

THE GUARDIAN

Authorized as Second Class Mail Post Office Department, Ottawa. The Island Guardian Publishing Co. President and Associate Editor, 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, JUNE 3, 1953

The Queen Is Crowned

Her Majesty's Coronation is over, with all its pageantry and associations, and Court and people in the Old Country continue into a round of celebration and public events that will extend almost unabated for months. In this Province one and all vied to demonstrate their loyalty and affection. The popular demonstrations will long be remembered and those responsible for organizing official festivities may well be proud of the effectiveness of their work and planning.

Much of the local celebration was naturally concentrated in Charlottetown which lends itself admirably to spectacular displays and the accommodation of crowds with its fine wide streets and other facilities for accommodating large numbers of people. The Provincial capital was by no means alone, however, in demonstrating the loyal enthusiasm of the people of this Province. Summerside, as always, rose to the occasion, the R. C. A. F. Station there co-operating splendidly with the Town to make the occasion truly memorable. In addition, every town, village and community in the Province marked the occasion by turning out amid gaily decorated surroundings, to do honour to the Coronation of our Queen.

There is some mention of Her Majesty spending part of each year in her various Dominions. Whether such a plan would be practical, or impose far too great a strain on our youthful monarch, we cannot say, but she may be assured that on any occasion that she may be pleased to visit Canada or this Province she will be sure of a royal welcome.

Conquest Of Everest

As inspiring as the circumnavigation of the world by Drake in the service of another Queen Elizabeth was the conquest of Everest by a young New Zealander and his Sherpa guide. The final dash by the members of Col. John Hunt's expedition made the summit last Friday but it was only on her Coronation day that the Queen and most of her subjects learned of the success of the second attempt of that expedition.

The numerous attempts made to surmount the 29,000-foot peak since 1922 form an epic of human daring and endurance. Hillary, himself, had made four Himalaya expeditions in three years. The return of the climbers may clear up the question of whether Mallory and Irving actually reached the summit in 1924. They are known to have reached 28,230 feet but the attempt cost them their lives.

It is hard to imagine news that could cause more uplifted spirits on the Coronation day of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth than this report of successful daring. No mere political gesture or economic good fortune could have compared with the report of success crowning a deed of daring that has captured the imagination of brave men for more than quarter of a century. It was indeed a fit inauguration of the new Elizabethan Age.

Tourist Requirement Survey

The Tourist and Information Bureau has been conducting an official survey of the Island's tourist industry, based on the results of a questionnaire distributed to each visiting party during the months of July and August last year, and the findings are both interesting and informative. 53 per cent of the tourists, it was found, were making their first visit to the Province. 33 per cent stayed in private homes, 12 per cent in tourist homes, 16 per cent in hotels and 39 per cent in cabins. 33 per cent gave "natural beauty" of the Island as the chief attraction, 15 per cent listed the "climate", 17 per cent "the beaches", and 18 per cent "the atmosphere". The sport most enjoyed by 38 per cent of the visitors was "loafing". 27 per cent marked this question in favor of swimming, 13 per cent fishing, 11 per cent horse racing, and 5 per cent golf. 62 per cent of the visitors remained on the Island less than one week, 21 per cent between one and two weeks, 14 per cent from two weeks to a month. 24 per cent of the visiting parties numbered more than four persons. Total expenditure of the 7,600 visitors reporting amounted to \$692,859.

This figure does not actually represent our summer visitors' expenditure as 15 per cent of them did not answer the question. Only one questionnaire was given to each automobile party although the average to

a car was 3.5 persons. Moreover, it was physically impossible to get every car as there were no attendants on the Wood Island ferries.

The survey gives an analysis of tourist comments which also is of much interest. The biggest obstacle to the advance of the industry is evidently our road conditions; 47 per cent of those answering the questionnaire complained about the limited extent of pavement, poor condition of certain sections of road, etc. The lack of road signs was also repeatedly mentioned. Other complaints were with regard to the lack of sufficient cabin accommodation, lack of uniformity with regard to prices charged, and inadequacy of the two ferries at Wood Islands and Caribou to accommodate the traffic there. Many complained that our famous seafoods are not more in evidence, others that fish were becoming scarce in some of the popular fishing haunts, and that the streams and rivers should be re-stocked. Still others regretted that there were not more accommodations near the beaches, and more camping grounds available in suitable places, where those coming prepared to live outdoors could spend the night in tents. More roadside tables were suggested, with parking facilities nearby.

