

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 WEDNESDAY, JAN. 13, 1954

Another Glimmer Of Hope

The news that a substance found in the lobster shell may prove helpful to the control of cancer or even turn out to be a cure for that dread disease will be received everywhere by enthusiasm tempered by caution. Over a period of many years intense labour and immense sums of money have gone into cancer research. From time to time the scientists have discovered various substances which seemed to give a glimmer of hope that victory over one of mankind's formidable scourges was near, only to find on further investigation that the hope was illusory.

Despite these disappointments and setbacks science has persevered in the search; some day its goal will be reached and one more fear will have been removed from human hearts and minds. The gratitude of the entire human family awaits the scientists who can say the fight has been won.

Meanwhile, every encouraging lead is welcomed on all sides. The lobster-shell theory is still in the experimental stage; it would be unwise at this time to expect that it will succeed where so many others have failed. Should a cure actually be found in such a seemingly unlikely medium it would mean that another strange and glad development would take its place among the marvels of our age.

Town Services

Summerside voters will be asked on February 2 whether they wish to continue the Water Commission as an independent body or as a committee responsible to the Town Council. That a specialized organization is necessary to administer the water supply and sewers goes without saying. The question at issue will be whether or not it is to be made responsible to the Council.

Generally speaking, citizens look to their local council to manage the affairs of the municipality. We do not go in for electing each and every public officer or official and the ease of such commissions is clearly exceptional. It seems that in financing these works and those of Charlottetown, it was felt that potential bond buyers would have more confidence in the investment if administration was in the hands of people concerned only with operating the system on a business-like basis.

In more closely built-up areas it is sometimes necessary for such systems to serve more than one municipality. In such a case a joint-committee representing the various interests may well manage the enterprise and because it has several masters, in effect it has none, except perhaps the Legislature.

The Earliest Americans

New clues are pushing back the calendar of ages in science's long search for the earliest Americans. Until recently definite proof of human life on this continent went back 10,000 years at most. Now this span appears to have been doubled by the dating of a 20,000-year-old mammoth's tusk found amid evidence of man in New Mexico's ancient Sandia cave-dwelling. If Sandia Man killed that mammoth, he long preceded Folsom Man, whose crudely-chipped spear points and tools once were considered the oldest relics of American habitation, the National Geographic Society says. Other evidence and explorations of recent years offer further hints that man was in North America immediately after the last Ice Age, an era that waned some 25,000 years ago. There has even been speculation, based on findings in a California gravel pit, that he was here while it was still in progress, more than 100,000 years ago.

Archeologists agree that the first wandering peoples must have come from Asia. With ocean levels slightly lower, Bering Strait between Siberia and Alaska would be dry land. Along an Arctic grassland belt in the thawing Ice Age could have some Asiatic game animals and then, perhaps, predatory hunting tribes. There are hints that these first migrants would have followed the Arctic seacoast rather than brave the glacier-locked mountains of central Alaska. At the valley of the Mackenzie River they could have turned south along an ice-free corridor down the eastern front of the Rocky Mountains into today's Great Plains. Folsom-type projectile points have been found in northwestern Alaska, as have Stone Age carving tools, called curing, not found farther south. Similar

spearheads were discovered in the desolate Brooks Range fronting the Arctic Ocean. These earliest peoples, pioneers of America's Paleo-Indians, came long before the Eskimo tribes. Little has been found to bridge the gap of thousands of years. Yet the oldest Eskimo settlements so far dug up have shown a relatively advanced culture.

Eskimo sites go back only 2,000 to 3,000 years—Ipiutak in Alaska, the Dorset culture of the Canadian Arctic—and indicate a people highly adapted to the bleak regions of the far north. Their relics can be directly traced to Asian sources. With little change, the Eskimo spread eastward 3,000 miles to Greenland. But before the Eskimo, who? Hopefully, detectives of the past look to the barren Arctic and sub-Arctic for the hidden track of ancient men who first wandered across the top of America, and perhaps down into the heart of an uninhabited New World.

Federal Redistribution

A parliamentary committee, at the request of the Hon. C. G. Power, is to consider the whole question of federal constituencies, to see if some better method cannot be found to determine their boundaries. At present redistributions are made by a committee of the Commons, with all the political implications that course involves.

