

THE GUARDIAN

Published every week-day morning at 136 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P.E.I., by The Thomson Company Limited... "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

No Curriculum

In speculating on the "summit" meeting which is only about a month away, Mr. Dulles, the United States Secretary of State, has said that certain specific matters having to do with the Soviet satellite States should come up for discussion.

Whatever virtue or whatever praise there may be in Mr. Dulles' pre-conference disposition, and regardless of the right or wrong of the Soviet reaction to it, it is interesting to recall that Sir Winston Churchill, in introducing the summit idea to the world, did not relate it to any specific problem.

Whether or not that remains the feeling of Prime Minister Eden is not exactly clear from anything he has said on the subject in recent weeks. It is noticeable however, and perhaps significant, that, unlike the United States State Department, the British Foreign Office has not come out with any hard and fast curriculum for the impending meeting.

No Cure-All

The House of Commons has before it the unanimous report of a special group which would limit members' speeches in commons to 30 minutes instead of the present 40, restrict debate on the Speech from the Throne to 10 sitting days and the Budget Debate to eight days.

Whether or not the House adopts this report, says the Ottawa Journal, the trend of thinking obviously is towards hastening work in the House. That of course is desirable but let it never be suggested that speed is more important than proper conduct of the public business.

"The fact remains," says the Journal, "that Canada does not want full-time members of Parliament who make Ottawa home and fall out of contact with their fellow-citizens in their constituencies."

"What must be done is that the Government give more and more estimates to the new Committee on Estimates and thus remove from the floor of the House the protracted debates on items of expenditure."

"This year only three departments have been examined by the estimates committee but it has been agreed by both government and opposition members that its work was effective. Proper employment of the committee would end the unseemly spectacle of the Government manoeuvring controversial estimates to the last days of the session and critics speaking under the chilling frowns of other members who have their reservations for the trip home."

A Reactor For Peace

What can the citizens of a free and democratic country, as distinct from Governments and their direct agencies, do to persuade the Asiatic peoples that, contrary to Communist propaganda, the West has no aggressive designs towards them? Well, one major religious denomination in the United States has been pondering that question, or one like it, and is now considering a proposal to donate an atomic reactor, to be used for medical purposes, to some medical centre or university in the Far East.

basis of need and the ability to use the gift to maximum advantage.

The Committee that brought in the proposal, a part of a report dealing with nuclear energy, was made up of several prominent citizens, including Marquis Childs, celebrated Washington columnist, and Dr. Calvin Warfield, a nuclear physicist. After commending efforts now being made by the United Nations to bring about a satisfactory agreement on disarmament, the report went on to say: "It is not enough for a Church merely to support efforts of goodwill; it must lead in such efforts. And that is possible. We could raise the money for, we could purchase and give an atomic reactor to some people in a less fortunate area than America. Such reactors are a practical reality. It stirs the imagination to envisage at some medical centre or university in the Far East, a reactor, given by us as a Church, bringing health and healing to the people of Asia and standing as a symbol of penitence for our sins, a witness of our common brotherhood, and an earnestness of our deep desire for peace."

The sponsors explained that the Far East was selected for this experiment in practical goodwill because "that is the area most hurt by the discovery of nuclear weapons and the place where the greatest tensions exist and where the greatest good could be accomplished." They see in it also an accord with President Eisenhower's proposal of an atomic pool for experiment and study in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The reactor will cost in the vicinity of a half million dollars.

Longest Day

Tomorrow's dawn will bring the northern hemisphere's longest day of 1955. However, neither the year's earliest sunrise nor latest sunset occurs on the longest day. The sun makes its earliest appearance in mid-June and disappears latest near the end of the month. Summer bows in when the sun reaches the limit of its apparent northward journey. Then it shines directly overhead at the Tropic of Cancer, an imaginary line that encircles the earth 23 1/2 degrees or about 1,600 miles north of the Equator.

For several days the sun's noon position seems fixed. The period is thus known as the summer solstice, a derivation from the Latin phrase "when the sun stands still." Actually, as a National Geographic Society bulletin points out, the sun begins its annual southward migration at once. Six months later it shines directly over the Tropic of Capricorn, starting summer in the southern hemisphere.

As the sun seemingly withdraws—a phenomenon caused by the earth's own canting—the summer days get hotter and hotter. This is because the sun warms the cold earth during its northward swing, storing so much heat that less sunshine sustains uncomfortably high temperature readings. The ancient Greeks had a word for this oppressive period of four to six weeks. They called it the "dog days," because they usually coincided with the rise of the dog star Sirius. The star rises at a different time now, but the name stuck.

