

THE GUARDIAN

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CHARLOTTETOWN, THURSDAY, NOV. 27, 1952

Eisenhower's Administration

A Washington correspondent notes that President-elect Eisenhower appears to be leaning towards an unusual "British" style set-up in the organization of his cabinet. The personalities involved are of a considerably higher calibre than is generally expected. They will not readily submit to the President being the whole show and making policy decisions, as Roosevelt and Truman sometimes did, without even consulting the departmental head concerned.

There is, of course, no provision for cabinet government in the United States constitution, but no more was there in that of the British Isles. It "just grew" because it was a logical and efficient method of distributing power in a complex field without dissipating responsibility. It was under William Pitt that the cabinet attained its full powers and held itself responsible to Parliament rather than to the Crown.

During wartime Americans working at Ottawa and other Commonwealth capitals were impressed with the advantage of being able to put proposals before a group of men who headed the departments which would have to carry out the decisions and who, collectively, could depend upon being backed in their decisions by a majority in Parliament.

The executive which Mr. Eisenhower is creating is not drawn from the membership of Congress, of course, but it is a step in the direction of cabinet government to have an administration in which the departmental heads are more or less on equal terms with the Chief Executive and are equally responsible for policy.

The Commonwealth Conference

The Commonwealth Prime Minister's Conference which opens in London today is regarded as the most important gathering of its kind since the Ottawa Conference of 1932. On that occasion Empire trade agreements of far-reaching importance were formulated. It is important for Canada to restore her United Kingdom markets for cheese, bacon and other products, but this can only be done if Britain is enabled to relieve her dollar shortage problem. The ultimate objective is to make sterling freely convertible with the dollar, but officials have cautioned against hoping for any sensational developments in this direction.

Canada, the only dollar country participating, will be represented by Prime Minister St. Laurent and Finance Minister Abbott. But there has been considerable nationwide speculation as to the non-inclusion of Trade Minister Howe in this delegation, although no official explanation has been forthcoming as to why this key cabinet minister is not to attend the sessions.

One issue before the conference will be the Empire preferential system, whereby trade among members of the British Commonwealth is favored at the expense of those outside it. Canada, India and the United States would like to see this preferential system weakened, if not eliminated altogether, in favor of wider multilateral trade. The United Kingdom and other members of the Commonwealth, however, are adhering to the system and are unlikely to let go unless USA offers very attractive trade compensation. In fact Britain, reportedly, is even ready to propose a tightening of some aspects of the preferential system and modification of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT), so that Japanese textiles may be more effectively excluded from Empire markets to advantage of Lancashire goods.

New Milk Era

Recently in Chicago, Dr. Charles Glen King, scientific director of the Nutrition Foundation, New York, described the flash-sterilization of milk, for canning, as the most exciting event that has occurred in the dairy industry. By this method the flavor is preserved.

A fresh milk flavor in preserved milk, says the "Country Guide", would do much to remove many of the difficulties and complexities now confronting a disturbed dairy industry. It might, in time, even simplify the problems of milk control boards to the point of extinction for both boards and their problems.

"The possibility is intriguing," adds the Guide, "not only from the viewpoint of the efficient distribution of a highly es-

sential food product, but also from the standpoint of rationalizing an equally essential industry based on it. It is, indeed, a further and most interesting piece of evidence of the impact which science is exerting, on world agriculture, and especially that of North America. Consumers can thus look forward, at perhaps no distant date, to a solution of one of the most vexatious problems of whole milk distribution.

"Gone, too, would be the serious producer problem of producing surplus milk under high-cost conditions, which must be turned into butter and other by-products of the dairy industry. Under present conditions, also, and because milk is so highly perishable and universally used, producers of fluid milk must cluster around individual city markets, whether the soil, climate and other factors making for efficient production are favorable, or not. City councils, with fresh, canned, full-flavored milk available, could cast aside forever their periodical discussions about municipal milk distribution. The food stores would almost certainly carry milk in cans sized to fit the family refrigerator; the consumers' associations in that glad day would worry no more about the price of milk than about the prices of corn or beans; and milk would be able to vacate the political stage."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Thanksgiving Day in the United States.

Today the Commonwealth Economic Conference opens in London.

It is quite evident that Queen's County farmers are determined that rural electrification shall be proceeded with at a faster rate. Discussion at the Federation meeting was not on whether but how.

