these meetings are extremely important. The several duties of the voters at an annual school meeting are outlined in a letter circulated by the Department of Education.

It is also urged that the payment of teachers' supplements should be made promptly, even if the money has to be borrowed, as the Government salary cannot be paid in full until the returns show the amounts paid by the district. The trustees are also being advised with regard to legislation pertaining to women voters.

First Atlantic Flight

Thirty-two years ago on June 15th, many thousands who had been anxiously waiting to learn the fate of two intrepid airmen who had left St. John's, Newfoundland, the previous day in an attempt to make a non-stop flight across the Atlantic had their fears relieved by a message flashed around the world to the effect that Captain John Alcock and Lieutenant Arthur Whitten Brown had effected a landing at Clifden, Ireland.

"To those who recall the machine in which the flight was made or who have seen it suspended in the Kensington Museum of Engineering where it is preserved, and compare its structure with that of the streamlined powerfully-engined aircraft which today fly on regular schedules and convey passengers back and forth across the greatest distances on the face of the

globe in comfort and safety, it is an unceasing cause of wonder how the flight was successfully accomplished," says the St. John's Telegram. "It stands out as a record of skill, endurance and courage. Of the difficulties and dangers faced, the number who subsequently lost their lives in making the attempt is testimony. "In due course a monument will be erected to these gallant airmen on a site in the western section of St. John's from which they took off. The names of those others, too, who helped to solve the problem involved in Atlantic flights and who brought to world notice the strategic position occupied by Newfoundland as the crossways of the airlines between the Old World and the New will be commemorated in a monument which will be erected at Harbour Grace. It will be a tribute as well to the residents of that town through whose initiative the first airfield in Newfoundland was constructed."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Double train service with the mainland commences today.

In Montreal, a wholesale egg dealer forecasts prices of \$1 a dozen wholesale for eggs later this summer if the price trend continues as at present.

A wartime factory at Altona, near Belfast, will be re-opened by Short Bros. & Harland for the construction of Canberra Jet Bombers.

Korea seems to be witnessing as much of a see-saw struggle as did North Africa. It is assuring to reflect that whatever may have been the cost and peril of the campaign in the Western Desert it certainly did not end in a deadlock.

Disease hitting the swine herds in this country and the United States is a hard blow for stock breeders in the effected areas. This Province, however, is remarkably well situated to take advantage of the situation by providing guaranteed disease-free breeding stock.

The swimming and boating season is upon us. The authorities try to reduce the danger of these activities by appointing life guards but, particularly in this Province of endless miles of beach, the chance of a water-accident victim being revived will largely depend on the presence or absence of a private individual trained in resuscitation.

County organization is practically non-existent in this Province, with the Provincial Government and Legislature assuming much of the work which is done elsewhere on a county level. The amount of that work, however, is rapidly increasing and the day cannot be far distant when a real county, or similar local, government must be set up.

The Lord Mayor of London, Alderman Denys Lowson, who has a farm in the vicinity of Haywards Heath, England, has been convicted of selling milk containing less than three per cent fat. He pleaded innocent, but was found guilty and was discharged on payment of costs. Counsel for Alderman Lowson said somebody else's act or default had caused contravention of the law.

George IV, the eldest son of George III, died this date 1830. As Prince of Wales he showed little but levity and profligacy, and on his accession to the throne (1820) the Queen Caroline trial destroyed his few remaining shreds of reputation. Nevertheless his reign saw great progress, England becoming a great power on the Continent, the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts and Roman Catholic emancipation.

Swine breeders, evidently, will be faced with temporary embargoes in selling their produce to the States. The American Veterinary Medical Association say that if infections atrophic rhinitis spreads new purchases from abroad "should be kept in quarantine for a few weeks. Sows and their pigs should be earmarked identically so the trouble can be traced back if it shows up." It looks like the adoption of potato importation regulations to live stock.

According to The Gazette, store employees away back in the Eighties had ideal times. Samples: "Store must be swept, counters, shelves and showcases dusted, lamps trimmed and filled and chimneys cleaned, pens made, doors and windows opened, a pail of water and a bucket of coal brought in before breakfast. (If there is time to do so, attend to customers who call.) Each employee must pay not less than \$5 per year to the church and must attend Sunday School regularly. Men employees are given one evening a week for courting, two if they go to prayer meeting. After 14 hours in the store, the leisure hours should be spent for the most part in reading." And that was the rock out of which present day business was hewn.



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.

