

THE GUARDIAN

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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, AUG. 5, 1953

The Other Side Of The Coin

Net foreign investment in Canada today is estimated at 5 per cent of our total national wealth. That is a figure to be balanced against the statistics quoted by those Canadians who are worried that Canada has "sold out" to foreign financiers or is "dominated" by American capital.

And there is the other side of the coin. Canadians have invested abroad \$3.7 billion, including government credits. In the United States alone we hold \$1.3 billion of long-term private investments.

This company, Brazilian Traction, has assets of nearly \$800 million, last year had a net profit of over \$42 million and paid more than \$14 million in dividends.

Canadians should welcome foreign capital, as our investments are welcomed elsewhere. The free exchange of money between countries promotes the exchange of goods.

The Regency Act

The bill to amend the Regency Act will be passed through the British Parliament at the beginning of next session, before the Queen leaves for her Commonwealth tour on November 24. It will almost certainly be divided into two parts, says a London correspondent.

In the absence of the Sovereign from the country the council of state takes over. Both the Duke of Edinburgh and the Queen Mother, who are at present excluded from the council, will be admitted under the amendment.

Penetrating Arctic Sound Barriers

The University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon is to co-operate with Dartmouth College in a new research project in the realm of long-range transmission through the sound barriers of the Arctic.

The ionosphere is an electrically charged sphere beyond the stratosphere that makes possible all long-distance radio communication using high frequency waves.

The area of the study, the New York Times adds, will be between Hanover and points north. Pulse signals from an experimental radio station at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Sask., will be received here and analyzed.

of radio fading. The second study will be of radio signals north of Saskatoon, leading to the third phase of the project—transmission of these signals through the auroral zone.

The program, economically significant, will try to develop new techniques and types of signals that may permit an effective transmission through the aurora, or northern lights, when they are flickering in the sky.

U. S. Trade Measures

It is becoming difficult to keep an accurate count of the number of protests sent by Ottawa to Washington against restrictive trade measures of one kind and another. There has been a series of such official protests dealing with quotas already imposed on imports of Canadian dairy products.

Part of the United States administration's difficulties over imports of farm products arises from agricultural policies which go back to an earlier regime. Price support in the U. S. has meant sustaining domestic prices at a high level, with the effect not only of encouraging home production but also of attracting foreign supplies.

Of the ones marked Class II 99 students or 19 per cent made from 64 percent to 74 percent. This gives only 23 percent above a 60 percent rating, which to say the least, is poor.

Our Prince Edward Island boys and girls have average intelligence. Then wherein does the fault lie? Is it a faulty curriculum, modern teaching methods, antiquated testing, apathy in the administrative department or parental neglect?

EDITORIAL NOTES

There is laid to rest today a veteran of the ministry. The Rev. Dr. J. Kier Fraser at 81 survived his family and most of his contemporaries but he is remembered by younger generations to whom his kindly manner and courage in adversity provided the best of examples.

Hiroshima was the first target of the atomic bomb this date 1945. The city of 245,000 was destroyed for an area of about a mile and a half. About 80,000 people were killed but the war was swiftly ended after a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki.

Before adjournment, the United States Congress passed the final foreign aid bill, sharply reduced from earlier appropriations but still a substantial four and a half billion dollars.

A White House statement has cleared up a point which worried a great many people, particularly those responsible for supplying contingents of troops to the United Nations in Korea. "There is no intention whatever of using American combat units as labour troops in Korea," it is stated.

The new constitution for Gambia is the latest development in the steady progress of British colonies and possessions towards full self-government. The tiny colony at the mouth of the Gambia River, south of Dakar, and its protectorate extending in a narrow strip up both banks of the river, has been a colony since 1843, although recognized as British since 1783.

Not In Tune



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.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

Sir,—What is wrong with our Island educational system? Of the 515 students who passed the entrance examinations to the Prince of Wales College only 21 or 4 per cent made a rating of 75 per cent or over.

Of the ones marked Class II 99 students or 19 per cent made from 64 percent to 74 percent. This gives only 23 percent above a 60 percent rating, which to say the least, is poor.

Of the remaining 395 students designated as passed 215 or 54 percent were earmarked as conditioned in one subject or another.

We do not have the statistics on the number who wrote the examinations and failed to obtain even a passing mark.

