

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink"

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, JAN. 4, 1952

Cloud Over Burma

Less than a decade ago the Burmese Road was symbolic of Allied hopes for victory over the Japanese in Asia. Through the perilous mountain passes caravans of trucks moved much needed supplies to the hard-pressed forces of Chiang Kai-Shek.

Observers of affairs in southeast Asia fear that Red China's ruler Mao Tse-tung has marked Burma as his next victim. Burmese Communist leader Thakin Than Tun's presence in Peiping lends point to such suspicions.

If Burma falls to the Communists the blame will lie in large part with that unfortunate country's stubborn determination to reject offers of military aid from both the United States and the United Kingdom.

A Red Burma would mean more than the loss of valuable sources of raw material desperately needed by the forces of freedom. For it would open the door to an attack upon Thailand and would place Malaya and Indonesia in jeopardy.

Korea may be the focus of the fighting today in the Orient. But the struggle to "contain" Communism extends along the entire perimeter of southeast Asia to the sub-continent of India itself.

Personal Diplomacy

It is inevitable that nations working in friendship towards a common goal should encounter frequent difficulties, misunderstandings and occasional direct conflict of interest in many secondary matters.

He demonstrated the value of the personal approach in his intimate relationship with the late President Roosevelt which, as his own history of the period shows, enabled the two countries to work together with remarkable efficiency and minimum difficulty about red tape.

In any case the personal contact is intended to supplement and make effective the ordinary means of communication and certainly not to be a substitute for them.

Farm Life

Farming is not only our basic industry in this Province, it is also the source of a large proportion of our present and future population. Cities, generally speaking, draw heavily upon the farm population to maintain and increase their numbers, so that the quality of both rural and urban life depend largely upon the upbringing of farm youth.

In recent years the trend has been for the differences between urban and rural life to be lessened. No longer is it necessary for young people to live in the big cities to enjoy cultural and educational advantages or even the benefits of modern science and industry.

start on the land today as it was a generation ago. Far more capital is required because of increased land values and even more because of the greatly increased cost of the necessary equipment and stock for successful farming.

The trend of population to the cities can be expected to continue, or even increase because of the more efficient use of labour on the land, but to those who remain on the land there are opportunities for leading a full life and, though this must be secondary, of earning a satisfactory livelihood. At the same time the demands of the farm on specialized training, general education and capacity for adjustment to many situations, will probably be more exacting.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Britain's export of herring to the reds can be expected to prove as great a boon to cartoonists as the American gun which shoots around corners.

January is always expected to be the cold month and we are seldom disappointed. The expected February snow is in a much less dependable category.

Archbishop Usher, Irish clergyman, was born this date 1581. His biblical chronology, first printed in the Authorized Version in 1701 is untenable but generations of readers regarded it as almost as sacred as the text.

Little more than 10 per cent of the authorized cost of the contracts for the Canada highway here has so far been spent. This means a lot of work waiting on the weather as soon as April and May are here.

Road traffic is being well-maintained these days, the Provincial Public Works Department rendering excellent service in keeping the highways, and even by-ways, passable. In the city the streets, till yesterday, were down to the hard surface.

Defence Minister Claxton has certainly added to his stature with the troops overseas by his visits to sections of the Korean front, apparently without resort to generous promises that might not be possible of fulfillment.

As with many other things, a reading of air-line news consisting mainly of crashes would give quite a false impression of the safety factor in air travel. Readers, however, can deduce for themselves the remoteness of the chances of injury in a scheduled flight.

Probably the proposal with the least to comment it for breaching the Iron Curtain is that of ballooning in a comic strip to ridicule Communist ideas. The inevitable result would be to convince the Russians that the worst they had been told about the democracies must be true.

Acoustic experts hope, according to a dispatch, to suppress the echoes in St. Paul's, London, by installing loud-speakers which make the sound waves hit the walls at non-bouncing angles. It must be frustrating to the preacher to hear every word echo and re-echo for nearly a minute.

Railway stations on the dump occasioned by improved auto and truck service in Scotland. It was stated at a sitting at Glasgow of the public service vehicles licensing authority that British Railways might have to close eight railway stations between Lanark and Muirkirk, Ayrshire.