DAIRY PROTECTION NEEDED

Sir,—This reader is only in the dairy farming business to the extent of being a perennial consumer of this "precious stuff" which comes in from the farms—and keeps the roses in the cheeks of a "We Are Seven" urban family. Nevertheless, this contact with the butter vs. margarine controversy is sufficient to induce me to say that I cordially approve the following principle, which I observed in a news item from Ottawa, intimating that "Three representatives from farming communities in Western Canada today protested the low tariffs on oils imported for use in the manufacture of margarine." (CP).

I would like, specifically, to support the view expressed by George Cruikshank (L-Fraser Valley) to the effect that if the Government would remove the tariffs on all imports required by the dairy industry, he would have no objection to margarine oils being imported free of duty. There are my sentiments exactly. Only a few months back, I recall a powerful demand from the automobile industry beamed at Parliament Hill, because too many of those smart British small cars were entering the Canadian market and, reportedly, endangering the take-home-pay of thousands of workers engaged in building \$500,000,000 worth of cars and trucks annually. I am not aware just what action (if any) grew out of this latter protest; but doubtless: it was given careful consideration?

The farmer, also, could benefit from having his basic industry reasonably protected; rather than, as now, operate the tariff against him—which merely increases his costs? I am, Sir, etc.

A Sorry Episode

(Globe and Mail)

The case of Warrant Officer Harry Albert Read, revealed in the House of Commons on Tuesday by Mr. John Blackmore, is an appalling story of official ineptitude and professional stupidity. According to the data placed before the House, WO Read was injured while making a parachute landing in Sweden after the celebrated raid on the German V-bomb centre at Peenemunde, Germany, in 1944. Mr. Read says that a few months after he had bailed out, his "neck began twitching." The army doctors told him the cause was psychological, and he had repeated examinations by psychiatrists employed by the Department of Veteran Affairs. After more than seven years of pain, growing deformity, and what Mr. Blackmore called "gross indignities," Mr. Read was finally given an X-ray in a Vancouver veterans' hospital recently, and it was discovered that he had had a broken back. He was actually in a very dangerous condition.

During all that time Mr. Read had tried, amid growing difficulties, to earn his living. As might have been expected, he earnestly sought help, and went to various DVA hospitals. But he was always refused a proper medical examination. Mr. Blackmore says that he was several times treated in a very humiliating fashion. The only recognition of his disability was a 15 per cent pension for the presumed psychiatric disturbance. After the publicity, the Pensions Board this week-end raised it to the full amount.

To the lay mind, it would seem the most obvious course to give a complete medical examination, with X-rays, to a man who had had a rough landing in a parachute jump. But once some one jumped to the conclusion that the trouble was mental rather than physical, the professional minds closed. What is least defensible is that each new hospital and each new psychiatrist started with the case record and assumed its validity. Not one of them would begin again at the beginning, with even a routine physical examination. They actually refused to do so, when requested.

The obvious moral of this sorry episode is the danger to the medical profession of over-specialization. Psychiatry has its place, but the pontifical diagnoses of too many psychiatrists are the cause of much unnecessary human suffering. What might have saved Mr. Read his long ordeal is that old-fashioned institution, the family doctor.

Lord Nelson's Cabin

(London Calling)

One of the Royal Navy's historic treasures is HMCS Victory, the flagship of Lord Nelson. The crowds that come to inspect her at Portsmouth are proof of the fact, and last year nearly a quarter of a million people clambered aboard and walked the decks. Now the cabin once used by the Admiral has been restored, and the newly painted walls and roof form a pleasing background for the furniture that was his up to the time of Trafalgar.

Most people will still come largely to see the place in the cockpit where Nelson died, and to examine the spot where he fell on the deck, but they will stay to see the place where he slept—and to gather that an Admiral's life was not such a bad one after all. Nelson had more room than most Admirals have today. He had a bedroom, a large dining room, an equally large cabin—we would call it a lounge—and two small enclosed promenade decks from which he could survey the Fleet, and if need be the enemy.

All are most comfortably furnished and now most pleasantly redecorated by Lieut. Southcott and Mr. Langford and their thirty Petty Officers and men who look after Victory under the overall command of C-in-C. Portsmouth. All is now as it was with the slight exception of Nelson's sleeping cabin, where his folding bed, his cot, his chair and his toilet cabinet are cut off by a glass screen. There was no glass screen in Nelson's day, there was no glass window in the cabin at all. The wind either blew straight in through a large opening in the bulkhead or it was blocked by a heavy shutter and the room would have been in darkness.

The draught when the window was open was probably responsible

The Poet's Corner

RETURN TO AN ISLAND So summer comes and we return to summer, Seeking the small island. Finding summer there where we remember. Between the months of June and September, Everything is the same— The daisies on the hill, The quiet eyes of the Islanders, The shock of water like a flame, The tumbled rocks warm with sun, The main street with the bridge at one end Where the fishermen meet, And at day's end the long sunsets Waking the sky as the swallows gather. As the gulls cry, and slowly the coming of night, Intimate with stars... always the sound of water. The pools emptying and filling, The headlands white with foam, An always the sense of quiet, The sense of home.