Mr. Eisenhower will include two ladies in his new Government, a move which will serve as an example throughout the world. Women have long achieved theoretical equality in public life but so far, at any rate, have not gone very far in making use of their rights.

The lowest accident rating of any Division in the Maritime Region is a worthwhile achievement indeed by the C. N. R. here. At a time when highway accidents seem to be seriously increasing it is a pleasure to congratulate Mr. C. T. Montgomery and his Island Division on their well earned bronze plaque.

The Grand Jury at Summerside have very properly emphasized the abnormal number of accidents and fatalities on the highways. They recommend that traffic regulations be more strongly enforced, including those in regard to the dimming of headlights. More restrictive measure against driving automobiles under the influence of liquor are stressed particularly.

It is to be hoped that with the full support of all our Federal members the local delegation now at Ottawa will be able to convince the Canadian Maritime Commission that our ferry expansion requirements at Wood Islands are urgent as well as necessary. If these representations fall on deaf ears the only recourse will be to appeal directly to the Minister of Transport or to Parliament.

The O'Leary Athletic Association certainly did well last year. In addition to promoting various branches of sport in the area, the financial statement was something of which any community would be proud. To be able to meet all obligations, pay off the mortgage, and still have enough left over to purchase a P. E. I. Government Bond will impress future investors with the quality of the management.

Chaim Weizmann, Zionist leader and chemist, was born this date 1874 at Motol in Russia. Educated at Geneva, he became a lecturer at Manchester University and did research for the Admiralty. Perhaps his most important discovery was a method of making acetone, the basis for high explosives. The Colony of David in Palestine was founded in his honour. He played a leading role in the founding of the modern Jewish state.

The communication system set up by the British Commonwealth Division in Korea is so efficient that it is now being studied by U. S. Army officers, for possible adoption. In fact some U. S. units who have served with the Commonwealth command are already using British methods. The Commonwealth Signals Regiment—made up of 50 per cent British and equal proportions of Canadian and New Zealand personnel—arrived in Korea in June, 1951, a "green" unit. It integrated itself rapidly and its Divisional Headquarters now handles 1,800 calls and 3,500 letters and parcels each day. Chief medium for battle messages is the radio telephone.

Everybody Happy



The Poet's Corner

FROM THE SEEKERS We seek the city of God and the haunt where beauty dwells. And we find the noisy mart and the sound of burial bells. Never the golden city, where radiant people meet. But the dolorous town where mourners are going about the street. We travel the dusty road till the light of the day is dim And sunset shows us spires away on the world's rim. We travel from dawn till dusk, till the day is past and by, Seeking the Holy City beyond the rim of the sky. Friends and loves we have none, nor wealth, nor blest abode. But the hope, the burning hope, and the road, the lonely road. —John Masfield.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

LOCAL WHISKY TAX "On Wednesday the House went into Committee of Ways and Means, and a Resolution, imposing a tax of 8d. per gallon on home manufactured Whisky, was passed, after a long discussion. This was considered, in many respects, an important movement. It will have the effect of greatly increasing the revenue, breaking down a monopoly long enjoyed by the distillers of the Island, and giving encouragement to the importer of foreign liquors. To increase this encouragement, but more particularly with the view of lessening the inducement to smuggling, a reduction of 6d. per gallon was made on the duty on Brandy, Gin, Wine and Cordials, and also a reduction of 9d. on Rum." —The Palladium, March 31, 1845.

The Cinerama

(Alastair Cooke in The Listener) What happened to an audience in New York recently was something called cinerama. You had better memorize the word at once, because five years from now it will be as familiar a word as telephone. This, I think constitutes a revolution, the second in twenty-five years. A lot of things happened in the world at the end of 1927, but only one revolutionary event. It was a picture, in a movie theatre, of Al Jolson, down on one knee, crooning in black face. The revolution was that as his mouth opened, you heard the sounds coming from it. It does not seem much today, but it was the first step in a sequence of events that took in the talkies, and television, and marvels yet unheard of.

