

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Editor and Managing Director, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker. CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink". CHARLOTTETOWN SATURDAY, SEPT. 26, 1953

Treatment Of The Criminal

That brutality is not a reformatory influence is generally acknowledged today and great strides have been made in this country in the intelligent handling of our prison population. The Archambault Report of 1938 had a long wait before any of its recommendations were acted upon but since 1946 there have been many improvements in penal practice, notably in trade training and attention to individual problems and requirements in the Federal penitentiaries.

The very high rate of repeat offences, however, make it all too clear that much remains to be done if we are to attain the most satisfactory results from the penal system—the protection of society and the making of good citizens out of bad ones. The September number of "Canadian Welfare", the organ of the Canadian Welfare Council, is devoted to the treatment of the criminal in Canada. It contains a rather grim history of treatment in Canadian penitentiaries and a rather more encouraging account of present treatment of the offender as well as authoritative articles on the modern approach to correctional treatment, the open prison, progress in Canada, culture and rehabilitation, ex-prisoner rehabilitation in Canada, the case for probation, facts about crime figures and many others.

The special issue succeeds well in filling the need for authentic information on penology as it applies to conditions in Canada. Interested laymen have for the most part been obliged to study the problems using textbooks and experience of other countries which may or may not be applicable here. It is to be hoped that public interest will be aroused to back the reformers in their effort to improve the situation. The fact that with one-third the population of England, Canada sends to prison three times as many people, shows that there is a very real need for reform.

The Healthiest Month

The interesting but little known fact has been established by the Canadian Life Insurance Officers Association that the month of September is the healthiest month of the year. At least it has the smallest death toll of any month. This is shown in Canadian mortality statistics for the population as a whole and is borne out by the experience among the nation's more than 5,000,000 life insurance policyholders. In analyzing the monthly distribution of death benefit payments over the past decade, the Association has found that September payments run 10 per cent below the yearly average—and 20 per cent under the peak figure in March.

This has not always been true. A century ago September had nearly the highest mortality rate of any month in the year. Among the diseases prevalent a hundred years ago were tuberculosis, smallpox, typhoid fever and scarlet fever which have since been eliminated as major causes of death. Today these same diseases represent only about one per cent of the total causes of death in this century. In this month of September, 1953, it is found that heart diseases are the nation's number one killer with cancer in second place.

More Revenue From Lower Tax

Word from Ottawa is that despite the tax cut of four cents a pack in cigarettes last February, the Canadian government revenue from cigarette tax may show an increase. This is because the tax reduction, which was coupled with a two-cent price cut by manufacturers, has caused sales to zoom upwards. In the first six months of this year sales climbed 15 per cent above the first half of 1952. If this higher consumption rate is maintained, an expected loss in government revenue of \$17 million, will be turned into a gain.

Canada reached the point of diminishing returns in cigarette taxes in April 1951, when the levy was increased three cents a pack and a general sales tax by 2 per cent was added. Sales sagged, smuggling of United States brands increased and the take in revenues, rather than increasing, slipped \$4.6 million to \$169.8 million. At that time the tax take was two and one half times greater than the manufacturer's selling price. United States contrabands reached the point where they were estimated to equal 18 per cent of total legal Canadian sales.

Now smugglers' profits have dropped to the point where cross-border activity is a fraction of what it was. In June R. C. M. P. seized 520,828 "smugs" or about half the 1,067,265 recovered in May and almost a fifth of April's 2,498,271. The high point in seizures was in September 1952, when they totalled 3,817,263. The police estimate their seizures at only 5 to 10 per cent of all cigarettes smuggled.

Before the reduction of last February, cigarette sales were between 1.4 billion and 1.5 billion monthly. In March they shot up to 2,064,000,000 and then dropped to 1,826,000,000 in April. Since then, sales have been rising. Part of the March spurt was believed due to replenishment of stocks which were abnormally low in anticipation of the cut. Thus the cigarette revenue figures prove again that higher taxes do not always result in higher revenues.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Dominion Day, New Zealand.

Tomorrow, the 17th Sunday after Trinity, 18th after Pentecost.

There is a close affinity between the state of the engineering profession and material progress. It is most satisfactory, therefore, to note the steadily growing strength of the P. E. I. branch of the Engineering Institute of Canada as indicated by attendance at the annual meeting.