Such poor results show there is something radically wrong somewhere.

Our schools are supported by the taxpayers for the education of the children. We, the taxpayers, must demand a better showing immediately to remedy this condition.

I am, Sir, etc. Stanley Bridge.

THE ART OF WALKING

Sir,—How long did it take man to learn to walk? A thousand years? Ten thousand years of experience? No one knows. We know only that the day came when man stood upright upon his two feet and walked, at first, likely shuffling, something as a bear walks.

Walking is a great pleasure and a fine exercise. You get the fresh air, and you see the beautiful country. Cooped up in a car you can go places but you do not see God's world, the flowers by the roadside, and get a change to think.

Between 1907 and 1910 my first charge was Brookfield, P.E.I. where I drove horse and wagon. I had three services on Sunday, and twenty-four miles to travel. During the week I had three prayer meetings, but I always got to my appointments and if I met a friend I had time to stop and chat for a few minutes.

Those brave old days when men would start out before daylight for Charlottetown and before the day was done do a round trip of fifty miles and carry a load besides.

The Age Old Story

Therefore, brethren we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

Those days are gone. Not altogether, either. I know a girl who walks twenty miles a week and stands most of each school day before her classes; and I am told she enjoys the walk.

What a great walker Jesus was! That day when in the heat of the day he sat on the curb of Jacob's well he and his men had walked about twenty miles. At another time when he was beyond Jordan and heard of Lazarus' death, he was, at least, ten miles away.

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

GRAMMAR RULES AND TOOLS

Sir,—Minor Saxon, like too many other minors, I fear, doesn't seem to like "blawsted grammar rules and names of grammar tools". He reminds me (I am not saying Minor Saxon presumes to inform us) that language was before grammar, and tool-makers before tools.

But now, however, rules and tools are happily here—grammatical rules and tools included—and it behooves us to study how best to use them. Homer, perhaps, might have done without them for all I know about him, but I am better defended himself from his enemies. It took a long period to free the hand but then man was on the way to conquest.

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The Poet's Corner

A SUMMER STORM

Last night a storm fell on the world From heights of drought and heat. The surly clouds for weeks were furled. The air could only wail and beat.

The beetles clattered at the blind, The hawks fell twanging from the sky. The west unrolled a feathery wind, And the night fell sullenly.

The storm leaped roaring from its lair, Like the shadow of doom, The poignant lightning searched the air, The thunder ripped the shattered gloom.

The rain came down with a roar like fire, Full-voiced and clamorous and deep, The weary world had its heart's desire, And fell asleep.

—Duncan Campbell Scott.

modern Shakespeares, nor our modern Doctor Johnsons, nor for that matter the humblest writer of letters to the present Charlottetown Guardian, can well do without the aid of rules and tools of grammar—and in my humble opinion not even the editor of the aforesaid Guardian can.

In fairness to Minor Saxon, however, I must admit that he does not say he is wholly opposed to the use of formal grammar in our public schools. In fact, he says quite definitely that he favors its being taught from Grade V up to the highest grade in these schools.

provided only that pupils should be taught by what he considers to be the best method. Volumes might be written on the best methods for teaching grammar, and there would be in these volumes considerable differences of opinion as to what constitutes the perfect method. Generally speaking, however, all good teachers, I believe, agree that grammar should be taught both inductively and deductively, with emphasis on the deduction method for the more advanced grades.

I have no doubt that Minor Saxon would instill good English into the minds of his pupils, but just how he would teach formal grammar, without rules and names of grammar tools, he has not told us.

India has 244,900 miles of overhead and underground telegraph wires.

The Japanese have specialized for centuries production of fancy types of goldfish.

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Selkirk In P. E. Island

Sunday, 14th August: At Pinette Point our further progress was stopped by the heavy rain, the first time since our arrival, which sent us home well soaked, but however, before the daylight was exhausted. This day's expedition was in two wooden canoes in which besides Mr. Shaw and Dr. McAulay, were Steinsholl (Donald Nicholson of Orwell River) and Rodk. MacKenzie, the two principal men of the Skie and Rossshire parties, with three or four inferior people as boatmen—they all seemed pleased with the appearance of the land.

