

THE GUARDIAN

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The War Situation

Thoughtful Canadians who ask themselves whether or not the policies of the Soviet Union are aggressive and imperialistic cannot fail to reach an affirmative conclusion. This, however, is quite different from concluding that the Kremlin is anxious, or even willing to undertake commitments military or political that will result in the outbreak of World War III in 1951.

In retrospect, circumstances suggest that the Russians are no more ready for a test of strength with the Western powers than they were a year ago. In the first few months of the Korean war, they contented themselves with tendering "heart-felt moral support" to the North Koreans and endeavouring to create the impression that UN intervention was "illegal."

When the forces under General MacArthur's command crossed the 38th parallel, the Russians gained a moral advantage in being able to smear the United States with the disagreeable word "aggressor". Whatever the facts behind the decision to push on the borders of Manchuria may have been, the fact remains that the presence of foreign troops so near the Chinese frontier afforded the Kremlin an unexcelled propaganda advantage.

The disastrous reverses of last December, coupled with the spectacle of the UN Cease Fire Committee seeking a truce, still leave the Russians with the initiative in the war of words. But the thundering of Russian delegates at UN is quite a different matter from the thundering of Russian guns. Nor, even as the UN forces once again begin to move forward on the Korean front is there any sign that Russian manpower, guns and tanks will be directly committed in the struggle.

Russia's hesitancy will grow with every man recruited for the Canadian and other United Nations armed forces, with every plane and every tank turned out by Canadian, United Kingdom and American factories. It will grow until even the verbal thunderings of Russia's political leaders and diplomatic figures begin to lessen.

The western powers may have lost the political initiative. The military initiative is still ours, and is gaining hourly in momentum. Against such a background, there is ground for hope, but not for unreasonable optimism, that 1951 will not see the outbreak of World War III.

Important Farm Courses

Much interest is being taken in the forthcoming short courses for farm students which will open at the Vocational School on Feb. 5. The first week will cover aid for livestock and will be under the supervision of Dr. J. T. Akins, veterinary-in-chief, of Fredericton, N. B.

During the second and third weeks in February a farm machine course will be conducted, covering practical instruction in farm machinery, science, mechanics, binders, mortar and plastering, cement, puttying, glazing, blacksmithing, rope work, and some instructions on soils, fertilizers, farm crops, etc.

During the last week, commencing Feb. 26; a course in forestry will be provided. This is emphasized by Mr. W. R. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, as exceedingly important in view of the demand for pulpwood and the attacks being made on our forest growths. There have been inquiries all over the Province regarding the proper forest management, hence the decision to put on a full week's course on this subject in the hope that a large number will attend and secure first-hand knowledge in selective cutting and the care of the woodlot and forest and other trees.

Undesirable On All Counts

If the proposal to legalize a new 3 per cent indirect provincial sales tax goes through, it will mean that four or five individual taxes will then be levied on retail goods across Canada. These are listed as: 1. The 8 per cent Federal sales tax. 2. The new proposed 3 per cent Provincial tax.

3. Consumer taxes as now levied by Provinces or municipalities. 4. Federal excise taxes.

Most people will agree with the Chamber of Commerce in denouncing this proposed new tax as being particularly undesirable "at a time when any increased taxation should be devoted to defense," as

well as being generally undesirable "because, being hidden, it does not make the public tax conscious but tends to leave the public careless of government expenditure." Before agreeing to new taxation of this kind, which bears far more heavily on the poorer classes than on the well-to-do because it is a flat-rate levy on the necessities of life, our Provincial Government should have waited until the Legislature meets next month. The matter is too important to be decided otherwise, and opportunity should be given for a full-length debate on the subject. Then, at a later date, another Federal-Provincial discussion could be held and the consensus of opinion taken. Since this is a matter affecting Provincial rights, an address from the Throne to the United Kingdom Parliament would be required to make the constitutional amendment.

In the meantime, there are always other methods of supplementing our provincial revenue. We have still unimplemented claims at Ottawa to be pressed, and defense contracts to be obtained which would place us in a more equitable position with the rest of Canada in the distribution of these huge Federal expenditures.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Purification.

Festive Week begins July 2, the date corresponding with Dominion Day and a public holiday.

