

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JULY 14, 1950

Shifting Sands of French Politics

When France found itself without a government just as negotiations were getting under way on the Schuman Plan, it was living up to an old tradition. For the only permanent factor in French political life ever since World War I has been the instability of the cabinet itself.

The danger of this weakness in the political life of France lies not so much in the constant rise and fall of governments, so much as it does in the cynical indifference to democratic principles which cabinet instability breeds. Consider, for example, what has happened since the fall of Georges Bidault's cabinet on June 24. That same afternoon, Finance Minister Pétache went ahead with a previously scheduled reception in the ornate halls of the ministry which he no longer headed.

Cause of this constant change is the absence in France of the two party political system. Governments, in the face of this multiplicity of party allegiances, must be based on coalition, and coalitions are a foundation of sand. Further complication lies in the fact that two large political groups, the Communists and the De Gaulists, are outside the possible scope of coalition.

It is in just such a setting of political confusion that totalitarianism, whether of the left or of the right, is bred.

Shrinking Dollar

It has long been remarked that there is nothing so certain to depreciate in value as money. The Hamilton Spectator quotes figures from American sources which vividly illustrate the truth of that observation. In 1900 it took \$25,000 capital for a man and wife to retire comfortably, good investments bringing in \$1,500 a year. To live as well by 1939 an investment of \$63,000 was needed, and today the amount required would be \$112,000.

Another contrast would be between one investor lending \$5,000 on good security twenty years ago and another buying property of the same value. The first would now be receiving an income of not more than \$250 a year, while the second would be very likely to be receiving something like \$1,000, and find that his investment is now worth about four times its original value.

Individual cases will, of course, vary, from a total loss to undreamed of riches, but the long term trend of rising prices gives a distinct advantage to ownership as compared with the lending of money.

What evens the balance, of course, is the greater risk of ownership and the responsibility involved. To a great many people today it seems better to receive a modest return without effort, than to assume the responsibility inseparable from ownership, whether of a house or of an industry.

"On The Road To Mandalay"

Canadian taxpayers footed a foreign travel account of \$800,032 for globe-trotting bureaucrats between April 1, 1949, and June 1, 1950. This was the sum paid out to 2,584 civil servants and others, and 565 members of the armed services.

Keeping up with the Joneses costs a lot of money in the international circles in which Canadian bureaucrats are wont to move. Consider, for example, a few of the international conferences attended by Canadian officials in April and May. An imposing group of bureaucratic top brass went to the International Telegraphic Union High Frequency Broadcasting conference at Florence, Italy.

Dr. T. W. M. Cameron of MacDonald College notes that for more than a century there has been a swing towards a warmer world with a recession of glaciers and a spread of the tropics. Before we rejoice too much at the prospect it should be noted that if the world is really entering one of the warmer epochs of its history it would also mean a rise in sea level which would make the Island more suitable for fishing than for farming.

to Sydney, Australia. Other conferences on topics ranging from Public Hygiene to the "Development, Design and Inspection of Clothing and General Stores" kept a few score more officials on the hop from Ottawa.

Nobody objects to Canada being adequately represented at international conferences where vital Canadian interests are at stake. Trouble is that the charms of globe-trotting tend to take bureaucrats away from their official knitting in Ottawa and turn them into international committee men, which costs a lot of money.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Destruction of the Bastille, and beginning of French government instability, this date 1789.

The Crapaud plebiscite and the Divorce Jurisdiction Act come before the Supreme Court today.

A well known columnist reveals that he buys a pair of shoes only every two years. Presumably he finds it necessary to insist on two pairs of pants with a suit.

Dr. T. B. Acker, Halifax, is one of the most welcome visitors to Charlottetown, bringing, as he does, healing on his wings, hope and health to many handicapped little ones who, otherwise, might be compelled to endure life-long maladies not of their own contraction.

Ratepayers of the Lorne Valley School district do not intend to rest on their laurels or on the silver trophy for improvements made in three successive years. They have again turned out in strength and redecorated the school's interior.

An Indian woman doctor is in this country on a U. N. fellowship to study health and welfare. A visit to Prince Edward Island, testing ground in miniature for Canada's health programme, would undoubtedly prove rewarding, or at any rate enjoyable.

Barbless fish-hooks are being enthusiastically advocated by sportsmen in Northern Manitoba. The idea is that under-size trout may be returned to the water without fatal injury. It is claimed that they result in the loss of less than one per cent of a catch.

