

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION

"Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew"

"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, AUG. 15, 1952

The Crown Of Darius

As Egypt's King Farouk wends his un-lamented way into exile, the throne of another Middle East monarch totters precariously. The young Shah of Iran, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, inheritor of the ancient crown of Darius, has surrendered to Premier Mohammed Mossadegh control over his 150,000 man army.

It is easy to dismiss the troubles in Iran as but another example of the impact of nationalism upon Asia and the Middle East. Sober reflection, however, at once suggests the presence of sinister forces at work which have the interests not of Iran nor of the United Kingdom at heart, but rather those of Moscow.

Dictator Mossadegh may, if he desires, force the liberal-minded and temperate Shah into exile. He can for a time hold off the inevitable financial crisis occasioned by Britain's boycott of Iranian oil by forcing the sale of gold and foreign securities held by the Iranian Treasury.

The choice lies with Dr. Mossadegh whether to become the hopeless puppet of Moscow or, alternatively, to retain independence for his country by reaching an equitable agreement with the United Kingdom. While his dictator-Prime Minister ponders the course to follow, little wonder that the crown of Darius rests uneasily on the head of the young Shah as he sits in his lavish Saadabad Palace overlooking the snow-capped peaks of the Elburz Mountains behind which lurk the covetous agents of Moscow.

"Bullded Better Than They Knew"

A few citizens who gathered at the Wellington Hotel in Charlottetown on Saturday, March 24, 1827, were probably unaware of the full importance of what they were doing; but if they could see the accumulated results of their efforts at this week's Provincial Fair, the general prosperity of the Island and the high standards it is setting in field and livestock production, they would feel well rewarded indeed.

It is worth recalling today the objectives of this little organization, which was the parent of the Royal Agricultural Society under whose auspices the Exhibition movement gained ascendancy. They were as follows: "To diffuse and extend the knowledge and promote the practice of the best and most approved modes of agriculture; to encourage the breeds of horses, cattle, sheep and swine, by importation of new stock and by judicious crossing of the old; to promote the making and the use of the most improved implements of husbandry; to encourage both the growth and importation of seed grain, of all sorts of grass seed, and the seed of roots; to encourage the clearing of forest land, and to promote a better mode of cultivating it than now prevails; to encourage the growth of wool, and to introduce an economic mode of carding, spinning, and of fulling, dyeing and dressing, the cloth."

As noted recently in these columns, local exhibitions were held even before the establishment of the Agricultural Society, but it was not until 1867 that the first Province-wide Fair was attempted. The field products and handicrafts were shown in the Drill Shed and adjoining grounds on the 10th October of that year, and the horses and livestock on Rochford Square on the following day.

session, March 16, 1868, this Commission brought in a most interesting report. It recommended that local exhibitions be held every two out of three years, supported by liberal legislative grants equally divided between the three Counties, and that every third year a large sum be appropriated "for the purpose of a Triennial Provincial Exhibition in Charlottetown—of course affording every facility for the transport of goods from other parts of the Island."

The Commission was broad-minded. It suggested that not only Island exhibitors but "parties on the mainland or citizens of the United States be invited to send their products to Charlottetown." In like manner it urged that "implement makers be induced to send specimens of the latest and most approved invention." The reason for the latter proposal was bluntly stated in the report: "For example, the demand for mowing machines is supplied by one enterprising individual who, of course, names his own prices, and it is by no means certain that he supplies either the best or the cheapest article. Neither is there at present in use amongst us any efficient horse pitch-fork; our threshing machines and winnowing machines are of the most ordinary description; we have a few steel mould-plate ploughs, still fewer cultivators; our horse hoes are very indifferent, and our common field harrows perform probably one-third less work per day than a gang of English or Scotch iron harrows."

Thus competitive agricultural fairs played an important part in our early Island economy, and their development in recent years has served the same useful purpose. Nowadays, of course, many things have been added. Horseracing, which flourished independently as a popular sport in this Island from early times, now provides the major attraction, but there is also the keenest competition in livestock classes and a noteworthy revival in handicraft exhibits, ably sponsored by the Women's Institutes. The management of the Exhibition, while active in making innovations and improvements of all kinds, have been equally solicitous about maintaining its grand old traditions, which are rooted deep in the past.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Princess Anne was born this date 1950.

