

THE GUARDIAN

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"The Strongest Memory is Weaker Than the Weakest Ink."

CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1950

Diesel Economy

"The complete dieselization of a section of the railroad, replacing steam locomotives may prove attractive in many cases."

It is not indicated, of course, whether Prince Edward Island is such a territory, but complete dieselization is an accomplished fact here and it is safe to assume that the resultant savings are substantial.

If the experiment proves successful, rail transportation here should take on a new lease of life and more or less successfully meet the competition of highway and air traffic.

Unions are understandably wary of economies which seem to be partly at the expense of a reduced pay-roll but they seem to have grasped the truth that it is only by efficient and profitable operation that anything like full employment can be maintained.

The Government's Dilemma

The Winnipeg Free Press, most influential Liberal newspaper in this country, has been doing some serious stock-taking. Looking at events in Korea and other parts of Asia, and noting that Canada's military budget is, in relation to resources, "far below that of the United States and of other poorer nations," the Free Press says: "Any substantial increase in military spending could throw the budget into deficit overnight."

The Free Press doesn't stop there. Pointing to the truth that "none of our social reforms will be safe unless the free world as a whole is safe," that "military security must be the first priority of every free government," and that "to the calculation many calculations so blithely made in the last few years must be subordinated," it adds:

"In these circumstances the mistake of increasing the ordinary costs of government to their present level is all too clear. We suddenly encounter a world crisis without an extra cent of tax revenue to spend on defence, on aid in any form to our partners in collective security. There is none in the national budget because we have loaded it down with all the costs it can carry out of the present taxes."

Why did this happen? The Free Press says it happened because our Government at Ottawa preferred to serve the ends of party expediency. Thus: "It is now evident in retrospect . . . that the tax reductions of last year were premature and largely political in their purpose on the eve of an election. . . . But a more serious mistake than excessive tax reduction has been the continual increases in the running expenses of nearly all Government departments which have forced Mr. Abbott to the defeatist conclusion that the ordinary budget cannot ever be cut below its present level."

Molotov Cocktail

A few days ago the Yugoslav legation at Ottawa gave a cocktail party. Only cabinet minister present was the Hon. Humphrey Mitchell. The Minister of National Defence was on a junket to Newfoundland. The Prime Minister was riding around Calgary in a cow-boy suit. Rest of the governmental top-brass were busy in various parts of the country mending political fences.

Not that they missed anything at the communist cocktail party. Diplomatic receptions all have the same sort of patter. Unfortunate aspect of the whole affair is that the conviviality of the occasion should

have led the Minister of Labour to give vent to his views about Canada and the Korean crisis.

Mr. Mitchell, it seems, talked more like an isolationist politician from the midwest United States than a member of a Government firmly committed to back up United Nations police action in the Far East. Canada, he is reported to have said, should keep out of the Korean mess at all costs.

It is true that neither Mr. Mitchell nor Marshal Tito likes Russian imperialism. It is equally true that Yugoslavia occupies a hot seat on the fringe of that imperialism in the Balkans. It may be that Mr. Mitchell was only trying to tell his Yugoslav hosts that Canada would not fight for Marshal Tito.

No matter what the circumstances, there is something singularly odd about a Canadian cabinet minister going to a Yugoslav cocktail party, and something even odder about his giving vent to his views on the international situation.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Canada exported \$100,000,000 worth of meat to the United States in 1949.

The world is not altogether off an even keel when South American republics such as Ecuador continue to stage revolts.

Regattas and swimming competitions bring lovers of the out-of-doors to the seaside from distant parts. There should be a crowd today at Murray Harbour Tea Party and Boat Races.

The cleanliness and neatness noted by Mr. R. C. Parent at the Boy Scout camp site at Point Prim, Camp Buchan, could well be imitated by all other holiday-makers visiting our beauty spots.

U. S. Congress is of the same mind as it was in 1811 when Josiah Turney declared "amicably if we can, violently if we must," and Henry Clay in 1813, "peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must." But not peace at any price.

