

THE GUARDIAN

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Old Home Week

The mood of Old Home Week is essentially that of friendliness. The many visitors who crowd into the Island capital come to take part in the great get-together rather than merely witness a spectacle. Citizens will see friendly faces which they have, perhaps, not seen for many moons.

Despite the large number of fine trotters and pacers, some 200, entered there is nothing in the shape of Big Business about the competing racing stables. Owner drivers are not uncommon and individual horses and drivers are well known to the crowd.

The livestock exhibits and the displays of handicrafts and home baking organized by the Women's Institutes bring together old and young, office worker and farmer, to comment on the merits of the exhibits and perhaps to secretly resolve to try to measure up to the standard necessary to have such results.

As friendly as any part of the show is the familiar yet different midway of Bill Lynch. Like other aspects of the show it is enlarged and modernized without becoming strange or unfamiliar. The management, perhaps, show the most friendly gesture of all in not bothering to collect any admission fee for entrance to the grounds.

Forced Repatriation

The non-Communist world has been a little uneasy about the matter of repatriation of Prisoners of War. The feeling was that the Communists were technically within their rights under the Geneva Convention in demanding repatriation even although it might require to be enforced by bayonets. On the moral side there was no doubt. It would be indefensible to force unwilling human beings across a border to a fate they dreaded.

Now it appears that the Communists have not even the letter of the law on their side. W. N. Ever points out in recent commentary on the situation that the articles of the Geneva Convention themselves prohibit any enforced repatriation.

Article 118, points out Mr. Ever, requires that "prisoners of war shall be released and repatriated without delay after the cessation of active hostilities." The word "released" is operative. It is quite plain that prisoners must not be repatriated as prisoners, and therefore perhaps under duress, but that they are to be first released; whereupon they become no longer prisoners but free men with the rights of free men.

The commentary goes into various other matters of interest but the point made here is of vital importance. It means that the United Nations have not merely a moral obligation not to force helpless Prisoners of War across into Communist hands but the Geneva Convention, which the U. N. governments had agreed to respect, requires that no such compulsion should be applied.

Revealing Figures

The Department of Fisheries has come forward with some curious figures relative to our fish-eating habits. Nova Scotia is entitled to take a bow in this respect. Its per capita consumption of fresh and frozen fish (9.25 pounds) is the largest in Canada, being more than twice that of British Columbia, and nearly three times that of Ontario. This is not surprising, of course, in view of Nova Scotia's proximity to the sea; but how are we to account for the fact that Saskatchewan is ahead of both Prince Edward Island (1.42 pounds) and New Brunswick (1.34 pounds) in this comparison? Newfoundland was not included in the rating.

In consumption of smoked and cured fish, Nova Scotia is away ahead; lobsters give P. E. I. the lead in shellfish, and salmon put B. C. far out in front in the canned category. The freshness of produce is obviously an important factor in consumption, but as marketing methods improve the figures seem to show that the inland buyer is becoming more partial to seafoods.

Icelanders, the figures show, average an annual consumption of 65 pounds of fish each. Danes and Norwegians consume 47 and 36 pounds annually, and their British cousins about 30. The Canadian total fish

consumption averages only 14 pounds a year, not so much as the continental European, but more than the American.

It is obvious from the above figures that there is a great opportunity for expanding the home market in the interests of our fishery industry.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The suggestion in Pakistan's request for Canadian wheat that the crisis might otherwise be exploited by Communist propaganda is hardly worth considering. There are lots of arguments in favour of extending aid at time of famine, but the least impressive is the vague threat of "or else".

In commemoration of gallant action fought by number 41 Independent Commando Royal Marines at Chosin Reservoir, Korea, 29th November 1950, the U. S. Marine Corps has presented a portrait of the Commandos' commanding officer Lieutenant Colonel D. B. Drysdale, D.S.O., M.B.E., to Royal Marines headquarters in London.

Fire fighting material available on every farm is the prudent suggestion of Provincial Fire Marshal T. A. Campbell. The removal of fire hazards and the availability of extinguishers and buckets might well prevent a high proportion of rural fire losses. Town-dwellers would be wise to act on the suggestion also.

Impede not the path of true love. The Chatham News reports how an 18-year-old used his truck to hold up the course of a newly-wed couple on the highway, finally resulting in their being landed in the ditch. The judge imposed a three months jail sentence for what he very accurately termed, "a moronic display".