Often, observes the Windsor Star, there are suggestions of gerrymandering and, in the past, there have been many reasons for such suggestions. But the fault is not entirely that of the party in power which has a majority on the redistribution committee. Very frequently the final outcome is a result of agreements, tacit or otherwise, between politicians of the various parties.

Mr. Power's principal point is that many constituencies, normally urban ones, have a far larger population than others, usually rural. This is true, and it can mean that two rural votes are worth as much as three urban ones in the election of a member. That, at first sight, seems unfair.

There is another factor, however, notes our Windsor contemporary. An urban constituency may comprise only a few square miles, while a rural one can comprise 50 or more square miles. An instance cited is that of Hastings-Frontenac, in Eastern Ontario, which is 100 miles long and 80 miles wide, including 49 different townships. It obviously is more difficult for a member to adequately represent a constituency of that size than a city one which is fewer blocks in length and width than Hastings-Frontenac is in miles. That is why rural ridings, by common consent, have had fewer voters than urban ones. But this doesn't detract from the merit of Mr. Power's contention that redistribution should be in charge of an independent tribunal rather than a political committee.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In 1953, a year in which Canada as a whole probably saw its worst attacks of polio, this Province was fortunate indeed in having no new cases.

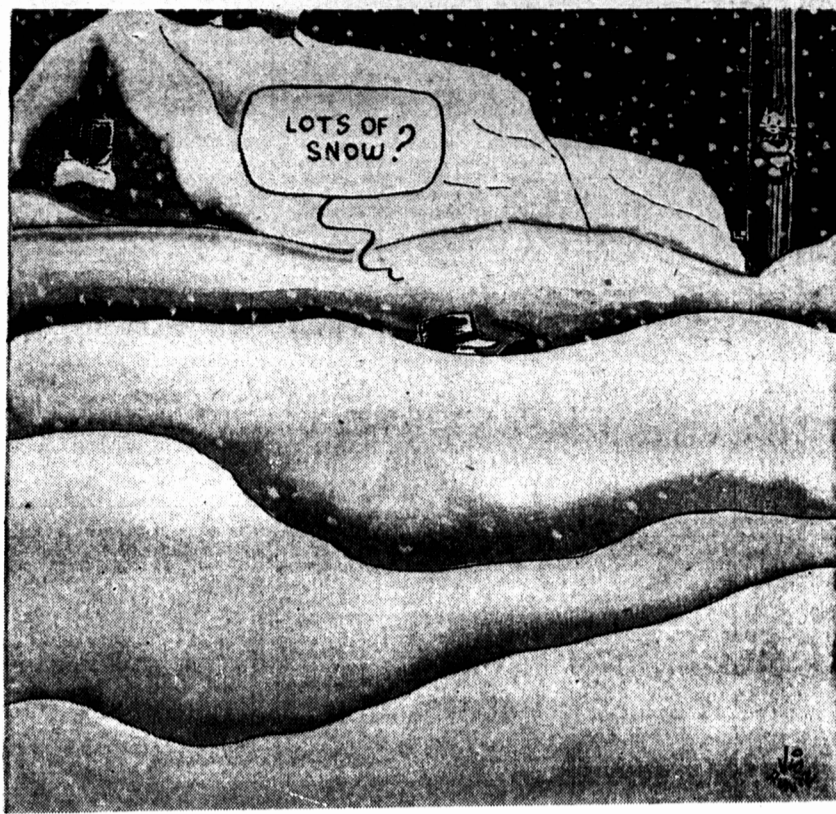
Halifax bluebloods have been on the defensive since it was shown by a survey that blood is redder there than in any other Canadian city. There must be some consolation, however, in the feeling that reference to a red-blooded Canadian now unquestionably means a Bluenose.

A variable farm price support policy at between 75 and 90 per cent of parity is now proposed for the United States instead of the rigid 90 per cent support price that has been in effect. It cannot be expected to be greeted with cheers by the farm population but repeated surplus production under the former system obviously required some such adjustment.

The appointment of a dollar-a-year man to head Canada's electronics defence programme, including conventional radar defences and presumably the McGill Fence, is strongly reminiscent of wartime measures. It is reassuring, at any rate, as showing that both top industrialists and the Government are making strong efforts to see that this country does not by its unpreparedness invite surprise attack.

