

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. CIRCULATION Total City Zone 3,700 Retail Trading Zone 8,457 All Others 826 Total Net Paid 13,048

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, MONDAY, MAY 7, 1951

A Juvenile Home

The proposal to establish a home in this Province for juvenile delinquents is most commendable. That it will probably be a farm home, with stress on farm work and routine as an important part of the reformatory process together with scholastic and technical training, is most encouraging from the point of view of producing good citizens instead of criminals.

It must be made unmistakably clear, however, that the home is not to be confused with or combined with the institution for the care and training of retarded children which was earlier referred to by Premier Jones. Experience elsewhere, particularly in the English reformatory system, shows that good results can only be attained by keeping the two completely separate.

Senate Reform

Senator C. J. Veniot, one of the New Brunswick representatives in the Red Chamber, has come up with an idea that should merit attention. He has advocated that the numerical strength of the Opposition in the Senate be never less than one-quarter of that body, or 25 of the total 102 members.

Today parliamentary members are under a greater stress than ever before. The whole concept of the duties and responsibilities of government has undergone great changes with the passing years. Consequently the demands upon the time of members of the House of Commons have grown by leaps and bounds. The Senate probably could be utilized to lessen this pressure somewhat. To function properly, however, there should be an assurance that the Opposition side had a hearing.

Because of Canada's political trend the Senate, within the next few years, may be occupied solely by members who owe allegiance to the present Government party. If Senate duties are to be expanded, and this is not beyond the realm of possibility, there should be some assurance that Opposition voices may be heard.

Frenzy Of Adulation

It has been left for ex-President Herbert Hoover to express in one fantastic sentence the emotional frenzy which the debate over General MacArthur has aroused in the United States. Speaking briefly in New York, Mr. Hoover said: "The Great Debate has been replaced by a much bigger debate led by the reincarnation of St. Paul in the person of a great General of the Army who has come out of the East."

There was little more than languid interest in Washington, notes an exchange, when Senator McCarthy said it was an act of disloyalty for any one to criticize the General. One expected the Senator from Wisconsin to say things like that and a more intelligent comment would have been out of order. But now Mr. Hoover has indicated that criticism of General MacArthur savors of original sin, that the General is a prophet of righteousness, and that opposition to this hero's views is an offence against morality as well as a libel upon logic.

If a man of Mr. Hoover's stature can succumb to this frenzy, where is the nonsense to end?

Money And Prices

A paradox of Government policy in the economic sphere lies in official Ottawa's manifest desire to counteract the raging forces of inflation and yet to refuse to invoke the most effective of all anti-inflationary measures which is to make money itself more expensive by raising interest rates. So long as the Bank of Canada is dominated by those who advocate a cheap money policy, such measures as have already been adopted to curb inflation will be of little effect in curbing inflation.

Cheap money, by which is meant credit at low interest rates, is recognized by all responsible economists as an inflationary device useful only to offset depression and unemployment. Adherence to a cheap money policy in Canada at the present time with the economy operating at full or near full employment levels, is adding fuel to inflation's flames.

Raising interest rates to keep down the

supply of money would operate impersonally, affecting all alike. No great administrative staff would be required. Incentives to economical production would be sharpened rather than blunted. More important still, such a monetary policy would act as an effective brake on the spending of government itself on non-essential, non-defence projects.

Private borrowing is already restricted by moral suasion exerted on the chartered banks by the Bank of Canada. Public borrowing by governments, and in particular by Ottawa, is utterly unrestricted either in terms of interest rates or of amount. So long as the Bank of Canada stands ready to buy unlimited quantities of government bonds at essentially fixed prices, so long will government spending continue and living costs rise.

Thoughtful citizens have been asking themselves ever since the Budget was brought down whether official Ottawa is, after all, not more concerned with the price at which the Government can borrow money than with the prices at which Canadians can buy goods and services

EDITORIAL NOTES

Canvassers are starting their rounds on the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal—a gilt-edged investment in our fellow man.

There have been setbacks in the weather but the mosquitoes, at least, have enthusiastically treated this as an early spring, and continue to do so.