Another British taxation tragedy. Lord Portman, 47, has handed over his Dorset estates of about five square miles to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. In a letter to his tenants, Lord Portman said that high taxes payable on the death of his father in 1948 prevented his carrying on the estates as he wished.

Tycoons being taxed out of England. At Nottingham, John Dane Player, millionaire tobacco magnate who died last April, left more than £2,500,000 (\$7,750,000) gross. Four-fifths of this, \$6,200,000, went in inheritance tax, leaving \$1,550,000 to be distributed among the heirs.

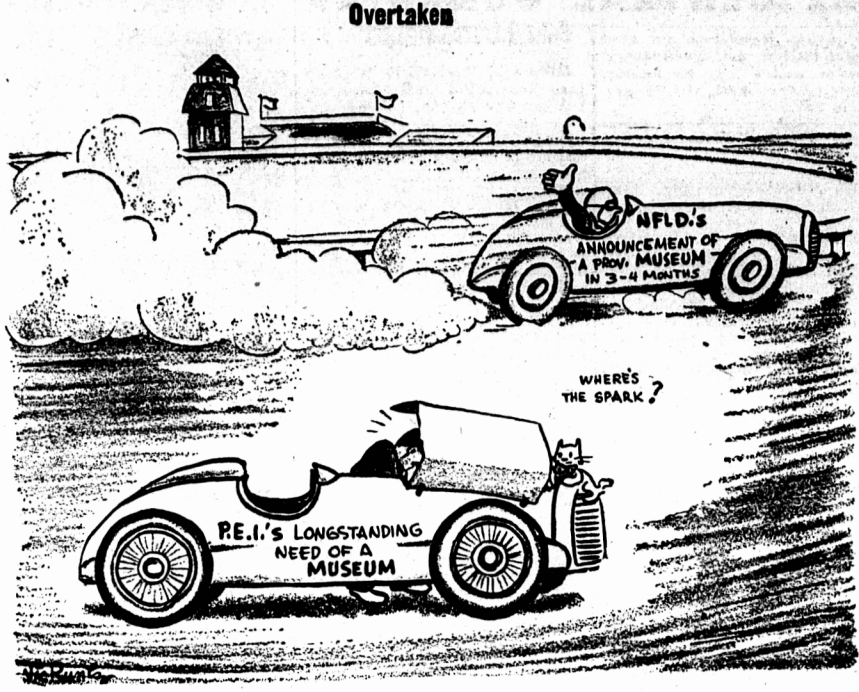
Niagara Falls is one place where parking meters evidently pay. Twenty tons of coins have been dropped into parking meters there since the devices were installed in November, 1947. City treasurer Wilfrid Soulsby said that deposits have totalled \$46,228.

Mr. Horace Wright, on second thought, has decided to abandon his reference to the Supreme Court as chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board. There must still be doubt whether the P. E. I. Industrial Corporation is, or is not, owned, or managed or controlled by the Provincial Government.

Souris has always held an important place on the Island's map; now it has featured what is to become an annual event in its regatta and swimming contests. Making most of the opportunities one has is the sure way to success, as the man in the fable who made the best mouse trap discovered.

Prime Minister St. Laurent's assurance that Parliament will be reconvened before any military action beyond sending of Naval craft is considered, was highly proper from a Parliamentary point of view. It should not, however, provide an excuse for delaying any preliminary aid which this country is called upon to give to defeat aggression.

Dr. T. W. M. Cameron of MacDonald College notes that for more than a century there has been a swing towards a warmer world with a recession of glaciers and a spread of the tropics. Before we rejoice too much at the prospect it should be noted that if the world is really entering one of the warmer epochs of its history it would also mean a rise in sea level which would make the Island more suitable for fishing than for farming.



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.

A BASIC FARM FACT

Sir,—That item in your news-columns, reporting the Ottawa meeting of the Provincial Fertilizer Board at the Central Experimental Farm interested this reader, intimating that "world consumption of chemical fertilizers has reached the phenomenal peak of 11,350,000 tons annually" and also quoting an FAO fertilizer official (C. J. Callister) as saying that many millions more tons are required to achieve early increases in the production of food for a hungry world.

I was particularly attracted to the above story, because it almost meshed with our farm forum discussion on this same theme. It deserves to be recorded. I think that when one of our urban members reminded us that "there is this to be said about the tractor, that it doesn't need any feed when it's not working"; a smart young rural member reminded us that: "The figures—i. e., 11,350,000 tons of chemical fertilizer—show that we're not getting away from the basic fact that 'every advantage has its tax' and that the soil, also, has to be properly fed, if it is to continue working for us and our nutritional needs?"