Candlemass, festival to commemorate the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The custom of blessing the candles for the whole year on this day came into use in the 11th Century.

Chinese Communist tactics, involving noise and stratagems to induce wastage of ammunition, have been taken by our forces in their stride. The people at home can do no less than show an equally calm firmness in the face of similar tactics on the political front.

When an industry starts taxing itself for administrative purposes it is tantamount to announcing to the Government it is prepared to make itself the goat for revenue purposes. No wisely led industry would get into such a position. The dairy industry is collecting voluntary funds for advertising their products and developing business which is a horse of another color—no compulsion, entirely voluntary with the expectation of increasing consumption not bureaucracy.

Mistakes will happen in the best regulated municipalities. One day last week in Ottawa the mayor got a parking ticket and the constable got a red face. With his official car unavailable, Mayor Grenville Goodwin drove to his office in his own car and parked it in his reserved spot behind City Hall. A constable spotted it, didn't recognize it, and tagged it for parking illegally in reserved space. When the mayor identified the car, the ticket was cancelled—with apologies.

This from the Montreal Gazette speaks for itself: "Runaway Market: The fur trade, both wholesale and retail, is apprehensive of the effect of runaway prices on future markets. These are charged in part to foreign sources no longer available, and in part to the general inflationary trend. Russia, the prime source of Persian Lamb skins, can no longer be depended upon; China, a principal source of kid skins, used in many garments, is doubtful at best. Domestic muskrat skins are at a 20-year high of \$4.00 plus; squirrel skins, which at one time sold for a nickel apiece, are bring \$1.00 plus. Skins now being manufactured cannot be replaced in many cases."

Once upon a time to be kicked was to suffer the lowest degree of humiliation and degradation, so much so that a white man thus assailing a black man in the West Indies was liable to be exiled. Two London newspapers recently splashed an account of a young nobleman kicking Labor Minister Angwin Bevan in the pants in front of one of London's most exclusive gentlemen's clubs. The nobleman was alleged to have booted the burly Socialist cabinet minister as he was leaving the club with R. A. F. Marshal Sir John Slessor, Air Chief of Staff. The Daily Express identified the nobleman as John Fox-Strangways, 43, son of Lord Ilchester. The Daily Mail carried no name but said "the attacker" was "no longer a member of the club." The club is White's in London's West End. The attack was said to have occurred last Wednesday night. Both papers reported that Bevan has "acted with restraint." They also agreed that Sir John, Bevan's host at the club, had lodged a complaint with the club's board. The Mail said the club had apologized to Bevan. Fox-Strangways is a member of one of Britain's oldest families. The motto inscribed on the family crest is "faire sans dire", which means "deeds without words."

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.

TOURIST WEEK

Sir.—Since the Tourist and Resources Department have decided to stage a mammoth tourist week beginning July 1st, it behooves all our citizens to make a special concerted effort to ensure its success. The prime objective is to initiate an earlier tourist season, which is commendable, and surely feasible. By the same token there is no reason why the season could not be extended to late autumn when the waving fields of golden grain are a sight few artists can paint. Later in the season, when the foliage of our deciduous trees turns golden and vermilion the scene would appeal to the senses of the least esthetic among us.

On aquatic (watersports) day would it not be advisable to hold some outstanding event—such as a championship swim of Northumberland Strait for a 10 or 15 mile swim 5 or 7 1/2 miles up East River, or past Charlottetown harbor mouth and back? The other events could be run while the distance swimmers are at work.

Competition in the tourist business is so intense now, that something world shaking must be done to attract extra attention. The American and Canadian champions would come for a purse of about five thousand dollars to be split into ten monies. The whole Island community might subscribe. A permanent extension and addition to the tourist industry would result all indirectly. It would require committees to collect in the towns and villages and tourist camps. The teachers could collect nickles and dimes in the rural districts, all could be made tourist conscious. When we subscribe coin of the realm we have a special working interest. In proceeding with the main event it would be necessary to have announcements on the sport pages of all the big dailies in the Eastern States and Quebec and Ontario about June 1st and require entries on or before June 15th. The entries can then be published in the big dailies at a trifling cost, if any. That will give the Island Tourist Association in the vicinity of a hundred thousand dollars worth of "press agent" publicity.