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, whose pen-name was Lewis Carroll, died this date 1898. He took holy orders and was lecturer in mathematics at Christ Church, Oxford. Some of his witty pamphlets on university affairs were collected as "Notes by an Oxford Chiel". Under his own name he published a number of works involving intricate and ingenious mathematical speculations. His fame, however, rests on "Alice's Adventures In Wonderland" and "Through The Looking-Glass". Both books still delight children and grown-ups alike, as do his many humorous poems including "The Hunting Of The Snark".

It Didn't Come To THIS



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.

READING MATTER

Sir,—I thank God for the reading habit and for something to read. It's a poor paper that does not contain in every issue something to stir the imagination. I may be biased but I regard the Guardian Of The Gulf as the best in the Maritimes. While waiting for it to come in, I read some in the "War Cry", a religious paper. First I thought—oh this is just what I have read and heard before. But I came across an idea worth cherishing—that the man of the world travels by sight; but the man of faith by insight. Or in other words, Faith is the eye of the soul. Also we may add, the ear of the soul, by which we hear the inaudible as well as see the invisible.

Turning to The Guardian we glance at the headlines and scan the death column.

From the editor we hear of the depopulation of "Skye", an island on the west coast of Scotland. We believe this to be true, that about two-thirds of the people have emigrated on account of oppressive circumstances.

FARM COSTS

Sir,—In the course of The Guardian's editorial on "Our Vital Industries" I was struck by the assertion of your Calgary contemporary (The Herald) intimating that there is a serious economic crisis on the Prairies—stemming from the cereal abundance, plugged elevators, lack of immediate cash "despite the fact that grain yields were good in 1951 and 1952, and most of this grain has been paid for. . . Where has their money gone? New machinery, so frequently necessary for successful farming, has often cost a lot of it. And operating costs are high, too."

These latter points made a special impression on me, because I had read only the other day that operating costs during the past three years (including depreciation, obsolescence, and interest as low as 3 per cent on capital investment) had averaged \$1-155,000,000 annually. This massive figure made crystal clear that, as agriculture moves to mechanical power, it costs real money to farm.

The above reference to new machinery certainly gets ample support from the following few lines in my farm paper this week: "In the five years from 1948 to 1952, the retail value of farm machinery and implements and of repair parts sold in Canada reached \$1,513,372,000. In 1952, the retail value of farm machinery and spare parts sales for Canada totalled \$346,230,000. Last year, therefore, the average Canadian farmer

The Age Old Story

The Lord is my strength and song, and is become my salvation. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

The Poet's Corner

TO A SNOWFLAKE

What heart would have thought you?
Past our devious (O fugitive petal!)
Fashioned so purely,
Fragilely, surely,
From what Paradisaical
Imaginable metal,
Who hammered you, wrought you,
From argentine vapour?
"God was my shaper
Passing surmised."
He hammered, He wrought me,
From curled silver vapour,
To lust of His mind—
Thou couldst not have thought me!
So purely, so palely,
Tidily, frailly,
Incurved and embossed,
With His hammer of wind,
And His grave of frost."

—Francis Thompson.

spent \$488 on new farm machinery and \$66 on spare parts and repairs—an average outlay of \$54 per farm."

This latter figure, somehow, vividly reminds me of the dismal fact that, according to the official figures, the net cash income of the nation's farmers over the decade 1930-39, was under \$400 per year. We have certainly come some distance from those depression levels. May they never return!

I am, Sir, etc.,
RURALITE.

THE FIRES OF FREEDOM

Sir,—The word Freedom figures largely in the thought of human beings today. In an old custom in Switzerland by which Independence Day is celebrated a fire is lit on a mountain, and then more fires appear and finally every mountain is aflame. They are called the fires of Freedom. Perhaps no country in the world prizes freedom as does Switzerland. It is a remarkable fact that in our day those fires of freedom have sprung up in every corner of the world. In Africa from Cairo to the Cape those fires are breaking out, sometimes in strange and terrible conflagrations as in the case of the Mau Mau in Kenya.

Freedom, and Malan's campaign in South Africa is in the interest of freedom for the white race. He believes that the "white man was born to farm the world," as a white man said years ago, and so far he has farmed a great part of it. In Africa 6,000,000 whites are trying to farm 175,000,000 black and brown people. This day of domination seems to be passing.