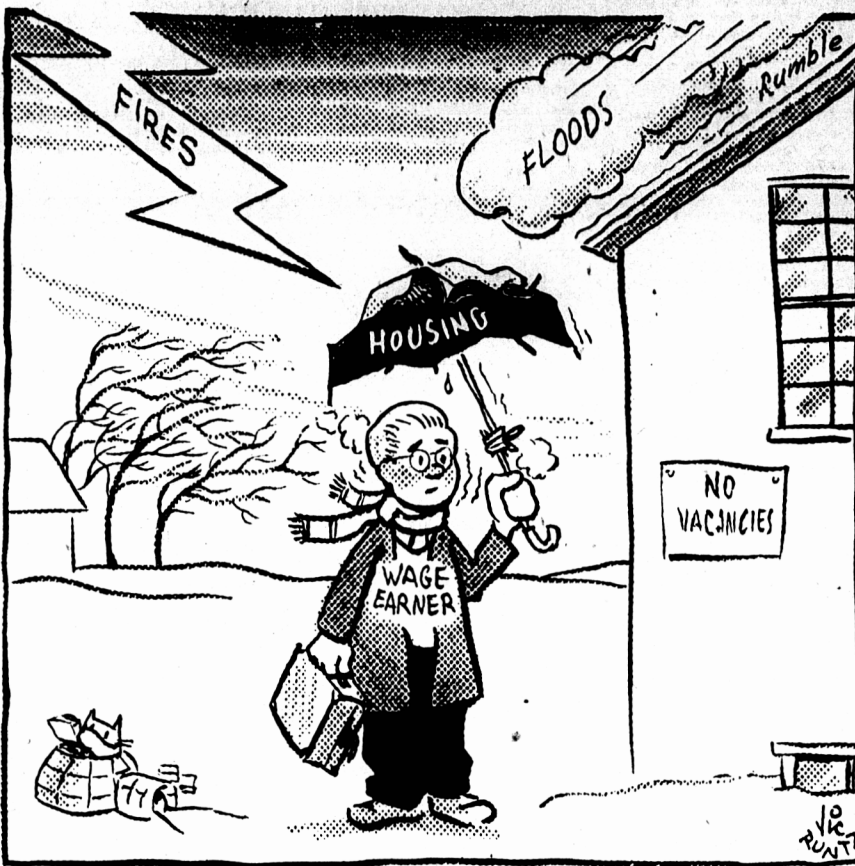
It is heart-breaking to read of a million or so dollars of destruction by fire at Trenton airways. Money going up in smoke is not pleasant at anytime, but much less so when it represents part of the country's defences for which we are taxed so heavily. The official attitude is merely that it is "a serious regrettable loss but not a major disaster."

In the U. S. bribery and corruption have been very prevalent in the department of revenue, and shaken by a succession of scandals, the President has ordered a "clean-up".

The trouble is that when defaulting officials find they can "get away" with their dishonesty they continue to pursue their evil course until a general shake-up is brought about by the powers-that-be, which does not often happen. In this connection it is to be noted that our Revenue Department's campaign against income tax evasion has swung into high gear.

First city to feel the impact was Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. For months, departmental inspectors investigated with R.C.M.P. Seized books were studied. Net result: Income tax evasion cases involving hundreds of thousands of dollars are slated for hearing early in the new year. It is reported that prominent businessmen will figure largely in the prosecutions.

Adding To The Strain



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.

ALL ONE FAMILY

Sir—I enjoy The Guardian cartoons. In the issue of Dec. 31st, we got a write-up from the "Rural Scene"—"Hail The Welfare State". He complains that the poor are robbing the rich. Also in this issue our cartoonist pictures a sturdy baby boy who is getting his bodily needs supplied and will when grown to be a man do his part to make Canada prosperous.

And remember this man, when in his prime, was a real good scout. He cleared his farm of stumps and of mortgage, reared and educated the children, kept up his church, and let us not forget he helped to build the manufacturing concerns of Ontario. For that we had "infant industries" that needed pap-feeding. These infants have grown since and are quite defiant. They are able to sway the decisions of Parliament.

Our cartoonist seems to have a heart. And he draws a true picture which says to us, the babies need the bonus and this is an old debt, long overdue to the old people. The writer of "Hail the Welfare State" did not absorb much of the Christmas message. The expressions of goodwill that we have seen and heard the last months, should remind us that He has made of one blood all nations, as well as all colours, classes and creeds to dwell on the face of the earth.

There are certainly too many old people in straightened circumstances. But there is a remedy in sight. The fact that young people stay in school two years longer than they did 10 years ago is encouraging. They will be less illiterate. They will get in many cases a business training. More young men will master a trade, rather than remain poor common laborers.

Another trouble in the past has been juvenile delinquency. And I see that something has been done to correct that trouble through the R. C. M. P. who have been acting the part of "Godfathers" by going in their uniform to the schools. But they become real heroes to the youngsters when they tell stories of what they have seen and how they try to help everyone.

I am, Sir, etc., ARCH. MACKENZIE, Kensington, P. E. I.

