

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 MONDAY, AUG. 24, 1953

Museum Dispersal

Owners of historical relics of this Province are engaged in collecting the items which they had provided for display at the Charlottetown Y. M. C. A. during the summer months. The space is now required for its proper purpose of a gymnasium. The thanks of local people and visitors alike are due to the small group who have worked so hard to make a success of the project and to the Y. M. C. A. for making the accommodation available.

It is a pity that the exhibits must now be dispersed. There is no doubt that many owners would gladly present their relics to a museum if it were organized on a permanent basis with accommodation to protect and display these reminders of earlier days.

When a Provincial museum does become a reality, however, it is to be hoped that efforts will be made to make it as valuable as possible from an educational viewpoint. School children and others visiting it should be able to gain a clear idea of the settlement and development of the Island. Early farm implements, ship-building exhibits and methods of making roads, for example, could be demonstrated so that the history of the Island would have meaning and would teach young people about present conditions and resources.

The immediately critical matter, however, is the preservation of historical materials. All too often the cleaning out of an attic means the destruction of records or implements which cannot be replaced, and every year sees the more artistically valuable antiques being bought up by visitors. Delay in founding a museum is costly indeed in historical lore and relics.

The U. K. Bacon Market

The possibility of some revival in bacon exports to Britain now looks more hopeful than at any time since the trade was halted by dollar shortages three years ago, reports an Ottawa correspondent of The Financial Post. The National Farmers' Union—official organization of U. K. agriculture—has invited delegates of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture—the body which represents organized farming in Canada—to a London conference on meat marketing late this fall. Australia and New Zealand will also be represented.

The invitation is thought to be connected with the lifting of meat rationing in Britain, due to come into effect early next year. It is expected that overseas purchasing will simultaneously be handed back to private traders, as part of the current series of denationalization moves.

What solution to hard currency problem—one of the reasons Britain is not buying Canadian bacon—the conference might come up with has not yet been indicated. But to start Canada's pork across the Atlantic again, the answer will also have to take into account the present \$6 to \$11 gap between Canadian and Danish bacon prices, as well as some longterm provision to restore Canada's current ailing hog production.

Due mainly to the lowering of the Government's floor price to 23c a lb. last year, the production of Canadian hogs is now down almost 20% from 1952. The resultant scarcity, combined with a smaller-than-usual U. S. marketing, has been keeping prices up at around \$33 a hundredweight! But it's felt that any drop in North American purchasing power might result in a glut of the market.

Exports of Canadian bacon to Britain reached a peak of 600 million lbs. in World War II, tapering off to 57 million lbs. by 1950. Even with a \$3.50 per cwt. Canadian Government subsidy, the 1950 contract was not filled. In 1951 Britain offered to buy 120 million lbs. of Canadian bacon at \$29 a cwt., but was turned down, because of continuing high domestic prices. Since then, Denmark has again become her major source of supply.

Ford Foundation Survey

Now the Fund for the Republic, one of the Ford Foundations, has undertaken to measure the extent and progress of the Communist conspiracy within the United States. Specifically, a non-partisan group of distinguished Americans, drawn from all walks of life, will study and try to answer these questions: How far have Communists

penetrated, in the last quarter century, into positions of influence in government, the labor unions, the arts, education and the media of communication? How well has this penetration been repulsed in recent years when its danger, for the first time, has been generally realized? And finally what has been the actual impact of Communist propaganda upon the actual thinking of the American people?

The Fund for the Republic has no intention of imitating the Communists by spreading propaganda of its own. Its purpose is solely to get the facts and present them impartially, whether those facts are welcome to the public and some politicians or not. In this inquiry there will be no trade of partisan politics which often have disfigured and distorted the investigations of Congressional committees.

In its strictly factual and unbiased approach, entirely outside the scope of government, the new study will be unique. If it can measure the real dimensions of Communism in the United States, bringing the problem out of the clouds of rumor and down to the level of proved facts, it will perform a useful task in the best traditions of a free and fearless society.

The New North

Current research by leading botanists indicates that the tundra area of Canada's far north is gradually becoming a tree-producing region. Studies have shown that in certain areas of the tundra wastes, fair-sized trees are now growing and it is expected that as the years roll by more and more of this vast region will grow trees. If this proves to be true it will mean a whole undreamed-of future for a huge chunk of the North American continent that up to this time has been considered as waste. There is also the possibility that the present scientific studies will find means of speeding up this gradual process whereby the northern soil is becoming more and more productive.

Even if this natural development continues at only a slow pace, it will mean eventually great things for the whole North. It will mean, for example, that the pulp industry gradually will be able to move farther north for its raw material. It may well spark the discoveries of minerals and a gradual settlement of an uninhabited region. And there is reason to believe that some day this sub-arctic area may prove to be suitable for scientific agriculture.

EDITORIAL NOTES

It is safe to say that the leading subject for discussion over the week-end has been the agreement with the Federal Government for its backing in the co-operative pool marketing of potatoes. Ever the electoral situation in King's took second place.

Sunlight is welcomed in many places but not on milk bottles, at any rate not on full ones. Two American scientists have shown, what the housewife has long known, that exposure to the sun for half an hour or more gives milk an off-taste and also causes vitamin loss.