V. J. Day, on which and on Aug. 16, was celebrated the defeat of Japan in the Second World War, the Japanese having formally accepted, on Aug. 14, terms of unconditional surrender. Russia had declared war on Japan on Aug. 8.

Another eleven mile strip of the Trans-Canada Highway is now being paved—from Wood Islands to Pinetie. When a decision is reached on how and where to rebuild the Hillsborough Bridge it will be possible to plan the complete route of the Island part of the great project.

Pipe Major Wilf Burke's Lads and Lassies certainly gave a good account of themselves at the Cape Breton Gaelic Mod. Coming second in the Maritimes after being together only a comparatively short period reflects credit on the pipers and their enthusiastic pipe major.

"Rotation" will go down in military tradition as a very desirable thing indeed in any properly conducted war. At first the troops were inclined to be cynical about the whole thing but it has worked out that few soldiers are continuously overseas more than their required year or eighteen months.

The disappearance of the R. C. A. F. Harvard trainer from the Summerside air station Monday afternoon has had fellow airmen searching except when weather conditions made it impossible. It would seem unlikely that a crash on this Island would go unreported but no possibility could be neglected.

Welcome to the famed R. C. M. P. Band which is expected to arrive in the city at 11:45 this morning. Citizens will be able to hear band concerts at Victoria Park at 3 p.m., at the Exhibition Grounds at 8 p.m. and at the Charlottetown Hotel later. Tomorrow morning will bring a parade through the city, the afternoon will see the bandsmen at the Sanatorium before they leave for Summerside to give a concert in the park there at 9 p.m.

Despite the Government's previous decision to standardize on American type military equipment Canada is now to buy some \$100,000,000 worth of equipment from Britain and at the same time provide the Old Country with \$150,000,000 worth of Canadian made armaments as mutual aid. The switch over should help our trading relations with the United Kingdom but from a military point of view it shows how desirable it is to induce Britain and the United States to go in for further standardization also.

Well, A Horse Of A Different Colour!



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.

PRINCE COUNTY HOSPITAL

Sir,—The recent drive for money to complete the Prince County Hospital and to build a nurses' home was in many ways a disappointment. It is quite possible the committee in charge over-estimated the ability of our people to contribute. However, many contributions were accompanied by complaints which took various forms. These complaints, unfounded or otherwise, include the following:

- 1. Opposed the giving money to provide a work shop for the medical profession; 2. Inefficiency on part of the trustees; 3. Lack of courtesy to patients; 4. Poor food; 5. Over staffed; 6. Wrong location; 7. Unwilling to pay except when hospitalized; 8. Hospitalization charges too high; 9. Hospital completion fund organizer too highly paid; 10. The plans for the nurses home too elaborate; 11. No need of a new nurses' home.

The annual meeting of the hospital, adjourned from an earlier date, is being held in the Town Hall in Summerside at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, the nineteenth instant. In the past such meetings have been very poorly attended. The hospital is a public Prince County institution depending on the public and the government for its support. The annual meetings are open to all residents of Prince County, who are free to take part in the discussions.

I feel sure the trustees, who would welcome the presence at the annual meeting of more of the Prince County residents than have attended heretofore, and would welcome from them constructive criticism. They could take their part in the discussions and assist in appointing trustees. It is of the utmost importance that the Board of Trustees be well qualified to handle the funds entrusted to them and to operate this very necessary public institution efficiently. The trustees no doubt desire the confidence of the public whom they serve. It is at such meetings that trustees should be made acquainted with complaints and should be offered suggestions to remedy them.

I am, Sir, etc. AUSTIN A. SCALES.

