

THE GUARDIAN

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CIRCULATION "Covers Prince Edward Island like the dew" "The strongest memory is weaker than the weakest ink".

CHARLOTTETOWN, FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1954

Milk And Living Standards

We are all so familiar with the virtues of milk as a food that we do not always realize its significance as indicating the standard of living which a people have managed to attain.

Dr. Jacques M. May, head of the department of medical geography of the American Geographical Society, told the Congress that where milk is unobtainable or prejudices ban its drinking, the population is usually near starvation.

In such areas diseases associated with a lack of the animal protein in milk are rife. Diseases that can readily be cured by drinking skimmed milk kill many children in Africa, China, India, South and Central America and the Caribbean Islands.

There is little that we in Canada can do about the prejudices of other peoples in the matter of milk consumption but it is otherwise with correcting lack of supply.

Housing Expenditure

Today the Canadian is estimated by the Government to be able to pay 23 per cent of his income for housing. That, at least, is the basis on which the latest lending policy rests.

About half of all city-dwellers in the United States live in areas which are already blighted or threatened with blight, according to an address to the Mortgage Bankers of America quoted in Letter Review.

The situation in the United Kingdom is similar, with the London Times recently noting that the average Briton now spends only 7 1/2 per cent of his income on rent. In France, rent takes only 5 per cent of income.

Puerto Rico

Commenting on the murderous attack on members of the U. S. House of Representatives by a group of Puerto Rican nationalist fanatics, the Winnipeg Free Press calls attention to a few salient facts about the Caribbean Commonwealth.

It was long administered under an Organic Act which granted Puerto Ricans U. S. citizenship and unrestricted suffrage. This was of great consequence for it enabled tens of thousands of persons, with the slightest of economic prospects on an over-crowded Caribbean island, to migrate freely to the United States.

On August 5, 1947, President Truman signed an act giving Puerto Ricans the right freely to elect their chief executive. An Act of 1950—signed by the same President—permitted Puerto Rico to draft and pass its own constitution. This was voted and ratified by an overwhelming majority, after which Mr. Truman signed another act elevating Puerto Rico to the status of a free Commonwealth associated with the United States.

In the United Nations a delegate of India objected last year that Puerto Rico still occupied an inferior status since it had practically no representation in the U. S. Congress. Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge, U.S. representative, clarified the matter with the following declaration: "I am authorized to say on behalf of the President that at any time the Legislative Assembly

of Puerto Rico adopts a resolution in favor of more complete or even absolute independence, he will immediately thereafter recommend to Congress that such independence be granted. The President also wishes me to say that in this event the would welcome Puerto Rico's adherence to the Rio Pact and the United Nations Charter."

The United Nations Assembly, noting that "when choosing their constitutional and international status, the people of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico have effectively exercised their right to self-determination," concluded that the island could no longer be considered a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter.

But fanatics are proof against reason, arrogantly certain that they are right and all the rest of the world hopelessly in the wrong.

Who Can Wear The Kilt?

As a battle dress, the kilt was discarded during World War I when the Germans started using mustard gas and leg burns practically decimated the "ladies-from-hell" units. The fact of the matter is that in an otherwise puritanical people there is surprisingly little mock modesty where kilted troops are concerned.

There are, of course, those who succumb before the chill breezes though, naturally, this has never been definitely proved.

A comfortable, colorful costume, the kilt has two big drawbacks—the wearer's knees. Put the kilt on a sturdy, muscular Highlander and it is superb. Drape all eight pleated yards of it around the sagging stomach of a businessman with pale knobby knees and spindly legs and it is an affront both to the wearer and the beholder.

It may be added that the kilt and indeed tartan generally is becoming more popular far from Scotland's shores. Even in Italy it is now widely seen and tartans have become familiar although never commonplace in cities and towns throughout the United States and Canada.

Ontario was two years behind this Province in permitting motorists to use lights or mechanical arms to give directional signals, the Legislature here having made such provision in an amendment to the Highway Traffic Act passed in 1952.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Philip Guedalla, English biographer, was born this date 1889. He practiced law for some years but made his mark in literature with "Supers and Supermen", a volume of biographical essays, in 1920. This was followed by biographies of Palmerston, Wellington and Gladstone, "The Hundred Years", a post-Victorian history, "The Queen and Mr. Gladstone", and "Conquistadore", on Latin America. He conveys a view of history through a series of impressive portraits and episodes.