A colleague of Dr. Albert Einstein, Prof. Abraham Pais, proposes to simplify atomic theory by assuming the existence of six dimensions and that what was considered to be a large number of particles forming the nucleus is merely many states of one form. On detonation it might be expected to be blown into the middle of next week.

Traffic is now a major problem in many larger centres. A move to eliminate congestion in main arteries in Quebec has been instituted by the government there. A metropolitan boulevard overpass at Ville St. Pierre is being erected. The emphasis placed on traffic amelioration in other parts should be noted for future guidance in any long-term highway plans here.

Admiral Lord Cuthbert Collingwood was born this date 1750. He went to sea when eleven years old. He served under his friend Lord Nelson in the Spanish Main in 1780 and again in the West Indies in 1783-86. He was with Howe on "the glorious first of June," 1794 off Ushant and with Jervis Cape St. Vincent, 1797. On both occasions he showed extraordinary valour and judgment. He was second in command at Trafalgar, taking over on the death of Nelson.

With the arrival of two squadrons of the Fleet Air Arm in Summerside the Island takes on something of the role of an aircraft carrier moored off the Canadian mainland. It is fortunate that the R. C. N. is no longer fully committed to measuring time by "bells" as Provincial legislation provides that there shall be one standard uniform official time in use throughout the Island. Visiting Royal Naval officers, however, should note that only members of the Association of Nurses of Prince Edward Island are entitled to use the initials R. N.

"If there is one lesson that the boys in the desks boom, thunder and drum at the schoolmaster all day long in illustration of the difference between themselves and grown-ups," observed Fielden Hughes, a headmaster, talking about schoolboys in a BBC broadcast, "it is that they are incurable romantics. We on our side do quite a lot to avoid learning it, but they are remorseless teachers of it and continue to assert it. We are hard to teach because, alas, no-one could accuse us of being romantics since we grew up and got what we call a bit of sense. But the boys are dying for adventure and danger, longing to re-launch the Golden Hind, march away on some new crusade. This is the bread they ask, and we give them the stones of maths and grammar and all the rest of it."

Miss Mitford's description at the beginning of Our Village (1824) seems one of the best: "Of all situations for a constant residence, that which appears to me most delightful is a little village far in the country; a small neighbourhood, not of fine mansions finely peopled, but of cottages and cottage-like houses 'messuages or tenements', as a friend of mine calls such ignoble and nondescript dwellings, with inhabitants whose faces are as familiar to us as the flowers in our garden; a little world of our own, close-packed and insulated like ants in an ant-hill, or bees in a hive, or sheep in a fold, or nuns in a convent, or sailors in a ship; where we know every one, are known to every one, interested in every one, and authorized to hope that every one feels an interest in us."

The Thinker



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.

FENCES! FENCES!

Sir—The first settlers in this Province began their work by cutting down the trees to pile and burn. When they got a field under crop, whether it was one acre or five a fence was needed for protection from wandering animals. The material for a brush fence was easiest obtained. Tree stumps on their sides made a formidable barrier. Anything ugly was often spoken of as being as homely as a brush fence or a stump fence. The buffalo fence was more pleasing to the eye and was built of poles the size of one's arm or larger. The "worm" pole fence, six or seven poles high held sway until the 80's of the last century. This was succeeded by the barbed wire fence that was really treacherous and cruel.

Since then the woven wire kind is used exclusively. Fields now are larger, which means less fencing. A generation ago, the country villages had a fence enclosing each house lot. It gave a sense of security to not only lock your door but close the gate. Fear seems to be natural to the human mind. There was in those days a religious fear of those who worshipped God, in a slightly different way and who gave themselves a different name. The children were fenced off from their influence as much as possible.

In the two world wars that we have gone through, something has been learned which is this—class differences vanish—when all suffer for the same pain and hardship together. The duke's son and the "cook's son" were "buddies". Also a common foe was faced, and all had the same high hopes for a better world. In the last war especially, how refreshing it was to hear of Christian co-operation between the chaplains—Rabbi, Priest and Pastor—risking each his own life to help the other. Must we have war before we can begin to know and understand each other?

A traveller crossing the American continent complained of the monotony of looking at the fences between the farms. This was in springtime but as he returned in mid-summer the tall crops of corn—and where were hiding the fences, turning the whole countryside into one large farm. There, he said, is a chart for the free and highly favored countries to follow. Sow the one good seed of charity and helpfulness. Wage a systematic war against poverty, ignorance and disease near home. Don't turn away the collector with a half dollar when you should give him five. Support your own church's appeal by doing twice as much as you are expected to do for overseas relief. The people who get your money, are sending it around in the shape of food, clothing, soap, books, faith and good-will. This should produce quite a crop, tall enough to hide sectarian differences. And, even if the fences still remain, we'll forget about them.