These are but some of the highlights of the survey, which is the first of its kind ever attempted in the Province and is now available in printed form. It should be required reading for all who are catering to our tourist industry. This year has seen a greatly increased number of inquiries from prospective summer visitors and it is to the interests of all concerned that their stay here be made as pleasant as possible.

Starting A Farm

At a recent conference of junior farmers in Ontario, some interesting figures were given on the high cost of acquiring a farm in that Province nowadays. The source of the figures was the Ontario Department of Agriculture, which estimates that the capital investment runs from about \$17,000 for a cash crop establishment up to as high as \$37,000 for specialized farming enterprises. The average is placed at \$30,000.

Such figures, comments the Ottawa Citizen, might be dismaying to any young man contemplating a farming career. The facts are, of course, that few beginners have anything like a capital of \$30,000, but lack of it need not prevent them from making a start. Many young farmers, if they are not fortunate enough to take over the family place, start as tenants. But the raising of capital is not so difficult as it once was. Under a Federal statute, it is possible to borrow up to \$10,000. Separate federal legislation for farm improvements permits loans to a maximum of \$3,000. Ontario legislation, specifically designed for young farmers, provides for loans up to \$14,000 for land and buildings.

An interesting sidelight on the farming business is to be found in the experience of Dutch families coming to Canada since the war. Of a total of 4,500 such families, classified as agricultural workers, about 1,500 had settled on farms of their own by the middle of last year.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Prince Edward Islanders have always shown a readiness to wear the Queen's uniform, or the King's as the case might be. The military annals of natives of this Province bear comparison with those of any.

Her Majesty is by recent proclamation "Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and her other realms and territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith." She was Queen of Canada before that proclamation, but it is satisfactory indeed that it should be included in her title as used in this land.

Sir Flinders Petrie, English archaeologist, was born this date 1853. He set new standards in archaeology by his recognition of the importance of pottery and by his personal supervision of excavation. It was not his good fortune to make any sensational discovery but cumulatively his contribution was great. The variety of objects found by him is almost incredible as the outcome of a single life. He has thrown a great deal of light on the study of the Bible, particularly those parts which possess an Egyptian background.

Continuity of Queen Elizabeth's descent for 800 years from the sovereigns of the House of Kenneth MacAlpin will feature an exhibition to be held this summer in the Register House, Edinburgh. Entitled "The Royal Line", the exhibition will display documents bearing the seals or signatures of every sovereign of Scotland and of Great Britain from Malcolm IV to the present day. Earliest seal is that of Malcolm IV (1162) and the earliest signature that of James II (1452).

The Top, Let's Hope!



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.

TWO OF A KIND

Sir—Some time ago Mr. McAndrew Navin wrote a few letters ensuring Mr. Pendergast for using so many "jawkbreakers" in his contributions to the Public Forum. In the May 28 issue of The Guardian there was an epistle over Navin's name which contained a flourish of verbosity that easily rivalled the best or the worst of the Pendergast grandiloquent splurges.

It strikes me as being a clear case of the pot calling the kettle black. I think McAndrew Navin should be reminded of the adage: "Physician heal thyself."

I am, Sir, etc.

Tignish.

SEEKING PEN-FRIEND

Sir—Would you be so kind as to enquire amongst your Canadian friends if any person would be willing to become a correspondent or "pen friend" to me. I am a nearly 50 year old family man and am interested rather in the Canadian scene, particularly Prince Edward Island.

Your Dominion strives to attract outside and tourist interest mostly by descriptions of the magnificent Rockies and Prairies, but to me the Maritime Provinces seem to have a more homelike charm. I am not interested in Canadian politics any more than I would respect my correspondent to be in the Australian variety of (if there could be said to be any variety) but have spent a quarter of a century in various small towns and rural areas of New South Wales and Queensland, and the last half-dozen years in and around Brisbane, a fairly large town.

So if there is any person who has the time and inclination to enter into a correspondence with me, we should mutually profit thereby.

I am, Sir, etc.

ERNEST KING

No. 3 Boundary Road Camp Hill, Brisbane, Australia.