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As pointed out in the House of Commons this Province is small and it might well be difficult to pick a jury that was unaware of the circumstances of a criminal case that received a lot of publicity. On the other hand it is difficult to recall any instance where an accused person could say that the jury convicted him on their own knowledge rather than on the evidence. Certainly it must astonish Islanders to have it suggested that public opinion could prevent anyone having a fair trial. Experience has shown that jurymen in this Province will not convict unless the Crown has proved its case in open court, whatever public opinion may be.

The changes in the distribution of Provincial scholarships announced by Education Minister Clark are in part a recognition that the educational system is expanding and that students must be permitted to make use of their scholarships in alternative ways. The proposal to "avoid duplication", however, seems to be simply an effort to spread scholarships more widely. Presumably the all-round scholar will be faced with the choice of which of several scholarships to accept after qualifying for them. Even if he is to be deprived of the extra monetary reward, however, his record should indicate his scholastic attainments.

Apple For The Teacher



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.

CHIEF MACARTHUR'S RESIGNATION

Sir.—The news of Chief MacArthur's resignation must have come as a shock to many citizens. Fortunately there is yet time for our City Council to straighten out the matter. I, for one, should like to go on record as hoping that what difficulties there are may be resolved to the satisfaction of the citizens and the Chief.

I am, Sir, etc. B. W. PATTERSON.

BORDEN SWIM

Sir.—The "Borden Swim", while in a nebulous state when first proposed, is now assuming concrete form. We intend making an appeal to Islanders at home and abroad to subscribe funds for prizes. It is quite likely that some of the big industrial companies doing business here will donate towards the fund.

I am, Sir, etc. J. PENDERGAST.

Old Charlottetown

And P. E. I.

EDUCATIONAL REFORMS

"When I commenced work here in January, 1863, I found an impossible curriculum, a free and easy discipline under which the students had the best of it, a total want of elementary training and no means of obtaining it. The prospect seemed hopeless, but I soon discovered that the material which I had to work upon was of excellent quality, and that if judiciously and intelligently manipulated would turn out to be of rare value. The curriculum was tacitly dropped, in the course of time discipline was improved, and the elementary instruction was supplied by the College. I had to learn to labour and to wait.

"As years passed our position improved; teachers educated at the College began to send up well instructed pupils, higher work became possible, those students who had proceeded to the University began and continued that career of distinction which has not yet, I hope, reached its culminating point, and the influence of the College and real knowledge respecting it began to penetrate to quarters which before it was impossible to reach.

"And then came the crowning act of the educational life of Prince Edward Island—the Education Bill of 1877, and its complement of 1879, and the amalgamation of the Prince of Wales College and the Provincial Normal School. And I venture to affirm that had it not been for the existence of the Prince of Wales College in 1877, and a considerable number of students who had been educated in it, and who were ready to assume the position of teachers, the advantages of that admirable Act would not

Maritime Difficulties

By Douglas Howe

There is a distinctive need, a sense of apartness in Canada's Maritime area which the best part of Confederation's first century has not destroyed. Post-war prosperity has soothed it but in some ways has also accentuated it. This winter's recession has played on some of its basic elements.

The Canadian connection is by no means in jeopardy. The historical truth probably is that it is imperceptibly strengthening all the time. But it is by no means unquestioned. For, to put it in crude terms, many Maritimers have long felt that the rest of Canada would know no particular sorrow if the Atlantic were to cut away this entire region and all its problems from the Canadian physique. Nor has burial ever finally overtaken the corollary belief, widespread at the time of Confederation, that it might be a good thing for the Maritimes if the Atlantic did so.

From the reactions, positive and negative, which flow from all this comes a need both complex and tangible. It is by times wistful and haunting, keyed to a sense of frustration, of loss, of doubt of self and criticism of others, of pride wounded and pride increased—the psychological results of the working out of human forces under an allotment of nature's favors which has long seemed sparing here and spacious elsewhere.

The need is fed by many things. By the sweep of national progress which seems to the Maritimer to spread westward from the St. Lawrence like thunder and eastward like an echo. By waves of immigration that pass the region by. By unemployment that always seems to strike here first and strikes here hardest.

The mood is fed by the pride of the Loyalist and the Highland Scot and of the Acadian who, unlike so many others, would not even be driven out. By the humiliations such pride can know when its spokesmen must so often appear plaintive and supplicant in a national capital that was born only when this region heeded the supplications of others to make birth possible. It is fed by a difficult environment that ironically breeds a deep love even when, as a Tynbee noted, it thwarts the people who love it.