The deputy Chief Scout for Canada, Mr. Jackson Dodds, C.B.E., will be one of two Canadians invested with the Legion of Honour when the French cruiser Jeanne d'Arc arrives in Montreal.

Summerside had the elite of politicians and air force as guests Friday, the pity being that the weather was so unfavourable to outdoor demonstrations and sight-seeing. A return visit in July or August would be appreciated.

The raising of the 11-year embargo on the shipment of live hogs to the United States can hardly make much difference when we were unable to supply existing demands unless, that is, prices go up faster south of the border than on the home market.

The emergency-produced scarcity of chrome and nickel may not be all loss. There are many things of which the design is being or can be improved now that the easy shortcut of splashing brightwork everywhere is no longer an answer.

The principle of armed services unification has gone down before unregenerate human nature. It has been found too expensive to have the Army maintain the vehicles for all three services and this country has gone back to charging the cost to the branch which operates the vehicle.

The Cunard liner "Lusitania" was torpedoed and sunk without warning this date 1915 by a German submarine. The 40,000 ton vessel was on a voyage from New York to Liverpool and of 1255 passengers and 651 crew 1198 were drowned or killed. The sinking had a great influence on America's decision to declare war on Germany.

Trade Minister Howe's step in announcing the 2.1 increase in the cost of living index a day before it would ordinarily have been released by the Bureau of Statistics and blaming it on the price of butter which was only one of many higher items, is extraordinary. The minister must be paving the way for a fresh attack on the dairy industry.

For the past week the City has been host to innumerable out-of-town children and other young people taking part in the Musical Festival. They gave joy and pleasure by their presence and performances and they and their parents who accompanied them, will be greatly missed now that the Festival has concluded. It would have done the heart of the late Mr. Blythe Hurst Sr. good to have realized how his suggestion of such a festival sponsored by the Women's Institutes had been thus practically realized.

The 1951 tax rate of the City of Saint John has been set at \$4.34. This, the highest figure in that city's history, is four cents more than the 1950 rate of \$4.30. In 1949 it was \$4. After considerable debate by the members of the Common Council, the \$4.34 rate for this year emerged as a compromise, and (according to the Telegraph-Journal) it appears to be a fair and reasonable one. A rate as low as \$4.25 and as high as \$4.40 was proposed during the discussion, and it is gratifying to know that the board of assessors considers that the finally approved figure—\$4.34—is feasible.

Taking Our Medicine

What's good for you is good for me, but is this really necessary?



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.

COSTLY CONFERENCES

Sir—Your editorial in Friday's issue "Conference Crazy" is right to the point and should help to show up the big foxes that spoil the vines.

Today, when most of us are struggling to keep our heads above the financial seas, it's an insult to the taxpayers of this country to see certain individuals running to conferences all over the Dominion. They travel free, are wine and dined at the best hotels, and return home no wiser than when they left.

Opposition Leader Drew hit the nail squarely on its head when he says that official Ottawa is "Conference Crazy." He might have gone further by saying that Canada is conference crazy. I sincerely hope your able and timely editorial may be widely read and that your paper will come up with other expose stories. I am, Sir, etc., F. H. MACARTHUR Cornwall, May 4th.

WEST PRINCE SERVICE

Sir—In renewing my subscription to your paper I do so with great pleasure and thanks because of the excellent service of the delivery of The Guardian every morning a few hours after rolling off the press. When one considers the many years of being in the jungle of Utopia as far as receiving a daily paper the morning it is printed and the present excellent service now given the reading public, we wonder at our patience of endurance of the antiquated delivery of former years.

West Prince has too long been treated as the Island of P. E. I. There are many other things West Prince is suffering from neglect by the doctors who can and must have the remedy applied, and at once. Our needs are great. We cannot endure obscurity longer, therefore it would seem imperative that our representative call around before there is an eruption that could not be easily soothed. There is no need to itemize the sores; the farmers, fisher folk and laboring people—they know them and are awaiting a visit from their representative to unfold them to his understanding and sympathetic heart.

