

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1951

Children And Conflict Of Laws

One of the last Canadian cases to come before the Privy Council establishes an exception to the general rule of conflict of laws, cases in respect of children. The case, McKee v. McKee, is fully commented upon in Chitty's Law Journal but it establishes in essence that where children are concerned, a court having jurisdiction to consider the question of custody (in this case an Ontario court) is not bound by the decision of another court although competent but must reach an independent decision based on the welfare of the infant.

All the circumstances must be given weight, of course, including the fact of the foreign court's ruling but that ruling cannot be accepted as automatically determining the issue.

It is certainly desirable that when a competent court decides a question that the decision be upheld by courts everywhere, but few laymen will find fault with the Privy Council for upholding the trial judge in insisting that ordinary rules of Private International Law, as it is sometimes called, should be subordinate to the welfare of the child as it appears to the court itself.

Credit Policy

Ottawa's policy of credit restriction is based on the fact that it is impossible to divert a large proportion of available manpower and resources to the service of preparedness while at the same time going in for large scale civilian production.

There comes a point where manpower must be allocated to either the one or the other and excessive industrial expansion must be curtailed in order not to hamper the national effort.

What is apt to be overlooked, however, is that some areas are far more fully developed than others. There are sections which have lagged in industrialization, including this Province, which would be able to contribute more rather than less to the nation's strength if they were able to build up plant, equipment and skills with their available resources.

Inflexible credit restrictions prevent such development and in fact favor areas where industry has been able to accumulate reserves of capital for further expansion. A truly national policy would take account of such variation and encourage borrowing for industry where it would merely take up slack rather than cut into essential production.

Meteorite Craters

A vast crater presumably blasted out of the Ungava territory by the impact of a meteorite is now the subject of investigation by an expedition sponsored by the Royal Ontario Museum and the National Geographic Society. It is reported that the crater is more than twice the diameter of the huge excavation in Southern Arizona which has been attributed to a similar cause.

What lends special interest to the Canadian discovery, says the Winnipeg Free Press, is the fact that U. S. scientists have recently been able to shed fresh light on the Arizona phenomenon. While the meteorite theory has long been generally accepted, attempts extending over half a century to locate the central meteoric mass have always ended in frustration. Several tons of small iron fragments have, it is true, been collected around the edge of the crater but nothing approaching or even suggesting the 3,000,000 ton iron sphere which is supposed to have torn the hole in the southern Arizona desert. Geophysical surveys and the sinking of two exploratory holes have not solved the mystery of the crater.

Two recent discoveries by Dr. H. H. Nininger of the Meteorite Museum at Winslow have however suggested a plausible explanation. Searching with the aid of a magnetic mine detector, Dr. Nininger first discovered a great many fragments, presumably from the original body, scattered over a wide area. He then collected soil samples over a 100 mile tract and these under microscopic examination proved to contain a surprisingly large percentage of iron particles. That these had so long escaped detection, Dr. Nininger attributes to their uniform grey color which blends with

the sand and volcanic ash covering the region.

These iron particles are for the most part spherical, suggesting that they were formed from the molten state in the hurdling mass. As they cooled in air, surface oxidation provided a protective surface, preserving the iron and preventing rust which would have reddened the soil in the vicinity of the crater. Internally the particles which are composed of iron with a 17 per cent nickel content have a true meteoric structure.

The revised theory is therefore as follows. The crater was in all probability formed by meteoric concussion. Prior to collision with the earth the original solid mass had however been shattered into a great storm of metallic pieces forming a core. Surrounding this was a cloud of molten drops blown from the incandescent surfaces of the iron masses.

Examination of the Canadian crater may yield evidence that the even greater force which is said to have gouged 5,000,000,000 tons of granite from the corner of the earth's crust was of similar character to the inter-stellar blast which shook Arizona at some unknown point in time.