I hope the live-wire promoters of tourists, Brig. Reid and Graham Rogers will not take issue in this temerarious and seemingly ambitious proposal. I think they will accept it in the spirit in which it is given. Something drastic needs to be done in order to keep up with competition.

I am, Sir, etc. J. PENDERGAST, Kensington, P. E. I.

SUMMERSIDE WATER SUPPLY

Sir.—We, the undersigned members of the Summerside Water and Sewerage Commission, were surprised at some of the statements made by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Carrol Delaney, in his letter appearing in The Guardian of January 30th.

His letter is full of inaccuracies which we feel should be corrected, as they are misleading. He has also added some misleading inferences which are not borne out by the facts.

In the first place, he states that a report appearing in The Pioneer is erroneous concerning the amount of water capable of being pumped from the new well on the hill near the standpipe and goes on to state that the correct amount should have read 100 Imperial gallons per minute or approximately 144,000 Imperial gallons per day. We have checked this and the correct amount is not as stated by the chairman but is 120 Imperial gallons per day.

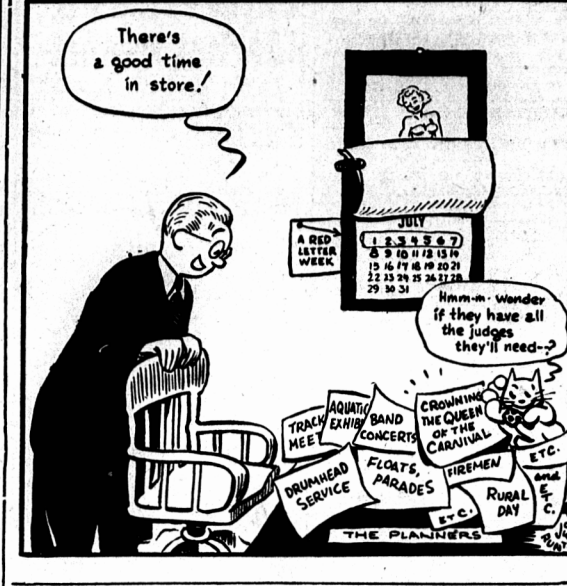
For the information of the public, we wish to state that when this well was down 500 feet, a test was made, and same produced 60 Imperial gallons per minute and by going a further 102 feet, the output was doubled to 120 gallons per minute. This first test was made by the contractors free of charge.

We also wish to correct the figures given regarding the size of bore hole. The bore hole is 12 inches in diameter to the 42 foot level or to hard rock and continuing at 10 inches in diameter to 602 feet, which is according to the terms of our contract. We do not know what the chairman is referring to when he says that the volume is considered very small for the size of the well as we know of no such inspector. We feel that the volume of this well compares favourably with the average production of the other three producing wells now in operation, which according to a recent test made by the Provincial Fire Marshall averaged 144 gallons per minute each.

In regard to the well now being bored on Harvard Street, the chairman is correct in stating that the Water and Sewerage Commissioners were not doing the work but that same is being done by the contractors. The Commissioners have never done such work and same is not a part of their duties and in such cases the work is done by contract. This second well was a continuation of the previous contract on the same terms. There were three tenders put in and the Trask Well Co. Ltd. had the lowest tender and the contract was awarded without any dissent by the Commissioners.

Also as suggested by the Chairman, if a 6 inch hole had been put down where we were confident a satisfactory well would be brought in, and we were later required to enlarge it, it would have cost the Commissioners \$2.00 per foot more than the cost would have been if originally

Coming Event: 'Charlottetown's Festive Week'



given for 10 inch, so a substantial loss would have resulted.

The chairman insinuates that he had made some suggestion in regard to the first well which would have saved money. We know of no suggestion as all three Commissioners were unanimous on the first well.

We also wish to make it clear that outstanding water and sewerage consulting engineers were brought here and after thoroughly studying the system, they advised the Commissioners where the two new wells were to be placed. No 1 well at the standpipe—this location there were large and at that point the pressure is lower than any other place in the town; this would mean that pumping costs would be less. No. 2 well at the corner of Harvard and Water Streets—this location was picked on account of the pipe circulation at that point. This well is now down approximately 200 feet and bailer test shows already over 200 gallons per minute and we expect this well when completed will produce 300 gallons per minute.