The ban on export of British Columbia poultry to the other provinces because of "Newcastle disease," will have little effect on the other provinces, as little from the United States via British Columbia reaches their markets.

The proposal mooted at Lake Success that a volunteer international legion be raised is probably mentioned only in order to be immediately dropped. Only the national states today have the means of raising and maintaining armed forces, the U. N. itself having difficulty in even establishing its own security guard.

Lotteries are illegal, but have been tolerated here without let or hindrance as a convenient way of raising money for charitable and other purposes. The Government has now stepped in, and announces that after September 1st measures will be taken to enforce the lottery law and prosecute violators.

Frederick Temple Blackwood, Marquess of Dufferin and Ava, Governor-General of Canada (1872-78), visited Charlottetown this date 1873, welcoming Prince Edward Island into Confederation. It fell to him during his term of office, to deal with the difficult questions connected with the "Pacific Scandal" charges, and he handled these questions with much tact and judgment. In 1876 he visited British Columbia, and by his able diplomacy succeeded in allaying in that province the growing discontent with Confederation. A facile and eloquent speaker, he achieved great popularity in Canada.

Egg prices on July 13 this year and previous years. The prices quoted below are for Grade A Large. At Montreal and Toronto the prices are those at which graded shipments are selling to wholesalers. At other points quotations are prices to shippers for ungraded eggs.

Table with columns for Year (1950, 1949, 1948) and locations (Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Edmonton, Regina, Charlottetown, Province, B.C., Alta., Sask., Man., Ont., Que., N.B., N.S., P.E.I.)

Possible Unforeseen Developments



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.

"LAKE OF SHINING WATER"

Sir,—Many hundreds of dollars are spent every year selling people things abroad about the many attractions Prince Edward Island has for tourists. One of them writing in this column a few days ago, and signing her letter "Doris A. Moore," tells in a very candid way about conditions as they were when she arrived here. While perhaps some of her complaints were a little overdrawn, much of what she said was true, in particular about Charlottetown where no restrooms were to be found, only those to which there was no access.

She tells of her efforts to visit "Green Gables" and to see "the house in which the author lived and around which she wove her story of Ann." It may shock Doris A. Moore, and many other tourists as well, to be told that the real "Green Gables" fell in ruins years ago, and that the only house left standing on P. E. Island that the noted writer had occupied as a noted, and where she was born, at Clifton Corner, has been sold in front of the Law Courts Building in Charlottetown by order of the Government. Tourists are shown a body of water at Cavendish, and told it is the "Lake of Shining Water" described in "Ann of Green Gables". Mr. James L. Campbell of Park Corner very kindly allowed your correspondent to make a copy of the statement which I append herewith:

"To whom it may concern:—This is to certify that the pond at Park Corner, commonly known as Campbell's Pond, was the body of water I had in mind when I described the 'Lake of Shining Water' in 'Ann of Green Gables'—L. M. Montgomery."

Mr. Campbell has the original of above, every word of it in the author's own handwriting. I am, Sir, etc. OBSERVER. New London.

The Poet's Corner

THE ROBIN'S GRAVE Tread lightly here, for here, 'tis said, When piping winds are hushed around, A small note wakes from underground, Where now his tiny bones are laid. No more in lone and leafless groves, With ruffled wing and faded breast, His friendless, homeless spirit roves: Gone to the world where birds are blessed! Where never cat glides o'er the green, Or schoolboy's giant form is seen; But Love, and Joy, and smiling Spring Inspire their little souls to sing.

—Samuel Rogers (1768-1855)

Books Received

THE LITTLE PRINCESSES by Marion Crawford (George J. McLeod Limited, Toronto, 314 pp. and photographs, \$3.50). This intimate story of the education of the heir Presumptive and her vivacious sister by "Crawlie," their Scottish born governess and friend, is dedicated "to the people of America with the fervent hope that our nations may come ever closer together in mutual understanding and sympathy." To Canadians who can claim that they are our Princesses, the book has the charm of a delightful and amusing family record.

