

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1951

Remarkable Progress

A striking indication of the zeal with which the work of the Women's Institutes is being prosecuted was afforded at their annual convention yesterday, when it was announced that during the year twelve new Institute branches have been organized in Prince Edward Island, three have been reorganized, and none discontinued. This would be a splendid achievement for a newly formed movement; but the Institutes now are holding their thirty-eighth annual meetings, and are evidently still in the full vigour of youth.

Rural school improvement is one of the prime objectives of the Institutes. They are now able to report that only sixty-six of the 550 rural schools in the Province remain without new or renovated buildings. This has been achieved through generous Government assistance, which was also forthcoming in enabling, during the year, nearly one-half the rural schools to install septic toilets. Among numerous other educational activities, the Institutes have established a jubilee endowment fund scholarship of \$100, to be granted to the rural girl entering a home economics course at an accredited college with a view to taking a degree.

The Institutes also take a keen interest in rural beautification, in the music and drama festival movements, in handicraft exhibits, and indeed in every subject touching upon community welfare. Their continued progress is therefore a matter of satisfaction not only to themselves, but to the entire Province which they are serving more and more effectively as time goes on.

Limited Objective

Those who see small prospect for settlement in Korea are in many cases confused as to the objectives of the United Nations in that country. It is certainly not an objective to overthrow Communism, desirable as that might be from our own point of view. Still less is it a U. N. objective to impose any particular political or economic system on any nation.

What the fighting is about is to stop aggression. To protect any country from being overrun by powerful neighbours.

The simplicity of that objective is also its strength. There need be no argument about whether a people would be better off under one system or another. The U. N. merely tries to see to it that brute force or the threat of it is not substituted for the usages of international diplomacy. There is every reason to hope that the determined measures taken in Korea have succeeded in their purpose.

What must be guarded against in the present negotiations, however, is an armistice which could be used by the enemy to strengthen his fighting position while making no real effort to reach a settlement. Clearly defined conditions are necessary and ready means of reconnaissance to make sure that the terms are being observed.

Eye Advice

The President of the British Medical Association, Dr. Sichel, who is honorary consulting ophthalmic surgeon, Groot Schuur Hospital, Cape Town, says that the attitude of the public to the question of wearing glasses has altered remarkably during the last 30 years. When he began practice it was a matter of difficulty to persuade a comely young lady to disfigure herself, even when the need for wearing spectacles was apparent. Today many of the fair sex are frankly disappointed when informed that glasses were unnecessary.

In his opinion spectacles should be prescribed for two reasons only: to correct defective vision and to relieve symptoms which could reasonably be attributed to errors of refraction. If this were accepted as a basic principle he is convinced that a large percentage of the spectacles worn today would be unnecessary.

Dr. Sichel referred to the practice by women of plucking the eyebrows. "Let me remind you," he said, "that Nature provides the eyebrows for a specific purpose—namely, to divert the drops of perspiration which course down the forehead from entering the eyes.

"Another beauty aid extensively employed in high society is the application of

pigments of various kinds to the eyelashes, perhaps not quite so reprehensible an embellishment. This form of toilet is not without risk, and I have seen at least one 'pair of sparkling eyes' rendered permanently glazed and blinded as the result of innocent preparation for a social function."

This is a case where ignorance of nature and her ways is not bliss.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Women's Institutes.

Boat-race fans have their choice of regattas today.

It will be a blessed relief to have School and adjoining streets hard surfaced. It will tend to relieve traffic on parallel streets as well.

Summer camps and cottages are the goal of sweltering Islanders but visitors seem to find our breezes refreshing even in the city.

Vega is the brightest star these summer evenings but is far outshone by the planet Venus, rising late in the evening and even by the near-by Lyra, an early rising planet.

That the wheels of true progress grind slowly, but grind exceeding sure, is the sort of consolation we have in considering our financial relations with the Federal Government.

The British Labour Government with a majority of only four, and a split with its 40 leftist back benchers is still able to carry on simply because they find it preferable to bear the ills they know than risk flying to those they know not of—a general election.

John Churchill, First Duke of Marlborough, ably assisted by Eugene of Savoie, defeated superior numbers of the French at Oudenarde this date 1708. "Corporal John" was long regarded as the greatest commander England ever produced.

Dust is unpopular with those who must use dirt roads but it may be some consolation to reflect that without it the sky would appear black, rain would not fall, everything would drip moisture and most disconcerting charges of static electricity would build up to shock the unwary.

The great oil developments in Alberta promised much in improving Canada's balance of international payments but with Iran likely to be out of the producing field indefinitely, the finds in this country assume even higher importance.

"On site" labour on the Trans-Canada Highway, largest construction project jointly undertaken by the Federal and Provincial Governments, amounts to 582,328 man days (8 hours) since the passing of the Trans-Canada Highway Act, December 10th, 1949. To date a total of \$7,204,884.19 has been paid to Provincial Governments on claims under the Act.