Another contribution to the discussion ran something like this: "The shift to mechanical power in North American fields during the past 20 years has released a total of about 800,000,000 acres of cropland—i. e., about 40,000,000 acres annually—for the production of human food and fiber needs. In earlier years, this large area of arable land (plus many additional million acres of pasture) had to be dedicated to the growth of mule and horse feed."

And finally, the following jingle from a Prairie booklet on soil conservation: "I did right well with my earth's bounty. Held fat notes on half the county. Made big crops and lots of dough. Couldn't bring it with me, though. Grandson now works twice as hard; but gets low yields for his reward. He'd make out better 'I've no doubt, had I put in what I took out!"

I am, Sir, etc. WAR VETERAN.

The Poet's Corner

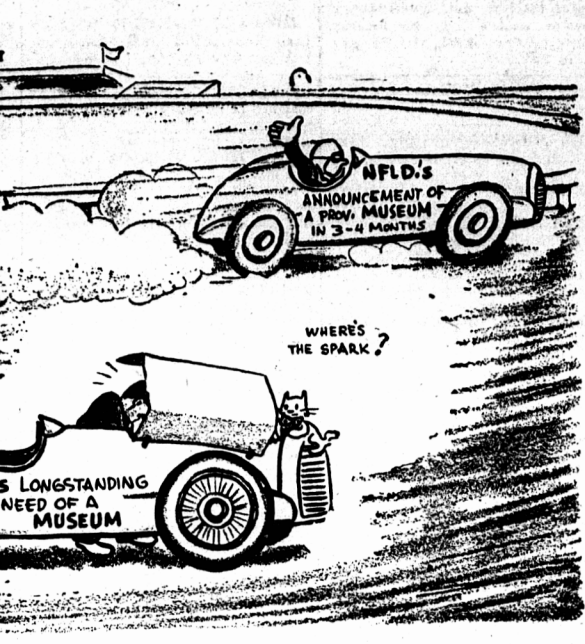
OTTAWA City about whose brow the north winds blow, Girdled with woods and shod with river foam, Called by a name as old as Troy or Rome, Be great as they but pure as thine own snow; Rather flash up amid the auroral glow, The Lania city of the northern star, Than be so hard with craft or wild with war, Peopled with deeds remembered for their use, Thou art too bright for gulls, too young for tears, And thou wilt live to be too strong for Time; For he may mock thee with his furrowed frowns, But thou wilt grow in calm throughout the years, Cinctured with peace and crowned with power sublime, The maiden queen of all the towered towns. —Duncan Campbell Scott.

The Age-Old Story

Thou shalt have a perfect and just weight; a perfect and just measure shalt thou have. That thy days may be lengthened in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

WON BY A HEART MARLON, Devon, Eng.—(CP)—Conia Wilson and Pamela Hele twice were tied when votes were counted in a beauty contest here. Told to cut cards for the title, Conia drew the eight of hearts and Pamela drew the nine of hearts.

Overtaken



Gromyko's Revealing Statement

By W. N. Ewer

The statement which M. Gromyko issued on July 4th is, whatever its purpose, a very revealing document. It is in the form of an indictment of the United States and the United Nations. But it is, in fact, an exposure of a Soviet plan, which failed.

It is clear that the Soviet planned that their model was to be Spain, with technical improvements learned from Hitler. There would be a sudden Hitlerism attack. Then Russia would propose "non-intervention" in "civil war." The Western Powers would readily agree, would snatch at the opportunity of avoiding a collision. The Security Council would decide that the conflict was outside its jurisdiction. The U. S. A. had already made up its mind that South Korea would have to be abandoned. South Korea was known to be militarily weak and unprepared. The Northern Government had already been given all the equipment it would need for the operation, and could easily be given more if it were necessary.

So non-intervention and Yaks would achieve in Korea what conflict, intervention and German plans had achieved in Spain—only far more swiftly. And the Soviet Union—at a cost of a few million rubles and a few thousand Korean lives—would have won a resounding victory which would have repercussions throughout Asia.

That was this plan. The Gromyko communique is in essence an angry explanation of why it failed. One feels that perhaps it is the Moscow Foreign Office's apology to Stalin and an attempt to avert his wrath by diverting it against Truman and Trygve Lie.

