

The Guardian

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"The strongest memory is weaker than
 the weakest ink."
 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1956

No Recognition

It is a fair assumption that there will be general satisfaction over the position of the Federal Government, as stated by External Affairs Minister, and as supported by Opposition spokesmen, on the question of diplomatic recognition of the Chinese Communist Government. It is clear that the Peiping regime has done nothing as yet to indicate any change for the better in its over-all international outlook, a development which would seem to be a necessary prelude to the strengthening of its diplomatic status among the nations. It isn't as if Canadian business in or with China were of such weighty dimensions as to require on the spot representation. What business there is can just as well be attended to by means of an intermediary.

Mr. Pearson's suggestion that refusal to grant recognition now does not mean that no further consideration will be given the matter at some future time is a point well taken. This is one of the many questions involving Canada's role in world affairs in which inflexibility of policy would be neither desirable nor practicable. Who knows what the situation will be a year or two years from now? Perhaps by then, "in the light of conditions, of our own interests, and of the views of our friends and allies," to quote Mr. Pearson, a different answer to the question will be in order. In any event, as things stand now, the matter can wait. There certainly are more important things on the agenda of this country's interests at the present time. Meanwhile, it will do no harm for General Chiang Kai Shek to hear that the Canadian Government is not very hopeful that some day he will recapture the Chinese mainland from the Communists, nor for the Peiping authorities to hear that, if and when recognition does come, it will not necessarily extend to Formosa.

Civic Relief Problem

It is evident that despite pavements through mothers' allowances, old age pensions and other schemes on a federal-provincial basis, the relief problem is a serious one in Charlottetown this winter. The City gives help when sought by needy persons, but it does not assume responsibility for these cases and has no power to implement a direct relief program under its act of incorporation. This matter was discussed at the annual meeting of the Catholic Social Welfare Bureau which in the past six years has paid out some \$24,000 in relief and last year paid over three thousand dollars in food alone. But the Bureau is not a relief agency in the accepted sense of the term, and only about five percent of its budget as a social agency should be allotted for relief purposes.

The need appears to be pressing, however, and the concern of the speakers was evident from the discussion. It was suggested that the organization join forces with the newly formed Protestant Welfare Bureau in determining where the responsibility lies in these cases, and in seeking to obtain equal shares of the sum of \$5,000 which was collected for the now defunct Children's Aid Society some years ago, and has not been used. This is a matter in which both the provincial and municipal authorities are concerned, and it is to be hoped that some satisfactory solution will be worked out cooperatively.

The situation might be partially relieved by rehabilitating persons released from serving jail sentences, and providing for some useful work for them while in detention. The innocent families of these persons suffer undue hardships which might be relieved in this manner. This matter was brought up by Coun. Johnstone at a recent meeting of the City Council and it was decided to petition the Government to give consideration to the establishment of a prison farm, a proposal which was warmly endorsed at the Welfare

Bureau meeting. There will remain, however, the need for providing for other necessitous cases, and there should be no uncertainty as to where responsibility lies in such matters. Our welfare agencies are doing excellent work, but their resources are limited and the problem calls for action on a coordinated scale.

Market For Ideas

The U. S. Patent Office reports that of the many ideas that come in month after month about 20% have to do with automobiles, how to make them better looking, speedier, or safer. (No doubt, the Canadian picture is much the same.) On an average, 1000 ideas a month come to the office or to automobile manufacturing companies.

Now and again, it is reported, some inventor is so wrapped up in his idea and so anxious to put it to work for the good of his fellowmen that he offers it as a gift to the trade. Most, however, are not as philanthropic; and frequently the terms are so demanding that no company could comply with them and still stay in business. There is, of course, the occasional wag who sends in a novel request along with his invention. One man, for example, who thought he had a better spark plug, asked for a used car in payment; he added, by way of postscript, that a new one would not do. Another, who had been injured in a car accident, requested as payment a new wooden leg with accessories.

