

THE GUARDIAN

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

CHARLOTTETOWN, TUESDAY, JULY 18, 1950

Why Brides Leave Home

A colonial-minded British M. P. remarked recently that the reason so many Old Country war brides were leaving Canada was that this country was a sort of cultural desert. In the face of what a good many otherwise amiable people have been telling the Massey Commission, this novel explanation of why brides leave home is understandable, if not too accurate.

Fact of the matter, of course, is that long before the Federal Government began to get the urge to become patron of the arts, progress in the realm of scholarship, music, writing, sculpture and painting in Canada was already substantial. The needed support and encouragement came, not from government, but, as Walter Herbert of The Canada Foundation points out, "from a variety of non-governmental agencies, under a system which is the Canadian way of life and which is styled Private Enterprise."

Even the CBC, which claims to be the chief trustee of Canadian culture, relies in large degree upon that selfsame system of Private Enterprise. Pity it is that submissions made to the Massey Commission take little note of the role of business and industry in the realm of culture.

Kilt Not For Women

The Edinburgh-Scotsman quotes an authority on the subject as stating that the kilt is not a woman's dress. Mrs. Florence Leslie, who has taught the Royal Princesses Scottish country dancing, stated, "Dresses are more graceful. We are so afraid that the kilt becomes the uniform for Scottish country dancing, and the Scottish Country Dancing Association does not want it to be."

Planners' Paradise

Planners of the Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation down in Washington think that too many rivers are in the wrong place. Solution for correcting the mistakes of Mother Nature is simple but costly. Just shift the rivers around to where the bureaucrats think they ought to be!

The Columbia river, they say, ought to be moved three-fourths of the country's width down to Los Angeles and the sweltering Mohave desert. Water now flowing down the western slopes of California's Sierra Nevada mountains should be dammed up and pumped back to flow east into dusty Nevada.

Cost of all this and a lot more too—Washington's planners are not too sure—maybe \$2 billion, maybe \$5 billion, maybe \$20 billion. Only certain factor is that it is going to be expensive.

If these visionaries get their way, the International Joint Commission is going to have headaches a lot worse than the problem of flood control in the Winnipeg area. Supposing some of Washington's bright boys want to make the St. Lawrence river run backwards, or drain Lake Superior, or turn Niagara into a souped up version of Saint

John's famous reversing falls? Trouble is Ottawa has its economic and engineering experts too who think they can improve on Mother Nature and correct her "mistakes". Conservation of natural resources is one thing, but a continental face-lifting scheme is something else entirely. Let's hope the river-moving bug isn't infectious.

Still Going Strong

The concern expressed last spring over an increase in unemployment was evidently somewhat premature. Last April the number of those seeking work stood at some 434,700 and there was considerable clamor for make-work programmes in various parts of the country. At June 15, according to official figures, the number seeking work had fallen to 220,000, and the expansion, in factories and on farms as well as in construction, will mean a further shrinkage this month.

Retail sales and consumer spending are at an all time high. Recently the Bank of Montreal estimated that Canadians are consuming in real terms about 50 per cent more goods and services per capita than they did immediately prior to the war.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Cherries are ripening fast, as small boys well know.

As long as the United States is ready to pulverize Russian cities the Kremlin will hesitate to provoke a global war.

The railway see-saw of increased wage rates and increased freight rates is likely to be continued for another couple of years, the only beneficiaries meantime being the lawyers.

The masses of North Korean troops being sacrificed just now lends weight to reports that American bombing and strafing has played havoc with airfields, vehicles and heavy weapons.

There are evidently to be two Federal-Provincial Conferences this coming Fall, one to deal with the transfer of authority, etc., under the B. N. A., and the other to consider home defence now that Canada has become an independent nation.

The world organization of the teaching profession meeting at Ottawa is unwise in revealing that low salaries are a problem in every country. It would be more effective to point to a shining example and urge emulation.

The Weston boys selected to visit England experienced two unanticipated sensations in being almost wrecked at Quebec and crashed at London. This will insure a lifelong recollection of their visit apart altogether from their sight-seeing and entertainment in Mother England.

Rev. Dr. Isaac Watts, English evangelical poet, born this date 1674; he was an Independent minister in London, but his fame rests on his hymns and metrical version of the Psalms sung all over the world to the present day, that most universally rendered being "O God, Our Help In Ages Past."

An increasing hazard as clothing becomes more flimsy, is that of fire. Women's clothes today are especially liable to burst into flames from any minor accident, probably with fatal results. Anything that manufacturers can do to reduce this risk deserves every encouragement.