What about Prince County getting a portion of the Trans-Canada Highway. I am, Sir, etc., A. L. RENNIE Elmsdale, P. E. I.

The Poet's Corner

STREWN THOUGHTS

These strewn thoughts, by the mountain pathway sprung. I coned for comfort, till I ceased to grieve, And with these flowering thorns I dare to weave The crown, great Mother, on thine altar hung. Teach thou a larger speech to my loosed tongue, And to my opened eyes thy secrets give, That in thy perfect love I learn to live, And in thine immortality be young. The soul is not on earth an alien thing That hath her life's rich sources elsewhere; She is a parcel of the sacred air, She takes her being from the breath of spring, The glance of Phoebus is her fount of light, And her long sleep a draught of primal night. —George Santayana

Dr. Cameron Stirs A Controversy

(Montreal Gazette)

A good deal of spirited controversy has been stirred in Montreal recently by an address delivered before the Rotary Club by Dr. D. Ewen Cameron, director of the Allan Memorial Institute of Psychiatry. Dr. Cameron's views have even been discussed on the floor of the Anglican Synod, and the Bishop of Montreal has undertaken to issue a statement.

In his address, Dr. Cameron was really repeating similar statements made upon earlier occasions, though perhaps the tone has become notably more emphatic. He says that it is unconstructive to show attention upon what people should do, rather than upon what they actually do. This, he believes, is the great fault and error of the old "moralistic" system.

Dr. Cameron, who claims to prefer humanism to moralism, says that the effects of the moralistic attitude have impaired the vigor and health-mindedness of society. Moralism is weakening the Western nations in their struggle with the competing appeals of Communism. It is perhaps not surprising that these views have provoked some degree of dismay in those who still happen to believe that "what people ought to do" is of some importance. It is also not difficult to understand the distress of those who also believe that morality is ultimately grounded in religion.

But it would be unfortunate if the debate should become one between morality and science, or between religion and science. For it is important to note that Dr. Cameron, on this issue, does not necessarily speak with the voice of science. He may not even be regarded as necessarily speaking with the voice of psychiatry. What note that these views are not even really doing is expressing the views of Dr. Cameron.

It is perhaps of some interest to those who are members of the Institute of Psychiatry, or the Institute of Psychology, that a few weeks ago a distinguished member of that staff, Dr. Karl Stern, published his book, "The Pillar of Fire." It is an autobiography, in which he describes his religious experience.

In this book Dr. Stern makes a penetrating and valuable distinction between science and "scientism." Science is present knowledge, held in a spirit of responsible caution. But "scientism" is unproven dogmatism, asserted with arrogance. As Dr. Stern remarks: "It is this scientism, as a form of human life, without God in the centre, which leads to a form of nihilism unequalled in history." It must be admitted that scientific dogmatism is one of the chief dangers to which scientific workers are exposed. Without invoking a "moralistic censure," it may still be said that it is a sin that easily besets them. But nothing is more unscientific than scientific dogmatism.

The unscientific dogmatism of scientists has two main sources. It is partly inspired by excessive specialization. The immensity of modern knowledge makes specialization unavoidable. But the specialist is prone to place an unbalanced importance upon his own particular pursuit.

A body of selected facts only proves what certain facts prove. But all facts taken together may prove something quite different. Knowledge, to be scientific, cannot be one-sided. A scientific dogmatist is generally found to be stretching his specialty beyond the limits of his scientific endurance. Scientific dogmatism has another important source. It discloses an impatience with the provisional nature of scientific knowledge. But scientific dogma is only what happens to be current in the orthodox science of the day.

Most scientific theories enjoy a very brief authority. They "have their day and cease to be." They are likely to be referred to afterwards only as examples of inconclusive reasoning or over-hasty generalization. And they reflect

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

AMATEUR THEATRE

The Charlotte-Town Amateur Theatre was opened for the first time this season on the 2nd inst., with "The Birth Day" and "The Mock Doctor."