Children Behind Prison Bars

(Deutsche Korrespondenz, Bonn) BERLIN — Two months ago the Volkskammer, the Soviet Zone Parliament, passed a "Juvenile Courts Law". This law has a very special task: "to protect the achievements of the anti-fascist democratic order, and to educate youth who have offended against the law to become worthy citizens of a democratic state." A youth is defined as a person over 14 but not yet 18 years old. Children under 14 should in theory not be brought to trial in a court of law at all; yet what about the children who shortly before this law was promulgated were sentenced to long terms of hard labour?

Let us take just a few examples from the long list of children "sentenced" by Soviet Zone "courts". One of them is Guenther Herwart, a secondary school pupil from Gues-trow in Mecklenburg. He brought Western magazines back home after visiting Berlin; his punishment, five years penal servitude. For "similar crimes" Horst Siegbart and Hildegard Schuster — both under 14 — from Erfurt were given five years hard labour. Bernd Schumacher, Walter Maertens and Werner Schoessler from Eisenach removed Socialist Unity Party (Communist) posters; their punishment, 5-8 years penal servitude. Another of these unfortunate children was Horst Mueller, who was given one

Notes By The Way

Life is too complex to say that unhappiness is always a misfortune or contentment always a blessing. The profound law of compensation seems to reserve its highest awards for those who suffer the most. For the wounds of the spirit there is often a greater compensation than mere healing, for the unhappy there is something higher than joy, and for those who live under stress there is often something deeper than peace. — Montreal Gazette.

Our good-hearted and exuberant journalistic friends south of the line are almost killing Canada with their kindness. If they keep it up they will. One American magazine follows another with peans to this Giant of the North where gold flows with the rivers and radium comes off trees. Up here (we find) every one loves and admires the Government and can hardly wait to pay taxes to it, we are combined adventurers, hard workers and idealists, riding the crest of a fantastic boom and envied by politicians who never think for a moment about any self gain or votes. All this is perhaps open to some minor questioning, but it is on a new kind of "nationalism" that the average Canadian will stumble in trying to recognize his country. — Hamilton Spectator.

The Government of Ontario is going to ask the Federal Parliament to amend the Criminal Code so as to provide punishment for "prison insurrection." It appears that under the law as it now stands there is no specific provision for dealing with rioters like those who recently wrecked their own quarters in the Ontario Reformatory at Guelph. Nobody wants to see a return to the dungeon-cell treatment of prisoners, but at the same time should remember that individuals convicted of wrong-doing are not

years imprisonment for "economic offences". Have these young people got a chance of being let out of Soviet Zone prisons? No, the bosses of the Socialist Unity Party have no such intention; no more than they think of ceasing to terrorize young people in the future. For the Juvenile Courts Law does not apply in cases of sabotage, crimes against the "Law for the Protection of Peace" Paragraph 24 of the Juvenile Courts Law expressly lays down that such "crimes shall be dealt with under the normal provisions of the criminal code. In other words, the old Soviet Zone "court" system will continue and even childish folly and thoughtlessness will be regarded as crimes against the existing order.

It will still be possible to pass death sentences on children and young people. In recent years the death sentence has been carried out against 15 and 16 year olds. Just recently, it was revealed by statistics, eight 15 and 16 year olds were executed. Ten young people 18 and 19 year olds, were guillotined. They were mostly school pupils accused of "illegal political activities" or "anti-Soviet propaganda" or similar "crimes".

The Juvenile Courts Law contains a special provision to ensure that no "enemy of the State" shall escape "justice"; people who were youths at the time of the alleged offence, but are not any more when the charge is brought, will be tried in a normal court of law if the public prosecutor chooses to bring his case there. In other words, it is only necessary to hold a youth long enough on remand or in some other form of detention to be able to get him under this provision. In the Soviet Zone there are no legal methods which an arrested man can make use of to get his trial speeded up. Ruthless delaying tactics thus enable a youth always to be brought before an adult court with its more severe punishments.

Life is too complex to say that unhappiness is always a misfortune or contentment always a blessing. The profound law of compensation seems to reserve its highest awards for those who suffer the most. For the wounds of the spirit there is often a greater compensation than mere healing, for the unhappy there is something higher than joy, and for those who live under stress there is often something deeper than peace. — Montreal Gazette.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. L.)