Island and other Maritime Scouters attending the Gilwell Training Camp at Hammond River, N. B., will meet the camp chief of the parent training centre, in England, Gilwell Park. John Thurman has arrived in this country to visit Scouters' training camps in seven Provinces starting with the Maritime Gilwell.

Two stained glass windows in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. E. B. McCready are to be unveiled and dedicated on Sunday at the forenoon service of St. James' Church, the Rev. T. H. Bussell Somers, M.A., S.T.M., officiating. Mr. McCready, former editor of The Guardian and a stalwart in church and state was teacher of the continuing Bible class at the time of the Disruption; while Mrs. McCready, daughter of Rev. Dr. Bennet, Saint John, long clerk of the Maritime Synod of the Presbyterian Church, was a life-long ardent supporter of missions and the spread of Presbyterian influence at home and abroad. In addition Mr. McCready was an apostle of Temperance; and Mrs. McCready a founder of the local I. O. D. E.



PUBLIC FORUM This column is open to the discussion of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinion of correspondents.

THE TRAIL OF LILLOOET

Sir, — Permit me to call your attention to a small oversight in your issue of July fifth. In The Guardian's column, "The Poet's Corner" of that date you gave us "The Trail to Lillooet" over the name of Duncan Campbell Scott. It seems a pity to cheat the author, Pauline Johnson, of the credit for writing that fine smooth flowing little poem; especially as the Lillooet Trail and its associations were so dear to her heart.

I know this is a small matter, and from the standpoint of cold realism, unimportant even to Pauline; but let us put materialism aside for the moment and remember that she said in March of 1913, a short time before her death: "If now and again the people of Canada read some line of my work, which brings home to them the love I have for this great country of mine, then they may remember me as having done my best to share with them something that the Great Tyee had given to me."

Lillooet: Past wood and stream; yes, past the Dawn's white fire. And now the craft on Shadow River fret For one small blade that led their mystic choir. But never more will Night's responsive strings Awaken to the Song her Paddle sings."

I am, sir, etc. G. L. McInnis. Vancouver, B. C.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

GRAIN FOR BRITAIN

The Royal Gazette of June 18, 1831, records the sailing from Charlottetown on the preceding Saturday of the "Adelaide", Captain Barret, for Bristol with a full cargo of wheat and oats. "The departure of this vessel," says the report, "may be viewed as an event of no ordinary interest, when it is considered that she carries the first cargo of grain ever shipped in this Colony, for the parent country; for although this Island has long been in the habit of exporting largely to the adjoining colonies, in many instances with considerable loss to the shippers, the English market has never before been attempted. With such spirit, however, has the trade been commenced that two other vessels of much greater burden are at present in the berth loading for the same destination."

BIG TOWN

New York City's annual bank clearings are nearly 50 per cent greater than the combined total of the next 15 U. S. cities.

The Sterling Balances

(Monthly Review of the Bank of Nova Scotia)

The huge sterling indebtedness incurred by Britain as a result of the war continues to block the path toward freer trade. This indebtedness, mostly in the form of current liabilities and known as the sterling balances, has been considerably reduced since 1946, but at the close of 1949 it still totalled nearly \$2,350 millions (or more than \$10 billions in Canadian funds), as compared with something less than \$500 millions in 1939.

The difficulties of any settlement have been greatly increased by the redistribution of the sterling balances which has occurred since 1946. Certain countries, like Argentina, Brazil and India, acquired British investments or other assets in exchange for balances. Australia and New Zealand have on two occasions written off balances as a voluntary contribution to British recovery. India, in particular, as well as such countries as Egypt, Israel and Iraq, has made substantial drawings to pay for current imports. At the same time a number of countries, like Australia, the African colonies and Malaya, have for various reasons notably increased their holdings of sterling.

The use of sterling balances by India, Pakistan, Egypt and certain other countries to pay for imports of goods and services in excess of those financed by their current exports has represented a considerable drain on British resources during the postwar years. The large movement of British capital also provided overseas sterling countries with funds over and above their export earnings. Similarly, the large expenditures which Britain continued to make for occupation costs and for the maintenance of order in countries like Malaya helped to keep sterling in plentiful supply throughout the non-dollar world, as also did British credits through the Intra-European Payments Plan.

YOUR POSSESSIONS

The things you live with — your home, your business, your "stock in trade" — are all subject to loss through accident or circumstances beyond your control. For your own sense of security, you should learn how easily you can be protected. We will be glad of an opportunity to serve you.