So M. Gromyko labours to expound the doctrine of non-intervention and to denounce statesmen and governments which so unexpectedly and so incoherently failed to do what Soviet calculations had decided that they should do. Of course, he does not once mention Spain. But what could in fact be more revealing than this omission? In any discussion of civil war and non-intervention, the Spanish case is the classical—and most recent—example. But an analogy would be too suggestive and too revealing. So M. Gromyko is carefully silent. And his silence betrays him.

The Soviet miscalculation was, not for the first time, complete. It was based on misinformation and misunderstanding. The Western Powers and the United Nations, instead of hesitating, acted. Instead of awaiting, and then gratefully accepting, some Soviet proposal for "localising the conflict" they took the initiative. Trygve Lie did not waste an hour, but at once called an emergency meeting of the Council. The Council, instead of adjourning at once, decided that there had been a breach of the peace and called on the invaders to withdraw. Truman regards his resolution as a sufficient mandate for ordering United States forces to act in support of the Council's demand. The Council promptly endorsed his action and called upon other U. N. members to assist. And its action in turn has been endorsed by an overwhelming majority of member states.

Everything had gone precisely as Moscow did not intend or expect. And, in such circumstances, the first instincts of the Soviet mind are to explain the "incoherence" of what has happened, to justify which has failed and to denounce the villainy of those responsible for its failure. The denunciations are of less importance than the attempted justification: for it is the latter which betrays the Soviet plans. The attempt to prove that it was the South Korean Government which began the fighting is a crude attempt to evade the central fact of a carefully organized, carefully timed invasion. The current Soviet theory requires that, even in civil war, the Communists cannot have been the aggressors. Then comes a laboured effort to prove that this is, in fact, a civil war in which it is the duty of all outside powers not to intervene.

Since it is a civil war, says the Soviet, the Security Council would not legally interfere, and since the Soviet representative ignored Lie's summons to the Council meeting the Council could not do anything at all legally. Since Truman acted on the first "illegal" resolution, instead of waiting for the second "illegal" resolution, he

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) 1833 CENSUS

"On examination of the census returns given on the 1st July, in accordance with the Act of last Session, we find the following results—males, 16,840; females, 15,452 and 57 insane persons, making a grand total of 32,452 souls. By comparing with the census taken in 1827, which is stated 23,268, there appears to be an increase, in the six last years, of 9,083 inhabitants, or an augmentation to our numbers not far short of one-half. In Charlottetown, there has been an increase of 317, and in the Royalty, 152; Georgetown, which then only existed in name, now contains 59; Princetown, 16; Princetown Royalty has increased 144. The township containing the greatest number of inhabitants is Lot 34, which exhibits 1,270." — Royal Gazette, Aug. 20, 1833.

Crying Out Loud

(Windsor Star)

Watching from the office window, we saw a young gentleman of about two summers, having himself a grand time clambering about some old tires. He climbed up them, teetered on the edge, climbing down, and then did it all over again a couple of times.

But, as always happens, finally he slipped and down he went kerplunk. He skinned his knee and hurt his dignity. And, as always happens, he started to howl as though he had been murdered. He howled and he howled for about a minute. But, no one paid any attention, they just let him holler.

When the young gentleman of two summers discovered that all he was doing was crying out loud and getting nowhere, he took a quick peek around to make sure. When he assured himself he was being ignored, he dried his tears and began playing again.

That's the way with so many tears. They're just to attract attention, not to register grief.

too was guilty of "illegality." The hairs are split with patient ingenuity. But all the arguments are directed to the same end. "The only "correct" and "legal" policy for the United Nations and the Western Powers to have pursued is the policy which the Soviet Government hoped and expected them to pursue—to have stood aside, to have made a non-intervention agreement and set up a non-intervention committee, while Russia's proteges with Russian aid made themselves masters of all Korea and gained a new province for Stalin's empire. The parallel with Spain is startlingly exact. It is not surprising that Gromyko refrained so carefully from any mention of it."

The value of the Gromyko document is, then, its clear exposure of the plan on which the Soviet Government was working. That plan has collapsed. Now new plans must be made for the new circumstances. But of what they are or will be Gromyko gives no hint at all. It was hardly to be expected that he would.

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Samuel Holland's Family

From an article on the Life and Times of Major Samuel Holland, first Surveyor General of British North America, by William Chipman, O.L.S., C.E., published in 1924 by the Ontario Historical Society.