Four years after that Aldous Huxley put out a novel in which he imagined the birth of the "feelies"—motion picture and natural colour in three-dimensions, which exuded from the screen the smells of the things you were seeing, the whiff of wild lilac round the bend of a road, the sniff of seaweed as you approached the sea. We are not quite there yet but very nearly. The New York audience went into a theatre specially rigged out for the recent revolution known as cinerama. The screen was a curving cylinder, 63 feet wide, 23 feet high; that is about six times the normal size. It is theoretically divided into three panels, which are filled by the image from three projectors, one dead centre and two others at the side. The film was shot by three lenses on three reels simultaneously. The trick of making

Notes By The Way

The height of something or other that reveals the very texture of the soul of the man who wears it. Courtesy in reality does not so much suggest a way of acting as it does a way of feeling, and that is why it is so greatly worth while. And it is quite accurate to speak of the grace of good manners, for good manners is a thing that grows in a man's heart or it is nothing at all but emptiness. —Moose Jaw Times-Herald.

A British seed firm won the top award for rye at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto. It looks as if the "world's workshop" is far from neglecting agriculture while concentrating on industry. —Ottawa Citizen.

"Are women's nylon stockings of today as good as those of a few years ago?" asks the editor of the Vancouver Province. If he isn't afraid of getting his face slapped, let him take a peek and see for himself! —Ottawa Citizen.

West Germany's recently set aside a day of mourning for Germany's 5,500,000 soldier dead of two world wars. Germany, and all other countries, could best honour their war dead by avoiding acts which could cause renewed conflict. —Ottawa Citizen.

The British have played an honorable role in Korea and the troops of all the Commonwealth have fought magnificently there. The British may not see eye to eye with the United States on a number of Far Eastern issues, but they deserve to be listened to as Allies without whom the world-wide containment of Soviet power would be impossible. —Washington Post.

We have eaten both muffins and crumpets, but we have fallen under their spell. We have found them dull and heavy at best, and horribly indigestible at worst. A crumpet, the heaviest thing a man can put in his stomach, and live; a muffin, while not so heavy, has a terrifying trick of expanding after it has been swallowed, so that the eater suffers all the sensations of a man who is attacked from within by a puff-ball. Haggis to the Scot; snails to the French; muffins to the English. We wish Lord Asquith joy of his muffins, but we are content in our muffinless state. —Peterborough Examiner.

It must be remembered that we can only consistently speak of good manners even as a fair game. The images overlap is so fine that they have to sink the projectors in cement, so that their vibrations will synchronize. The lights went out and "bam!" suddenly there you are in the San Marco plaza in Venice. When I say there you are, I mean there are the rounded pillars—lean out and touch them—the great facades, the brilliant light, the shifting skies and pigeons fluttering into your face, so that people ducked and in spite of arrangements to the contrary, felt they could smell them.

The first picture was a ride on a roller-coaster. Nothing peculiar in that, except that the audience is sitting in the roller-coaster, lumbering up the clacking incline, and then suddenly there is the gaping sky, the dip down, and the plunge into the end of the world. A sophisticated New York beauty, a young matron who cannot take roller-coasters, never could, fainted in the aisle, thus having the exact reaction of those naive spectators in a Paris basement in 1895, who saw the first film, a picture of a train arriving in a station. The train puffed in, towards the audience, and philosophers leaped for the nearest exit.

Every body is saying of course that the movies have taken another giant stride forwards. But the charm of cinerama is the more exciting possibility that it has taken a giant stride backwards, back to the direct sensation those first people felt when they saw the creaking train of the brothers Lumier.