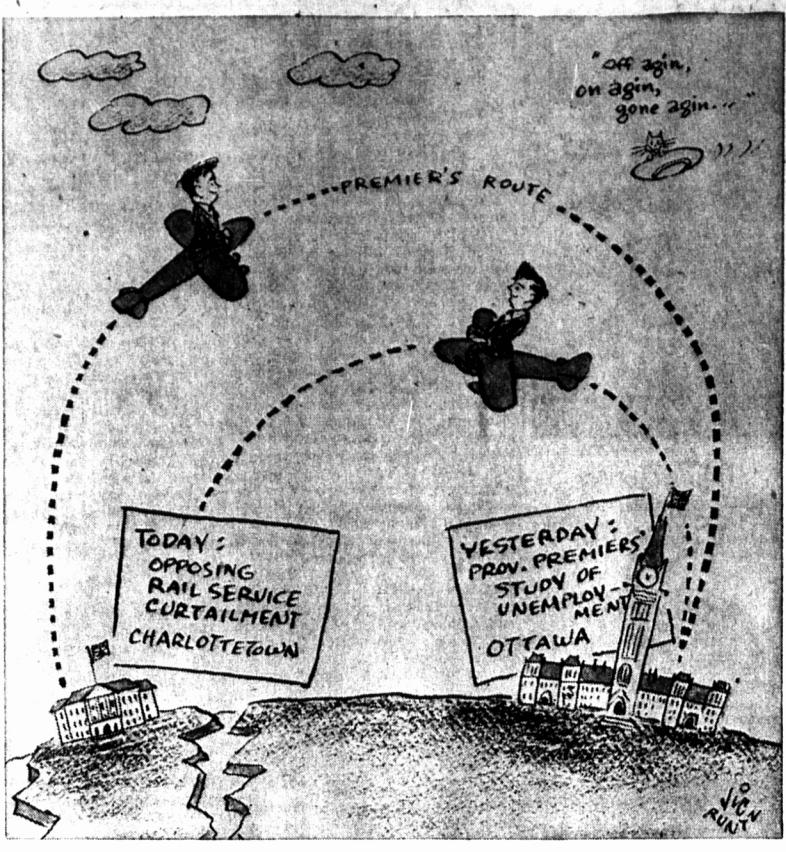
EDITORIAL NOTES

The magazine at Fort Edward could not be turned over to better hands than to the Historical Society for use as a museum. This is a small beginning, but an important one, in establishing adequate museum facilities for the Province on a permanent basis.

Young people may be leaving the farms but, according to a survey by Cornell University, most teenagers from both the city and country prefer rural living. Chief reason given for the preference was "a better chance of obtaining a high standard of living." Several noted that the country is much better than the city for rearing children.

First test flights of new equipment—the radar sonde theodolite—designed to replace the existing radio sonde and radar wind-finding apparatus recently took place at the United Kingdom Meteorological Office at Crawley, Surrey. The most marked advance offered by the new equipment is its ability to compute the upper winds when the balloon has been carried distances up to 100 miles compared with only 50 miles with existing equipment. The air borne unit, complete with batteries, weighs only about 6 1/2 pounds.

Of important centennial celebrations this year there seems to be no end. The latest to be reported is at Spanish Fork, Utah, which is observing the 100th anniversary of the coming of the first Icelandic settlers to the United States. Led by Samuel Bjarnson, whose descendants still live in the area, they came into Spanish Fork with a group of Mormon converts. 800 years before that time, however—so Icelanders say—Leif Ericson landed on the New England coast, which makes him the real discoverer of the New World.



On The Double

Britain's Antarctic Tradition

From "This Is Britain" glaciers descend through every valley to the sea which itself is normally frozen for six or nine months of the year.

Every two years they are relieved their relief travelling out in the sturdy little Royal Research ship, the John Biscoe. These are the men of the Falkland Island Dependencies Survey who are carrying on the tradition of the adventurous marines of the 18th century.

The advance party of the expedition will leave the U.K. towards the eastward journey. The main body will follow early in 1956. They will follow the tradition of many famous Englishmen, since James Cook made the first crossing of the Antarctic circle on January 17th, 1773.

