

THE GUARDIAN

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Editor and Managing Director, J. R. Burnett, associate editor, Frank Walker. 'The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink'.

CHARLOTTETOWN, SATURDAY, SEPT. 8, 1951

Pension Taxation

The latest rumour circulating at Ottawa—according to a Winnipeg Free Press correspondent who is pretty well posted on such matters—is that the Liberal Party strategists plan a national convention in the summer of 1952 followed by a general election in the fall.

Be that as it may, the Government in the meantime will have a gargantuan task in equalizing tax payments under its pensions scheme. If it chooses to follow strictly and literally the Joint House-Senate Committee's recommendations of a "contributory system" it would require the setting up of some system of individual contracts with compulsory premium payments.

Government tax plans under discussion briefly epitomized, are:

(1) Increase the 10 per cent sales tax to 12 per cent and earmark 4 per cent for pensions. Estimated 1952 revenue about \$300 millions.

(2) Impose special separate income tax of 4 per cent with exemptions lowered to \$750 single, \$1,500 married. Would raise about \$322 millions.

(3) Deduct percentage of earnings from payrolls of some 5,200,000 employed to produce \$375 millions. Labor unions warn they will advance wage raise demands to equalize such taxes.

The validity of their threat resides in the fact that persons of small means have very limited savings capacity. Even a 2 per cent tax would take all their potential savings. If they die before 70, no part of the savings they have paid in taxes go to their survivors or estates.

Ouch

Nearest approximation to the "agony columns" of "The Times" of London to be found on this continent is the "personals" in that erudite weekly, "The Saturday Review of Literature".

"Very continental, slightly Victorian, bit conservative, but otherwise considered broadminded, witty, entertaining foreign gentleman, would enjoy exchanging correspondence with lady of similar tastes. Perfect English, knows North American ways. Good mixer, loves people, though doesn't dance. Good talker, but good listener too. Loves the Big City but also the mountains and seas. Hates radio, abhors television.

Maybe some of our readers can suggest a solution for this "entertaining" foreign gentleman, who, presumably, resides in or about New York City. His case is a tough one to crack. Since he abhors television, on that count alone he'd probably be happy enough in Charlottetown for quite a while to come. He'd find good conversation here. Nor could he complain that the fair sex

in the Garden of the Gulf lack chic or savoir vivre.

Chances are, however, that he mightn't find us to his taste on some other counts. Indeed, it would be pretty difficult to meet his specifications anywhere. Unless, perchance, he might find his soulmate in the cloistered environment of the National Film Board in Ottawa.

More And More Costly

It is the toll in human lives, of course, which renders so urgent the warning issued by the Attorney General with regard to highway accidents in this Province. But there is another factor, of lesser but still important consequences to every car owner. This is the fact that the modern car has become progressively a much more expensive piece of machinery to repair.

The effect, as noted in an Ottawa exchange, is to put up the cost of collecting insurance until it becomes almost prohibitive. Rates for this type of coverage have risen sharply in recent years, much more so than those for public liability and property damage. There will have to be a marked change in the attitude of the general driving public toward ordinary rules of safety before this upward trend of car insurance costs is reversed.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, the 16th Sunday after Trinity.

A useful calendar of events for September-December has been prepared and issued by the Publicity Bureau.

The Federation of Agriculture expects to see some fruit of their labours soon in a substantial increase in the market price of potatoes. It is organization that largely counts in attaining such results.

Emile Gaboreau, French writer of detective novels, died this date 1873. He wrote, "L'Affair Lerouge", "Le Crime d'Orival", "Monsieur Lecoq", "Les Esclaves de Paris", "La Vie infernale", "L'Argent des autres" and other works.

The prospects are there will be a meeting of the Legislature in November to consider the introduction of old age pensions at \$40 to those between 65 and 69 years of age.

When the wind is in the south or south-east we are pretty certain here to have warmth accompanied by rain. The best air for us is North-West, which, by the way, is the prevailing wind all the year.