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The Age-Old Story

Lord, who shall abide in Thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in Thy holy hill? He that speaketh the truth in his heart.

they were by the decline in U. S. prices during 1949, were fundamental to the trading crisis which led up to the devaluation of the pound last September. British credits and outlays to maintain order, the export of capital to the sterling area, and above all the drawing down of the sterling balances, though they have constituted a heavy burden on Britain's economy, have nevertheless played an important part in world recovery. In a real sense, ERP aid to Britain has been through these means redistributed to countries outside of Europe whose recovery was essential to rebuilding international trade. At a time when U. S. interest was concentrated on Europe, British policies and the use of the sterling balances helped to preserve order and assist recovery particularly in the Far East and Middle East.

But, while the real burden of the balances has thus been lightened, it has been far from eliminated and its existence still continues to block the path toward freer trade. The present atmosphere is not favourable, and yet it is difficult to see any satisfactory solution of the problem which does not involve U. S. participation. The task of rebuilding an international trading system is not solely a problem of getting the affairs of Europe in order. Indeed, it seems impossible to get Europe's trading affairs in order, and certainly those of Great Britain, unless attention is also turned toward that large part of the world outside Europe and the Western Hemisphere, and particularly toward southeast Asia.

FIRE WALKERS

One explanation of the fire-walker's art is that the glowing coals are volcanic rocks, so porous they do not retain the heat although they appear to be white hot.

LABOR UNION FOUNDED

The American Federation of Labor was founded in 1881.

COMPLETE VISUAL REFRACTION and ANALYSIS

G. F. HUTCHESON & SON Optometrists 53 Grafton St.

J.P. MacPherson & Son

MEN'S CLOTHING THAT FITS 157 Queen Street

Notes By The Way

Clarence Morris, 16, a student of the Ontario School for the Blind in Brantford, was recently awarded his King's Scout badge, the ambition of every Scout. Totally blind, Clarence is patrol leader of the Whippoorwill, in the 1st Brantford Troop composed of 40 students of the OSB. — Boy Scout News.

Photographs of a stuffed walrus which had been on exhibition in the public museum at Sunderland for at least 80 years are to be added to the collection of Lewis Carroll manuscripts and journals at Princeton University. The walrus is believed to have inspired Carroll's lines on the Walrus and the Carpenter. — London Times.

The possibility of war makes one wonder about the condition of communication and transport lines in British Columbia. Greater Vancouver, the industrial and commercial heart of BC, has only one highway connecting it with the rest of Canada and the United States. If bombs knocked out Patullo bridge and Mission bridge, where would our motor connection be with Seattle, the interior of BC or the other provinces? — Vancouver News-Herald.

What we call "baby carriages" are "baby coaches" around Philadelphia, "baby buggies" around Pittsburgh and in Northern Illinois, "baby cabs" in Southern Ohio. Everybody north of the Mason-Dixon line in the United States "wheels" the baby carriage; from the Potomac River southward they "roll" it or "ride" it. When left on the floor, a northern baby "creeps", but a United States mid-western or southern baby "crawls". — Saint John Telegraph-Journal.

Despite the fact that Newfoundland is not advertising her charms, mainland Canadian and American tourists are beginning to pour in. And although we haven't got a lot of roads or hotels to offer them at the moment, we can keep them coming until such time as the tourist development program gets under way. How? It's simple really. We merely have to welcome the visitors with a smile, and make them feel we are glad to have them here, as indeed we are. — St. John's Telegram.

It apparently is becoming an annual chore for Provincial Treasurer Fines to take Saskatchewan's hotelmen to task for the shortcomings of those who, it is claimed, are more interested in making money out of selling beer than in providing good accommodation for the travelling public. In his address to the convention of the Hotels Association of Saskatchewan, Mr. Fines dwelt with added emphasis on the recurring annual theme. He contended that operating a beer parlor licence was

INSULATION Laboratory tests have proven the insulation value of 3 inches of wood to be greater than 12 inches of common brick or 20 inches of concrete. FIRST PUBLIC BUILDING The White House was the first public building in Washington.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Professional cards for Joseph R. MacMillan, Chas. R. McQuaid, Frederic A. Large, K.C., Matheson & Peake, Palmer & Haslam, Bell & Mathieson, John P. Nicholson, Dr. A. L. MacIsaac, J. A. McGuigan, M. Alban Farmer, Dr. W. R. Carson, H. R. Doane & Co., and McDonald, Currie & Co.