

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. Editor and Managing Director, Ian A. Burnett, Associate Editor, Frank Walker.

CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN TUESDAY, SEPT. 22, 1953

Freer Trade Suggested

A strong reminder of the need of modifying its restrictive trade policies is contained in the report of the International Monetary Fund, one of the United Nations special agencies which held its annual meeting at Washington recently.

"If there were substantial modifications in U. S. commercial policy such as tariff reductions," it says, "the simplification of tariff classifications and customs procedures, liberalization of agricultural quotas and of shipping policy, repeal of 'Buy American' legislation and the modification of other practices that at present discourage efforts to expand beyond modest limits the markets in the United States for certain imports—the payments position of the non-dollar world would be substantially strengthened, and the prospect of reducing or eventually eliminating restrictions on imports from the United States would be greatly improved."

What is particularly interesting, notes an exchange, is that the International Monetary Fund whose opinions have always verged on the ultra-conservative in economic theory, and whose strictures on American policy have always been carefully lenient, should now go still further and declare plainly that revision of American commercial policy should no longer be considered as a matter for tough bilateral bargaining between America and other countries.

The report admits that even the adoption by America of complete free trade would not by itself provide more than a partial solution of the world's dollar problems. "But," it adds, "the efforts that are still necessary on the part of other countries are likely to be more resolute and determined if their present fears that the entry of competitive goods into the American market will be impeded can be allayed."

Forest Fire Losses

The extent of destruction wrought by forest fires is brought home in a bulletin of the Canadian Forestry Association which says that 1953 losses "will not be recovered for from fifty to one hundred fires, during which time, the public treasury together with industry and employment must share the consequences."

In the past ten years Canada has lost twenty million acres of timber to fire, with an annual loss of almost 300 million cubic feet of raw material which, says the association, would furnish the bread and butter of 366,000 Canadian workers.

"Forest fires incinerate enough timber every summer to build 85,000 family bungalows . . . do immeasurable damage to water-sheds of lakes and rivers, which are the source of hydro-electric power and the chief magnet of the tourist trade."

The great tragedy is that most of these fires should never have started. Only one in six begins through the accident of lightning. The other five are the result of negligence — failure of the camper fully to extinguish his camp fire, of the settler to take the necessary precautions in burning off land.

Senate Reform

Since the Liberals now have a new lease on federal office that could last four or five years, the possibility arises that all opposition in the Senate might literally die out. Commenting on this situation, the Ottawa Citizen notes that only eight Progressive Conservatives remain in the upper house; the Liberals number 82, and there are 12 vacancies. By the time of the next election, the Senate may have become almost completely a Liberal preserve. Its prestige will approach the vanishing point if years of talk about reform lead only to a one-party monopoly.

There has been some speculation that Prime Minister St. Laurent may be planning to spike criticism by appointing a number of opposition representatives to the Senate. It is recalled that in a pre-election press conference Mr. St. Laurent stated carefully that he would not do this "before an election." Safely back in office, however — so the argument goes — he could perhaps risk the wrath of some Liberals in an attempt to blunt the edge of popular in-

dignation at the farce in the upper house. "But on what basis might the Prime Minister appoint senators from outside his own party?" asks The Citizen. "If he chose them from the official opposition only, he could hardly be relied upon, as a matter of constitutional practice, to make things really tough for the government. Moreover, the official opposition in the Commons would be weakened if some aspirants to Senate seats began to curry favor with the government leader. Minor parties would have a real grievance, too, and they could gain sympathy by pointing out that evidently the older parties differed very little.

"The Prime Minister might try to give the minor parties places in the Senate. But of the four provinces they govern at present, two have no Senate vacancies, and in a third the party in power has no representation federally or in other provincial parliaments. In any case, a tendency to make the Senate reflect provincial politics would be a radical innovation. Yet if these parties were given Senate seats in regions where they were weak, the Prime Minister would make himself unpopular with his own followers.

"Reform of the Senate cannot be left to the discretion of the government leader. If the Liberals prove to have no better plan, a disgusted public may in the end be satisfied with nothing less than abolition of the upper house."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Michael Faraday, English natural philosopher, chemist and electrician, was born this date 1791. He managed to attend some lectures of Sir Humphrey Davy and devoted his spare time to scientific reading and experiment. He became Davy's assistant and continued his work in chemistry and the manufacture of optical glass. His discoveries were very numerous indeed.