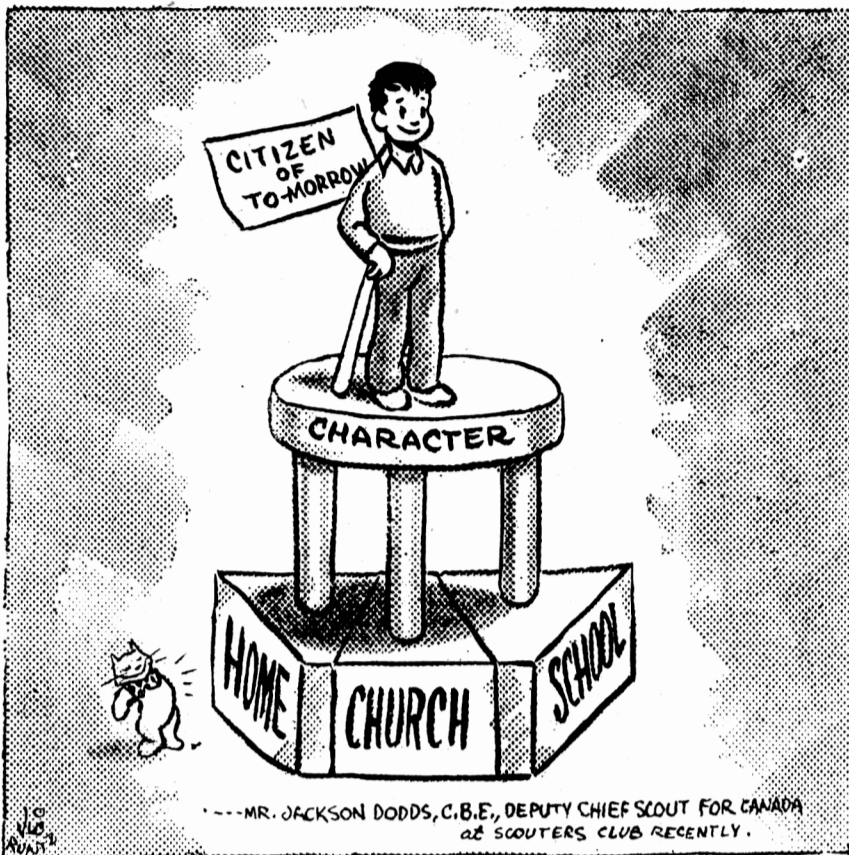
Britain has appointed a Royal Commission to examine the law on marriage and divorce. Chairman of the 19 member commission (of whom 7 are women) will be Lord Morton of Henryton, leading legal expert and former Lord Justice of Appeal.

The Azore Islands, belonging to Portugal, have long been the half-way calling ports for shipping between Europe and the West Indies. The treaty now signed between Portugal and the U. S. A. linking the Islands into the chain of North Atlantic defence, means that the Western powers have now practical control of the Atlantic from the English Channel to both North and South America.

As pointed out in the Federation of Agriculture notes yesterday, feed and potato bags are made from burlap, a product of jute, which is practically all grown in Pakistan and processed in India. The jute industry has been dislocated by the disputes between these two countries. Now, however, a large-scale experiment for producing jute in British Guiana has been announced and is expected to get under way shortly.

Mr. Anthony Eden, former British Foreign Secretary told a Press conference in New York that he thought at the time Britain recognized Communist China she was making a mistake, but he questioned the value of breaking off diplomatic relations now. "Do you think it was a mistake to recognize, and do you think it would be a good idea now to break off diplomatic relations?" a newspaper man asked. "I don't think you'll get very much out of that, either one way or the other," Eden replied. "It needn't make the slightest difference." "I think (he continued) East-West trade should be continued subject to careful regulation that you don't build up the war potential. Otherwise, if we stop it, it puts a still heavier burden on the economics of the free countries."

How Firm The Foundation?



MR. JACKSON DODDS, C.B.E., DEPUTY CHIEF SCOUT FOR CANADA AS SCOUTERS CLUB RECENTLY.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

PRINCE EDWARD FIRE COMPANY

"As the result of a meeting of the inhabitants of this town, held at the Town Hall on the 18th ultimo, a Society has been formed in Charlottetown to be designated the Prince Edward Fire Company. T. B. Tremaine, Esq., occupied the chair. At a subsequent meeting the rules and regulations governing the Society were adopted, and the following officers elected: E. L. Lydiard, Esq., president; Hon. Charles Young, vice-president; Mr. George W. Owen, secretary.

"The Company is to be confined to fifty acting members, exclusive of the honorary members. Each member, on his admission, is to pay a fee of three shillings, and 1s. 6d. at each quarterly meeting, in aid of the funds; and is, within one month after his admission, to provide himself, at his own expense, with one good leather bucket, strong and well made, to contain not less than three gallons of water; also with two bags, each of one yard and a quarter in length, to be made of canvas, having strings fixed in order to close them when filled, together with a belt and strap to carry the bags; and likewise a black South-wester, with the name of the Company painted thereon.

