

THE GUARDIAN

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Canada And The U.N.

In a new External Affairs Department volume entitled "Canada and the United Nations, 1951-52", the Minister, Mr. Pearson, says in a foreword that we should not be too worried about the nastiness of UN debates. Futility will only be reached, he says, if the debates ever "degenerate into an elaborate exchange of meaningless courtesies which avoid any realistic reference to outstanding issues and disputes."

Mr. Pearson states frankly that the big rift in UN and the pursuit of peace is the Kremlin, but he refuses to be so fascinated by that chasm that he can't see the other difficulties facing world peace. "Even if Communism had never been invented," he says, "and even if the Soviet Union were located on a different planet, a number of serious differences within the free world would remain. For many peoples of the world the most direct political threat, real or imaginary, comes from their next-door neighbors or from the continuation of long-unresolved situations in their particular parts of the world. To such peoples, the existence of the United Nations is not merely a reassuring fact—it provides the actual means of seeking redress."

It is known that the UN session is going to hear much of Tunisian and Moroccan demands for autonomy, of appeals of backward or colored peoples everywhere against oppression or intolerance. Debate on these questions may reveal embarrassing differences within the Commonwealth, perhaps divide Britain, France and the United States. Mr. Pearson explains what should be Canada's approach to these issues:

"Canada's experience in achieving self-government and independence has convinced us of the value of gradual and peaceful evolution as opposed to violent and too sudden change. . . There is a wide difference of view concerning the degree to which the General Assembly and Trusteeship Council should intervene in the affairs of dependent peoples, and also concerning the speed with which these peoples should attain independence. The fact is, of course, that the peoples now classified as dependent vary greatly in their ability to manage their own affairs. It follows that we should avoid dogmatism and try to consider, in each case, what is in the best interests of the particular people concerned. We should also not forget that there are people under Communist rule who have been given the forms of self-government but who are in a state of far greater enslavement than the inhabitants of colonial territories."

Of No Value Whatever

There was a significant secondary verdict rendered by United States electors last week, notes the Globe and Mail. In addition to their expression of preference for President, they let the whole world know that they have no opinion at all of political pollsters. The results of the balloting, both as to regional trends and the division of the aggregate vote between parties, clearly demonstrate two things: The polls do not accurately reflect public opinion; and the periodic findings of the pollsters, as published during an election campaign, do not influence electoral thinking.

This time the opinion polls succeeded in being even more egregiously wrong through over-caution than they were in the last Presidential election by being overconfident. When they were firm in their predictions, the voting went in a contrary direction. When they professed to see nothing but a closely contested election, they were even more in error. The Republican landslide clearly was in the making when their last checks were made. But they failed to see any sign of it.

Newfoundland's History

Newfoundland may be the youngest Province of the Dominion, but its Colonial history is rich in colorful incidents and due recognition of this fact is being made by the Canadian Historic Sites and Monuments Board.

Fort Townshend, Fort William and Fort Amherst in St. John's are to be marked as sites of early forts used in the wars between the French and English for possession of St. John's, then the fishing capital of the New World.

Placentia will be recognized as the old French capital of Newfoundland; a monument at Bonavista will mark the spot

recognized as the first landfall of John Cabot.

Nearby Signal Hill, where Col. Amherst's troops defeated the French and recaptured St. John's in 1762, will be the site of a national park. Old cannon, reminders of the days when the harbor of St. John's was defended by batteries in the surrounding hills, are in poor condition. Steps will be taken to recondition them.

Soon to be unveiled is a small monument commemorating the flight from St. John's of Alcock and Brown in 1919. Alcock and Brown were the first to fly the Atlantic non-stop.

The national park will also recognize Marconi's 1927 reception of the first trans-Atlantic wireless message from Cornwall, Eng.

At Cupids, Conception Bay, a monument installed in 1910 to mark the spot where the first officially-sanctioned settlement of the New World was founded, will be reconditioned. John Guy started the Cupids Settlement in 1610.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Prince of Wales College Day.

The splendid work being done in Charlottetown by Bruce Stewart and Co. Ltd. is an important contribution towards preparedness as well as being a sign of health and well being in a local industry.