I am, Sir, etc., ARCH. MACKENZIE, Kensington.

The Age Old Story

Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the back side of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Notes By The Ways

If owls are as swift as swallows in flight and as sensitive to sound as radio receiving sets, it's hard to understand why they hoot so loud and long in quiet neighborhoods. —St. Thomas Times-Journal.

Specialists are shortly to begin a detailed study at Oakala of the treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts. At last we are to try something with more hope in it than the weary round of sending addicts to prison, holding them there for a few months and letting them out again. —Vancouver Province.

Is it possible that, in a comparatively few centuries, great Hudson Bay, pride of Canada, may disappear? Geologists report that a "most gradual upheaval of land has been taking place around Hudson Bay, the upheaval extending over a larger area of ground than any other recorded instance. Driftwood-covered beaches reportedly are many feet above water and some of the older harbors have become too shallow for ships to enter. Also, various new islands have appeared. Perhaps, many generations hence, Hudson Bay may be but a geographical memory. —Windsor Star.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.) STRATHALBYN PIONEERS Early in the summer of 1831, a large band of stalwart young Highlanders, chiefly from the Isle of Skye, accompanied by their families, emigrated to Prince Edward Island. Some of them located in the southern part of Queen's County while some twenty families, induced by the prospect of purchasing land, in fee simple on easy terms, decided to settle on Lot 67, which at that time, with the exception of the Haslans family on the north end, was an uninhabited and unbroken wilderness, covered with a dense forest of heavy hardwood, spruce and pine. Unmolested save by the paw of the wild animals, the land enjoyed its Sabbaths. The only approach to their new quarters was by a bridge path along hazel trees, from Alexander Johnston's on the Princetown Road—a distance of seven miles—to Springton. The names of the first pioneers were Miles McInnis (Mulmoire), Donald McKinnon (Donnahal Mor), James Nicholson, Donald and Alexander Martin, John Ross, Peter Stewart and his son John, Malcolm McDonald (Callam Ban), a grand type of the old Highland chieftain, and his three sons Donald, John and Alexander; Malcolm McLeod (Callam Prior), John McLeod (Brebatar), another type of the Highland hero, and his son Donald, lately deceased; Lodwick McIntosh (Mul Donich), a man of patriarchal bearing and appearance, and his four sons, Roderick, John, Alexander and Donald; and John Mathewson and his father Jonathan, who was the first man who died and was buried at Springton; Murdoch McLeod (Joiner), and his brother Alexander, who was the father of education in the settlement and Donald and Angus Beaton. These were joined a year or two afterwards by Angus McDonald (Aonghas MacColman), John McDonald (Almach Raighal), Angus

Full Value Immediately Available

That is why the most dependable and ready Cash Asset a man leaves is his Life Insurance. Of all his possessions this was probably the easiest and most convenient to acquire. The Great-West Life representative will welcome an opportunity to serve you. HYNDMAN & CO. LTD. Provincial Managers Offices: CHARLOTTETOWN — SUMMERSIDE — MONTAGUE Allison P. McLean, C.L.U. District Manager at Summerside. Cyrus A. R. Shaw, C.L.U. District Manager at Montague. Thomas McAvlin, C.L.U. Special Representative. J. C. Sutherland, Representative at Charlottetown. AGENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE

The Passing Scene

By Observer

AND FINALLY----- (From a Volume of Magazines published 1858-60)

While published in Boston, the magazine did not forget to report interesting Canadian events with sometimes a word of comment here and there. Under the heading "Canadians take interest in politics" there is this item:

"At a late election in Saguenay County where the entire population is 12,000 the number of ballots was 14,000. In a parish where there were 400 inhabitants 2000 votes were returned on the oath of the inspector. They certainly had no trouble to get the voters out in those days. Another Canadian item reported that 'potatoes have never looked better since they had eyes.' Apparently, they were much higher in price, proportionately then they are now, for an appended note to the report says that 'potatoes are the most expensive living that a man can be guilty of indulging in'."