But there were numerous other islands further south and the as yet undiscovered vast Antarctic Continent. The South Shetlands, the string of islands that borders the continent, were discovered by Captain William Smith in 1819, during the course of a trading voyage between Montevideo and Valparaiso. In the autumn of the same year, he made a special trip to the region where he had seen the ice-covered land and went ashore on the King George Islands.

The following year, Edward Bransfield of the Royal Navy discovered part of the adjacent Graham Land coast, the peninsula of the Antarctic Continent that juts north towards Tierra del Fuego. The peninsula of Graham Land takes its name from Sir James Graham who was First Lord of the Admiralty at the time when John Biscoe, another British explorer and retired Master of the Royal Navy, first went ashore on one of the adjacent islands in 1882 and, thinking himself on the Antarctic Continent, christened it after his former chief.

The South Orkneys which lie north east of Graham Land were discovered by a young British Captain of a sealer, in search of new territory because of the dwindling supply of seals in the South Shetlands.

The tradition carved out by these early explorers of the Antarctic area, which culminated in the exploits of Scott and Shackleton, had already led Britain in 1908 to claim the area known as the Phoenix Islands Dependencies, which extends in a finger of ice-covered land from the South Pole to the Falkland Islands and includes all those islands and archipelagos in the area first discovered by Britons.

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.

WATER SAFETY WEEK Sir,—In other Provinces of our Dominion the Red Cross is staging a "water safety week." This week has been designated by the Red Cross in Prince Edward Island as its water safety week. Therefore, I would crave a little of your valuable space to bring forcibly to the minds of our people the capital importance of such a subject. Each year, even in our own Province, lives are lost needlessly through imprudence, lack of ability to swim, confusion in emergencies, and through death of proper life saving facilities. The fact that many such accidents are preventable adds doubly to the tragedy.

It is true that death and taxes are inevitable, but in many cases the Grim Reaper can be stayed, even if the Receiver General can not. Falstaff's admirable rejoinder to Prince Hal illustrates the intelligent self interest that should be ours in regard to impetuous actions. Before the Battle of Shrewsbury, Falstaff was mightily perturbed, and was rebuked by Prince Hal thus: "Thou owest God a death." But Falstaff, "that tun of a man," shrewdly retorted: "Tis not due yet: I would be loath to pay him before his day. Why should I be so forward with my (death) that calls not on me?"

And this apt piece of repartee expresses in a nutshell the whole point of this week. Both by press and radio various aspects of water safety, both prevention and rescuing, will be impressed on the public; and it is to be hoped that "wisdom will not cry out in the street and no man regard it." (to paraphrase Prince Hal). And since the swimming season is now upon us, the importance of this week can not be over-emphasized, for no one of us knows when he will not find himself faced with this dire dilemma.

I am, Sir, etc., J. J. C. Swimming and Life Saving Committee Red Cross.

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Medically Speaking

Herman N. Bundesen, M.D. SUN IS GOOD FOR BABY With nice weather upon us, it's important that your baby spends a lot of time in the fresh air. But if he's like a great many tots, his discontented wails may prove embarrassing to you and irritating to your neighbors.

You don't have to push your baby's carriage constantly to keep him contented and quiet. The fresh air is as good for you as it is for your child, so it might be well just to sit beside him for a while. Then, too, your companionship might be enough to keep him quiet.

Bus mothers can't devote several hours a day to keeping baby from raising a ruckus. However, common sense should tell you that any baby old enough to be interested in his surroundings won't be satisfied to lie and look at the linings of his carriage. This isn't any more exciting or entertaining than it is to lie in bed looking at the ceiling and walls day after day.

Something to Watch As a rule, the solution is fairly simple. Give him something to watch. Place his buggy so that he can see branches of a tree waving in the breeze or maybe clothes flapping on a line. Some kind of a whirling toy may be attached to the side of his carriage. Or perhaps you can place him so he can see passing cars or children playing nearby.

Again let me remind you that outdoor daylight is good for your baby even if he is not in the direct sunlight. He will get the benefit of the sun, even in the shade, because the sunshine, reflected from the sky, helps form Vitamin D when it falls on bare skin. And sunshine helps prevent rickets.

QUESTION AND ANSWER L. D.: Due to illness over a period of years, I have taken a considerable quantity of antibiotics. Could this be harmful to the nervous system?

Answer: It is not likely that antibiotics, if properly taken under the direction of a physician, would have a harmful effect on the nervous system.

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NOTES BY THE WAY

Scientists report that it is the alcohol in trees which makes the leaves look green. It is the alcohol in man which makes a red light look green.—Edmonton Journal.