FISHING IN THE WEST INDIES

Sir—I am no expert at fishing in the West Indies, but I have had a good deal of experience. Those waters are swarming with fish. The first thing is to get a boat and a darkie who knows the grounds. The trip out to a good bank is a mile or more for line fishing. One never knows what he will bring up, a red snapper, a grouper, a rock eel or even a baby shark. My catch was chiefly red fish, Spang-fish mackerel, or grouper. Once I caught a three foot shark, and fortunately I had a good club, or he might have done damage. Sharks are very numerous. I have seen them ten or twelve feet long, lazily sunning themselves on the surface. But better not disturb one of those man-eaters and they lived to tell how they got away by zig-zagging their row-boat.

Trolling is done with a long strong line on a large hook, attached to a spoon barge on a swivel which rotates in the water as it is pulled along by the boat, giving a flashing light. Large fish, tarpon, barracuda and grouper are caught this way. Some of them will weigh as much as three or four hundred pounds.

On one occasion we found ourselves stalled in the Island of Tobago about fifty miles from Trinidad. We had to get to a meeting in Port of Spain. We took a sloop, with some coloured passengers and a mixed cargo. As our boat sailed we trolled for fish and caught a hundred pound grouper which they cooked for supper in which we all had a share.

Old Charlottetown

(And P. E. I.)

HARBOUR BOAT RACE

"The race between the sloops 'Agate' and 'Surprise' came off in Charlottetown Harbour on Friday last, and was again won by the 'Agate', owned by Mr. H. C. McLeod, of Georgetown. The wind blew freshly from the southwest, and afforded both packets a good opportunity of testing their sailing qualities. Although the 'Agate's' starting point was about one hundred yards behind the 'Surprise', she soon took the lead, and maintained it until the end of the race.

"Both boats grounded on the flats opposite the city, the 'Surprise' being detained about four minutes. The 'Agate' carried away her jib sheets, which caused a detention of some minutes. The 'Agate' was at a disadvantage, being a centre-board boat, with a heavy draft of water; and as the greater part of the sailing to windward was in shallow water to avoid the tide, the centre-board collected seaweed and retarded her speed. It is also stated that she dragged on the bottom several times. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, she accomplished her work and came in about 10 minutes ahead. The 'Agate' was in charge of Mr. Daniel Walker, of Georgetown, and piloted by Capt. Henry Mutch, of Charlottetown, both of whom are highly spoken of as boatmen."

King's County Advertiser, Sept. 26, 1878.

But the interesting thing about that trip was the fact that we took our boat at Robinson Crusoe's Cove in Tobago where Crusoe had lived for many years, and there on the white sand on the shore we could still see, by imagination, Man Friday's footprints.

A method of fishing I have often watched: "Four or five men club together and use a big dory. They pile a two-hundred foot net in the stern where a man stands and pays it out as the boat is rowed in a circle out from the shore and around to the shore again, enclosing a catch of fish of from five hundred to a thousand. These are jack-fish with some others, usually a few baby sharks. Then the catch is divided among the men. Those waters are teeming with fish. I have rowed through a school of them, in thousands, churning the water into foam. They seemed to be on an average about two feet long. I do not know what they were.

Sharks and barracuda are dangerous to swimmers. In my first years in the West Indies I ran serious risks, through ignorance of the danger. Once I swam out where a six foot shark was caught that same evening. The barracuda is more dangerous. He is a big fish, savage and fearless. A shark can be scared but not a barracuda.

The Poet's Corner

FROM ODE

On the Day of the Coronation of King Edward VII

Now the loud land flames with imperial gear,

And life itself, so late in hues austere

And the cold reign of iron custom bound,

Puts off its grey subjection, and is here

One moment throned and crowned.

Now the long glories prance and triumph by

And now the pomps have passed, and we depart

Each to the peace or strife of his own heart:

And now the day whose boom was so high

Sinks billowing down; and twilight sorceries change

Into remote and strange

What is most known and nigh:

And changelessly the river sends his sigh

Down leagues of hope and fear, and pride and shame.

And life and death; dim-journeying passionless

To where broad estuary and beaconing pass

Look toward the outlands whence our fathers came.

And high on Druid mountain, bath the sun

Flamed valediction, as the last lights died.

—Sir William Watson.

The Age Old Story

Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.

Quite near where we were staying in Tobago a negro policeman was killed by one of those fish while swimming.

I am, Sir, etc.