Who first lit this fire of freedom? From the beginning of history it has been simmering. It broke out in Greece at various stages of her history. It was burning Greece that Byron said: "whose land from plain to mountain cave
Was freedom's home, or glory's grave."

But this spirit of freedom as we feel it today dates its birth from the days of Jesus. He found a people in chains of superstition and fear; and many of His parables were employed to set the people free from their bondage. The reality of His divinity is manifested in His self-control in the face of severe provocation. Many a time His anger was ready to burst out against the rulers who kept the common people in bondage to their foolish and galling regulations. Jesus' freedom from the social taboos of His day and a hundred unessential customs is what angered and scared His enemies. He said to them: "If you know Me you will know the truth and the truth will make you free." He was the only truly Free Man in His day.

And it is quite remarkable how free Jesus' followers became, free from fear, free from foolish customs, from prejudices, and superstitions. They had an independence that amazed the magistrates and law courts of their day. They had no fear of flames or hungry lions, and wherever Christianity has gone, the fires of freedom have been lit, and who can deny

Old Charlottetown

(And P. M. L.)

WATER WORKS COMMISSIONERS

From a letter, signed "An Indignant Citizen," appearing in The Examiner of Aug. 22, 1886:

"Our Water Commissioners appear to be students of the Old Testament, for in discharging their duties they have followed in Rehoboam's footsteps. While the City Fathers have chastised us with whips, they have chastised us with scorpions, and their little fingers promise to be thicker than the City Fathers' loins.

"Instead of carrying the water pipes from the fountain to the reservoir in the most direct line across any of the farms between Malpeque and Mount Edward Roads, they have run the line transversely through all the farms they could intersect between these points, thus imposing upon the long-suffering citizens a large amount of damages which could easily have been saved by the exercise of ordinary judgement and common sense. Not content with this they have taken possession of the land without previous arrangement with the land owners for damages. They have made the claimants for damages as numerous as possible, and have run a muck by involving the city in an arbitration of lawsuit with almost every claimant.

"In the arbitrations so far held the awards have been outrageously exorbitant, and the arbitrators have been appointed in contravention to the plainest principles of justice. The claimant whose case was first heard was awarded \$275, though he previously agreed with the Commissioners to accept 50% in full for his damages. In the last award the claimant appointed his own brother as arbitrator, and was awarded \$3,500 for three and a half acres of land, which the Commissioners valued at \$500, and which could readily have been purchased by them for less money if they had gone the right way about it. . . If this is law, would it not simplify matters to refer the valuation of the land to the claimant himself, in every instance, and allow him to assess his own damages?"

that today, the world over, those fires are fed from fires started by the Man of Galilee?

By the fires of freedom may be lit by various motives. Often, it is race hatred, or economic and political oppression. That motive is treacherous, and is apt to lead to violence, and end in another form of slavery as in the revolt of the Bolsheviks against the Czars.

Sometimes it is a pure desire to make the best of one's life, for only when a man is free can he come into his best. Slaves rarely become great men. Freedom is a big, broad, rich word, and to be truly free is a glorious achievement.

I am, Sir, etc.,
W. I. GREEN
Stanley Bridge.

COLD CASH

KITCHENER, Ont., (CP)—James Ankenmann made \$5 in "cold cash" here Tuesday when he trotted about one-quarter of a mile in his bare feet to win a bet. The sub-freezing sprint came after he and some fellow packing-company workers discussed the cold spell during the noon lunch hour. The wager followed.

COMPLETE VISUAL REFRACTION AND ANALYSIS

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Notes By The Way

Big men get their faces on money. The rest of us just try to get our hands on it. —Hamilton Spectator

It's hard to believe that space has no limits when you watch a woman trying to park in an eight-foot opening. —Sudbury Star

All sorts of worries kept us awake as 1954 moved in—such as what in the world scientists will find to put in toothpaste this year.—Hamilton Spectator.

Women get blamed a lot, and so do teen-agers, but research shows that the worst drivers are those right in front of whoever's doing the research. —Edmonton Journal

A judge in Ohio sentenced a man to jail because he was habitually lazy. If this establishes a precedent, we foresee a substantial increase in the jail population. —Kingston Whig-Standard.