Trygve Lie has rendered magnificent service to the United Nations since his election as secretary-general in 1946. He now feels that his resignation would best serve U. N. interests because of Russian opposition to his holding office, and has acted accordingly.

Councillor Johnstone's proposal to close to vehicles the roadway bordering Government Pond on the west could lead to a decided improvement there as a pleasant place to walk. Stopping the cars, however, is only one step. A great deal of clean-up work is needed as well to allow citizens to enjoy that area at its best.

Elizabeth Cleghorn, Mrs. William Gaskell, English novelist, died this date 1865. "Mary Barton", a novel of factory life, made her famous. "Cranford" was a series of exquisite studies of village life and was followed by "Ruth", "Lizzie Leigh" and other works. Her highly controversial "Life of Charlotte Bronte" appeared in 1857.

When, in December of 1949, sugar controls were removed after ten years of rigid regulation, refined granulated sugar was listed at \$8.65 wholesale per 100 pounds, Montreal basis. Today sugar costs the consumer less, for the present list is \$8.60. By contrast, despite the fact that sugar controls continue in the U. K., sugar is twice as expensive as it is in Canada, in terms of purchasing power per unit of work.

The Queen has approved a list of battle honours won by the Royal Canadian Air Force during the Second World War. The list contains those air battles in which squadrons of the R.C.A.F. participated. The Battle of Britain heads the list. The battle honours will be displayed by the squadron entitled to them in the form of a plaque headed by the squadron badge and number, and followed by a list of the honours which have been awarded to that squadron.

In acquiring a Ph.D., a professor of education at Brandon has drawn opinions on Americans from 7,607 senior students at 321 high schools across Canada. Most replied very sensibly that they have no pronounced opinions about Americans. The statistical evaluation of other replies is interesting, as showing Newfoundland most pro-American and Prince Edward Island in seventh place in our esteem for our southern neighbours, but these and numerous other revelations will not greatly add to the store of human knowledge.

Warning that "unequal distribution of the benefits of education and science continues to endanger peace and security," Jaime Torres Bodet, Director General of Unesco, states that "remarkable progress has been made by Unesco during the last 18 months. Despite its limited resources and the unfavorable international situation, Unesco has proved clearly that it is a useful instrument and a necessary ideal," says Mr. Torres Bodet in his report to Unesco's General Conference whose Seventh Session opens in Paris on November 12. Primary emphasis is placed by the Director General on Unesco's activities to promote fundamental education—that is, education to raise standards of living—pointing out that "more than half of mankind can neither read nor write and, therefore, remains sunk in a state of ignorance perpetuating its wretched conditions of existence."

Off In The Right Direction



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.

POLL TAX COLLECTIONS

Sir, In your report of the meeting of the City Council held Monday night you use as a heading, "Substantial Increase in Poll Tax Receipts."

I would like to have some space in your valuable paper to supplement the figures given in your report with some facts which, I believe, will be of interest to all tax payers.

The total arrears of poll tax collected to date amount to \$4,219. 326 citizens who were in default have now paid all arrears up to date. 319 others have made payments to the amount of \$1,604. on their arrears and have made arrangement with the tax collector for the payment of their balances. Unfortunately, as stated in your report, 586 letters were returned with the notation that the parties concerned had either died or left the Province. This means that many thousands of dollars, which could have and should have been collected, have been lost forever to the City. It also means that the books were in a most unsatisfactory condition. But, I hasten to say, the responsibility for this condition should not be laid on our office help. It is the duty of the Mayor and Council to see that all taxes are fully and impartially collected. Up to date 77 cases against poll tax defaulters have been given to the court for collection and the policy will be continued without fear or favour, until all who have the means to do so, shall have paid their taxes.

EDWIN C. JOHNSTONE, Chairman, Finance Committee.

THE MONA LISA

Sirs:—I have been a reader of The Guardian for many years and I have always found it a most interesting and reliable paper. I always read the letters in the Public Forum, so was very much surprised on reading J. B. McGloskey's letter regarding the Mona Lisa, which appeared in The Forum on October 18.

DaVinci's famous painting was stolen from the Louvre on August 21, 1911. It was valued at \$5,000,000 in itself. The picture was recovered two years later still in the possession of the thief, who instead of profiting, went to jail for three years.