We called in at an Indian's wigwam, — a Micmac, who never drinks rum. His wife is of one of the Abenaki villages near Quebec and speaks French as he does good English. He hunts and fishes for the Charlotte Town market. The few Indians on the island seldom assemble in larger parties than two or three families and have no government of their own — they submit to the authorities in the island.

This man received us hospitably and presented us with berries in a birch bark bowl. He gave Dr. McAulay two wild fowls and refused to take any payment — the Dr. had given him some pork a day or two before. They seem peaceable and harmless people and have less peculiarity of colour and feature than I expected — I have seen Spaniards and Italians as dark as these Indians take no artificial means of coloring themselves. They are continually wandering. Another family near Charlotte Town had been at Quebec, a month or two ago, with all his family for no particular object. Their wigwam is of large pieces of birch bark which they carry in their canoe — the poles to support it are found everywhere; they are set conically and a hole left at the top for smoke.

On the banks of the Pinette River are several marshes, but only one of large size that I saw. Notwithstanding the great accumulation of these marshes, I do not think that the settlement ought to be close to them — for if the habitations are set down on dryer lands they will be healthier, more comfortable and freer from mosquitoes. The settlers prefer the neighbourhood of the marshes in order to have an opportunity of monopolizing the more of them within their lot; but I propose to give no lot above a certain share and reserve the surplus for lots that have no marsh adjoining to them.

Near Pinette is a cleared spot, where a squatter has planted potatoes, but will now keep his distance. Squatters are not respected here as they are said to be in the States. In general however, the proprietors are not unwilling to let them remain but hold themselves under no obligation to them, and will drive as hard a bargain with them as they can.

Above Pinette and opposite to it are several places covered with young birches, grown up over the old French clearing. Among these we found by Mr. Wright's assistance that the birch bark at least an advantage to the settlers as it makes an excellent water-tight covering for houses. It must be kept stretched as soon as cut, for if it dries and curls up it becomes useless on the roof; also it must be immediately thatched over and covered from the sun.

This birch bark seems a kind of universal article. Besides thatching houses it makes canoes, bowls and all sorts of dishes. I saw troughs of it standing at the foot of the sugar maples and when you come to a spring, it will make a cup in a minute. Dr. MacA. has been informed by the neighbouring settlers that the bark was past peeling and so it appears to be in the large trees.

There is a kind of long grassy sea-weed which makes a good thatch over the birch-bark — it is also esteemed as a manure; there is a great abundance both at Pinette and Orwell Bay. I see birch bark is also put below shingles.

This day's excursion has not shown quite so great abundance of marsh as I had expected, though the supply is certainly considerable. The calculated quantity of hay on the two Lots of 57 and 58 is about 140 or 150 tons. According to the usual mode of setting, men would sit down on the choicest places and expect at least 5 or 6 tons each — perhaps some would occupy double or treble. To accommodate the distant inland Lots, I propose to exclude the larger marshes from the adjacent Lots, and to distribute them to the Lots which have none, at the rate of a ton an acre, to every 100 acre Lot.

Tho' a good acre produces a ton or upwards the marshes in general do not average such a produce; many of them are broken up to holes, etc., and do not produce 1/2 or 3/4 ton per acre. These however are improvable and the surveyor reckoned that Prim Island which now produces thirty, might be brought up to 100 tons, and some others in proportion; but it will not afford a great quantity to each individual and I fear both can be reserved for the inland Lots. That, however, requires the surveyor's work to ascertain it and he promises that in two days all that part east of Prim Point shall be laid down.

In the meantime Dr. McAulay is to sound the people as to their inclination to purchase, and as yet he has little guess of, and for that purpose I stated to him the proposed prices: 1/4 dollar per acre for back lands, one dollar for front — 2 dollars for old cleared ground upon their lot; but I propose to give no lot above a certain share and reserve the surplus for lots that have no marsh adjoining to them.

Indeed it is surprising that the land should sell at all when gratuitous grants can be had in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton and yet it is owing to the imperfect knowledge and prejudice of the settlers that they do not go to these. In Nova Scotia, however, it is said to be difficult to get front lands and the lands are of inferior quality. Perhaps, however, this may be a mere allegation of the proprietors here, who seem to have a sufficient portion of jealousy against Nova Scotia and indeed any other colony.

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