Two out of some twenty-two P. E. I. butter and cheese producers have expressed themselves in favour of amalgamation. The others have not yet been heard from. The constitution of the proposed combined company is that of a producer's co-operative with power to apply patronage dividends to build up the capital of the business.

The Montague School Board and the directors of the Community Welfare League are having their differences of opinion on the question of using part of the League's grounds for a new school site. No personal interests are involved in such a dispute but each side has its own opinion as to what course will most benefit their town.

The Edinburgh Scotsman is authority for the statement that since the hospitals were nationalized five years ago, the Western Regional Board for Scotland have lost £20,000 worth of equipment, mainly because of pilfering. Linen formed a large proportion of the losses, but other items included crockery, cutlery, surgical instruments, two microscopes, and two sewing machines.

Londoners may be commuting by helicopter before too long. The South Bank Festival site is being tested as a helicopter station for Central London during two weeks of experimental flights with a Sikorsky S. 51 and a Bristol five-seater machine. Instruments are being used to record the noise in nearby buildings, notably the Houses of Parliament and St. Thomas's Hospital. If the site proves satisfactory regular services using 12-seater machines will start in about two years.

The Battle of Britain, the German invasion of Britain by air, opened this date 1940. There were four phases of the battle, massed formations of bombers escorted by equally large formations of fighters, then some 35 major attacks by smaller formations with heavier fighter escort, then a mass attack on London going into 38 major raids. On Oct. 6 the bombers were withdrawn and fighters and fighter-bombers themselves made mass attacks ending suddenly by Oct. 31. German losses were 2375 aircraft, British losses included 375 pilots killed and 358 wounded.

The late Mr. W. R. Aitken delighted in doing good by stealth. He was keenly interested in youth activities, particularly along athletic lines, and contributed generously to these and other causes, but always with a minimum of publicity and on many occasions anonymously. After his retirement from active business he devoted his abilities to the raising of high grade beef cattle on his beautiful farm at York Point and continued to serve, for several years, on the Provincial Sanatorium Commission. He was a valued member of St. Paul's Church, serving as vestryman for many years and taking active part in church activities. Those privileged to know him intimately admired his many fine qualities of mind and heart. He was devoted most of all to his home and family, to the members of which The Guardian extends sincere sympathy on this occasion.

All Set



Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

CHAPLAIN OF THE HOUSE

From the Journal of the Legislative Assembly, Jan. 27, 1836: Mr. Pope moved, that the Rev. Louis C. Jenkins, Chaplain of this House, have notice to attend the House each morning during the Session, to read Prayers, before the House proceeds to business.

Mr. LeLacheur moved an amendment, that the words "Louis C. Jenkins, Chaplain of this House," be expunged, and the words "Bernard D. Macdonald" substituted, which being seconded and put, was decided in the negative.

Mr. Macdonald, in amendment to the main motion, then moved, that, after the word "That," all be expunged, and the following substituted: "although the House thought proper, in its first Session of 1835, to appoint the Rev. Louis C. Jenkins to be its Chaplain, and did then and still continues to entertain the highest respect for that gentleman's character, yet, as the House is composed of persons professing various religious opinions, it now deems it inexpedient to desire the attendance of any Clergyman whatever, to officiate as Chaplain."

The Poet's Corner

SILENT WORDS

More silently than the sound made by the wing Of a south-turning bird, the last leaf falls. Over the ruins of a forgotten spring The blue-jay calls. Forever the first prophetic sign is made Without, within; the heart's pulse stumbles, slows. Knowing the hurt inevitable, the blade That reaps the rose. Always is mortal aware at the season's turn Of the shattered chord, lost and broken tunes. And only in the mind the flames still burn Of defeated Junos.

The Age-Old Story

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain; and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry, and he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field.

An Age Of Falling Crowns

(By Thomas Dunbabin in the Ottawa Citizen)

King Farouk of Egypt is the latest of nearly a score of monarchs in Europe and the Near East who have abdicated or been forced off their thrones in the past 42 years. The days of kings and crowns unstable began in 1910 when King Manoel of Portugal, namesake of Manoel the Fortunate, went into exile to become a regular attendant at Wimbledon tennis. Portugal became a republic as that greater Portugal, Brazil, the only Empire centered in the Western Hemisphere, had done in 1888.