In locating additional water supply, it is best to keep as far away as possible from the existing wells due to the possibility of hitting the same underground water supply, which happens to be the case at our old pumping site on Harvard Street, next to the electric light plant, and at the same time, it is no a good policy to go long distances from your system and spend large amounts of money in running water mains.

The public, we believe, are well aware of the necessity for the additional water supply here, which was requested by the Board of Fire Underwriters for the Province. The Board have actually recommended that the town water supply be increased by 1000 Imperial gallons per minute.

We are, Sir, etc. J. LEIGH STEWART, ROBERT B. DEWAR, Water and Sewerage Commission of the Town of Summerside.

NEWFOUNDLAND TRADE

Sir.—It seems strange to me, and I guess it does to my readers, that our Premier Jones should admit to Mr. J. O. C. Campbell that he had made a mistake in buying the Eskimo boat, but I suppose that remark was not supposed to get out of the Politburo. But after the effects of Mr. Campbell's operation on me in June of 1946 started to wear off, I began to take notice. I had been in Newfoundland in June of that year and I knew they were keenly interested in me, so I went back to the Department of Industry and Natural Resources to see Mr. Campbell again. I found the wind was still blowing right and when I asked him if he still remembered his promise, he said "Sure, and if you don't get a plant going soon, the Government will have to build one". Now that remark really is strange when taken in the light of what the Government is doing today to help.

On my second trip back to see him I mentioned that he might be promoted some day or even perhaps die, who knows, so the best thing for him to do for my sake was to put his promise on paper, because who wants to be holding an empty bag in case he was appointed Senator or something, and no one else might know about his promises? I can only say Mr. Campbell's assurances ended here, as I anticipated from the start.

When the Government purchased the "Eskimo" boat that May, and our good Premier Jones forgot he ever promised to loan money to help out on the trade to Newfoundland. I knew that the possibility of ever getting any financial aid from the Liberal Government was beyond hope. But I believe in being democratic and so I decided to follow each river back to its source of supply. I would like to compare the method to that great organization called the United Nations Assembly, where no avenue regardless of size, that might possibly offer a method of appeasement in a troubled world is passed without first being explored to its furthestmost end.

The further I followed each river, the more I had proof where the source of supply was coming from, but the main spring started in Toronto; and some good friend of mine, (and very few have friends like mine) had gone even to Ottawa to make sure the poor nag would have no haven there.

I don't believe people who live away out in the country ever really know much about what a Government is doing, only the good things that Government wishes them to hear. It is not fair to those who have helped the great Liberal cause, to be kept blindfolded and left stumbling in the dark, and when things are brought before the attention of members of the Government, I should imagine the men

holding those positions would feel themselves responsible to the people who put them there. Slacking by what we perhaps thought was a good Liberal cause, without first exploring what these men might be doing against us in another fashion, should be abandoned for better thinking. Before we all put our X on the next ballot, we should first stop and think. Are we voting to elect members who will do what is right for all men, or do bigger interests come first?

I should think that when a person is so honored as to become Premier of our Island, he owes it to the people to stick by them, to further their interests, help understand their problems, and generally exercise what guiding influence he can for the benefit of all concerned: to hold his head and sometimes his tongue for awhile longer, and listen to all men's problems. Many of us were underprivileged from birth as compared perhaps with others, but we have feelings which are perhaps just as sensitive as theirs. So I would like to add, that whatever a body of men, or an individual goes before a Premier, he should be respected regardless of who he is. He should have his say, and the Premier in turn should do all he can to help that man or group, or else for the benefit of the Island he should be prepared to resign. There is no room in our midst for Joe Stalins.

Coming back to Mr. J. O. C. Campbell, I wish to explain what he did and said after he refused to put his promise in writing. Politically I told him he never intended to keep it from first. He said, "You are right, but what can you do about it?" I informed him another election day might change matters after our Island farmers and traders knew where the sand in their cil was coming from. He frankly exclaimed to me, "You are not so big that you can do much about it and the Liberal party is in to stay, and what you or anyone else might wish to do or say is not worth the trying". By talking to him a bit further I knew the river had its source in Premier Jones, and that the Premier's finger was shaking in the air at him. Adolf Hitler once said he was going to conquer and rule the world, but fate had other intentions; so I might add that some of our Government officials had better watch the limbs they may be roosting on.