Now, why and how this famous painting was stolen is too long a story to write here. The French were content to get La Joconde back in her old place on the wall of the Salon Carré without investigating too deeply, and there DaVinci's masterpiece can be seen today. The actual thief was a man named Perugia who worked in the Salon. It is believed that he was a confederate of a gang of crooks who hoped to make large sums of money by contacting wealthy collectors and offering to sell them the painting.

It has been proved beyond a

The Age-Old Story

In my Father's house are many mansions: If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. . . Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. . . Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth in me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

The Poet's Corner

STEPPING WESTWARD

The dewy ground was dark and cold Behind, all gloomy to behold; And stepping westward seemed to be A kind of heavenly destiny: I liked the greeting: 'twas a sound Or something without place or bound; And seemed to give me spiritual right To travel through that region bright. The voice was soft, and she who spake Was walking by her native lake; The salutation had to me The very sound of courtesy; Its power was felt; and while my eye Was fixed upon the glowing sky, The echo of the voice wrought A human sweetness with the thought Of travelling through the world that lay Before me in my endless way.

doubt that the original Mona Lisa is back in the Louvre where it is covered by a heavy glass and protected by a railing. Any up-to-date Encyclopedia should verify these facts.

I am Sir, etc. MINNIE H. HALLIDAY Newtonville, Mass.

"IN REMEMBRANCE"

The following letter was received too late for publication in yesterday's issue, for which it was intended:

Sir,—All over Europe, the poppies are growing "between the crosses row and row" that mark the last resting place to close to one hundred thousand young Canadians who have made the supreme sacrifice in two World Wars.

As I pass by one several occasions the National War Memorial here in Ottawa and think how fitting it is that all of us in the hustle and bustle of our daily work should pause for a few moments on this Remembrance Day to think of that great host of gallant men who gave their all to their loved ones at home and their fellow citizens may continue to live in peace. They gave their all for their Country—their first full measure of devotion for us and our fellow men that we might continue to enjoy the blessings of a free land, the blessings of peace and Justice, equity and liberty.

Do we ever stop to consider seriously the sacrifice made by our Canadian soldiers in Korea—think of the young men who were cut down in the threshold of life. Think of the happy years of young manhood denied to them, which you and I have enjoyed to live. I think it is our responsibility to see that the dead of two World Wars and those who have made the supreme sacrifice in the Korean conflict are not forgotten, that their memory is kept bright through the years by the little red poppy of remembrance which is worn as a personal token of tribute to those who gave their lives for Canada.

Remembrance Day this year is being observed in bleaker circumstances than have obtained in any peace time year since 1938. The world may question at this time, the value of the sacrifice made by young men whose bodies were broken by war and who finally found last resting in cemeteries laid out among the alien acres where they fought and died. Therefore, the wearing of the poppies and the laying of wreaths at Cenotaphs across the nation on Remembrance Day, recalls their spirit and gives new inspiration for service to their country they served so heroically and it is most surely of comfort and encouragement to those presently serving to know that devotion and sacrifice are not lightly forgotten by the citizens of this Dominion. So we, within the silence of Remembrance Day, will offer our

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

INCENDIARISM

"We learn from the Gazette of Tuesday, that on the night of Sunday, the 6th instant, about 12 o'clock, a barn on the Point Farm, at Casumpec, the property of the Hon. Samuel Cunard, was destroyed by fire, and that, from the circumstances under which it originated, there is good ground for believing it to have been the work of an incendiary. This is further supported by an affidavit from the occupant of the farm—William Woodman—who solemnly affirms it to be his belief, that 'the said barn was feloniously set on fire by some person or persons to the dependent unknown.' The Hon. Mr. Peters, who is agent for the property, was lodging in the house of Woodman, on the night in question, and from what we can understand from the facts detailed, lost his own horse with the other contents of the barn. . . . "The copy of the Gazette from which we have learned the intelligence above adverted to, furnishes the following paragraph: 'A most wanton and mischievous attempt to destroy the New Market House at Georgetown was made on the night of Saturday last, between the hours of 10 and 11 o'clock, by some unprincipled miscreants, who are at present unknown. Fortunately their attempts were checked before much mischief was done. The fire had been set under the sill at the west end of the building, and some sticks and chips had been collected for the purpose of ensuring its destruction. The damage done is confined to the sill and to the shingles on the wall, to the height of about 6 feet, as it providentially happened that two well disposed individuals discovered the attempt, and gave the alarm. A person was also seen running away at the time, who is supposed to have been concerned in the attack."