"The hats, buckets and bags are to be kept in good order, and hung in a convenient place in the dwelling houses of the members of the Company, and not to be used or removed on any pretext whatever, except on alarm of fire. The object of the Company in appointing a committee of its members to solicit subscriptions from the inhabitants of the town, is for the purpose of raising a sum sufficient to purchase a number of buckets, lanterns and bed keys, as well as to defray a number of other incidental expenses."

"The Islander, June 8, 1849. Charter members of the Company, in addition to those above named, were Messrs. John Ings, Charles Palmer, Joseph MacDonald, John Morris, Watson Duchemin, A. H. Yates, W. H. Hobkirk, John Williams, James R. Watt, William Brown, F. W. Moore, James Desbrisay, Artemus Davison, George Moore, John Trenaman, John Andrew MacDonald, William B. Dawson, C. Bings, William Barnstead, John Archibald MacDonald, H. Hazard, Mark Butcher, Kenneth MacKenzie, Daniel Hodgson, Captain Orlebar, T. Heath Haviland.

The Poet's Corner

INSCRIPTION FOR A BED

The wind's on the wold And the night is a-cold, And Thames runs chill 'Twill mead and hill. But kind and dear Is the old house here And my heart is warm 'Midst winter's harm. Rest then and rest, And think of the best 'Twill summer and spring When all birds sing In the town of the tree. And ye lie in me And scare dare move Lest the earth and its love Should fade away Ere the full of the day. I am old and have seen Many things that have been Both grief and peace And wane and increase. No tale I tell Of ill or well But this I say: 'Twill treadeth on day, And for worst or best Right good is rest.

—William Morris.

MOSTLY ARABS Arabs predominate on the coasts of Kenya Colony and the Kenya protectorate in Eastern Equatorial Africa.

Blight-Resistant Potatoes

(Saint John Telegraph-Journal)

An outbreak of potato blight which became severe in Ontario and New York State in mid-summer has swept eastward and is now fairly general in Quebec, the Maritime Provinces and Maine, where a substantial proportion of North America's potatoes is grown. How seriously this will affect the fall harvest is not yet known. But, as sometimes happens with setbacks, there is at least one redeeming feature about the epidemic. It is providing a rigorous field test for the two new varieties of blight-resistant potatoes—"Keswick" and "Canso"—which were developed by the Dominion Experimental Station at Fredericton over a period extending back to 1933.

These types, unfortunately, were not evolved soon enough to enable New Brunswick to ignore this year's blight prevalence. Altogether, only 10,000 bushels of Keswick and Canso seed stock could be distributed, because that was all there was available. One hundred and fourteen New Brunswick farmers have plots of these varieties, ranging from a quarter of an acre to five acres, for a total of 130 acres (as contrasted with 45,300 acres planted with the regular types such as Green Mountains and Irish Cobblers).

It is encouraging to learn that, so far at least, the Keswick and Canso fields are unaffected by the current blight. Next year these types will go into commercial production. The day is coming when blight will be a negligible factor in potato growing.

Actually, under extreme laboratory tests scientists have been able to infect the two varieties with a slight spot of blight; but it didn't spread and injure the plant. The Canadian blight-resistant potatoes are evidently even more effective in this respect than the "Kennebec" variety developed by United States researchers. Despatches from Augusta say that about 10,000 acres of Kennebecs are being grown in Maine this year, and that so far they have been free of blight. Under laboratory conditions, however, blight has been induced to spread on the Kennebecs.

Russia And The Treaty Conference

(By W. N. Ewer)

The proposals which Mr. Gromyko is taking with him to San Francisco to put before the Japanese Peace Treaty Conference will only be revealed when he chooses to reveal them this week. That is a habit of Soviet diplomacy. As in so many other ways, the technique of war is applied to politics. The Kremlin believes in secrecy and surprise. It does not believe in having its plans discussed in advance either by its own people or by anybody else. They are, until

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.

A. A.'S THE SAME

Sir,—Last week we considered the matter of laying hold on Eternal Life, or getting a treasure that goes by many names, such as Wisdom, the Pearl of Great Price, faith in God and so forth. It really means allowing "self" as the directing force in our lives to be removed to make room for the rightful owner of our souls and bodies.

As we grow up we naturally think that we know how to act

the selected moment, jealously guarded State secrets.