When the Hon. Eugene Cullen was appointed Minister of Industry and Natural Resources in December, 1949, I for one, looked forward to a perhaps brighter day for our Island people who might deal through that branch of industry. I have known Mr. Cullen all my life and we always lived very handy to one another, in fact we lived opposite one another at Airport at Charlottetown. I could add that I held him in high esteem as one who would do what was right for his country. I don't think it is so much his fault as perhaps the Premier's. My next letter will deal chiefly with my experience with Mr. Cullen and his willingness to help industry.

I am, Sir, etc. WOODROW WHEATLEY, Charlottetown.



A GRAVESTONE

Far from the churchyard dig his grave, On some green mound beside the wave; To westward, sea and sky alone, And sunsets. Put a massy stone, With mortal date and name, a hazy And bunch of hawthorn, carved sharp. Then leave it free to winds that blow, And patient mosses creeping slow, And wandering wings, and foot-steps rare Of human creatures pausing there.

—William Allingham, (1824-89).

The Age-Old Story

We unto them that seek deep to hide their counsel from the Lord, and their works are in the dark, and they say, Who seeth us? and who knoweth us?

GANTERBURY, England —(CP)—The first prize winner at a fancy dress show here was a model of the stone of scone. The historic original was stolen from Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day.

Memoirs of The Hon. A. E. Arsenault, Former Premier and Retired Justice Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island

Early Years (Continued)

Those early Acadians helped one another. If a house or barn were to be built, the neighbors pitched in and within a day the frame was up and the house or barn partially rough-boarded before nightfall. In a similar spirit of co-operation, the women met to spin, to make cloth, to quilt, and to hook mats. Such gatherings served a double purpose. They were productive of useful work and they promoted social entertainment. Then in the evenings the young people would gather to sing and dance. The Acadians had brought from France the folk songs of Normandy and Brittany and many of them are still sung in the homes of Acadian villages. I still remember many of those folk songs which I had heard my mother sing.

Fish were plentiful along the coast of Ile St. Jean. The herring, cod, and mackerel were salted down for winter food. Clams, quahaugs, and oysters were in abundance and smelts and eels were taken through the ice in winter. So plentiful were oysters in Malpeque Bay in those early days that they were spread on the land for fertilizer.

The Acadians were left without priests for many years after the Dispersion. By special dispensation, the Bishop of Quebec allowed the appointing of laymen for the performance of marriages. The people would gather in their church on Sunday, sing the Offices of the Mass, and recite the Rosary in common.

Father James MacDonald was the first priest to come to the Island after the Dispersion. He accompanied the Scottish settlers when they came to Tracadie and Scotchfort (formerly St. Louis) in 1772 and was the first priest since the Dispersion to offer the Acadians spiritual consolation. Gradually, but not without hardship, their numbers increased and their material condition began to improve. Meanwhile, they clung to their religion, their language, and their customs.

Today, the descendants of those Acadians number about 16,000. In Prince County they can be found in large numbers in the villages of Tignish, St. Louis (Palmer Road), Bloomfield, Egmont, Bay, Miscouche, and in the Town of Summerside. They comprise most of the population in the Queen's County communities of North and South Rustico and in Hope River. Many also live in Charlottetown. In King's County, the principal Acadian centres are Souris, Rollo Bay, and New Acadia.

They have built churches in all those places which are a credit to them and their schools number over fifty with some of them having two, three and even four departments. It is, however, only in late years that many of the Acadian children have had the advantage of higher education. This advantage has been made available largely through the efforts of the St. Thomas Aquinas Society which has made it possible for sixty young Acadians, male and female, to study in Maritime colleges and the educational institutions in Quebec. With those opportunities there is no reason why those

CRAWLEY, England —(CP)—When power cuts silence the fire alarm system in this Sussex town, the firemen are summoned by telephone calls and a hand bell left outside the station.

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