VOLUNTEER TROOP

"Friday being the anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne, a general field day of the Volunteers took place on the Barrack Square. The Companies in attendance were the Volunteer Troop of Cavalry, under Capt. H. Gates; Artillery, Capt. T. Morris; Prince of Wales, Capt. R. Hodgson; Dundas Rifles, Southport, Capt. H. Bee; Scotia, Wheatley River, Capt. D. McRae; Thistle, Dunstaffnage, Capt. D. Ross; Irish Rifles, Capt. Hickey. The several Companies presented a very creditable appearance, and went through their various exercises in a soldier-like manner.

"His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief (Lieutenant Governor Dundas), accompanied by his Staff, arrived on the ground about 1 o'clock, and was received with the usual salute. A Royal Salute was then fired by the Battery. His Excellency inspected the several Companies, and delivered a short address, complimenting them on their appearance, etc. After the review the Volunteers paraded some of the principal streets of the City, accompanied by their new Band, of which we think they may justly be proud. The day was observed as a public holiday, and as the weather was exceedingly fine, a large number of ladies and gentlemen was present to witness the review." — The Islander, June 27, 1862.

The Poet's Corner

MY LIGHT WITH YOURS

When the sea has devoured the ships, And the spires and the towers have gone back to the hills, And all the cities are silent, Are one with the plains again, And the beauty of bronze Are blown over silent continents, As the desert sand is blown— My dust with yours forever.

When folly and wisdom are no more, And fire is no more, Because man is no more; When the dead world slowly spinning Drifts and falls through the void— My light with yours In the Light of Lights forever.

—Edgar Lee Masters.

The Age-Old Story

The mighty God, even the Lord, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.

Around The World For The Price Of A Stamp

Many nations have contributed to the advancement of the oldest of public services, the world's postal systems. Today, the whole vast international traffic of the public mail is under the supervision of the Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.). Yet it is only within the past 150 years that the letter post itself has been made available to people generally. Before then the post was in most cases reserved for royalty, the aristocracy and State officials.

The first recorded post was founded about 500 B.C. by Darius the Great of Persia, who used relays of horsemen to send messages throughout his vast empire, ranging from India to western Egypt. Macedonian, Egyptian and Roman rulers followed suit. Chinese emperors meanwhile devised an elaborate courier system which Marco Polo described centuries later during his journey to the court of the Grand Khan.

Among the Western countries the Romans raised the post to an efficiency surpassed only in modern times. Julius Caesar's letters to Cicero, written from Britain, reached Rome in 26 days. Letters carried along the same route were still taking a month as late as 1800. The word "post" dates from the Roman period. It is derived from the Latin positus meaning "placed". Because letters were placed at set distances to carry dispatches, the word "post" came into use.

In 1635 Britain's postmaster Thomas Witherings, established a public service between London and Edinburgh. Rates, payable by the recipient, were 2d for a letter conveyed over 80 miles and 8d to Scotland. Witherings also organized a foreign service through France, with the consent of the French Government.

In 1653 Renouard de Villayer created a local post for Paris, which was run from a central office. Under this scheme, the many letter boxes set up in the streets of Paris were emptied several times daily. Four cent charges (one cent was paid by the sender, and the receipt slip accompanying the delivery thus constituted the first use of a form of postage stamp.

The regular international governmental, or official, post dates from 1670, when England and France established the "Lyons Mail" by special treaty. England provided twice-weekly mail packets across the Channel, and France furnished the overland service to Lyons. Fees to this point were prepaid, but charges for further transmission were collected from the addressee.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for Gaudet & Haszard, Chas. R. McQuaid, Matheson, Peake & Nicholson, M. Alban Farmer, Allison M. Gillis, J. A. Carruthers, Dr. W. R. Carson, Byron J. Grant, Dr. A. L. MacIsaac, H. R. Doane & Company, and McDonald, Currie & Co.