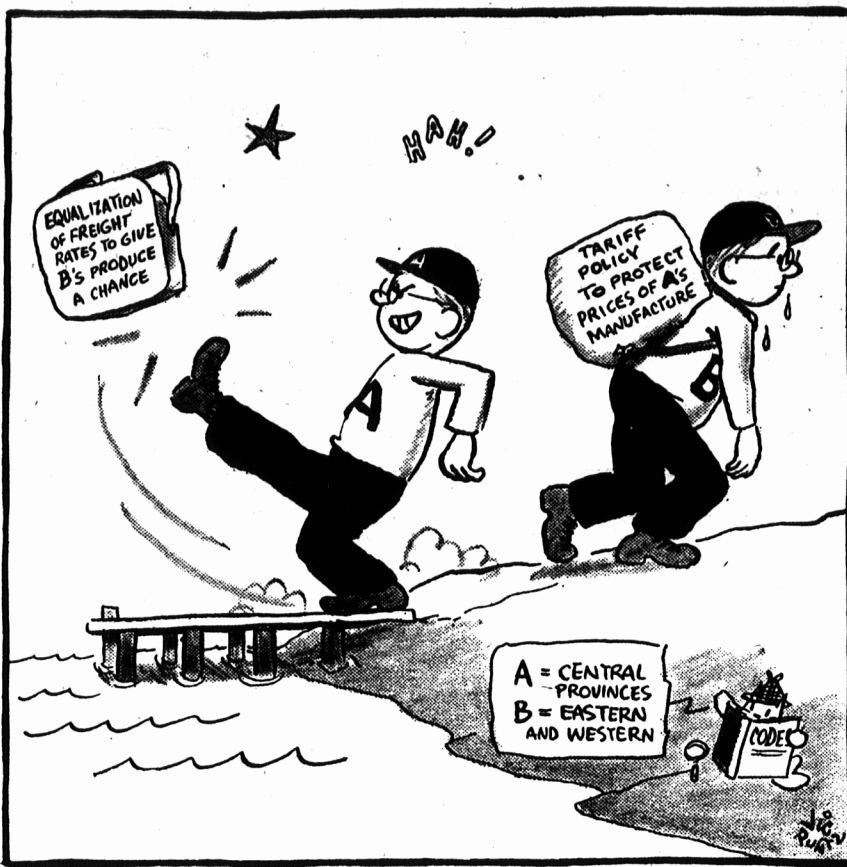
The announcement that "Anne of Green Gables", first and best known novel of our own Lucy Maud Montgomery, whose home at Cavendish is still intact, is to be broadcast in serial form by CBC will be welcome news to young and old here and elsewhere. "Anne of Green Gables" has already been filmed, and the "Anne Books" have been translated into many other tongues. We are inclined to forget that one of the most popular writers of recent times was born, lived and worked in this Province and that many people would never have heard of this little Island but for her heartwarming novels.

"We might with advantage remember a saying of Bernard Shaw," advises Sir Richard Livingstone on the BBC: "Though everybody nowadays seems to know the X Y Z of everything, nobody knows the A B C of anything." Bishop Berkeley put the same point rather differently: "Whatever the world thinks, he who hath not much meditated upon God, the human mind, and the supreme good, may possibly make a thriving earthworm, but will certainly make a sorry patriot and a sorry statesman." A nation should not be satisfied if its elite, however well trained otherwise, does not meditate on these things.

What is probably the world's first experimental peat-burning power station using gas turbines is to be built in Caithness at a cost of £500,000. The plant will consist of 2,000 kilowatts closed cycle gas turbines, an oil burning turbine, a 750 kilowatts upper cycle turbine. The establishment of this peat-burning power unit in Caithness will be a great advance for Scotland, for Scotland possesses no less than 600 million tons of peat in areas where the depth accessibilities and other features make them suitable for utilization. It is clear, therefore, that should the creation of electrical power from peat prove entirely successful the question of fuel supplies should not worry the authorities for several centuries.

"The Legionary's" cover portrays members of the 48th Highlanders Company of the 1st Canadian Highland Battalion changing guard at their barracks in Hanover, Germany. They form part of the 27th Brigade which is the subject of a feature article in this issue. There are 15 Reserve Force battalions represented in the companies forming the 1st Canadian Highland Battalion, the 1st Canadian Rifle Battalion and the 1st Canadian Infantry Battalion, and the men of each company wear the shoulder flashes of their parent unit. The same principle was applied to Royal Canadian Artillery reserve force regiments, which combined to raise the batteries for the Brigade's field regiment. The R.C.D.'s provided the initial armoured support, with certain Reserve Force armoured corps regiments participating in providing the manpower. Engineers, Ordnance, Signals, Intelligence, Provost, Medical and Army Service Corps units are represented in the Brigade in a manner similar to the Infantry and Artillery components.