Hundreds of ideas, good in themselves, have to be turned down because their adoption would merely substitute one trouble for another. For instance, there are plenty of good ideas on how to reduce headlight glare, but none at all on how to do that without, at the same time, reducing visibility. The would-be inventor who is lucky enough to think up something that is both original and useful is in a position to make a lot of money either through cash awards or royalties or both. But there's the rub. Only one idea out of 30,000 fills that exacting role.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Pictou is asking the Provincial Government to help in establishing a flour mill in that port. Why not? It should be a paying proposition; and if it did nothing else but provide Maritime farmers with cheaper live stock feed of quality it would be well worth while.

A Japanese song-bird is earning dollars for Japan. In pre-war days the export of canaries was considerable. It declined during the war. Today, however, it is big business. The figure has risen from 1,490 of the warblers exported in 1948 to 179,100 in 1954. Most of the birds go to the United States.

Norway may not be a great power in the modern usage of that designation; but that does not prevent her from driving off with gun fire Russian trawlers which encroach on her territorial waters. The Oslo government is to be commended and praised for its practical protest against high-handed action by Soviet pirates.

By introducing mixymatosis, a mosquito-borne disease, Australian authorities have succeeded in killing off rabbits, the plague of Australian farming, at a very rapid rate, to the extent of 90% in some areas. Now, the kangaroo, more destructive than the rabbit ever was, is on the increase. It's nothing, says a report, for farmers to kill as many as a hundred in a single night.

Contrary to some reports, the purpose of the U. S. survey of the Passamaquoddy project in the Bay of Fundy is not to find out whether the generation of electric power from the tides is technically possible. That question was answered in the affirmative years ago. The present purpose is twofold: (1) to ascertain whether the project would be economically feasible; (2) to discover what effect the vast construction would have on the important herring fisheries in the area. If the answers to both questions turn out to be satisfactory, the building of the necessary dams and installations will, presumably, get under way. Since Canada will share in the economic benefits, it is not quite clear why the Canadian Government is not sharing, at least to the extent of a token contribution, in the cost of



STUMBLING BLOCK

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open to the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

UNFAIR CLASSIFICATION

Sir, I notice by your paper that a Summerside magistrate has fined several farmers for hauling overweight on the pavement. I also noticed that a tractor and trailer are classed as one unit. Now it is not my intention to take the part of any one who is doing wrong, but I do take exception to this classification. A tractor and trailer are not one unit. There are three axles and six rubber tires carrying weight, and a trailer properly loaded puts just enough weight on the drawbar of the tractor to keep the trailer from bobbing up and down in front. It is very unfair to class this outfit as one unit. If this classification is continued certainly the weight will have to be raised to 8,000 lbs. Pavements are wonderful to travel on, and we would like to commend the Government for building them, but the way pavements are being built to-day I see no reason why the weight should be below 8,000 unless it is during a time of very unusual weather and road conditions. In any case, farmers are compelled to stay off the pavements on mild days - the only days fit to haul potatoes - unless the gross weight is raised, or a more reasonable and practical application made.

I am, Sir, etc.
 R.A. PROFITT.
 FreeTown, P.E.I.

RURAL MAILMAN

Sir, I have read quite a few letters in your forum about rural mailmen, but never one with as little sense to it as the one that was signed "Waiting For His Mail."

He should come out of the woods and learn something about a subject of which he apparently knows nothing; for that must be where he lives, if he does not get his mail until May!

First of all he compares mailmen with farmers and fishermen. There is about as much comparison in these jobs as there would be between an airplane pilot and a fisherman.

Now I have nothing against linemen, theirs is not an easy job. However, they get well paid for their work and time and a half for overtime. What about the mailman? he gets the same pay every day, whether it takes him eight hours or sixteen to finish his route.

Waiting For His Mail" must have had some kind of optical illusion about mailmen driving around in heated cars with radios. If any mailman has a radio in his car he certainly did not buy it out of his salary. Some don't even own a car.

Your correspondent seems to think that farmers or linemen are the only ones that get wet or cold. I have seen mailmen carrying mail on their back in a heavy rain, after their car has bogged down in the mud. They also deliver mail with a horse and sleigh in "below zero" weather. However, there are no farmers on the road these days.