Empires fell like ninespins in the First World War, which brought down Russia (Czar Nicholas in 1917; Germany (Kaiser Wilhelm) in 1918; and Austria (Emperor Charles) in 1918.

As an aftermath of the war, the Sultan of Turkey went into exile in 1922. Turkey became, and has remained, a republic. The throne of Syria was revived for a fleeting moment after the war when Feisal Al Hussein became its King. When he fell, he fell on his feet, for in 1922 he became King of Iraq, which is still a monarchy. No other exiled monarch of our day has found another crown.

Feisal's father, Hussein, lost the throne of the Hejaz in 1926. King Ibn Saud took over the Hejaz and Hussein went to live in Cyprus. King Alfonso of Spain lost his throne in 1931; according to the Spanish jest, 90 percent of the Spaniards were anti-Monarchs, and 90 percent were anti-Alfonzists. After their Easter, the Italian King Umberto of Italy abdicated in 1946. His son the Crown Prince took the crown for a few weeks, after which Italy became a republic.

King Leopold of Belgium abdicated in 1951, but the crown went to his son Prince Baudouin; the throne does not seem as stable as, for instance, that of The Netherlands, where Queen Wilhelmina abdicated in 1948. But then Wilhelmina was widely popular with her people and left the throne entirely of her own will. All these changes leave just seven monarchs in Europe: the United Kingdom, Belgium, The Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Greece. There are really nine if you reckon in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (area, 998 square miles; population 300,000) and the principality of Liechtenstein (61 square miles, 19,000 people), both of which have hereditary rulers. Maybe Luxembourg ought to count, since it is represented as a country in good standing at the Helsinki Olympic Games and has produced one winner.

In Iran (Persia) the British helped ease out its former monarch, Reza Shah, in 1942 but they left the throne to his son. However, the throne of the Land of the Lion and the Sun seems somewhat shaky at the moment. India, of which Queen Victoria was once Empress, ceased to be a part of the British Empire and became a republic in 1949, though it continues to be associated with the British Commonwealth. Crowns of Nizam, Rajahs, Maharajahs and other Indian Princes are now three a penny for those parts.

The Second World War, which overthrew several thrones either directly or indirectly, did definitely restore one, that of Ethiopia. Overthrown, with the help of modern weapons, by the Italians in 1936, it was restored in 1941 when Haile Selassie, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, again became King of Kings. Curiously enough Portugal, where this century's rush to republican-ism began, now has more kings in

Notes By The Way

Before us a picture of former King Farouk parading the terrace of his Capri hotel in his new baby, the new King, in his arms. Farouk is smoking. With more experience he will learn babies don't like smoking.—Ottawa Journal.

Tiny Township Council has been giving consideration for some time to the desirability of establishing several public parks along the Georgian Bay shores. Its members realize that year-round residents and the transient tourists are entitled to a place to swim. It is to be hoped that action is taken soon as the cost of beach property is steadily rising.—Midland Free Press-Herald.

Premier Angus Macdonald of Nova Scotia invites contributions for a fourth memorial in honour of Louis Philippe and Charles-Émile for their brave escape after the 1745 rebellion. We tremble to think of the battalions of statues needed if every worthwhile Macdonald is to have more than one memorial.—Ottawa Journal.

No one wants to interfere with the rights of motorcycles to use streets and highways as anyone else would. But there will be praise for London's police chief, A. E. Knight, if he can succeed in his big job for any man to tackle, that, and certainly not one to be undertaken lightly. A job that carries with it such a load of responsibility, and such power, that we could only assume that those who were choosing the principal contestants for it were acting with a fit sense of their own duty.

All this we knew, but there our knowledge ended. We were kept pretty well posted about what was happening, and the names of the leading characters in the drama became as familiar to us as those of our own politicians; but how and why the plot unfolded was left unexplained. Could it be that there was nobody here who could explain it?

Several people seemed to have sketchy notions about the matter; some made so bold as to write about it in the Press. Yet, in spite of their efforts, doubt ourselves none the wiser. What a pity. Thus might the flower of our internationalism have been nipped in the bud!

Fortunately, however, we are still interested to see who will eventually become the new President. Far be it from us to interfere in other people's politics, but we do feel we have a sort of personal link. Quite apart from the plain truth that what happens in the United States is important to the rest of the world we do rather like Ike as a man. We know him well, and we took to him long ago. All that other business we had better leave alone until some genius appears who can explain it to us in simple words.

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