In another place I find this informative tid-bit: "Ontario is the only part of Canada where edible potatoes may be grown. Just as sure as anything it was all part of a conspiracy to keep the Maritimes out of the lush American market. The only reference to P.E.I. I could find anywhere in the collection was this little error: 'Prince Edward Island in the Atlantic is owned by Nova Scotia.' Strangely, this error has persisted in many quarters right down to the present. There is a picture of the famed Plains of Abraham accompanied by this reference: 'When Lord Dalhousie was Governor-General he ordered the plain to be ploughed up and seeded to grain, whereupon the following epigram was perpetrated: 'Some care for honor, others care for groats, Here Wolie reaped glory, and Dalhousie, oats!'"

It seems that newspaper editors were not regarded as benignly as they are nowadays. At any rate a dispatch from California says that "there is at present residing somewhere in this State an editor who has been shot at only six times during the past year." "For some time now," commented the magazine, "there have been signs that newspaper editors are being treated more kindly than they used to be." In another number of the periodical there is a long leading article entitled "Editing a Paper." It starts out by quoting Sydney Smith's famous remark that there were three things every man thought he could do well; edit a newspaper, manage a small farm, and drive a gig. "The fact is," the article continues, "most of the applications for editorial situations are from persons no more fitted for the office than a man with a wooden leg is for dancing on the tight wire." Then it goes on to list some of the qualifications of a good editor, viz: (1) He must have lightning in his brain and fingers (2) He must be capable of self-abnegation (3) He must love his work (4) He must come to every task "fresh and sparkling" (5) He must know how to provide tid-bits for every palate (All of which I take to mean he must be a paragon of paragons.)

"Yes," the article concludes, "everyone can edit a newspaper—just as easily as he can coin money for editorial situations, or soil, or drive a fractions cog in a gig with a snaffle bit and rotten reins." Newspaper rivalries in those days were exciting if not always decorous. A contemporary had apparently been irritated at some opinion expressed by the magazine in a previous edition and went so far as to say: "We are at our wits end to know what the editor was driving at." To which in a subsequent issue, the said editor replied: "We are sorry to hear that our editorial friend is at his wits end, but it will not take him long to return since he has not to travel far."

A certain small town newspaper, being in financial difficulties, resorted to its readers that unless subscriptions were renewed promptly the paper would find itself on the "verge of a precipice." The editor of the magazine, with apparently more wit in his head than charity in his heart, advised the paper to "march steadily ahead" on arriving at the precipice.

According to the advertisements, dyspepsia was the prevailing malady of the time. On one page there are no less than six "sure cures." The sponsor of one cure goes so far as to call it the most wonderful discovery in medical science. A testimonial from a physician goes this way: "If I knew what was in the recipe I would publish it. Since I do not, I can only recommend its use."

On the same subject an editorial article has this to say: "Weak doses of wash-boards are now recommended for young ladies who complain of dyspepsia. Young men troubled in the same way may be cured by a strong preparation of saw-horse."

Some controversy was going on in the correspondence columns with respect to the salaries being paid ministers. Some said they were too low, others that they were too high. One cheerful correspondent wrote to say that at least present-day ministers showed better taste in ways and means of augmenting their stipends than did forbears a century ago. In evidence he places the following memorandum made by a certain Parson Smith in Vermont in the year 1757: "This day I received 165 pounds, 1 shillings, from Cox, representing my part of the scalp money!"

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

- A. Walthen Gaudet, LL.B. BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, Etc. PHILLIPS BUILDING 111 GRAFTON STREET Money to Loan Collection
M. Alban Farmer, Q.C. B.A., LL.B. Barrister and Solicitor Bank of Commerce Building Charlottetown Money to Loan
Byron J. Grant, O.D. OPTOMETRIST 126 Kent Street Phone 879 (Opposite Revere Hotel)
Dr. A. L. MacIsaac DENTIST Dental X-Ray GLORIA BUILDING 179 Grafton St. Phone 291
Dr. K. A. MacEachern DENTIST Dental X-ray Above Charlottetown Clinic 202 Queen St. Dial 4841
McDONALD, CURRIE & CO. CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Saint John, Sherbrooke, Vancouver, Kirkland Lake, Hamilton, Charlottetown, Edmonton, Currie Bldg., Charlottetown. Dial 8736
H. R. DOANE & COMPANY CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS 148 Great George St., Charlottetown P. O. Box 217
ERMA F. MacPHEESON, C.A. KEVIN J. McKENNA, C.A. Other offices at Halifax, Moncton, St. John's, Amherst, Dartmouth, Kentville, Liverpool, New Glasgow, Truro and Corner Brook.