

Published every week-day morning at 138 Prince Street, Charlottetown, P. E. I., by The Thomson Company Limited.

TUESDAY, NOV. 9, 1954

Wear A Poppy

The wearing of poppies is the almost universal outward sign of the inward observance of Remembrance Day.

The poppies are made, of course, in Veterans shops which provide sheltered employment conditions for incapacitated veterans.

That is as it should be. No one should pay less than they feel they can afford but the individual with a full purse or a thin one is showing equal respect for valour by an appropriate contribution.

The poppies originally signified remembrance of those who lie in Flanders' fields but in addition they recall the sacrifice on land and sea and in the air of servicemen in two World Wars and Korea.

Highway Construction

Pointing out that Canada has both a need and a capacity for even greater highway construction, the president of the Canadian Construction Association has stated that shortages of materials are no longer a limiting factor in highway programmes.

Although he proposed that all Provinces receiving Federal support in their road programme should conform to minimum standards in keeping with traffic volumes and geographic needs and that a Highway Commission be established to co-ordinate the planning, financing and construction of roads of national importance, administer Federal funds, facilitate the exchange of roadbuilding and traffic control knowledge and promote safety activities, yet he urged that the use of Federal aid for roads continue to be optional to the Provinces and authority over the administration of road projects remain under Provincial Highway Departments.

There is a definite conflict between these various proposals. There cannot in the long run be independent Provincial administration of highways and at the same time a Federal Highways Commission.

Formosa's Position

For centuries geography has shaped history on the big island of Formosa, now the Chinese Nationalist stronghold backed by United States military and economic aid 240 miles by 85 at its widest, it has a highly strategic position, roughly midway between the Philippines, Indochina and Indonesia on the south, and Korea, Japan and Soviet Siberia on the north.

In the early days of European exploration, Formosa (Taiwan to the Chinese) was a key landfall on the Far East sea lanes leading to trade and wealth.

In 1624 the Dutch became the first Europeans to plant a permanent Formosa colony. Shortly their troubles with the hostile, head-hunting aborigines and the established Chinese and Japanese settlers were further complicated by a struggle with a rival Spanish colony.

Spanish traders away, only to be forced out themselves in 1662 by a colorful pirate leader and adventurer known as Koxinga.

Koxinga, of Chinese-Japanese parentage, was an ardent supporter of the heirs of the deposed Ming dynasty. Under his rule Formosa was an offshore Ming retreat that defiantly faced the Manchu-dominated mainland, just as today's Nationalist island looks toward the Communist shore.

Rumination

According to the Winnipeg Free Press the cow's peculiar habit of eating nails and rusty wire and bits of broken metal costs the cattle industry a billion or two billion dollars every year.

"A cow, it should be fairly obvious, is said to be a ruminant not because it wears a look of calm reflection on its face but because it has a rumen. Presumably the words ruminate and cogitate are used as synonyms only because in moments of deep meditation the human face sometimes assumes a rather bovine aspect.

"On any human scale of values the prospective billion-dollar saving that may stem from Dr. Cooper's fertile ruminations must take precedence over the concomitant internal comfort he has bequeathed upon the indiscriminating cow.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Duke of Edinburgh will be guest of honour at the Canadian Universities Club on Nov. 11. Many prominent honorary graduates of Canadian universities will be present as well, of course, as a considerable representation of the 2,500 graduates of Canadian universities now living in Britain.

On the 15th Scandinavian Airlines System will inaugurate a transpolar air route between Los Angeles and Copenhagen, via Winnipeg and Greenland.

Chaim Weizmann, Zionist leader and chemist, first President of Israel, was born in Russia this date 1874. He was educated there and in Germany and taught in Geneva. In 1904 he began teaching biochemistry at Manchester University.



Ready

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.

NO COMPENSATION

Sir,—I wish to advise the public that the contents of a letter from Mr. Murdoch Dawson, Albany, published in a recent issue of The Guardian, are fully correct.

No compensation has, as he stated, ever been paid to Mr. Dawson covering losses incurred during the 1952-53 marketing season.

I am, Sir, etc. DONALD A. MACDONALD, Manager P. E. I. Potato Marketing Board.