Meat-starved Britain has exported 406 tons of steak and kidney pie and 623 tons of braised steak to Canada so far this year. Announcing this Food Minister Maurice Webb said that altogether 865 tons of meat had been exported to the Dominion. A Food Ministry spokesman said the amount exported would have made little difference to Britain's meat ration which amounts to 10 pence worth a week—a cut little larger than a match box.

Better late than never. Rudyard Kipling, the poet, took two years to write four lines of poetry for the Sudbury branch of the Canadian Legion in the 1920's. As a result, the verse arrived too late for use on a memorial cenotaph. It finally was "published" on two memorial cairns in 1939. At a recent meeting, however, the Legion decided to carve it on a marble plaque to be hung in the memorial hall there.

The verse reads: We, giving all, gained all. Neither lament nor praise, Only in all things recall 'Tis fear, not death, that slays.

A Senator told the Senate that socialism has "started something that is going to give us quite a struggle before we stop it." The "idea of taking things away from people because you haven't got them was started in Great Britain by the Labor Government." That had germinated the idea that the country is superior to the individual and could take things from him. And when that began free enterprise "flew out the window." "That's what is keeping Saskatchewan from developing oil," said Senator Thomas Reid (L—British Columbia). "The oil companies are afraid of being taken over."



The Poet's Corner

FROM SAMSON AGONISTES

O how comely it is and how reviving To the Spirits of just men long oppress'd! When God into the hands of their deliverer Put invincible might To quell the mighty of the Earth, th' oppressor, The brute and boist'rous force of violent men Hardy and industrious to support Tyrannic power, but raging to pursue The righteous and all such as honor Truth; He all their ammunition And feats of wondrous deeds With plain heroic magnitude of mind And celestial vigour arm'd. Their armories and magazines contents, Renders them useless, while With winged expedition Swift as the lightning glance he Executes His errand on the wicked, who, Lose their defence distracted and amaz'd.

—John Milton (1608-74).

Welcome Assurances

(Globe and Mail) On Wednesday of this week both President Truman and Prime Minister Attlee gave assurances that rearmament is still the order of the day. Mr. Truman, in his Fourth of July speech, warned his countrymen that the military strength of the Soviet Union will remain a threat to the world's peace even if the fighting ends in Korea. Mr. Attlee, speaking in the British House of Commons, told questioning members that his Government had "no intention of relaxing our efforts to strengthen our defenses."

The need for these declarations was clear. If a ceasefire is arranged in Korea and a satisfactory settlement follows, the free nations will be strongly inclined to slacken their preparedness drive. They are not accustomed to spending their substances on armaments in time of peace. They are not enamored of military strength for its own sake. They will be tempted to do some wishful thinking and persuade themselves that a successful conclusion to the Korean incident guarantees peace in our time.

Korea has certainly proved, for the first time in history, that the collective security system can be made to work. The response to the United Nations call to arms, while far from unanimous and in some cases lagged and inadequate, was perhaps strong enough to convince the Communist bloc that the Western nations mean business when they say they will resist aggression.

It is reasonable enough to hope that Korea has had this salutary effect in the Kremlin. To act on this hope as if it were a certainty would be madness. It would be playing the Soviet game. Undoubtedly one reason why the Russians called for peace in Korea was the rapid growth in Western strength; They are expectant that peace in Korea will bring a let-down in the Western effort.

Mr. Truman, who has the gift of knowing what the ordinary man is thinking, must have sensed that his people are looking for an early return to normal living and spending. He showed judgment in timing his statement that the danger to Western security and the need for rearmament are as great as ever. Mr. Attlee said in effect the same thing and perhaps in even more trying political circumstances; for several of his Ministers have been hinting strongly that the time has come to relax. Mr. Attlee explains that their intention was simply to make it clear that Britain's long-term aim is not war but peace in a world disarmed. The explan-

"Musicologist"—Ugh!

In tidying up the business of the House preparatory to adjournment last week the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister for External Affairs found himself being asked to define a word that on first hearing must sound unparliamentary. "What," asked Mr. Molure, the Member for Queen's, "is the meaning of the word 'musicologist' in a press release of the Department of External Affairs under today's date?"

Mr. Lesage, the Parliamentary Assistant who was pinch-hitting for the Minister, said he would find out and report later in the day. The House waited, presumably breathlessly, and in between two items of National Revenue estimates Mr. Lesage sandwiched the answer. "Musicologist" thus sets into Hansard between one item reading, "To provide for the purchase and transportation to Yugoslavia of relief supplies, \$45,000," and Item 322 which is not otherwise identified.

The Member for Queen's had complained that the word was not to be found in "either of the two volumes of the Oxford dictionary." (It was a safe assumption, anyway, that it wasn't in one of them.) The Parliamentary Assistant, or some bright person in his office, was a more diligent researcher, for in Webster's he turned up, not "musicologist" but the word it derives from. Now Webster finds immortality in Hansard, thus:

"Musicology: music as a branch of knowledge or field of investigation, especially historical study of musical documents. Investigation of sources, gathering and organization of neglected data, etc." A question having been asked in Parliament, and dutifully answered, the House passed on to other business. But might it not profitably have carried this investigation a little farther? Might it not have asked why an employee of the Department of External Affairs permitted himself, or was permitted, to use a word like "musicologist"? Webster, with dubious taste, allowed it. The Oxford, with finer sensibilities, spurned it. If we were a student of music we should very much resent being called a musicologist. We should feel like the little girl who cried when someone told her she had progenitors. It sounds like something pretty awful.