Hard though the farmer's lot may be, he can pick his own day to go to town. The mailman must get out on the roads every day. "Waiting For His Mail" makes little of "Snow and Mud's" letter wherein he states that a certain mailman would be going behind about \$50 a year. I don't believe these figures are far astray. The only reason this mailman can carry on is that he had a good farm behind him, where he and his wife work a lot of hours overtime and so it is with most mailmen. If they did not have some kind of sideline they could not carry on.

"Waiting For His Mail" seems to think the mailmen should be using a horse and buggy. I personally think they should be using a helicopter. This is 1956. Perhaps "Waiting For His Mail" did not get a calendar for a long time!

I am, Sir, etc.

FAIR PLAY.

Crucial Question In Nigeria

By Robert Rice
 Canadian Press, London

The Queen's visit to Nigeria, off to a triumphant start, may have important political implications for the Commonwealth in the long run.

It may help provide a necessary sense of unity to a country which is potentially richer than South Africa. With a population of nearly 22,000,000, roughly double that of Canada, Nigeria is larger than any other British colony and could be a pacemaker in African evolution.

The difficulty is that the territory—one-tenth the size of Canada—is split into three separate and sometimes conflicting groups.

MOSLEM ALOOF
 The north is inhabited by the Hausas, Moslem and aloof in character. The west, where the Yorubas live, is active and aggressive, led by a lawyer, Obafemi Awolowo, who puts his own district ahead of the federation.

The east is the home of the forest-dwelling Iboes who have no qualms about moving out of their own poor area into the more prosperous and progressive west region.

Late this year, perhaps in September, Nigerian leaders will meet in London to discuss a revision of the constitution, last amended in 1954 to allocate federal and regional powers.

The crucial question may be whether regional differences can be subordinated to the interests of federation.

The Queen's visit, with the enthusiasm it has aroused, may point the way to greater harmony.

NEW ERA SEEN
 It marks the beginning of a brand-new era in Nigeria's history.

OUR YESTERDAYS
 From The Guardian Files
 TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
 (February 2, 1931)

Seven years ago Ewen H. Cameron, a former manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia, had no idea of going down to the sea in ships. However last Saturday he sailed out of Boston bound for the West Indies, as master of the Canadian National Steamship Company's liner Lady Hawkins.

The mercury which has been hovering around zero in Summerside and west Prince County all last week, suddenly dropped to 15 below Sunday night, O'Leary reported seventeen below.

Potatoes are moving quietly at the present time, due to the cold. The Potato Growers Association is offering 50 cents for Green Mountain seed and 40 cents for table stock. Cobbler table stock brings 30 cents, with no market for seed.

TEN YEARS AGO
 (February 2, 1946)

St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church at Summerside was yesterday destroyed by fire, which started in the vicinity of the furnace room. The blaze broke about eight o'clock yesterday morning, by eleven the whole church was a mass of flames and at 11.40 the 155 foot steeple toppled into the body of the church. Loss was estimated to be in the vicinity of \$100,000.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in its report for the 1945 honey crop, shows that Prince Edward Island was one of the two provinces which showed an increase in production. The amount produced was 46,000 pounds as compared to 44,000 for the previous year. The other province showing improvement was Nova Scotia with 83,000 pounds compared to 65,000 in 1945.

CHARGED AGAIN
 HAMILTON (CP) — A 41-year-old Hamilton dishwasher has been re-arrested and charged with a recent assault, police said Thursday. Douglas Cline was acquitted Wednesday on several charges of contributing to the delinquency of juveniles and indecent assault on the grounds of "uncorroborated evidence of children."

Medically Speaking

By Herman N. Sundesen, M. D.

CHICKEN POX VICTIM SHOULD BE ISOLATED

Nearly everyone gets chicken pox, even very young infants. While not generally a serious disease—it sometimes goes completely unnoticed—the itching rash can be extremely annoying.

With a few precautions, you can make your youngster, or other patient, a little more comfortable, and protect him from possible secondary infections. Chicken pox may occur at any age but in large towns and cities most victims are between 5 and 15 years old. It's caused by a virus closely related to that causing herpes zoster, or shingles.

HIGHLY INFECTIOUS

The disease is highly infectious, and the victim must be isolated. It is spread by coming in contact with a person who has the disease, or with articles recently soiled by discharges from the nose, throat or skin of an infected person.