Life Insurance

One of the good things about the present boom, notes an exchange, is that sales of life insurance have greatly increased. The life underwriters in a statement just issued announce that life insurance in force in this country on July 1 reached an all time high at \$16,500,000,000. This is more than double the figure of 1941. In a decade our people have provided themselves with twice the protection of only ten short years ago.

New life insurance put in force in the first six months of this year was not far short of \$1,000,000,000, an advance of about \$175,000,000 over the first half of 1950.

Here is convincing proof that the virtue of thrift is still being practised; for life insurance is more than protection for the family of the insured. It is a means of saving against the needs of the future.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The four largest cities in Scotland, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Dundee account for 1,916,372 or 57.6 per cent of the total population of 5,095,969.

The art of debate, the key to democratic government, is far from on the decline here judging from the Junior Farmers' contests, the finals of which were held at the Vocational School yesterday.

The index numbers of farm prices of agricultural products dropped in April from 281.1 in March to 279.9. The latter figure, however, represented an increase from 254.7 in April, 1950.

Polar flying is becoming almost commonplace, so that it is apt to be overlooked that it involves the crossing of frontiers, whether there happen to be customs officials about or not.

Horsemeat is undoubtedly healthful and tasty but it must bring a pang to many who regard the horse as man's partner in developing this country to see the four-legged friend on the dinner table, in the West of all places.

The Battle of Killiecrankie was fought this date 1689. John Graham of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee, was killed in the moment of victory over the invading forces of William of Orange.

Premier J. B. McNair of New Brunswick, has returned from being the house guest of Mr. Michael Waddell, manager and publisher of the Fredericton Gleaner, at his home in Wales, and of Lord Beaverbrook at Cherkly, England.

This Province has so long taken it for granted that it is lacking in mineral resources that it will take a long time to get used to the idea that we are literally bathed in minerals and chemicals of many kinds. The sea is a treasure house waiting to be tapped by those who have the initiative and intelligence to recover its riches.

The Deputy Postmaster General, Mr. W. J. Turnbull, told the Kiwanis in Toronto that there would have been no necessity for increasing postage at the present time had certain interests paid their fair share in times past. He was referring to second class mail which includes newspapers, magazines, etc. A less drastic remedy could have been applied had zoning been adopted along the lines of the parcel post system. Unfortunately certain newspaper interests, especially in Ontario and Quebec, would not agree to this, as it benefits them to send their newspapers broadcast at the expense of other post office patrons.

A Change Predicted



That boy's going to help a little more around here too!

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.

PHOTOGRAPHERS' COMPLAINT

Sir.—I would like to use this space to give a word of warning to your readers in regard to photographic offers in the form of "free photographs," "special bargain rates"—and coupons entitling the holder to have photographic work of any kind done at specially reduced prices. Offers containing phrasing such as this should constitute their own warning to those who, in the past, have found themselves holding worthless coupons, high-pressure into buying something they don't want, looking vainly around for someone at a non-existent address to complain about inferior work after they have paid for it, or still waiting, in vain, for it even to show up!

Rabbit Skins For Felt Hats

Scottish wild rabbit fur, used as the essential raw material of felt hats, is claimed to be the finest rabbit fur for this purpose in the world. For more than 116 years a Glasgow firm, John Fraser and Sons, Ltd., has supplied Scottish rabbit fur to felt hat makers in every country where fine felt hats are made.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) AN OLD NEWSPAPER

"There is nothing more beneficial to the reflecting mind than the perusal of an old newspaper. Though a silent preacher, it is one which conveys a moral more palpable and forcible than the most elaborate discourse. As the eye runs down the diminutive and old-fashioned columns, and peruses its quaint advertisements and by-gone paragraphs, the question forces itself on the mind—Where are now the busy multitudes whose names appear on these pages?—where is now the puffing auctioneer, the pushing tradesman, the bustling merchant, the calculating lawyer, who each occupied a space in such chronicle of departed time? Alas, they have passed away like their forefathers, and are no more seen! From these considerations the mind naturally turns to the period when we, who may enjoy our little span of existence in this chequered scene, shall have come down into the dust, and shall furnish the same moral to our children that our fathers do to us. The sun will then shine as bright, the flowers will bloom as fair, the face of Nature will be pleasing as ever; while we are reposing in our narrow cells, heedless of everything that once charmed and delighted us."