BOOZE MYTHS

Sir,—It is surprising that in this age of widespread knowledge the booze myths should persist. It must mean that alcoholic liquor has the power to deceive intelligent people. A while ago a lady of wide reading said to me: "We always keep brandy on hand in case of a heart attack." Evidently, she did not know that up-to-date doctors do not use alcoholic liquor in such a case. They find smelling salts, or digitalis safer and more effective. Few practitioners now rely on alcohol as a heart stimulant. In the best hospitals of Europe and America it is not so used. In fact, today, as a medicine very little is used. Fifty years ago the seven great London hospitals used 100,000 lbs. per bed. Today,

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

OYSTERS FOR PARIS

"Mr. Charles Winkler, of the Union House, is sending to the Paris Exposition some of the largest oysters ever brought to this city. The number which he is sending varies from 21 to 12 inches in length. They were taken at Casumpec, and we dare say, cannot be equalled, as regards soundness and size."

It is less than one shilling per bed. In the old days stagecoach drivers used to drink to warm them up. They would stop at every inn along the road to get a hot drink. Well, it does warm people up on a cold day. It brings the blood to the surface of the body and makes one feel warm; but this heat evaporates and reduces the body's deep temperature. Today, expeditions going into Arctic regions never carry intoxicating liquor, but plenty of tea and coffee.

"Steaming hot punch just before bedtime will break up a cold." That was a common remedy in the old days; and still one may hear it recommended. A number of articles on the common cold have been written, of late, by experts, but not one of them mentions liquor as a remedy. It does give some relief from that stuffed-up feeling that a cold gives, but just as a shot of any other anaesthetic would do, but it is no cure.

The brewing companies used to advertise drink as a food; they don't do so now. It would manifestly crass ignorance; but this erroneous notion still continues among many people. Alcoholic liquor seems to satisfy craving hunger, more or less, but it does so by deadening the hunger nerves. But the truth is that alcohol delays digestion and prevents food from being absorbed into the body.

But the master myth and one that is current among nice, intelligent people, is that a few drinks make the drinker wise. It sharpens the intellect. It whets the wit. It makes conversation flow like a beautiful river. "You cannot dance without a drink or two. You cannot be a star at a party unless you indulge moderately." This is a very common idea, not so often expressed, as carried into practice. Now to begin with, it is an admission of having a deficient brain, deficient in intelligence and wit, deficient in the power of feeling at home at a party, and being socially agreeable.

The man who admits to himself that he cannot enjoy a party without drink is giving himself away as an inferior character. I saw a man rush into a party once, and before ten minutes every one was staring at him and judging each other, and his sister blushed with embarrassment. "Professing to be wise he became a fool," as Paul said in his Roman letter. A drink or two often creates an embarrassing situation.

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

The Age-Old Story

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

COURTEOUS POLICE

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. — (CP) — "The friendly arm of the law reached a long way," said Police Chief John Thompson when he received a card from Chief Constable F. G. Markin of Peterborough, England. The English police chief expressed best wishes for the new year.

The Poet's Corner

WINTER SCENE

The rutted roads are all like iron; Are keen and brilliant; only the oak-leaves cling In the bare woods, or the hardy bitter-sweet; Drivers have put their sheepskin jackets on; And all the ponds are sealed and sheeted ice That rings with stroke of skate and hockey-stick, Or in the twilight cracks with running whoop. Bring in the logs of oak and hickory. And make an ample blaze on the wide hearth. Now is the time, with winter o'er the world, For books and friends and yellow candle-light. And timeless lingering by the setting fire, While all the shuddering stars are keen and cold.

—Bliss Carmen.

Why Scrap "Dominion"?

(Toronto Star)

Dominion means "sovereignty", and if Canada has "dominion from sea to sea", it is a sovereignty over her own affairs. There is nothing objectionable in the word. The late Mackenzie King was a Canadian autonomist if ever there was one, yet we have it over his own signature in a special commemorative anniversary message that "The Dominion of Canada, as it came into being on July 1, 1867, it was the outcome of an endeavor by men of diverse temperaments, racial origins, and religious and political faiths, to serve the ideal of nationhood." And then, after naming the original uniting provinces, the message says: "As one by one other provinces become part of the Dominion, and so on, it is interesting to note how these provinces did enter the Union. A British act approved the entry of Rupert's Land and North-west Territory in 1870 "into the Union or Dominion of Canada", as the province of Manitoba.

A British statute regarding British Columbia in 1871 began by stating that "by the British North America Act, 1867, provision was made for the union of the provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick into the Dominion of Canada", and the statute went on to provide for the admission also of British Columbia "into the Dominion of Canada."

Prince Edward Island joined up in 1873 and exactly the same phraseology was used. In 1875 a British statute gave effect to "an act of the parliament of the Dominion of Canada respecting copyright."

In 1877 there was a British "act respecting the representation in the parliament of Canada of territories which, for the time being, form part of the Dominion of Canada, but are not included in any province."

The province of Alberta was formed in 1905 out of territories which a British statute described as "forming for the time being part of the Dominion of Canada, but not included in any province hereof". The act constituted these areas "a province of the Dominion of Canada to be called and known as the province of Alberta."