On Tuesday last "The Birth Day" was repeated, with the musical farce, "The Devil to Pay." We have seldom enjoyed a greater dramatic treat than in the performance of "The Birth Day." In one or two of the pathetic scenes, the feelings of several were excited to tears—at least, we think we observed a handkerchief here and there in requisition; and that, too, which is more extraordinary still, among the ladies, tender souls, seemed to stand it much better. —Prince Edward Island Register, Feb. 23, 1930.

The Age-Old Story

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. Charity never faileth; but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

no after-glow on those who sponsored them.

A very sound expression of the caution and humility of the true scientist is to be found in Sir James Jeans' book, "The Mysterious Universe." Wrote Sir James: "No scientist who has lived through the last 30 years, is likely to be too dogmatic. Science should leave off making pronouncements. The river of knowledge has too often turned back on itself."

The real censure incurred by Dr. Cameron has not been incurred by his views. The real censure has been incurred by the spirit in which they have been advanced. This spirit seems to have the quality of "scientism" in a particularly extravagant form. It has neither the responsible caution of science, nor the mellowed maturity of humanism. Scientific views expressed in this spirit are not only departures from moralism or religion. They are, even more, a departure from science.

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Notes By The Way

The Indian sat placidly under this arrangement, is free to devote himself to Parliamentary and executive work. Those who think monarchy out of date might ponder on this advantage it possesses. It is an advantage which grows as the burden of office becomes heavier in modern communities. Without doubt the purely decorative function of the Presidency have contributed to the physical exhaustion of White House occupants. —Toronto Globe and Mail.

Jet pilots are not going back to "gee" and "haw" but a number of airmen in Korea have reason to be grateful for the work of scores of plodding men, their drivers, and their cars. With these slow-moving, wooden-wheeled vehicles earth has been moved to smooth the ruts out of at least one air-field while motor-trucks were too few for the job and handicapped by heavy mud. Such paradoxes in transportation are not altogether uncommon. Travellers in Latin America more than a decade ago noted certain mountainous areas where travel was either by donkey or by air plane; the railroad age had by-passed those regions. —Christian Science Monitor.

From the New Yorker's profile articles on President Truman, describing his routine at the White House, one learns that he may spend a considerable part of any working day signing his name, being pushed about by news photographers and presenting decorations to soldiers or their next-of-kin. These are duties which the head of the State cannot avoid. It would be unsuitable and perhaps risky to allow the use of a rubber stamp signature on documents, he must attest. The public demands a constant stream of news pictures of the first citizen. Military heroes and their families are entitled to receive their honors from his hands. Yet it is arguable that such activities waste the time and energy of the man with the heavy responsibility of directing public policy and administration. The system of constitutional monarchy answers this problem by giving ceremonial duties to the King or his personal representative. It is he who signs documents, pins on medals and gets the attention of the camera men. The Prime Minister, in contrast, is free to visit them would find it easier to enter into the spirit of the sort of celebration which His Majesty means carefree times. Yet Britain is to be praised for carrying through plans for the Festival. She is showing again the spirit that has carried her through other troubled times before. The project to carry out the Festival has been criticized, on the ground that Britain's attention should be on more serious matters. One of the reasons for going ahead with the Festival is the hundredth anniversary of the Great Exhibition of 1851. There are great contrasts, which the Festival will tend to sharpen. Then Britain was comfortably riding a tide of development and prosperity which was to make her the envy of the world. Today she is engaged in an arduous effort to work her way back to economic security. The Festival is an expression of confidence that she has the ability to do it, that she can still draw on the initiative and resourcefulness that made her great. There will be fascinating pageantry, re-enactment of bright scenes of which Britain's long history is so full. Some of them will furnish her quiet moral as well as entertainment. Lady Godiva will ride again, a reminder of success in winning arguments by unconventional approaches. William the Conqueror will return to Hastings, and in his landing recall how difficult it has proven to duplicate his exploit. Those able to visit Britain this summer will undoubtedly have a grand time. They will come away with a deeper sense of Britain's past, and in all likelihood more confidence in her future from her people's handling of a somewhat trying present. —Montreal Star.

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