—Sara Van Alstyne Allen.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

FINE TABLECLOTHS "Mr. James Thomson, of Trvon, has manufactured a table-cloth eight yards long, and of proportionate width, in which is exhibited a very considerable degree of skill, both as regards workmanship and design. It has been presented to the Lieutenant Governor, as a kind of heirloom to Government House, to be used upon occasions when His Excellency entertains the two Houses of the Legislature. The cloth was exhibited to the two Houses on Wednesday last, and was much admired. Mr. Thomson has also presented the Lieutenant Governor with a table-cloth of superior workmanship and fabric, for his domestic use. The material of these table-cloths was grown upon Mr. Thomson's own farm, and underwent the whole process of preparation and completion by his own and his industrious household's hands." —Colonial Herald, April 18, 1840.

What You Should Know About Backaches

Backaches are second only to headaches as a source of bodily misery. Of the many different kinds of back troubles (ruptured discs, sacro-iliacs, slipped vertebrae, wrenched muscles, etc.), most are self-inflicted and can be avoided.

July Reader's Digest brings you an authoritative report on how most common back injuries happen—how new medical treatments help doctors cure them—simple rules you should follow to prevent them.

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Notes By The Way

Consciously or unconsciously, a good many Americans are putting China ahead of Korea. They are bent on remaking China. It would be fine to have China freed from the Reds. But for an outside power to undertake the job by force is a very dubious enterprise both militarily and morally. That there and insure against a repetition should be the peace aims. Recent victories increase the hope of attaining them.—Christian Science Monitor.

The Alice-in-Wonderland character of the English language is well known to all who have any knowledge of the tongue. "Take, for instance, "bough" and "bow", and then look at "dough" and "bow". "Bow" has two meanings, two pronunciations—and one spelling. Then again, why should a word pronounced off be spelled as "cough"? Or why should one thru be "through" and another "threw"? As the Queen of Hearts herself might have said (had the expression been coined in Lewis Carroll's time) "Search me!"—Branford Reporter.

It is odd that the age of Al Jolson, the late motion picture and radio star, should turn out to be a matter of real importance to the Jolson estate as well as an unending subject of wisecracks. For some years before his death, witicism concerning his age was always good for a laugh. It now turns out that his age can make a difference of \$122,000 to his estate. If he was 64 at death the life insurance payment will be \$400,000; if 70, \$278,000. Jolson was born in Russia and had no birth certificate. Al Jolson's age—a target for puns and coarse humor in his lifetime—has become in death a matter of big business.—(Win-nipeg Free Press).

The census takers who are going the rounds of Canadian communities, inquiring of ages, origins and salaries, have had their counterparts go far back in history to find when such work was first started. In the Scriptures we hear this command: "For the king said to Joab the captain of the host, which was with him, Go now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beersheba, and number ye the people, that I may know the number of the people." Early records of life in Canada have revealed incomes and manners of living almost unbelievable to a generation so far advanced now in material comforts. Accounts of the year 1751 in Prince Edward Island, when Halifax was only three years old show families cherishing farm households which, in some cases, consisted only of a sheep, a couple of hens, or a cow. It is hard to believe that in two centuries such changes could be wrought not only in the conditions, but also in general living conditions. In 1752 Jacques Le Prieux on Isle St. Jean, might not have been regarded as "passing rich" with his one sheep and three hens, but he was hardly any worse off than the majority of his compatriots. What a change in worldly goods will be revealed by his descendants as they meet the census taker almost two centuries later!—(Halifax Herald).

Dr. Malcolm McKenzie of the shade tree laboratories at the University of Massachusetts has issued a timely warning to be the lookout for a new tree disease known as oak wilt. Although no sign of it has yet been reported in Massachusetts, the disease is believed to be moving eastward from the central part of the country. No adequate means of control are known. Telltale signs are a brown discoloration directly beneath the bark and light green, yellow and reddish brown leaves which curl, stiffen and sometimes drop prematurely. These signs are best detected early in the summer. Dr. McKenzie offers to give expert information if specimens from suspected trees are sent to him at the university, in Amherst. This matter calls for co-operation by the public. Don't take a chance on losing our beautiful shade trees.—Boston Post.

LONDON, June 22.—(Reuters)—Two 40-seater British Overseas Airways Argonauts will be diverted from normal routes Sunday and Monday and placed at the disposal of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company for the withdrawal of British families from Abadan.

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