The Paradox

In the high blaze of noon my heart grew sick To hear the tapping of the blind man's stick —Where the gold gorse beggars sit To pass and never see To walk, and never look upon his way —For him there is no day. But in a moonless darkness muffled deep With fog, his tapping signalled through my sleep; I heard him pass, secure as would have done A seeing man in sun Treading erectly down a road of light —For him there is no night. —Audrey Alexandra Brown.

The Poet's Corner

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Notes By The Way

Having harvested all the knowledge and wisdom we can from our mistakes and failures, we should put them behind us and go ahead, for vain regretting interferes with the flow of power into our personalities. —Edith Johnson.

The word "if" is probably one of the most widely used words in our language. What failures, what unfulfilled dreams and unrealized ambitions are wrapped up in that tiny word! And what tragedies, too. Investigators have reported that the air liner which crashed in the French Alps with 58 persons aboard last November might have averted the disaster — if it had been flying six feet higher. — St. Catherine's Standard.

Inflation is a terrible thing but, like the worst clouds, sometimes reveals a silver lining. Now it is the juke box. Cost of playing a record is going up 100 per cent from a nickel to a dime. Expense of this and that, explains the National Association of Music Box Operators, requires the increase, which is understandable. But even a juke-box addict is apt to clutch a dime longer than he would a nickel. So it may be possible to consume a ham-and-egg sandwich, perhaps even a short beer, in peace and quiet. — Los Angeles Times.

Park Commissioner Robert Moses, whose record for getting what he wants in the order of genius, proposes a profoundly simple solution for saving the Jeffrey's Hook Lighthouse. This is the little red structure under the George Washington Bridge that the Coast Guards threaten to raise, and which all sentimentalists want spared. The Park Commissioners suggestion is, just let it stay there. As to what new use should be made of the outmoded lighthouse, he says, no use. A well-liked landmark doesn't have to be used for anything. It seems to us that the Federal government would be hard put to controvert the hard logic of the warm-hearted Park Commissioner. — New York Herald Tribune.

It's not one thing in the salt cod industry, it's another. That year it's salt. Some parts of the coast are having a phenomenal trade volume and the fish are all but literally eating the rocks, but many fishermen can't get enough salt to take care of their large catches. That means they must either stop fishing until salt arrives or take a long chance on slack-salting part of their catch. Either way it's bad. From a private importer's or supplier's standpoint, it may not be surprising that there is a shortage of salt because conditions were so uncertain right up to the start of this year's fishing that nobody knew what the requirements would be. It may be important for the Ministry of Fisheries to have salt reserves held at strategic storage points in the same way that bait is held. — St. John's News.

There are many pigeons in the world, but one is unique: it wears glasses, according to a report from New York Observers from an office building claim that this bird carries a pair of spectacles in its beak, in such fashion that it can look through the lenses. This call to mind the story which the late D. B. MacRae of the Regina Leader visited the United States and failed to be suitably impressed by New York's skyscrapers or even by Niagara Falls. "Ay," he said, "they're big enough. But there's no strange. Now, in Peebles we have a peacock-wi' a wooden leg." But now, many years later, New Yorkers have matched that apocryphal peacock. If the visitor from overseas does not gasp in wonder at the Empire State building, they can show him their talented pigeon. — Ottawa Citizen.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for various lawyers, accountants, and other professionals including A. Walthen Gaudet, Joseph K. MacMillan, Frederic A. Large, J. A. McGuigan, Gaudet & Hazzard, MacPhee & Trainor, Palmer & Haslam, Dr. W. R. Carson, Matheson, Peake & Nicholson, J. A. Carruthers, R.O., and H. R. Doane & Co.

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