Why is it that strikes are never settled until the last minute? The threatened strike at the Lakehead is an example. We suspect that the parties were prepared to settle for the final offer all along but that one held out hoping the other would collapse in the war of nerves thereby allowing him to get more than he expected. We are not perturbed by the delay in the settlement of most strikes. Americans like the railways and bystanders like the railways and the shipping companies take steps to use their equipment elsewhere. It was several days before this equipment got back on the job. In the end, the grain grower who is worried about the delivery of his crop is the only victim of negotiations which ought to have ended sooner. —Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer LONGFELLOW — AMERICAN ROMANTICIST It was not only in England that the so-called Romantic Revival exercised wide and far reaching influence. Across the sea in America, which by this time was well on the way to the development of a distinct national culture, there descended upon the world of letters a man who according to some competent judges was the greatest Romanticist of them all. And if grandeur, beauty of form, love and understanding of nature, and deep penetration into the "kingdom of imagination" were looked upon as the essential marks of that golden era of literature, then Mr. Longfellow cannot with good grace be left out of the two groups. Moreover, though this is less true, his spiritual kinship with the Romanticists of England is reinforced by simple chronological incidents. He was born a few years before Coleridge, Byron, Keats, and Shelley died and he was a contemporary and friend of both Browning and Tennyson. Longfellow has been called the Wordsworth of the New World but so far as I know there has never been unanimous agreement among the experts as to which of the two men was the greater in poetic genius. In the United States, of course, and especially in the Eastern sections of the country, there is no question about it at all. "Take him all in all, we shall never see his like again", is what practically all Americans say, in effect, about Mr. Longfellow. And usually they say it in hushed, reverent voices, for to them he represents all that was fine and noble in 18th century America which, it may be said in passing, was a somewhat different community from the America of today. The movement of human and economic credits was not then as it is now, from America to Europe, but from Europe to America. This, of course, had far reaching social and political implications and it turned up good ground for the poetic mind. The pragmatic philosophy which had captured the imagination of intellectual Americans since the turn of the century, to be re-interpreted and developed later by William James, was natural enough for a young and vigorous nation starting on its road to world power and influence. But it needed a leavening touch of a sense of universality, and an awareness of the past, to do so properly well. While he was as cosmopolitan in his views and outlook as any major poet of his time, he can yet be called the bard of American nationalism. The nationalism he espoused, however, was not of the blatant type that finds expression in jingoistic action and utterances. It was the kind that presses itself into world service and addresses "Excelsior" regardless of the obstacles it happens to encounter on its destined way. Americans may not be indebted to Mr. Longfellow for all the prestige they have acquired in world councils, but they certainly owe him something for his showing of the persevering way, for the faith that removes mountains. The genius of Longfellow was demonstrated in many ways, not the least of which was his ability to put into matchless verse sentiments which have power to captivate the interest of little children and men of learning alike. "The Children's Hour", "The Wreck of the Hebe", "The Village Blacksmith", "The Arrow and the Song", and many other poems, were originally intended for young people, and young people have read them with enjoyment and profit ever since they first appeared in print. So, too, have critics and scholars in many fields and found with each successive reading some deep philosophical content they had not noticed before. If Longfellow was to children almost a Patron Saint, he was to much less to the old to whom he showed, in the words of one of his more exquisite poems, "How far the gulf stream of our youth may flow Into the Arctic regions of our lives, Where little else than life itself survives; For age is opportunity no less Than youth itself, though in another dress, And as the evening twilight fades away The sky is filled with stars, invisible by day." He was an old man when he wrote those lines and it is safe to say that the thousands of old men who read them stepped a bit more briskly and joyously into the fading twilight. Like all other poets of worth Longfellow hated tyranny in any form. Particularly, he hated the traffic in human lives which not yet, as he wrote his poems on slavery, had been removed from his native land. There were many issues besides freedom versus slavery in the American Civil War. Indeed, some historians maintain that the freeing of the slaves was an incident subsidiary to other things. Be that as it may, we can be sure that the soul of Longfellow revolted at the knowledge that in his own country there were those on whom society had stamped the "curse of Cain." Like Lincoln himself he saw in the terrible institution of slavery not only cruel injustice but grave danger to the nation as well. "There is a poor blind Samson in this land, Shorn of his strength and bound in bonds of steel Who may, in some grim revel, raise his hand And shake the pillars of this Common-wealth, Till the vast temple of our liberties A shapeless mass of wreck and rubbish lies." At present great forces are at work in the United States to settle once for all the issue which the Civil War resolved only partially. Racial segregation with all its humiliations and pain is still a normal practice in certain sections of the country, but it is on the way out. Many sociologists claim that by the end of this century no one will be found so poor as to do it reverence. Then will the spirit of Mr. Longfellow, watching from his "Silent Land", be glad. In common with every other true artist Longfellow knew that neither satisfaction nor discontent has its origin in any sort of criticism from without. It is only that within the inner shrine that takes the soul upwards to the stars or throws it downwards towards despair. Poets may sometimes encourage and may sometimes hinder but neither have the one nor the other any ultimate power to arbitrate the outcome of any attempted task. It is well known that for the one poet who has reached the heights of fame, there have been a hundred who have languished and starved in garrets. And yet in their obscurity they have found some better part which cannot be taken away. "For the gift and ministry of song Have something in them so divine, It can assuage the bitterness of wrong Not in the clamor of the crowded street, Not in the shouts and plaudits of the throng, But in ourselves are triumph and defeat."

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