The astonishing decline in hog marketings in this country indicates that demand will continue very strong for many months to come. The much publicised lowering of support prices probably had as much to do with the cutting of production as any factor.

Double-walled barns which allow self-feeding of hay to cattle are no longer new. The new self-feeding silo at the Experimental Farm, however, is reported to be unique. In this age of high labour costs such developments are of very real assistance to the farmer and are no doubt also appreciated by the cow.

The "severe reprimand" for H. M. C. S. Huron's captain for suffering his ship to be stranded and failing to see that his officer of the watch and navigator kept accurate track of the ship's position was perhaps to be expected. The Navy does not readily overlook errors that imperil its ships. We may be proud, however, that neither fear of the enemy nor of court martial prevented our ships from operating freely in the narrow waters.

Frederick James Marquis Woolton of Liverpool, first Baron, British businessman and politician, was born this date 1883. He went to school and university in Manchester, entered business and became chairman and senior managing director of a large group of companies. He served on several wartime committees, became director-general of equipment and supply in 1939, minister of food in 1940, minister of reconstruction in 1943, and lord president of the council in 1945. He became president of the Conservative party after the general election of 1945.

Possible Unforeseen Developments

COUNCIL DECIDES IMMEDIATE NEED OF DOG CATCHER, GENERAL FEELING THAT WHOEVER WAS NAMED TO THE POSITION SHOULD BE ON A FULLTIME BASIS AND BE PROVIDED WITH TRANSPORTATION ADEQUATE FOR THE JOB..... News Item.



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.

ROAD SIGNS & FERRY TRAFFIC

Sir,—Since the Liberals are now so strong, I'd like to see them use their strength to raise and put into position a road sign in Little Sands, indicating Blue's Road and the directional arms to Murray Harbor and to Wood Island Ferry. This sign has been in the ditch since early spring, with the indicators pointing wildly toward Heaven and earth. I have seen tourists and Islanders, too, get out of their cars as they tried to figure which road to take.

There is no marking in the ditch or otherwise for Livingstone's Road. And while the Liberals are demonstrating their strength in putting up the road signs what can they do about the ferry situation at Wood Islands? Many tourists have been discouraged from using that inlet or outlet because of the long waits necessary practically every day.

We have highways limited for trucks only—boulders, we have a ferry for trucks only? That would greatly relieve the situation.

Yours in the interest of better roads and transportation facilities for P. E. I.

I am, Sir, etc., MARY DONALD DEANS, Little Sands

The Phobia Shortage

(London Times) An American gentleman recently wrote a letter to a newspaper in which he advocated the enrichment of our, or anyhow his, language by the addition to it of the word nucleomitophobia. This graceful polysyllable, which by a happy touch of onomatopoeia incorporates the suggestion of chattering teeth, would make it possible to express in one word our fear of atom bombs. His project was criticized by another correspondent, who felt that "it might have been better to denominate the universal fear of being bombed by any type of bomb."

This foray across the established frontiers of etymology and psychology into the great open spaces beyond raises a question of some importance in this haggard age. Have we not all the phobias we need? The thoughtful layman will scarcely find it possible to answer this question in the affirmative. He learnt in youth that there was a thing called hydrophobia, a rather old-fashioned affliction which took its little later one of its symptoms; a little later he became aware of the existence of claustrophobia and agoraphobia, and sometimes—at cocktail parties, for instance—fancied that he was suffering from a mild attack of the latter.

Then there was xenophobia, or dislike of foreigners. His own nation was notoriously immune from this falling, which more often than not was synonymous with Anglophobia, a much baser and less understandable aberration.

There, or thereabouts, his acquaintance with phobias comes to an end. Surely there ought to be more of these labels to tie on to the limitless gamut of human fears? The layman, himself, having led a rather sheltered life, may not personally have suffered from hippopotamophobia, but it would be silly to pretend that people are not afraid of hippopotamuses. Might not their apprehensions be easier to support if they were rationalized into a single word?

We are all afraid of something; it would be more dignified and more up-to-date if we were called something-phobes. If we go on in this desultory way, as though all our alarms and antipathies were

Over-Production Problem

Canada's big domestic problem in the next few months will be that of over-abundance of one of the world's most vital commodities—wheat. This illustrates how fortunate a people we are, having to worry about too much food rather than too little.

This situation is created by last year's all-time record crop of 658,000,000 bushels, plus the prospect of another 603,000,000 bushels this year which would be the second highest on record. There just isn't the storage to handle this magnificent bounty of nature. The terminal and Prairie elevators are full, and much is stored on the farms, even before this autumn's Prairie harvest commences.

How to handle, and where to put, this year's crop presents real difficulty. And it will be one even if our exports keep up to normal or exceed it.

We are lucky indeed this product is not an easily perishable one. Once harvested and stored, the hard western wheat will keep for years.

If we can find room for it, it will be all right. Wheat still is the principal bread-grain for a large portion of the earth's people, and many nations have great need of it.

If, due to currency or other obstacles, we can't find a market for it all in the next 12 or 18 months, we will get one later. It is not a product we have to dump to save from spoilage. It will keep—and as long as we have it to keep it represents a treasure chest.