There is a tradition in the Holland family that John Frederick Holland, eldest son of Major Samuel, was the first child of British parentage born (1764) on Prince Edward Island. This is corroborated by a statement made about fifty years ago by a descendant of a pioneer settler named Clarke, to the effect that his own great grandfather and great grandmother Clarke came to the Island with Major Holland and his wife, and that his grandfather Clarke was born a few weeks after John Frederick Holland.

There is also extant a fragment of a letter from Major Holland to General Haldimand in which he mentions his two boys, little "St. John's Jack" and "Louisburg Henry." (Prince Edward Island was then known as Isle St. Jean.) Samuel Holland established his house on the Island at Observation Cove, afterwards known as Holland's Cove. This place is situated four miles south of Charlottetown at the west entrance to the harbour. He probably lived there during the time he was engaged on the survey of the shores of the Gulf and there two, if not more, of his children were born. His son, Frederick Braham, lived at Tryon River, and there the widow of Major Samuel and her daughter Charlotte made their home after leaving Quebec.

In 1770 his headquarters were at Kittery on the north side of the outlet of the Piscataqua River, which forms the southerly part of the present boundary between Maine and New Hampshire. Between 1771 and 1773 he may have resided at Boston or some other point on the coast of Massachusetts for a short time, but there is no record of this. In 1773 he wrote from Quebec that he intended to make Perth Amboy, New Jersey, his headquarters, a point distant only twenty-five miles from New York.

When the American Revolution broke out in 1775 his house at Perth Amboy was ransacked by the patriots, and burned. There is no record as to how his wife and family escaped, but they were probably given advance notice by friends and found means of reaching New York, which remained in the hands of the British throughout the entire period of the war.

For the first ten or twelve years of their married life they were apparently living on the seashore at two or three points. From 1776 to 1780 his family may have been at New York, where he was stationed, or more likely at Quebec with his wife's people.

In 1784 Major Holland states, in a letter to General Tryon, that he then had ten children, and that five were sons. Diligent search for some years has resulted in discovering seven children. (1) John Frederick, born on Isle St. Jean 27th October, 1764, died December 17th, 1845, probably at Charlottetown. (2) Henry—date of birth unknown; drowned at sea when on service in the army. (3) Charlotte—died unmarried, 1833. (4) Susannah. (5) Frederick Braham, born 1774, died at Quebec September 14, 1836. (6) Samuel Lester, born 1775, killed in duel in March, 1795. (7) George Speth, baptized December 9th, 1780, date of death unknown.

At the return of officers of the First Battalion, King's Own Regiment of New York, in 1781, we find John Frederick Holland, son of Surveyor-General Holland, then credited with five years' service. If this record be correct, he entered the service in 1776 when thirteen years of age. This is one of several inexplicable records that cannot now be reconciled with facts. It is certain that Captain Samuel Holland did not reside on Isle St. Jean until 1764, although he may have visited it in 1758-1759 before the fall of Quebec. It is not probable that he was there again in 1762 when on his way to England.

John Frederick studied surveying with his father and his name appears frequently in his father's reports. Major Holland states, in a letter to General Tryon, dated August, 1784, that he has left his son Jack at Cataqui as acting Engineer, and that his second son Henry was with Collins assisting

Major Samuel, also followed surveying for a few years, but eventually joined the army. In 1779 he was Ensign in the 70th Foot, but about 1785 exchanged to the 44th Foot and was promoted from Lieutenant to Captain in 1794. In 1798 or shortly afterwards he was drowned at sea with his brother officer, Major Walker. By one account this occurred at the Isle of Wright, but other accounts, which appear equally reliable, state that the ship was wrecked on Antioch. He left two daughters; Sophia, who married Sylvester, and Elizabeth, Charlotte was probably the eldest daughter of Major Holland. There is a tradition in the family that she was engaged to a Lieutenant Haldimand, who was drowned in the employ of her father. It could not have been Haldimand, as his accidental death occurred on 15th December, 1786, before she was born. It is possible, however, that there was a younger Haldimand who met the same fate, or it is more probable that it was another lieutenant or assistant. After her father's death she lived with her widowed mother and died, unmarried, at Tryon River in 1833.

Another daughter Susanna, married Thomas Ward after her father's death in 1801, but before 1803. Three of Major Holland's children are not mentioned in his will or by any of his descendants of today. In March, 1773, he stated he then had two sons and four daughters (another child expected) and in 1784 that he then had ten children. It is possible that three died between 1784 and 1800. (To be concluded)

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