—Ontario has a new town. An old, prosperous and pleasant lakeside village has achieved that status. Its name, of course, will continue to be Port Dover and, one of these days, such will be the economic expansion of this part of the province, it may gain incorporation as a city.—Brantford Expositor.

The Ottawa Journal commented editorially on the decline of the calibre of speaking in the House of Commons. Strange, this, in view of the fact that so many of our parliamentary members are lawyers, men who should be professional speakers by the very nature of their training and occupation. Brookville Recorder and Times.

There is only one effective answer to bigotry—a sense of proportion, applied both to the ideas and to the holder of them. An idea, a belief or a practice is not necessarily bigoted just because it is emphatic; it becomes bigoted when its emphasis is out of proportion with the scale of common sense. And the bigot's own proportions will put him in his proper place in the scheme of things—it is a small place, for he is a very small man.—Hamilton Spectator.

—The American Airlines has flown its last sleeper plane from New York to Los Angeles. Offhand this might sound like a backward step, but there is an explanation. The sleeper plane service required 11 hours for the trip across the continent. It is being replaced by new 365-mile-an-hour DC-7s which fly the distance in five minutes less than eight hours. That still is long enough for a good nap, but not long enough for the airline figures, to call for berths, which cut down the passenger capacity of the planes.—Christian Science Monitor.

"Since the war this country has admitted about 940,000 foreigners. Compared to Canada's present population, its need of more people and the wealth of its resources, these are small and unsatisfactory figures. The immigrant becomes a customer for the production of the workers already here. He needs, for example, a house which others will build, and all the necessities and luxuries of life that he can afford to buy from them. He increases the internal market and

the more he works, produces and earns the larger that market becomes."—Winnipeg Free Press.

If we sense that language is shaped less by writers turning phrases elegantly in their books than by the speech in the streets, in the market places and in living rooms, it becomes clear that our parents fall a great burden but one well worth the carrying. If parents fail to pass on to their children an awareness of the beauty, the precision, the majesty of English well spoken and written we may all be as lost, some day as was the little boy who asked to inquire how a neighboring grocer was progressing in an assault upon an obstinate furled awning, reported, "He ain't never done git the awning down yet." Everyone knew what he meant, but the English language lay writhing at his feet.—From the New York Times.

Bernard Newman, traveller, author and lecturer, has been awarded the Legion of Honour by the French. They have made him a Chevalier, the equivalent of our knighthood. Mr. Newman hopes to go to order by the President, but he's afraid he may not have time to fit in the visit. For Mr. Newman at 55 is still giving lectures at the rate of nearly 400 a year, writing numerous books and travelling up and down the world. Two days after Christmas he was off to see the new Sultan of Morocco, and after that his New Year lectures will be engaging him every day. A grand-nephew of George Eliot, Newman has written over 70 books, toured as a strong man in a Polish circus, interviewed Hitler, written comic songs for Arthur Askey and scripted for Walt Disney, lived on a communal farm in Russia, hunted elephants in Burma. —Ottawa Journal

Although the people by the sea have always had a great deal of fondness for both lobster and dulse, our inland friends have traditionally considered the lobster as choicest of all sea products and have consistently turned up their noses at dulse. Now we are all going to increase our respect for the crustacean still higher, and the Upper Canadians are going to look on dulse with a more favorable eye, because both these things from the sea are going to be used as medicine. Research workers at the Atlantic fisheries experimental station at Halifax have discovered a cheap way to produce the chemical D-glucosamine from lobster shells. D-glucosamine hydrochloride slows the growth of certain tumors in animals. Dulse, which is high in iodine, iron and other mineral content, is being prepared in capsule and pill form by a firm in the Annapolis Valley, with the expectation that dulse in this more attractive dietary guise will be widely used to prevent goitre and to help counter-act dietary deficiency.—Saint John Telegraph Journal.

INQUEST DATE SET

PEMBROKE, Ont., (CP)—An inquest into a CPR sleeping-car fire which took one life Dec. 30, has been set for Jan. 21, Crown officials said Tuesday. Charles Eaucout of Noranda, Que., a passenger held for questioning in the fire, has been released, officials said, but he will appear at the inquest.

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