W. I. GREEN

Stanley Bridge.

Tired Feet

Soothe them with MINARD'S LINIMENT

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The Passing Scene

By Observer

SOME HISTORICAL CONTRASTS

The occasion of the Coronation has persuaded me to read once again Shakespeare's plays "King Henry IV" and "King Henry V," with all their "alarms and excursions" and all their emphasis on war, conquest, treachery, and civil strife. For as long as any of us can remember, the Royal House of Britain has been universally regarded as a family noted for their devotion to duty and domestic peace and concord. The present members of the Family stand united in a fellowship of service that is an inspiration to the Commonwealth and, indeed, to the whole civilized world. Their accession is "by honour, more than by blood."

I thought of this in my latest reading of the two plays referred to above. Considering the moral fashion of his period, Henry IV was, from all reports, a good-as-the-average monarch. But, like most of his predecessors and not a few of his successors, he was surrounded by flatterers, sycophants, rebels, over-ambitious churchmen and courtiers, and just plain trouble-makers. Shakespeare quotes him as saying, "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." A great deal of this uneasiness was caused by his dissolute son and heir, "madcap Harry." One of the great tragedies recorded in literature of the period which struck Henry IV on his deathbed as he pondered the ill-fate of England under the Sovereignty of an irresponsible king, "Harry the fifth is crowned. Up, vanity! O my poor kingdom, sick with civil blows!

When that my care should not withhold thy riots, What wilt thou do when riot is thy care?"

As it turned out, the old king was wrong. Before he breathed his last he had the joy of witnessing a change of heart and mind in young Harry. Whether it was his father's tears or a new-born sense of responsibility that did it, the young king gave away his wild companions and his erstwhile way of life and entered upon his royal rights in dignity and good resolution. There is much evidence in Shakespeare, and some at least in the records of his history, that Henry V kept in his mind and on his heart the resolution he made at his coronation: "Nor prince nor peer shall have cause to say, God shorten Harry's happy life one day!"

The thing that I find most intriguing in this brief retrospective glance is the apparent haphazard manner in which the Sovereigns of the medieval past came to the throne. It seems to have been pretty much of a hit-or-miss affair. A male heir-apparent usually gave away his military training as soon as he was old enough to shoulder a gun, but of training in state-craft and the grace of royalty there was none. And this at a time when the Sovereign possessed great personal power, almost absolute

power, in affairs of government. The more one thinks of it, the more one wonders how the English monarchy managed to survive at all. It is, indeed, one of the great marvels of history. Elizabeth II, trained from the cradle for the duties of majesty, comes to the throne perhaps better prepared than any other in the long line of succession.

Queen Elizabeth will never be called to make decisions for peace or war. Her constitutional role is to ratify decisions made by her parliament. And yet she will need wise counsellors who will have one eye on the security of the throne and the other on the peace and well-being of the people. It is safe to say that in no period of British history has the Sovereign been surrounded by better advisers. All those whose offices put them near the throne will do their utmost to keep uneasiness away from the head that wears the crown.

It is quite possible that the reign of the second Elizabeth will last a half-century or even longer. The changes that will take place in the world political systems, including those of our own Commonwealth, are matters on which it would be foolish to express an opinion. It is possible that the Commonwealth itself will give place to some other political structure. But whatever changes may occur in a world that is for ever restless, one feels that the Crown will survive them. And we may be certain that its glory and prestige will be used in the furtherance of peace and contentment among the peoples of the earth.

In that respect, too, Elizabeth is much more fortunate than young Henry when he succeeded his father. Then, and for a long time after, the emphasis was on the "rights" of the Crown, and apparently no one bothered to inquire as to whether or not these "rights" were valid. At the very beginning of his play about the fifth Henry, Shakespeare shows the spiritual leaders of the realm urging the young king to make war on France and thus render desolate the peace that his father had brought about between the two countries.

It is a far cry from the counsel of aggression of the 15th century to the counsel of tolerance and understanding of the 20th. And most of the change has occurred in comparatively recent times.

STRANGE INTERLOPER

DOVER, England, CP.—So many small fish vanished from a park pond here that the pond was drained. Investigators discovered a "cannibal fish," 10 inches long, native to Africa and Asia, and only the second of its type ever found in Britain. No one could say how the intruder, capable of growing to eight feet in length, got there.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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