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The Comprehensive School

In Britain as in Canada the nature and organization of secondary schools presents a serious problem.

Firstly, there should be ample facilities for transfer from one kind of secondary school to another after the age of eleven if the development of the child shows that this is desirable.

This leads to the final proposal of the comprehensive school—a single school not divided into grammar, technical, and modern sections, but large enough to comprise within it courses corresponding to all these and to many gradations between them.

This describes with fair accuracy the aims and possibilities of the junior composite high school as exemplified by Charlottetown's latest addition to its educational facilities.

Studying Mars

New evidence that Mars is a living planet marks the end of a six-month astronomical expedition of the National Geographic Society and the Lowell Observatory of Flagstaff, Arizona.

Mars in 1954 made a near approach to earth, closest in 13 years. Observatories all over the world, led by the International Mars Committee, joined a co-ordinated research effort.

At Lowell Observatory as well as at Palomar in California, Mars was photographed for the first time by electronics.

corded by a conventional camera. Other experimenters in eighteen observatories spaced across the globe recorded temperatures on Mars, measured its diameter more accurately for clues to its internal structure, and observed the strange "blue clearing" in the Martian atmosphere near the time of opposition.

Words Of Praise

According to a report in "Canada Review", published in London, England, Mr. Ernest Watkins, an English writer and commentator, is delighted with everything he saw on a recent trip to this country.

These are kind words, indeed; in fact, if they had been spoken by someone lacking Mr. Watkins' undoubted integrity, one might be justified in suggesting they stop a very short distance, if any at all, from flattery.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow, the 21st Sunday after Trinity, 22nd after Pentecost.

Tomorrow, after church parade, Charlottetown soldiers of today will lay wreaths in memory of the soldiers of yesterday.

The caution by an Australian teacher that the Chinese villages seen by the Atlee party were not typical shows a curious line of cultural descent.

A remarkable record of service in varied fields was disclosed at the Red Cross annual meeting Thursday. The amount of work being done, however, and its variety indicates how welcome additional voluntary workers would be.

The forthcoming conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers on January 31 is perhaps of less importance than previous historic meetings because the principle of various countries working together has been extended beyond the bounds of Empire or Commonwealth.

John Philip Sousa, American conductor, author, composer and U. S. Marine, was born at Washington this date 1854, son of a Portuguese musician.

R. C. A. F. Station Summerside's two distinguished visitors both have a background that should enable them to appreciate the value of that Island establishment.

Hardtack may be on the way out of Canada's armed forces except as an emergency ration. The Defence Research Board has announced a prepared mix which, combined with water and baked in an oven, produces high quality bread in just under two hours.



"What Next?" Dept.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion of current events of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

STATEMENT BY AUDITOR

Sir,—We would appreciate space in your newspaper to comment on the question of the Potato Marketing Board and its financial statements.

A public accountant acting in the capacity of auditor of the accounts of an enterprise such as this is in the perhaps unenviable position of having to maintain his independence, even from those who employ him.

An auditor, in writing his report, must maintain his independence by certifying the statements subject to any qualifications he must necessarily make. Even if, as is often the case, and was the case here, he drafts the statements for the client, he must point out any omissions that are statements. It is true that when the statements and reports are read together, the whole financial picture is satisfactorily explained.

We would also add that it is not an uncommon situation in an auditor's practice, and we can certainly understand that the Board manager cannot recall any discussion of how this matter of the loan from the Potato Promotion Committee should be treated, as it took place several years ago.

The Poet's Corner

MOUNTAIN CHAPEL

So still it is in this high mountain vale Earth's passage through the void sings in the ear: The silver olive-trees are all asleep In the gold noon; and on the velvet track Small red anemones down-droop their drowsy heads.

NOTES BY THE WAY

Idealists insist that all nations should share the hydrogen bomb, and there seems to be some danger that they will. —Edmonton Journal.

Six men are being sent by Ottawa into the Arctic area to help Eskimos adjust themselves to the ways of white men. We hope they will advise the natives there are some white men's ways to which they shouldn't adjust themselves. —Windsor Star.

An estimate from the eastern section of the Thunder Bay district that Indians in the area earned about \$40,000 picking blueberries this year, also points out that the money is spread among 100 or more individuals.

Today's generation faced with leisure hours is at a loss to know how to provide its own ways to employ the time. If Canadians in their quest for more leisure time would set aside one day in the week for a day of absolute rest, most of the population would not know what to do, for the reason that they have become accustomed to the squeel-cage form of hectic living.

Mr. Charles Coles returned home from the Northwest, quite unexpectedly, at an early hour this morning, and his advent was quite a pleasing surprise to his relatives and friends. He reports the Islanders out there "doing well as usual."

IDEALS OF HOME LIFE

Sir,—Home is one of the great words of our language. Around it are gathered memories dearer than anything ever expressed in song. This side of heaven there is no gauge that can measure the joys of home. It is one of the pillars upon which rests our civilization.

The Age Old Story

Hath a nation changed their gods, which are yet no gods? but my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit. For my people have committed to idols; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

The Passing Scene

While no one can say what long term effect on the political situation in the United States the recent Congressional election will have, there are a few obvious conclusions to be noted. For one thing, the professional pollsters were again considerably out of line in their thinking. True, they were not as confident in their techniques as they were in the habit of being prior to 1948; all the same it was evident that most of them expected, if not a landslide for the Democrats, at least an unmistakable anti-Administration trend.

Atomic Theorist

This book represents Higgins' greatest claim to fame, for in it he refuted the then generally-held phlogistic theory—that combustible substances lost something called phlogiston when burned—and originated, as he afterwards claimed, the atomic theory as applied to chemical phenomena.

As for the personal prestige of President Eisenhower, or which Republican candidates, even those who have been of no great help to him in the present Congress, counted so heavily, it does not appear to have had much general effect, although it may have been a factor in some isolated instances.

Mr. Case's very strong anti-McCarthy views probably helped him a little; though, judging from what happened or failed to happen in other sections, the help does not seem to have been very considerable. As a matter of fact, the much heralded McCarthy issue appears to have petered out to almost no importance at all.

The hero of the election, from the Democratic point of view provided a recount does not alter the picture, will be Richard Neuberger of Oregon, a newcomer to politics; for it was the final returns from that State that made Democratic control of the Senate—such as it is—assured.

The most spectacular victory was marked up by former Governor Strom Thurmond of South Carolina whose name was not even on the ballot. The "write-in" technique by which he was elected is used frequently in American elections.

This time, however, it was powerful enough to put a Dixiecrat name used to describe Southern Democrats who are at variance with the national party in the Senate. Mr. Thurmond's unexpected election is important in another sense. He represents the Southern conservative wing of the Democratic Party which is even more conservative in matters of social legislation than the Old Guard faction of the Republicans; emphasis on States rights, sometimes almost amounting to disregard of Federal authority, and perpetuation of the status quo in racial relations, are the two distinguishing labels of the Dixiecrats.

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