—The Palladium, Oct. 19, 1844

tribute of indebtedness and praise to them to whom we owe so much and pledge ourselves to safeguard and not to lose what they have won.

These young men were men of every class, creed, and condition. They came from every strata of our national life. They were men who heard the call. They marched and marched their graves in a community of purpose, self sacrifice and endeavour. If Remembrance is to be sacred at all then it must be personal and on Remembrance Day, as the last strokes peal away from the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill on this November 11th I am happy to place a wreath at the base of the National War Memorial here in Ottawa in remembrance of the young men from my native Province, Prince Edward Island who so gallantly and willingly made the supreme sacrifice and who brought honour and glory to their Province and Country.

I am, Sir, etc. GERALD P. MURTAGH, 21 Crichton Street, Ottawa, Ontario.

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Notes By The Way

Inventor of a device to keep cows' tails from switching at milking time has birked German investors. Well, here's a substitute, for nothing: Drape a circlet of heavy chain over Bossy's hip bones. If you haven't a chain, duck. — Windsor Star.

A local reader would like to know why the newspaper profession is referred to as the Fourth Estate. The term is said to originate with the British Member of Parliament and writer Edmund Burke. The three estates of the realm are the Lords Spiritual, the Lords Temporal and the Commons. Burke maintained that because of its importance to the state, the press should be known as the Fourth Estate. Burke died in 1797. — Toronto Telegram.

Explaining Canada's recurring surpluses, Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent has said: "Every year we have been more prosperous than even an optimist like Mr. Abbott dared to hope we would be." Or is it a case of Mr. Abbott being even less an optimist than the rest of us had dared to suspect? — Windsor Star.

Like a number of other Canadian universities, the University of Manitoba is building a new library. But the ceremony of laying a cornerstone was complicated the other day when student pranksters stole the stone from a shed. With the Governor-General scheduled to perform the ceremony, the situation could have been embarrassing. Fortunately, however, Alberta University authorities had sent warning that they had been afflicted by this prank, and a dummy had been instituted at Manitoba. — Ottawa Citizen.

Police checked twice before they solved this accident. A trolley bus travelling along the east side of Granville was blamed for damaging the canvas roof of a convertible parked on the other side of the street. Explained bus driver William Sunter: "The trolley pole

slipped off the power wire, hit a cross wire which jarred a pole on the opposite side of the street and knocked a lamp shade on the roof of the car." Damage—about \$150. — Vancouver Province.

London would be glad if Canada would take the little archipelago of Bermuda under its political protection. That would mean ceasing from the Mother Country any expensive present of which the guardianship and maintenance would cost too much. During the wars for sea supremacy Bermuda had a strategic importance. It is still a port of refuge for hurricane-tossed ships and planes in trouble. Clever publicity has made it a peaceful resting place for the happy ones of the earth. . . . If it is true that the English wish to cede this archipelago to Canada, it is probable that Canadians are not keen on receiving the de luxe present. Why not make it an international convalescent sanctuary for the sick? — L'Evenement Journal, Quebec.

In England, it seems, they are called week end archeologists. In America, we suspect, they might be merely house hunters. At any rate, a team of these amateur delvers into the past has discovered near Lullingstone, England, the site of a large barn built in the third century, A. D., during the Roman occupation of Britain. The period is indicated by coins found. And the authentic farm touch is added by paw marks of a dog in the floor cement. Moreover, those who assume that a hay drier is something new under the sun learn that a primitive form of grain drying was used in this ancient Roman barn. What puzzles us, though, is this: Can the British housing shortage be quite as bad as we have supposed? If a barn like that had come to light in the United States, the discoverers would be setting about before nightfall to convert it into an English cottage, a ranch house, a studio, an inn, or a tea shoppe.— Christian Science Monitor.

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