In the same year, Saskatchewan was admitted to "the Dominion of Canada" in exactly the same way. We recite these examples simply to show that for many years after the British North America Act was formed, it was clearly understood in Britain, as it was in Canada, that the Dominion of Canada, and other "Father of Confederation", that the name of this country was the Dominion of Canada. It was not until Newfoundland joined the Union in 1949 that the word "Dominion" disappeared from a British statute expanding the Canadian union, this course being taken to conform to the agree-

Notes By The Way

The National Film Board having decided that St. Mary's is a "typical Ontario town" will make a moving picture there next year starting in January when St. Mary's will look extremely typical. St. Mary's is a chapter of our Ontario history written majestically in stone by master masons. The town is a handsome monument to its founders, a matter of incredible but understandable pride to those born there and a joy to visitors. We trust the National Film Board will measure up to its undertaking. St. Mary's is worthy of the best. —Ottawa Free Press.

A former Western newspaperman, C. E. L'Ami of Winnipeg, has won a \$7,500 award for fiction offered by the Westminster Press of Philadelphia. His prize-winning historical novel, "The Green Madonna," deals with Philip Van Doren, one of the contest judges, as in some ways better than Walter Scott because it is less discursive. Fellow newspapermen will congratulate Mr. L'Ami most heartily, with the added reflection that here is a member of their profession who has been paid instead of panned for writing fiction. —Ottawa Citizen.

New York's Waldorf-Astoria has a fair claim to being the greatest of all hotels. Not only by public measurements does it exceed any other, it is a veritable city within a city. Without stepping outside, a visitor can undergo minor surgery; eat a plover's egg or ham sandwich; spend \$66 on a single bottle of champagne; buy a complete wardrobe including a \$14,000 blue mink coat; have a tooth extracted; step into a private railroad car; eat dinner in the same room with 1,999 people; or bump into a former King of England, the only living ex-President of the United States, or General Douglas MacArthur. —Town and Country.

As one of the results of their visit to Canada it has now been officially established that Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh do not like oysters. What is important news for their future hosts, and Mr. Casey, Australian Minister for External Affairs, mention which Canada had negotiated with Newfoundland and which the British set confirmed. It had suddenly been discovered at Ottawa that the BNA Act which the British statutes had so long and consistently interpreted as creating "the Dominion of Canada" had created nothing of the sort. And nowadays it seems to be doubted at Ottawa whether Canada is a dominion at all.

faurs, has been saying that the shellfish will not be served at banquets when the Princess and the Duke go to Australia in the Spring. Mr. Casey has also been saying that Australians are very proud of their oysters and that, without this discovery of their taste on this point, the visitors might have been offered oysters at every meal — including breakfast. "Surely even the Walrus and the Carpenter might have flinched at oysters for breakfast — and what about afternoon tea?" —Manchester Guardian

The story is told of one Owen Sound man, who, starting in the bootlegging business, put his first profits into the bank until they reached \$200. Then, he is quoted as telling a friend, he could look on what he made after that as sure profit. The \$200 would pay his initial fine, should he ever be caught. In other words, it was his "license fee." held in reserve until such time as he should have to pay it. Jail terms are the only hope of curbing bootlegging. Cash fines can only be viewed as "license fees" for an illegal act. (When such fines are in the form of \$200 and costs or three months in jail, they become even more ridiculous, in view of the unrealistic comparison between cash and the value of time. —Owen Sound Sun-Times.

Among the thriftest women recorded in history, Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, must stand high indeed. In order to save ink, so the story goes, the old lady never dotted her i's. This is a saving measure perhaps more stringent than the current national thrift campaign intends, but Sarah's principle would fall right in with the campaign's purpose. Last September in Montreal, representative men and women of Canada met to plan a campaign to promote thrift. As a result, the National Council of Women are sponsoring the campaign, supported by the Canadian Association of Consumers. The two groups represent a network of organizations that entirely covers Canada, reaching out, it is safe to say, to almost every woman in the Dominion. No sounder, more hard-working, more far-reaching group could have been chosen to awaken an interest in the virtue of thrift. Thrift, sensibly, intelligently practiced, is of course as much a virtue today as it was in the 18th century world of the duchess. The compulsion toward thrift 50, 60 or 200 years ago may have been dictated by different reasons, but the same need exists, nevertheless, in the contemporary world. —Regina Leader-Post.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Palmer & Haslam, Dr. John E. Sterns, Allison M. Gillis, J. A. McGuigan, M. Alban Farmer, A. Walthen Gaudet, Matheson, Peake & Nicholson, Byron J. Grant O.D., J. A. Carruthers R.O., H. R. Doane and Company, MacDonald, Currie & Co.