WOMAN EXECUTIVE

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt served as finance chairman of the New York Democratic Committee from 1924 to 1928.

ation is not wholly convincing, in the light of what Mr. Attlee's colleagues actually said, but at least it shows that the ruling group in the Labor Government is firmly committed to the arms program.

What Mr. Truman says for the United States and Mr. Attlee says for Britain holds true, of course, for Canada. Indeed it applies with additional force here because this country's rearmament effort has hardly begun.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

GULNARE'S FIRST VISIT

"H. M. surveying vessel Gulnare, Captain Bayfield, arrived here on Saturday last. The Gulnare has been engaged for several years past, by directors of the Lords of the Admiralty, in making a survey of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. She sailed again on Tuesday last for Quebec, and will return hither, we understand, in June next, when a survey of this and neighbouring coasts will be commenced and which it is expected will take several years to complete, during which time the families of the officers will reside at Charlottetown, where the vessel will be laid up during the winter months."

—Colonial Herald, Sept. 5, 1840. Captain (afterwards Admiral) Bayfield later became a well-known figure in Charlottetown, where he resided from 1841 until his death in 1885. The monument on Queen Square, erected some years ago by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, commemorates his work in the Admiralty Survey Service. Bayfield Street also perpetuates his name locally.

Jaunt By Jet

An R. C. A. F. T-33 jet trainer based at Chatham has made a complete tour of the Maritime Provinces in forty-five minutes, reaching a top speed of 650 miles per hour and attaining a height of 37,000 feet. We have never claimed to be as big as Texas, but we never realized that the Maritime Provinces are so small. However, a forty-five minute tour leaves little time to admire the grandeur of the St. John River or the beauty of the Bras d'Or Lakes, to hook a salmon in the Miramichi or to bathe in the Northumberland Strait, to bask in Atlantic breezes or to absorb the atmosphere of historic sites.

A forty-five minute tour of these provinces is about as enlightening and thrilling as a good look at a map. Travelling at 650 miles per hour seven miles up in the sky is more like a trip to the Moon than it is a tour of the Maritime Provinces.

Dr. A. L. MacIsaac

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Notes By The Way

What all governments should realize is that every pension paid from the public purse is supposed to represent so much food, clothing and shelter, and that when its purchasing power goes down, governments are penalizing the pensioners. Of course, in "hard times" when prices are low, the fixed-income pensioner profits, but what every pensioner would prefer is that the purchasing power of his pension should be constant.—Edmonton Journal.

Time was, away back in Pre-Confederation days and later, when Canadians built some of the finest ships in the world, the old "square-riggers" and "tall ships" that poised made immortal in verse at any rate, and which Nova Scotia's skippers sailed to all the Seven Seas. Came steam, Canadian yards fell silent, and as the old "tall ships" became but a brave memory, the business of building ships passed to the British islands. As late as 1913, when the Canadian Parliament was debating whether we ourselves could build the biggest of a small navy, it was Winston Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, who put it on paper that a warship could not be built here because such building required a crane that must lift so many tons. Time marched on, and Canada, remembering her old pride of wooden ships, of a day when she might build them to match the best in the world. Last week, up at Port Weller, the hope and dream came true: launched there was a great steel ship—the "Scott Misener"—that will be the biggest ever to sail our Great Lakes; a ship produced by Canadian hands and enterprise and genius which is 654 feet long, that will carry 22,000 tons of ore or 665,000 bushels of grain—the harvest of 38,000 acres, or as much as can be loaded into

seven freight trains of 50 cars. A memorable occasion was the launching, as well it might be. The Prime Minister and Mr. Howe sent telegrams of congratulation, and the Minister of Transport, Mr. Chretien, and the Deputy Minister of Public Works, Mr. E. P. Murphy, were on hand to pronounce eulogies. Here, all agreed, was a milestone; Canada was back in a new era of building ships, Genius and driving power behind it all was Scott Misener, veteran of the Great Lakes, who built this great ship and owns it and can sail it himself, or have it sailed by his son, and who, refusing to yield to the conquering years, plans other and still greater Canadian-built ships for his fleet of Columbia Steamships, and says that "when I'll think about retiring." There are those who lament that the days of romance are over, that all the individualists are in their graves; Scott Misener shouts back triumphantly; at an age when most men call it a day he builds our biggest ship, plans on others beginning, restores Canada to a place which long ago she held proudly.—Ottawa Journal.

The Age-Old Story

Ahaziah the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria the seventeenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and reigned two years over Israel. And he did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother, and in the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

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