A forecast of things to come says that in five years or so food will be preserved with atomic rays. We are not sure we like the prospect. If the housewife has to put on a lead smock every time she opens a can of succotash, the country is going to wind up with a race of stoop-shouldered women.—Windsor Star.

Countless printed pages are daily devoted to ways and means of achieving happiness. For women, at least, an unknown sage neatly capsuled the things into half a dozen phrases when he said: "To be happy in this life a woman needs the optimism of a child, the chic of a mannikin, the diplomacy of a prime minister, the nerves of a cold potato, the wisdom of Solomon and the complacency of a prize cat."—Wall Street Journal.

Multi-millionaire Don Juan March of Spain has thrown a \$200,000 "coming out" fiesta for his 18-year-old grand-daughter. Some 1,500 guests attended and no fewer than 100,000 electric light bulbs were used to throw light on them. Juan March was one of the promoters and financiers of the revolution when Franco seized power by the civil war there in 1936-39. From the money he is able to throw around it is obvious Don Juan is not what his head was buttered.—Windsor Star.

At the steep Rock Hotel in Ajkakan, guests do not leave a tip for the chambermaid. Hesting on the bureau in the room is a neat box with slots, through which coins may be pushed. On the box is a message signed by the maid, which reads to the effect that if the guest wishes to express appreciation of service the money put into the box will go to assist the Ajkakan General Hospital. Unselfish civic thinking of this kind spells out community spirit that augurs well for the future of the bustling iron mining town.—Fort William Times Journal.

It is good to have public confidence in Dr. Salk's vaccine. But let us not fool ourselves. The problem of polio is not yet completely solved. We still do not know why almost half the children who were vaccinated in last year's mass experiment were apparently not benefitted at all. Nor are we likely to know this until the result of antibody studies in the vaccinated who were stricken with paralysis have been completed. The work done by Dr. Ulrich Kreech of Dr. Salk's laboratory indicates that vaccination may stir up latent polio when a virus is nicely counterbalanced by the right amount of anti-bodies. If these implications are verified we need a simple, rapid test for polio.—New York Times.

Opportunity knocks, but not always hard enough to bark his knuckles, so you're apt to mistake it for the dog tapping his tail on the floor.—Ottawa Citizen.

Some day, American men may put their neckties in mothballs for the whole summer, along with their overcoats. It would be sensible, judging from the findings of Dr. Maurice E. Barker, who has spent five years studying the best ways to dress for comfort. "The hottest thing a man can wear," says he, "is a necktie. It stops up the hot air outlet at the neck and adds as much warmth as another shirt would." Dr. Barker's authoritative voice may help spread the wearing of open-necked short-sleeved sports shirts in summer. And we can't overlook the chance to point out that it started in Florida.—Miami Herald.

Examination of the trends in road accidents last year in the United Kingdom, shows a reduction in fatal and serious accidents to children by bicyclists, and in motor cyclist fatalities. On the debit side there was an increase in casualties to all motor vehicle users, among adult pedestrians and an increased number of accidents during the hours of darkness. Improvements in the child accident picture are attributed to safety educational work, and among motor cyclists to the increased use of safety helmets. The principal cause of increased casualties is regarded as the rapid growth in the number of motor vehicles in use.—Chatham News.

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The Poet's Corner

HECTOR But oh! not lovely Helen, nor the pride Of that most ancient Ilium match'd with doom. Men murdered Priam in his royal room And Troy was burned with fire and Hector died. For even Hector's dreadful day was more Than all his breathing courage dared defend. The armoured light and bulwark of the war Trailing his long story to the accustomed end. He was the city's buttress, Priam's son. The soldier born in bivouac praises great And hurls in double front of battle won. Yet down he went; when unremembering fate Felled him at last with all his armour on. Hector; the horseman; in the Scæan gate.

Tagging Butterflies

Every summer, millions of monarch butterflies wing north to Canada to propagate their species and die. Once they reach the northern shores of Lake Erie and Ontario, they lay their eggs where their ancestors stayed, and complete the cycle of their rhythmic existence that has long been a mystery of the insect world. Dr. Frederick A. Urquhart, director of the Royal Ontario Museum's department of zoology and palaeontology, hopes to solve the riddle by following the return flight of their grandchildren to the pine and eucalyptus groves of the United States Pacific coast. Dr. Urquhart believes the monarch is the only true migrant insect. By fixing tiny gummed labels,

The Age Old Story

There came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. But he answered and said unto them, Why do you also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

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