It is fed by pride and memories and a sense of loss of golden things in Confederation's time. It is fed by the fact that there are so many Maritimers who have been so immediately felt and realized throughout the country. And now over 400 teachers, who have been educated at the joint institution, are engaged in the schools of the Province; a former student is administering its educational affairs, and two others are associated with me in my scholastic work. And the result of this pleasing fact is that educational activity was never so marked as at the present moment, and the standard of excellence attained by candidates for admission to the College was never so high. This, to me, is the most satisfactory result from the work done in the College.

—From an address by Principal Anderson, at a banquet tendered him, Dec. 15, 1887, by his former pupils, on his completing twenty-five years of service at Prince of Wales College.

The Age Old Story

And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

Notes By The Way

According to an expert nylon stockings last longer if kept in the refrigerator. But not the patience of husbands who like looking for a midnight snack. —Hamilton Spectator.

National Science Foundation in U. S. has evolved a method of trapping some of the sun's energy. And now if you can only find some way to bottle it and sell it for use on Monday mornings. —Hamilton Spectator.

The first flight is expected later this year of a new British twin-engine transport aircraft designed specifically for operation from very small landing grounds. Carrying its full load of sixteen passengers over ranges of up to 600 miles, the new aircraft will be able to take off from rough, unprepared fields about 200 yards long or less. —British Aircraft Society.

"When someone asks you which will bounce the most—a rubber or steel ball—don't make the mistake most of us do and say the rubber ball. Taint so! An old textbook on physics gives this explanation: "Steel is an almost perfect elastic solid. It can be manipulated, compressed, stretched and return to its original shape. Given the same treatment, rubber never really regains its original form. Hence the more bounce to steel. "We've never tried it but that's what the man says and he, as a textbook author should know." So says the Windsor Daily Star.—Sydney Post-Record.

At the current session of the Nova Scotia Legislature, an experiment in scientific Hansard reporting may prove altogether too efficient. Every desk is equipped with a sensitive microphone that cannot be turned off. Every word spoken in public or private is recorded on discs. From the recordings, stenographers type the transcript directly on stencils which are immediately run off for copies. Legislators will have to be on guard against those side remarks that are never intended for publication. In particular, any irritation felt against cabinet ministers by members of their own party will have to be still more tightly bottled up.—Ottawa Citizen.

The Indians left Canada a rich heritage of place names, although in many cases the original meaning is not a matter of conjecture. Toronto, Ontario, is a common combination, but in not one of the three names is the meaning beyond doubt. Another three Indian names come into the news when a despatch from Manitoulin Island told of the vain efforts of the Manitowaning fire brigade to save the historic church at Wikwemikong from fire. These three names, Manitoulin, Manitowaning and Wikwemikong, are fine illustrations of the historic interest which attaches to so many which are inherited from the Indians.—Toronto Star.

Who can remember away back when families bought their winter apples by the barrel and they would keep, through the winter, too?—Port Arthur News-Chronicle.

People who used to laugh at Maritimers chewing dulse have been confounded by the scientists who report that seaweeds contain "carotene, thiamine (B1), riboflavin (B2), ascorbic acid (C) and notably large amounts of cobalamin (B12)." Our Maritime confidant says that of course his ancestors knew all that.—Ottawa Journal.

Have you ever noticed that there is no scarcity of good places to park at any hour of the day except that there are always some other people's cars in them. This is mere coincidence, we suppose, but it's very very annoying—and is probably the reason why the frustrated motorist drives away in a huff and scushes through the nearest puddle, just to splash upon it.—Ottawa Citizen.

Here is the story as it came over the wire from Boston: Police linguists spoke in Italian, French, Greek and Portuguese to a little lost boy. His answer was a rattle of syllables in a language none of them had heard before. Just as they were about to call the anthropology department at Harvard University, a man rushed into the police station and hugged the little boy. The man said his name was Weldon Patis and he had come with his little son, Freeman, from Newcastle, New Brunswick, a week ago." He's a Mic Mac Indian," said the father. Mic Mac is no foreign language to North America, more than one Cape Bretoner who speaks Mic Mac, could tell the Boston police.—Sydney Post-Record.

The Poet's Corner

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS Highways for eident feet, That have their mile to gae. But byways when spring is sweet, And bloom is on the slae. Highways till day is done, The girr' o' gear to ca'. But byways for star and mune, And woovers twa by twa. Highways for wheel and whip, Till rigs are stiblet cair; But byways for haw and hip, When robin's on the brier. Aye it's on the highways The feck o' life maun gang; But aye it's frae the byways Comes hame the happy sang. —Walter Wingate (1865-1918).

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