LONDON—(CP)—A 22-year-old Dublin-born woman was stated at London's Marlborough Street court to have had no schooling at all, was unable to read or write and could not tell the time.

Electrical Contractor WIRING AND REPAIRING ERNEST E. RAMSAY, 120 BURN AVE Phone 10823

A Bug and A Note

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Banish to limbo the absurd notion that the golden age of diplomacy has faded into atomic murk. True enough, most of the notes which pass between governments in these latter days are workaday jobs, tiresome reading better unread, but now and again some craftsman in a foreign office, inspired by an unusual subject, rises to the great tradition, blending indignation with the ancient courtesies of the diplomatic art. A note of this order was recently handed to the Czechoslovak Foreign Office by the United States Embassy in Prague. It read: "The American Embassy presents its compliments etc. . . and has the honor to make the following observations with reference to the potato bug."

To the extent that the potato bug represents a Czechoslovakian domestic problem, it is not a matter of concern to the American Embassy, which nevertheless expresses its sympathy over the damage to Czechoslovak agricultural production caused by the insect in question. "To the extent however that efforts have been made . . . to connect the United States with the presence of the potato bug in this country, the matter is of legitimate interest to the American Embassy, which declares that allegations to the effect that the United States encourages the depredations of the potato bug in Czechoslovakia, or that the United States has sought clandestinely to introduce the potato bug into Czechoslovakia, are false and preposterous."

The Embassy ventures to suggest the inherent unsuitability of the potato bug (Doryphora decemlineata) as an instrument of national policy. The Embassy doubts whether the potato bug, even in its most voracious phase, could nibble effectively at the fabric of friendship uniting the Czechoslovak and the American people. "It seems rather a pity that Doryphora decemlineata, munching placidly away at vegetables, should lack the imaginative capacity to appreciate the dignity of his new status as the subject of high level exchanges between polite and impolite governments."

BUILD NEW CAPITAL

CANBERRA — (CP) — A new town is to be built at a cost of \$5,000,000 (\$12,000,000) to replace Rabaul as the capital of Australian New Guinea. The decision to abandon the capital was made after a violent eruption of the nearby "mother" volcano but the Second World War delayed action.

A FISH LOCATOR

GRIMSBY, England — (CP) — Tests are being made by an East England firm of equipment which will aid fishermen not only to locate fish deep in the sea, but also to identify their species. It is in the "Hush Hush" stage of development.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Full-time enrolment of undergraduates in Canadian universities and colleges was about 80,000 in 1948 and 1949.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

VOLUNTEER FORCE LAGGING

Lord Panmure regrets to observe that so little has yet been done toward the organization of an efficient Volunteer Force in Prince Edward Island. . . . When the troops were withdrawn from the Island, Her Majesty's Government, with a view to encouraging the formation of a Volunteer Force, allowed the local authorities to select any articles then in store which could be of use to them, and subsequently, at their request, sent out new arms and gave them use of the entire Barrack furniture. It is not, therefore, from any want of liberality on the part of Her Majesty's Government that the progress of enrollment has been so slow; and His Lordship can only attribute it to the cause assigned by the Lieutenant Governor, namely, "the apathy of the community in all that relates to the organization of a Militia."

"If, however, there is no prospect of an efficient Force being speedily raised, Lord Panmure conceives that the object with which the arms and stores were granted not having been attained, they should be returned to the military authorities, with a view to their being brought away or sold. But before coming to any final decision on this matter, His Lordship would wish to be furnished with a report from the Lieutenant Governor, showing the number of which the Militia is at present composed, the state of discipline into which they have been brought, and whether any good grounds exist for supposing that active steps will be taken for increasing the efficiency of the Force."

—Despatch from the War Office, London, to the Colonial Secretary, 22nd Jan. 1858.