The situation is aggravated by other exporting nations likewise having surpluses. It is estimated that Canada, the United States and Australia have about 1,185,500,000 bushels on hand, almost double the stocks of a year ago. Certain importing nations may strive to take advantage of this surplus to strike good bargains. But the World Wheat Agreement, even if the United Kingdom is not a signatory, offers some protection against the bottom falling out of the market.

How to get sufficient storage is the big question. But if it be necessary to build additional storage, it should be built—either on the farms or at Prairie elevator points. If government assistance is needed, it should be provided. We must conserve this great asset.

Individually the situation perfectly natural things and did not need to be given high-sounding scientific names, we shall be in danger of getting ourselves classified as phobaphobes. And that really would be rather ridiculous.

The Poet's Corner

THE CLOCK

The clock remains the only moving thing Within the lull of a deserted room. Its restless hands and pendulum now loom In likeness of a warder charged to bring

A word to where the deeper shadows cling That doom the hither side of the patient tomb The clock emits its metal muttering.

And time is moving to the steel commands Of heartless spring and wheel within their drum. In lock-step journey to the lightless lands

Dawns, noons and nights move to residuum. And: "It is later," say the ruthless hands. And: "Lateness, Lateness," says the pendulum.

—Samuel M. Sargent.

The Age Old Story

Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such-and-such a place shall I camp. And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down. And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice. Therefore, the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing.

sents specific difficulties for the growers. It costs a lot of money to build storage space for 10,000 or 25,000 bushels of wheat. And, though it is valuable, it does not represent actual cash until it is sold.

Most Prairie farmers, however, now are well-to-do. Few will suffer great financial pains if they can't sell all this year's wheat within a few weeks after harvest. And, if they want a loan, several thousands of bushels of wheat on hand provide security which even the most conservative banker should accept.

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AGENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE

Notes By The Way

Quiet people aren't the only ones who don't say much.—Saskatoon Star-Phoenix.

Cigarette smoking is a filthy habit to all except the smoker, the manufacturer, the wholesaler, the retailer, the smuggler, and the tax collector.—Lethbridge Herald.

Anyone who thinks that termite aren't worth worrying about should remember that the termite queen may live five to ten years and lay eggs without stopping day and night at the rate of one every two and a half seconds. And at the expense of whatever object she is living in.—St. Thomas Times-Journal.

In the news item related how the fishermen of Newfoundland are turning from making their livelihood out of the sea to become landlubbers and taking employment in other vocations where they could find steadier work and remuneration. The same situation for some time has existed in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. What has been taking place in this regard is reflected in the latest official figures of fish catches and values of Atlantic coastal fishermen in the first half of this year. These reveal declines in both categories for the six-month period as well as for the latest month of record, June, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1952.—Moncton Transcript.

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. In outlining the scope and purpose of the project The New York Times announces that the research program was outlined in a contract with the United States navy Dr. Millett G. Morgan, director of research at the Thayer School of Engineering of the college, will head the project that will continue a study of radio wave propagation in the ionosphere. The ionosphere is an electrically charged sphere beyond the stratosphere that makes possible all long-distance radio communication using high frequency waves. Ranging from forty to 400 miles above the earth's surface, it reflects signals back to the earth and keeps them from being lost in space.—Winnipeg Free Press.

"Is keeping one's self informed on health matters of any value to the average individual?" asks Dr. Gordon Bates, General Director of the Health League of Canada, in an editorial in the current issue of the League's magazine, Health. Since the complete person loses on the average about 10 days from work annually on account of illness and since he often not only suffers the discomfort of illness but loses income as well it is a

matter worth looking into," the Doctor submits. "It has been found that where adequate medical service has been instituted in industry it is possible to cut the average absence from work on account of illness from 10 days to 3 days annually. Part of the reason is the fact that medical and nursing service results in a better informed employee. There are many facts available as to how to keep healthy and avoid illness but this information is useless as long as it stays on the pages of a medical textbook or in the mind of the physician.—Summerside Journal-Pioneer.

Old Charlottetown (And P. E. I.)

SCHOONER ON FIRE

"On Saturday night last, a fire broke out in the cabin of the schooner, 'Amsgent', Nicholson, master of Pinette, lying near the end of the Queen's wharf, in this City. The alarm was given and No. 2 engine, under the command of Captain MacKinnon, was soon on the spot. The hurry to obtain water, the suction hose, which was run over the end of the wharf, being put down sufficiently low into the water, sucked up a quantity of ice and lolly into the engine, and the valves at once choked, and, of course, the engine would not work. This caused considerable confusion, and it was some time before another engine was brought to the ground.

"By the time the second one was ready to ply, the captain of the first had succeeded in clearing the ice from the valves, and she at once poured a large stream of water into the burning vessel, and put out the fire. Had not some of the inhabitants exerted themselves to the utmost, in handing up water from the river to persons on the deck of the vessel, she would have been totally consumed, as at 10:30 half an hour had elapsed from the time the first engine arrived until she began to throw water."

—The Islander, Jan. 1, 1864.

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