MR. SCALES REPLIES

Sir,—I have read with interest the letter in your Saturday's issue from H. R. Doane and Company re the Potato Board's statements which further confuses the issue.

The fact remains however that the auditor has agreed with me that the Board's statements for each of the years 1952 and 1953 were incorrect. He says to the effect that had the Board's manager directed that the statements be corrected as pointed out by him they might have been issued correctly.

I am, Sir, etc. AUSTIN A. SCALES, Montreal By wire, Nov. 8th.

WHEAT & POTATOES

Sir, At this late date, it could reasonably be assumed an imposition on good nature to ask your subscribers to read anything further with regard to the exercise of force in marketing our produce.

I am, Sir, etc. WILFRED DRISCOLL, Charlottetown.

The Age Old Story

O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

Old Charlottetown

and P. E. I. THE 'HEATHER BELLE'

"The steamer 'Heather Belle' was hauled up on a marine slip last fall, and during the winter has undergone considerable improvements. A hog frame has been put under her, for the purpose of adding additional strength to her hull, her cabins have been enlarged and improved, and many alterations have been made in the interior of the vessel for the comfort and accommodation of passengers.

I am, Sir, etc. JOHN M. MULLIGAN, Emerald R. R.

MARKETING BOARD POWERS

Sir,—Almost every point relevant to the Potato Marketing Question has been brought out either through the many meetings that have been held or through correspondence in your Forum.

BOARD NOT NEEDED

Sir,—In the report of a meeting at Kensington of the Potato Marketing Board I was accused of interrupting the meeting, which was not true. It was also stated that I had to leave the meeting. I want to say that I did not leave and had no intention of doing so, for I had done nothing whereby I should.

I am, Sir, etc. WILLIAM POUND, Fredericton, P. E. I.

POTATO MARKETING ISSUE

Sir,—Would you allow me space in your columns to put before the farmers of this Province some facts which we should be thankful for that have come out of this controversy over the Marketing Board?

I am, Sir, etc. JOHN M. MULLIGAN, Emerald R. R.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Lethbridge experience with its first "pay parking" lot hasn't so far been very encouraging. People still seem to be of the mind they should be able to park free. Off-street parking cannot be operated for nothing. But it's still better to pay for something which will keep the streets relatively open for traffic than to install curbstone meters which solve nothing.

While individuals thirst after power we can expect war, trouble and bad feeling among nations. Some of the scenes and promote international conflicts will have disappeared from the earth and maybe through the promotion of good will we shall witness the growth and development of finer character.

For years we have been told that the pressure of responsibility in wife created a large number of widows in the world. Those who like to juggle figures frequently pointed to the number of women whose husbands died in the prime of life because of too many business worries. Now we are being told that since the women achieved such dominance in the hustling world of business the medical profession is kept busy looking after the female sex. No longer is the woman content to stay at home, wash her children's ears, prepare the husband's dinner and pay the milk bills.

It is the responsibility of every farmer in this Province and their privilege to determine who will have control of the potato industry—the man who produces or the man who sells.

Let us not forget that the farmers through the Marketing Board have given the dealer producer the privilege of selling his own potatoes, but they are not satisfied with this. They want control of ours as well.

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The Poet's Corner

FROM THE GATES OF DAMASCUS

I am the Gate that fears no fall; The bridge of booming Sinai; The Arch of Allah all in all. O spiritual pilgrim, rise; the night has grown her single horn; The voices of the souls unborn are half adream with Paradise. To Mecca thou hast turned in prayer with aching heart and eyes that burn; Ah, Hajj, whither wilt thou turn when thou art there, when thou art there? God be thy guide from camp to camp; God be thy shade from well to well; God grant beneath the desert stars thou hear the Prophet's camel bell. And God shall make thy body pure, and give thee knowledge to endure. This ghost-like piercing phantom, and bring thee out to life again. And God shall make thy soul a Glass where eighteen thousand Eons pass, and thou shalt see the gleaming Worlds as men see dew upon the grass. And, son of Islam, it may be that thou shalt learn at journey's end Who walks thy garden eve on eve, and bows his head, and calls thee Friend.

—James Elroy Flecker

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Continued on page 5