Your child may feel ill and have a slight fever a day or two before the familiar skin rash appears. There is no sore throat with chicken pox.

The incubation period ranges between 14 and 21 days, usually about 17 days. In some cases, the rash covers the entire body, even the scalp and the inside of the mouth. In others, the spots escape notice.

PUT HIM TO BED
 In the majority of cases, all you have to do is put the patient to bed for a few days. Daily bathing in potassium permanganate is at times advised by your physician if the rash is profuse.

Scratching increases the chance of scarring, and might lead to secondary infection. To prevent this, keep the child's nails trimmed as short as possible. Mitts are advisable to keep the hands entirely covered.

Keep his clothing and bedding clean.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

A Reader: Is it possible for a cyst to become malignant?
 Answer: It is possible for a cyst to become malignant. There is a great tendency for some cysts to become cancerous, depending on their location.

You should have an examination made by your physician to determine whether or not the cyst should be removed.

The Age Old Story

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these

BOB BURNS DIES

ENCINO, Calif. (AP) — Bob Burns, 45, famed for a decade ago who was famous for his bazooka tooting and Arkansas jokes, died Thursday of cancer. He had been in a coma at a hospital here for six days. The 63-year-old Arkansas native had been active in real estate in the San Fernando valley in recent years.

Notes By The Way

Some men act the fool, but they should be careful lest it be thought they are not acting at all.—Sherbrooke, Que., Record.

Many a fathers prestige vanishes in exhaust smoke when his teenage son starts a car with a flick to the wrist after Daddy has wrestled vainly with the thing for half an hour.—Sherbrooke Record.

Hamilton City Council has voted in favor of fluoridating its water supply. After most other Canadian cities have done likewise, Windsor probably will fall in at the tail end of this parade of progress.—Windsor Star.

If Mr. Attlee had been born in Petrograd, instead of in Putney, he would quite certainly have thrown bombs in his youth. Many of his successes, and some of his failures, have been founded on the fact that nobody has ever quite believed this.—London Economist.

An expert on racehorses came to grief recently over a question asked on a British television quiz show, and as a result lost all the money he had earned up to that point. This is an experience that happens even to experts at the race track as well.—Ottawa Citizen.

When a nation takes to a cup of coffee, a slice of toast and a cigarette for breakfast it is surely imperiled. Of course, when you go back to bread and potatoes you have to work; you can't eat that and sit all day anchored to an office chair.—London Free Press.

Blessed are they that co-operate with the editor in his efforts on behalf of the community. For the community shall be known to all men as a good place in which to live and do business and blessed are they who don't think they could run a newspaper better than the editor—yes, thrice blessed are they because there are so few of them.—Springhill (N.S.) Record.

An Atlantic fisheries research official has drawn attention to the possibility that lobster shells could be the basis of a million-dollar textile industry in the Maritime Provinces. A substance called "chitin" can be extracted from the shells to manufacture a rayon-like material with a water-repellent attribute. Probably few people have ever imagined that in throwing away lobster shells into the garbage pail they were throwing away money.—St. John Telegraph-Journal.

There was only one death from diphtheria in Scotland in 1954. This is stated by Dr. Kenneth Cowan, Chief Medical Officer of Health for Scotland, in a letter to all medical officers asking them to continue their efforts on behalf of the successful diphtheria immunization campaign. Adding that there were only 17 cases of diphtheria, Dr. Cowan points out that "this is a striking contrast with the years before the immunization campaign was launched, when there were about 500 deaths from diphtheria annually in Scotland.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

The Surprising Thing is that there aren't more traffic accidents...

ticularly when one realizes that thousands of people who would be dangerous behind the handlebars of a trike are licensed to drive cars.—Ottawa Journal.

A photographer shows an Ontario hunter holding up the massive head of a 16-point elk he killed, and the underlines say it will make a lovely hat-track. Perhaps so, but isn't it sad to think that a hat-track is to be the destiny of such beautiful specimens of our wild life?—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

A money-raising project used by a local church group of young matrons included a donation from each one, a cent for every year of her age. "Not one of them is under thirty," said the man who told us the story, with a laugh. "Yet, when the receipts were added and divided by the number of members the average age came out as twenty-three!"—Dauphin, Man. Herald.

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