WALLINGFORD, Berkshire, Eng.—(CP)—Immortal to the residents of Wallingford are the names of F. O. J. A. Wilding and Sgt. J. F. Andrew. In 1944 they stayed with a crippled bomb-laden plane to prevent it from crashing on the town. Both were killed. Now grateful townsfolk have named two streets on a new housing estate after them—Wilding Road and Andrew Road.

COMPLETE VISUAL REFRACTION and ANALYSIS

G. F. HUTCHESON & SON Optometrists 58 Grafton St.

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Notes By The Way

Our plea for cleaning up the (Thousand) islands seems to have gone in vain. Instead of finding more tidier spots, we must admit that some of the more secluded islands in the St. Lawrence are every bit as bad as a junk heap. Dried up orange peels, bread and candy wrappings, pop bottles, mention but a few, are never a pretty sight to come upon — but they still remain and probably will continue as long as slovenly picnickers infest the islands.—Brookville Recorder and Times.

Neither "The Maple Leaf" nor "O Canada" is as good a piece of music as "God Save the King". Countless musicians, Beethoven and Haydn among them, have admired the dignity and simplicity of that tune. The U. S. liked it well enough to steal it and fit it out with a set of words suited to the purposes of a republic. From time to time there is agitation for a Canadian national anthem. We will do a great deal of experimenting and rejecting before we find anything that equals "God Save the King." — Peterborough Examiner.

A warning to the instigators of such atrocities as the shooting of defenseless prisoners is contained in the fate of the German and Japanese war criminals. Military men were hanged after the last war for crimes they committed or permitted on the battlefield, and our government must make it unmistakably clear that these penalties will be invoked again. Perhaps it is too much to hope that even this grim warning will wholly succeed in altering the North Koreans' pattern of warfare, for those who have launched this war care little for the rules of battle and less for human life. The only sure way we can teach them the value of both is by decisive and speedy victory. — New York Herald Tribune.

A home builders' association in the United States claims there are 248 hidden taxes lurking in the purchase of every house. How that compares with Canada, it would be difficult to determine. But we can be sure that we have enough on our side of the border. This association stated that in terms of a \$10,000 house, the 248 taxes constitute \$2,000 or one-fifth of the sale price. The sales tax imposed in Canada on all materials used in constructing a house is a cost which did not enter the financial picture years ago. Thus not all the blame for the jump in the price of homes can be placed on higher wages and higher material prices. — Fort William Times-Journal.

SCOTTISH STONES

Braoath flags and grey flagstones and grey and olive shales are found almost exclusively in Forfarshire, Scotland.

A storekeeper in New Mexico is offering a town for sale. It includes an hotel, theatre building, and several store buildings. It is the town of Mogollon, once a thriving mining community of 3,000 inhabitants, but now down to a population of five. A few weeks ago it was reported that Burl Ives, popular and prosperous ballad singer, was looking for a town to buy. Whether he would be interested in Mogollon may be doubted. In any event, he attached to his offer a condition that the town he purchased must be willing to have its name changed to Ives-town. There is also a syndicate with headquarters in Moscow which has shown great interest in international real estate lately. Any sellers to it should be warned, however, that payment probably would be made in rubles, possibly in bullets, and that not only the name but the characters of the community would be changed completely. — Christian Science Monitor.

Whenever we are hard up for an idea for an editorial, all we do is take a drive through the city and then come rushing back to our typewriter and write one about the horrible condition of some of the lawns and boulevards we have just seen. Not that it's any of our business how people keep up their lawns or boulevards — or bring up their children for that matter — but as an editorial filler-in, there's nothing more chestnutly. Now about those lawns and boulevards. Some of them actually are so down-trodden and moth-eaten that a hungry horse or a starving sheep, would rather continue dying or starving than give them more than a baleful look. They are a disgrace not only to Lethbridge but to humanity. The cinnamon color of the grass, the shoulder-high weeds, the dead branches, and last year's leaves are sights which none but the brave can look upon for more than a minute without groaning or cursing or both. — Lethbridge Herald.

The Age-Old Story

The meek shall eat and be satisfied; they shall praise the Lord; that seek Him; your heart shall live for ever.

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