Bearing One Another's Burdens



PUBLIC FORUM

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

HUNTING WITH THE BOW AND ARROW

Sir,—There seems to be considerable divergence of opinion about the following, viz.—which is more sportsmanlike and humane, the use of the bow or gun for hunting? A recent press item quoted the Rev. Harold T. Row, manager and field secretary of the Nova Scotia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, as appealing to all sportsmen entering the Province to refrain from using the bow and arrow in hunting deer. The St. John's Evening Telegram, Newfoundland says: "It has been announced that hunters of big game in the Province this season are permitted to use bows and arrows. What is the object, unless it is to satisfy the whim of some of the stalkers? A more important question is why give permission to use a weapon which might wound an animal in a dozen places without dispatching it? The purpose of the hunting regulations is that the slaughter of the animal will be effected with a minimum of suffering. That, too, is the aim of the genuine sportsman. The use of the bow and arrow is not in accordance with that principle, and it is suggested that the Society for the Protection of Animals might give its attention to the new regulation."

Dr. Saxon Pope, big game hunter with the bow and arrow: "I grizzily bears in the Rockies and lions in Africa, has this to say in his book, "Hunting With the Bow and Arrow": "We found from the very first that the arrow was more humane than the gun. Counting all hunters, for every animal brought home with the gun, whether duck, quail or deer, at least two are hit and die in pain in the bush. "With the arrow it is different. Practically none are lost in our hunts. A strange phenomenon is seen in larger animals; they are easier to kill with an arrow, than small ones. An arrow wound is clean-cut. The pain is no greater with the arrow than with the bullet. It is also futile to prophesy the future of the bow and arrow. As an implement of the chase, to use it seems to hold a place unique for fairness. And those who think the bullet is more certain and humane than the arrow have no accurate knowledge on which to base their comparison. Our experience has proved the contrary to be the case."

According to the St. John's Evening Telegram, there must be a strange sort of deer in Newfoundland, which might be wounded in a dozen places without being dispatched. I ask, where would the deer be while being wounded in a dozen places? It is certainly more sportsmanlike to hunt with the bow than the gun. It is a toss-up whether the bow or gun is more humane. These are two modes of the same thing—permissible murder. I am Sir, etc., MICHAEL J. BYRNES, Iona, Queens County.

The Poet's Corner

A CYPRIAN WOMAN Greek Folk Song Under dusky laurel leaf, Scarlet leaf of rose, I lie prone, who have known All a woman knows. Love and grief and motherhood, Fame and mirth and scorn— These are all shall befall Any woman born.

Jewel-laden are my hands Tall my stone above, Do not weep that I sleep Who was wise in love.

Where I walk a shadow gray Through gray amphiol, I am glad, who have had All that life can tell.

Notes By The Way

Our dream of beachcombing on a Pacific isle, with beautiful brown girls dancing about in grass skirts, has been shattered by Queen Salote of Tonga going to Scotland and collecting a length of tweed for a suit.—Ottawa Journal.

A scientist, a doctor, a manufacturer who attends an international conference and only speaks and understands his own languages and assumes it is adequate because his country is the most powerful on earth makes enemies and alienates potential friends. He is scorned by foreigners even while he may be envied, because his monolingualism is interpreted as provincial complacency or as a manifestation of "American imperialism".—H. Peyre in Saturday Review.

An authority on gardening once told a group of flower lovers that there are 50,000 pounds of soil workers to each acre of ground. These are also called the soil population. Some of these workers are worms, but there are also a great many minute bodies so small as to be invisible to the naked eye. They keep the soil healthy, and they are fed in many ways by nature. The picture is that of a highly active process going on continually in the earth beneath our feet.—Vancouver News Herald.

The art of pickling is to secure the right blend, not too strong a flavor, not too sour, not too sweet, and certainly not too flat. But that is not all. The cucumbers should be selected from the most favored corner of the garden; the tomatoes lifted from the vine that stands squarely in the morning sun. In any case, the true pickle is one that brings a pang of summer's memories to the table in the weeks of winter, whether it is dill or sweet, a mustard or tomato relish. The best of all, one would say, are the long cucumber slices that come dripping from the stone crock, bearing just a suspicion of garlic.—St. John Telegraph Journal.

Old Charlottetown

And F. E. L.

UNION OF THE COLONIES

"Within a few weeks from the present time, in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia or Prince Edward Island, there will be assembled a number of gentlemen, consisting of members of the Legislatures of the several Provinces, for the purpose of discussing the expediency of uniting these Colonies under one Government. Prince Edward Island will take part in this movement, at the request of Nova Scotia.

"The subject of a Union of the Maritime Provinces, at the present time appears to attract but little attention among our neighbors. Their Press scarcely ever alludes to it. In this Island, however, the newspapers generally have declared against it, and it is seldom that one meets, among our agriculturists, a man who will listen to anything in favour of a proposition which would deprive this Colony of its existence as a separate Government. In our Legislature, although the matter was not fully discussed, the question submitted by the Government on the subject being simply, whether we should comply with the request of Nova Scotia to send delegates to confer with the delegates of that Province on the subject. It was evident that the proposition to 'give up our constitution' had few adherents — the only member, we believe, who urged any arguments in favour of the Union was the Colonial Secretary . . .