But Gromyko, when he landed in New York with a retinue of 30 officials, did give just a slight indication of the general character of the Soviet proposals. He hopes that they will be supported especially by those countries who suffered most from Japanese aggression. That looks as if his government, seeking for opportunities to arouse opposition and to create dissension, is going to direct its attention principally to countries which, like Indonesia and the Philippines, find the draft treaty too "soft," especially in the matter of reparations. There will be support for such a thesis from Burma, which has refused to attend the conference precisely on those grounds; and, of course, from China, the greatest sufferer of all.

But not it should be noted, from India. There is a very prevalent idea that India's decision not to attend the conference is that the draft does not sufficiently concede to Japan a position of honour, equality and contentment among the community of free nations—in other words, that it is not lenient enough. And, on the specific question of reparations, India has already announced her willingness to waive all claims. There is a vast gap between that and the sort of proposals at which Gromyko seems to be hinting.

The Age-Old Story

I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

YOUR POSSESSIONS

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Notes By The Way

One important reason the U. S. is reluctant to move its defence line in Korea back to the 38th Parallel is the presence of a major tungsten mine in the disputed area. Korea was at one point a major supplier of this vital super-hard metal, essential in making machine tools, electronics equipment, and jet engines. A critical shortage of tungsten is currently slowing the U. S. defence program.—Newsweek.

British witches, flying to a new haven set up for them on the Isle of Man, will go by plane instead of broomstick. Thus far has modern science outdone sorcery. That witchcraft is practised in England is maintained by Cecil M. Williamson who is a motion picture director by profession and a student of the ancient cult by hobby. There are said to be both men and women members and many of these will take advantage of the retreat which this benefactor has set up on the island. The jaunt will be in the nature of a summer holiday, as there isn't another witches' sabbath until Hallowe'en. A magic circle is being constructed on the island, to measurements set down by the late Dr. Dee, private sorcerer to Queen Elizabeth, and members of the sect will endow it with the necessary power.—London Free Press.

and can manage our own lives. This presumptuous attitude leads us into mistakes that can never be undone. Every habit is always a virtue or a vice. And in trying to captain our own ship, there is always one particular weakness which will sink the craft unless repaired.

In the case of the rum addict, he feels his chains tightening and vainly struggles against the tide. Not until he loses faith in himself can he "let go and let God", or in other words, say—I give up the wheel to some "higher power". This is using our God-given "free will"—hearing the Divine challenge, and opening the door. At this stage the Pilot steps on board and we can simply relax and feel safe and secure.

I met a man on the city street, that I had not seen for two years. It was easy to see by his face, tone of voice and confidence that he had the secret. No matter what our problem is, the same remedy is needed. Some wives attend the A.A. meetings with their husbands, knowing they are slaves to something else if not to liquor. It might be impatience or poor housekeeping. But they go through the 12 steps as well. I understand that an alcoholic is saved in a great measure by going after the other fellow. We need discipline.

One repeated me his morning prayer: "Oh God! Keep me this one more day from alcohol," being the first petition. We have a chance to learn much from the A.A.'s, namely this, that they feel the need and practice meeting together, none acting the "lone wolf." In this they can plan together to give each man his job. What a lesson to every religious group.

I am, Sir, etc. ARCH. MACKENZIE, Kensington.

At Wairion, a posse is out pursuing a sports-minded printer. At a funeral service "the favorite hymn of the deceased" was sung and it came out in the local paper as "The Old Rugged Lacrosse" —Ottawa Citizen.

A medical columnist says you don't have to sleep on your back, to snore. Perhaps not, but for tonal effect and wider broadcasting range it's considered the best posture.—Ottawa Citizen.

The Turkish National Assembly has passed a bill to abolish the State Seaways Administration and transfer state-administered shipping activities to a corporation created for the purpose, the new Denizlik Bankasi (chartered for 99 years, with a capital of nearly \$777,000,000, of which 51 per cent will be subscribed by the government and the balance by private investors and organizations). This latest move has been received in Turkish press and financial circles as proof of the government's determination to carry through its program of assisting private capital to take over businesses formerly operated by the state.—News From Turkey.

The Joneses are the people you try to keep up with. So did your parents. But in your parents' day the Joneses were simple people compared to what they are now. Modern invention has raised the status of the Joneses and made keeping up with them a complicated problem. The Joneses have a radio and phonograph with long-playing records combined. It isn't enough for the Joneses to have an electric refrigerator and washing machine. They have got a deep freeze, automatic ironer, electric drier and a dishwasher as well. Modern invention and technological progress are great things. But how much more welcome they would be if each one did not increase the distance you will have to cover if you want to keep up with the Joneses.—Vancouver News-Herald.

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