"The Union of the North American Possessions, on the Atlantic board at least, we simply regard as a matter of time. The Government of Canada has already become all but an impossibility; and we should think that the statesman of that great Province must see that they cannot much longer continue as they are — that they must seek in a repeal of the Union of Upper and Lower Canada, or in further Union a remedy for these causes which now prevent the formation of a Government possessing any elements of stability."

—The Islander, July 24, 1864.

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—Margaret Widdemer.

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

HEADLINES OF THE PAST

When one tires (and who doesn't?) of the problems and events that make the headlines of the present, it is refreshing to take a look into the past and see what the newsworthy events were in the middle of the last century.

Recently I have been looking over a leather bound volume of magazines dated from late 1858 to early 1860. From the many thousands of news items and articles contained therein I have selected at random just enough to show that ours is not only generation that has had problems and done great things. The problems of 1858-60 were not the same as ours of course, and the events, from our point of view, were not so fraught with urgency. The periodicals of the time, however, treated them with respect, and sometimes with awe.

One piece of news, important enough to warrant several inches of space, reported that "a firm in New York has made a profit of 100 thousand dollars by manufacturing steel hoops for ladies. The emphasis was not on the steel hoops — these had already been established in favour — but on the profit. In those days apparently, a manufacturing profit of such a vast sum was so unusual as to warrant special, and not altogether favourable, mention in a fashionable magazine. Incidentally many of the cartoons in the volume had to do with "hoops" which seem to have provided much merriment for the masculine branch of the society.

Quite a long article elaborated on the evils of snuff chewing by women (not "ladies" as the author was careful to point out). It all started when a merchant in Cincinnati reported that he sold two hundred pounds of snuff to women in the course of a month. Strangely, the writer of the article dealt chiefly with what he called the "economic waste" of such a practice. He touched on the "moral delinquency", too, but only incidentally.

A great fuss was on in England because Little Agnes, the winner of the race for the Durham Handicap, had been given "half a gallon of good, strong beer" for the occasion. This time, however, the alarm was more moral than economic. Whether the change of venue had anything to do with it is not clear, but it seems likely.

In the scientific world there was excitement over the first horse railway to be tried out in Chicago. In the opinion of the editor the operation had been so successful that others would likely be projected in the near future. The "success" was indicated by a recent report which mentioned a profit of nearly \$100 a day.

This was the era when private carriages were crowding — though not often killing people on — the highways which, incidentally, were of plain mud for the most part, although some engineers had already experimented with gravel. In New York alone, the report said, there were not less than twenty-thousand carriages. There was an editorial comment that "traffic congestion in the city is getting out of hand."

A specially big headline proclaimed the incredible tidings that M. Collard, a French photographer, had discovered a method of taking pictures at night "I don't believe it!" was the blunt comment of a well known picture taker in Boston.

A leading article extols the "magnificent idea of yoking the steam giant to the plough, thus dispensing with horses and turning cattle out to grass!" The article goes on to say that while most people would scoff at such a possibility the idea had already been tried out in England with some measure of success although a few minor details had yet to be worked out. "This," the article concludes, "will inaugurate a new era and is an event of the highest importance."

A New York physician had recently come out with the view that a person who washes his (or her) hair regularly is not liable to disease. "All very well," comments the editor, "but what about the person who is bald-headed?" A sombre note was sounded in a report that "in the ten years ending with 1858 not less than thirteen Atlantic steamers were lost, with 3000 persons, which works out at about 1 passenger in every 100 carried." "So, perhaps," wrote the editor, "we may have to go back to the sailing ship after all. Progress is not always necessarily for the better!"

In the State of Maine much indignation was being expressed towards the members of the Legislature who had passed a bill to boost their stipends from 100 to 150 dollars annually. "Outrageous!" was the editorial comment. There was an item from Delaware which said that a woman had been sold in Georgetown (Delaware, not P. E. I.) for the sum of seven dollars and a spaniel. And out in California a man who had knocked his wife senseless with a broomstick borrowed from a neighbour was fined 15 dollars; 5 for assault and 10 for malicious damage to a neighbour's property (the broomstick).

There were no Trade Union troubles of any consequence, but in Toronto — of all places — a dozen "maid servants" quit work because they were not allowed to have tea parties twice a week.

In the religious world Brigham Young, who had just been elevated to the Mormon hierarchy, charged the more prosperous Saints with using their surplus grain for making whiskey instead of giving it to the poor.

The doctrine of the Transmigration of Souls, the theory that after leaving this world human souls enter the bodies of animals, was a "red-hot" controversial subject with a number of noted divines taking part pro and con.

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